

Andy Cohen on Parenting Housewives AND Toddlers + Which One is Harder

L`Speakers by by: Deena Margolin, Kristin Gallant, Tyler, & Andy Cohen

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Deena [00:00:00]: Big little bestie, you are in for a treat today because me, and Kristin, and Tyler are about to literally die. Andy Cohen is joining us on the podcast and is talking all things Bravo dad life and how he juggles it all.

Kristin [00:00:22]: Finally, here we are. It's after bedtime, the kids are asleep, and it is time to get down. I'm Kristin.

Deena [00:00:29]: And I'm Deena. We're the duo behind the ever-popular Instagram account, Big Little Feelings, which helps you navigate all things parenthood.

Kristin [00:00:36]: But this is not a boring parenting podcast. There will be inappropriate jokes, we will be getting down and dirty. So, put those babies to bed, and let's have fun.

Deena [00:00:48]: Kristin, Tyler.

Kristin [00:00:51]: Ooh-

Deena [00:00:52]: Big little besties.

Kristin [00:00:53]: Besties.

Deena [00:00:55]: Besties-

Kristin [00:00:56]: Besties. Tyler, do you have a song that you would like to intro?

Tyler [00:01:00]: Do I have a song?

Kristin [00:01:01]: The episode with? I don't know, for some reason, like one time I did a "Bestie ..." No, I did "Deena ..." And then since then, we're just not sure if we're always going to sing at the beginning of every episode. Do you have one?

Tyler [00:01:13]: [Singsong] Ladies ... Ladies and besties.

Kristin [00:01:18]: [Singsong] And the two dads listening. How you guys doing? How's everyone doing?

Tyler [00:01:22]: I'm good. I'm actually surprisingly not that tired.

Kristin [00:01:25]: Wow.

Tyler [00:01:27]: Because of like goals, goals, goals.

Kristin [00:01:28]: I cannot relate. I wish that was my journey right now.

Tyler [00:01:32]: I'm hyped up on the new Trolls movie.

Kristin [00:01:34]: Oh shit. Yeah, you took our kids yesterday, I'm so jealous.

Tyler [00:01:37]: I took the kids yesterday, wow, wow.

Kristin [00:01:38]: I was working.

Tyler [00:01:39]: They finally made one like for the parents too. Like there's so much throwback like boy band music. It's phenomenal.

Kristin [00:01:46]: Like Backstreet Boys?

Tyler [00:01:48]: Like no, NSYNC. Sorry, get it right. JT is in the movie.

Kristin [00:01:53]: I'm an NSYNC fan. It's okay. I much prefer.

Tyler [00:01:54]: I like them all. I like them all.

Kristin [00:01:55]: Okay, I'm going to be bold. I'll be the person who's going to get the DMs later, that's like, "How dare you?" But like NSYNC's better.

Deena [00:02:00]: I wasn't allowed to listen to either when I was growing up, so-

Kristin [00:02:03]: Really?

Deena [00:02:03]: Yeah.

Kristin [00:02:03]: You have no concept really, probably.

Deena [00:02:06]: And not even because they were like a bad influence. Because instead, in my house, my dad was playing Nirvana and Chili Peppers and Green Day. Like that's worse.

Tyler [00:02:14]: Oh, that's better. No, worse is, I was raised on NPR, so-

Kristin [00:02:18]: Oh my God, the trigger that I have.

Tyler [00:02:19]: Maybe that's why I have a great radio voice because of all the NPR I listened to.

Deena [00:02:22]: We have a special guest. We don't know how this happened, but I guarantee you, you are going to die. We are dying.

Kristin [00:02:30]: We're dying.

Deena [00:02:31]: But we're going to have to resurrect and do this interview together.

Kristin [00:02:35]: Let's show up in the interview right now.

Deena [00:02:36]: Let's do it, let's have some fun.

Tyler [00:02:36]: This will either be like the first of many celebrity interviews or the last one.

Kristin [00:02:41]: Zero pressure at all.

Tyler [00:02:44]: I think it's going to go well.

Kristin [00:02:45]: Let's go ahead and grab him from the waiting room now on that note.

Tyler [00:02:48]: Let's bring Andy out.

Kristin [00:02:50]: Here we go.

[Music Playing]

Kristin [00:03:00]: Big little bestie, our guest today is someone who has totally transformed pop culture and reality TV as we know it. He is a five-time New York Times bestselling author, Peabody and Primetime Emmy winner, a top podcaster, a smashing late night talk show host, most importantly, dad to two beautiful toddlers.

Kristin [00:03:22]: You may know him as King of Bravo, you may know him as daddy. He is a fellow BLF bestie and a true legend. Please welcome, Andy fucking Cohen.

Andy [00:03:36]: Thank you so much. What a nice intro.

Kristin [00:03:38]: Oh my God, we can't believe you're here in the flesh.

Andy [00:03:41]: I'm so happy to be here. I found out about y'all online, and you really helped me shape how I speak to my kids. So, I'm so happy to have been able to get to know you and had you in the clubhouse and be here with you today.

Kristin [00:04:00]: And that's how this all happened. Actually, we were in the clubhouse, I think I screamed at Dorinda because I was so starstruck, and you made some kind of a joke like, "I want to be on your podcast." We were like, "Okay, sure." And then it happened. Here we are.

Deena [00:04:15]: Wait, you were serious?

Andy [00:04:15]: Here we are.

Kristin [00:04:16]: Oh my God. Well, as we kick this off, we are going to do a few games throughout this episode to pay homage to our favorite show, Watch What Happens Live.

Deena [00:04:25]: That's right. So, every time you hear the word "toddler," big little besties, I want you to take a drink of your cocktail, your mocktail, your water, whatever it is. You're going to be so hydrated.

Kristin [00:04:37]: I do suggest water because I think we're going to say toddler a lot. You're going to wake up feeling great if it's water.

Deena [00:04:43]: Amazing.

Kristin [00:04:44]: I'm going to go ahead and just eff myself because this is like a once in a lifetime opportunity. I'm going to do champagne instead. I'm going to-

[Crosstalk]

Kristin [00:04:53]: Oh my God. Well, okay.

Andy [00:04:54]: I'm having tequila and FRESCA.

Tyler [00:04:55]: Nice.

Kristin [00:04:56]: You love a FRESCA by the way.

Andy [00:04:59]: Love a FRESCA.

Kristin [00:05:00]: Like when you walk into Watch What Happens Live, by the way, anybody listening; when you're a guest or a bartender on Watch What Happens Live, you'll come in off the elevators and first of all, it's a party.

Kristin [00:05:11]: Like there's a DJ-

Deena [00:05:12]: A little party with a DJ-

Kristin [00:05:13]: There's Rihanna, and then you get handed this drink list and it's like Andy's drink, the FRESCA tequila.

Deena [00:05:18]: That's right.

Kristin [00:05:19]: And you got to get that.

Andy [00:05:20]: Yep, absolutely, that's what I'm having.

Deena [00:05:23]: I love that.

Kristin [00:05:25]: We've never had a guest before, by the way. You're our very first guest.

Andy [00:05:28]: Oh my God., I'm your first guest?

Tyler [00:05:30]: You're literally the first guest.

Deena [00:05:31]: You're our first guest.

Kristin [00:05:31]: We keep going "Yeah, this is exciting."

Andy [00:05:32]: Oh, wow, I'm so honored.

Kristin [00:05:32]: No pressure by the way, besties. That this is our very first celebrity interview. A, I mean, we shouldn't say this, but we're obsessed with you. Like we talk about Bravo and the ladies on every single episode.

Kristin [00:05:42]: But what I felt coming up to this was like, Andy, you interview people for a living, this is what you do.

Tyler [00:05:50]: Give me a harsh credit.

Kristin [00:05:53]: Do you like to be interviewed though? Is it nice to be on the other side sometimes.

Andy [00:05:58]: Look, I'm a type A, I'm a know-it-all. So, sometimes, it's like releasing control is sometimes hard to do. But I will say, I think talk show hosts and comedians make the best guests. Because we love to talk and we don't want there to be awkward silences, and so, I'm good being interviewed.

Kristin [00:06:22]: I love that. I mean, that resonates deeply.

Andy [00:06:24]: I mean, now let me say this: if it's a shitty interview, then I turn really quick and then I have all kinds of ... then it becomes not great.

Deena [00:06:30]: Okay. No pressure.

Kristin [00:06:32]: No pressure at all. But I also feel like this is also just a couple of besties hanging out. Like all the moms, all the dads listening, what could really go wrong? Because we just want to really talk about-

Andy [00:06:40]: Exactly, this is a chill-out.

Kristin [00:06:41]: Yeah, this is like us hanging out after bedtime.

Deena [00:06:43]: That's right.

Kristin [00:06:44]: You know what I mean?

Tyler [00:06:45]: It's a parents chill out.

Kristin [00:06:46]: Okay, I'm going to kick us off because again .. well, Tyler, actually — Tyler, my husband is in the house because he is actually maybe more of a Bravoholic than I am.

Andy [00:06:57]: Oh, I love it.

Kristin [00:06:58]: Like he lets me know about all the hot goss on the Innerwebs.

Tyler [00:07:01]: No, I'm pretty deep on like the Bravo Instagram pages. There's like too many to shout out.

Andy [00:07:05]: Really?

Tyler [00:07:07]: Yeah, yeah. So, I'm like, "Kristin, did you hear ...?" And she's like, "How do you even know that? How do you even begin to know that?"

Deena [00:07:13]: He's like, "Not a big deal. I've been up all night in a dark hole, researching this."

Kristin [00:07:18]: So, Tyler and I, we were looking at Instagram the other day and we saw you were hosting the Salt Lake City reunion two days ago.

Andy [00:07:25]: Yesterday, it was. Yesterday.

Kristin [00:07:27]: It was yesterday.

Andy [00:07:28]: It was yesterday. And I got to tell you, it was a really good reunion, but I'm kind of emotionally exhausted from it. And what happened is that I went and met my parents after we went until about 9:30 at night, and I went and I met them and I had a couple tequilas and I went to bed at 11:30.

Andy [00:07:48]: And then Lucy started crying at one. And I did that thing where I'm like, "I'm not going in, I am going in, I'm not going in." I wound up going in, and then I put her back down. And then of course, she started crying.

Andy [00:08:04]: Anyway, Ben then got me up at 6:30 this morning. So, I've had a harrowing post-reunion day. I should be having some sort of a spa day or something. But as you know-

Deena [00:08:16]: You need a full-on recovery, and you did not get that.

Andy [00:08:18]: Not possible. No, no, no.

Deena [00:08:20]: No, no, no, no,

Andy [00:08:21]: Not with the toddlers.

Deena [00:08:23]: No, I'm joining you a little bit there, I feel a bit like a zombie. Not as bad as yours because you like really went for it. But mine also woke me up at three and was like, "I need a cup of water." And I was like, okay. And then I never went back to bed. I was like, "There you go, here's your water."

Andy [00:08:38]: So, you don't keep sippy cups with water in their room?

Tyler [00:08:42]: Oh, we do. We 100% do.

Kristin [00:08:43]: We do personally. We absolutely do. Anything you need.

Deena [00:08:43]: I do too, he drank the whole thing.

Andy [00:08:46]: Oh, he drank the whole thing.

Deena [00:08:48]: Yeah, the whole thing.

Kristin [00:08:49]: Well, so you went from housewife tantrums to toddler tantrums overnight, and like-

Andy [00:08:55]: Yes.

Deena [00:08:56]: Drink.

Kristin [00:08:56]: Is this your day-to-day ... yeah, everybody drink, I forgot already. Are you exhausted? I mean, I don't want to lead with this question.

Andy [00:09:02]: Yes.

Kristin [00:09:02]: But I feel like this is a parenting podcast. Like are you exhausted that A, you're dealing sort of with housewife tantrums, and then I know in your book Daddy Diaries, you talk a lot

about how sometimes you're even navigating those via text message, anything that pops up in the Bravo universe, and then you come home — how are you and are you tired?

Andy [00:09:20]: I am very tired. I am dealing with both. And I will say, I think dealing with toddlers is far more challenging than dealing with Housewives or bravelebrities. I mean-

Kristin [00:09:33]: Really?

Deena [00:09:34]: That was a big question from our big little besties.

Andy [00:09:36]: Absolutely, because you can't reason with a toddler. You can kind of reason with a housewife-

Kristin [00:09:43]: Really?

Andy [00:09:44]: You can't reason with a ... yeah, I think so.

Tyler [00:09:45]: That's good. That's good.

Andy [00:09:47]: And so, yeah, it's hard. I will say, and thank you, the Daddy Diaries is out and it's a perfect Christmas gift for anyone who's looking for anything.

Andy [00:09:57]: But I stopped drinking from Labor Day until Bravocon. And I have to say those were really treacherous months with the kids. But not drinking saved me because I was getting no ... getting no sleep when you're drinking is really not good. Getting no sleep when you're not drinking, you can handle it. I mean, we are resilient now.

Andy [00:10:23]: Now, I'm a late in life dad, by the way. I mean, I started having kids when I was 50. So, I'm the oldest dad on the playground at this point, but I'm hanging in and I'm doing everything I can to stay in the game.

Tyler [00:10:39]: That's amazing.

Kristin [00:10:40]: I mean, first of all, you look great, so-

Andy [00:10:42]: Thank you.

Kristin [00:10:41]: I don't want to say that's all that matters, but I think it's important.

Andy [00:10:45]: I do.

Deena [00:10:46]: He'll take it.

Kristin [00:10:49]: As the besties did ask, probably their most submitted question was specifically on this: "For working parents, what advice do you have?" Again, reading Daddy Diaries, to me, it feels like you juggle it all and you're not failing. And I don't know if that feels accurate for you.

Kristin [00:11:08]: But when I read it, I feel like you have a very healthy balance of you are really in that with your kids every day. That's you, like you are with them, then you are in your career. And you're also ... like these relationships that you have, you have strong friendships, you're going out to dinner. They want to know how are you juggling it all?

Andy [00:11:28]: Well, I think a few things. One of the things about being a later in life parent, I think that I like is that it gives you perspective on what you should be freaking out about and what you shouldn't be freaking out about. And so, what I don't freak out about is missing parents' night at the nursery school.

Andy [00:11:52]: So, just little stuff like that. It's like, okay, I have a show that night, I can't make it, keep the train moving. And I think that I have a lot of help, as you know, but what I don't have is ... and one of my best girlfriends, Graciela, she's been begging me to get a live-in Nanny.

Andy [00:12:13]: And it's so against my vibe because I do want to be the person that they come to in the middle of the night. And I am the person, and I want them to know that I'm there, and I want them to know that I'm consistently there. And that's really important to me.

Andy [00:12:29]: And so, I guess that what I do is I balance with the help that I have, but I also just really maximize the time that I am available to the kids. And my jobs are such that I go and do ... I'm up with the kids every morning, I bring them to school every day. I run and I go do radio, I come home. A lot of times I'm home when he comes home, I'm able to put him to bed so much. Watch What Happens Live when we're live, it's on after his bedtime, so I can leave and go to work.

Andy [00:13:04]: So, it's good. I'm in and out.

Tyler [00:13:07]: That's amazing.

Andy [00:13:10]: I used to have major periods of guilt about the time that I wasn't spending with the kids. And specifically, when Ben was a baby, I was like, "I don't think I spent enough time with him today. I only spent 90 minutes with him," and my baby nurse was a real great ... she was just a great she helped me put everything in perspective.

Andy [00:13:30]: And she was like, "I've worked with working couples who spent far less time than you do." So, you have another shot at it tomorrow.

Kristin [00:13:41]: I mean, first of all, that resonates so much. But also, that was my favorite part of Daddy Diaries. And I feel like it is a great read, by the way, over the holidays. This is my second time reading it, but it's a really-

Andy [00:13:51]: Thank you.

Kristin [00:13:52]: Great read leading up to things like Thanksgiving and Christmas, and there's so much pressure on parents because you are very realistic in the book. And there was one part in Daddy Diaries where I remember you said you were heading out either to work or to dinner. And the second you left the house, you started feeling guilty.

Kristin [00:14:10]: You were like, "Have I spent enough time with them?" And then you literally said, you're like, "I just spent four hours straight with them." And it just makes you feel really seen as a parent.

Kristin [00:14:20]: You even go so far as to share a time where you yelled at Ben, that part where you yelled and you instantly on the other side of the door, you closed the door, you fell, and you were like, "Oh my God, what am I doing?"

Kristin [00:14:32]: You went back out there, and you apologized to him. I just think it's amazing what you detailed out there. Even I felt better as a parent reading this book.

Andy [00:14:41]: Oh, good. Well, that was funny because we had just spent a very long day with each other and it was bath time, and we were out in the Hamptons, and he was playing in the driveway and he was ... I go, "It's time to take a bath." And he goes, "I'm not taking a bath." I go, "Yeah, you are." And he's like, "No, I'm not."

Andy [00:15:00]: And I went psycho. And I said, "Fine, don't take a bath!" And I go, "You just stay out there." And I slammed the door. And in a split second, I said to myself, "You are a psycho dude" and what is this little boy thinking about this? And I opened the door and I go, "Just kidding, we can play."

Andy [00:15:24]: And I was like, "Oh, okay. Now, he actually thinks that I am actually crazy." Like I don't know what he could be thinking about this. But part of the thing that you guys advise that is so hard, but once you get it, you do get it, but it is, to me, one of the hardest things about being a parent, is not reacting. And when they come at you with their big feelings and they're freaking out and they're having a major tantrum, the not reacting ...

Andy [00:15:56]: And I would say that I was at 50% of not reacting. I mean-

Deena [00:16:04]: That's great, that's a win.

Andy [00:16:05]: There were times where I was like ... I mean, this summer, there was a moment where he was having a fit about something and I picked up some book of his and threw it over the deck into the sand at the beach. Like again, it's really hard not to react. It is so fucking hard (excuse my language). But anyway, I've gotten so much better at it. But again, it remains really hard.

Deena [00:16:31]: But I appreciate you putting it out there because that is truly all of us as parents. And a lot of times on social media, you just don't see that side of it. You see the other like the perfect side, the put together side-

Andy [00:16:44]: You always, yeah, exactly.

Deena [00:16:45]: Yeah. But it's really all of us. And we're repairing and doing the best that we can.

Tyler [00:16:49]: Reading the Daddy Diaries, you're so honest about it. And like also, I'm listening to it and I loved your note at the beginning. Thank you, I wanted to thank you for recording it.

Andy [00:16:58]: Thank you, I hated recording it.

Kristin [00:16:59]: What does it say? What does it say? Because I'm reading it. What does the audio part say?

Andy [00:17:00]: It says, "I hate recording this. If you are listening, send me a DM or something so I know there's someone out there."

Tyler [00:17:07]: I appreciate it.

Kristin [00:17:07]: Oh, he's doing it.

Andy [00:17:07]: I've gotten thousands of DMs and it's actually amazing.

Deena [00:17:10]: That's amazing.

Tyler [00:17:11]: And you've replaced Lou Diamond Phillips as my favorite audiobook narrator, so-

Andy [00:17:15]: I love you.

Tyler [00:17:17]: Into the top spot. But I loved how like you were honest about like parenting, which is so nice to see and so refreshing. Because you feel so alone in those moments right after. You're like, "It's me, I am the worst parent. And then seeing that from like someone so in a public position is just like reassuring. It's nice. We're all in it.

Andy [00:17:36]: I have to say thank you. And also, he had a fit the other day on the way home from the playground, and he wanted to go to the toy store. He had just played for three and a half hours in the fucking playground. And now, he wants to go get an ambulance in the toy store.

Andy [00:17:51]: By the way, do you know how many ambulances he has? Side note. But he did this thing where he was like sitting on the sidewalk and like, "I'm not going to move." And the problem is that people notice me, and they know who I am. So, now they see me and my adorable child and the kid is doing a protest screaming and crying on the street. And I'm standing there, and it becomes like a sideshow, like a circus.

Deena [00:18:25]: They're like, "What's Andy going to do? Spotlight."

Kristin [00:18:28]: We actually, weirdly have the same problem, even though we're not remotely Andy Cohen.

Deena [00:18:32]: Yeah, we're not Andy Cohen.

Kristin [00:18:33]: Let's just start with that. But because we're niche people, so if we're going to be spotted, we'll be spotted on a-

Andy [00:18:38]: No, but you're childcare experts. So, I would think-

Kristin [00:18:39]: On a playground.

Andy [00:18:39]: So, when your kid misbehaves, they're looking at you like, "Oh, how are they responding?"

Kristin [00:18:44]: A hundred. And that's like one of my personal biggest triggers. But I think it's almost everybody's parent like in public-

Deena [00:18:49]: Wait a minute, do you go to therapy for this? I do this in therapy. Do you do this one?

Kristin [00:18:51]: Do you want to share?

Deena [00:18:52]: I do this one in therapy where I process, I'm like I start to like get really red and a little bit hot, and it's hard for me to respond, and then I have to like center back in so I can be there to support him and his big feelings. Yeah, I have to do that one in therapy.

Kristin [00:19:03]: Oh, good for you. I should probably do that, because I feel like when I snap, it's usually in public, which is terrible. I mean, because that's one of my biggest triggers. If anybody saw me at the San Diego Zoo however many years ago it was, and someone did recognize me like no less than six minutes after, I had totally lost my shit.

Kristin [00:19:20]: So, it resonates being a public figure and trying to figure out parenting ... and you feel like everybody's staring at you and you're like, "Oh God ..." And probably no one's staring at us, by the way.

Andy [00:19:29]: Are you going swimming?

Kristin [00:19:30]: Oh, Ben.

Andy [00:19:31]: Okay, good. Have fun, Ben.

Kristin [00:19:34]: How old is Ben by the way? I meant to ask at the top. How old is Ben and Lucy?

Andy [00:19:36]: Ben is almost five.

Kristin [00:19:38]: Oh my God.

Andy [00:19:39]: And Lucy is 19 months.

Deena [00:19:41]: Oh my gosh.

Tyler [00:19:41]: It's a fun age.

Kristin [00:19:41]: Okay. We're in like a same boat. We have a four and a half year ... well, we have a seven-year-old, but then a four and a half year old and also a one-year-old ... I have a 20-monther, so-

Deena [00:19:48]: Between the two of us-

Andy [00:19:50]: Oh, okay, good. I love it.

Kristin [00:19:54]: Before we get too far down, because basically, we all want to just talk about the daddy mode, but I'm dying to know in a very short version, what little Andy was like and how it led to where you are today. Like were you obsessed with glamorous women? Like what is the connection there?

Andy [00:20:12]: I was, I loved soap operas. I loved all my children, I loved super dramatic women. I mean, my best friends in junior high were these girls, Jeanie and Jackie. Jackie is Ben's godmother. Jeanie, they're both very much involved in my life still, but I kind of call them the original housewives.

Andy [00:20:29]: And I used to stir the turds so much. Like Jeanie and Jackie would be in a fight and I'd call Jeanie and be like, "Yeah, Jackie said you're trash." And then I would call Jackie and be like, "Yeah, Jeanie said that you ..." I mean, I was that guy. The only thing different is that I was just highly closeted at the time. And now, I'm just highly homosexual.

Kristin [00:20:56]: The best way to be.

Andy [00:20:59]: But otherwise ... I was voted most talkative in high school, name of my first book, and that's who I was.

Kristin [00:21:08]: And then who were you in high school then? Because I'm always curious of these like entrepreneurs, people who just blaze their own path. Like Housewives didn't exist, nothing existed in the ... you were most talkative, so were you a bad student?

Andy [00:21:20]: I was popular, but I was not a jock. I was kind of popular despite myself. I was class president senior year. That's who I was, and I had a lot of friends. I had a lot of female friends. Always have had a lot of female friends. Always, always, always. And wanted to be in TV. Really wanted to be in TV and had a million internships.

Andy [00:21:41]: Went to Boston University, my last internship was at CBS News in New York. And I then moved to New York and worked for CBS from 1990 to 2000, and that was the beginning of my TV career.

Deena [00:21:55]: Hearing you say all this, you really tapped into who you just authentically are and like followed that, it sounds like.

Andy [00:22:03]: I know, it's wild.

Deena [00:22:03]: That's amazing.

Andy [00:22:04]: I feel so blessed to have known that I wanted to work in TV because no one knows what they want to do in life, people-

Tyler [00:22:11]: Especially not that early.

Andy [00:22:12]: It's like, "I like magazines ..." People don't know, and it's a blessing. It was a blessing for me that I knew.

Deena [00:22:20]: I was just curious, like I'm coming in here as the therapist of the bunch, but like was your family super supportive? How did you get that kind of space to tap in?

Andy [00:22:28]: They were. My family owned a food manufacturing and distribution company. So, we were in the food business, I worked there every summer. We didn't have any connection to television, but my parents were very much like, "Go for it. You do you."

Tyler [00:22:43]: That's incredible.

Andy [00:22:44]: And they were very supportive. And it was a different time. The vanity that exists now was kind of vain even to say ... because I studied broadcast journalism and my goal was I was going to be kind of a news guy and what I really wanted was to be able to be myself on TV, which is exactly by the way, what I'm doing right now. I couldn't be more myself on television.

Andy [00:23:12]: But at the time, the only way to be yourself on TV would be to kind of be in TV news. There were three networks, there weren't that many shows, but things have changed.

Deena [00:23:27]: You made your own path. It's amazing.

Andy [00:23:28]: Yeah.

Tyler [00:23:29]: So, that was like the interesting thing I saw about your careers, you're in production of traditional journalism shows, and then 2004 comes around and boom, Housewives. So, how did that transfer happen? How did that come about?

Andy [00:23:43]: Well, I was at CBS News for 10 years, and then Barry Diller was a friend of mine, and he gave me this huge opportunity to run original programming at a cable channel he was starting. And that was really where I ... It was like bootcamp for me, learning about budgets and hiring outside production companies, and all this stuff that I knew how to produce like a 10-minute piece for 48 hours and write it and edit it, but I didn't know or do a long form show.

Andy [00:24:13]: But I didn't know how to run programming for a channel. And I learned. And then I got hired by Bravo in 2004. And so, next year's my 20th year at Bravo, which is kind of incredible.

Tyler [00:24:28]: That's amazing. And 15 years of Watch What Happens Live, right?

Andy [00:24:30]: Yeah, next year is 15 years.

Kristin [00:24:32]: Congratulations.

Deena [00:24:32]: That's a big one.

Kristin [00:24:35]: Oh my God, that's longer than I've done anything in my whole life. That's incredible.

Deena [00:24:40]: That's lucky half my life, maybe.

Kristin [00:24:43]: Well, Deena's a baby, cover your baby ears. I mean, everybody else's room is older.

Andy [00:24:51]: You're both babies, you're all babies. I know what I'm doing.

Kristin [00:24:52]: I mean, listen, but, okay, so you go to Bravo, but I mean, there is no concept of Housewives yet. And so-

Deena [00:25:00]: It just doesn't exist.

Kristin [00:25:03]: Like as two people who do consider themselves entrepreneurs or just kind of like thinking outside the box, just dreamers, right? You're going into Bravo, and you have this kind of crazy idea. Is everybody just like, "Fuck, yeah, that's an incredible idea?" Or is it slow to warm? Like you had to really convince them.

Andy [00:25:21]: No, it was not like that. It was not like that. It was a guy named Scott Dunlop brought us like a VHS tape of these women in Coda de Caza in Orange County, and what he had shot was like ... I think what he wanted to do was like a Curb Your Enthusiasm style show, like a soft scripted show. But these were not actors.

Andy [00:25:42]: And Desperate Housewives was a big hit on ABC at the time. So, we were looking at this and we were like, these women are sexy. And like Vicki is an insurance agent, but she has big boobs, and they hang out in the grotto after work. I mean, it just seemed very Playboy After Dark. And we were like, "If this is what's really happening in this gated community, we ..." The original title was Behind the Gates, like this is what really happens in the largest gated community in the country.

Andy [00:26:21]: And then we took it and said, well, this is really kind of the Real Desperate Housewives. And that's how that happened. But again, season one was fraught with issues. We didn't know what the show was, we were figuring it out. And it wasn't until kind of late in season one that people started watching it saying, "There's something here." And the ratings kind of started picking up and it was on the bubble.

Andy [00:26:45]: We almost killed the show while we were in production-

Deena [00:26:48]: Oh, wow, I didn't know that.

Andy [00:26:49]: We were like, "We're getting nothing, this is weird. We don't know, we have the wrong producers." I mean, so it's not like one day I was sitting there, and I was like, "I have a great idea." It really was, it is the absolute personification of a team of people.

Andy [00:27:09]: I've become the face of this thing, but it's a whole group of people, many of whom are still at Bravo. And it's funny that I get either the praise or the knocks for it. And they either say, "Well, he's a misogynist or he is this or that or the other."

Andy [00:27:28]: It's all women that I work with. There's women across the board, star in this show, our executive producers of these shows, all the franchises have female executive producers. The women that I've worked for at Bravo for years, my mentors Lauren Zalaznick and Frances Berwick — I mean, so it's a cabal of women that are involved. And here I am, this queen who's kind of the face of it, which is funny.

Kristin [00:27:54]: That was actually my next question, which is really interesting because you all created Housewives, and then how did we create Andy Cohen? I know you're Andy Cohen, you were always Andy Cohen, but like this had never existed before. There was not Andy Cohen, head of the-

Andy [00:28:06]: Yeah, it was a gradual weird thing. One thing again, led to the other. It was very organic. I'd given up my dreams of being in front of the camera. I was sending emails to the team at Bravo behind the scenes of a show I was doing that was very gossipy and very funny. And my boss at the time said, "I want you to write a blog on the Bravo website."

Andy [00:28:28]: She was really wanting to build up the Bravo website. She goes, "You'll be the first network executive to be blogging every day about the shows." And I was, and I blogged about my life, and I kind of, it was like early branding before branding was a thing. This was like 2005. And then I started getting interviewed on CNN and other places as a talking head about television because I had this blog that I was doing.

Andy [00:28:54]: And as a result of that, she said, "Do you want to host a show on bravotv.com that would be like an after show after Top Chef with the Eliminated Chef?" And so, I did that for a year or two, and it was after Top Chef and Project Runway, and it was called Watch What Happens Live because our tagline was, "watch what happens" at the time, the Bravo tagline.

Andy [00:29:16]: And then that turned into me doing a reunion show. And then that turned into Michael Davies, who had seen me interviewing Jeff Lewis and him saying, "I could do Andy's online show on Bravo in this teeny studio I have." And that's how all of this happened. One thing led to another.

Tyler [00:29:36]: That's so amazing.

Deena [00:29:37]: It feels really nice to like hear the whole backstory because sometimes I forget how much like trial and error it takes and you're just figuring it out as you go and you're learning and just following your heart and new opportunities pop up from that. Like it's super inspiring to hear the backstory.

Andy [00:29:51]: The lesson for me was that it happened organically, and that I was there to be head of programming. I was head of programming at Bravo. And as much as they were letting me do all this stuff, I had two bosses, Lauren and Frances, who were excellent at what they do, and they expected excellence from me running programming.

Andy [00:30:14]: And what they didn't want was for me to start thinking I was this on-air guy who was ... because that was not my day job. So, I always viewed it as like a side hustle. And I always knew I had to work harder in my day job so that they would keep letting me do this other thing. And I knew that I would never ask for any real money for this other thing until I was actually worth something to the network if that time ever came. And thankfully, it did come.

Deena [00:30:45]: Wow. What a hustle. Way to go, a lot of work.

Tyler [00:30:46]: That's a true side hustle.

Andy [00:30:49]: Yeah.

Kristin [00:30:50]: Well, and now you're ... I mean, if I may, this is a little weird: but now you're everyone's daddy. Like you are considered everyone's, truly, like everyone's daddy. My favorite part of Bravocon is when everyone's like, "The daddy is here."

Andy [00:31:04]: I'm not mad at it.

Kristin [00:31:05]: Do you like that? Do you like that title? It sounds kind of cool.

Deena [00:31:06]: How do you feel?

Andy [00:31:09]: How do I feel about being everyone's daddy?

Deena [00:31:11]: Yeah.

Andy [00:31:11]: Yeah, it's good. Feel good. Well, it's funny because, I mean, I will say raising a toddler (drink your drink, drink) it has impacted me at a lot of the reunions. I have been like, "You're both pretty" and whatever. I mean, I do find myself occasionally going into Ben's daddy mode as opposed to a housewife daddy mode.

Deena [00:31:41]: "I Love you both equally, no one's my favorite."

Tyler [00:31:42]: Does that make reunions a little easier?

Kristin [00:31:45]: I think it's got to be beneficial. Actually, that was probably the second submitted question, was do you ever use the BLF strategies with Housewives? You know, where it's like, "It's okay to feel mad, Vicki ..." And I feel like I do see you in the reunion sometimes, Tyler will point it out. I don't know, just because of us-

Deena [00:31:59]: They're whining in someone's face.

Kristin [00:32:01]: And you're like, "And we need to get through this interview. We need to go." Like keep doing the reunion is the boundary.

Andy [00:32:05]: I do, I mean I definitely have. I think my number one thing about dealing with talent, all talent is that people want to be heard. And that's with little kids, and that's with stars of reality shows or Housewives and whatever.

Andy [00:32:23]: So, when someone calls me and they think it's important enough to call me to complain about X, Y, or Z, you have to take that seriously because they want you to hear them, they want you to acknowledge them.

Andy [00:32:35]: Now, I've always done that with Housewives, but it took me like seeing y'all on Instagram to realize that I needed to do it with my kids: "And I understand that you want to go to the toy store right now and I know that you're upset that we can't, but we can't. And that's that."

Andy [00:32:58]: "And so, I know that you are upset that this lady is also coming back on Housewives, but she is coming back. But let's talk about ways that we can make it okay for you to come back."

Kristin [00:33:10]: Are you talking about Debbie and Tamra? That's the situation I'm reading in Daddy Diaries right this second. I get it.

Andy [00:33:17]: Countless things. Countless.

Deena [00:33:18]: I'm sure it's happened many a times.

[Music Playing]

Kristin [00:33:28]: So, back to, we're parenting Ben and you're doing phenomenally by the way. I mean, just as an outsider perspective from the glimpse that we see.

Andy [00:33:37]: I was going to say, "What do you know, you only know what I'm putting out there. I could be a disaster."

Kristin [00:33:41]: I know that's true. Sometimes I gas you up in the DMs. You've seen it where I'm like, "Great job today. That was awesome." And it's not perfect, it's usually realistic.

Andy [00:33:48]: Well, that feels great by the way. If I get your approval, that feels great, and this summer taking him to camp, I mean I was thinking how am I doing here? What is happening? Anyway, but I interrupted you.

Kristin [00:34:03]: No, please. I mean this is an open forum. I mean, the summer is hard for everyone by the way. No one really talks about that especially as a working parent. I'm sure it's equally as hard, if not more hard, if you're a stay-at-home parent, by the way.

Kristin [00:34:14]: But as a working parent now, they're home or they in camp. But if they're in camp, now, you feel horribly guilty for anybody who's a stay-at-home parent that you know. Like either way, everybody's out of routine, we're all having meltdowns.

Kristin [00:34:25]: The summer isn't this blissful thing that I thought it was going to be as a parent.

Tyler [00:34:29]: Nobody warns you about summer.

Kristin [00:34:30]: It's actually very stressful.

Deena [00:34:32]: It's very stressful.

Kristin [00:34:32]: And I feel like once you get into fall and you get into your rhythm again, things go back into routine.

Andy [00:34:38]: So true. This summer was really tough actually. And I write about, by the way, last summer was really tough. In the Daddy Diaries, I write about my realization when I was out there, I was like, "This sucks." I had three weeks off in the Hamptons, Watch What Happens Live is dark for three weeks in August, which is incredible.

Andy [00:34:56]: But as it turns out, it was incredibly horrible with a three-year-old and a baby. I was like, "Oh, this is terrible."

Tyler [00:35:06]: That's full-time.

Kristin [00:35:07]: It's the thick of it. It's okay to say it's terrible. Like that's the thick of it.

Deena [00:35:11]: I remember chapters too of like, especially when my second one was little, like I felt so bad admitting it, but there were days I just wasn't having fun. I was just kind of trying to get through it.

Kristin [00:35:24]: I even remember on the weekends, it was so funny, at that time you had a three-year-old and a one-year-old. On the weekends then, you were dying for Monday to come around.

Deena [00:35:30]: I was.

Kristin [00:35:31]: You were dying to go back to work because as hard as work is, and it's crazy and it's chaotic and you have all these things happening, you feel bad admitting it. But it's like, "You know what, I got to get back to work actually, this is too much."

Deena [00:35:42]: Work is a break right now.

Andy [00:35:44]: I'll say, I find I am amazed by how valuable having contact with other parents is. I feel so seen talking to ... just hearing very little stories, you always think it's worse for you in your house or this can't be normal or there's something wrong with my child.

Andy [00:36:06]: And it's been incredibly valuable for me to sit with ... I mean, they're predominantly moms who ... Ben will have a play date and I'll just be sitting there drinking tea with this mom for an hour, and they'll tell me about the fits that their kid is having about television or this or that. And it's very helpful for me.

Kristin [00:36:30]: And you talk a lot also in Daddy Diaries about how isolating it is being a single dad, and you don't have that partner probably to bounce this off of and be like, "Am I crazy? Is this too much?" I mean, just talk about kind of that isolation of being — I think you called it, the older single gay dad at the school.

Andy [00:36:52]: I know. And then throw in there that I'm famous. So, now, I'm walking into the first mixer at the nursery school, and everybody knows who I am, I don't know who anybody is. I'm terrible with names on a good day. Like terrible.

Tyler [00:37:10]: That's me.

Andy [00:37:11]: And that to me, was a really ... and there were a few times where I was showing up for those first few birthday parties where I'm taking Ben to a birthday party, I don't know any of the other parents. Like it brought out a vulnerability in me that I was not in touch with and a loneliness in me and just kind of, "Oh God, am I doing this right?"

Andy [00:37:41]: So, I've gotten better obviously because now, I've done it, but it can be a little scary. And there's no other single parents at Ben's school and there's no other gay dads at his current school.

Andy [00:38:03]: Now, the good thing for me, I'm so happy to say, is that we have two gay dads down the hall with a little boy. Ben, one of his best friends has two dads. Anderson's kids, we were at a play date over there.

Andy [00:38:20]: So, building a community is the most important thing I think for any parent. Whether you're a single parent or whatever, or mom whose husband works hard, or the mom works hard and the husband's around.

Tyler [00:38:35]: And it's hard to put yourself out there too in those situations, especially like you're talking about the birthday parties. You get there, especially if it's like the beginning of the year and there's new parents and you're just like, "How do I even begin to talk to you guys?"

Kristin [00:38:45]: Well, Tyler was a stay-at-home dad for a while, and that was a whole different ball game of isolation where he probably felt somewhat similar, although he could have me to bounce off of. But he was oftentimes the only dad standing in the room of stay-at-home moms or-

Tyler [00:39:00]: Or in the pickup lines and all that. And like you probably are in the same boat how many times you've talked about the weather. It's like a conversation starter.

Deena [00:39:07]: Yeah, no, but you need to support. It's super important because you just remember you're not effing this whole thing up. You're not the only one struggling with something. We're literally all working through something in our homes or like trying to figure something out.

Kristin [00:39:22]: Like it takes time is what like I learned too, where I was just all alone when I first became a parent. I didn't have parent friends. And so, if you're listening to this and you're like, "Well, shit, I don't have a community ..." Like it took time.

Kristin [00:39:22]: Now, we're on year seven and when your kids start to go to school and they have play dates, I feel like that's the key part. You can just be so fucking having utterly alone first.

Andy [00:39:43]: The playground is your friend. I have to say like, I love going to the playground. He runs around, I can be on the phone, I could be hanging out. You don't have to get in there with him. He's doing his own thing. I'm checking in, I'm talking on the phone, but also, I'm talking to other parents at the playground and commiserating.

Kristin [00:40:05]: Because you're outgoing and you're social, so tell us, how do you make mom, dad parent friends at the playground? You know what I mean?

Deena [00:40:12]: You got any hot tips?

Kristin [00:40:12]: Yeah. Like how do you actually do that?

Andy [00:40:15]: Look, thankfully, at our local little playground, now, his friends from school go there because it's the same neighborhood. So, I just know ... or listen, you find the cutest dad and you go up and you talk to him.

Kristin [00:40:29]: There you go, that's my favorite strategy. Tyler, what do you do? Because you're the one that makes the mom friends for us.

Andy [00:40:34]: Tyler finds the hottest mom and he goes and talks to them.

Deena [00:40:36]: Cover your little ears.

Kristin [00:40:38]: He kind of does, but it's like for me to be ... he makes a friendship date for [crosstalk].

Andy [00:40:42]: That's true. I'll be like, "You would love my wife."

Deena [00:40:42]: "You seem a bit like a weird mom. If not the hot mom, it's like the weird mom. And my wife's kind of weird too. Would you like her phone number?"

Kristin [00:40:49]: You guys should have coffee together.

Andy [00:40:52]: That's funny.

Tyler [00:40:53]: That's the problem too, is I don't want to be the weird dad that's like, "Hey what's up? We're at the playground." So, I'm like, "My wife would love to have some wine with you."

Andy [00:41:01]: Right, I love it.

Kristin [00:41:01]: That's literally how it happens. You never want to be the weird dad.

Tyler [00:41:04]: I don't want to be the weird dad.

Deena [00:41:05]: No, not at all.

Kristin [00:41:07]: Well, okay. The people have spoken, and they would really like for us to do a Plead the Fifth as an homage.

Andy [00:41:14]: Great.

Kristin [00:41:15]: And by the way, the game Plead the Fifth, so we're going to ask three questions and Andy has the choice to plead the fifth, AKA, not answer on one of those questions but has to answer the other two.

Deena [00:41:27]: Let's do a round.

Kristin [00:41:28]: Have you ever played Plead the Fifth on the other side? Like is this boring people do this with you all the time?

Andy [00:41:32]: People do it with me all the time, I will let you know how you did afterwards.

Kristin [00:41:36]: Oh, probably really poorly. The three of us, we're all parents now, right, so we want to be incredibly nice. We're also on the internet. We live on the internet, so we're going to do terribly. Like they're all going to be really nice, easy-going questions.

Andy [00:41:49]: Yeah, right, okay.

Deena [00:41:51]: They'll lack in spice probably. But [crosstalk].

Andy [00:41:55]: Three questions, I can plead the fifth to one.

Kristin [00:41:56]: Tyler, I feel like you should do plead the fifth. I think you should do it.

Tyler [00:41:59]: Lead it off, alright.

Kristin [00:42:00]: Do it.

Tyler [00:42:01]: So, plead the fifth, we'll start with number one: fuck, marry, kill — Shep, Austen, and Craig.

Andy [00:42:07]: I'm going to marry Craig, shag Austen, and kill Shep. But I love Shep.

Tyler [00:42:16]: Yeah, and I love Craig's arc-

Deena [00:42:18]: Like not real life obviously.

Tyler [00:42:18]: He's had the best redemption arc from season one.

Kristin [00:42:20]: We're putting him down now. Little time out, he's taking a nappy.

Andy [00:42:21]: By the way, for the record, I'm wearing a sewing down south sweatshirt.

Tyler [00:42:26]: Yeah, shout out.

Deena [00:42:26]: Look at that.

Kristin [00:42:27]: I noticed that on Instagram earlier today, actually. I meant to bring this up of, we're loving the support of Craig ... by the way, Craig and Paige, like-

Tyler [00:42:34]: I love it.

Kristin [00:42:35]: The newfound Bravo heroes.

Andy [00:42:38]: Love them. Love them.

Kristin [00:42:39]: Okay, number two.

Tyler [00:42:39]: Number two, who's someone you keep inviting back to the show just because they look good and they don't add anything of value to the show itself.

Andy [00:42:47]: Oh, to the Housewives?

Tyler [00:42:49]: No, to Watch What Happens Live.

Andy [00:42:51]: There is this model named Michael Dean who has probably ... he's probably bartended more times than anyone else and he is just so beautiful and we invite him just so I can look at him.

Tyler [00:43:07]: That's amazing.

Deena [00:43:08]: Just a little glance in the corner, get a little pick me up, hit of serotonin, dopamine.

Tyler [00:43:12]: Anytime you look over there, I love that.

Kristin [00:43:14]: Deena, do you want the last one?

Tyler [00:43:15]: Do you want the last one, Deena?

Deena [00:43:16]: Which Housewives have asked you for John Mayer's number?

Andy [00:43:21]: Dr. Nicole from Miami is a huge, huge ... like that's her guy, but otherwise that's it. John came to the baby shower that the Housewives threw for me, and it was so funny because I invited ... he goes, "I want to come to that, can I come?" Just every time he said, "I'm coming," I go, I just want you to know it's going to be like 50 housewives and you." He goes, "I know."

Tyler [00:43:53]: "Why do you think I'm asking, Andy?"

Andy [00:43:53]: He goes, "I want to go because I've never seen anything ..." And he was asking them, he was sitting there with Erika Jayne, and he goes, "Well, what's your superpower?" He wanted to know what each of their superpower was and it was funny.

Kristin [00:44:08]: Oh my God, how pure.

Andy [00:44:09]: But there were a few that were really on him at that baby shower.

Kristin [00:44:13]: They have to be.

Deena [00:44:13]: I can imagine.

Tyler [00:44:14]: Moving on, I do have two more questions and they're not terribly spicy. I got to know-

Deena [00:44:17]: Burning questions.

Tyler [00:44:17]: You're going on a yacht trip, who's your captain? Because below deck is my all-time-

Andy [00:44:22]: Jason.

Tyler [00:44:23]: Jason, nice, he's out there with him too.

Kristin [00:44:26]: Is it because you feel so safe or-

Deena [00:44:27]: Because he's hot.

Tyler [00:44:28]: He's not hanging out on the bridge. He comes out a lot.

Kristin [00:44:29]: Sorry, Tyler, cover your baby ears, yeah because he's hot, obviously. Oh, okay. I mean also a top contender for baby number three, again, Deena is married, but I'm just putting it out there.

Deena [00:44:37]: I don't want to be creepy-

Tyler [00:44:38]: You got to have backups, right?

Deena [00:44:39]: But like Anderson's off the table. He's like fully, fully off the table. He was my childhood crush.

Tyler [00:44:42]: I was going to say I don't think Anderson's on the table.

Deena [00:44:44]: I was embarrassed to admit here.

Kristin [00:44:44]: This is something we have not mentioned yet, Deena — and I know this 'cause we've been best friends our whole lives. Deena had the biggest crush her entire life and her husband mildly resembles Anderson Cooper.

Deena [00:44:57]: It's true. Not to be creepy but keep looking.

Andy [00:44:58]: Very good.

Deena [00:44:57]: It's something alright.

Tyler [00:45:06]: And then-

Deena [00:45:07]: Any last burning questions?

Tyler [00:45:09]: Yeah. Out of all of the housewives, which one would you pick to be your nanny?

Kristin [00:45:12]: Oh-

Andy [00:45:13]: I would pick all of them because they're actually all great moms.

Tyler [00:45:15]: Oh, that's amazing to hear.

Kristin [00:45:17]: I love that answer.

Andy [00:45:19]: It's true. And I didn't plead the fifth and you asked more questions than are in the game because the game is three questions.

Kristin [00:45:26]: That's true.

Tyler [00:45:26]: We didn't know-

Kristin [00:45:27]: And you answered all of them.

Tyler [00:45:28]: We're not terribly spicy. We're not spicy people.

Kristin [00:45:29]: Because they weren't that spicy, we're not interesting.

Andy [00:45:32]: But they were good. The thing about it is the question that was potentially really good was you saying who have you invited back, but they add nothing but they're good-looking. That would've been a great question if you said, "What housewife have you kept inviting back to The Housewives who added very little but were kind of good looking."

Deena [00:45:54]: They're just so good-looking.

Kristina [00:45:55]: But overall, how did we do? Like pretty, pretty bad, right.?

Andy [00:45:57]: You did great.

Tyler [00:45:58]: She needs an immediate grade.

Kristin [00:45:59]: This is how we're going to end the show is like how bad did we do?

Deena [00:46:03]: I'm just a straight A student with-

Andy [00:46:03]: No, no, no, you did great.

Deena [00:46:05]: Perfectionism issues.

Tyler [00:46:06]: Thanks, Andy.

Andy [00:46:07]: You did great.

Kristin [00:46:09]: Alright, well, I guess on that note, I mean, it's time to wrap up.

Deena [00:46:13]: Seriously, Andy, thank you so, so much for joining us. This has been literally, literally a blast. And big little besties, please be sure to pick up a copy of Daddy Diaries because it is amazing and also it makes a fantastic holiday gift.

Kristin [00:46:28]: Yep, and also by the way, I forgot to mention this; we will also you on New Year's Eve, right? Like will we be having Daddy Juice together?

Andy [00:46:35]: Yeah, sure will, we'll be there.

Kristin [00:46:36]: Is the Daddy Juice approved or not approved because I'm pissed?

Deena [00:46:38]: Is that permitted?

Andy [00:46:39]: We don't know yet.

Kristin [00:46:40]: We need Daddy Juice approved.

Andy [00:46:41]: But I hope so, y'all will have it.

Deena [00:46:43]: TBD, but Anderson will be there.

Kristin [00:46:45]: Deena will be watching.

Deena [00:46:46]: Not mistaken, you're co-hosting.

Andy [00:46:48]: Your man will be there, yes.

Kristin [00:46:49]: Andy, thank you.

Andy [00:46:50]: Thank you so much.

Kristin [00:46:51]: We are blown away every time you invite us to Watch What Happens Live, that you came on here. The besties are obsessed with you. You have 3 million moms here that are obsessed with you. So, thank you. You're amazing.

Andy [00:47:01]: Thank you so much.

Deena [00:47:01]: And I hope you realize how vital and important you are to moms like us, where after a long day like that is what we look forward to. That is how we unwind. Like I can't even give words to it, it's amazing.

Kristin [00:47:14]: Seven years of motherhood, like After Bedtime, that's the one thing that I have going from like, okay, just got to Bedtime because then I can watch Beverly Hills and just escape into this little fantasy for an hour.

Andy [00:47:25]: Thank you.

Kristin [00:47:26]: I think all moms on our page say the same thing, where they're just like, thank God for Bravo in the season of life.

Andy [00:47:31]: Thank you.

Kristin [00:47:31]: So, thank you.

Andy [00:47:33]: Thanks so much.

Tyler [00:47:34]: Thank you, Andy.

Andy [00:47:35]: I'll see you guys soon and thanks for having me on the pod.

Kristin [00:47:38]: Thank you, Andy.

Deena [00:47:40]: Thank you.

[Music Playing]

Deena [00:47:45]: Okay. Are you still alive? Are you still alive? We here?

Tyler [00:47:49]: Check pulse, check pulse one two, one two.

Kristin [00:47:50]: Right before we came on, by the way, before this podcast, we all suddenly were like, "Oh my God, we're about to jump out of an airplane" because we were like, "Holy shit, what did we agree to do? And how are we doing this? And is this real life?"

Kristin [00:48:05]: And what I'm getting to is now I feel like I just jumped out of the airplane. Like the adrenaline-

Tyler [00:48:09]: Yeah, we did it. We jumped out of the airplane, we were flying through the air, hurdling towards earth.

Deena [00:48:12]: That's what the interview felt like.

Tyler [00:48:15]: That's what it felt like. Parachute deployed, he said it went great. We landed safely on the ground, here we are.

Kristin [00:48:21]: We got a gold star from Andy.

Tyler [00:48:22]: I think that was the first of many.

Kristin [00:48:25]: Yeah, he said, "See you again."

Tyler [00:48:27]: I know.

Deena [00:48:29]: Andy's so fun.

Kristin [00:48:30]: He's fun, he's visionary. He was like he was everything I thought he was going to be and more.

Deena [00:48:35]: I'm inspired. I am leaving feeling less shame.

Kristin [00:48:38]: Oh my God, me too. I feel like I need to work like harder, but in a good way, where I'm like, wait a minute, like in a soak love way.

Deena [00:48:44]: It just takes 12 years.

Tyler [00:48:45]: Not in a toxic way.

Deena [00:48:46]: Yeah, like keep going.

Kristin [00:48:47]: Yeah, not in toxic way. I feel great. God, that's nice. I feel great. Should we go have some champagne? I mean, we've been drinking straight, but like I am like a couple sips. Now, I'm ready to really celebrate with you guys.

Tyler [00:48:58]: Let's nightcap it up.

Kristin [00:48:59]: Besties-

Deena [00:049:00]: Let's have some champagne or vitamins and go night-night.

Kristin [00:49:03]: Don't forget your vitamins, besties.

Tyler [00:49:05]: Don't forget your ashwagandha.

Deena [00:49:07]: We cannot legally medicate, we're not doctors.

Tyler [00:49:10]: We can't do that? We're not doctors because it's definitely not medicine.

Deena [00:49:11]: Please do not ...

Kristin [00:49:13]: Ask your doctor.

Tyler [00:49:14]: Ask your doctor if you can have ashwagandha and then once approved.

Deena [00:49:18]: That's from Tyler, by the way. So, like-

Kristin [00:49:19]: Does anybody really expect it to be like recommended?

Deena [00:49:21]: You didn't even need that disclaimer.

Kristin [00:49:22]: Yeah, like nobody cares — not nobody cares, but nobody's going to like come after you and be like, "Tyler, the husband of Big Little Feelings recommended ashwagandha one time on the podcast."

Tyler [00:49:32]: And now, my life is ruined.

Kristin [00:49:35]: Maybe.

Tyler [00:49:36]: Who knows? We see.

Kristin [00:49:37]: Besties, thank you for joining us on the best day of our lives.

Tyler [00:49:41]: This is truly incredible.

Deena [00:49:43]: We cannot wait to see you next time. Meet us here.

Kristin [00:49:47]: Same place, same time, same outfit.

Deena [00:49:50]: Same mum bun.

Kristin [00:49:52]: Bye, besties.

[Music Playing]

Kristin [00:49:58]:

If you are struggling with toddler or preschooler tantrums, pushback, discipline, picky eating, just all the confusing things — this podcast, we can only scratch the surface.

Kristin [00:50:10]:

If you need help, our course, Winning the Toddler Stage is here to help. It is aptly nicknamed The Toddler Manual because it truly has every single thing you could possibly struggle with under the sun, between the ages of one and six within one course.

Kristin [00:50:29]:

We're not going to do a bunch of workshops — you have to buy the sleep guide and the picky eater Guide and the this guide, and that guide, no. Everything you could possibly need for ages one through six is all in this one course.

Kristin [00:50:41]:

We were never meant to do this parenting thing alone. You deserve to have help. We are here for you. You can find that course at biglittlefeelings.com. And be sure to follow us on Instagram and Facebook at Big Little Feelings. We give free tips every single day. They might change your life with one free tip.

[Music Playing]

Deena [00:51:01]:

Thank you so much for being here with us. This has been an Audacy Production, executive produced by This has been an Audacy Production executive produced by Lauren LoGrasso, produced by Daniela Silva, edited by Bob Tabbador, and theme music composed by Liz Fall, and studio lighting design by Shane Sackett and designed by Jackie Sherman.

Deena [00:51:21]:

Special thanks to Audacy Executive Vice President and Head of Podcasts, Jenna Weiss-Berman. And thank you for being here with us, we can't wait until next week.