

MBMBaM 824: Chaddy, Not Daddy

Published on July 27th, 2026

[Listen here](#)

Intro (Bob Ball): The McElroy brothers are not experts, and their advice should never be followed. Travis insists he's a sexpert, but if there's a degree on his wall, I haven't seen it. Also, this show isn't for kids, which I mention only so the babies out there will know how cool they are for listening. What's up, you cool baby?

["My Life Is Better With You" by Montaigne plays]

Justin: Hello, everybody, and welcome to My Brother, My Brother and Me, an advice show for the modren era. I'm your oldest brother, Justin McElroy!

Travis: What's up, Trav Nation? It's me, your middlest brother, Travis 'Big Dog Woof-Woof Vroom-Vroom, The Heater, Award-Winning' McElroy!

Griffin: Hey, Trav Nation! It's me, your sweet baby brother, 30 Under 30, media luminary, Griffin McElroy.

Justin: The Avengers will return!

Griffin: I'm so...

Justin: Next summer, the Avengers are back! I watched this trailer... they're all there.

Travis: Everyone.

Justin: They're all there.

Griffin: Even the dead ones!

Justin: Even the dead ones are there.

Griffin: Because you know why? We gotta stomp Dr. Doom's ass. Dead-ass Captain America got too old and died from it. And even he is like coming out

of his grave, and he's doing just fine. He de-aged 50 years, he looks like sexy-ass Chris Evans again, and he's ready to beat Dr. Doom's ass, 'cause it's gotta get beat.

Travis: I'm just real PO'd.

Griffin: All right!

Travis: Because they must have found my fanfiction. It's 1200 pages long, in which they all get together, everybody's back from the dead.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Everybody's back. And if I go see this movie, and Ben Grimm is kissing Dr. Doom—

Griffin: Yeah!

Travis: And Captain America is kissing Mjolnir—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And like, then I'll know it's straight plagiarism.

Justin: I'll walk folks through. The opening scene is Captain America and Spider-Man and the Hulk [laughs] and Iron Man on four beach chairs, and they're sitting in four beach chairs. And then Spider-Man like, wakes up from his dead sleep, and he's like, "Guys! We didn't save the world, Dr. Doom's not dead." [chuckles]

And they're like, "Who's Dr. Doom?"

And then Iron Man's like, "He's right, job's not done. We gotta kill Dr. Doom." And that's how the trailer starts.

Griffin: And in Endgame— If you remember, I know it's been a while since it came out, but in Endgame, everybody's all in like, "We gotta stop Thanos, the infinity wish made half the world die."

But in the— But do you guys remember, in Endgame, almost the whole movie, Spider-Man's going, "But when are we gonna get Dr. Doom's ass, though?"

Travis: "When are we gonna get to Dr. Doom?"

Justin: "We have to kill Dr. Doom!"

Griffin: "I've heard about this guy from like, Boravia or wherever, and I'm... I'm ready— I'm locked in, I'm ready to shoot. I just need a ride over there."

Travis: And Tony Stark was like, "Do you mean my secret twin brother? Yeah, he's evil as fuck."

Griffin: Shh! Don't spoil it.

Justin: You can't.

Travis: Okay. And so then they call the Doctor, and the Doctor shows up in his TARDIS, and he lifts them away to Boravia. It's straight—

Griffin: This is your fanfiction again.

Travis: It's straight out of my story.

Griffin: You gotta— I don't know that they're gonna adapt it quite that... quite that literally.

Travis: We'll see!

Justin: Remember when Dr. Doom was at the end of Endgame, and he had like— He took out a cigarette and he was like, "Forgot to kill me, bitch." And then he flicked the cigarette at the screen? [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs] Yeah, I remember that. Yeah.

Justin: Man, I was like, I was kind of yelling. I remember all of us yelling like, "Kill Dr. Doom!"

Griffin: Get his ass!

Justin: "Why didn't we kill Dr. Doom?!"

Griffin: And this is gonna become a bigger problem. And the—

Justin: This is a huge problem!

Griffin: Meanwhile—

Justin: Job's not done! [chuckles]

Griffin: Meanwhile—

Justin: Kill Dr. Doom! [chuckles]

Griffin: We got Scarlet Witch, and we got all these little side projects where they're like, "There's this other guy." Don't throw another guy on there when we haven't settled the Dr. Doom issue yet!

Travis: And at the end of every proceeding movie was another like post-credits scene of Dr. Doom smoking a cigarette, flicking it, and saying a different thing like, "Yeah, I'm thinking I'm back." Flick cigarette.

Justin: Yeah!

Travis: And then they do the next movie, and it would end with him being like, "Guess who— It's me! Here's Johnny!" And he'd smash through the door. And they just kept doing that?

Justin: The one—

Griffin: They just kept doing it.

Travis: Even on TV shows, every TV episode had a post-credits sequence with Dr. Doom.

Justin: Did you see the post-credit on— The one that really bothered me the most...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Was at the end of Wonder Man, Ben Kingsley knocks on the door and he's like, "Hello, it's me, the Mandarin, I'm here to kill Dr. Doom!" And he's got a knife. And he's like, "Please answer!" And then he's like, "Oh, well, no luck." And he walks away. And it's like that's the worst try you guys have done yet! [chuckles] It feels like you're just checking a box at this point like, yes, someone attempted to kill Dr. Doom, but it wasn't successful.

Griffin: And I mean, we've been waiting for so long— The after-credits scene in Avengers had, you know, Loki goes down, and then Thanos shows up, and he's like, "Guess I'll do it myself." And then immediately after that, there's another end-credits scene where it zooms even *further* out, and you see Dr. Doom, and he's smoking a cigarette, and he's like, "You're not even ready for this shit yet."

Travis: Yeah. "I'll let him do it himself, and then I'll do it myself."

Griffin: "And then I'll do it myself."

I do like in this trailer, they have to set the stakes, they're like, "This is going to take everything we've got. This would be a miracle if we can face this, our mightiest foe yet." And it's like, that's a dude. That's a dude and he's wearing armor, I'll grant you that. There is some issues, I think, with his defensive capabilities you guys are going to run into. But the other one was a *huge* alien. A *huge* alien who killed half of the universe.

Travis: With magic stones.

Griffin: You're telling me that this guy, this physician, this armored physician—

Justin: This little pipsqueak! [chuckles]

Griffin: Is going to be tougher than that? I don't know, guys.

Justin: Why didn't we kill him?! [chuckles]

Travis: When they're like, "This is going to be our toughest one," just cut to the Fantastic Four being like, "We beat him by ourselves all the time."

Griffin: "We do this all day, guys."

Justin: Kill him again? Kill him as many times as you need.

Travis: What do you need—

Justin: Kill him today, kill him tomorrow. [chuckles]

Travis: Get a big magnet. He's fucked.

Griffin: Get a big— get magnet—

Travis: Get a huge magnet!

Griffin: Hello, Magneto is in the trailer. Magneto's in the trailer. *Zeep*. He walks up. "Hey, what's up?" *Brrri! Grrri!* He goes like this. *Sca!* Like a Dr. Evil, "Eh, zip it." He does *krr*, one of those, and he just *eh* like a can. *Gre*.

Justin: The first—

Griffin: Dead.

Justin: The first scene of the movie—the second scene of the movie, because they do a flashback—[chuckles]

Travis: Yeah—

Justin: To Dr. Doom saying, "Forgot to kill me, bitch." And then the first scene of the movie is Magneto and the Fantastic Four both get something in the mail that's like, "Sweepstakes winner. You've won an all-expenses-paid trip to Hawaii." [chuckles] So they immediately go to Hawaii.

Griffin: They leave.

Justin: First thing. They're not in it.

Griffin: Yeah. They're not in it.

Justin: They can't help. This is why— This is why I've been telling—

Travis: They do cameo.

Justin: Yeah, they'll cameo.

Griffin: They'll bring him in.

Justin: For 100 bucks a pop. [chuckles] Just one birthday message, you know, it sucks. For a cameo.

Listen, this is why I've been telling people, you got to watch Daredevil: Born Again. Because the first episode of Daredevil: Born Again, Kingpin kills Dr. Doom. And then if you watch all two seasons, and then at end Vincent D'Onofrio was like, "And I'll tell you one other thing about my city." Zip. Unzip. It was a costume. He was Dr. Doom the whole time. And that's why I was— That's when I was like, okay—

Griffin: Who did he kill in the first episode?

Justin: Did you not kill him the first episode? And it turns out he didn't. It was actually Kingpin was killed, and then Dr. Doom made a Kingpin costume, and wore it for two seasons. Made love to his wife.

Travis: Oh, wow.

Griffin: Wow.

Justin: As Kingpin. [chuckles] As Vincent D'Onofrio's Kingpin.

Griffin: And you would think she would be so confused because, you know, she— Vincent D'Onofrio, she would be in the act of making love with him. But she would hear the jingle-jangle of his armor inside the skin.

Justin: Oh—

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Sorry about accidentally recounting the plot of Wonder Woman '84. [wheeze-laughs] I didn't mean to hard pivot into that! But I accidentally did just turn this into Wonder Woman '84, that is basically the plot.

Griffin: Dr. Doom's so strong that even in the DC universe, we got Batman versus Superman, and there's the scene where Batman's like, "Well, at least I'm not fighting Dr. Doom."

Travis: Yeah. And he and Superman agree.

Griffin: They agree like yeah—

Travis: Superman's like, "I'd much rather fight *you* in armor—"

Griffin: Way, way, way more.

Travis: "Than Dr. Doom in armor." And they're like, "That's what bonds them." And they're like, "Oh, we're both afraid of Dr. Doom. Maybe we're not so different, you and I."

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: I'm excited for the lines. I'm excited for all the lines. This trailer had a lot of lines.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: I'm excited for, I want to see Shang-Chi up there saying like, "It looks like this is going to take all 10 of my rings." Like, cool shit. I think I'd

be good at like writing lines for like the superheroes to say in the Avengers movies.

Travis: I think we should also throw our hat in the ring to design the popcorn buckets.

Griffin: Hell yes.

Travis: I have so many ideas. Dr. Doom's mouth wide open.

Griffin: Yes!

Travis: The Thing's mouth wide open.

Griffin: Uh-huh!

Travis: Spider-Man's mouth wide open.

Griffin: Uh-huh.

Travis: Mystique turning into White Widow with her mouth wide open.

Griffin: Yeah. Kevin Feige, and he's got his shirt stretched out like this. And the popcorn is in the shirt, like you're eating it out of his stretched-out shirt.

Travis: Yeah, or you can just put money in there.

Griffin: You can put money in there, if you want to.

Travis: And that goes straight to Kevin.

Justin: Straight to Kevin. Yeah! I mean, a lot of people watched that trailer and they're like, "I don't know. This doesn't seem very cool." And that seemed like a good moment to remind everybody that comic books are not cool. [chuckles] Like, they're not! This is a good time—remember when everybody was like, "I guess the nerds inherited the Earth, and everybody likes geek stuff"? Maybe it's time for us bullies to rise again. You know what

I mean? Like, maybe us— Maybe it's time to remind everybody that like, hey, this nerd stuff... is for nerds. [chuckles] This is for nerds only.

Travis: There was a period I believe in the late '90s, where I think Superman got hit by an energy blast that separated him into two separate energy-based Supermens, one that was like all blue energy, all red energy. That went on for a really long time, you guys. So you need to know that comic books can sometimes be super dumb.

Justin: It's nonsense.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah, it's all kind of nonsense.

Griffin: We got spoiled by a generation of almost all pretty competent action blockbuster superhero movies.

Justin: Mm-hm.

Griffin: It's not going to be that again, but there's going to be lots to like. The lines. I didn't see—

Justin: The buckets? [laughs]

Griffin: I didn't—

Travis: The buckets.

Griffin: The buckets—

Justin: The buckets!

Griffin: I didn't see... Groot... in this one. I know he was in The Mandalorian and Grogu, but I didn't see Groot in *this* one.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: I'm hoping that Groot—

Justin: Griffin, that was a tree! [chuckles] I tried— I tried to tell you.

Travis: No, every tree in movie— 'Cause I saw lots of trees in Wonder Man.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: That was like, "That's Groot, that's Groot." They're all connected. It's like that big baobab farm, I think, that's down in like Florida—

Griffin: Oh, yeah.

Travis: Where it looks like thousands of trees, but it's one tree.

Griffin: I bet if Groot—

Travis: All trees are Groot.

Griffin: I bet if Groot went down to the mangroves, the swamplands of Florida and plugged in, that would be like a nonstop just orgy—

Justin: Party.

Griffin: A big plant—

Travis: Yeah, dude.

Griffin: Just one shared root system just going fucking hog wild.

Justin: And he comes back with an accent that's like, vaguely appropriative. Like I don't think so, Groot.

Griffin: Yes! Yeah, that would be Groot—

Justin: [chuckles] Okay—

Griffin: That would be great—

Justin: You can live down there for two weeks. Calm down.

Griffin: That would be Groot. I hope they have a Groot in this one.

Travis: I hope Steven Groot's in this one.

Griffin: [chuckles] He could. They can swap Steven Groot in.

Justin: He can do anything! He's my favorite actor in the world. He can do anything.

Travis: Transformative, dude.

Griffin: He can be in anything.

Travis: Comedy, action, drama.

Griffin: Dude, I will tell— I have not been deeply invested in the Marvelverse since Endgame. I've watched some of this stuff since then. Some of it's been pretty cool. But if—

Travis: [crosstalk] and Wonder Man are great.

Griffin: *If* the movie ends with Dr. Doom taking off his mask and it's not RDJ, like we all expect, because he came out on stage during Comic-Con and was like, "What's up? I'm Dr. Doom." And yet they're kind of dancing around that in the trailer, which was wild. Guys, we all saw the news. If instead Dr. Doom pulled off the mask and it was Steven Root under there, and it was a *huge* twist, a huge gotcha surprise?

Justin: And he's like, "I am Root."
And they're like, "Yes."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Fucking great, it's Steven Root?

Griffin: Awesome.

Justin: From Widow's Bay?

Travis: Not too late. It doesn't come out 'til next year. You can do reshoots —

Griffin: Pretty sure it's this year. Get new radio's—

Justin: Get re-roots! [chuckles] There's time for re-roots! Just get 'em in there!

Griffin: Awesome.

Justin: This is an advice show. We take your questions. We do our best to answer them. That's it. "I've been LARPing for almost seven years now..."

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: "Continuously. I—" [chuckles] "I've had a ropey LARP for almost seven years now, and my character has become well-known and respected in the game, taking on several leadership positions and often called upon when help is needed. And while I feel very lucky and grateful to hold these positions, I now spend most of my games in meetings and negotiations. I can barely make it ten steps in any direction before someone needs me. I truly love what my character does, but I also miss the shenanigans I could get into when my character wasn't important. Brothers, what are some simple ways I can bring more fun and mischief in my escapism hobby without jeopardizing my character fantasy nine to five?" And that's from Pretend Politician in Southern California.

Travis: This is classic warrior-to-king kind of shit, you know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Robert Baratheon. *Aah!*

Griffin: Mm-hm!

Travis: You know?

Griffin: The Barath.

Travis: The Barath.

Griffin: He just wanted to get out there—

Travis: I don't remember the show much.

Griffin: He just wanted to get out there and kill stags.

Travis: Yeah, man.

Griffin: And yet, and yet he had to get pulled into all this castle mischief, all this palace intrigue. I feel bad for him.

Travis: It's weird that their symbol was a stag, and he loved killing those bastards.

Griffin: He loved it. It was his favorite.

Justin: This—

Griffin: We—

Justin: This is why Chris Gaines exists.

Travis: Oh!

Justin: This is why Chris Gaines exists, because Garth got too imprisoned by the country music industry, and he needed somebody without all the expectations. This is also why Chaddy exists. Chaddy is my alter ego.

Travis: Oh?

Justin: When the shackles of being daddy are too much, when I can't handle the burden anymore, I brush my hair down like this.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And I'm— And I'm Chaddy. And Chaddy—

Griffin: That is all Chris Gaines did. That is all Garth did.

Justin: This is Chaddy—

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And Chaddy doesn't care about the rules. He doesn't enforce the rules. Chaddy's really cool. The kids can do whatever they want when Chaddy's around, and I don't have to give a shit, because I'm not Daddy, I'm Chaddy. I'm a—

Travis: Oh, nice.

Justin: Completely different guy. Sometimes I'll hit on Sydnee, and the kids hate it.

Griffin: Okay, yeah—

Justin: Which doesn't make sense, right?! They know! They know. Right, but—

Travis: You've developed your own cool stepdad.

Justin: Yes, I'm my own cool stepdad. And any time it's getting like to be the stress of parenting is too much, I can leave.

Griffin: Yeah. Chad shows up, yeah.

Justin: And Chaddy can be here.

Griffin: How does Syd feel about Chaddy? How does Syd—

Justin: Syd probably... Chaddy's cool, has never washed a dish. You know what I'm saying? Like, yeah, every girl thinks they want a Chaddy, but at the end of the day, what you want is Daddy, at the end of the day. [chuckles] But Chaddy can be helpful when you just need a break from the... expectations, right?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: This could be your little fucking shitbag rogue that everybody hates — [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah, man!

Justin: Even you! You hate, most of all, this little shitbag rogue, running around stealing people's socks, throwing 'em down a hill, you know? But it's you!

Griffin: Yeah, that's what they do in LARP.

Travis: You... wa... you could even go vigilante, right? Where Bruce Wayne, he's helping through all the proper means, right? Donations and charities and stuff. And then you have a masked version of your character that no one knows is you, that's out there... I don't know, putting people in stocks? I don't know— I don't know what—

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: The punishment is.

Griffin: Well, I mean, you're touching on something that I think could be extremely powerful. It might actually be a good idea. I've never LARPed, so I don't know how normal this is for a LARP, but I have to ima— I mean... professional wrestling is LARP fighting, basically, right?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: And that's not to denigrate it, I think it's a beautiful art, and it's great.

Travis: No, I think LARP is medieval pro wrestling, yes.

Griffin: Right. So... it's time, it sounds like, if everyone depends on you and holds you in such high esteem, the slingshot effect of the heel turn—

Justin: Heel turn.

Griffin: That you could bust out right now—

Justin: Oh my god, that's good.

Griffin: Would be *fucking incredible*. Just like—

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: *Just like* Tony Stark is bitten by a radioactive—

Travis: Suit of armor.

Griffin: Eastern European gentleman, and then becomes Dr. Doom. You too must become the villain that these people then will band together to kick your ass, because they're all hurt, because they all needed you and depended on you so much. Like, that's good stuff, actually.

Justin: I don't know what happens next in Dune, but I feel like something like that is going to happen in Dune. I don't know Dune, but I've only watched the first two Dunes, but if I look at a little bit of the third Dune, I think something like that is going to happen with Timmy Chimmy. I'm a little worried, but—

Griffin: Timmy Chimmy is an unproblematic fave in that movie, dude. I do not know what you're talking about.

Justin: Yeah, dude. What an interesting— By the way, what an interesting timing on that, to like have your character— [chuckles]

Griffin: [guffaws] He should have— Oh man, the timing of—

Justin: I just see him as a villain! I love Timmy Chimmy too much.

Griffin: Yeah. His timing was just a bit off, dude,

Justin: Just a bit off, man! Could have rode that Oscar wave and then just [clicks tongue].

Griffin: And then started talking shit about the ballet, buddying up with more than one of the sharks from Shark Tank. Like, then we're all like, actually, wait a minute, Timmy Chimmy... We buy him as a bad guy.

Travis: Griffin, in pro wrestling, how often does a heel turn get blamed on like an evil curse or magical possession or something?

Griffin: My dear sweet summer child, half the time.

Travis: Yeah, that's why I asked. Because I was going to make it a statement that like in LARPing too, at any moment, the curse can be broken, you can go back to your good self and blame everything on the curse, unlike pro wrestling. And then I thought, wait, I think I know just enough about pro wrestling to think magic *is* involved.

Griffin: There was a story arc where I think Bray Wyatt... Bray Wyatt famously can hypnotize people. Like, if they want to do a match between two people who are best buds, they used to just be able to get Bray Wyatt out there and hold up his lantern, and now all of a sudden, you know, Alexa Bliss is bad now. Like, they used to be able—

Travis: Hold up his lantern?

Griffin: Yeah, he had a magic lantern. Bray Wyatt was the fucking best, man.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: No one's ever done it like Bray.

Travis: God, wrestling rules!

Griffin: Wrestling is very, very good. I'm pretty sure that when John Cena like, freaked out and went ham on Cody Rhodes, that was also a magic— There was a supernatural element to that. I think it was the smoke monster got him and made him do all that bad stuff. And then he—

Travis: Tracks.

Griffin: Then he retired to have an incredibly lucrative television and film career, and it... He wasn't like exorcised or anything, he just kind of was just like, "All right, guys, thanks. It's been fun. I've been John Cena. This has all been play pretend. I wasn't actually hypnotized or cursed by Bray Wyatt's magic lantern." [chuckles]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: I'm off to movies now.

Travis: John Cena hasn't been in a Marvel movie, has he?

Griffin: John Cena *has* been in a Marvel movie.

Travis: Which one?

Griffin: I don't know, but it seems crazy to say he hasn't. Marvel movie.

Travis: Well because he was in Peacemaker. That's DC.

Griffin: Oh, wow. No, he's never been in a... He's never been in the Marvel Cinematic Universe. There's got to be— He must have done something.

Travis: Because everybody's been in it!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: They keep asking Adam Driver, he keeps saying no.

Griffin: I love that. I saw that quote from an interview where Adam Driver's like, "Yeah, they keep asking me, and it's like a standing invitation, and I just keep turning it down and it's like—" I think it was actually Kevin Feige was talking about Adam Driver and like, that's cool. Can I say that too?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: They keep trying to get me, guys! They keep trying to bring me in! They want me to—

Travis: I've never agreed to be in a Marvel cinematic movie.

Griffin: I have never, ever greenlit— Put the rubber stamp on that.

Travis: Never once have I been asked and said yes.

Griffin: Because I need *practical*. I only work practical. And if they're gonna put my head on a big, strong CGI body without my permission?

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: I don't play like that!

Travis: I also only shoot on 35 mil. You know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah!

Travis: Like I don't do digital, I think. So if you want to put me in a Marvel movie, it's all going to have to be on celluloid screen, like indie theaters.

Griffin: Yeah. Did you guys know that when Mark Ruffalo showed up the first day of shooting for Avengers, he painted his body fully green? And they were like, "You don't need to do that. We'll make you... we have a computer Hulk that we can do. It will be very big."

Justin: We already talked about— We can't just randomly go back and start talking about Avengers again, Griffin. [chuckles] We've already talked about Avengers once today.

Griffin: You're right, you're right.

Justin: We can't.

Griffin: No, you're right.

Justin: Have you guys been watching Big Brother?

Travis: No?

Griffin: Never once.

Justin: Me neither. Me neither. But I saw a commercial for Big Brother this season. And I asked my friends John and Rissy about it, because they watch Big Brother.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And I said, "Guys, I saw a commercial in Big Brother where there's portals. Is this accurate?"

And they're like, "Yeah, yeah, time—"

Griffin: Wait, what?

Justin: "This season, it's about time travel."

And I was like, "What are you talking about?" And then I got distracted. So I went searching on Reddit, and I found a post about this season of Big Brother, right?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And I just wanted to— I'm hoping people can fill this in for me, because I wanted to share it with you guys. Because without context, I don't know what I've been missing.

"This show is unwatchable." This is from the Big Brother Reddit. "Big Brother has had some wild themes in the past. It's no coincidence that the next most crazy one was the time laser. But they have taken it to an absurd degree, and there are some issues here that I feel are too big to ignore. Firstly, let me say, this is not an indictment of the dining table time machine, or timetable."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "I don't question— I don't question that BBtonium exists."
[chuckles]

Travis: Huh?

Justin: "I don't question that BBtonium exists—"

Griffin: Yeah, man.

Justin: "That it can be used for time travel, or even that Enzo is the one who was able to develop it."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "These things are all unbelievable – the last most of all, of course – but they can be accepted as truth. We will even handwave them being able to get camera footage across time and space."

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Travis: Yeah, obviously.

Justin: "The problem is in the framing of the reality icons that they recruited with the timetable. Why would you need to go back in time to invite a teenage Angela to a future season of a show that doesn't yet exist? Especially knowing that she will already have been on the sh..." [laughs]

Griffin: That's...

Justin: "Especially knowing that she will already have been on the show prior to this season without any meddling."

Travis: The tense is—

Justin: "Couldn't they just ask her a month ago if she wanted to come back?" [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "You don't need a time machine for that." [chuckles]

Griffin: Guys, it's my constant secret fear—

Justin: You don't need a time machine for that!

Griffin: It's my constant secret fear that dope shit is happening in these corners of pop culture and entertainment—

Justin: I know.

Griffin: That I can't... I can't possibly... I can't possibly be watching. I can't watch— I watch every episode of American Ninja Warrior. I can't also watch every episode of Big Brother. And I hate that there's secret great stuff happening over there.

Travis: This is why we need fucking Gogglebox here in America. Where it's just—

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Yeah, they watch oil soup!

Travis: Bring it back.

Justin: For God's sake. Or the internet, or TikTok. Something, you know?

Travis: I just need to see normal people like me reacting to wild shit, sitting on their couch. Not like— And don't get me wrong, I love YouTubers who do videos reacting to wild shit.

Griffin: Shh, we *love* YouTubers here.

Travis: But I want just sitting on a couch and seeing someone go, "What the fuck is that?"

Griffin: Sure, yeah.

Travis: That's what I want. [chuckles]

Justin: Sure. I'm sure that's also on YouTube for you, if you like it. I'm sure there's lots of different... There's like a cozy reaction.

Griffin: But even that's too much.

Justin: It's too much.

Griffin: I need a—

Justin: You need just a TV.

Griffin: I need a pill or something. Yeah.

Justin: "The only way this makes sense is if the meddling truly *is* necessary, i.e. the letter not only includes instructions to come to this season, but also information about how to ensure she is cast on her original season, after the show *does* come into existence."

Griffin: That's cool.

Justin: "Maybe it's true that time travel is the only reasonable explanation for Angela being cast. Actually, we should go back to that icon question. Does this imply that Angela was intentionally acting unhinged in her first appearance to make her worthy of her spot in the future?"

Griffin: These— This was guidance.

Justin: This is all— [laughs]

Griffin: From her future self.

Travis: Like, all laid out!

Justin: "I do find it unlikely this plan would work, though, based on how she destroyed the letter without even reading it. Clearly this is meant to be a second reference to Back to the Future, along with Enzo hitting his head and unlocking the secrets of time travel. However, it makes much less sense for Angela, as there was the exact opposite of a grand adventure or camaraderie between her and the players before her departure."

Griffin: God damn it.

Travis: What is this show about?

Justin: It's about time travel. "Obviously terrifying thing that requires in-depth analysis would be that if she goes time traveling and immediately dies, and the show doesn't end?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "The players don't panic, they just gleefully go on? What's worse that is that Julie—"

Travis: Does that happen?!

Griffin: I've never seen— I've watched a lot of reality shows; I've never seen someone suddenly die on one.

Justin: "What's worse is that Julie doesn't even consider going back to save her. Julie, the host—" I think they're talking about the host of the show.
[laughs]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: "Julie doesn't go back to save her, she just goes on to find a replacement. The lawsuits would be incredible, to say the least! How can I take it seriously if the story isn't taking *itself* seriously?!"

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Justin, are there comments reacting to this, like, in a shared way? Or is this one of those creepypasta, "I remember a scary TV show from when I was a kid that doesn't exist"?

Griffin: Oh, it's a backroom.

Justin: No.

Travis: Is this a backroom?

Justin: No, this is not a backroom, this is just a regular Reddit post. If I could just— I'm almost done with this one. "By far, the most egregious error, in spite of all this, is how Julie can even *use* the timetable right now."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "It's shown to travel with the players, and they haven't come back yet, so there should be no table for her to use. No producers or cameramen are shown sitting at the table, so we can't say that someone else took it back ahead of the players. I guess they have a second identical timetable?"
[laughs]

Griffin: [laughs] This fuckin' rules, man. I gotta become a part of this community.

Justin: "I guess they have a second identical timetable that production wheeled in and put in the exact same spot as the original for Julie to use? The existence of multiple time machines raises so many questions by itself —"

Griffin: One!

Justin: "That I can't possibly get into it." [chuckles]

Griffin: One Big Brother time machine? Okay.

Travis: This is easily explained.

Griffin: Okay?

Travis: If you go back, right? Then the table just sits there until it's in the present. It's the same with the DeLorean. Read a fuckin' book.

Griffin: Okay, if you don't move it, then it eventually will make its way back home.

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: That's interesting.

Travis: It's the same table, it's just now, I don't know, 20 years older.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Or you make two of them, because if you're gonna have a time machine, why wouldn't you make fucking two of 'em? They always need a second one.

Griffin: I would definitely always have a second time machine. Because how many—

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: How many times has it happened that someone's been like, "Uh-oh, now we're stuck in time."

Travis: Right.

Griffin: Have a second time machine, you dummy.

Travis: I'd like—

Griffin: You made one.

Travis: Yeah, I'd leave a note with you guys to be like, "Hey."

Griffin: Hey.

Travis: "I'm stuck in the past again."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "Come pick me up."

Griffin: You need a spotter.

Justin: I'm not gonna watch it. I'm not. I'm not. But like, thank you for the update.

Travis: I'll read the novelization.

Justin: Yeah, when they adapt it into like McDonald's toys, I'll check those out.

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: Let's take a quick break. Let's head to the Money Zone. And...

Travis: Do it right.

Justin: We'll do more.

[theme music plays]

Justin: You know, you walk around your home, your place of living every day, and take a look and really ask yourself, does this feel like you? Does this— Is this—

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Justin: Does this really feel like your space?

Travis: Oh my god. You're right.

Justin: Is this a space where you really put your stamp on it? Do you love the things in there? And do they make you happy every day?

Travis: Is this simulation?

Justin: Things can't make you happy, but some things can.

Griffin: That's cool.

Justin: You know what I mean? That's an interesting way of thinking about it.

Griffin: Yeah, money can't buy happiness. But it can buy *some* happy—

Travis: It can buy things that make you happy.

Griffin: For sure.

Justin: I wanted to spend more time outside this summer, so I used Wayfair to find a lovely outdoor table for my family to use when we eat dinner outdoors. And so that's facilitated a lot of happiness in my life, because I said, hey, I want this space to reflect me. I want this to feel like my family. And Wayfair made it really easy. They have seating, they have grills, appliances, storage, lighting, rugs, decor, whatever you need.

It's there, you can get it at Wayfair. And if putting it together sounds like a pain, they got delivery, they can handle installation, even assembly. So I think it's going to make a really pleasant experience for you. I was very pleased. It arrived quickly, I think it's a really good quality table, and I'm a big fan of it, honestly. It's been out there for... now it's been a year, actually, since I got that table from Wayfair, and it is just as lovely as the day I got it.

Travis: It is a great table.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: It's a great table. Are you ready to upgrade your home for way less? Head to [wayfair.com](https://www.wayfair.com) right now to shop all things home, and get your space ready for less. That's [wayfair.com](https://www.wayfair.com).

Griffin: I have a confession. And I don't know if Warby Parker wants me to start out with this energy. This is an ad for Warby Parker. But I've been wearing Warby Parker frames pretty exclusively now for a very long time, for years and years. And I needed some new glasses, and I had the thought, should I get out there and see what else... What else is happening in the world that is not this trusted brand that I rock with so hard?

So I went out, and I looked at some other— I went to some glasses businesses, and I looked around, and I tried some stuff on. I couldn't find a lot of stuff I liked, and then the stuff that I thought looked all right was like *a thousand goddamn* dollars, for one pair of glasses. Everywhere I went—

Justin: Unreal!

Griffin: They were like, "Let me think, a thousand." Pretty much all of 'em, just outrageous prices, and not a lot of great selection, especially for a gentleman with a... who has a carriage of head that is larger than medically appropriate.

And you know what I did? I went to a Warby Parker brick and mortar, which I had never done before. I had done all like the shopping online and doing the home try-on program, which is great. But I went into one, and I tried on some frames, and I was like, "How much are they?" And they were like, not

just a normal price, but a better than normal price. And I realized, like, I don't need anything else. I just need Warby Parker.

Travis: Is that your full confession, Griffin?

Griffin: That's my full confession, is that I was tempted—

Travis: We got him. Move in, get him.

Griffin: I was temp— Shit.

I was tempted by the fruit of another—

Travis: Get him.

Griffin: I was tempted by the fruit of another, but then I found out that there actually wasn't any good fruit, and the fruit that was there, the wrinkled, prune, shitty fruit, cost a thousand dollars.

Travis: What's that, there's traffic?

Griffin: Oh, just tell 'em to wait until the end of the episode, because I need to get this—actually, I'm doing Besties right after this, so if you could have 'em circle back around around 12:30, that would be great for me.

Travis: Yeah, do you want like a coffee or anything, Griffin?

Griffin: Yeah, that would be great. I'm rocking the Santiago, extra wide. I really like this frame.

Travis: Can you bring more coffee? Yeah, cream and sugar.

Griffin: This is \$95, these glasses.

Justin: Wow. That's a good value.

Griffin: Can you believe that? And it's like a dual color, it's like tortoiseshell up top, but then like blue, like baby blue—

Travis: Ooh-la-la!

Griffin: To compliment the peepers. I got another pair coming, more Buddy Holly style, very excited for those to come in. I got sunglasses from Warby Parker. Genuinely like, really great designs that look really good, and the price is just fucking unbeatable, gang. It's so, so good, and you should be using it too. Also, every time they sell a pair of glasses, they give a pair to someone in need. They don't say, "Hey, someone in need, do you got a thousand dollars?" They just give 'em the pair, no questions asked.

Justin: Whoa.

Griffin: They've distributed over 20 million pairs of glasses through the Buy a Pair, Give a Pair program.

Justin: Dang!

Griffin: Warby Parker—

Justin: That's amazing.

Griffin: It's all I need. Right now, buy one pair of glasses and get 20% off any additional pairs at warbyparker.com/mybrother. That's 20% off any additional pairs when you purchase one pair at warbyparker.com/mybrother.

[ad break]

Justin: "I recently began working as an educator at a wildlife rehabilitation center/museum in the Bay Area. Eventually, I will..." [chuckles]

That's an interesting combination, because I think that if the rehab doesn't work out, you can just stuff 'em and be like, "Dang, remember hawks?" [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs] Yeah, sure. The museum part of it, a zoo/museum. There's a pipeline there that no one's talking about, yeah.

Justin: It's a very— Like, that uses like all the parts. You know, nothing goes to waste with that. [chuckles]

Griffin: No, yeah.

Travis: Either that or it's unconnected and it's like, "We have all these beautiful paintings, and these fuckin' hawks tear them to shreds."

Griffin: Just absolutely—

Travis: "What were we thinking?" [chuckles]

Justin: "Eventually, I will have the opportunity to train with one of the raptors, birds of prey. And I'm really hoping to be paired with a one-eyed hawk named Odin. When I told this to my boss, she immediately said, 'Oh, nobody trains with Odin. He's too grumpy and unruly.' Brothers, how do I convince my boss to let me live out my childhood dreams of developing a Free Willy-esque relationship with this grouchy yet lovable hawk?" That's from Bird Brain in the Bay.

Travis: It's been a while since I've seen Free Willy, but I don't remember it being, "Oh, Free Willy? He's grumpy and angry." [chuckles] I don't remember it being—

Griffin: No one— Yeah, yeah, yeah. No one fucks with Free Willy.

Travis: That guy? *Ooh!*

Griffin: I am glad, there was a part of this question where the question and answer said, "I'm really hoping to be paired with a one-eyed hawk named Odin." I am very glad that they had a one-eyed hawk named Odin at the rehabilitation center/museum at which you work. Otherwise, you would be about to come to your boss with a *completely* unreasonable request.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] "We need a hawk—"

Justin: "I wish to train a one-eyed hawk named Odin."

"Well, we don't have that."

Griffin: "We don't have that." [chuckles]

Travis: "Well, I'm willing to put in the work!"

Griffin: Find a hawk. Get nas— The next part's gonna be—

Justin: Rename a klutzy one. I mean... [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] I don't know what to tell you, man.

Justin: Hope for the best. [laughs]

Griffin: [chuckles] Hey—

Travis: You can start wearing an eyepatch, in a—

Griffin: Okay?

Travis: In a show of solidarity. Like—

Justin: You think they gave the hawk an eyepatch?

Travis: Yeah?

Griffin: I think that'd be cool. I think it'd be nice to give the hawk a little eyepatch.

Travis: Well, when they're doing the falconry, they put a little—

Griffin: They put a harness.

Travis: Blinder on it to start off with.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Travis: Right? And then remove it and go, "Ha, go." So, this would just be half as much.

Griffin: Now, I will say, if that would affect a hawk in the same way that it affects *humans*, I do think you need a certain amount of depth perception when diving downward at the ground at 75 miles an hour to scoop up a little field mouse or something.

Travis: You'll be his eyes. Like in How to Train Your Dragon.

Griffin: "Stop, stop, stop, stop, stop!"

Travis: Heh! Yeah!

Griffin: "Odin! Stop, stop, stop, stop!"

Travis: "Slow down! Slow down!"

Griffin: Too low! Too low!"

Justin: "Look on the ground!"

Griffin: Oh!

Justin: "The mouse is down—"

Travis: [crosstalk]

Justin: "Go down. The mouse is down."

Griffin: "Down, down, down, down, down! Not that down. Ah, fuck. Fuck, Odin."

Travis: "Well, we'll work it out."

Justin: "I'd like to train a no-eyed hawk named Odin." [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] "I'd like to train a one-eyed, no-boned, deboned hawk."

Justin: "Oh, it can take the talons out too? Fuck, that hurts."

Griffin: "Shit."

Justin: "Shit! Take his little fuckin' nails out. Goddamn, Odin. Shit!"

Travis: "I'd like to train a penguin." [chuckles]

Justin: "I wanna train a really nice salamander that can fly." [chuckles]

Griffin: Do you know what this is? I don't wanna be a pessimist. I try not to embody that energy in my life. But this reminds me of every time I pass by the sword in the stone at Magic Kingdom.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: And there's a part of me that's like, they don't give it to guys like me. I understand that.

Justin: No, no, no, no.

Griffin: And I'm not gonna build a whole platform around that. I don't have a tight five that I'm gonna do about how they don't give it out to guys like me. But I do still have the thought of like, what if I *am* the chosen?

Justin: You gotta be careful— Y'all, we gotta be careful when we're wearing black T-shirts, because like, anything can and will be clipped against us.

Griffin: Sure!

Justin: You gotta be careful.

Griffin: Fair, fair, fair! Okay, well, I'll get low so you can't see— Let me raise my desk up.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: I see the sword in the stone and I think, "What if I'm the special chosen boy for today?" And I never have—I've only done it like once or twice before I realized like, now I'm just embarrassing myself. I think if this works out for you, life... life altering, life defining achievement.

Justin: Wow.

Griffin: "I tamed the skies. I tamed the one-eyed hawk named Odin. He was too surly and unruly for anyone else to fuck around with. But now he is my familiar."

Travis: Partner.

Griffin: "He's my partner. He's my best friend."

Travis: I think that's important. Tame, I would take tame out of it.

Griffin: Take tame out of it entirely. Odin's not gonna like it. If Odin hears you say that... The margin of error here is nonexistent. If you fuck up *once* in front of Odin, it's done. He is not going to forgive you for that.

Travis: You're gonna need to treat Odin as an equal, which is a problem when it comes to ordering lunch, and you take turns. And like, one day you get tacos and then the next day you're eating moles. Like, that's gonna be a problem, but that's the kind of commitment you need to have.

Griffin: But that's the commitment required.

Justin: I... I think you're missing the step where you have to get the boss on board first.

Travis: Oh, yeah.

Justin: Because if you just open up the cage and Odin flies away and you're like, "Well... Shit." You're gonna get in trouble. You gotta have your boss' permission. I think first, you gotta win Odin over.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: With just little... little treats. When no one's looking.

Griffin: That's all it's gonna take, is treats.

Justin: And then you go to the boss and you say, "Boss, good news. Watch how much Odin likes me."

And they'll say, "Good job, Justin. I'm proud of you. But we have had complaints from the other staff that Odin has become thick and swollen with Vienna sausages."

Griffin: [chuckles] "Leaden, they have called him."

Justin: [chuckles] "He's become leaden. He no longer takes to the skies because he's become so swollen with Vienna sausages."

And I'll say, "I don't know anything about that."

And they say, "We've seen the cans in your car."

Travis: "He's addicted to cigarettes."

Justin: "We've seen the cans—"

Griffin: He smokes—

Justin: "In your car."

Griffin: "He smokes cloves constantly, do you—"

Justin: "Every day I give him 15 cigarettes." [wheeze-laughs]

Griffin: [giggles]

Justin: [through laughter] "I've gotten the hawk addicted to clove cigarettes. I started out hotboxing him."

Griffin: Yeah, yeah!

Justin: "Son of a bitch won't smoke 'em himself. I'm trying to work it into the show. Honestly, boss, you can have— Forget the museum. Forget the conservatory. This is the all singing, all dancing, all smoking Odin show!"
[chuckles]

Travis: He blows the smoke rings—

Justin: One eyed, one lunged—

Travis: And then flies through 'em! The kids are gonna love it!

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: That's awesome. He can talk. He can only say, "Cigarettes!"

Justin: He doesn't fly. [laughs]

Griffin: He says two things, he does not fly! He doesn't fly, he doesn't hunt. He goes, "*Sqwa!*" And he also goes, "Cigarettes."

Travis: And he goes—[spoofs a smoker's cough]

Griffin: [spoofs a smoker's cough]

Travis: [spoofs a smoker's cough] The kids are gonna love it.

Justin: The kids are gonna love it.

Griffin: I'll tell you... I'll tell you what worked for my man, Ash Ketchum! When Pikachu didn't wanna play along with him and become *his* familiar, is he got— Is that then Pikachu got fucking jumped by a bunch of Spearows, maybe even a Fearow, and got fucked *up*. And then my man, Ash, had to steal Misty's bike to get this little guy to a Pokémon center before he actually died. And from that moment on, Pikachu was like, "That's my dude, he saved my life. I would do anything for him. I'm ride or die." You need to

save Odin's life, and I don't see a way to organically have that happen without you also causing the thing that happens that endangers his life.

Travis: Yeah, you're gonna have to hire some birds to attack. And might I suggest, maybe cut out a little bit of the middleman. Just step in and kick the other bird's asses. Don't wait for them to kick Odin's ass and then save him. When he's like surrounded, you step in, the two of you go back to back.

Griffin: Cool.

Travis: Right? And you like kick all these bird's asses.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I don't suppose it would be ethical to promise him a cybernetic hawk eye, would it? Like if you—

Travis: Ethical?

Griffin: Well—

Justin: Say like, "If you cooperate with me, I know some of the greatest scientists in Austria, and they've been working at the forefront of like, hawk technology."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "And maybe they can help you out."

Travis: I worry it's a bit short-sighted.

Griffin: You're not gonna get anything from me for that.

Travis: Okay. Because then eventually, Odin will expect you to deliver on that. He's gonna ask you about it a lot.

Griffin: Yeah, you can only sort of dangle that over him for so long before he's gonna start asking.

Justin: It feels mean. It feels mean now that I've—

Griffin: It feels mean.

Justin: Sat with it.

Travis: Give him your eye!

Griffin: Oh, that's cool.

Justin: That's cool. Get ol' fucking Mad-Eye Moody [crosstalk].

Griffin: It's not gonna be the right size.

Travis: Or as good!

Griffin: [laughs] That'd be cool. If I saw a hawk with one human eye? That's a— I'm ready for— If he rolls up to my spot, I'm gonna say, "What's the prophecy, dude?"

Justin: Yeah, dude.

Griffin: Like you've got a pro— If you've got one big, bulging human eye, you got a prophecy or an omen, dude.

Justin: What are you doing, you in a— You doing an MLM? You wanna be the president of my HOA? What's your deal, man? I'm in. [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah, done.

Griffin: What's your deal, dude?

Justin: Whatever you're doing.

Travis: I'm in.

Justin: I'm in. [sings the Munch Squad intro riff]

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: [continues riffing]

Griffin: Awesome.

Justin: [continues riffing and sings] I wanna munch!

Griffin and Travis: Squad!

Justin: [continues riffing and sings] I want to munch!

Griffin and Travis: Squad!

Justin: [concludes riffing] Welcome to Munch Squad. It's a podcast within a podcast, profiling the latest and greatest in brand eating. And this week we're gonna be talking... Stray Kids.

Griffin: Stray Kids?

Justin: Yup.

Griffin: What did they do?

Justin: We're gonna be talking about—

Griffin: They didn't pump up kicks.

Justin: We're gonna be talking about Stray Kids. Because bb.q Chicken is launching a new Feel Crunch Chicken, in partnership—

Griffin: Sorry?

Justin: Within K-pop star, Felix.

Griffin: Feel Crunch, okay, so, hm...

Justin: So it is called Feel Crunch chicken, is the name of the new menu item. Which is... let me check... Good! I like it.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, Feel Crunch chicken is awesome, yeah.

Justin: That's good. Feel Crunch chicken is good. I like to say it, and I would order it.

Travis: Is the play on words Felix, but it's feel crunch?

Justin: I have no idea. It's launching a new menu item, and this is lowercase B, lowercase B, period, lowercase Q. That's the name of the place. So when I say bb.q, I'm talking about a chain, okay?

Griffin: Right.

Justin: They're launching a new item, Feel Crunch chicken, in celebration of its new partnership with Felix, a member of the global K-pop group, Stray Kids.

Travis: Can I say I love the wording of that, as though the partnership and the chicken sandwich are separate things. "We've partnered with him, and in *celebration* of that partnership, we're putting out a sandwich."

Justin: This isn't like— Yeah, that's exactly right, Travis. Whatever we're gonna do in this partnership, this is more of a... smashing the champagne bottle on the ship. [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: On the partnership.

Travis: "He actually has purchased a couple franchises that he's gonna run, and we're really excited about it. So we put out a sandwich."

Justin: Now, do you guys want to learn about the— This is kind of interactive. Do you wanna learn about the chicken or Felix? Which do you want to learn about first? You're gonna learn about both. What do you learn about first?

Griffin: I feel like learning about Felix first would be much more important.

Travis: Yeah, give me some context.

Griffin: I know about chick— I know chicken.

Justin: You know chicken. So...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Felix is a member of Stray Kids, and has been with the group since its inception, I believe. So Felix appeared on the Mnet survival show, Stray Kids, a show which ultimately allowed him to debut as a Stray Kids member. He's a member of the main dance line of the group.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Which is a subunit currently referred to by the group and its fandom as the Danceracha, which is a play on the name of Stray Kids' production subunit, 3Racha. Now, I will say that he is a really well-known influencer in the world of fashion. He has cultivated an experimental image, according to Wikipedia, embracing color and accessories including bags, jewelry, glasses and platform sneakers.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: He has partnered with Louis Vuitton and a lot of other big-name fashion, even made his debut during Paris fashion week in 2024 as a runway model.

Travis: Eating a big old sandwich. [chuckles]

Griffin: *Big*, sloppy sandwich.

Justin: And now I'm gonna tell you about this chicken, guys. This new flavor is made with a sweet and savory caramelized onion sauce, and then topped with golden crunchy flakes, creating a unique combination of flavor and texture.

Travis: Flakes of what?

Griffin: Flakes— Yeah, you can't just say "a texture of... flakes."

Travis: A color, a texture and flakes.

Justin: Yeah, guys.

Griffin: Tell me what the flakes are from.

Justin: Yeah, guys, I know. [chuckles]

Travis: Is it gold?

Justin: Yeah, guys, I don't know. It's out there, though. You can *get* it. They began a soft launch of Feel Crunch chicken at the select company operated locations across the US on July 7th. And then the new menu—

Travis: Hopefully crunch launched—

Justin: Item is officially launched on July 16th.

Griffin: Okay. It's there.

Justin: A longtime fan of Korea's finest fried chicken, Felix has often raved about bb.q Chicken's menu items, including the crispy crunch butter chicken and the sweet and savory Jamaica Sotteokmanna chicken. Now he's excited to help bring beloved Korean flavors like Feel Crunch chicken to the US for fans to experience for the very first time.

"As global interest in Korean culture continues to grow beyond streaming screens and on to fast casual menus across the country, bb.q Chicken wanted us to find an opportunity to celebrate its authentic space in both," said bb.q Chicken US spokesperson. "Felix has a genuine obsession with bb.q Chicken—"

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: "Which makes him the perfect fit for this brand ambassador role."

Griffin: Have we heard from Felix yet? Because so far it sounds like just a lot of people talking about how stoked Felix is—

Justin: They swear. They swear. It says, quote, "Feel Crunch chicken was actually handpicked by Felix himself, and it highlights different elements of his favorite bb.q Chicken flavors. We're excited for his fans and other bb.q Chicken fans to taste it for themselves."

Griffin: Does it say in there, "Felix would say all this shit himself, but his mouth is just perpetually full of our great crunchy chicken. He can't talk right — He can't come to the phone right now because he's slamming a chicken sandwich."

Justin: "It was available at my US location, but it wasn't on the physical menu. I had to show them the ad on the website and ask if they had it. They had a picture of Felix on the wall."

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: "It certainly was crunchy!" [wheeze-laughs]

Griffin: What are you reading right now?

Justin: The reviews. Just the reviews. Just the reviews of the product. "I just had this today, it was so delicious! My family loves spicy food and had an amazing kick!" Very crunchy, say the reviews.

Griffin: Crunchy.

Justin: Extremely crunchy.

Travis: I put a link here in the chat to an image that might be... the most clear example of Photoshopping. Like, these two separate entities of Felix and the plate of chicken. For you see they have placed it in such a way that makes it seem as though his hand has been swallowed by the plate of chicken.

Griffin: Or his hand is turned into it, like he's the T—

Travis: Oh yeah!

Griffin: Like he's the Terminator, the silver Terminator that can shape-shift his body. He's turned his hand into a big plate of the crunchy—

Travis: *Ah.*

Griffin: No joke, the crunchiest chicken I've ever seen.

Justin: It looks so— I have a picture of Felix with the chicken. This is the promotional image that was shared with this story. So this is— It's Felix swears he like-a da chicken. [chuckles]

Griffin: He swears he likes this chicken.

Justin: Felix *swears* he likes the chicken!

Travis: The wink makes it seem like "I'm not really eating this."

Griffin: "I don't really like chicken."

Justin: "Just kidding."

Travis: It also seems like they're all trying to get a clip, like a noise of the crunch.

Griffin: Of the crunch, yeah. The one-of-a-kind crunch feel crunch. That's what this says.

Justin: I've gotta stop talking about fried chicken this close to lunch. I feel like I've started to get in this groove where it's like, I make myself so hungry and it's like 11 o'clock, and I've still got to do... you know.

Travis: If you want to do a follow-up? I ate the popcorn chicken. I ordered it and ate it right after the thing.

Griffin: Oh, yeah.

Travis: It was okay. But Justin is correct, it wasn't the popcorn chicken of our youth. It lacked—

Griffin: Was that KFC? Who—

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Who— Okay.

Justin: It was KFC, yeah.

Travis: It lacked any kind of variety. It lacked the like, "This has been fried in such a way that it's terrible for you," kind of feeling that I crave.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: And I got some hot wings in there too, which I used to love. No flavor, all chemical heat.

Griffin: Nothing's good. Nothing's good anymore.

Travis: Nothing's good anymore!

Justin: The brand partnership with Felix will continue beyond the launch, as he will serve of the face of the brand. That's awesome.

Griffin: He will serve of a face of the brand?

Justin: He's the face of the— He's the face of it. If you go to bb.q Chicken, there's a big picture of Felix, and it says, "This is my chicken. I made it." This is how these things start, by the way. In 50 years, no one will remember Stray Kids, no one will remember their music. All they'll remember is chicken magnate Felix. [chuckles]

It'll Felix's... Felix's bb.q, and people will be like, "Did you know this guy used to be in K-pop before he became the world's biggest chicken guy?" It's true, it's how it happens. Look at Kenny Rogers. You know he used to sing?

Griffin: That's crazy, yeah.

Justin: Before he started roasting chicken?

Travis: Look at the colonel! He used to be in the army, I think.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Look at Randy Moss' Inta Juice! Did you know he used to play football before he started running a juice place? It's true!

Griffin: Those are the only two things he's known for.

Justin: Look at Coach Bobby Pruett's Steak House in Huntington, West Virginia. [chuckles] Did you know he was also the coach of the Marshall University football team and not just the runner of Coach Bobby Pruett's Steak House?

Travis: Did you know that Papa Shaq used to be a basketball player? Not just a pizza man.

Griffin: Mm-hm. Well, he was an actor first, and *then* he was a basketball player.

Travis: Yes, I always forget about his turn on the stage. [chuckles] Trotting the boards.

Griffin: How about another question?

Justin: Yeah, absolutely. "One of my close friends works at a fancy restaurant as a server. I recently hung out with her and her co-worker, the dang sous-chef, who mentioned they needed a line cook, and offer on-site training. Naturally I asked if I could drop off a résumé for the position, but before I could even print out my résumé, I was told I'd be staging."

Travis: Stazhzhing.

Justin: "Stodging... stazhzhing... in the kitchen—"

Travis: I learned about it from The Bear.

Griffin: Hm.

Justin: I believe it's the bar.

Travis: The bar.

Justin: [chuckles] "I've only had one cook job at a failing sports bar before this. How do I show up and keep their expectations proportional to the amount of experience I have, while also expressing genuine interest and willingness to learn? I really need the money. I got laid off my last job and this 2025 Civic won't pay for itself." That's from—

Griffin: God damn.

Justin: Lowly Location Hunter in Las Vegas.

Travis: I love this—

Justin: Location hunter.

Travis: You... Often, people will be like, "How do I impress them?" And what you've done is said, "How do I keep their expectations proportional to the

amount of skill that I have, while also showing that I'm dedicated to getting better?"

Justin: It's interesting—

Travis: And I... We can handle that.

Justin: You, it's interesting... I hope you get this job, but you do have to understand that this particular technique was developed to... catch people like you. [chuckles] Like, this is the thing you— Like...

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: The reason they do it like this is to keep—

Griffin: Yeah!

Justin: Like, I—

Griffin: You are wise to write us! You've identified the trap.

Justin: I wanna help you. Because I don't know them, I only know you. But —

Griffin: Right.

Justin: Like... this is why it's like this, right? [chuckles] So you... you have to do it. Because they want to try to— I think what they're trying to get is [through laughter] somebody who can do it.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Justin: And who knows how to do it, maybe.

Travis: But you run the risk of getting a really experienced person who's stuck in the ways of like, "This is how I learned it at my old job," and doesn't fit in. And you can come in, just a rough lump of clay, right? And you're like, "I don't know what I'm doing, and that's perfect. Shape me, I'll learn it

however you want me to, because I know nothing except like potato skins and like onion rings. And if you want those—"

Justin: Nothing to unlearn.

Travis: "Yeah, I could do that. But I'm here—"

Justin: No bad habits. No habits.

Travis: No habits at all. [chuckles]

Griffin: Isn't... do you get paid for staging? I thought that was just sort of an on-the-job training thing.

Justin: It's a volunteer position.

Griffin: It's a— Yeah. So I mean, the learning that is going to happen there will be your only compensation. So if you think about it that way—

Justin: So everybody in the kitchen gets paid except for the stage?

Travis: But yeah, you don't stage forever.

Griffin: I think some places pay staging. But from what I understand, it's like a... It's like the lowest, lowest position because you're learning the ropes. You're not—

Travis: And if The Bear is correct, it's like a week. It's not like you wanna stage for a year.

Griffin: It's like a week, and you learn everything you need to know.

Justin: God, they gotta find a lot of stage-O's then. That's like 52 stages a week— A year, I mean. That's a lot of staging.

Travis: Well, you're staging to then hire them full-time, if I understand correctly.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Oh, okay.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Or they're just on-the-job training, because another restaurant has sent them to stage.

Griffin: Can you show up the first day of staging, you've got bandages all over both your hands. You say, "I was playing Mario p— I was playing Mario Party with the boys, and—"

Travis: "With my one-eyed friend, Odin." [chuckles]

Griffin: And I—

Travis: "He got real pissed."

Griffin: "I did the thing with the analog stick too hard, and now I have blis— terrible blisters all over my hands." That way, if you do a bad job cooking, you can say like, "If it weren't for these Mario Party blisters..." You could say like, "Just wait 'til— Wait 'til I get my cast off, and then I'm gonna really rock ass." You might be let go by that point, but at least you have sort of plausible deniability.

Travis: And you know, the fact that they just straight up were like, "Don't even need a résumé, come stage." They think you're cool. Right? A big part of getting any job is seeming like someone that people would want to work with. Right? They wouldn't have invited you to come stage if they weren't interested in hiring you.

Justin: Yeah. Now, that desire may be somewhat diminished when they observe that you cannot do the job you're being hired to do!

Griffin: Can't do it.

Travis: Sure!

Justin: But it's a good start. There's worse foundations to build from.
[chuckles]

Griffin: Maybe you've got skills.

Travis: Oh?

Griffin: From your job working at a failing sports bar. They need to—

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: They've gotten too fuckin' highfalutin. They keep reaching for that Michelin star, they're not getting it, because there's something missing in the kitchen. And you know what's missing in the kitchen, is heart. And—

Travis: *Yeah!*

Griffin: And a love of— And a love of the fun of food! You show up, you're like, "What about buffalo? You guys forgot about buffalo wings! You forgot about mozzarella sticks and dipping sticks."

Travis: Yeah, dude!

Griffin: And then they're like, "What if we incorporated our high concept, high touch, high cuisine technique, but we did it with some mozzarella sticks and buffalo wings? What would that—"

Travis: And then put out a bowl of like old nuts that people can eat while we're making their food.

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: "And without being asked, I went ahead and cut up all of these celery and carrot sticks."

Griffin: Yes!

Travis: So you could just put that—

Justin: And put 'em in— And put 'em in the little—

Travis: Ramekins with ranch.

Justin: "I got a little pre-proportioned baggies, so I just throw them at people as they go through the chicken line."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Justin: "I'm renaming the place, by the way, to Chicken Line! Hope you like it."

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: Cool.

Travis: "I own this bar now. This is the weirdest Bar Rescue... It's not a bar? Okay."

Griffin: Not a bar? It's weird.

Justin: "This has been Undercover Boss! This whole time, I've been your boss!" [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: "Did you know?" No, that's not how Undercover Boss works. Sadly.

Travis: I think it is. [chuckles] I think Undercover Boss—

Griffin: I'm pretty sure that's— I've never seen it, but I do think that's how it works.

Travis: "I've been your boss the whole time, now."

Justin: Thank you so much for listening to our podcast. We hope you've enjoyed yourself. Hope you learned something. Hope you grew a little bit as a person. Thank you so much for sticking with us.

Hey, listen, if you like video games, or me and Griffin, The Besties, our video game podcast that I used to be on, Griffin continues craft. The Besties live on Broadway is happening October 9th, at The Town Hall, in New York City. You can get your tickets now at bit.ly/bestiesonbroadway.

Griffin: Come see us, we're gonna talk about games.

Travis: Also, I'm gonna be at Gen Con... this weekend? Yeah, as you listen to this. I'm doing a Dungeon Crawler Carl, like our actual play role-playing game, Friday night, with a lot of really cool people including Matt Dinniman who writes it, and Jeff Hayes who does the voice work for the audiobooks. And so I'm gonna be in that. Sunday morning, I'm gonna guest as an NPC in Twenty-Sided Tavern. I'm doing a bunch of other stuff. We'll post the schedule and everything, but come see me. Come hang out at Gen Con. Griffin, what are you reading there?

Griffin: Oh, you've caught me reading The Adventure Zone: Story and Song graphic novel, the last entry in our adaptation of The Adventure Zone: Balance saga. That is out now and you can get at bookstores, where fine books are sold, or at theadventurezonecomic.com. This book is the biggest book ever written, and has more pictures in it than any book ever illustrated.

Travis: That's true.

Griffin: Done by Carey Pietsch, who is at the height of her power. And I'm so proud of it, and it kicks so much ass. If you like TAZ, if you like TAZ: Balance, you gotta read it. You simply must. It's the best thing we've ever done, so proud of it.

Hey, we're gonna be doing Clubhouse next week also, when you're hearing this. So join us on Tuesday, and every Tuesday on YouTube at The McElroy Family. We do Clubhouse and we also do a bunch of game stuff with the Super McElroy Brothers product, and we all do a bunch of different individual

streams. Justin's doing a retrospective of Tim Curry. Travis, are you still playing Timberborn, Trav?

Travis: Well, after this, I'm gonna stream some Stardew Valley. I got a chill game sesh going.

Griffin: Kick-ass. I'm keeping a catalog of every video game I've ever played called Every Game Ever, on Fridays. So we stream a lot! Follow McElroy Family on YouTube, or McElroy Entertainment System on Instagram. You can find out when all that stuff is coming. We also got merch over at mcelroymerch.com. Travis has a beautiful little butterfly.

Travis: I have a 3D printed butterfly that I can throw. It's very fragile. Yeah?

Griffin: It's cute. I don't think it'll make a grea— Do you have something cool you can throw it *at*, that it'll make like a more resonant sort of sound? Yeah, so put the iHeartRadio award right next to the microphone.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Like, as close to the mic as you can get it.

Justin: Then we'll dink it off the...

Griffin: And dink it off that. Yeah, yeah, yeah. But can you lower your microphone, so it's like right next to the trophy?

Travis: But I still need room to throw it.

Justin: Okay, that's good.

Griffin: Yeah, no, it's a small window, but you got it. Here we go.

[small thud]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: You fuckin' completely missed. Do it again. I need that dink.

Travis: It turned in the air!

Griffin: I need the dink, Travis.

Travis: Where the fuck did it go? There it is.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Here, I'll do it from under the desk.

Griffin: Okay, but throw it hard, though. I need to hear the d—

Travis: Yeah, no—

Griffin: I need to hear the dink.

Travis: I know, Griffin! Don't think I know?

[dink]

Griffin: There we go.

Justin: *Whoow!*

Griffin: There's the dink. That was more of a dank. That was cool.

Justin: My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy.

Justin: This has been My Brother, My Brother and Me. Kiss your dad square on the lips.

["My Life Is Better With You" by Montaigne plays]

Maximum Fun

A worker-owned network

Of artist-owned shows

Supported

Directly

By you