

Shmanners 312: Regency Balls: Attendees

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[theme music 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. Oh, no.

[soda can opens]

Travis: You know what that sound means?

Teresa: That's a grip it and rip it.

Travis: It's time to party.

Teresa: [laughs] We are, uh, gonna get you ready for the ball this evening.

Travis: Yes I am. Just like in the Regency period, I'm having a White Claw.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: Just like the finest ladies. Am I Lori Chattington? Is that it?

Teresa: Yes, you are.

Travis: That's correct. So, if you missed it, last week we also talked about Regency balls, hee hee hee, and basically, uh, last week we covered... what, Lady Quality?

Teresa: Yes.

Travis: And Lady Quality was throwing a ball for her son, Quincy Quality.

Teresa: Mm-hmm.

Travis: Because Lady Quality needed Quincy to get married and get out of the house.

Teresa: That's right.

Travis: And this episode— in that episode I played Lady Quality, throwing the ball. And this week, I am Lori Chattington, the daughter of Cathy Chattington, who's a real Chatty Cathy. But I am the most eligible bachelorette. Right? For Quincy.

Teresa: For Quincy, yes.

Travis: That is at least what Lady Quality hopes.

Teresa: Yes.

Travis: There's a rich fiction here. This is— can I just say?

Teresa: Yeah?

Travis: I know this is— we're still in the beginning stages, but I'm gonna say, I think this is better than *Downton Abbey*.

Teresa: Oh, is it?

Travis: Yeah. I think the— oh, what's that? [gasps] I just heard from the critics! They agree.

Teresa: Well, *Downton Abbey* was an entire century later, so...

Travis: Yeah, that's why this is better. We got there first.

Teresa: That's why this is better.

Travis: Yeah.

Teresa: This is more like *Bridgerton* or *Pride and Prejudice*.

Travis: Yeah. This is better than all of those.

Teresa: All of those?

Travis: Yeah, put together.

Teresa: Okay.

Travis: Yeah. First things first. I'm gonna go... get my nails done.

Teresa: No.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Teresa: Uh...

Travis: That's what I would do.

Teresa: Your nails should be trimmed close and clean but there's no, like, doing it.

Travis: There's no polish?

Teresa: I mean, no. Nail polish isn't really a thing for a lady of your stature.

Travis: Eventually it would be though, right?

Teresa: I mean, I guess so?

Travis: Like, when was nail polish... [hesitantly] instituted?

Teresa: Invented?

Travis: Sure.

Teresa: I mean, there— people have always had, like, paint and stuff. Like, ancient Egyptians painted their nails. But, like...

Travis: When you picture Lori Chattington, what do you picture?

Teresa: Okay. Uh, for the ball we will go over the specifics of the time.

Travis: No, no. I mean her as a person. What am I like?

Teresa: What *are* you like?

Travis: I think I'm probably smarter than Quincy, right? I think that's one of the reasons Lady Quality is hoping I will marry Quincy.

Teresa: Okay.

Travis: 'Cause I am a— this is Regency, right? So it's the expectation that I'll fix him. Um, that was still okay and not at all sexist. I mean, it was sexist, but they didn't know better. And so I—

Teresa: Or they didn't care.

Travis: Or they didn't care. I seem stable and smart. Uh, I'm wise beyond my years. I'm mature.

Teresa: Okay.

Travis: And I'm also bangin'.

Teresa: Alright, well—

Travis: Absolutely smoke show.

Teresa: Not so much of that really matters. But are you rich?

Travis: Oh yeah.

Teresa: Okay.

Travis: Uh, and you know what we've got? Land.

Teresa: Okay. So you are land rich. That's old money.

Travis: Yeah, Lady Quality is rich.

Teresa: Yes.

Travis: Uh, but the thing is, it's not as established as the Chattingtons. We're an old family.

Teresa: Okay, okay. And so you are in London for the season because your father is a Lord—

Travis: Yeah, Lord Chattington.

Teresa: —and he presides in the House of Lords.

Travis: Absolutely, yeah.

Teresa: Okay. Alright. I don't think you would be technically a Lady yet if your father is still alive.

Travis: No. Lady Quality is the Lady.

Teresa: Lady Quality. But you're not—

Travis: I'm just Lori Chattington.

Teresa: You're just Lori.

Travis: Physicist.

Teresa: [laughs] Nope.

Travis: No?

Teresa: No. You could be... you could be accomplished. That means, um, that you read, you play instruments, you—

Travis: The cello.

Teresa: —write...

Travis: Was the cello a thing for ladies then? I don't know.

Teresa: Not really.

Travis: Flute. I'm a flautist.

Teresa: Sure, you—

Travis: No! Violin.

Teresa: Oh.

Travis: Violin, definitely. And harp. Both of 'em.

Teresa: And harp, okay. Um—

Travis: And chess.

Teresa: You— okay. I don't— I don't really know if chess is one of the things that was expected, but you could paint.

Travis: I definitely paint, and archery. I do all of it.

Teresa: All of— all of it.

Travis: I'm unstoppable. And animal husbandry.

Teresa: Uh... hmm, not really.

Travis: And home brewing.

Teresa: I think that you might have—

Travis: Yeah?

Teresa: So—

Travis: I went too far?

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Alright.

Travis: And I'm an assassin!

Teresa: No.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Alright. So, on the day of the ball, you would wake up at dawn.

Travis: Okay. Just a reminder, folks at home, this ball's starting at, like, 9 PM, right?

Teresa: Yes. But you live at least two hours away from the site. So you will need to leave your home two hours before sundown in order to get there early enough to not be, um... so we had the ball scheduled for the week of the full moon, right? And it's—

Travis: Right, so we have the natural lighting.

Teresa: —and it's supposed to be clear skies tonight. But we also want to make sure that we don't set off in the dark, right?

Travis: Yeah, no, yeah, no. Yeah!

Teresa: So we want to try and finagle it so that you have good lighting for the travel. So you want to be ready to go once the carriage is ready, is the thing.

Travis: Now, with the two-hour distance, am I staying there, or no?

Teresa: No.

Travis: We're going back in the morning?

Teresa: Mm-hmm.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Um, okay.

Travis: I guess two hours isn't that far by carr— like, distance-wise, by carriage. That's probably pretty standard, huh?

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: Okay. Am I getting ready before we leave?

Teresa: Yes.

Travis: Okay. So I'm not rolling out in, like, a sweatsuit, and then I'm gonna get dressed once we get there?

Teresa: Nope. They didn't have those.

Travis: Sweatsuits?!

Teresa: Nope.

Travis: Aw, man.

Teresa: Um, okay. So... you will receive a morning cup of tea, and cheese on toast.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Teresa: Uh, because you'll be expected to sup later with your family, probably before you leave. So, breakfast with your family around 9 or 10.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Uh, but because you're up so early, you want to have a little food.

Travis: Yeah I do. Yeah I do!

Teresa: So you wanna make sure that you are clean, right? It's very important. You will have a pitcher and a basin.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Um, and you would have— they did bathe occasionally. It wasn't an everyday thing, but you wouldn't want— you would've had to bathe, like, recently, because you don't wanna do it all today, 'cause that takes a long time, right? 'cause you have to heat up the water, and don't really have indoor plumbing. Like, all that kind of stuff, right?

Travis: Sounds terrible.

Teresa: So... you would have done that recently, but not today. Today you're just using your pitcher and basin.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Um, and because you are, you know, of... of means—

Travis: Landed gentry.

Teresa: Mean, means, means. Uh, you have a wash ball. What do you think a wash ball is?

Travis: Huh. Well, I know what I want it to be.

Teresa: Okay.

Travis: I want to be, like, one of those big inflatable balls that you get inside and roll around but it's got, like, soapy—

Teresa: No...

Travis: No. A wash ball... is it like soap? Or—

Teresa: It is. So it's a particular very popular type of soap that would be large enough to fit in the palm of your hand. It's spherical, and it's floral scented.

Travis: Ooh, that's nice.

Teresa: Um, so you scrubby, scrubby, scrubby. And then, uh, you can start getting things ready. Now, at this point, you may have had maids help you dress.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Uh, there were a few things that were a little tricky. Um, things like your stays. Do you know what your stays are?

Travis: [hisses] Ooh... my stays. Those aren't, like, the ribbing, right? Of my—

Teresa: It is!

Travis: Yeah! The ribbing of my corset and whatever.

Teresa: At this point, corsets weren't really in fashion, because corsets were used a little later in the 19th century. Um, because they really affected the womanly shape, right? Um, stays were used as more of support, right? Think a wired bra—

Travis: Like an underwire, yeah.

Teresa: Like an underwire, plus a very, like, slimming tank top, right?

Travis: Sure.

Teresa: So it did go all the way from the armpit down to the hips.

Travis: Your foundations, right?

Teresa: Foundations, certainly.

Travis: Right, got it. But not like Spanx, right? was it like Spanx?

Teresa: I mean, no. Lycra wasn't invented at all.

Travis: But I mean the idea of it. Of, like, we're not changing the shape, we're just controlling... like, the lines? Is that the idea?

Teresa: I mean, yes.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Yes. Um, so you will need help with that, but you can do your makeup yourself, because it is very easy.

Travis: Yeah.

Teresa: Um, so the French Revolution a few years back really took a lot of makeup out of fashion.

Travis: Right. We started to frown on decadence.

Teresa: Right. Um, so more natural is more the thing, right? Um, so fair skin is all the rage for your social status, of course. Um, and so this pale skin came with it as a status symbol, um, showing that you didn't have a tan. Right? So you have pretty pale skin, being an indoor kid. Um, but you may want to accentuate that skin by painting on a pale blue vein.

Travis: Huh!

Teresa: Which you could put on your face, or on your décolletage.

Travis: I see. Okay.

Teresa: Um, and...

Travis: To show just how thin my skin is?

Teresa: Yep.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Thin and pale.

Travis: What if you ran out of blue and you had to do green?

Teresa: I don't—

Travis: That would've probably been pretty frowned on, right?

Teresa: Hmm, I don't—

Travis: Yeah.

Teresa: Uh, this veining trend was to make you appear translucent.

Travis: Okay. Got it. Gross.

Teresa: Sure. Um, and so then you may have a blemish that you need to hide. Just a singular, like, say, smallpox scar. Right?

Travis: Sure.

Teresa: Um, and at this point, the beauty patch is in vogue. Um, which could be as much as a small silk kind of circle, or as little as just using a pencil, a writing pencil or whatever else you would use for your skin, to just make a little beauty mark on top of it.

Travis: Okay. Got it, got it, got it.

Teresa: Um, a little eyeliner for your unsightly blemish.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Um, so next is your cheeks and your lips. Pink and red is always in fashion for cheeks and lips.

Travis: Well, it becomes a neutral in both makeup and nails? Is that right?

Teresa: I mean, yeah, eventually. Um, so you would have... in the 18th century people would have, like, really done it up with, like, bright colors and firm circles and things like that. But that's not what we're doing. More subtle is how we go in this time.

Travis: I wanna do it like tiger stripes. Or maybe like a unicorn face paint.

Teresa: No. No. No.

Travis: I'm a kitty!

Teresa: Uh, you could use powders, like a carmine or a senna root or vermilion, which is toxic by the way...

Travis: Yeah.

Teresa: Um, that would have been blended into a balm. Now, some were available commercially, but a lady like you... probably wouldn't have bought it. You probably would have made it, and by "made it" I mean had your maidservants make it. And this could be achieved by... there's a book that talks about this.

Uh, *The Art of Beauty* was written in 1825. So still, you know, still in fashion. Um, and you would have two ounces of honey, an ounce of wax, an ounce of silver litharge, uh, and myrrh.

Travis: That one doesn't sound great. Myrrh either. I don't know much about anything, but— that's a big, bold statement, isn't it? But I'm betting those last two are probably not great to rub on your face?

Teresa: It's a sulfuric compound.

Travis: Sure.

Teresa: Um, used in oil refining and to make batteries.

Travis: Okay. Cool, cool, cool.

Teresa: Uh, so then you would mix that all together over a low fire and add milk of roses or eau de cologne or some other perfume or whatever, right? To make it smell better.

Travis: I'm not wild— can I just say, in general, I know that there's, like, corrosive things, and you talked about, like, myrrh and vermilion and stuff. I'm also just not— there's something about the idea of putting honey, like, directly on my face that makes me think, like, "Aw, bugs." And, like, I'm really worried about that, right? Like—

Teresa: Mmph— I mean, it's not a lot of honey. This is not for a single application. It's kind of like a little pot that you would hold onto. And you gotta use something to make it stick on your lips.

Travis: I guess. It just makes me feel like when you eat, like, cake or a doughnut or something and you get icing on your face. And it's like, "Well, this isn't the worst thing, but I definitely, like, know it's there. I can feel it on my face, and hate it.

Teresa: Well, you don't wear a lot of lip gloss. But it feels very similar [laughs] to honey.

Travis: I guess that's true.

Teresa: Okay. So...

Travis: But I don't like the idea of lip gloss. Yeah, I have no problem with lipstick or balm, but gl— ugh.

Teresa: Yeah, it's pretty sticky.

Travis: Mmkay.

Teresa: this would've only taken you a little under an hour to perfect and apply and really take your time, and make sure that this is well.

Travis: And then selfies!

Teresa: Time for hair.

Travis: Oh, okay. Now, here's what I picture for hair, right? And maybe this is just based off of seeing, like, stage versions of *Pride and Prejudice*. But, like, pulled into a bun, most of your hair— like a pretty high bun. And then, like, two ringlets of hair coming down off the front.

Teresa: Okay. Not just two. You probably would've had a lot of ringlets, not just around the front but around your ears, kind of like to soften the sides of your face down around your neck.

Travis: That feels Grecian too. It feels like... yeah.

Teresa: Exactly. This is what they were trying to emulate, not only with the hair, but also with the dress that we're gonna talk later.

Travis: Very frolicky.

Teresa: Uh, you know, very... they called it classical, right? This was very neoclassical. Um, so...

Travis: And men's hair too. It was, like, short, and you had those little curls.

Teresa: Sure.

Travis: Right? That was very Caesar. You know, those tight Roman rings.

Teresa: And so you might also have a few braids or plaits... plaits, sorry. I read that. [laughs]

Travis: [stammering] I understood you meant.

Teresa: Braids or plaits. Um, and, you know, you might have thrown a twist in there somewhere. It should be back and up off your face, but it can be a little decorative. That's fine.

Travis: Now, if we're doing wigs, though, we touched on this last week, that's probably older generation. Probably, you know, trying to still flour— er, you know, do a flourish or two, right?

Teresa: And of marrying age, 15 to 17, you would not have worn a wig at this point.

Travis: Wow, that's a really horrifying just time— "Oh, of marrying age. You know, like, 15 to 17." [laughs] Hoowee. Okay.

Teresa: Yeah... um, okay. So... let's talk a little bit about the dress.

Travis: Oh, I can't wait. But first... how about a word from some other Max Fun shows?

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[ad ends]

[music plays]

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Kirk: You can find *Triple Click* wherever you get your podcasts, and listen at Maximumfun.org.

Maddy: Bye!

[music and ad end]

Travis: Okay. So, here's what I'm picturing for my dress.

Teresa: Okay.

Travis: Big shoulders. Big shoulder, plenty o' tulle, right? You know what I mean? Plenty o' tulle. And then, uh, maybe— and listen. This is where I'm willing to negotiate. I'm wanting cheetah print. But if all we have is, like, a zebra or a tiger or even giraffe, I'll take it. Not my fav. But I don't want the whole thing, right? I want some, uh, just tasteful areas of cheetah print, right? Maybe down the sides. Right? And then the rest of it is gonna be very, uh, I'm gonna say, very sleek black dress. Uh, not too high above the knee, right? 'Cause I'm trying to still go off the idea that I'm, you know, good marriage material, but I definitely wanna show off the gams, right? How close am I?

Teresa: You are way, way, away. We're talking miles away from what would have been—

Travis: [simultaneously] Okay, a little too fashion forward.

Teresa: —expected.

Travis: I get it. Okay.

Teresa: First of all, printed fabric, in the sense that, you know, screen printed, was not available at this time. It would've been hand-painted if you had anything on your clothes or embroidered. But anyway, that is not the style.

Travis: I was joking.

Teresa: Okay. [laughs]

Travis: You know that, right?

Teresa: I hoped so.

Travis: I started to see your face get more and more concerned as I was doing it. It's probably more like linen or a light cotton, right? And it's usually probably white with some— maybe some embroidery or ribbons or something for a thing. Fairly flowy. Uh—

Teresa: Okay, flowy. Yes. So we're thinking ancient Greek. So we're thinking toga-esque, right?

Travis: Uh-huh. But less shoulder.

Teresa: Less shoulder. So it would have been a square or shallow V-neck, because you do want to— uh, the breast was showcased in a kind of high situation.

Travis: Like "Hi!" or like—

Teresa: No. Like up— up high.

Travis: Oh, okay. Up high.

Teresa: Up high.

Travis: Not like "Hi!" [laughs]

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: "Look [mumbles]"

Teresa: Uh, thi— I mean, anyone who's seen any picture of *Bridgerton* will see that basically, like—

Travis: [simultaneously] You had, like, a boob bump up top, right?

Teresa: —way up there, yeah.

Travis: Right? Where it was even, like, you would push against so that you would have a bulge of breasts, some décolletage up there, right?

Teresa: There— not quite push against, but it was lifted, right? We're not talking about the higher corsets of, like— like the French, like, aristocracy thing where, like, basically we make everything flat so it all comes up. That's not it. They were supposed to be mounded.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: But very lifted.

Travis: Now, at this point was the, um... I'm trying to think of a delicate way to say this. But was the preferred— what was the— was it— was it, uh, small breasts? Was that in vogue? Was that the thing at this point?

Teresa: Um... as far as I can tell, all boobs are good boobs.

Travis: No, this is absolutely true. I am saying, just from the time period, was there a, like, "Oh, that's the ideal." No?

Teresa: No. No.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: All boobs are good boobs in this time.

Travis: Okay, great.

Teresa: Um, okay. So we—

Travis: Was this the— did the skirts start at the waist or the brea—

Teresa: Yes, empire waist.

Travis: Okay, great.

Teresa: Empire waist is what we are talking about, which starts right underneath thing breast.

Travis: Right.

Teresa: Um, so you have this kind of— we talked earlier about your stays.

Travis: Right.

Teresa: Right? And so you would want that to be, like, the slimmest part, right? Right underneath the breasts. That's where your empire waist would start. And then it would fall down very flowy, right?

Travis: Right.

Teresa: Um, so we're talking about things like silk or taffeta or organza, or things like that.

Travis: Oh, okay. So not quite as loose as, like, cotton or linen or—

Teresa: Well, I mean, that was everyday stuff.

Travis: Ohh, okay, I gotcha, I gotcha.

Teresa: We want the good stuff.

Travis: I see.

Teresa: Um, and it was very sheer and very delicate colors, especially for balls. I'm reminded of *Pride and Prejudice* with Keira Knightly where they have an all white dress code for the ball, right? That was very popular.

Travis: And was this the sleeves where it's poofy sleeves, but short? So it's, like, coming down to, like, mid-bicep, but it's, like, pretty, uh, ball-shaped?

Teresa: Yeah. Yeah. I mean, they could— or not. They were just short sleeves. There were all types of different shapes of the sleeve. But you would want short sleeves because you would be dancing.

Travis: Oh, and it's summer.

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah, okay.

Teresa: Um, okay. So... you have chosen powder blue for your dress.

Travis: I have?

Teresa: You have. Because this—

Travis: Am I blonde? 'Cause that would go well with blonde.

Teresa: Certainly, certainly. But it's more about...

Travis: 'Cause if I'm a redhead, I'm going for a light green. I think that's obvious, right?

Teresa: It's more about your complexion. You're renowned for your lovely, fair complexion. And so the blue really brings out the translucence of your skin.
[laughs quietly]

Travis: Okay. 'cause I, right now, Travis, with my color— well, not the purple, but the brown I naturally am, I would've gone a light yellow.

Teresa: Okay.

Travis: Right? 'Cause I think that that's gonna pop. I'm going for a Belle kind of look there, right?

Teresa: Sure.

Travis: I— it's just now occurring to me, I want you to know, all three of these... purely based on— and I didn't mean it on purpose— Disney princesses.

Teresa: Oh!

Travis: I went Snow— no, not Snow White. I went Cinderella.

Teresa: Okay.

Travis: And then I went Ariel.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: And then I went Belle.

Teresa: Very nice. Um, so a little bit more about the dress. Uh, you would have the skirt kind of gathered at the back with a little poof, and probably a short train that would've been pinned up for dancing.

Travis: But not, like, a bustle or a—

Teresa: No, no, no, no.

Travis: —a— the roll one that's not— that doesn't go all the way around, but it's—

Teresa: A bumroll.

Travis: A bumroll. But just like... a little bit of butt?

Teresa: Just— just a little bit. You want the hint.

Travis: The hint of butt.

Teresa: [holding back laughter] Of butt.

Travis: With just a [kisses fingers] hint of butt.

Teresa: Um, and so this is all evening wear. Um, during the day you may have seen where scarves or, like, kind of like lace triangles were kind of, like, tucked into dresses over top of your chest. Um, that would be a daytime look, not— not here.

Travis: But not here. The girls are out.

Teresa: That's right.

Travis: And now I've got a fan I assume, right?

Teresa: Yes, you would have a fan, and you would also have gloves. Uh, gloves were popular to be above the elbow, right? And you would have white leather gloves.

Travis: How am I eatin' hamburgers, then?!

Teresa: You would only be able to take them off to eat. And I don't think hamburgers are on the menu.

Travis: More like ribs?

Teresa: No. Remember white— white soup?

Travis: Oh, right.

Teresa: And various cold and cured meats.

Travis: Now, with the hair, am I doing any, like, feathers or bows or adornments?

Teresa: You could do— you could. You could do feathers, beads, you could do a tiara, you could do—

Travis: Bees?! Sorry, go on.

Teresa: A turban. Um, small things that would, like, accentuate the hair.

Travis: But this isn't, like, fascinator territory, right? I don't have a tiny hat on.

Teresa: Oh, you might.

Travis: Yeah?

Teresa: You could have had a tiny hat.

Travis: Ohh, I might wear a tiny hat.

Teresa: I mean, it wouldn't be like the tiny hat that you're thinking of, steampunk style.

Travis: No, I wasn't thinking of that. Maybe I was. [laughs]

Teresa: It would more be kind of a— it would look like a little bowl.

Travis: Ohh, okay. I know exactly what you're talking about. Okay.

Teresa: Yeah. Um, okay. So, you could wear a little bit of jewelry. Simple chain necklaces are in vogue. Also pearls. Um...

Travis: That would go well with my dress.

Teresa: That would go well with your dress. Little small drop earrings were appropriate for your age group. Um, so those could also be pearl, or most likely silver or gold.

Travis: I'm going to wear pearl earrings. I didn't want to, 'cause I'm a little self-conscious about my ears. Everyone else says they're beautiful, though. But I, Lori Chattington, am a little self-conscious about it. My mother bought me these beautiful pearl earrings, so I'm wearing 'em— wearing them to please her, and everybody is complimenting them. But it's not helping, right? 'Cause in my head, I know what my ears look like. You know what I mean?

Teresa: Uh, okay.

Travis: You get it, right?

Teresa: I get it.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: And then the last accessory is your reticule, which is a small bag.

Travis: Okay. Why... okay, a reticle— or— uh, I think that's something else now. Where in video games it's the little, like, crosshairs in the middle where you aim for it.

Teresa: Oh, reticule.

Travis: And so for some reason you said that and it made me think I was gonna wear... I don't know why my brain leapt to this... but a little monocle.

Teresa: [laughs] No.

Travis: It's just like, "I've got all this dress, and also... my monocle."

Teresa: No, it's a very, very small purse. It probably could only hold a few coins, maybe some smelling salts or a bouquet or something. Alright.

Travis: Okay. And an energy bar.

Teresa: So, this probably took you, with the help of your maids, two and a half hours or so, maybe a little less. Um, because your shoes were fairly simple. They're— you know, think ballet flats that we have now.

Travis: I was, yes.

Teresa: Um, and, you know, you— it's not a lot of layers. There's not a lot of stuff to wear, and it's summer, so you wouldn't have any stoles or jackets or anything.

Um, so now you just waitin'.

Travis: Okay. I'm gonna ask this question, and this is gonna reveal how little I know about time and history.

Teresa: Mm-hmm.

Travis: Photos?

Teresa: No.

Travis: No, okay.

Teresa: Mm-mm.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: No. You would use this time to do some reading, or writing your letters, or practice your music—

Travis: Why didn't I start getting ready later in the day, then?

Teresa: Because you had to be ready once the carriage was ready.

Travis: This is poor planning, frankly. [sighs] They didn't even have TV or nothing! I could be watching *Mentalist*, right? During that time.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: Lori Chattington dreams of the day. "Ah, if only there was a box in which I could watch a blonde man solve crimes simply by observing people well, and once he was psychic. Ah, those were the days."

And people would say, "Lori, what are you talking about? This is nonsense."

And she's like, "Someday. Someday there will be a mental person on TV." I'm really into *The Mentalist* currently.

Teresa: You are, it's true. Well, I would say that you are ready to catch Quincy Quality. You are— you are gonna—

Travis: There won't be much— if anything, he's catching me. I don't know that I wanna marry Quincy! I mean, listen. The title's there. It's great. His family is very prominent in London society. Right? And we're from— where did I say we were from?

Teresa: Cornwall.

Travis: Cornwall. So, like, I wanna get into London society? Like, mainstream London society. We're old money, we're old established, but we're not really core in the thing. But, like, I'm bringing most of it to the party! You know what I mean?

Teresa: I don't know if, uh— if that is how it would have been detailed to you.

Travis: No, but that's how I see it.

Teresa: Oh, that's how you see it.

Travis: I'm very smart.

Teresa: Okay.

Travis: Do I see anything— hey, this has nothing to do with the history. But do I see anything within Quincy that I'm like, "Ah, a diamond in the rough. When I marry this man, I will grow to love him and he will be a good partner."

Teresa: I'm gonna say that he is very kind, but dull.

Travis: Hmm. That's fine.

Teresa: Okay.

Travis: Right? Because I can make my own fun. I would much rather have that than a mean man who's interesting. You know what I mean?

Teresa: Sure, sure.

Travis: Dull is— that's fine, you know?

Teresa: Okay, great! You gonna catch him.

Travis: I mean, you say that like he's running from me! Right? I will allow him to catch me!

Teresa: [laughs] Okay.

Travis: I— I have self respect!

Teresa: Okay. In the time period, that is not the way it would have been described to you.

Travis: That's fine. But Lori Chattington don't chase no man.

Teresa: [through laughter] Okay.

Travis: You know what I mean?

Teresa: You're not— you're not yes-and-ing with my narrative, here.

Travis: Hey, I am, baby! I'm bought into it. It's that you have not done as much character work on Lori Chattington as I have. I have lived, ate, and breathed... Lori Chattington.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: For the last week.

Teresa: Alright.

Travis: Okay. Am I gonna get— do I— do I marry Quincy?

Teresa: So... you'll have to find out. If we do another one. I mean, we've done—

Travis: We should do a Regency marriage. Have we done Regency marriage?

Teresa: No, we haven't. Um, but you know, this is not the second one in this series, and we're gonna take a little break. We have some really great Pride biographies coming up. And so, you know, if you're interested in the conclusion of Lori Chattingham, um, and her beloved but droll love interest, you guys can tweet at us, @shmannerstcast. Tweet at us and let us know.

Travis: Next time, I wanna play Quincy.

Teresa: Okay.

Travis: And I wanna know what's required of, like, a Regency husband. I wanna go into the full planning of it, what making a life is out from under, let's be honest, my mother's wing. 'Cause I think once Quincy gets out there, he's gonna be a lot more interesting. I think a lot of his bad behavior is rebellious, right? And with a loving partner in the form of Luddy—[stammering]— Lori Chattingham... I think he's gonna flourish.

Teresa: Okay. Well, so that's one upvote for another—

Travis: It's a pretty big one!

Teresa: —another Regency installment. Um, but you know, we're gonna take a little break, because we have a few other things up our sleeves.

Travis: Uh, thank you everybody for joining us. So, right off the bat, I just want to say, if you are listening to this Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, I am currently in Phoenix, Arizona at Phoenix Fan Fusion, so come hang out, say hi. I'm gonna be around doing a bunch of stuff. There's, like, a panel, and photos I think, and signings and stuff. Anyways, go to PHXfanfusion.com/travismcelroy to get tickets, and I'll be tweeting out my schedule and all of that stuff.

Uh, we want to say thank you to Alex, our researcher, without whom we would not be able to make this show. Thank you to Rachel, our editor, without whom we would not be able to make this show. And thank you for listening. We could make this show without you, but why?

Um, thank you to Maximumfun.org, our podcast home. Thank you to me for being a member—

Teresa: To you?

Travis: What? Yeah!

Teresa: You're a member?

Travis: Well, thank you to me for being a member of the McElroy family, is what I was gonna say.

Teresa: Oh, I see, I see.

Travis: Yeah, so then our show is on mcelroy.family. 'Cause if I wasn't a member, you wouldn't be a member. That's not how that works.

Teresa: [laughs] That's true.

Travis: Um, yeah! Go check out all of the other shows there. Um, let's see. What else, Teresa?

Teresa: We always thank Brent "brentalfloss" Black for writing our theme music, which is available as a ringtone where those are found. Thank you to Kayla M. Wasil for our Twitter thumbnail art. That, again, is @shmatterscast. Thank you to Bruja Betty Pinup Photography for our fan-run Facebook group picture. Uh, if you love to give or get excellent advice, join *Shmatters* Fanners today.

Um, and, you know... thanks for really buying into this, Travis.

Travis: Hey, yeah, tha— wait. Babe? You are speaking my language.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: I love this.

Teresa: Um, also, in addition to tweeting at us with your Regency aspirations...

Travis: Hopes, dreams, yeah?

Teresa: Uh, please do continue to send in topic suggestions and idioms to Alex, and that email is shmatterscast@gmail.com. Uh, say hello to her. She reads every one.

Travis: And that's gonna do it for us, so join us again next week.

Teresa: No RSVP required.

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

Teresa: Manners, shmatters. Get it.

[theme music plays]

[chord]

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