Rachel: Main recording is on. We are good to go. It’s been, like, three months.

Mary: (sighs)

Rachel: (laughs) You ready to do this?

Mary: Absolutely.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: Sophia’s the chair of a secret society—(squeaking sound)—the Debutante Underground. It squeaked!

Rachel and Mary (laugh)

Mary: I have to do that again! (laughs harder)

Rachel: It was the chair, I swear.

Mary: No, it was my shoe. It went... (squeaks shoe on chair)

Rachel: Oh jeez!

Mary: (laughs)

Rachel: Rubber soles?

Mary: Yeah, I was too close to the leg.

Rachel: (laughs)

Mary: Okay, let’s try that again.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: That’s all we have time for. Remember to check the show notes for a list of all the books we just talked about. Please subscribe and rate the podcast if you liked what you hear. (quieter) Liked what you hear.

Rachel: (affects a country twang) Liked what you hear.
Mary: (affecting the same twang) Liked what you hear. (regular voice) Okay, let’s try that again.

Rachel: Mmhmm! (laughs)

Mary: Please subscribe and rate the podcast if you like what you hear!

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: It’s a powerful novel based on the incredible true story of the glamour icon and scientist whose groundbake...

Rachel: Groundbaking?

Mary: Why? I was doing so good! (sound of page flipping over)

Rachel: (little kid voice) Groundbaking!

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: I’m going to let our litner—litner? (garbled) ’oing ’o let our litner know.

Rachel and Mary: (laugh)

Rachel: It was, like, from Twin Peaks.

Mary: What the f—

Rachel: (gasping laughter)

Mary: Okay, here we go.

Rachel: (mimics speech on rewind) Yep yeep yemen.

Mary: (laughs) Stop!

Rachel: (takes a deep breath) Sorry.

Mary: (yells) This is a serious sentence! (laughs)

Rachel: I know, I can see that.

Mary: (sniffs and whispers) Okay.

(censor beep sound effect)
Mary: As humanity scrambles and doubles their efforts to explore and conolize—conolize.

Rachel: Conolize.

(censor beep sound effect)


Mary: (snickers)

Rachel: Okay!

(censor beep sound effect)

Rachel: And, can I just say—“murdered bodies?” Of...

Mary: I think you can.

Rachel: It’s just such a dumb phrase, to me. If...it’s...if it’s a body, fine. It can’t be a—(takes a breath). It’s fine.

Mary: Murdered...

Rachel: Murdered bodies.

Mary: ...people?

Rachel: Yeah, it’s... (whispers) Whatever.

Mary: People who’ve been murdered?

Rachel: Murder victims.

Mary: Bodies...bodies of murder victims?

Rachel: Murder victims. Yeah, ‘bodies of murder victims’ work. But ‘murdered bodies’ just really throws me off for some reason. All right.

Mary: (cackles) It’s like saying a dead body...well, no, you can have a living body.

Rachel: ‘I’m gonna kill you to death.’ Like that. (laughs)

Mary: ‘I’m gonna kill you so hard you die!’ (laughs)

Rachel: Right, exactly! All right. (laughs) Anyway.
Mary: Please leave that in.

Rachel and Mary: (laugh)

Rachel: All right.

(censor beep sound effect)

Rachel: There were no flying monkeys, but rather than put in a monkey emoji I put in a bat and...

Mary: And a chicken?

Rachel: See, I think I wanted it to be a raven, because it’s “An Unkindness of Ravens,” so I did a bat and a chick emoji ’cause it’s a bird but, like, a goth bird. (laughs)

Mary: It’s a chicken. (laughs)

Rachel: Aw, see even I don’t remember what I was going for! (laughs)

Mary: I was like, “Readers, um, there’s a chicken emoji on the script.”

Rachel: (laughs)

Mary: Please leave that in for the transcript. (laughs)

Rachel: (Unintelligible) –it’s for monkeys, it’s not... (sighs, defeated). Oh, it’s fine.

Mary: It’s cool.

Rachel: (snorts) We got there.

Mary: “Not a regular librarian, I’m a cool librarian.”

Rachel: (laughs) Okay, edge lord.

Mary: (chuckles) Okay, here we go. (clears throat)

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: It follows an English librarian named Evelyn as she tries to put together an archeological dig at the site of the ancient city of Hamunaptra. Hooman-aptra. How do you say that? Haman-aprta? Ha-min...

Rachel: Hamunaptra.

Mary: Ha-moon-aptra. Ha-moon-aptra.
Rachel: Hamunaptra. (snickers) Hamanahamanahamanana!

Mary: Ha—stop!

Rachel: (laughs)

Mary: Hamunaptra. I practiced that (yells and hits table for emphasis) so many times!

Rachel: (snickers)

Mary: Okay. Hold on. Dang, it’s a long sentence, too.

Rachel: Hamana.

Mary: Sto—do not say that. Hamunaptra.

Rachel: (whispers) Hamunaptra.

Mary: Ha-mun-AP-tra.

Rachel: (laughs breathlessly)

Mary: Hamunaptra.

Rachel: Maybe not so much emphasis on the P!

Mary: I know, but it’s in there. (laughs) Okay, here we go.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: Just one readable take. That’s it. Just one.

Rachel: It’s all ya need.

(censor beep sound effect)

(buzzing in background)

Rachel: (quietly) It’s a very loud lawnmower. (laughs) It’s fine, it adds ambience.

Mary: It’s a bee!

Rachel: (laughs)

Mary: Just buzzing in the background.
Mary: Like the other two pro...protag. Protagonish.

Rachel: Pr pr pr. Pr pr!

Mary: I am having trouble with words.

Rachel: There’s a lot of P’s in here!

Mary: (sighs) Okay, here we go...

Rachel: Too many P’s, not enough B’s.

Mary: (pauses, then laughs sarcastically)

Rachel and Mary: (laugh)

Mary: Please leave that in there!

Rachel: (laughs harder) I will.

Mary: Bloopers.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: And then there’s Harry, the twenty-four-year-old with a debilitating social anxiety. With a debilitating social anxiety.

Rachel and Mary: (laugh)

Rachel: (affects a slow and twangy voice) I have a debilitating social anxiety.

Mary: I feel ya, Harry!

Rachel and Mary: (laughs)

Rachel: (still using accented voice) I’ve been diagnosed with a debilitatin’ social anxiety—

Mary: (holding in laughter)

Rachel: —and I’m desperate for work.

Mary and Rachel (laugh breathlessly for fifteen seconds straight, occasionally interrupted by a snort or wheeze)
Rachel: I’m so sorry, Harry. You probably don’t sound like that.

Mary and Rachel (continue to laugh for another ten seconds, someone’s hand slapping the table partway through)

Mary: (strained) That’s really funny. (laughs more)

Rachel: (squeaks while laughing) I can’t breathe.

Mary: I’m crying. (coughs to clear throat)

Rachel: This poor man. I’m so sorry.

Mary: (yells) He’s fictional!

Rachel and Mary: (laugh harder)

Rachel: (squeaks)

Mary: He’s twenty-four years old, he’ll figure it out. (coughs again)

Rachel: But...he has a debilitatin’...

Mary: (laughs uproariously)

Rachel: ...social anxiety.

Mary: (laughing, yells) Why are you on the floor?!

Rachel: I can’t breathe! (laughs)

Mary: (laughs harder) Please make that into the bloopers.

Rachel: (hiccupping laugh)

Mary: (mimics herself) “Why are you on the floor?!”

Rachel: (wheezing laughter that culminates in a squeal, followed by a coughing fit)

Mary and Rachel (try to catch their breath)

Mary: Listeners, can you believe we’re talking about honeybees this week?

Rachel and Mary: (laugh and cough)
Rachel: (weakly) Bzz, bzz.

Mary: (laughs) My stomach hurts.

Rachel: Oh, it hurts so bad.

Mary: (coughs more)

Rachel: (sniffs, sounds closer to the mic after getting off the floor) I’m fine. (breathes out slowly)

Mary: What did you say? Oh, debilitating.

Rachel and Mary: (chuckle)

Rachel: (coughs to clear throat) Oh. Oh, fu—

Mary: Okay, I’m going you to just...

Rachel: Mmh. I’m not even lookin’ anymore.

Mary: (whispers) Okay, here we go.

Rachel: (breathes out slowly)

Mary: And then there’s Harry, a twenty-four-year-old with a debilitating social anxiety who’s desperate for work! (erupts into high-pitched laughter)

Rachel: (snorts repeatedly)

Mary: (laugh-yells) I was so close!

Rachel: You did so well!

Mary: (still laughing hard) I didn’t know the ‘desperate for work’ was in there. I thought you just made that up!

Rachel: (coughing laugh) No, it says it in the thing.

Mary: (crying and laughing) I didn’t know it was in the script!

Rachel: (laughs again)

Mary: It was a jump scare! (chair creaks as she laughs harder)

Rachel: (choking on laughter before taking a deep breath) I’m not that smart, Mary.
Mary and Rachel: (laugh) Okay. I can do it. It was only, like, what, who was...it was, like, five words. I...I’m fine. This is...this is fine.

Rachel: Oh my god. (catches breath)

Mary: Okay. (pauses then laughs) St...I can just hear you go hohoho. Okay.

Rachel: I’ve fine...I’ve got...I’ve got it under control.

Mary: Okay. (giggles) Okay. No problem. Here we go.

Rachel: Mmhm.

Mary: (takes a short breath) And then—(voice warbling while holding back laughter)—and then...okay.

Rachel: (sniffs)

Mary: (clears throat) For god’s sakes. (hits table) Okay, here we go. And then there’s Harry, a twenty-four-year-old with debilitating social anxiety (voice wavers) who is desperate...

Rachel: (giggles)

Mary: (struggling) ...who is desperate...for work. Who is desperate for work. (bursts out laughing) Who was des—this is serious. (thumps table) And we’re making a joke.

Rachel: (coughs to clear throat)

Mary: (laughs) It’s funny ’cause it’s true.

Rachel and Mary: (laugh)

Mary: (sharp intake of breath) And then there’s Harry! (thumps table)

Rachel: (snorts)

Mary: (laughs) The twenty-four year old...

Rachel: (snorting laughter)

Mary: ...with debilitating social anxiety.

Rachel: (giggles)

Mary: (laughing harder) ...who’s desperate for work! I’m trying to desensitize myself!
Rachel: (mimicking in a deep, powerful voice) And then there’s Harry.

Mary: (laughs and repeats in a high-pitched voice) And then there’s Harry!

Rachel: (choking laughter, then sighs) Ah, do I have to leave?

Mary and Rachel: (painful coughing)

Rachel: I feel so hot right now.

Mary: I know, my knees are sweating!

Rachel and Mary: (laugh)

Rachel: Your knees are sweating... (laughs) Is that a thing?

Mary: They’re sweaty! I don’t know what to tell you.

Rachel: Oh my god. Okay.

Mary: And then there’s Harry.

(censor beep sound effect)

Rachel: Why is this one really long? Or is that just...is that a...are they even and is that just a...

Mary: They’re pretty even. It’s just a...

Rachel: ...visual, um... I was about to say visual effect. Not what I meant. Is it a...?

Mary and Rachel: (laugh)

Rachel: A...? (pauses) It’s a thing you look at?

Mary: Perspective.

Rachel: It messes with your eyes?

Mary: Illusion.

Rachel: Sort of.

Mary: What else would it be?!

Rachel: Like those books that they have!
Mary: Illusion.

Rachel: No, but they were called something. (long pause) Oh, no.

Mary: Puzzle? I don’t know.

Rachel: Like a magic eye puzzle, but it had a...it had a...

Mary: (chuckles)

Rachel: What was it called?

Mary: (shouts) Illusion!

Rachel and Mary: (silent)

Mary: Illusions. I-l-l-u-

Rachel: It’s like when a magician does a thing? (laughs)

Mary: Sleight of hand?

Rachel: Nooo, like...

Mary: Optical illusion.

Rachel Optical illusion! (thumps table twice and laughs)

Mary: Thank god we’re recording...na...how many times did I say “illusion?”

Rachel: Well, you didn’t say the important part—the ‘optical’. (laughing) I’m sorry! Did you know I have an English degree?

Mary: (slams fist on table)

Rachel: Just getting it out of the way.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: (claps lightly) You can tell you do Story Time.

Meagan and Rachel: (laugh)

Rachel: It’s true, you have a very nice voice for it.
Meagan: Thank you.

Mary: So enunciative [sic]. Is that a word? Enunciative? No.

Meagan: I mean it...

Mary: You enunciate great.

Meagan: I know...I know what you mean.

Rachel, Mary, and Meagan: (laugh)

Mary: You talk real good.

Rachel and Meagan: (laugh)

Meagan: So good.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: (pirate voice) If you’ve not seen this saga of swashbucklin’ rowdy sea-dogs, well shiver me tinders! Tinders?

Rachel and Mary: (laugh)

Mary: (shouts) Oh my god!

Rachel: Swipe right.

Mary: (laughs harder) Stop!

Rachel: (laughs)

Mary: (fake yells) Stop! Okay.

Rachel: (giggles mischievously—it sounds like a gnome)

Mary: That was awful.

Rachel: You’re almost through! You’re doin’ good.

Mary: Shh, shh.

Rachel and Mary: (laugh)
Rachel: (in a vaguely pirate-y voice) Can't remember what voice I used. Was it this?

Mary: (also using a pirate-y voice) Was a little lower.

Rachel: (lowers register) Was a little lower. All right. (laughs)

Mary: (normal voice) There we go.

Rachel: (also using normal voice) Okay. Thanks, first mate.

Mary: (laughs) Please put that in as the bloopers.

Rachel and Mary: (laugh)

Rachel: (inhales long but shallow) Ah, that would be good. Heh.

(censor beep sound effect)

Rachel: I went a little Irish there. Don’t’ worry about it.

Mary: That’s fine.

Rachel: It’s...Irish. Pirate. Same thing.

Mary: Yup.

(censor beep sound effect)

Rachel: ThinkICanSpliceThatTogetherI’mSureICanI’mReallyGoodAtEditing.

Mary: Sure.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: You’re so dramatic. It sounded really good!

Rachel: (strained) That was a little mangled at the end. (posh accent) But I’m sure it’ll be fine.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: Heave-ho.

Rachel: (snorts)
Mary: (laughs)

Rachel: Sorry!

Mary: (cackles)

Rachel: Sorry! (thumps fist on table) You really spat that one out!

Mary and Rachel: (laugh breathlessly)

Mary: (still laughing) I wanted to go out with a bang.

Rachel: Yup. No, you’re good. That was good.

Mary: Do that again? (laughs)

Rachel: Maybe. Maybe. (laughs) That was… (strained) You did good!

Mary: Thanks. (laughs)

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: (pirate voice) Remember to check the show notes for a list of everything we just pla... (normal voice) Palavered?

Rachel: Palavered.

Mary: Oh my god. (clears throat and resumes in pirate voice) Remember to check those show notes...oh my god.

Rachel: (blows raspberry)

Mary and Rachel (laugh and giggle)

Mary: (gasps) I sound constipated!

Rachel: (laughs harder and kicks the floor repeatedly)

Mary: (laughs and clears throat but still sounds strained) Oh-okay, here we go. (laughs again)

Rachel: (mimicking in a deep voice) Remember!

Mary and Rachel: (laugh harder)

Rachel: Palavered.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: (pirate voice) We’ll be back next month with more moo-tinies.

Rachel: Mootinies! (giggles)

Mary: (laughs) I almost said minutes!

Rachel: Mootinies!

Mary and Rachel: (laugh)

Rachel: I’m just seeing cow pirates.

Mary: (laughs)

Rachel: (squeaks)

Mary and Rachel: Moo-tinies.

Mary: (laughs)

(censor beep sound effect)

Rachel: Okay.

(Windows sound effect)

Rachel: Excuse you.

Mary: It didn’t like that.

Rachel: Um. I didn’t like that. Okay. Don’t do that again.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: Suddenly, he has to find the traitor in his mist. Mist.

Rachel: Mist.

Mary: (laughs) Missed. I tried to catch the fog, but I missed.

Rachel: Mist is thick as pea soup!
Mary and Rachel: (laugh)

Mary: Stop! I’m thick.

Rachel: (laughs)

Mary: Okay, so.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: When you say “Twilight,” can you put in the (vocalizes opening from the song “Eyes on Fire” by Blue Foundation)

Rachel: (laughs) I will attempt. We may get copyright stricken, but I will attempt.

Mary: No, you can just say it.

Rachel and Mary: (both vocalize the same part, badly)

Mary: Just put that in. Just clip it and put that in. There you go.

Rachel: Okay. I can do that.

Mary: No copyright needed. (clears throat)

Rachel: Can do. [Spoiler: She doesn’t do.]

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: (almost unintelligibly) I love the Vampire Diaries, it’s one of my favorite shows.

Rachel and Mary : (laugh)

Mary: I luv et.

Rachel: Stop. That voice. It’s just too much for me. (laughs) What happens to your vowels?

Mary: (laughs) I don’t know.

Rachel: (mimics) Luv et.

Mary: It’s like somebody sleep talking.

Rachel: (laughs)
Mary: This is my problem, though, because I say it in a funny voice—

Rachel: I know, I know.

Mary: —and now I can’t say it normal.

Rachel: (laughs) You have to talk normally.

Mary: Where’s the fun in that?

Rachel: We could...it’s not too late to go back and do this in old-timey speak.

Mary: (1930s gangster voice) See? Vampire diaries is one of my favorite shows.

Rachel: (laughs) I was thinking more... (affects Victorian English accent) She showed a bit of her ankle. It was scandalous!

Mary: Mmhm! She ruined her reputation.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: I love et, so much. I love et. Okay, here we go. Vampire Diaries is one of my favorite comfort...comfort shows.

Rachel: (laughs, blows raspberry) Sorry.

Mary: (laughs) I can’t!

Rachel: It was so country.

Mary: Vampire diaries.

Rachel: (affects a hillbilly voice) Vampire Diaries one of my gosh-darn tootin’ favorite shows!

Mary: (laughs)

Rachel: He-yuck, he-yuck! (slaps knee twice, laughs)

Mary: (laughing) Stop it! All I can think of is that roo—the, um, the thing from Spongebob when Plankton’s family comes into town? He’s like, (affects hillbilly voice) “Root beer?”

Rachel and Mary: (laugh)

Mary: “Well I can’t read!”
Rachel and Mary: (laugh harder)

Mary: (normal voice) I think it’s just a bad line, is the problem.

Rachel: (sighs)

Mary: “Vampire diaries is actually one of my comfort shows.” It’s going to be twenty minutes of us just trying to say “Vampire Diaries”—me trying to say “Vampire Diaries.” Okay. Diaries.

Rachel: Diary.

Mary: (laughing) What if I say “The Nocturnal Journals?”

Rachel: (cackles unattractively, like a sputtering car)

Mary: (laughs breathlessly)

(this goes on for a solid fifteen seconds)

Mary: I can’t...’cause I’m wheezy when I laugh, and I can’t stop. (coughing fit)

Rachel: The problem is whenever you now say...it...

Mary: (laughs)

Rachel: I can’t not (voice breaks) laugh.

Mary: Okay. Here we go.

Rachel: (breathes out) Tip of the tongue, the teeth, the lips (drawing out the ‘S’).

Mary: We’re about half done. It’s fine. We’re good. LOL. JK.

Rachel: Mmhm. LFAMO.

Mary: Everything’s so funny.

Rachel: ROTFL.

Mary: Okay. (sniffs)

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: Addie is a suss—is a sussessful.
Rachel: As sususessful as us. You got through the first part. That’s all we needed.

Mary: I know. That was the hard part. (clears throat)

Rachel: Yeah, yeah, yeah. Smooth sailin’.

Mary: Okay. Addie is a secsus—oh my god.

Rachel: (snorts)

Mary: (laughs and mimics) A suceeful.

Rachel: Smooth sailin’, take two.

Mary: (enunciating) Addie. Is. A. Successful. Author.

(censor beep sound effect)

Rachel: Sixteen-year-old Vivian Gan-dil-li-on—

Mary: No.

Rachel: Gan-dil-lon.

Mary: Yep.

Rachel and Mary: (laugh)

Mary: That’s not right.

Rachel: As soon as I said it I’m like, “Hm, nope.”

Mary: (laughs)

Rachel: (affects an English accent) She hosts a cotillion!

Mary and Rachel: (laugh)

Rachel: It was one in a million!

Mary: (laughs harder) Stop!

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: Yep.

Rachel: Okay.

Mary: Perfection.

Rachel: Mm. Mhmhm. That’s me all over.

Mary: Mhmhm.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: Shattered Mirror...I’m takin’ us back.

Rachel: (snorts)

Mary: (laughs) Take it back now ya’ll. Everybody Charlie Brown. (laughs) Okay.


Mary: (coughing fit)


Mary: Take it back now ya’ll.

Rachel: Slide back now, real quick.

Mary: (claps twice) Okay.

Rachel: Two claps real quick.

Mary and Rachel: (giggle)

Rachel: Criss-cross! (giggles)

Mary: Freeze! Everybody clap your hands.

Rachel and Mary: (clap seven times each, out of sync)

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: The dangerous power behind the glittering dir—city’s dirk farcerde.

Rachel: (inhales quickly then mimics) The dirk fercerde.
Mary: The dirk fercerde!

Rachel and Mary: (laugh)

Rachel: (affects a sultry Southern accent) I love a dirk fercerde in my man.

Mary: (giggles) Stop.

Rachel: Mmm. Give me some more dirk fercerde.

Mary: (coughs) I have to show you a video later.

Rachel: (whispers) Dirk fercerde.

Mary: Can I—I am trying to be professional here.

Rachel: Sorry, sorry. I’m trying to be lascivious.

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: Can I just go home?

Rachel: I think there must be a gas leak in this room, ’cause I swear...

Mary and Rachel: (laugh darkly)

(censor beep sound effect)

Mary: (laughs)

Rachel: (snorts, sounds muffled) I give up. I give up.

Mary: No, don’t give up. You have so much to live for.

Rachel: (sob-laughs)

Mary: So many things to read!

(censor beep sound effect)