

Shmanners 316: Lucy Hicks Anderson

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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.

Travis: No one can see it at home, but we were making intense eye contact that whole time. But we don't— oh no! She's crossing her eyes!

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: I'm— I'm lost. Hi, how are you?

Teresa: I'm alright.

Travis: Yeah?

Teresa: Yeah. I'm, uh... I'm in my loungewear today, which is millennial— or I guess... which is my generation's, uh, my grandmother's housedress.

Travis: Ohhh.

Teresa: Did your— did your grandma wear a housedress?

Travis: Probably. Yeah. I don't know. Listen, I joke about it all the time. I don't have a good memory.

Teresa: Aww.

Travis: Like, I picture— I picture— that's the thing is, like, if I had a memory of that, a specific memory, I could tell you. But it's like, "Yeah, that sounds right."

Teresa: Well, I mean, she mentioned housedress. I can't remember ever seeing my grandmother in a dress. She normally wore trousers.

Travis: Um, yeah. So, my grandmother was— both sides, I think, was very much a trouser, sit around, legs crossed, watched, uh— uh, watched a lot of stories. That was my mom's mom. And then my dad's mom, Nonny, is very much of the sequined, uh, flashy clothes, which I—

Teresa: The sequined blouse.

Travis: Yeah, which I very much enjoy. But that's not at all what we're talking about.

Teresa: I mean, it is a little bit.

Travis: It is?!

Teresa: So, we are talking today—

Travis: Because this is week four of Pride Month.

Teresa: Indeed, indeed, our final biography of Pride Month. We're t—

Travis: And next we move on to Wrath! And then Envy!

Teresa: You said you weren't gonna use that joke.

Travis: But then I did!

Teresa: You used that joke in our mic check, and I was excited. And then you said, "No, I'm not gonna use it."

Travis: 'Cause I wanted to surprise you again!

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: If I say, like, "Yeah, I'm definitely using that in the show," then it hit you. But it hit you this time, 'cause I said I wasn't doing it.

Teresa: You did. You did. We're talking about Lucy Hicks Anderson.

Travis: Okay. This— for the first time in a while, that's one of those names that I hear and I'm like, "That seems... periphery, vaguely familiar?"

Teresa: Well, I'm glad about that. That's good. Um, because she was one of the first openly trans Black women in the United States.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: She was a chef, a socialite, a businesswoman, and, I mean, frankly her life would make an amazing television drama.

Travis: How is it not?

Teresa: I mean...

Travis: Everybody's making television dramas these days! Come on! I'm looking at you... Hulu? And then also HBO Max, and Prime Video. Uh, maybe Netflix, but I don't think Netflix likes trans people very much, at least that's what I get from the way they keep hiring those comedians!

Teresa: Ooh.

Travis: Um, you know what? Is Quibi still a thing? Quibi, get in there.

Teresa: I think it— is it Tubi now [pronounced like "tubby"]?

Travis: What? There's no way that's how it's pronounced.

Teresa: No, there is—Tubi [pronounced like "tube-ey"]?

Travis: I thought it was Tubi [pronounced like "tube-ey"].

Teresa: Oh, okay.

Travis: There's no way it's Tubby, baby.

Teresa: [laughs] I don't know. It sounds like television, Teletubby.

Travis: Te— teletubby baby. I guess, but Tubi is like a tube... you know? Like the boob tube. Like tubes in a...

Teresa: No, I don't know.

Travis: That makes more sense. Also, I just said tubby baby and it made me really happy.

Teresa: [laughs] Okay. In 1886, Lucy Hicks was born in Waddy, Kentucky, which is a small, unincorporated town about 40 minutes east of Louisville. Um, she was assigned male at birth, but she knew very, very early, at a very young age, that was wrong. She never felt like a boy, and insisted on living her life as a young woman, and even gave herself the name Lucy.

Travis: It's a great name. When you hear the name Lucy, who do you think of first? Like, what's the pop culture character you think of?

Teresa: Um... well, first is Lucille Ball.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Teresa: And second is "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds".

Travis: Wow, okay, two I wasn't even close to.

Teresa: And maybe third is Lucy from *Peanuts*?

Travis: Okay. Can I tell what's wild?

Teresa: What?

Travis: First for me is Lucy from *Dracula*. Second was Lucy from *Peanuts*.

Teresa: [simultaneously] Ohh, Lucy Westenra. Okay, yeah.

Travis: And then third was Lucy from *Loud House*.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: But Lucy from *Loud House* is named after Lucy from *Dracula*. 'Cause she likes vampires.

Teresa: Ohh.

Travis: At least that's my assumption. But I didn't even come close to Lucille Ball. Anyhoo, not important.

Teresa: Uh, anyway—

Travis: It is important though, 'cause it's what I was thinking about, and I'm important.

Teresa: The term transgender didn't even exist in print yet.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Um, which I think is very important to mention, because Lucy was so certain of, you know, exactly who she was that it didn't matter that the term didn't exist.

Travis: Right. This wasn't like— she didn't need outside influence. She didn't need to read about it to know that truth.

Teresa: Exactly. Which goes to show the fact that, um, it's always been around. There have always been people assigned a different gender at birth than what they truly are.

Travis: Yeah. It's almost like throughout history, people who are uncomfortable with things like that write LGBTQ+ people out of history so that they can say this is a new thing, rather than accepting that it's always been the case, and maybe they are wrong.

Teresa: Indeed. I do want to point out that Lucy's mother was a little bit confused about what was going on, and so when Lucy was nine years old her mother took her to a local doctor named Dr. Jesse to see if there was anything wrong.

Travis: You think that was Dr. Jesse's last name or like a cool... like, "Just call me Dr. Jesse, man."

Teresa: I bet it was his last name.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Uh, responded "No, absolutely nothing is wrong with Lucy."

Travis: Yeah! Alright, Dr. Jesse!

Teresa: So, the doctor's advice—

Travis: In small town Kentucky in the late 1800's! Okay!

Teresa: The doctor's advice was to just let Lucy live the way she wanted to.

Travis: Oh boy! I didn't think I would ever say this sentence, but man, more people in the year 2022 sure could be like that small town doctor in the year 1880 or whatever.

Teresa: Um, so that means that she went by Lucy, she wore her dresses to school, she was educated with other girls, all that stuff.

Travis: Yeah, okay!

Teresa: And, like, you know, that's fantastic, that their family, their town, just let Lucy live truthfully, as she was always meant to live.

Travis: I mean, yeah. Ugh. This is now old Travis, where young Travis could just be purely positive. But now old jaded Travis is like, that's awesome! But it must also be acknowledged that the reason that is so awesome is because of how much that feels like an exception to, like, the biographies we tell and the stories we tell about people. Where it's just like, they knew at an early age, but no one around them accepted it, or they didn't feel comfortable being— whatever, right?

And so it is amazing to hear that Lucy was supported at such a young age and accepted at such a young age. And just, like, yeah, right? Not even like, "We're gonna make the choice to accept you," but more just like, everybody going like,

"Okay, cool." Right? Like, "That's fine." And that is awesome. But it also must be acknowledged, it's because it sounds like the exception to the rule.

Teresa: Yeah. So at the age of 15 she left school, which is not uncommon.

Travis: Sure. During this time period?

Teresa: Absolutely.

Travis: Kid's gotta work!

Teresa: And began to do—

Travis: Wait, so she was born— was it 1886? Was that it?

Teresa: Yes.

Travis: Okay, yeah. So this is also like, 1901, right? Yeah.

Teresa: Yeah. She left school and began to do domestic work to support herself. So she traveled through Kentucky to Texas, where she worked in a hotel.

Travis: That's a long travel! That ain't nothing.

Teresa: I know. And then moved on to New Mexico, continuing to do cleaning and cooking and other domestic work. And then in Silver City, New Mexico, she met her first husband, a man by the name of Clarence Hicks.

Travis: Hey, babe. Just gonna say right there, I love the foreshadowing whenever someone just adds in the word "first" in there.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: Right? It's like, didn't meet her husband. Met her first husband. Oh, okay!

Teresa: Oh, okay.

Travis: Oh, okay. Hey, spoiler alert! [laughs] I love that in biographies.

Teresa: They married in 1920, and then moved to Oxnard, California.

Travis: A great/fun city name to say.

Teresa: Indeed!

Travis: Oxnard.

Teresa: First, let me explain a little bit about this town in California.

Travis: Oxnard?

Teresa: Oxnard.

Travis: Yeah, go on?

Teresa: Uh, so—

Travis: If you're from Oxnard, I'm so sorry. Go on. It's just it's got nard in there? It's got nard in it.

Teresa: The town is about an hour and a half drive west from LA, and it was a very happenin', cool spot to hang out in the 1920's. So it has miles of sandy beaches, it's got a lot of great food and night life, and all the producers and directors and A-listers at the time loved the seaside town.

Travis: Sure, sure, sure. Everybody loves the nard.

Teresa: Um—[laughs quietly] not only for recreation, but also for work. These big sandy beaches were featured in, um— in a lot of films, so anytime they needed Egyptian deserts or European beach vistas, anything. Um, some big names who loved to take a break from the hustle and bustle—

Travis: [simultaneously] Tell me. Yeah, tell me.

Teresa: —Clark Gable, Charlie Chaplin, and John Wayne.

Travis: I know all three of those names. Those are people that existed... in the past, and they, I believe, if I'm not mistaken, made movies.

Teresa: Indeed.

Travis: Yeah. They loved the nard.

Teresa: And so many rich people considered it the destination outside of LA that it was called Hollywood by the sea.

Travis: That is— that's probably more fun to say than the nard.

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: That's the last time I'll do it, I promise.

Teresa: Okay, thanks. Alright. So, Lucy, living in Oxnard, was an award-winning baker, a skilled chef, and a trusted nanny for many families. She was a social butterfly in every sense of the word. She immediately immersed herself in the community, and before anybody knew it, Lucy was a staple in the Southern California town.

Travis: Wow! Okay! I don't know why, but all of this so far, the thing that threw me most is you just, like, casually tossing out "award winning baker".

Teresa: Yeah!

Travis: I was like, "Wait, what? Go on— wait! Tell me more about— like *Great British Bake-Off*? What'd she do?"

Teresa: [laughs] I mean, I don't have the specifics of her awards.

Travis: But there were a lot more, like, baking— especially since it's, like, 1910 I guess. Where it's just like, you know, we would have a fair. You would bake some stuff. We would do competitions. There would be a lot more— that's what the community did, right?

Teresa: It was just one of her many skill sets.

Travis: Got it, got it, got it.

Teresa: Um, okay.

Travis: I would love to see— now you've made me think about too much— award winning nanny. I'd like to see, like, nanny Olympics.

Teresa: I would like to see that.

Travis: Like, oh my God! Okay, wait! Don't steal this idea, 'cause now I'm thinking about it.

Teresa: TM, TM, TM.

Travis: TM, TM, TM. I would watch, like, a *Floor is Lava* thing, right? But it's just like, "You gotta take care of this baby." And it's not... it's not a real baby, okay?

Teresa: It'll be a robot baby.

Travis: It'll be a robot baby. Or— I— I mean, don't commit us to that. We'll see what the budget is.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: But I mean, like, there'll be just different skill sets set up where you'll compete to see, like, who can diaper the baby faster.

Teresa: Ooh, and who can walk across the toy-ridden floor without falling over—

Travis: Ohh, there you go.

Teresa: —or stepping on stuff.

Travis: Oh, oh! We turn the lights off. You gotta get out of the bedroom without waking up the napping baby, right?

Teresa: Ooh, that's a good one.

Travis: So you've gotta make it through.

Teresa: Oh. Uh, you need to feed the baby and the one with the least rejected food on the floor wins.

Travis: Oh, I love this. Oh, now it's a combination of *Floor is Lava* and *Double Dare*.

Teresa: Yes!

Travis: Okay. TM, TM, TM.

Teresa: [laughs] TM, TM. Okay. Back to Lucy. Her marriage to Clarence fell apart.

Travis: What?! [wheeze-laughs]

Teresa: [laughs] Why did you do that?

Travis: 'Cause... I knew— I knew it was coming.

Teresa: Shortly after the wedding. But—

Travis: Oh boy.

Teresa: Yeah. It was very short. Um, but she was self-sufficient, so didn't really matter very much. She continued to be a well-known socialite and party hostess for the wealthiest clientele in the beach town.

Travis: Ooh la la.

Teresa: Um, and she started buying up property.

Travis: Okay!

Teresa: She opened her very own boarding host, where she hosted lavish parties for her fancy friends, and it was wildly successful. Probably because it was also a brothel.

Travis: Oh boy! Okay! Well, let's talk more about that in just in a minute. First, a thank you note for our sponsors!

[pause]

[theme music plays]

Travis: So, one of the things that Teresa and I— listen. Listen! We both love documentaries.

Teresa: We sure do.

Travis: It's one of the reasons we do this show, honestly, right? Because we like stuff about, like, look at how people used to live in this house forever ago. One of our first vacations we ever took together, part of it was going to an amusement park, and the other half was going to an old colonial village.

Teresa: Oh yeah, historic Lyme village!

Travis: Yeah. And we're like, "Show us everything!" It was the two of us and two, I'm gonna say, like, 16-year-old girls in, like, costumes. Like, what else do you wanna see? And we're like, "Everything!"

Teresa: "Show is everything."

Travis: And like, it's so hot.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: So if you're like us, and you love documentaries that cover everything that you can think of, then you're gonna love Curiosity Stream. So, on Curiosity Stream there are thousands of award-winning documentaries and nonfiction TV shows for you to explore. If you're listening to this show, I'm betting this is the kind of thing you're interested in. Curiosity Stream works on any device, and you can start streaming wherever you want, whenever you want. They've got shows like *Planet of Treasures* with Sir Christopher Clark, which explores places of special beauty created by humans.

Teresa: Oh, and *The History of Home* by Nick Offerman, one of our favorite narrators, which explores the past, the present, and the future of homes.

Travis: And if you have a lot for, like, Appalachian culture like I do, *Fiddlin'*, a foot-stompin' celebration of true Americana and artistic expression. But there's so, so many more. You're gonna find one that you love. Maybe— probably more. Probably a lot.

Teresa: Hours of entertainment.

Travis: Hours of entertainment. They've got one of the best deals out there right now. Curiosity Stream is offering a full year's subscription for just 14.99. That is a great deal. Full year for just 14.99, with code "shmanners", S-H-M-A-N-N-E-R-S.

Teresa: I'm gonna sign up right now. [wheezes]

Travis: Yeah. Go do it! What are you waiting for? Fly, you fools.

[music plays]

Hal: Hal Lublin here with breaking news on a revolutionary form of entertainment: professional wrestling!

[bell rings]

Hal: For more, we go to our correspondent, Danielle Radford.

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[crowd yelling]

Danielle: Listen to the *Tights and Fights* podcast every week!

Lindsey: Find it on Maximum Fun, or wherever you get your podcasts.

Hal: And your old-timey radio.

[music and ad end]

[music plays]

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[lion roar]

[music and ad end]

Travis: Okay, so a brothel, you say?

Teresa: Indeed.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: I mean... Lucy liked to party.

Travis: And listen. Ain't nothing wrong with it. As long as everybody's consenting adults.

Teresa: That's right.

Travis: And everybody's clean and safe.

Teresa: So, um, she purchased a boarding house at the corner of 7th and E Street. She set it up as a front for a speakeasy and brothel.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: I mean, it was the 20's.

Travis: Oh, people—

Teresa: Speakeasies were everywhere.

Travis: People were a lot cooler back th— well, that's not true.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: That is... demonstrably untrue. But yes, go on.

Teresa: Um, it was no seedy motel, okay? Let's get that straight.

Travis: No, we're talking about an award-winning baker here.

Teresa: It was a very classy joint. So, I mean, she still was able to, like, host the rich and famous, even though everybody knew that she, you know, had— she was, um...

Travis: Listen!

Teresa: ... on her grind. She had some side businesses.

Travis: Everybody's got needs. And for anyone to pretend like they're above it, this is the thing. Everybody does it. The birds and the bees do it. You know what I mean? You know what I mean.

Teresa: So eventually—

Travis: You all know what I mean at home!

Teresa: Eventually she acquired a half block of frame buildings—

Travis: Wow!

Teresa: —each well furnished, neatly painted. And each had beautiful window boxes full of geraniums.

Travis: That's lovely.

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: I would like to own a block of houses.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: That just feels good.

Teresa: I'm sure you would. Um, so... some of things that she was doing were illegal.

Travis: Well...

Teresa: Right? Um—

Travis: Illegal according to who?

Teresa: An illegal brother, an illegal bar. Um, but the really— for a very long time, the only thing she ever got busted for was serving alcohol.

Travis: Well... yeah.

Teresa: Yeah, 'cause it was against the law. It was the Volstead Act, which was the banning of alcoholic—

Travis: [simultaneously] Oh, we've talked about Prohibition. Ughh.

Teresa: Yeah. The banning of alcoholic beverages, as well as creation and distribution, so you could probably get several different charges based on exactly what they found out you were doing.

Travis: Also a lot of that, especially if you're running a speakeasy, a lot of probably also had to do with, like, them seeing it as connected to organized crime, being able to then charge people who were there with other crimes, if they could be arrested for that. But I almost guarantee that one of the reasons stuff like the brothel and stuff wasn't cracked down is because there were rich and powerful people there using the brothel. So the cops aren't gonna bust that one down.

Teresa: Exactly. Um, and she was really busted in kind of, like, minor ways. So for example in 1927 she was convicted for possessing liquor, and paid a \$200 fine. No time behind bars.

Travis: When you own a half a block of houses, what's \$200?

Teresa: Indeed. In 1928—

Travis: I mean, it's 1920's money, so it's more than now, but even though, still.

Teresa: Uh, she was found guilty on three counts of selling alcohol, and only spent 45 days in the women's wing in the county jail. Um, and it seemed for a very long time, like you said, nobody really mentioned the brothel. And she ran it for, like, 20 years.

Travis: Yeah.

Teresa: A little under 20 years. She was regularly saved, of course, by her fancy rich friends. She had people she knew who worked in government and banking and all kinds of high power—

Travis: I wonder how she met 'em.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: I wonder how she got to know 'em!

Teresa: I wonder.

Travis: Huh! Huh! Okay.

Teresa: So... it seemed to be a very good time for Lucy. Um, even after she finalized her divorce to Clarence Hicks, her business boomed left and right. And in 1944, so we've got a good span—

Travis: [simultaneously] There's that 20 years, yeah.

Teresa: There's that 20 years or so. She remarried, it was a soldier stationed in Long Island named Ruben Anderson.

Travis: Wait— wait. Tha— how— when— how did she did over to New York for Long Island?!

Teresa: No, no. There's a Long Island in California as well.

Travis: What?! There's more than—

Teresa: There's more than one.

Travis: That's confusing! Everybody stop it!

Teresa: They stayed together for the rest of her life, so.

Travis: Now, you say solider. Was there a war or something going on in 1944?

Teresa: Hmm, yes.

Travis: Like a little thing, or...?

Teresa: Um, just a world war.

Travis: [sarcastically] What?!

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: This is the first I'm hearing about this!

Teresa: Well, Lucy was a pillar of the community, and donated to places like the Red Cross and the Boy Scouts, and actually purchased about \$50,000 in war bonds.

Travis: Okay. For a second 'cause you said Boy Scouts I thought you were gonna say, like, \$50,000 in popcorn tins.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: Which, like... it's a different—

Teresa: Popcorn is great in a bar.

Travis: I mean, that's true. But I still— man. I was a Boy Scout for, I don't know, intermittently for a long time. Not enough to actually ever claim it as a thing, but I do remember selling the popcorn, and we would come and we would be like, "Hey, do you wanna buy stuff for the Boy Scouts?"

And they'd be like, "Yeah, we love cookies!"

And we'd be like, "Well... close." [wheezes]

Teresa: [laughs] I mean, we still buy a popcorn tin from, like, the supermarket every Christmas.

Travis: Yes. That's not the same as saying, like, "Hey. In, like, three weeks, do you think you'll want a tin of popcorn that I might remember where you live and bring it to you?"

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: "What's that? Why are you closing the door?"

Teresa: [laughs] Okay. Like a lot of these biographies, 1945 is when the other shoe drops. There was an outbreak of venereal disease among some of the local servicemen, and of course Lucy— Lucy's name was on everybody's lips. Um, and a sailor came forward claiming that he caught his STI from one of the women in Anderson's brothel.

Travis: Oh.

Teresa: So... authorities ordered that all of the women at Lucy's brothel undergo a medical exam, including Lucy.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: So she objected. She was the madam. She did not partake in any of the sexual acts, right? And she was the management, so surely she would not be examined.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Teresa: She was overruled.

Travis: Oh... no!

Teresa: And I'm not quite sure if it was ever recorded that she had STIs, but they learned very quickly that Lucy had been assigned male at birth.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Um, that's a very invasive thing, right?

Travis: Yeah!

Teresa: That is—

Travis: Yeah!

Teresa: That is something that really shouldn't happen to anyone.

Travis: Uh, we don't curse on the show, but it's fudged up!

Teresa: Mm-hmm.

Travis: It's real fudged up!

Teresa: Uh, but now it meant that Lucy could actually face, at the time, felony charges.

Travis: What?!

Teresa: Yeah. A lot of these laws, no good. Um, and so she was— it was attempted to convict her of perjury because she, quote, "falsely claimed to be a woman on her marriage license."

Travis: Ugh. Ugh! Get the fudge out.

Teresa: I know. Dumb-dumb-down. But she stood by her identity the whole time. Never apologized. She even gave a rousing speech about saying "I defy any doctor in the world to prove that I am not a woman. I have lived, dressed, acted just like what I am: a woman."

Travis: Aw yeah! Yeah!

Teresa: The judge—

Travis: Alright, Lucy!

Teresa: —the jury still convicted her. But the judge sentenced her to only 10 years of probation.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Um, but that didn't save her social life.

Travis: Hmm.

Teresa: The federal government then started investigating her for failing to register for the draft. And then, uh—

Travis: Ugh! What a— what a pedantic— okay.

Teresa: I know. And since her husband Ruben was a serviceman, they brought another charge that she had fraudulently accepted allowance checks meant for the wives of servicemen.

Travis: Oh my God.

Teresa: A lot of these cases—

Travis: Petty! Petty, petty, petty.

Teresa: I know. So petty. These cases were dropped, because she would've been too old to register for the draft anyway.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Teresa: And, like... here's the thing. She *was* the wife of a serviceman.

Travis: Yeah! Yeah!

Teresa: So it's— she was married to a serviceman! So it's not fraudulent. Anyway, one of the arguments consisted of that old adage, would you want Hicks to associate with women in restrooms?

Travis: Oh my God.

Teresa: Um, which as we all know... is, uh—

Travis: It's bullcorn!

Teresa: Bullcorn. It has holes—

Travis: Horse apples!

Teresa: —holes all the way through it. Um, and during her probation, she was not allowed to return to Oxnard. Ruben, her husband, was tried separately. He was also convicted of fraud, and they were both sent to prison. Hicks was not allowed to wear gender affirming clothing, which is stupid. And at the end of their terms they moved to LA, and that's where they lived out the remainder of their lives. Um, and I want to mention that the moment Lucy left jail, she continued to live her life as herself, as a woman.

Travis: Yeah! 'Cause that's what she was!

Teresa: Exactly. Alright. Lucy passed in 1954, but she and her husband amassed a lifetime's worth of stories and parties and activism for soldiers and other causes. Um, and she is in the Handbook of LGBT Elders, which refers to her as, quote, "one of the earliest documented cases of a transgender African-American person." Which makes her an absolute pillar of queer history.

Travis: Well, and plus, sounds like she was just kind of fun and awesome.

Teresa: Yeah! Um, and there is a detailed and loving historical account that we'd love for you to check out by Bill Lipsky, who has a PhD, author of *Gay and Lesbian San Francisco*. Um, and here is a passage from that book that I think is beautiful.

"Unlike many people before her or since, Lucy knew who she was from an early age. Despite the concerted efforts of so-called medical experts and well-meaning jurists, unaware of the infinite variety in human sexuality, she never wavered from her understanding of her true self. No social, cultural, or even legal expectations could force her into being anyone but she was. 'I shall die a woman,' she told the court during one of her trials. Indeed she did."

Travis: That's amazing. Lucy is incredible. Thank you so much for telling us about her. Thank you to Alex, our researcher, without whom we would not be able to make this show.

Teresa: Thank you, Alex!

Travis: Thank you this week to Amanda, who is editing, without whom we would not be able to make this show.

Teresa: Thanks, Amanda!

Travis: And thank you to you for listening! We could make the show without you, but why?

Teresa: Hey, thanks.

Travis: We wanna tell you a couple things. Uh, we've got some tickets left for the 20-Rendezvous Fancy Takes Flight tour. You can get those at bit.ly/mcelroytours. Um, there are tickets left for Salt Lake City. Um, I believe Portland is sold out. I believe the My Brother, My Brother, and Me in San Diego is sold out. But the Adventure Zone show in San Diego, there are a few tickets left for that, so hurry and get those at bit.ly/mcelroytours. Also while you're there go ahead and grab tickets for Washington DC, and Detroit, and Cincinnati, coming up. Masks and proof of full vaccination or negative COVID test within 72 hours of event start are required.

Also, this month we've got merch over there at the merch store, including a Count Donut pin a TAZ sticker sheet, and 10% of all merch proceeds this month go to Fairness WV, which is the statewide civil rights advocacy organization dedicated to fair treatment and civil rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender West Virginians. All of that is at mcelroymerch.com.

Also, after the overturning of Roe V. Wade, if you are looking for ways to help people maintain or obtain abortion access on a local or statewide or whatever specific level, you can go to abortionfunds.org, that's funds with an S, and you can find all kinds of great funds there that you can donate to. Thank you so much, Teresa. What else do we say?

Teresa: We say thank you to 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's @shmannerscast, and that is where we get our questions for our topics. Please follow us there so we can ask your question on the show.

Thank you to Bruja Betty Pinup Photography for the cover picture of our fan-run Facebook Group, *Shmanners* Fanners. If you love to give and get excellent advice from other fans, go ahead and join that group today.

Also, we are continually taking submissions for topics and idioms at shmannerscast@gmail.com. Alex answers every single one of those emails, so say hi to Alex!

Travis: Well, she reads them. I don't know if she answers them.

Teresa: Oh, you're right. She reads them. [laughs quietly]

Travis: There's only so many hours in the day! Please don't commit Alex to that!

Teresa: [laughs] She reads them, so say hi.

Travis: Alright, thank you. 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 music plays]

[chord]

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