

## Shmanners 332: Friendsgiving

Published November 11, 2022

[Listen here on themcelroy.family](https://themcelroy.family)

[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:** There's something crunchily—

**Travis:** Yeah, I have trash in my booth, don't worry about it.

**Teresa:** [through laughter] under there.

**Travis:** I'm busy. I live a hard life.

**Teresa:** [laughs]

**Travis:** I can't... keep this four foot by four foot space clean. What am I, made of time?

**Teresa:** [simultaneously] [through laughter] I think is a granola bar wrapper.

**Travis:** Maybe. I eat in here. I live in here. I got a chamber pot just in case, in the middle of—

**Teresa:** Ew.

**Travis:** I don't really.

**Teresa:** I know. You do—

**Travis:** It's just a hole in my chair and a bucket underneath.

**Teresa:** You do really have trash in here. [laughs]

**Travis:** Yeah, babe!

**Teresa:** Alright!

**Travis:** Life is for living, not for cleaning. If you have time to lean you have time to live... an adventure. That's what I always say.

**Teresa:** [laughs] Yeah...

**Travis:** I think that's how the saying goes.

**Teresa:** I think it is.

**Travis:** If you have time to lean, you have time to scene.

**Teresa:** What?

**Travis:** To do a scene... from a show, and a contrasting monologue, and 16 bars of a song.

**Teresa:** Okay.

**Travis:** For audition. Life's a one big audition.

**Teresa:** And-a one, two, three, four.

**Travis:** Luck be a lady tonight.

**Teresa:** [laughs]

**Travis:** I've always got it in my back pocket.

**Teresa:** You sure do.

**Travis:** You never know when a producer's gonna be like, "You, kid!" Although he probably wouldn't say that to me. I'm 39.

**Teresa:** [laughs loudly]

**Travis:** I'd be like, "What? You're 20-something. What are you talking about?"

"You, kid! With the purple hair!"

Uh, it was my birthday.

**Teresa:** Yes. You're obviously on fire this morning.

**Travis:** [quietly] Am I?

**Teresa:** [laughs] Somebody put you out. [laughs]

**Travis:** It's fun, because you— I think what you mean is "You're talking a lot."

**Teresa:** Yes.

**Travis:** Not necessarily that my jokes are on point.

**Teresa:** No.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Teresa:** [laughs]

**Travis:** What a great start.

**Teresa:** Happy birthday. [laughs]

**Travis:** Thank you, babe. So, this episode's all about how to be polite too someone whose birthday it is, even though they're not funny?

**Teresa:** No. It's not, not at all. You *are* funny!

[pause]

**Travis:** I'm waiting for the... this is where you usually say "looking."

**Teresa:** ... looking.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Teresa:** [laughs breathlessly]

**Travis:** You're very pleased with yourself. Are you pleased with yourself because you've trained me to expect that when you say "You are funny... "

**Teresa:** [laughs]

**Travis:** "... looking." Like, you've trained me to expect that?

**Teresa:** It's 'cause I have, like, three jokes.

**Travis:** That's true.

**Teresa:** It's true.

**Travis:** Can I tell the story of Bebe and dinner?

**Teresa:** Oh my gosh.

**Travis:** I've saved it, I haven't talked about it on anything.

**Teresa:** Alright, fine.

**Travis:** So, uh— and this is me fully to blame. Teresa had some dentistry stuff done. She was sitting at dinner, it was after dinner. From, like, chewing, from the dentistry stuff it was, like, hurting her jaw. And so she had, like— you know, she was rubbing her face. And Bebe came over, walked over to her and laid a hand on her shoulder and said, in this exact way...

"Mommy, does your face hurt?"

And Teresa said, "Yeah, baby. Yeah, it does."

And Bebe goes, "[solemnly] 'Cause it's killin' me."

**Teresa:** [laughs]

**Travis:** And it was... devastating.

**Teresa:** And— and we were both shaking with laughter. And we very quickly reminded her that that's not a joke that you tell to people that you don't know.  
[laughs quietly]

**Travis:** Yes. But it is definitely a joke I have made maybe twice in her presence.

**Teresa:** Oh yeah.

**Travis:** And it was great too, because if you ever get a chance to, like, when a kid's joke really, truly lands, but they don't fully understand why— she was doing this, like, take between the two of us like, "What? How do— how do I recapture this magic? How did I— why did it work this time?" It was so good.

**Teresa:** It was so good.

**Travis:** I've— honestly? Well, I've been prouder. But as far as comedy goes, I've never been prouder. [crosstalk]

**Teresa:** And we very quickly said "Don't tell that joke at school!"

**Travis:** "Don't tell that joke at school." And then we said, "You can tell that joke to, like, friends and family that know you're joking, but not to strangers."

Speaking of friends...

**Teresa:** Speaking of friends! Uh, another group of friends you shouldn't tell that joke to. But maybe you could tell this joke at your Friendsgiving, huh?

**Travis:** I— okay. I think a just like "Does your face hurt? 'Cause it's killing me." Is so very obvious, like, "I don't mean this as, like— " anyways.

**Teresa:** Anyways.

**Travis:** I think that you shouldn't say that to, like, someone on the street who's rubbing their face.

**Teresa:** [laughs]

**Travis:** But, like, I can say that to Bradbury and Bob and it would be fine.

**Teresa:** It would be fine. And I would love to have Bradbury and Bob at a Friendsgiving.

**Travis:** Oh my gosh, yes.

**Teresa:** That would be amazing.

**Travis:** Are you kidding me? Those two— those two giggles? Yes, I'd love it.

**Teresa:** So, let's start with a little bit of a definition of a—

**Travis:** We're talking about Friendsgiving. Did we say—

**Teresa:** Of Friendsgiving.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Teresa:** I've said it, like, four times.

**Travis:** I know.

**Teresa:** Um, but it's often referred to as maybe Orphan Thanksgiving, or maybe Found Family Thanksgiving.

**Travis:** Sure.

**Teresa:** And it is a celebration around the Thanksgiving holiday, and the point is to have an indulgent and celebratory meal with, you guessed it, your friends.

**Travis:** Right. Perhaps best exemplified by the episode of *Friends* where I think they play touch football? Or the one where for some reason Monica puts a turkey on her head. I haven't watched it in a while. I don't remember exa— but there's some friends having a Thanksgiving, right?

**Teresa:** Definitely. That episode was in 1998.

**Travis:** Ugh. So long ago.

**Teresa:** Um, and you know, there— it's a little bit, um... it's a little bit early for the term Friendsgiving, because it didn't actually appear in the, like, vernacular until, like, 2007.

**Travis:** Oh, interesting.

**Teresa:** Um, there's a Twitter post in that year that we can, like, point to and say, "That's when people are familiar with the term."

**Travis:** Excellent. Okay.

**Teresa:** Um, and so, like... the thing about it is, it's a little bit easier than Thanksgiving proper. Because, you know, we can have, um— we can have some mixed feelings about this holiday, and I think that it's okay to have mixed feelings about it. It was started—

**Travis:** A lot of colonizer stuff in there.

**Teresa:** Exactly. There is a lot of colonizer stuff. But it was started, um, after the Civil War as an opportunity for people to come home because, like, people were kind of spread out at this point.

**Travis:** Where you had brother versus brother, friend versus friend, family versus family—

**Teresa:** Exactly.

**Travis:** — dogs and cats.

**Teresa:** Um, so, like, the idea was coming home for Thanksgiving, right?

**Travis:** And it's funny, 'cause I was just sitting here thinking about, like, when I think of Thanksgiving growing up... no pun intended, but the only word I can think of is pilgrimage. Of this thing of, like, "Well, you go— you go to Grandma's house, you go to an aunt's house." Like, I remember our Thanksgivings growing up going to, uh, Aunt Betty's house?

**Teresa:** Hmm.

**Travis:** Is that the aunt? One of 'em. Uh, who was actually, like, my grandmother's sister, who lived in Coal Grove, Ohio. And it being, like, the three people on my grandmother's, you know, kind of generation, and then their kids, and then their kids. So there was, like, 20 to 25 people there is what it felt like. I mean, I was a kid when I went. And it was like, cousins and stuff that lived all across the country that I rarely ever saw. But just this understanding of, like, well, Christmas you're at home with your family, but Thanksgiving is a time for, like, I have— I have to go over to my aunt's house, 'cause that's what everybody does every year. That kind of thing.

**Teresa:** Um, yeah... I think that it was kind of a mixed bag for me, where we were sometimes at home, sometimes at family's house. But my favorite Thanksgiving memory is in high school I remember a friend of mine— he would invite basically all of his high school friends for dessert, right? And it was kind of like, "Bring a pie" kind of thing.

**Travis:** Bring a pie, leave a pie, you know.

**Teresa:** [laughs] Um, and so after the Thanksgiving meal proper, we would all go over to their house, and it would be just kind of like a dessert buffet, and lots of us kids hanging out. And he had a much older brother, and their friends were there, and it was just kind of like— it was like an extra day to hang out.

**Travis:** I will say that in general, my feeling on this day and age, everybody is too lax on the desserts.

**Teresa:** Oh, really?

**Travis:** I remember growing up, my mom was a big dessert person. I am too. Um, and so, like, our Thanksgiving and Christmas at our house, there was, like, you know, the meal spread, and then over here, this is the desserts table where you have your pumpkin rolls, your pumpkin pies, you got a cheesecake, usually some cookies, uh, and then maybe there's some sort of... well, sometimes called a "better than sex" cake. My mom called it Paul Newman cake, which tells you a lot about her feelings towards Paul Newman.

**Teresa:** Which is a poke cake, right?

**Travis:** Correct, but not nearly as— don't call it poke cake. That's not fun!



**Teresa:** Well, because you poke the— the cake—

**Travis:** Yeah, but you could call it better than sex, or Paul Newman cake. That's way better. Anyways—

**Teresa:** Anyway.

**Travis:** There was usually, like, six to eight dessert options as well, and usually Thanksgiving was, like, a full-blown thing.

**Teresa:** Now, at my family Thanksgiving there were usually two desserts. Sorry.

**Travis:** Hmm. I forget that you grew up during the Great Depression.

**Teresa:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Um, okay.

**Teresa:** But at my friend's house, it was definitely a ton of desserts. Um, so Friendsgiving specifically has boomed in popularity over the past ten years. Every year, more and more food bloggers and party planners offer tips and tricks. Um, places like *Chowhound* and *Taste of Home Magazine* have released specific Friendsgiving host guides. And as of 2018, almost 960,000— 960,000 posts pop up when you search Instagram for the hashtag #friendsgiving.

**Travis:** I think that in— and just anecdotally, I'm not a sociologist. I'm, uh, just a guy who is on the internet quite a bit. It feels like in the last two decades, there has been a lot more focus on found family, which is cool.

**Teresa:** Yeah, absolutely.

**Travis:** But also just this understanding of, as people become more and more comfortable being their true selves and realizing, like, if your family doesn't approve of that, whatever that means, if your family doesn't accept you, why spend time with people who don't accept you and try to change you, versus spending time with people who love you for who you are and celebrate the you that you are. I think people have become a lot more comfortable with that idea.

**Teresa:** Yeah.

**Travis:** And let go of this idea of like, "Yeah, this family makes me feel terrible and doesn't like me, but I have to be around them, because that's the law or whatever."

**Teresa:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Right?

**Teresa:** Well, so Friendsgiving absolutely is a celebration of that, not only in, like, personal lives, but also it's kind of like... the fourth quarter of the year is a stressful time. You got all the— you've got all of these things—

**Travis:** You've got my birthday... elections...

**Teresa:** Yeah. And, uh, Thanksgiving and Christmas, and then you can even sneak New Years in there because it's also close. And so it's a great way to start it off kind of a little, uh, stress-free, right? Start it off kind of slow. Because Friendsgiving is usually styled as a potluck.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Teresa:** Um, so like—

**Travis:** I mean, not for me. 'Cause I—

**Teresa:** Not— not for you.

**Travis:** Sometimes forced to be a potluck, because apparently other people like to make stuff, bring stuff too. Whatever. I consider myself a consummate host. I— one time... do you remember the year I made, like, 13 different things? I have a picture of our refrigerator at that point.

**Teresa:** Oh man.

**Travis:** I, uh... I don't know if you guys have ever picked this up about me. I'm a bit... much. I'm a bit over the top, both in cooking and just as a person.

**Teresa:** Uh, yeah. OTT.

**Travis:** OTT.

**Teresa:** Um, and so, like I said, most Friendsgivings are styled as potlucks but, like, if you want to host a Friendsgiving and you're like, "I wanna do the whole turkey thing," you can absolutely do as much as you'd like. I mean, that's the point, right? It's supposed to be a little less stressful, so if what you like is cooking six courses, then fine, go ahead and do it. But if that's not your jam, then why not delegate out, or just let people surprise you, right?

**Travis:** Sure.

**Teresa:** Alex talked about how one year our friend Brianna showed up with six frozen pizzas.

**Travis:** There you go.

**Teresa:** Yeah!

**Travis:** I love frozen pizza.

**Teresa:** That's delicious. And so, like... when you take the idea of the Friendsgiving, it's a little bit revolutionary, right? As far as, like, holiday meals go.

**Travis:** True.

**Teresa:** Um, but, like... if you wanted to host it, there definitely is some advice out there.

**Travis:** I can't wait to hear it. But first... how about a word from some other Max Fun shows?

[theme music plays]

[music plays]

**Jackie:** Hi! I'm Jackie Kashian.

**Laurie:** Hello. I'm Laurie Kilmartin.

**Jackie:** We do a podcast called *The Jackie and Laurie Show*, and you could listen to it any time you wanted, 'cause there's... hundreds of episodes.

**Laurie:** Yeah. I mean, we've been doing comedy forever, and we should both quit. So why don't you listen [crosstalk]—

**Jackie:** [laughs]

**Laurie:** — before we leave this— not only terrible business, but this awful world.

**Jackie:** And find out why we can't.

**Laurie:** [laughs]

**Jackie:** Because we love it so.

**Speaker Three:** *The Jackie and Laurie Show.* Every week, here on Maximumfun.org.

[music and ad end]

[music plays]

**Jesse:** Hi, it's Jesse Thorn, the founder of Maximum Fun. I am breaking into this programming to say thank you to Max Fun's members. Your purchases in this year's post Max Fun Drive patch sale raised over \$50,000 for Trans Lifeline. Maybe you already know about the good work that Trans Lifeline does. If you don't, they're a trans-run organization that offers direct emotional and financial support to trans people in crisis. If you want to learn more about the work Trans Lifeline does or support them further, go to [translifeline.org](http://translifeline.org). Thanks for supporting Maximum Fun, thanks for supporting Trans Lifeline, and thanks for being awesome people who want to do good in the world.

[music and ad end]

**Travis:** So, we were talking about advice for a revolution.

**Teresa:** Exactly.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Teresa:** One person who of course we always defer to...

**Travis:** Yes.

**Teresa:** ... is our lord and savior, Emily Post. [laughs]

**Travis:** Okay. Really— I want you to know, in my head you said "one person," my brain went "Jesus Christ." And then you said "Our lord and savior," and there was a second where I was like, "What is happening?" Okay. Emily Post.

**Teresa:** Emily Post. In the late 2010's, the Emily Post Institute— I mean, you know— which if you listen, you know we love.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Teresa:** Um, began fielding a ton of questions on this Friendsgiving topic. After all, like, when is it supposed to happen? Is it rude to ask people to do another big meal right before or after they're supposed to do a big meal with their family, or is there an egalitarian way to organize one? Should you do it for your work friends, or your school buddies, or— lots of questions arose.

**Travis:** Yeah. And Emily Post was like, "I don't know, man."

**Teresa:** Well, Emily Post didn't respond, 'cause she's dead.

**Travis:** What?

**Teresa:** But her great-great-granddaughter, who heads the company now, says that— why not deviate a little bit from the traditional Thanksgiving stuff, and really just do whatever you want?

**Travis:** Whoaaaaa! And everybody's minds collectively melted.

**Teresa:** Yeah. I mean, kind of. It's a chance to eat whatever it is that you guys— y'all love, right?

**Travis:** It's also— man. Here's a little tip, from me to you. If you want to, you could do your Friendsgiving Friday, right? Everybody show up in jammies, bring leftovers from your collective other things the day before.

**Teresa:** You definitely could!

**Travis:** 'Cause I'll also tell you this, friends. Uh, with very light googling, with light-to-mid googling, you can find some really wild uses for— to make stuff out of your leftovers. My favorite I made one time was, like, deep fried, like, basically Thanksgiving balls. Where it was like the mashed potatoes, and stuffing, and turkey, and everything kind of shaped into a ball and then deep fried, and it's like a Thanksgiving all in one bite, my friends.

**Teresa:** It was delicious. Or you could go the complete opposite way and do an anything-but-turkey party, right?

**Travis:** Whoa.

**Teresa:** You could have, like, tacos, or pizza, or chili, or whatever it is, right?

**Travis:** Just don't use turkey meat in there... you cowards. [laughs quietly]

**Teresa:** [laughs] Um, some people do, like, a tofurkey, a vegan Thanksgiving perhaps. Um, and so... she also agreed...

**Travis:** You could also do turkey breast, by the way, if you don't want to cook a whole turkey.

**Teresa:** Oh, of course.

**Travis:** Do, like, individual ones. Fried chicken would be good.

**Teresa:** Yeah, delicious.

**Travis:** You could do some little game hens, you know, the tiny ones? [strained] Everybody gets their own and feels like a giant!

**Teresa:** Of course—

**Travis:** Put 'em on big swords! Eat 'em off the sword! Aw, that would be a cool look, wouldn't it?

**Teresa:** [laughs]

**Travis:** We're gonna do, like, a viking Thanksgiving. Whoaaa!

**Teresa:** Sure.

**Travis:** I'm just saying, you can do whatever you want.

**Teresa:** But she agrees that potluck is really the way to do it, because you want to try and, like, level out the stress that's gonna happen in that last quarter, right? Um, and you know, as a guest you can make whatever you like best, or whatever you happen to have, like you said, leftovers. We found at least three articles from three separate sources that said Friendsgiving host should be responsible for the planning, the hosting, and the main dish, while everything else should be delegated out. So that— that is the way that we are going to say Friendsgiving works. Instead of Thanksgiving, where you feel like the host makes everything. Right?

**Travis:** Sure. Or the host makes most stuff and everybody brings one thing if they want to, whatever.

**Teresa:** Yeah. So if you're hosting, do make sure that the expectations that you have are clear to the invitees. Like, are you just providing the main course, or are you doing a full dinner, or should everyone bring a side, or maybe just a drink? Or something like that, right?

**Travis:** Let me also say this, as someone who prides themselves on their love of hosting. Um, we often on the show advocate for, like, "ask for what you want, ask for what you need," right?

**Teresa:** Absolutely.

**Travis:** So if you would like a, like, sit-down dinner, or like, we are serving food at this time, don't do the thing of like, "Yeah, but I don't want anyone to feel— so I'm gonna say like, 'Yeah, come by whenever, we'll be there from 3 to 7, so anytime in there.'"

Because, like, that's not what you want, right? You want everybody to be there by, like, 5 o'clock so you can eat, right? You can say, like, "We will be having dinner, we'll be eating at 5." So— and this is just true in general as far as party invites go. But if your plan is like "We're gonna sit down and eat at 5," make sure everybody knows that. Because what you don't want is for someone to show up at, like, 6 o'clock and like, you're putting away dishes and stuff, and they're like, "But you

said— uh— what is— " right? Then nobody knows what's happening and the parameters aren't clear. So, like, you can say "Come by anytime between 3 and 4, and we'll be eating at 5," right?

**Teresa:** Right?

**Travis:** But ask for what you need.

**Teresa:** Um, make sure that you check in with your friend's dietary needs, right? Um, it might be somewhere— maybe you're not used to cooking for this particular friend, or you know, maybe they are used to cooking for themselves and they want to bring a dish that they can eat especially, and then everyone else can try it if they like.

**Travis:** One more thing along those lines, too. Um, if you have a friend with dietary needs, like say vegan or can't do gluten or whatever, um, make sure it's not like "And here's this bowl of Brussels sprouts that *you* can eat." Right? That you want to have it feel like, "Yes, I made sure to not include this thing in this dish that everyone will be eating from, so you can have that too, as well as this dish and this dish." Like, that they have options and not just like, "Oh. Well, there's some vegetables. Is that cool?" Right? You want it to feel like you are also experiencing the idea of a full meal as well, and not just "I made sure there was one thing you could eat."

**Teresa:** Exactly. At these kind of, like, dinner parties, you want to try and make sure that they have three piles on the plate, right? So vegetables, another side, and a main dish.

**Travis:** Minerals. Animal.

**Teresa:** [laughs] Because that's what makes the plate look full, right? Not just one big bowl of salad or whatever.

**Travis:** And especially for eating holidays like Thanksgiving is, you want it to feel like there's a selection of things, and "I— oh, I ate till my stomach's full." And not just like, "Well. I ate all the Brussels sprouts. Time to go!"

**Teresa:** "Time to go." Along that same vein, do plan for appetizers, because one of the things that we see that happens sometimes in my family, but also movies and TV, is that everyone, like, keeps themselves from eating a big breakfast or



lunch in anticipation for the main meal. And so... people are getting hangry up in here, right?

**Travis:** Right, you want some crudite. You want some little bready options. You want some— oh, cocktail weenies wrapped in bacon? Always a hit.

**Teresa:** That's your favorite.

**Travis:** Always a hit. Shrimp cocktail.

**Teresa:** I love the, um, sweet chili meatballs.

**Travis:** Sure.

**Teresa:** I'm a big fan of those.

**Travis:** But anything like that, once again making sure that there is inclusion there for people whose dietary needs do not fit those things, but...

**Teresa:** Right. But you need to have some of those things available, because inevitably people are going to arrive hungry, and there's probably not going to be immediate dinner happening.

**Travis:** Uh, also, just once again, another good inclusion thing, not just for Friendsgiving but in general. Make sure that you have drink options, right? So that it's not like "I bought a bunch of beer, and we have wine, and we have stuff." And it's like, "Oh, you don't drink? Uh... I have water."

**Teresa:** Water. [laughs]

**Travis:** Right? You want to have stuff there, too. Like, ginger ale is always a good one, tonic water with stuff that they can add flavoring to it.

**Teresa:** Like lime or juice or whatever.

**Travis:** There's lots of wonderful, like, mocktails and stuff. And also another good option there is to make a nonalcoholic punch that then they can, like, add stuff to, if they are someone who wants to imbibe alcohol, but they don't have to if they're someone who does not drink. The same goes for, like, ciders and stuff like that.

**Teresa:** Totally.

**Travis:** Yeah, you can make stuff, and then people can add stuff to it. Which, by the way, just take it once again from me to you, a punch is so easy to do and will impress people so much.

**Teresa:** Indeed. Um, and in the same vein as, like, delegating to people, don't be afraid to ask people to bring things like paper plates or, uh, ice, or even like extra foil and closeable bags, right? To send leftovers home with people, and they'll be very happy that you did.

**Travis:** Uh, this is another thing. It doesn't have to do with food. But it is, I think, special to Friendsgiving, and any time when you're getting friends together for a major holiday. Which is, when you grow up in a family and stuff, you end up with all these traditions that are like family traditions that's just like, "We do this every year because our family does it every year."

**Teresa:** Right.

**Travis:** When you do, like, a friend event, you get a chance to reset, kind of, and say like, "Well, what's something you associate with Thanksgiving that will not feel like Thanksgiving to you if we don't do it?" Right? And it's this chance of, like, exchanging traditions with each other. So, like, our friend Jeremy listens to "Alice's Restaurant" every Thanksgiving, right? So now I also associate that, right? And now I also, whenever I'm doing Thanksgiving at our house, I like to play Tom Hanks movies for T. Hanksgiving. And that comes out of going over, once again, with Jeremy's house. 'Cause they had a— that was, like, our first Friendsgiving.

**Teresa:** If you're going to listen to "Alice's Restaurant" be prepared that it is, like, the longest song ever written. [laughs]

**Travis:** It's quite long, but it's very good, highly recommend. But, uh, I think it was like one Thanksgiving we had Friendsgiving at Jeremy and Kelly's, and at the end of the night we watched *Joe Versus the Volcano*.

**Teresa:** Mm-hmm.

**Travis:** And it just felt really right to me.

**Teresa:** It did.

**Travis:** Of just like, Tom Hanks now is deeply associated with Thanksgiving for me. Highly recommend— listen. Here's a good— *Money Pit*'s great. That's a good Thanksgiving one. *You've Got Mail*. It's a great Thanksgiving one. Put that in the background. Now, if you're looking for an after-dinner movie, or maybe a pre di— this isn't during food. Uh, but *League of Their Own* is Great. Uh, and finish the night with *Joe Versus the Volcano*. You're welcome.

**Teresa:** [laughs] Um—

**Travis:** Oh, and *That Thing You Do*. Of course That Thing—

**Teresa:** That— of course.

**Travis:** Oh, sorry. *That Thing You Do*.

**Teresa:** Well, what about *Big*?

**Travis:** Oh, *Big*. Well, *Big* is good, but—

**Teresa:** He was little and he wanted to big [laughs] [crosstalk]—

**Travis:** [crosstalk] And he wanted to be little again.

**Teresa:** — little again. But he was still big. [laughs]

**Travis:** But *Big*— *Big* hits on some difficult concepts, and there's a lot of soul searching in that movie. It might be a little heavy.

**Teresa:** Okay.

**Travis:** For before dinner. Maybe in the evening. But I also don't think, like, our six-year-old would be like, "Now, what's happening?"

**Teresa:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Whereas I think *That Thing You Do* is not interesting enough for kids, but they'll dance to the music.

**Teresa:** Um, so back to the meal real quick. Let's get back on the main drag here. So, back to the meal. If your side dish that you're bringing— it should be intact, right? If you need to zhuzh it up a little bit at the host's house, or if it needs to be warmed or broiled or anything like that, you have to let somebody know, right? 'Cause when you're bringing a dish, it's assumed that you could just, like, pop it open and be ready. Um, but if the host is also making things, you want to make sure that there's enough time to, like, fit your dish in there with all the other ones.

**Travis:** Uh, here's some advice for that. Crock pot. It's great.

**Teresa:** Oh, we love a crock pot.

**Travis:** You can make the stuff in there, unplug it, right? Sometimes you can even— like, a carrying case is for it, so, you know, you literally just unplug it, put it in there, zip it up, [makes popping noise] go. Plug it in. It's gonna warm up right there. You don't need a stove top, you don't need an oven, you don't need a microwave, any of that. You just need a plug, and it's gonna warm it right up. And there's so many dishes, Thanksgiving dishes, that you can make in a crock pot. Or, like, even just put in a crock pot to warm up, like mashed potatoes— anything, right?

**Teresa:** And there's also a lot of dishes that you can make ahead of time that are not, like, Thanksgiving stuff in a crock pot.

**Travis:** Mm-hmm.

**Teresa:** And I want to encourage everyone that, like, remember this is like, *your* Friendsgiving, so let your culinary talents shine.

**Travis:** Let your conscience be your guide.

**Teresa:** [laughs quietly] Do you make great tamales, or some really great pho? Like, I think this is a great opportunity to, uh, bring a little bit of, like, the new traditions in.

**Travis:** Exactly.

**Teresa:** Um, so it's agreed, it may not be a potluck event, but it is important that you show up with something.

**Travis:** Something.

**Teresa:** Um, and—

**Travis:** Even if it's like, "I brought the board games" or something, right?

**Teresa:** Sure! Or extra napkins, who knows? [crosstalk]

**Travis:** Or like, "I brought the wine. I got a big box. Big box o' wine, here. Let's have fun!"

**Teresa:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Right?

**Teresa:** And try not to get too stressed out. Allow your friends to help you clean up. [laughs quietly]

**Travis:** Yes.

**Teresa:** Uh, and have a happy Friendsgiving.

**Travis:** Have a happy Friendsgiving. So, that's gonna do it for us, friends. Thank you for joining us on this special... occasion. I don't know.

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

**Travis:** Uh, thank you so much for joining us. Uh, let's see. You're listening to this... so yeah, we still have some shows this weekend, if you're listening to this on Friday. Uh, you can come— if you're listening to it Friday morning, we've got a *My Brother, My Brother, and Me* tonight in Detroit. You can get those tickets. Uh, on Saturday we're doing *My Brother, My Brother, and Me* in DC, and on Sunday we're doing *Adventure Zone* in DC with special guest DM Brennan Lee Mulligan. Very exciting. I'm just relistening to *Dadlands* now, because we will be playing *Dadlands 2.0*. Just relistening to *Dadlands* now. It's very good. You're gonna like it.

**Teresa:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Uh, go get those tickets at [bit.ly/mcelroytours](https://bit.ly/mcelroytours). Make sure you go to [mcelroymerch.com](https://mcelroymerch.com) to check out all the great merch this month. If you're ordering things for, like, Candlenights presents for people, make sure you order that ASAP so that they have time to ship it to you.

**Teresa:** Let me tell you, we got our Garyl blanket— and it is not cheap, okay? But it is worth every penny.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Teresa:** It is a beautiful tapestry of a blanket.

**Travis:** It is! It is really a ta— oh was like, "Oh yeah, a tap— oh, it is a tapestry."

**Teresa:** It is really a tapestry. It's not like a fleece blanket that has been screen printed. Those are fine, but this is— it's a work of art. I love it.

**Travis:** I think so, too. Thank you. I think it's beautiful. Um, and make sure you check that out. Also, speaking of Candlenights, Candlenights is going to be virtual again this year, December 17th, 9 PM Eastern Time. Tickets on sale now. [Bit.ly/candlenights2022](https://bit.ly/candlenights2022), Candlenights 2022. Uh, also, no new episodes next week, so we're doing the tour this week, and then we're going to have our first ever staff retreat, where our whole staff is gonna all hang out together in DC for a little bit. We've never done it before, and we're really looking forward to spending time together. We're spread out all over the country.

**Teresa:** I think because of the panini, there some people you've never met face to face.

**Travis:** Correct. Absolutely true. So, we're looking forward to that, but we'll back with new episodes on the week of November 21st. Um, let's see. Don't forget to preorder *The Adventure Zone: Eleventh Hour* graphic novel. Uh, it comes out February 21st, 2023, but you can preorder it now at [theadventurezonecomic.com](https://theadventurezonecomic.com). That's gonna do it for us. No, wait! Anything I'm forgetting? Definitely, right?

**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's @shmannerscast. 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. Thank you to Rachel, our editor. Thank you to Alex, our writer and researcher. And thank you to you, for listening.

**Travis:** Are we caught up on *Bake-On*? We are, right?

**Teresa:** I think so.

**Travis:** Okay. We do a podcast where we discuss each episode of *Great British Bake-Off*. We're doing season 13 right now as it airs. I'm having a lot of fun with it. This is a fun season, and you're a really fun cohost. I love doing the show with you.

**Teresa:** Aww, thanks, boo.

**Travis:** You're welcome. You can find it— just search *Bake-On* in your podcatcher and you'll find it. It's also at mcelroy.family. You can find it there. If you like *Bake-On* you should check it— or *Bake-Off*, *Great British Bake-Off*. Or if just like us. I mean, you're listening to the show, so I hope you enjoy us. I hope you're not like, "I love manners. I hate that it's these two, but I just can't stop listening about manners!"

**Teresa:** [laughs loudly] We started it as one of our bonus contents, right?

**Travis:** I believe that's true, yeah.

**Teresa:** But we loved doing it so much that we decided it should be available for erryone.

**Travis:** I think we've done, like, three or four seasons at this point.

**Teresa:** Yeah.

**Travis:** This is, like, the third or fourth season. Uh, so check that out, *Bake-On*. Very proud of it. 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:** [through a deep sigh] Manners, *Shmanners*. Get it.

[chord]

Maximumfun.org.

Comedy and Culture.

Artist Owned.

Audience Supported.