

Shmanners 289: Krampus

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Travis:

Hey, folks. It's your husband host, Travis McElroy here. Just a quick content warning: in this episode we talk about, uh, some like psychological stuff with kids, and scaring them to behave and everything like that, so if that's something that you would rather not listen to, uh, we totally understand and feel free to skip this one.

Kramp-you.

Teresa:

Kramp-me?

Travis:

Kramp-us!

Teresa:

It's *Shmanners*.

[theme song plays]

Travis:

Hello, internet. I'm your husband host, Travis McElroy.

Teresa:

And I'm your wife host, Teresa McElroy.

Travis:

And you're listening to *Shmanners*.

Teresa:

It's extraordinary etiquette.

Travis:

For ordinary occasions. Hello, my dove.

Teresa:

Hello, dear.

Travis:

[singing] It's beginning to look a lot like Krampus. Um, so, it's the holidays.

Teresa:

It is the holidays.

Travis:

We can't avoid it. We can't avoid it. We sta— Hanu— Hanukkah started. Wait, by the time this comes out, is Hanukkah over?

Teresa:

No.

Travis:

What day is it? What time is it? Who am I?

Teresa:

[laughs heartily]

Travis:

Um, we've got some of our decorations up, tasteful, I would say only two inflatables.

Teresa:

Uh, okay. All right.

Travis:

What? Is it... Okay, is it not tasteful? Yesterday somebody came over and said, "Wow, Travis really overdid it," and I was thinking like, "There's so little compared to how much I want."

Teresa:

[Laughing] I think that's it. I think that's it. There is so little compared to how much you want.

Travis:

This is... Okay, this is a big problem for me in general. This happens too like when I go grocery shopping—

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Travis:

Or like present shopping, anything, where I feel like I'm exercising a great deal of restraint, and then whoever, usually you [laughing], that sees it next is like, "This is too much," and I'm like, "But you don't see what I *didn't* get."

Teresa:

[Laughs] That's true. I have, I have a question for you. Um, I let BB do a majority of tree decorating.

Travis:

Yeah.

Teresa:

Did your parents, growing up, let you guys do that or was your mother a little more, um, [reluctantly] exacting?

Travis:

Uh, we had, uh, uh, I think that there was like a set of decorations that's like, "These are the kid decorations." My mom definitely was the type of person who like styled the Christmas tree, that there was like a theme to it.

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Travis:

Where it was like a lot of, as I've said before, country kitchen, right? Where there were ornaments that looked like little cookies on a baking pan, and there were a lot of like apples as the ornament and a lot of things like that.

But then there were also a lot of like handmade ornaments that, you know, we had made over the years or like specialty ornaments, you know, that we had bought cause we liked the thing. So it was like there was an overall theme to it, for sure, but it wasn't like, if it doesn't fit the theme, it doesn't go on the tree, right?

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Travis:

It was just the majority of the decorations had been purchased like as a set or like as a thing.

Teresa:

Yeah.

Travis:

But no, Mom wasn't exacting at all. I mean, there were... I will say this. There was, because, you know, having lived in the same house for, you know, what? 21 years before my mom passed, there was like, "That goes there on the mantel. That goes there in the window."

Teresa:

Yes. Yes.

Travis:

But it wasn't like, "Who moved the thing?" If anything, uh, there was where she had little blocks, wooden blocks that spelled out "Noel," that we would often rearrange to spell "Leon" or because of the way the L was shaped, "Joe..."

Teresa:

[giggling]

Travis:

[Laughing] Uh, often. And then just hide the N or flip the N upside down and make it say like "Uloe" or whatever, and see how long it would take before she noticed, cause it was like up in a windowsill. That, that kind of thing.

Teresa:

Well, see, I asked because I have a sneaking suspicion that although my mother encouraged us to help with decorations, she went back and rearranged afterwards.

Travis:

Well, I will say I did hear you numerous times just be with decorating go like, "Well, you can't... No. Those are the same and you put them on the same bra... nah, that's right next to each other." And here's the thing, I don't fault you for that cause like, why put two ornaments right next to... That was weird. I did like at one point cause we have some birds that go on the tree and she hung up like, I think, a dove next to an owl, and you said, what? "That's a bird of prey." Like, completely like, "They can't be next to each other. The owl will—"

Teresa:

[Laughing] I did say—

Travis:

"—attack the dove."

Teresa:

I did say that. [Laughing].

Travis:

What's funny is like I care a lot about where the decorations go in the house.

Teresa:

Yeah.

Travis:

And then for the tree, I was just like, "I don't know. Whatever." [Laughing]. "I don't care." No, who cares about the tree? It's about the mantel. Okay.

Teresa:

Okay.

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

We are gonna talk about Christmas business.

Travis:

Christmasness.

Teresa:

Christmasness. Christamismess.

Travis:

Christbiz. Christbiz.

Teresa:

Um, so, what do you know about German monsters?

Travis:

Hmm.

Teresa:

Hmm.

Travis:

Uh, well, I know about Och Ness.

Teresa:

Okay.

Travis:

And, you know, that's not, because it's like, Loch Ness but I said 'och'.

Teresa:

Oh.

Travis:

No, wait, that's Ir... That's Scottish? Uh—

Teresa:

I don't—

Travis:

I don't know anything.

Teresa:

No, you did a bad... That's bad—

Travis:

I, It's surprising 'cause I'm a cryptid person.

Teresa:

Yeah.

Travis:

Big fan of cryptids.

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Travis:

And I can't tell you about like a specific German monster. Is Krampus...
Krampus is probably German.

Teresa:

Krampus is a German monster. And here's the thing. It's kind of like for, for every darkness, there is a light, right? For every—

Travis:

Sure.

Teresa:

You know, on one side is the candle, on the other side is the, is the dark.

Travis:

That old chestnut.

Teresa:

Well, I've heard that. Should I—

Travis:

Sure.

Teresa:

Uh, so...

Travis:

I've heard it's always darkest before the dawn, which is a lie. It's darkest in the middle of the night, 'cause right before dawn is when the sun is coming up.

Teresa:

But, but that's when dawn starts, right after the darkest point. It only gets lighter from there.

Travis:

Wait, so you're telling me th—that there's two phases to nighttime, and it's dawn and not dawn, that there's no—

Teresa:

No, there's, there's the sun rising and the sun setting.

Travis:

Yeah, but in between those is probably the darkest part, right?

Teresa:

Right. Yeah.

Travis:

When the sun's furthest away. But then it doesn't... It's not like the sun is farthest away and then dawn starts.

Teresa:

Yeah.

Travis:

Oh my gosh. Okay.

Teresa:

The sun is farthest away, that is the farthest away point that darkness—

Travis:

Dawn is when the sun comes up!

Teresa:

No. Dawn is the day beginning. So 12:01—

Travis:

No. Incorrect.

Teresa:

Is the fir... Is getting brighter.

Travis:

No, dawn is sunrise.

Teresa:

No.

Travis:

Yes.

Teresa:

Mm-mm [negative].

Travis:

Yes.

Teresa:

No.

Travis:

Well, so you're telling me when someone says, "I got up at the crack of dawn," they mean 12:01 AM?

Teresa:

[Laughs]. No.

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

But they do mean before it was fully light.

Travis:

Okay, but hold on. But you're telling me—

Teresa:

I think we might have gone—

Travis:

We're off track. Yeah.

Teresa:

Too far.

Travis:

Okay. Hey, tweet at us @shmannerscast and tell my wife she is wrong.

Teresa:

[laughs loudly] All right.

Travis:

For once. For once—

Teresa:

Anyway.

Travis:

She's wrong.

Teresa:

This mythical figure, Krampus, goes back centuries, dating all the way back to pre-Christian alpine traditions. Uh, meaning like a lot of things Christmas. Krampus really isn't related to Christmas at all.

Travis:

No.

Teresa:

Uh, was orig... He was originally a creature of the winter solstice.

Travis:

Of course. Yes.

Teresa:

Uh, and we know this. The pagan mythology. Uh, that, you know, is the Yule log, is kissing under the mistletoe.

Travis:

Right.

Teresa:

Is the Christmas tree, are all originally pagan traditions that were rebranded for the Christian holiday.

Travis:

Well, and, okay, so now I'm also connecting like the Christmas tree is very Germanic as well.

Teresa:

Yep.

Travis:

That was brought over by Prince Albert.

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Travis:

Um, and this... I think that makes sense though because like I don't remember it being like, and baby Jesus was there and the three wise men brought presents and Krampus hung out, right? Like it makes sense that that was not a part of, you know, the original Christmath.... Christmas story.

Teresa:

Ah, Christmath.

Travis:

Mm. I have a speech impediment.

Teresa:

[Laughing]. All right. During the fourth century BCE—

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

Um, many Germanic tribes were forced, being forced to acclimate to the Christianity that the Romans brought with them.

Travis:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Teresa:

Right?

Travis:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Teresa:

Um, and the tribes. So like the goths.

Travis:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Teresa:

If you, if you have heard of the Shakespearean...

Travis:

Yeah, not the mall goths.

Teresa:

No, no, no.

Travis:

Not the Hot Topic goths.

Teresa:

The, the Shakespearean goths.

Travis:

Yeah.

Teresa:

There's the goths, there's the English, there's the Moors, there's all—

Travis:

In Titus Andronicus, they're the, uh, the, bad people, I don't know. Everyone in Titus is pretty bad.

Teresa:

[Laughing]. Is pretty bad. All right. Uh, so, during this time of massive forced conversion, pagan tradition found a safe haven in the small villages in the Alps where, you know, the Church couldn't get to them.

Travis:

Yeah.

Teresa:

And Krampus was one of those things.

Travis:

They kept Krampus safe.

Teresa:

They did. In, in the caves in the Alps.

Travis:

Yeah, and in our hearts.

Teresa:

Um, so, around the eleventh and thirteenth century in there is where the legends of the Krampus start to crop up among, uh, parts of Southern Germany and parts of Austria, and, um, it began to gain popularity in Bavaria.

Travis:

Mm, where the pretzels are from.

Teresa:

Indeed.

Travis:

And mustard. And probably a lot of other stuff too.

Teresa:

A lot of other stuff.

Travis:

Yeah.

Teresa:

Uh, the lederhosen—

Travis:

Uh-huh.

Teresa:

I believe is from there.

Travis:

And the early hosen.

Teresa:

Ah. You are all over the place.

Travis:

Listen—

Teresa:

Bouncing off the walls today.

Travis:

I know.

Teresa:

Um, so, like a lot of things that kind of grow in isolation from a common, a common seed—

Travis:

Yes.

Teresa:

There are lots of different names for Krampus. Uh, we have the tale of the Night... Knecht Ruprecht... Rocked. Knecht—

Travis:

Knecht Ruprecht.

Teresa:

Sure. There's a lot of extra consonants in there that I don't think I'm doing right.

Travis:

Yes.

Teresa:

Um, Pelznickel.

Travis:

I, wait, sorry?

Teresa:

Klaubauf.

Travis:

No, sorry, say it one... Uh, go back.

Teresa:

Pelznickel.

Travis:

Pelznickel.

Teresa:

Pelznickel.

Travis:

I like that one a lot.

Teresa:

Klaubauf.

Travis:

Uh-huh.

Teresa:

Um, but they're all versions of Krampus, right?

Travis:

Sure, sure, sure. But I just really like Pelznickel.

Teresa:

It's a good one.

Travis:

Cause that also kind of sounds like something you might say if you stub your toe.

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Travis:

But you're around kids, so you don't want to curse. So it's like, "Ah. Pelznickel." I feel like you weren't really in that moment with me.

Teresa:

No. I was—

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

No. I didn't get it.

Travis:

Like you stub your toe and say, "Pelznickel." It's not important.

Teresa:

But... Okay. Anyway. Uh, so he shares some common physical characteristics amongst all of these different names. Uh, usually hairy—

Travis:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Teresa:

Covered in brown or black fur.

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

Uh, he has cloven hooves.

Travis:

Sure.

Teresa:

And the horns of a goat.

Travis:

Yeah.

Teresa:

Uh, he's often shown carrying chains or birch branches, and he almost always has like big fangs and like a pointy tongue, right?

Travis:

Right, cause his job is to like punish the bad kids, right?

Teresa:

Indeed. Indeed. Uh, and it says a lot about the time in history when he was created. Um, so you can... So his appearance—

Travis:

Yeah.

Teresa:

Is almost a perfect match—

Travis:

To the devil.

Teresa:

To... Exactly. To the Christian depiction of the devil.

Travis:

To El Diablo, Satan.

Teresa:

Mm. Yeah. And he's, you know, usually depicted—

Travis:

Old Scratch. I'm trying to think of other... Beelzebub. Uh...

Teresa:

Lucifer?

Travis:

Yes.

Teresa:

He was long rusty chains. Again, common in Christianity, in Christian symbols. Um, and that's kind of like the devil, the sign of the devil that is bound to the Church, so again.

Travis:

It makes me wonder though because like if we're talking about like the appearance of the devil, right? The horns and pitchfork thing.

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Travis:

That wasn't like... Jesus wasn't like in the Bible being like, "Watch out for this dude. He's red and he has a pitchfork. He's a bad guy." Right? Like, that was definitely something that came later. And I wonder if it was influenced by this thing, much like we've talked about great Christian rebrand in general, of people who were like, "What's your scary dude look like? Yeah. That's what my scary dude looks like too."

Teresa:

Yeah. That's right. Um, so, his entire job was to punish the naughty children who didn't behave during the year.

Travis:

Yeah.

Teresa:

Um, you know—

Travis:

That's good... Can I just say, uh, his methods, I'm sure were pretty messed up, but I've always thought that Santa's whole thing of like, "I'm going to give you coal" was pretty weak.

Teresa:

Yeah.

Travis:

Like, yeah, that kid, you know, I don't know, burnt down the gas station. "Yeah, he gets coal." Come on, Santa. Come on.

Teresa:

[Laughing]. So, um—

Travis:

Not enough, and especially if that kid is like a blacksmith and has a coal forge. That's a gift, my man. He's going to use that.

Teresa:

Let me paint you a picture.

Travis:

That's how he burnt down the gas station, because he was blacksmithing too close. Okay. Sorry.

Teresa:

Right.

Travis:

I just brought, I just solved the case. [Laughs].

Teresa:

You did.

Travis:

That case has been cold for years and I solved it.

Teresa:

Great job, Encyclopedia Brown.

Travis:

Thank you.

Teresa:

All right. Here it is.

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

If Krampus is coming for you...

Travis:

[softly gasps]

Teresa:

...this is what happens. First, you hear a, a bell.

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

A sickly, piercing, wailing bell echoing throughout the streets of your hometown.

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

You flee back to your home.

Travis:

Right.

Teresa:

You stuff your face under the covers.

Travis:

Sure.

Teresa:

Hands cover your ears.

Travis:

Yeah.

Teresa:

But you can't halt the inevitable.

Travis:

No.

Teresa:

As the bells become louder and louder.

Travis:

Yeah.

Teresa:

Getting closer and closer.

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

You begin to hear the penetrating grating of gigantic rusty chains.

Travis:

Sure.

Teresa:

Drug over the cobblestone in front of your house.

Travis:

Oh, no.

Teresa:

You hear the snap of a birch branch.

Travis:

Ooh.

Teresa:

The only problem is now it sounds like it's directly next to your ear.

Travis:

Oh, no.

Teresa:

Krampus is suddenly in your bedroom in a burst of hellfire, towering over you with his disgusting tongue.

Travis:

Sure.

Teresa:

Unfurled between his salivating fangs.

Travis:

Cool.

Teresa:

Using the birch, switch and the chain, he beats you senseless.

Travis:

Oh, no.

Teresa:

And just when you think it's over, he grabs you roughly with his long, sharp claws and throws you in his sack.

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

He flings you over his shoulder and then drags you off to the Underworld, where you'll meet an even more sinister fate than just your beating. After he drags, you kicking and screaming all the way down to Hell, he forces you to act as his servant.

Travis:

Bummer.

Teresa:

Until you repent.

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

Or possibly forever.

Travis:

Now, hold on. Not to poke holes in the Krampus story—

Teresa:

And that, and that is if he doesn't decide just to eat you.

Travis:

Okay. Here's the thing. Here's the problem with the Krampus story. Just not to poke holes, but you would think that if you're a kid, right? And you know like Tom next door has been real bad this year.

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Travis:

Right? And then Christmas, the, like, the 26th, Tom is still there and neither eaten nor in Hell, then it's like, "Wait a minute. Hold on."

Teresa:

Obviously, he repented.

Travis:

Right away?

Teresa:

Yeah, right away. All this terrible stuff could be avoided.

Travis:

So, when Krampus is reaching for you and you're like, "Oh, I'm so sorry." And he's like, [sighs] "Ah, okay."

Teresa:

[laughing]

Travis:

"You got me. Go back to bed."

Teresa:

Obviously, this was all to scare children into obedience.

Travis:

Yes, obviously.

Teresa:

Obviously. Um, and—

Travis:

Which, I, I just want to go on record and say, not great. Not great.

Teresa:

No!

Travis:

Like, "Hey, if you are bad, a large, horned, cloven-foot man is going to come into your room and hit you with a chain and possibly eat you." That could have some lasting effects on a child's psyche.

Teresa:

It's psychological torture, is what it is.

Travis:

Yeah. Yeah.

Teresa:

So, now that we have that out of the way...

Travis:

A word from some other Max Fun shows. Is that what you were going to say?

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

[theme song plays]

Pee-wee Herman:

Hello. I'm Pee-wee Herman. You might know me from TV, but I really want to be a DJ. It took some convincing, but KCRW finally agreed to give me an hour on the radio to play you some music with my friends. [Laughs].

Anyway, tune in for one hour of the bestest, most funnest time you'll ever have on the *Pee-wee Herman Radio Hour*. I am personally inviting you to tune your transistor radio in to hear me or go to KCRW.com. Duh. [Laughs]. It'll be available for the whole week, from November 26th to December 3rd. So you can listen to it again and again and again and again and again! [Laughs].

Speaker 2:

The Pee—wee Herman Radio Hour was produced by Maximum Fun and can be streamed on KCRW.com until December 3rd.

[Max Fun ad ends]

Travis:

Okay. So, Krampus just ate a kid. Now what?

Teresa:

Well, now...

Travis:

That, I think that, as you said, to balance the light and the dark, I think it should be explicitly part of the Santa Claus myth, that he doesn't eat you. Like, they should say explicitly, "And then he comes down the chimney and leaves you presents and doesn't eat you."

Teresa:

"Doesn't eat you."

Travis:

To the point where a kid's like, "Hey, why do you keep stressing that he doesn't eat me?"

Like, "Oh, well there's this other guy who definitely does eat you."

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Travis:

"What?"

"What? Don't worry about it."

Teresa:

[Laughs]. Now, so that was between like around the 11th and 13th century, right? In there.

Travis:

Mm. The good old days.

Teresa:

And then kind of dies out for a little bit because—

Travis:

Krampus dies? Spoiler.

Teresa:

No, no, no.

Travis:

Oh.

Teresa:

The myth dies out because of—

Travis:

Wait, so Krampus isn't real?

Teresa:

More of the great Christian rebrand, right?

Travis:

Oh, sure.

Teresa:

Um, but he comes back with a vengeance.

Travis:

I love that movie.

Teresa:

[Laughs]. Because of the Brothers Grimm.

Travis:

Oh, sure. Sure, sure, sure.

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Travis:

They went around collecting stories to make sure that like folktales and stuff stayed, uh, you know, in circulation.

Teresa:

Right. Um, you know, he gets a, he gets a shoutout in their Germanic folktales. Uh, so he's kind of made into, um, a compendium of German mythology.

Travis:

Sure.

Teresa:

Uh, and it turns out at this point in the nineteenth century he turns into kind of a celebrity figure.

Travis:

Sure. Yeah. Okay.

Teresa:

He even got his own holiday. Um, and now—

Travis:

Probably around Christmas, right?

Teresa:

Yeah, yeah. Close to it.

Travis:

It's not like in the middle of July or something.

Teresa:

No.

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

Um, he was so popular at one point, there were holiday Krampus cards.

Travis:

Yeah.

Teresa:

Sold right next to the Saint Nicholas cards.

Travis:

Were they like, "Hey, I hate you"? Like, what did they say?

Teresa:

Um, well, I don't know if I can accurately describe this picture, but here's one.

Travis:

Oh, boy. Oh, boy!

Teresa:

So there are two doll-like children, uh, one of whom I have to assume was naughty and is being stuffed into a sack.

Travis:

Sure.

Teresa:

And the other child, I suppose was nice. She has a bushel of apples. Um, and Krampus pretty much looks like a goat man.

Travis:

Yeah. I think it's also worth noting, just to say fairly explicitly, there is also very clearly, if I may, that there's definitely some, um, I don't know, uh, uh, coded racism in this that we should mention.

Teresa:

Oh, yeah. Definitely.

Travis:

That like when you look at that Krampus and just like the coloring of his skin and fur, is very much like, "It's bad, right?" Yeah.

Teresa:

Yeah. Um, so, he again waned again, when Nazi Germany, uh, was, was part of a thing. Um, because—

Travis:

Speaking of racism, go on.

Teresa:

[Laughs]. Yeah. The Nazis condemned Krampus as a socialist.

Travis:

Huh. Okay. Sure.

Teresa:

I don't...

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

Mm.

Travis:

I mean, if anything, it's Santa, right?

Teresa:

Sure.

Travis:

But, I, I actually, maybe I don't know anything about socialism [laughing]. I mean, may— maybe I'm, uh, talking about something I have no idea about.

Teresa:

So, now, um, he is, he's back in the limelight.

Travis:

Yeah. There have been like movies about him of late.

Teresa:

Movies, TV, uh, you know, there's comic books, t-shirts, all, all of this stuff, right?

Travis:

Sure.

Teresa:

Um, here's the holiday. Krampust... nacht... nacht. Or—

Travis:

Sure. Krampus Night.

Teresa:

Krampus Night.

Travis:

Yeah.

Teresa:

Uh, December 5th because December 6th is Nikolaustag. N—Ni... Nikolaustag. There it is.

Travis:

Nicholas Day.

Teresa:

Saint Nicholas Day.

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

So on the eve of December 5th, children leave their shoes out before they go to sleep and when they wake up in the morning—

Travis:

Krampus has farted in them. [Laughs].

Teresa:

Uh, they—

Travis:

Oh.

Teresa:

Will either find candy and coins from Saint Nick or a birch rod which is a warning from Krampus to get themselves together before the Christmas holi—holiday.

Travis:

Oh, I see. So this is your written warning.

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Travis:

Yeah, okay.

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative]. Mm-hmm [affirmative]. Mm-hmm [affirmative]. So people all over celebrate this kind of holiday in a, in, you know, in a—adult wacky ways. There are feasts and parades and lots of drinking.

Travis:

Sure.

Teresa:

Um, because you, it's said that you should always offer Krampus a drink of orange schnapps to appease him if you ever cross paths.

Travis:

Sure. Man, Santa gets the short end of the stick, huh? He's just getting milk and cookies while Krampus is getting orange schnapps.

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Travis:

Ah.

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative]. So, you know—

Travis:

Hey, this Christmas, leave out some orange schnapps for Santa Claus. He'll appreciate it and it'll be fun to see the sleigh zigzagging across the sky.

Teresa:

[Laughing]. Uh, there's now a Krampus run, uh, where—

Travis:

Sure.

Teresa:

A bunch of people dress as Krampus and get drunk and run around singing songs and parading and scaring their friends.

Travis:

Okay. Sure. Sure.

Teresa:

Yeah, uh, so, you know, en—enjoy a nice, ridiculous Krampusnacht.

Travis:

But just don't Krampus anyone's style.

Teresa:

Eh. And you know, just in case, do your chores.

Travis:

Uh, so, bit of a short one, but a very fun one. Krampus, huh? Okay. So, thank you, everybody for joining us for this week. Thank you, Alex, our researcher without whom we would not be able to make this show. We really, really appreciate you. And we appreciate our editor, Rachel, without whom we would not be able to make this show. And we appreciate you, the listener, without whom we could make the show, but why?

Teresa:

[Laughs loudly].

Travis:

What would be the point? I guess we could take it out back, bury it and then dig it up in 10 years and be like, "Huh, were we ever so young?" But that's a weird thing to do.

Teresa:

Yeah.

Travis:

So, thank you for listening. Thank you for telling your friends if this was a fun episode, and I think it was. Maybe, uh, tweet about it or email it to a friend or burn it onto a CD and hand it to somebody or encode it in a wax cylinder. Whatever. However you want to share your podcast, please do. Uh—

Teresa:

I think it's fairly obvious that I've lost control at this point.

Travis:

Oh, oh, yeah. I think that was obvious years ago.

Teresa:

[Laughing]

Travis:

And, uh, you can follow us on social media at @Shmatterscast on Twitter. Uh, you can find us on MySpace, uh—

Teresa:

No.

Travis:

Krampuslover69.

Teresa:

[Laughs] Stop it.

Travis:

Okay.

Teresa:

Stop it.

Travis:

Okay. We want to say thank you to Max Fun—

Teresa:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Travis:

Our podcast home. Uh, check out all the other great shows there. Uh, you can also check out all the McElroy projects at McElroy.family and go check out McElroymerch.com, uh, for some new merch out this month, and it's a perfect place to order some stuff for your friends and family for the holidays. What else?

Teresa:

Indeed. 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. Uh, and that again is at Shmatterscast. Uh, thank you to Bruja Betty Pin Up Photography for our fan-run Facebook group cover picture. Uh, if you love to give and get excellent advice, join that group, *Shmatters Fanners*, today. Um—

Travis:

And that's gonna do it for us.

Teresa:

And that's gonna do it. Yeah.

Travis:

Yep. Okay.

Teresa:

That's it.

Travis:

And that's gonna do it for us. Join us again next week.

Teresa:

No RSVP required.

Travis:

You've been listening to *Shmanners*.

Teresa:

Manners *Shmanners*. Get it?

[theme song plays and ends]

[chord plays]

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