

## Wonderful! 423: This Year's Pie for Papa

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[theme music, "Money Won't Pay (feat. Augustus)" by Bo En plays]

**Rachel:** Hi, this is Rachel McElroy.

**Griffin:** Hey, this is Griffin McElroy.

**Rachel:** And this is Wonderful!

**Griffin:** [in a sad tone] Welcome to Wonderful, it's a podcast where we talk about things we like, that's good, that we're into...

**Rachel:** On, no, Griffin, dear husband, what are you upset about?

**Griffin:** I couldn't get the freakin' video recording of this podcast to work for this episode.

**Rachel:** Oh no... and I went and changed my shirt.

**Griffin:** And you look super cute!

**Rachel:** Thank you.

**Griffin:** So dang cute, and—but no one's ever gonna know.

**Rachel:** No.

**Griffin:** They're not gonna believe me, babe.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** I look s—I look super hot, and huge muscles. 6'3", built like a fuckin' truck!

**Rachel:** Wearing a vintage hooded sweatshirt.

**Griffin:** Vintage hooded sweatshirt. I'm here. Fuckin' Clooney's here, but he can't talk.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** But they'll never know, because I couldn't get the GD video to work.

**Rachel:** Yeah...

**Griffin:** This clip is great. This clip would be huge on TikTok.

**Rachel:** I know, it would.

**Griffin:** But it won't, because I couldn't get the GD video to work.

**Rachel:** Uh-huh...

**Griffin:** And the narrow sliver of time we have to make this beautiful podcast.

**Rachel:** Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** It's just eating me up inside. I pivoted so hard to video that I hate audio now.

**Rachel:** Oh, no?

**Griffin:** I hate it! I hate this thing.

**Rachel:** Well, we watch a lot of YouTube, to be fair.

**Griffin:** That's true.

**Rachel:** So, it makes sense that we would want everything to be on there for convenience.

**Griffin:** Yeah. When you pivot to video hard enough, you're unable to—you do a full 180, your neck can't actually crane backwards far enough to see the audio just years and years behind you.

**Rachel:** That was a really confusing image for me.

**Griffin:** To see the audio—yeah, no, I mean, there was a lot about it that didn't work.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Do you—this is—but this is Wonderful. We do talk about things we like.

**Rachel:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** Do you have any Small Wonders?

**Rachel:** I am going to say that I, for the first time ever yesterday, made whipped cream by hand.

**Griffin:** Shit, dude.

**Rachel:** And it was delightful.

**Griffin:** Yeah, Rachel made me a yummy strawberry pie for Papa's Day!

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** It was... I don't know, one of the more—

**Rachel:** Every year—

**Griffin:** Quaint things you've ever done, I think.

**Rachel:** Every year on Father's Day, he says, "What is the pie for papa this year?"

**Griffin:** Yeah!

**Rachel:** [chuckles] And I say—

**Griffin:** Papa's gotta have a slice on his special day.

**Rachel:** And I said, this year it's strawberry pie.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** And I'm gonna hand make whipped cream. And I did, and I can't imagine doing it with just a whisk, because at first I was like, maybe I'll do it that way. And then I was like, no, never mind. I'll use a mixer.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** And even with a mixer, it took way longer than I expected it to.

**Griffin:** Yeah. But it was worth it.

**Rachel:** But it was incredible.

**Griffin:** Those peaks were stiff as hell, gang.

**Rachel:** Such stiff peaks.

**Griffin:** You could—you could hang—you could paintings on the wall with this cream.

**Rachel:** Well, that doesn't sound good.

**Griffin:** No, it doesn't. It was delightful, as was the pie, and I do appreciate you.

**Rachel:** Thank you.

**Griffin:** I'm just gonna say in general, my Father's Day was wonderful this year.

**Rachel:** Oh, good!

**Griffin:** It was really great. You and the boys really came together. I imagine you did the lion's share—

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Of the actual effort in making it—

**Rachel:** Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** But I had a wonderful little spa appointment in the morning. Got a new croquet set—

**Rachel:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** And some floppy flops I'm super excited for.

**Rachel:** Mm-hm. Gus was really into croquet.

**Griffin:** Yes, hitting balls with a hammer, I was not surprised that he is very enthusiastic about—

**Rachel:** Until I was playing it with him, and then he was struggling, and then he said he didn't want to play the game anymore. So, I don't know. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Well, he just needs the touch.

**Rachel:** I don't know if we're gonna get another round, but he wanted to play a lot yesterday.

**Griffin:** The trick is to just wait, because like Henry's like a huge frisbee guy now, because of that frisbee.

**Rachel:** Yeah, that's true.

**Griffin:** If we just wait until they're old enough to achieve competence at it. But yeah, I had me a great Father's Day. Just a good time.

**Rachel:** Good.

**Griffin:** Went to the mall, got a big Lego set.

**Rachel:** So crowded at the mall?

**Griffin:** The mall was so crowded, and it's always embarrassing to carry a huge Lego set in like a giant box through the mall, because it's like, what are you doing carrying that big box? What are you do—

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Where did you get a big box at the mall? That's not what we do here.

**Rachel:** Yeah, there's no way to look cool doing that.

**Griffin:** There's no way to look cool.

**Rachel:** Unless you—what if you carried it on your shoulder like a boombox?

**Griffin:** Yeah. I did appreciate the folks at the Lego store for putting my big Lego set in a big cardboard box, so that I didn't have to—

**Rachel:** True.

**Griffin:** Show them that it was the Barad-dûr tower from Lord of the Rings.

**Rachel:** Your pronunciation, I imagine—

**Griffin:** But they did—

**Rachel:** Is flawless.

**Griffin:** They did write it on the box in Sharpie, it did say Barad-dûr on the side of the box. If you look close—

**Rachel:** Yeah, but nobody knows what that is.

**Griffin:** That's true. That's true. You go first this week.

**Rachel:** I do.

**Griffin:** What do you want to talk about?

**Rachel:** This may have been a Small Wonder at some point. I don't think so, though, because I didn't find it—

**Griffin:** Cool.

**Rachel:** On our list. But it... gosh, I have to imagine we would have mentioned it, and it is bubble wrap.

**Griffin:** Yeah, dude.

**Rachel:** Bubble wrap, I realized, much like our children are cats, you know in the way where you used to get a box in the mail, and you would just put it on the ground for the cat, because you thought, like, oh, cats love this. I feel that way about bubble wrap.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** If we get a package with bubble wrap, I just like pull it out and put it on the floor, and like scream—

**Griffin:** That's for the cats.

**Rachel:** Like it's like the dinner bell, like, "Hey, boys! Bubble wrap!"

**Griffin:** "Bubble wrap's here!"

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** "Popping time!" You say.

**Rachel:** And then especially in our kitchen on the wood floor, like it's so loud and delightful for them.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** And it just makes me feel like they're having like a timeless experience, you know?

**Griffin:** And as I've grown older and more mature and wise, I also appreciate bubble wrap for its fundamental purpose, which is protecting things.

**Rachel:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** In the—in transit.

**Rachel:** Well, you're already the expert. I don't even have to tell you anything, I guess, this week.

**Griffin:** Well, I'm sorry, did...

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Was I not supposed to know that you use bubble wrap for shipping things?

**Rachel:** [laughs] It's just—

**Griffin:** Was that a sp—did I spoil the concept of bubble wrap?

**Rachel:** I have a whole lot to say about bubble wrap, and you took one of my big points, which was it's used for wrapping stuff. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** That's true. Justin shipped me, last year, a gaming handheld, one of the many, many ones that we have circulating—

**Rachel:** I don't even think it was last year, I think it was a few months ago, right?

**Griffin:** It was probably a few months ago. And he raw-dogged it, for reasons beyond my comprehension.

**Rachel:** I can't even understand.

**Griffin:** And that little soldier did not survive.

**Rachel:** You know what? If I know Justin, maybe he was expecting to get some there.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** And they didn't have any—

**Griffin:** They didn't have any bubble wrap.

**Rachel:** And he was like, well, I'm already here. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** [chuckles] Yeah, maybe. So, tell me everything—I don't—hey, babe? I don't know fucking anything about bubble wrap.

**Rachel:** There you go. That's what I expect. [titters]

**Griffin:** I think if you squeeze it, it pops, but even that...

**Rachel:** [chuckles] How do we use this thing?

**Griffin:** How do we use this guy?

**Rachel:** So how I fell into this topic, really, was I really like when inventions are created for an entirely different purpose—

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Rachel:** And then they like stumble into,, you know, what it actually ends up being used for.

**Griffin:** Yes!

**Rachel:** And bubble wrap is one of those things. With bubble wrap, it was originally created in the late 1950s by two engineers who were trying to make 3D wallpaper.

**Griffin:** Awesome!

**Rachel:** It's two engineers, Alfred Fielding from New Jersey and Marc Chavannes, who's a Swiss engineer, sealed two shower curtains together with the idea that they were trying to figure out, how do we make textured wallpaper?

**Griffin:** And they started by sealing two shower curtains together.

**Rachel:** Yes.

**Griffin:** I'll never understand how engineers become the way they are.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** It's truly a completely different operating system—

**Rachel:** I know.

**Griffin:** That they're running, and I—it's marvelous to me. I'm so jealous of the—of the kind of mind that they have. But it's so a—it's so alien to me.

**Rachel:** This may be confusing to people who are engineers, but in my day-to-day life, I don't think about inventing anything. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** I don't think about how stuff works.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Unless I am confronted by that—by that information.

**Rachel:** Like we have to fix it or—

**Griffin:** Yeah!

**Rachel:** You're watching a YouTube video about it. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** So, not wallpaper.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Rachel:** No interest in wallpaper. But they patented it, and tried to come up with other uses for it. Because of that like, that air bubble in between—

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** When they were like sealing it, there's like, we gotta—there's gotta be something. They thought originally greenhouse insulation.

**Griffin:** Oh.

**Rachel:** Not a huge market for that. Was not successful, I guess.

**Griffin:** No. Do you think if we could travel back in time and take some of our bubble wrap back to them, and then pop it in front of them, they'd be like, "No... stop it. We worked really hard on that."

**Rachel:** Oh like, "We must retain the bubbles."

**Griffin:** "Yeah, we w—do you understand how hard it was to make a bunch of little bubbles in these two shower curtains? Stop that!"

**Rachel:** There was an interview in one of the articles I read with Alfred Fielding, his—one of his children, who was like, "He brought it home and I couldn't help myself. And I had to pop the bubbles." And he's like, "So I tell people I'm probably the first child to ever pop bubble wrap."

**Griffin:** Ooh, yeah.

**Rachel:** Because yeah, it's irresistible.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** So I had to find out how it was made. So I watched a video.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Rachel:** History of Simple Things was the platform. And so it's made of polyethylene, which is used in plastic bags and cling film. And it's put on like a belt, you know, kind of like a lot of industrial materials. But the big like spinning wheel that it goes through has little holes indented in it.

**Griffin:** Oh, it's—okay.

**Rachel:** So, one side goes through that, and like a vacuum sucks the film into those little holes to create the pockets.

**Griffin:** Cool.

**Rachel:** And then when it comes out, a film is put on top of that.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Rachel:** So that's how you get the air trapped in kind of a mass production way.

**Griffin:** I bet that video was really satisfying to watch.

**Rachel:** Yeah, it is, it's really good to watch. And yeah, so it's a large, rotating drum with holes. And—

**Griffin:** I find that a lot of the time when I wonder how a thing is produced, a lot of the time, it—I mean, not a lot of the time, every time it involves a large rotating drum with holes.

**Rachel:** I know. It's true, it's true. [chuckles] Most like candy and like crayons and all the stuff—

**Griffin:** You enjoy a Skittle, you're like, how do these Skittles—a large rotating drum with holes.

**Rachel:** That's the secret. Whoever invented the large rotating drum with holes is probably—

**Griffin:** Probably the world's greatest mind.

**Rachel:** Yeah, it's like penicillin.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** Large rotating drum with holes. [titters]

**Griffin:** They couldn't have made penicillin without large rotating drums with holes.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** I would say it goes wheel.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Which was arguably the precursor, with its cylindrical kind of—

**Rachel:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** Concept. And then we didn't really do much for several thousand years.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Then large rotating drum with holes.

**Rachel:** [chuckles] Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** I love large rotating drum—

**Rachel:** Yeah. [laughs] I know—I know this about you. So, they founded Sealed Air Corp, which I thought, great name.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** Like you're sealing air, that's exactly what you're doing. Put it in the name. In 1960. And then they hired a CEO in 1971 who said as his first day as boss, he received a report that listed 204 potential product applications for Bubble wrap.

**Griffin:** Sure.

**Rachel:** 204. I love the idea of them just sitting down and being like, "All right, bubble wrap, bubble wrap, what can we do with it? What can we do with it?" And one of them was pool cover. They made bubble wrap pool covers to help trap the heat in the water, so that like—

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Rachel:** You wouldn't, you know, the fluctuation of the temperature wouldn't be as bad.

**Griffin:** Like, "We gotta throw some of this over the old reflecting pool downtown, huh?"

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** "That ought to fix it all right up."

**Rachel:** I don't think the temperature is the issue with that one.

**Griffin:** I don't know, I haven't been—I don't—I don't get down to the reflecting pool often.

**Rachel:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** I didn't before its renovations.

**Rachel:** Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** But I so desperately want to fix it. I want to help.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** I want to be of use.

**Rachel:** Everybody's down there like laughing and you're like, "How can I help?"

**Griffin:** Yeah, no, it su—I mean, it's a—it sucks.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Like so many things he's done, it sucks so bad. But I feel compelled to help.

**Rachel:** Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** And do something about it.

**Rachel:** Maybe you go down there with some pool skimmers.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** And just start scooping?

**Griffin:** Thought about it.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Be the change. It's not a river. You know what I mean? Like it's—there's just so much of it. You could clean that thing out if I—

**Rachel:** I know.

**Griffin:** I don't understand what the big fuckin' deal is.

**Rachel:** [titters] Can I continue?

**Griffin:** Please.

**Rachel:** So their first big client for bubble wrap was IBM, because they were, you know, making their big computers—

**Griffin:** Sure.

**Rachel:** And wanting to ship 'em around and didn't have like a really effective way to keep everything safe.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** I also saw that the larger the like bubble pocket is, like the better it is obviously at like protecting shock.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** And then the smaller is more for like, you know, like the full coverage of like a—

**Griffin:** Interesting.

**Rachel:** Fragile thing.

**Griffin:** Hey, IBM, I'm just thinking about it, is a pretty funny initialism. Just because it sounds like they're saying—they're ta—they're saying like that they poop. I've never thought about that once in my life.

**Rachel:** You know, I don't think I have either.

**Griffin:** It's good, right?

**Rachel:** I mean, kind of.

**Griffin:** This shows about things that are good, that we like. And I think it's cool to call 'em out when we see 'em.

**Rachel:** I don't want... I don't want that kind of thing to be stuff we talk about every week.

**Griffin:** You're right. We get enough of that in our household.

**Rachel:** That's very true. Do our boys—I'm going to ask you this on air.

**Griffin:** Cool.

**Rachel:** Do our boys talk about farts the same or more than you remember boys talking—

**Griffin:** I love that less was not an option.

**Rachel:** [chuckles] No, because it's constant, it feels like. Do you remember as a child having like daily, multiple times a day conversations about farts?

**Griffin:** No. But... I don't know, Dad was pretty strict.

**Rachel:** Oh, yeah.

[both laugh]

**Rachel:** It's so impossible to imagine.

**Griffin:** Yeah, yeah, because it was impossible to happen.

**Rachel:** Okay, so I will just finish by saying, obviously, plastic, not great for the environment. The latest reinvention of bubble wrap is made with at least 90% recycled content.

**Griffin:** Okay. Is there a reason? What's that extra 10, I wonder? [chuckles] What rare earth metals are required in the...

**Rachel:** I mean, the way bubble wrap is, it lasts for a long time. Like that air pocket is pretty tightly sealed. Like you have to get pretty old or pretty damaged bubble wrap for those bubbles not to pop. And so I imagine like they have to use some kind of durable material that is not recyclable for that—

**Griffin:** I guess. Yeah, I don't know. I don't know anything about products, really, and how they're—how they're created.

**Rachel:** Anyway, we definitely recycle it in this house.

**Griffin:** Sure.

**Rachel:** Another thing I saw online is like an art project where you like paint the little bubbles, and then you kind of can push it down like a stamp on paper.

**Griffin:** Yes, yeah, I've seen that too.

**Rachel:** That one's good too.

**Griffin:** I do like that.

**Rachel:** Anyway, bubble wrap.

**Griffin:** Bubble wrap! There's nothing it can't do.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Can I steal you away?

**Rachel:** Yes.

[theme music plays]

[ad break]

**Griffin:** I want to talk about a musical artist that I discovered about a week ago, that I am so excited about, if you can't tell from the tone of my voice. Been listening to her stuff nonstop, it's Frances of Delirium, which we listened to a bit of in the car and I sent you a couple links. I don't know if you had time to check 'em out or not.

**Rachel:** I did, yeah, super cool!

**Griffin:** It's the shit, man. It's like so, so completely up both our alleys.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** I realize we have a tendency to flood the Wonderful zone, so to speak, with like young female indie rock acts. But god help me, gotta talk about Frances of Delirium.

**Rachel:** I know, and it's kind of our taste.

**Griffin:** Yeah, I guess so! I think Spotify just clocked the fact that I got us tickets to the Snail Mail Soccer Mommy like doubleheader show coming through town later this year. And they were like, "We gotta pump this algo with as many like acts as we possibly can." And wow, they got us dead to rights. So, Frances of Delirium is a singer-songwriter, her name is Jana Bahrich, and she's from Luxembourg.

**Rachel:** Oh?

**Griffin:** Which is a country that I don't know anything about. It's small. It's quite small.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** I do know that. If you look at it on a map of Europe with all the countries sort of outlined, you think like there's been a mistake.

**Rachel:** Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** There's—something's gone terribly wrong. Something happened and one of the countries kind of just like... broke off—

**Rachel:** Spit out another country.

**Griffin:** Which is maybe what happened. I don't know anything about Luxembourg—

**Rachel:** That's true.

**Griffin:** Or its history. It's fun to say. It's awesome to say.

**Rachel:** Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** Her shit is just so high energy, just shredding all the time. I've been listening to it nonstop. And I want to start by playing a little bit of my favorite song of hers called "It's a Beautiful Life." This one's off of her new album, *Run, Run Pure Beauty*, which just dropped like a few weeks ago. So this one's hot off the presses, folks. This is "It's a Beautiful Life."

[*"It's a Beautiful Life"* by Jana Bahrach plays]

**Griffin:** There's so much to love there, man. It's so like high energy like stream of consciousness kind of songwriting, which I'm always a fan of. And it just propels itself forward for like the whole span of the song. I love that squealing like guitar riff over the—over the whole chorus, is so rad. Her voice is like so expressive, which is, you know, suits the lyrics so, you know, well, because it's all sort of vulnerable songs about love and young love in particular.

And you know, despite how vulnerable it is, it's also like super-duper catchy. And all of that stuff is true of like most of the 11 tracks that are on this album, it's so good. It is an—it is a no skipper. Just wild about it. So Jana

Bahrich was actually born in Canada and her family relocated to Luxembourg, which again, don't know anything about. In an interview with Slumber Mag, she was talking about moving to Luxembourg when she was a child, and she said, "I have biked to Belgium. It's that close."

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** "If you go to four shows here, you've met everyone in the Luxembourgish scene, which is kind of nice. It's easy to get to know each other and feel the love. The best part as a fan is that someone like Lucy Dacus will come and it's a 10 person show. You're guaranteed a great spot. It can't be great for her, but as a fan, it's incredible."

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Which I really love.

**Rachel:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** I really struggled to find like a ton of stuff about Frances of Delirium because, you know, she's a fairly new, fairly small—

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Act. But I found like a Reddit AMA that she did talking about like, she wasn't stoked to move to Luxembourg with her parents—

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** But they moved around quite a lot, but that she's like really settled in there and found her sort of cultural niche. And apparently it's like one of the bigger kind of indie acts to come out of the country. So, she grew up playing French horn and then took up the banjo specifically to learn a specific song called "Foggy Mountain Breakdown," which is just a rippin' banjo tune. And I find that fact immensely relatable.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Buying an instrument and learning to play it just to learn how to play a single song is like, that's a—

**Rachel:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** That's a goal that I find, I don't know, like one I have definitely pursued many times in my life. And there's also like some wild like brass instrumentation—I don't know if there's any banjo on the new album. But she cites a lot of different acts as influences, Pearl Jam is a big one. But the one that she credits most that I've seen in all the interviews I read from her in this Reddit AMA for like her songwriting and her instrumentation, is Sufjan Stevens.

**Rachel:** Oh?

**Griffin:** Which is really interesting to me, because I wouldn't have clocked that at first, but—

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** There's like... the arrangements on this album, it's really fascinating because it will move between like absolute thrashers, like "It's a Beautiful Life," to songs that are more kind of like, I don't know, instrumentally varied and orchestral in nature. But I also think there's something to like the stream of consciousness sort of songwriting that she does that also feels very, very Sufjan coded.

**Rachel:** Yeah, I listened to this whole album, man.

**Griffin:** Dude, yeah, I listened to it front to back today while I was getting this segment ready.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** This is only her second album. Her first album came out two years ago, it was called Lighthouse. Which was more, I didn't finish listening to the whole thing, but it seemed like more of a sort of straightforward like indie rock coming of age album. That got tons of great reviews, like it was very

much a darling. And she started touring after doing that and putting on these apparently kick-ass high-energy shows, which I would *love* to go to. I think she's coming through in November.

**Rachel:** Oh, cool.

**Griffin:** If we could secure tickets to that, I think it would be a pretty kick-ass show. But on that album, *Lighthouse*, a lot of the songs are, you know, also about love, through the lens of someone in that kind of like early adulthood transitory period. And I found another quote from her in an interview that reminded me a lot of what Snail Mail said when you did—when you covered Snail Mail and her album *Lush*.

**Rachel:** Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** I always forget her actual name. I think it's Lindsay Jordan, but I—I'm never confident in that. Talking about sort of writing songs from just about young love and how you just gotta kind of commit to the bit and go for it.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Here Jana Bahrich said, "There's a purity to the love songs of the album. They feel youthful in their presentation, like there's no trick or sense of being jaded. It felt important to commit to the feeling and to have hope in what love can give you, even if it doesn't work out." That kind of just like earnestness is just all over that album.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** It's all over this one too. And it's such a rad, just cathartic thing, full of emotion and bangers. Like this other song that I'll close out with called "Little Black Dress."

["Little Black Dress" by Jana Bahrich plays]

**Griffin:** That's Frances of Delirium. Get there, get on board. Do you want to know what our friends at home are talking about?

**Rachel:** Yes.

**Griffin:** Xander says, "My Wonderful thing is spotting bus drivers waving at each other. I take the bus around town a lot and it always makes me smile seeing two buses cross paths on their routes because the drivers almost always share a little greeting." That's good.

**Rachel:** That is good. That is good.

**Griffin:** I have to imagine that's, you know, when you're a bus driver, the street is your workplace. And those are your coworkers, the other bus drivers.

**Rachel:** Mm-hm. Well, I see a lot—I remember seeing a lot of like changeover.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Rachel:** Like people ending their shift and like somebody waiting at the stop to take it over.

**Griffin:** Yeah, that's cool too.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** I like the, when you go ride the boats at Disney World to go to the Magic Kingdom Park—

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** And you see the ferry drivers—

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** That give each other a little wave.

**Rachel:** Well, that's a totally different—I mean, that's sea life, you know?

**Griffin:** That's sea life, you're right.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** I shouldn't compare street life and sea life—

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Because it's two completely different things. Not the sea. Definitely, definitely, definitely not the sea. Lake Buena Vista is not—it's pretty far from oceanic in nature.

**Rachel:** I know. I was being more—

**Griffin:** Lake life.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Ashley says, "My Small Wonder is when I pour the exact number of pills I need to fill my weekly pill organizer into my hand without counting. It feels like a small superpower, especially when it's in a pill you need more of—more than one of per day."

**Rachel:** I feel like we've done this one before?

**Griffin:** I feel like maybe we have too, I've just got—I have pills on the mind. I just got a pill cutter. And it's a special machine you put your pills into, to cut 'em in half, if you need to change your dosage on a thing. And man alive, nothing better than lining up a little row of these guys, and then there's a little wheel, and these two rubber stoppers push 'em together and then a blade—*fsw*—perfectly cuts 'em in half.

**Rachel:** I gotta see this thing.

**Griffin:** You've gotta. And when—it affects the math of what Ashley's talking about here. It does affect them because there's only seven days in a week, and it's very difficult to split a number and get seven as a result.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Or I guess to multiply a number. Seven is... there should be a word for a number that is not divisible by any other number but itself. It feels like math should have come up with something like that already. It's a prime number.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** I do enjoy this a lot.

**Rachel:** No, because what—I mean, I have to do that with the boy's allergy medicine, and I just leave the other half on the counter for the next day.

**Griffin:** And you just trust that no one's going to pick it up and...

**Rachel:** [titters]

**Griffin:** Smash it. I think about it sometimes.

**Rachel:** Oh, yeah?

**Griffin:** Yeah, I see there are little children's Claritin that you've got cut in half, because Gus can't handle of... he can't—are you kidding me?

**Rachel:** He's not six yet.

**Griffin:** He's not six yet. He can only take a—he's—we're micro dosing him on children's Claritin.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** But I bet it works for adults too. Probably wouldn't do any harm for me to pop the children's Claritin.

**Rachel:** No, I don't—

**Griffin:** But I take enough medicine. So why are you forcing this on me?

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** I'm really, really vamping here, because we got through both of our segments fairly quickly, and I want to provide our friends at home with at least one half hour of quality entertainment.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** So I'll take a—

**Rachel:** This is why I was so mad when you jumped to the—

**Griffin:** I know!

**Rachel:** The big reveal—

**Griffin:** I fucked it—

**Rachel:** My bubble wrap.

**Griffin:** I fucked it all up. And I'm so—

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** I am really, really sorry about that.

**Rachel:** I was going to be like, hey, did you know this thing is for wrapping packages so that they can mail safely? And but you just started there.

**Griffin:** I ruined—I ruined everything.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** So, thank you so much for listening. Thanks to Bo En and Augustus for the use of our theme song, "Money Won't Pay." You can find a link to that in the episode description. Thanks to Maximum Fun for having us on the

network. Go to [maximumfun.org](http://maximumfun.org), check out all the great stuff they've got going over there. For the rest of the month of June, we got some merch in the merch store over at [mcelroymerch.com](http://mcelroymerch.com). We got a "You're going to be amazing" shirt, inspired by TAZ Balance.

Got some "Make it stick" sticky notes, a bunch of great stuff over there. The last Adventure Zone graphic novel, *The Adventure Zone: Story and Song*, comes out very, very soon. Just a few weeks away at this point. And you can pre-order it at [theadventurezonecomic.com](http://theadventurezonecomic.com). It's getting close. If you think you're going to read it, pre-ordering helps us out so much. It helps us a great deal. It helps, you know, book sellers know how much of our book to—

**Rachel:** Yeah, true.

**Griffin:** Order, which is a major, major thing. So, think about that if you're going to pick it up. And also, if you live in the sort of Boston area, or I guess specifically Medford, Massachusetts, we're doing an event for the book launch on July 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Chevalier (she-vi-leer) Theater, which I found out from someone today who lives there, that's what they call it, and not the Chevalier (she-val-yay) Theater.

**Rachel:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Which is what I—

**Rachel:** I was wondering about that.

**Griffin:** Yeah, I've been—but I'll probably just keep saying it the wrong way, because it's fun to say it that way.

**Rachel:** Yeah. I wanted to say also, when you kept referencing video content—

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** It's on the Instagram, right? Is it on TikTok too, or just Instagram?

**Griffin:** Is what?

**Rachel:** When they do little video clips of our show.

**Griffin:** Oh, yeah, it's TikTok, it's Instagram. It's—

**Rachel:** Oh, it is TikTok.

**Griffin:** It's all—

**Rachel:** I don't have it.

**Griffin:** You're n—yeah.

**Rachel:** I just wanted to slip that in again. [laughs] No, that's not true. But I just want to say, if you—if you are curious and have not seen the video stuff, it's on the McElroy—

**Griffin:** Yeah!

**Rachel:** Family Instagram page.

**Griffin:** Go follow @TheMcElroyFamily on Instagram and TikTok and YouTube. We stream almost every day on YouTube, doing a lot of gaming stuff. I started—

**Rachel:** Again, and when he says "we," he means him and his brothers.

**Griffin:** Yes, but the shorts for Wonderful are also on there. So... so put that in your pipe and smoke it.

**Rachel:** [chuckles] I just don't want people to think like, "I'm going to log on and see Rachel."

**Griffin:** Rachel hates video games so much.

**Rachel:** Playing Splatoon live.

**Griffin:** That's a pull. That's a great pull.

**Rachel:** Thank you.

**Griffin:** I started doing a new video series called Every Game Ever, where I make a giant fucking spreadsheet of every video game I've ever played.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** It's an ambitious undertaking and it's been a lot of fun so far. That's on every Friday. But yeah, follow McElroy Entertainment System, if you want to follow our gaming stuff. And you know, follow McElroy Family on Instagram, TikTok, to get those great clips of us, being so in love.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** In a visual format. Not this one though! Not this one.

**Rachel:** Not this episode.

**Griffin:** You won't catch this one there. Why are we even still doing this dang thing? Let's wrap it up! This is—we're wasting... we're wasting this and that—I'm pointing towards our faces.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** They look so good right now.

**Rachel:** And George Clooney. Poor George Clooney—

**Griffin:** Clooney is here!

**Rachel:** He was going to get his break on this one.

**Griffin:** Say something, dude! I'm getting so tired of this fuckin' handsome gargoyles.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Perched on my-perched on my shelf over my shoulder.

**Rachel:** Yeah... Yeah.

[theme music, "Money Won't Pay (feat. Augustus)" by Bo En plays]

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