

Shmanners 155: Lavish Parties (LIVE!)

Published March 13th, 2019

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Travis: Hey, Teresa. What do we need to do before part B?

Teresa: Partayyy!

Travis: It's *Shmanners*!

[theme music plays]

[audience cheers]

Travis: I was working so hard to mug through the audience as I pulled out your chair, I almost forgot to push it back in.

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: That could've been disastrous.

Teresa: I was ready for it, to scoot my own chair in.

Travis: [sighs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: Hello, internet, and New Orleans!

[audience cheers]

Travis: I'm your husband host, Travis McElroy.

Teresa: And I'm your wife host, Teresa McElroy.

[audience cheers]

Travis: And you're listening to *and* watching *Shmanners*!

Teresa: It's extraordinary etiquette...

Travis: For ordinary occasions. Hello, my dove.

Teresa: Hello, dear.

Travis: How are you?

Teresa: I'm doing well, thank you!

Travis: Tell me about how you've been.

Teresa: I've been, um, walking around—

Travis: We never talk anymore.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: —Canal Street, did enjoy. We visited the aquarium today.

Travis: We did.

[audience cheers]

Travis: Continuing our tour of the nation's great aquariums.

Teresa: [simultaneously] [through laughter] Great aquariums.

Travis: Every city seems to have one. They've all got fish.

[audience laughs]

[scattered cheers]

Teresa: That's—that's what Bebe likes.

Travis: It's, like, the perfect place to take a two-year-old, because there's so many things to point at. And there is nothing a two-year-old loves more than going, "[gasps] Oah—oah! Oh! Ah! What?"

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: And you're like, "Yeah, I know!"

[audience laughs]

Teresa: "I know."

Travis: "Fish."

We've also eaten a lot of great food.

Teresa: Mm-hmm.

[audience cheers]

Travis: That's the strongest crowd response I've gotten for one of the things a human being needs to live!

[audience laughs]

Travis: We also breathed a lot of great air!

[audience cheers loudly]

Travis: Ayy! Um, and enjoyed your open container laws.

Teresa: [through laughter] Yeahhh!

[audience cheers loudly]

Travis: And so, as we were talking about topics to discuss here, in [exaggerated southern accent] The Big Easy...

[scattered laughs]

Travis: Does it—no—we don't—that's not—

[audience laughs]

Travis: Here in—

Teresa: I'll take it—

Travis: —New Orleans. [laughs]

Teresa: I'll take it from here.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Um, I am—

Travis: More like The Big Sleazy, am I right?

[audience cheers loudly]

Travis: Okay, I'm done.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: I understand you guys have this party here called Mardi Gras?

[audience cheers]

Teresa: And it seems like y'all know how to party. So we thought we would talk about some other really great parties, because who knows parties better than y'all?

Travis: So we're gonna cover the 10 most lavish parties in history. Um, and this was inspired by a Mental Floss article that I really enjoyed. And before we start, I wanna ask you: what's the most lavish party you've ever thrown?

[pauses]

I'll answer. So—

[audience laughs]

Travis: —no, you can go ahead.

Teresa: No, please! I need to know, now.

Travis: One time in college, Brent and I made... I don't know, probably, like, 240-some Jell-O shots? And had a Jell-O shot party? And all the Jell-O shots were gone in the first 20 minutes?

[audience laughs]

Travis: And, like, we filled the refrigerator! We were like, "What a night th—oh! Okay, uh—[laughs] o—okay, cool!" but then, like, 15 minutes later everyone was, like, fall asleep drunk.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: So I don't know if that counts as lavish or just, like, the highest bell curve party ever? But I enjoyed it, because I got to go to bed at, like, 9 PM.

Teresa: [laughs]

[scattered cheers]

Travis: I did also—I don't know if this counts as lavish, but one time I threw a housewarming party when I had to work the next morning at Best Buy at 5 AM. And so everyone go there at 7, and at 8:30 I walked out of my bedroom in pajamas and said, "Get out!"

[audience laughs]

Travis: And everybody kind of looked at me like I was joking. I was like, "I have to wake up in six hours! Like, get out of my house!"

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: And they're like, "Why did you invite us over?"

And I was like, "I don't know, but leave!" [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Teresa: I—I don't think I've thrown a party like *that* before.

Travis: No. It takes... a certain level of lavishness to kick people out after an hour and a half.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: But at my college, we always threw, like, a fundraiser party called The Gala, where we would dress real fancy and, um... you know, schmooze with people who would give us money.

Travis: Ooh, nice.

[scattered cheers]

Teresa: It included a lot of performances, most of them pop musical based. Um, and—

Travis: Concert? You mean a concert.

Teresa: No. No. Like, there were several performance venues, and all of the classrooms were turned into performance areas, and so, you know, in one room we might do *Mamma Mia*. In the next room, they would do... I—I don't know.

Travis: *Rent*?

Teresa: *Rent*. I don't know.

[audience laughs]

Travis: That's just another musical I know.

Teresa: Like, excerpts, like, pop excerpts.

Travis: Okay. Hey, do you wanna talk about the things we actually—

Teresa: Okay, sure.

Travis: Okay. So anyways, that's our wild party history!

[extended scattered laughter]

Teresa: Aw, come on. Just stop wigglin'.

Travis: I can't! I have to pee.

[audience laughs]

Travis: No, I went before. I'm a good performer.

Teresa: Um, I do wanna say that this topic was not only inspired by New Orleans, but also inspired by a Mental Floss article. You know, complete transparency in—[laughs] in researching. Uh, so the first party I would like to mention was a crazy soiree held in November 28th of 1966 by—

Travis: Ah, a fine year!

Teresa: Mm-hmm. I was there. Weren't you?

Travis: Yes I was. I was only 23, but I remember it well.

Teresa: [laughs] Held by Capote! I mean, it's gotta be crazy.

Travis: Wait, Truman Capote?

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: Okay. Not Steve Capote.

Teresa: No.

Travis: Okay. You guys don't know Steve? Oh, that guy could party.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Um, it was held in the Plaza Hotel in New York City, and everyone was required to wear a mask. Ooh! You guys know about that, masquerade balls, right? Um, but then here's the thing. Uh, the guest list was so impressive that it was published in the New York Times. So even though everyone was masked, we all know who was there.

Travis: So it was literally to probably, like, "Can you believe all these people were at one place?"

Teresa: Yeah!

Travis: Wow. Okay.

Teresa: "Check out this guest list! Ooh!"

Travis: I can't wait till I'm big enough that people are surprised I was somewhere.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Mm-hmm.

Travis: That's a certain level of fame that I aspire to. Like, "Travis left his house? Whoaaa!"

Teresa: "Whoaaa!"

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Um, and the cool thing about this guest list is it also included some of the citizens of Garden City, Kansas, where Capote did all his research for *In Cold Blood*.

Travis: Ahh.

Teresa: So, not only, you know, fancy people, but regular people got to go, too.

Travis: To make the fancy people look fancier!

Teresa: Yeah. Probably.

Travis: 'Cause if they're all fancy, is *anyone* fancy? I've been watching a lot of *Fancy Nancy* with my two-year-old, and I think that—I think *Fancy Nancy* is about classism.

[extended laughter and applause]

Teresa: Checkin' another children's program off the list?

Travis: Can't watch that one anymore!

Teresa: Can't watch that one anymore! Hmm.

Travis: They literally—I just saw a whole episode—[through laughter] it was called, I believe, "Viva la Revolución"—

[audience laughs]

Travis: —and I was like, "Whoaaa!"

[pauses]

Lot to unpack.

Teresa: [simultaneously] *Fancy Nancy* is about "Power to the People."

Travis: It really is. "Down with the proletariat, my dog!" She has a dog—it's not—her dog's name is Frenchie. It's not important.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Um, goin' back a little further, in June of 1923, there was a celebration to commemorate Stravinsky's composition, "Les Noces." Uh, the Ballet Russe—

Travis: Spanish for "The Nacho."

[audience laughs]

Teresa: No.

Travis: It's not Spanish *or* "The Nacho," is it?

Teresa: No.

[audience laughs]

Travis: It's probably Italian for "The Night," isn't it?

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: I'm gonna go.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Um, so—Igor Stravinsky—you've probably heard some of his compositions in elevators.

Travis: It goes like, [melodic beeping]—you know.

Teresa: No.

Travis: You know the one.

Teresa: "The Firebird." You've heard it. I'm sure you've heard it. Anyway...

Travis: I mean, I've been watchin' Little Einstein too, so yeah, I probably heard it.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Probably! That's a good children's program.

Travis: Yes.

Teresa: We like it so far.

Travis: Yes. Well... wait till I can read something into it.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Um, and this was an all-night party on a barge along the Seine.

Teresa and Travis: Oooh...

Teresa: So cool. And it was so awesome because they hosted ballerinas on the bow of the ship, just, like, dancing and pirouetting and stuff.

Travis: And they only lost two.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Nope. Well... I don't have any reports of them losing anyone. Stop spreading lies.

Travis: Okay. Wink!

[audience laughs]

Teresa: If you are a fan of our show and you listened to the recent episode—well, somewhat recent—about Amy Vanderbilt—

[scattered cheers]

Teresa: —you'll know—[laughs quietly] you'll know that at the beginning, we thought we were talking about different Vanderbilts.

Travis: Correct.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Uh, the famous ones, the really rich ones. Um, and one of their things that they did is they threw a party—uh, basically a housewarming, for Alva Vanderbilt's new house. But the thing is, the reason that they built the house and had the party—

Travis: That they Vander-built the house. Go on.

[pauses]

[extended laughter and applause]

Teresa: Alright, you can clap for that. That was good.

[audience cheers]

Travis: Thank you. Thank you very much.

Teresa: Great job.

Travis: Thank you. I'm gonna go! [laughs]

Teresa: [laughs] The reason that they had the party for the house that they built in New York was because they weren't famous in New York yet.

Travis: [gasps]

Teresa: Uh, so they—this was—

Travis: We didn't have Twitter yet.

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: So nobody knew how to find out about anything.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: So, uh, in order to enter into high society in New York, that's what they did. They built a house and had a party and invited everyone. Well, except for the two people who, um, had determined that year's "The 400," which was the list of 400 people in fashionable New York society. Guess who wasn't on it? The Vanderbilts.

Travis: Or me.

Teresa: I mean, no, 'cause you weren't alive, but it was in—

Travis: [loudly] That's no excuse!

Teresa: —1883. [through laughter] So...

Travis: I think my fanciness ripples backwards through time. Everyone knows who *I* am, and I go places sometimes!

Teresa: Like time travel through 1883!

Travis: Yes! Yes, I might! You don't know!

Teresa: Yeah, I do.

Travis: I might've already have—will have done it!

[audience laughs]

Teresa: So, the way that they rectified this is, um, the Vanderbilts basically invited everyone except for those two people.

Travis: So, wait. Did they get bumped off their own list?

Teresa: Yeah!

Travis: [gasps] Wow, that's the coldest—I can't curse! That's the coldest stuff I've ever heard.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: So—and then, uh, the daughter of Mrs. Aster was so mortified that she had not been invited to this party of the century that the Vanderbilts were throwing that, through the grapevine, they asked Mrs. Vanderbilt, "Well, why didn't you invite them?"

And the answer was basically, "Well, they've never come to call on me, so they can't come to my party."

[scattered cheers]

Travis: There's a lesson there. I don't know what it is.

Teresa: The next day, guess who left their calling card at the Vanderbilt house?

Travis: Me?

Teresa: The Asters!

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: So, they were promptly invited after leaving their calling card.

Travis: Hey, can we bring back calling cards? Can we bring that back?

[scattered cheers]

Travis: That's just such a cool thing—it's like—you know when someone leaves some kind of specific thing at the scene of a crime they've committed, except the crime was, "I didn't wait."

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Sure.

Travis: Yeah.

Teresa: We would have to leave our houses in order to do that, though.

Travis: Ooh... Can I tweet my calling card?

[audience laughs]

Teresa: You work on that.

Travis: It would be a GIF... of Kermit the Frog, going "[yells]"

[audience laughs]

Teresa: [holding back laughter] Moving on to the actual—

Travis: "Oh, Travis was here, I see!"

Teresa: —to the actual party. There are some famous artifacts that are left over from this party, one of which being Alice Vanderbilt's electric light dress, that you can visit—

Travis: What, *what?!*

Teresa: —at the Museum of the City of New York. So, what it is, is uh, in the typical, uh... fashion of the time, it's a very straight front bodice dress, with a

large bustle, that is covered in electric light bulbs that actually lit up! And this is 1883!

Travis: So, wait. Was there... a cord for the dress, that had to be plugged in? You would think, right? They did—

Teresa: I'm not exactly sure.

Travis: Unless she was dragging a car battery behind her!

[audience laughs]

Teresa: I don't know how it works. I've just seen it, and it's gorgeous.

Travis: "Hey, Alice! Come in here!"

"Uh—I can't! You all come in here!"

Teresa: [laughs] I don't know. I don't know how it worked. It's a mystery. Edison knows, 'cause he designed it.

Travis: Oooh! Not *Thomas* Edison. Steve Edison.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: [laughs] Way to bring it back around, honey.

Travis: Thank you!

Teresa: Um, and another thing that is very famous about this party was a certain hat that, uh—

Travis: Electric light hat.

Teresa: —no.

Travis: And a certain orchestra!

[audience laughs]

Teresa: That, uh—[laughs] ohhh! Yeah...

Travis: Electric Light Orchestra. It's a band!

[audience laughs]

[scattered cheers]

Travis: Children!

Teresa: That your parents might know about.

Travis: But your parents are gonna love it.

Teresa: [laughs] Uh, it's a certain hat—

Travis: I've thought about for a long time having a time travel thing where the person goes forward in the future and plays, like, Ariana Grande song, and all the kids are like, "This sucks!" And they're like, "Yeah, but it—your parents are gonna love it." And then they get booed off stage.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Anyways... don't steal that, please.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: This hat, though? Um, it was... a taxidermied cat that she wore—

[audience gasps]

Teresa: —on her head? [through laughter] And she even had seven cat tails sewn into the dress!

[audience groans]

Travis: Now, that would be fun if she also had, like, a little stick that came down that could make it go like, "Reow!" and pop up—

[audience laughs]

Travis: —and then she could go, "Shh! Shh! Please don't scare him."

"Reow!"

[audience laughs]

Teresa: No. No.

Travis: You don't—okay. That would almost be worth it.

Teresa: No. [pauses] No.

Travis: A little bit?

Teresa: As far as I know, this hat does not survive, but there are lots of—

Travis: No, it was a dead cat!

[audience laughs and applauds]

Teresa: Yeah. There are lots of pictures of it. Go look it up. It's real gross.

[theme music plays]

Travis: Hi there, everybody! It's Travis!

Teresa: And Teresa!

Travis: And you're listening to this, and this was—oh, listen, here's the thing: it's about to get weird and time travel-y, 'cause we recorded this, the live show, like, a month ago, and we're recording *this* on the 6th to air the week that we're on the cruise. So, like, we're all over the place!

Teresa: We're super timey-wimey this ep.

Travis: Indeed! But you're listening to this—it is our live show, as I said, for Birmingham. Thank you to everybody who came out to that, and thank you for listening. We're currently on a boat, uh, enjoying the JoCo Cruise—

Teresa: Well, not currently.

Travis: No, not now.

Teresa: At the time of this—

Travis: When you're listening—yes.

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: Oh—okay, yes.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: And we're gonna do some thank you notes for our sponsors, but first we want to let you know a couple things. One, next week is gonna be the Max Fun Drive! And if you've never been with us during the Max Fun Drive before, it's a super exciting time that is both your opportunity to support the shows you love on MaximumFun.org, and also our opportunity to give you a bunch of bonus episodes and rewards for supporting, and just basically say "Thank you for supporting us." All that stuff. You're gonna—

Teresa: Make sure that you follow @shmannerscast on Twitter, because we do a lot of Twitter activity. Twi... Twi—

Travis: Twi-tivity? No.

Teresa: Twi-tivity. No?

Travis: That's not it.

Teresa: That's not it?

Travis: No. No. We'll find it.

Teresa: We do a lot of Twitter activity during the Max Fun Drive, and it's lots of fun.

Travis: Um, also, we've got some live shows comin' up. We're gonna be in Salt Lake City and San Jose, California with *My Brother, My Brother, and Me* and *The Adventure Zone*; and *Shmanners* will be performing at some of those.

We're gonna be... let me see. San Jose is April 2nd and 3rd, and then Salt Lake City is April 4th, and if you go to mcelroy.family and click on tours, they are up at the top. You'll find that.

Also at mcelroy.family, click on "merch" and you can see our super cute new *Shmanners* tote bag! Uh, so go check that out! Um, but now, it's time for our thank you notes to the sponsors.

We wanna tell you about Squarespace. I know what you're saying. "Travis, Squarespace *again?*"

Yeah, that's right. Because a little birdie told me that maybe some of you have been thinking about making a website, but for some reason you haven't used Squarespace yet.

And listen, I don't wanna break our Shmannerly protocol, but I have to say, what are you doing?! I know we don't usually judge—

Teresa: [snorts]

Travis: —but if you're thinking about building a website and you haven't checked out Squarespace yet, come on! You can turn your cool idea into a new website. You can blog or publish content, sell products and services of all kinds—all kinds of stuff on there!

If you wanna make a website dedicated to your dog and call it, like, I don't know, buttercupisaverygoodgirl.com, you can do that on Squarespace.

They have beautiful, customizable templates created by world-class designers. They have a new way to buy domains and choose from over 200 extensions, so you can make a website that ends in .pizza. Yeah, you heard me right: .pizza. And they have analytics that help you grow in real time, and 24/7, award-winning customer support.

So make it stand out: stand out with a beautiful website from Squarespace. Check out squarespace.com/shmanners for a free trial, and when you're ready to

launch, use the offer code "shmanners" to save 10% off your first purchase of a website or domain.

Teresa: *Shmanners* is also sponsored in part by Quip! Quip is a better electric toothbrush, created by dentists and designers.

Here's the thing, y'all. It's hard to know exactly how long you're really supposed to brush your teeth, and when to switch, and how to—I gotta tell you, without that timer on the Quip toothbrush, I am way missing the mark as far as two minutes goes.

Um, but it's really great to know that Quip's sensitive sonic vibrations have that two-minute timer with 30-second pulses, and the brush heads are automatically delivered on a dentist-recommended schedule every three months, for just \$5.

So, like, there's—there's always one on the way, and you don't have to worry about, "Oh, have I changed my toothbrush lately?"

I know that sometimes—I feel like when I get sick, I forget to change my toothbrush, but this is, like, one of the things that keeps you sick. If you keep using that sick toothbrush, you're gonna keep givin' it to yourself. So change those brush heads, and Quip will help you do it!

Quip is backed by over 20,000 dental professionals, and Quip starts at just \$25, so that when you go to getquip.com/shmanners you can get your first refill pack for free, with a Quip electric toothbrush.

One more time: for your first refill pack free, at getquip.com/shmanners.

Travis: We also have a Jumbotron this week. It's for Danny, and it's from Elise.

"Hi, Danny! It's me, Travis McElroy. If you're hearing this in March, happy birthday! And if you're hearing this after April 14th, Elise is so lucky and happy to be your wife. You're going to be amazing when you start your NPH program in the fall. You're going to have a great day today, and I love you very much! I—I mean, *Elise* loves you very much!"

That's very nice.

Teresa: I always love the love.

Travis: Okay! And now, enjoy the rest of our live episode!

Teresa: [to audience] Another famous party took place in 1972, called the Surrealist Ball. And I mention this next—

Travis: And it never happened.

Teresa: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Teresa: I mention this next because it has something to do with cats! Um, so there was a long, winding path made with a ribbon throughout the hedge in front of the house where they had it. And, um, there were butlers lining the path, dressed as cats! And these cats—

Travis: But why?!

Teresa: Well, it was very difficult to find your way through, with the ribbon, so these cats would pretend to be sleeping, and then wake up to lead lost guests to the entrance.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Okay. While—

Teresa: That's surreal!

Travis: Yeah, no. While that's interesting, I don't see how that helps make it easier to find your way through.

"Oh, are you—are you havin' a hard time? Okay. Go wake up that cat person, *obviously*. I shouldn't have to tell you that. You've been lost in a hedge before."

[audience laughs]

Teresa: I mean... it's the Surrealist Ball. That'd be pretty surreal.

Travis: It kinda sounds like a furry party!

[audience laughs and cheers]

Travis: Which I would go to.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: I mean...

Travis: The fact that they didn't have the cat butlers—the catlers—

Teresa: [wheezes]

Travis: —play with—play with the ribbon... frustrates me. Like, I might invent time travel just to go back and like, [imitates sound of kicking a door open] "[yells] Let them play with the ribbon!"

[audience laughs]

Travis: "[yells] Now I have to go save Kennedy!" [imitates sound of a door closing]

"[yells] *Which* Kennedy? [normal volume] That's up to you." [imitates sound of a door closing]

[audience laughs]

Teresa: [flatly] Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: We'll go back and tell 'em—

Travis: [simultaneously] That's the most cutting response you can give to any joke I ever—"Yeah."

[audience laughs]

[pauses]

Teresa: Okay. So, moving on. Here's a party you may have heard of. Um, Malcolm Forbes' 70th birthday ball.

Travis: Forbes like the magazine?

Teresa: Yeah! Um—

[single loud cheer]

Teresa: Okay!

Travis: Oh! A fan of the magazine, here!

[audience laughs]

Travis: Malcolm?!

Teresa: So, um, he gave himself a 70th birthday party in Tangier, where he owned a palace, and he flew 800 guests in on Boeing 747s and a Concorde and, um—

Travis: [quietly] A pterodactyl...

Teresa: Maybe. But it included, um, you know, half a dozen US Governors, rich and famous from the United States *and* France, scores of CEOs—people like Henry Kissinger, and Barbara Walters, and Robert Maxwell, and Elizabeth Taylor, who was his, quote, "date" for the evening.

Travis: Ooh.

Teresa: Yeah. It was pretty cool.

Travis: I don't have a joke for that. I'm just jealous.

Teresa: Um... it was a multiple-day event, and so everyone—

Travis: Like *my* birthday parties!

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: Probably not the same.

Teresa: Probably not the same.

Travis: No.

Teresa: Um, you had a weekend pass that you had to show and get signed in with, because there were so many events. Um, and there—I guess it was so good that he died three months later!

Travis: [gasps]

[audience gasps]

Travis: I don't know if "good" is the word I—maybe, like, "I can't top it!" Or just, like, "[dejected tone] Ah, I can't top it."

Teresa: Yeah... I mean, he must've gotten all his wiggles out. He was ready to go. [laughs wheezily]

[extended audience laughter]

Travis: Take that *long* nap!

Teresa: Yeah...

Travis: That's what I think of death.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Um—

Travis: Hey. Where are *you* gonna go after you die?

[audience laughs]

Travis: Oh, how many people this is your first time listening to *Shmanners*?

[audience cheers]

Travis: We talk a lot about afterlife planning.

Teresa: No, we don't.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Please—no, we don't. [quietly] Please [unintelligible]—[sighs]

Travis: We've locked the doors. I can't make that joke again. Okay!

Teresa: Here's a more recent lavish party. Um—

Travis: My birthday.

Teresa: No. One day, honey! Fine! I will throw you an enormous birthday party.

Travis: Thank you very much.

Teresa: Get off my butt!

Travis: Thank you. I would like catlers there.

Teresa: Yes, you will.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: And this party—

Travis: But this time, cats dressed like butlers!

Teresa: Oh ho ho!

[audience cheers and applauds]

Teresa: What a twist!

Travis: Twist! And don't wake 'em up! They're cute!

Sorry. Sorry.

Teresa: You're scaring the cats. Don't yell so loud.

Travis: Sh—that would be great if you came in and there were just cats everywhere and you're like, "Shh... just stand here."

[audience laughs]

Travis: "It's *their* party."

[audience laughs]

Teresa: This party reminds me of—are there any *Parks and Rec* fans out here?

[audience cheers loudly]

Teresa: This is like the real life "End of the World Party," because in 2006, Google's Holiday Party in San Francisco, 10,000 people were invited. Um—

Travis: Two came.

Teresa: It took Google five days to set it up and, like, decorate and stuff, because there was an entire room devoted to wigs. So just, like, a wig room. I'm thinking shrimp wall. [laughs] So, like, a wig room. You could try on your wigs and take pictures.

Uh, there was DayGlo basketball that you could play during the party? Uh, there was a disco room. There were flamenco dancers, and a roaming mariachi band.

[audience laughs]

Travis: I'm pretty sure that that's redundant, 'cause I've never seen a mariachi band stay in one place.

[audience laughs]

Travis: They start to vibrate.

Teresa: True, true, true, true, true.

Alright, I have one last party for you. This is another holiday party. It was thrown in 2000 in London by the Bloombergs. This is where we get that gag that you may have seen on television and movies of the sushi served on naked models.

Travis: Oh! The weirdest way to eat!

Teresa: The weirdest way to eat *raw fish*!

Travis: I would say the weirdest way to eat anything!

Teresa: Well—

Travis: —if somebody said, "Have a sandwich, off this person—"

Teresa: But at least it's cooked! Like, you're touchin' it and stuff.

Travis: I don't see what that has to do with *anything*! If you had said, "Hey, here's the most cooked thing. Also, there's a person underneath it, surprise!"

[audience laughs]

Travis: I'm not saying it's—listen. If you're into eating something off someone else? That's yours. That's fine. If I showed up to my friend Ted's party and he was like, "I ran out of plates, so..."

[audience laughs]

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: "I forgot to run the dishwasher, so I just called around to see who was free."

Teresa: Yeah. Uh, this party cost—

Travis: [derisively] *Ted*.

Teresa: —over a million dollars to throw. They had based it on the seven deadly sins, so the event had—

Travis: Cool party! Why—why not just say, "We hate poor people!"

[audience laughs]

Teresa: I think they did. Quite often. To each other, probably.

Travis: Yeah. Oh, definitely.

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: As—as they ate every meal off of *someone*. And just said, like, "By the way, uh, plate? I hate you."

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Um, there were 10 bars, one of which only served truffles and sweets for gluttony, right? Um, as well as—

Travis: That's not what you eat when you're a glutton!

Teresa: Truffles?

Travis: It should just be Oreos! Just giant piles of Oreos dipped in things!

Teresa: Fried Oreos?

Travis: Whatever! Di—Oreos in cheese! [bleep] it, you're—oh, I cursed—!

Teresa: [gasps]

[audience shouts, some scattered cheering]

Travis: 15 years of *Shmanners* and that's my first warty dird.

Teresa: [laughs] We just edit out all this.

Travis: Yeah. You won't—listen. When you listen to this back, you'll know.

[audience laughs]

Travis: "What did he say?"

Teresa: Um, there were neck massage stations, manicure booths, a sushi bar—

Travis: Wait. What sin is *manicure*?!

[audience laughs]

Teresa: [clicks tongue]

Audience Member: [distantly] Vanity!

Teresa and Travis: Vanity?

Travis: No. Wrong.

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Um, cab—

Travis: Maybe sloth, 'cause the whole time I'm thinking, "Eh, I could do this."

[audience laughs]

Teresa: [laughs] Uh, cabaret, a casino, drag queens, and live bands.

Travis: Wait, what sin is live band?!

[audience laughs]

Travis: Except, like, "Oh, I wasn't expecting this! It suddenly got really loud!"
But don't think that's a *sin*?

[audience laughs]

Travis: [pauses] *Is* it?

Teresa: I think they just provided the backdrop for the sinning.

Travis: Oh, okay. That makes a lot more sense. They were just there, like, "[loudly] We're not part of this! Anyways, here's 'The Devil Went Down to Georgia' or whatever."

[audience laughs]

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: "I didn't write the set list, folks! They paid me a lotta money."

Teresa: The one that I would like to highlight, though, is the "Lust" room.

[audience ooh's]

Teresa: Which included a 25-foot-wide bed.

[single loud cheer followed by scattered cheering]

Teresa: Covered in purple satin.

[audience cheers]

Teresa: There's some *Wolf of Wall Street* stuff going down on there.

Travis: [loudly] That's gross!

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: Listen. If you wanna do that in your own home, that's fine.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: What I'm saying is, if I showed up to a party and they said, "We're gonna put our coats in here, and if you wanna grab some drinks they're over in the fridge, and also, [loudly] here's the 25-foot bed! *Wink, wink!*"

I'd be like, "I'm leaving!"

[audience laughs]

Travis: "But I actually am tired, so I'm gonna take a nap."

Teresa: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: Oh, that's the most luxurious nap. To sleep in the middle of a 25-foot bed? Think of all the flopping you could do in there! Oh... that's the dream!

Teresa: They were counting on some flopping, [through laughter] that's true.

[audience laughs and cheers loudly]

[cheering gets louder, applause]

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: I don't wanna do this show anymore.

Teresa: [through laughter] We might have to edit that one out, too.

Travis: Yeah, that's... I might just put a long beep, and then a big reaction?

[audience laughs]

Travis: That's gonna do it for us, maybe forever.

Teresa: [laughs] So, at the lavish party that I throw you—

Travis: And I mean our—our marriage. [laughs]

Teresa: —for your birthday—

Travis: Uh-huh?

Teresa: You *don't* want a 25-foot bed covered in satin?

Travis: No! I would like just *my* bed, to sleep in.

Teresa: [through laughter] Okay, okay.

Travis: I think that's, like, a lavish—you know the song "Splish-splash, I was takin' a bath," right?

[audience laughs]

Teresa: Mm-hmm.

Travis: You know how, like, that person's in the bath and then they wake up and there's just a party in their house? I would like that, but I'm napping, and there's no party.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Because I have a child now... and I just wanna sleep, uninterrupted, for two hours. Oh, how lavish that would be!

[audience laughs]

Travis: Alright, that's gonna do it for us! That's gonna be the end of this episode. Thank you all for coming out for our live show—

[audience cheers and applauds loudly]

Travis: Now, after us we've got some newcomers comin' out to the stage. Uh, wha—uh—*Sawbones* is one of 'em, and then—

[audience cheers]

Travis: —a couple—a various number of brothers? I don't know. It's weird. Um, but we wanna say thank you to MaximumFun.org for hosting *Shmanners*, as well as most of our podcasts.

[audience cheers]

Travis: Um, we wanna say thank you to The Orpheum, and—

[audience cheers]

Travis: —thank you to Paul Sabourin, who, uh, is—

[audience cheers]

Travis: —helping with the tour. Thank you to New Orleans, for being great.

[audience cheers]

Travis: Uh, who else do we normally thank?

Teresa: We always thank Brent "brentalfloss" Black for writing our theme music, which is available as a ringtone where those are found. We also thank Kayla M. Wasil for our Twitter thumbnail art. You can follow us @shmannerstcast on Twitter, and we also thank Keely Weis Photography for our cover banner for the fan-run Facebook group, called *Shmanners* Fanners, which you should join.

Travis: Um, and that's gonna do it for us, so join us again next week!

Teresa: No RSVP required.

Travis: You've been listening to *Shmanners*...

Teresa: Manners, *Shmanners*. You get it.

[audience cheers]

[theme music plays]

[chord]

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[music plays]

Announcer 1: Welcome back, and thank you, Dan, for that scathing report. As you know, Max Fun Drive is coming up, March 18th to March 29th, which has

some folks pretty excited; but as families around the world get ready to celebrate this season of giving, community, and quality podcasts, *some* are wondering if it's just too much.

Announcer 2: Are they, though?

Announcer 1: They are. Some people are all for comedy and culture, but with 45 shows offering hundreds of hours of bonus content, plus all the Max Fun meetups taking place around the world, some people think it's too much.

Announcer 2: While *other* people think it sounds totally awesome.

Announcer 1: I took my granddaughter to the mall to get her picture taken, and the mall pod fairy was short, and I, you know, I'm just gonna say it, I'm sorry, but everyone knows the pod fairy is tall!

Announcer 2: Well, I think we should just leave it there. [laughs uncomfortably]

Until next time, here's the news you need to know. Max Fun Drive runs from March 18th through 29th. Be sure to listen to all of your favorite podcasts. I know I will!

[music plays]

Paula: Hi, I'm Paula Poundstone!

Adam: And I'm Adam Felber!

Paula: Adam, I haven't gotten one thing done today.

Adam: Well, let me see your to-do list. Ah! Yeah, well, here. "Make 30-second promo for *Nobody Listens to Paula Poundstone*," so at least you're getting that done!

Paula: Score!

Adam: Except you haven't said what the show is about.

Paula: We're like a comedy field guide to life, starring me and you! I give useful advice, and we have real experts to talk about things like how to keep a friend, or what to do when you encounter a bear!

Adam: Bully for you! But you haven't said where people can find the show.

Paula: Oh! MaximumFun.org, or wherever you find your podcasts!