

Shmanners 401: Wild Weddings

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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: Happy MaxFunDrive week two.

Teresa: Week two.

Travis: Last official day that we usually do. Like an amnesty weekend where you can just go get in on all the prizes. I woke up with some sinus stuff.

Teresa: Well, you know. 'Tis the season.

Travis: 'Tis the season! Hopefully our editor, Rachel, without whom we could not make this show, and without your support we wouldn't have Rachel, will edit out most of my sniffles!

Teresa: But you know what else is this season?

Travis: MaxFunDrive?

Teresa: No. MaxFunDrive, sniffles, and wedding season!

Travis: Well, you know what's a perfect marriage? Support and the artists you love. Because without you, we couldn't make this show. And without this show, your life would be empty, hollow.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: You'd have nothing to look forward to on Fridays. And so I'm glad that we could provide that for you. But we can only do that for you because of the support you provide for us during the MaxFunDrive.

Once a year, we come to you and say, hey. Please consider supporting the art and the artists you love by going to Maximumfun.org/join, finding a level of support that works for you, committing to that level once a month.

Or maybe you're already a member and this is the time where you decide to upgrade your membership to the next level. Or maybe you're not ready to upgrade to the next level just yet but you want to give a couple extra bucks a month by boosting your membership.

All of those things help us out. All of those things allow us to make sure we can make this show as good as can be, that we can make this show consistently, that this show can be our jobs.

So thank you so much for not just the support you've shown this year, but the support you've shown over many, many years of MaxFunDrives.

So please go to Maximumfun.org/join. There are rewards that come with each of those levels, and we'll tell you what those are a little bit later. But I just wanted to say thank you, so far, and let's get on with the episode.

Teresa: Just like the MaxFunDrive, you join together and you make a commitment, and you...

Travis: Pay each other...

Teresa: Upgrade?

Travis: Oh.

Teresa: In a wedding? Uh...

Travis: I will say that my life definitely upgraded when I married you.

Teresa: Aww. Thanks, babes.

Travis: Though we were already living together for many years at that point, so [crosstalk].

Teresa: Only, like, two.

Travis: That's many. That's two. Too many. [laughs]

Teresa: [laughs] We have a lot of shows about weddings, and here's the thing. A lot of stuff goes into a wedding. That's why we have so many shows about it. There are lots of, I mean, rules, traditions.

Travis: I would say that, like—

Teresa: Happenings.

Travis: —right up there with maybe, like... Christmas? I don't know. I feel like there's a run—trying to decide, like, which kind of thing has the most etiquette, history, pomp and circumstance, buildup around it. And I feel like the thing about wedding is there's so—it's not just, like, a day. Right? It's all the stuff up to it. It's all the events. The proposal, the, you know, showers.

Teresa: Engagements.

Travis: The engagements, the parties.

Teresa: [simultaneously] Parties.

Travis: The—the—there's so much to it.

Teresa: Yes. Speaking of pomp and circumstance, let's get right into it and talk about—

Travis: Is that [hums melody]? Is that Pomp and—

Teresa: Is that? Maybe? Maybe so.

Travis: Or is that—that's not Greensleeves. That's a different— [crosstalk]

Teresa: No, that's definitely not Greensleeves. Anyway, the most glamorous wedding that we have found—not saying that your wedding wasn't glamorous, listeners, but... when you ask a little girl perhaps what they would like to be when they grow up, there are a few things that tend to come up over and over again. Don't you think?

Travis: Okay, hold on. I'm listening to Pomp—

[Pomp and Circumstance plays through phone speakers]

Travis: That's it. [hums along] That's—okay.

[music ends]

Teresa: Okay. So maybe that was—that was Jacob's...

Travis: Ladder.

Teresa: [laughs] Canon? Canon in D?

Travis: Pachelbel? Pachelbel's Canon.

Teresa: Oh.

Travis: Taco Bell's Canon.

Teresa: [laughs] Oh, god.

Travis: Okay. Anyways.

Teresa: Anyway.

Travis: Glamorous wedding.

Teresa: There are a couple of things that tend to return, right? Princess, right?

Travis: Sure.

Teresa: Movie star.

Travis: Dragon.

Teresa: That could also be in there. Um, but what if...

Travis: [gasps]

Teresa: You could be both?

Travis: A princess movie star?

Teresa: Princess movie star. Because Grace Kelly did that.

Travis: Oh, that's right!

Teresa: That's right. On April 18th and 19th, 1956...

Travis: It was a two-day wedding?

Teresa: Yes. The beautiful film star married Rainier III, the sovereign prince of the Principality of Monaco, officially making her princess.

Travis: Do you, Grace Kelly, take this man to be your lawfully wedded husband? Wait till tomorrow to find out! Ah!

Teresa: Uh, kind of!

Travis: Same wedding time.

Teresa: So two years after her best actress Oscar win for her role A Country Girl opposite Bing Crosby, she got her dream wedding.

Travis: Hmm.

Teresa: I mean, there's definitely kind of like a, um... I don't know. There's a price to pay for this sort of thing?

Travis: Yeah. It's called money.

Teresa: [laughs quietly] Yes. But the entire celebration cost a fortune.

Travis: I bet.

Teresa: Two million of which in that time's money, right—two million—was contributed as a dowry from Kelly's father, because, you know, he is expected to offer at least that much to the Crown of Monaco in exchange for the prince marrying a, quote, "commoner."

Travis: Sure. Sure.

Teresa: And there really isn't an exact total of their nuptials.

Travis: That's how you know it was expensive.

Teresa: But it was decadent. Uh, there was a traditional ceremony in Monaco, which is two separate celebrations. The first one being held in the presence of 80 guests and finalized with the recitation of the 142 official government titles that she inherited through marriage.

Travis: So that was, what? Like, two hours, three hours?

Teresa: I don't know, man. That was—but that was kind of like the princess-y one, right? And then there was a gala, which took place after the opening of the Opera de Monte Carlo.

Travis: Sure.

Teresa: Uh, which they both went to. So it was like a dinner and a show.
[laughs] Right?

Travis: Yeah.

Teresa: And then the next day on the 19th was when they had a church ceremony held at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Monaco in the presence of 700 guests.

Travis: Whew, boy!

Teresa: The venue was decorated with lilies and white lilacs and snapdragons and candles and pearls. Harper's Bazaar reported that Grace's wedding gown cost around 8,000 at the time, which is about \$100,000 in today's money.

Travis: And that's a lot, right? Like, I know—

Teresa: Yes.

Travis: Like, to be clear, I know that's a lot of money on paper. I'm asking as weddings dresses go, that's a very expensive wedding dress, right?

Teresa: That's an expensive wedding dress. That's the top, I would say, of, like, wedding dresses that you could get that are not bespoke, right? I mean, certainly a wedding dress can cost as much as you're willing to pay for it, right?

Travis: Sure, sure.

Teresa: But I have not heard of dresses costing more than that, quote, "off the rack."

Travis: Okay. Got it.

Teresa: Um, it was 25 yards of silk taffeta, 100 yards of silk net.

Travis: All draggin' behind her.

Teresa: And—

Travis: Just pickin' up sticks and leaves everywhere she went.

Teresa: [snorts] No. They picked that stuff up. I mean, the dress. But, I mean, probably the sticks and leaves. Um, and 125-year-old rose point lace, bought from a museum! They bought it from a museum.

Travis: That's a shame that they couldn't get any new stuff.

Teresa: [laughs] Maybe the pearls were new. There were thousands of them.

Uh, trumpets sounded when the groom made his entrance, and after the ceremony, Grace and Rainier rode to the reception in a Rolls Royce, arriving at the Hotel de Paris along with 600 guests, 3000 citizens, and a six-tiered wedding cake made to replicate the palace in sugar.

Travis: I bet that hotel was surprised.

Teresa: [laughs] They weren't surprised. I mean, they were obviously—

Travis: [simultaneously] Call ahead next time, come on!

Teresa: They were obviously planning this.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Teresa: Um, Rainier once remarked that the celebration overall felt like the biggest circus in history, and that he and Grace Kelly both agreed that they really should have gotten married in a little chapel in the mountains. But...

Travis: Sure. That's fun to say after you've had a bajillion dollar wedding like that.

Teresa: Yes.

Travis: "Yeah, if I could do it all over again? Tiny chapel in the mountains." Okay.

Teresa: I mean, this was basically orchestrated by two established, like, institutions, right? So Rainier was beholden to the tradition of his country, right? Because he's a prince. And Grace Kelly was beholden to MGM.

Travis: Oh, okay, yeah.

Teresa: The media giant would only allow Grace to be released from her movie contract, because back then contracts were for a set of movies, right? And you could be—

Travis: Yeah, with a studio.

Teresa: With a studio, and you could be loaned to other studios, but then you would have to fulfill other contracts.

Travis: Such a weird system.

Teresa: Yeah. But they would only allow her to be released from this contract both of her wedding ceremonies. So make a kind of movie out of it, right?

Travis: Oh, interesting.

Teresa: And so that's probably why there were so many star-studded guests, including Eva Gardner, Gloria Guinness, Cary Grant—

Travis: Travis McElroy.

Teresa: No. Gloria Swanson and Aristotle Onassis. Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis's second husband. Um, who gifted them a yacht that took them on their honeymoon.

Travis: Oh, that's nice.

Teresa: Aww, yeah, that's nice.

Travis: I mean, I'd like that. If anyone wants to give me a yacht I wouldn't say no. I don't know where I'd keep it.

Teresa: I mean, and then the mooring responsibilities, that whole thing. It's probably very expensive. You would have to pay for the space it takes up in the pier.

Travis: Aww, man. I didn't plan on this. Now I'm all stressed out about my yacht responsibilities.

Teresa: That you don't have.

Travis: Oh, right. Thank you for reminding me. Okay.

Teresa: Yeah. Right. Frank Sinatra, however, did not—

Travis: Did not give them a yacht.

Teresa: No. He did not attend, citing that he didn't want his presence to outshine the event. [laughs]

Travis: Okay, listen. That's so cool.

Teresa: Except I bet that him not being there was also the thing that people talked about, 'cause he was so famous at the time.

Travis: Isn't it wild—like, there was—you have to be the right type of person to say that with a straight face. I have often found that when we're— If I'm playing, like, a D&D event with people or something, and I introduce myself as "I'm Travis McElroy. I'm kind of the bad boy of Dungeons & Dragons."

It gets a laugh every time!

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: And I guarantee that there are people out there who could deliver that line with a straight face and people would be like, "Hmm, yes, seems right."

Teresa: "Oh, okay." [laughs]

Travis: "Yeah, that seems right." But when I say it, it gets a laugh. Like, if I tried to do that and someone was like, "Why weren't you at this big famous person's wedding?" And I was like, "Uh, I didn't want to outshine the event." People would laugh, right? But Frank Sinatra says it and everyone's like, "What a cool dude."

Teresa: What a cool dude. So that was definitely very glamorous, much expense, right?

Travis: You know what else is very glamorous?

Teresa: Oh!

Travis: The rewards you get from the Maximum Fun Drive. That's right. There are rewards. It's not just the reward of having us in warmth in your heart [crosstalk].

Teresa: Although that is quite rewarding.

Travis: It's very nice. But also there's over 600 hours of bonus content. And for just \$5 a month, you will get access to all of it. Not just this year's bonus content, but every single bit of bonus content that has been made in the past.

Teresa: Several of those hours are our bonus content.

Travis: That's true! And there's video content. This year Teresa and I did an episode about the history of emojis, as well as a little video quiz where I flash card quizzed Teresa on what emojis mean in the slang sort of sense, and she did her best.

Teresa: I did... as well as can be expected for my very firmly millennial brain. [laughs]

Travis: But there's all kinds of stuff. There's stuff from My Brother, My Brother, and Me, Adventure Zone, Shmanners, Sawbones, Still Buffering, Wonderful, all kinds of stuff.

This year I'm very excited because the Wonderful bonus content is an episode of Rosebuddies, which was my favorite podcast when they were still Rosebuddies, so that's very exciting to me.

Um, but you can get all of that at Maximumfun.org/join. And then for \$10 a month you'll get access to all that bonus content and your choice of enamel pin, each one representing one of the shows on Maximumfun.org. There's some really great ones on there, but I'm a little bit biased because I think that the Shmanners one is so cute. It's a little winking teacup that says, "Get it?"

Teresa: [simultaneously] It is very cute.

Travis: It's so great. For \$20 a month you get your choice of pin. You get 600+ hours of bonus content, and you get to choose between the Max Fun bucket hat or the games on the go kit that has all of the game pieces there for checkers on a bandanna game board that you can take with you, that you can wear for convenience. It's all there. And there's higher levels too. But the important thing is if our shows are important to you, it's the kind of thing where, like, every Friday you're like, "Oh! I get to listen to Shmanners on my way home from work," or whatever. Or like, "Oh, when I pick up the kids from school I'll check out the new episode."

Or if you just like knowing that content like this exists in the world and you like listening to it and like knowing that there are people out there making stuff that you like, please consider going to Maximumfun.org/join. There's a bunch of different options of how you can support, but all of it means the world to us, and it all gives us the chance to make these shows for you, and hire people to make the shows better, and help us do more things, and all of that is because of the support that we've been shown over the years.

So if you want to contribute to that support, please consider going to Maximumfun.org/join right now and becoming a member.

Teresa: Let's move on to rudest groom.

Travis: Okay. I'm into this.

Teresa: [laughs] Um, let's kind of couch this just a little bit, because—

Travis: We're talking about a rude, crude dude with plenty of 'tude.

Teresa: I mean, yes. But also this was not uncommon as far as, like, royal marriages go.

Travis: Oh, okay, yeah.

Teresa: This marriage had nothing to do with love. Um, but we're gonna say that the superlative of rudest boy goes to King George IV.

Travis: Oh! Call him rude boy.

Teresa: Boy boy.

Travis: Yeah.

Teresa: Yeah? That was it, right? In 1795 George, then merely the Prince of Wales—

Travis: Ugh. That's all?

Teresa: —was arranged to marry his cousin, Princess Caroline of Brunswick.

Travis: Guh-ross!

Teresa: I mean, not—also, again, normal for the time period and royals.

Travis: Sure.

Teresa: Um, and he was a jerk about it.

Travis: Aww, man.

Teresa: First of all, he already had a wife. [laughs]

Travis: Now, okay. That—hmm. That doesn't seem like a rude thing so much as I guess—

Teresa: [simultaneously] I mean...

Travis: I guess if someone proposed marriage to me and then I found out they were already married I would maybe say, "How wude." You know, a little bit.

Teresa: [laughs] So he had a, quote, "secret" marriage in contravention to the Royal Marriages Act, but even though it wasn't, like, legally binding, everybody knew about it. That's why it was, quote, "secret." Everybody knew that he was already—

Travis: So the quotes was more around the marriage point than the secret point.

Teresa: No, both! I mean—

Travis: But you said it wasn't legally sanctioned!

Teresa: It wasn't legally binding, but it also wasn't a secret.

Travis: Yeah. So it was secret "marriage," in quotes.

Teresa: No. Not secret.

Travis: But it wasn't a marriage! What I'm saying is the secret part's not in quotes! The marriage part is in quotes!

Teresa: No, the secret part is in quotes!

Travis: No, but it's not [crosstalk]—

Teresa: Because it's not secret! Everybody knows it!

Travis: [simultaneously] Oh, then it's "secret... " "marriage."

Teresa: Yes. Double quotes.

Travis: So it's two sets. "Secret" "marriage."

Teresa: [simultaneously] "Secret" "marriage."

Travis: You can't just put secret marriage in one. It's gotta be "secret... " "marriage."

Teresa: Yes.

Travis: Okay. Double quotes.

Teresa: Double quotes. So his union to Caroline obviously wasn't based on love, but it was money! He had accrued hundreds of thousands of pounds in debt, and Caroline had the money to pay it off. Don't you think at least in that situation, if you were in that situation, you'd be a little grateful, right? You would need—you needed—

Travis: [simultaneously] Would I?

Teresa: —this person in the form of their cash value.

Travis: If it was me, yes. Now if I was raised as a—this was 1600, 1700?

Teresa: 1700's.

Travis: 1700's royal? Uh, who somehow incurred hundreds of thousands of pounds of debt and then went, "I should do something about this."

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: 'Cause that's not, like, one bad hand of poker, right? That's like, over years he incurred this debt and was like, "You know what? This is starting to worry me!"

Teresa: George and Caroline did not see each other, had not, like, officially met each other until Caroline arrived for the wedding.

Travis: And sparks flew.

Teresa: No.

Travis: Oh.

Teresa: Apparently when he first saw her he exclaimed, "I am not well! Get me a glass of brandy!"

Travis: Oh. Was Brandy his secret wife?

Teresa: No.

Travis: 'Cause that would be... funny, at least.

Teresa: Um, the bride was insulted.

Travis: Yeah!

Teresa: And retorted, reportedly, that he was, quote, "Nothing like as handsome as his portrait."

Travis: Oh.

Teresa: So the evening went down just about as bad as things could go.

Travis: So it was the equivalent of the childhood rhyme of like, you need to grow up, and when you look at you I wanna throw up, and then her going "Oh yeah? Well, you don't look like your profile picture. So... like, you said you were 6'8" and blah, blah, blah." Right? That's basically what we're looking at?

Teresa: Are people 6'8" on the reg?

Travis: No, baby. That's not a common thing. But I'm saying if you're gonna lie about your height—

Teresa: Oh, okay, okay.

Travis: —you wouldn't say like, "I'm gonna lie and say I'm 5'9"," right? You're just gonna go for it. And say it's 6'8".

Teresa: Okay. Okay. Um, to add insult to injury, that evening, George appointed his mistress, Lady Jersey, to be Caroline's lady of the bedchamber. So, like, she had to be around her 24-sev.

Travis: That sounds like something straight out The Great, huh?

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: On the wedding day, April 8th, they had a extremely awkward ceremony at St. James Palace. Why, you say? Because George was so intoxicated he could barely stand up.

Travis: Oh boy.

Teresa: And at several points—

Travis: I've seen some of those on TikTok too, you know what I mean?

Teresa: Yeah. At several points in the ceremony, he refused to participate!

Travis: Oh boisie.

Teresa: And then his father, the king, would make him. And as the ceremony—

Travis: What a cool look, huh?

Teresa: Yeah, yeah, yeah. As the c—

Travis: How old was he at this point?

Teresa: I don't know exactly.

Travis: Okay. I'm gonna look it up.

Teresa: But as the ceremony wore on—these things do tend to wear on—he was openly crying about how much he did not want to marry Caroline.

Travis: Oh, that's kind of sad.

Teresa: So... vows exchanged were awkward, right? And then also the reception, and then also the wedding night, which is usually attended by several courtiers. I'm not sure if at this point in history in the 1790's they were still doing that, but at least someone was waiting outside the door.

Caroline—

Travis: Okay, wait. So he... aww, okay. He was also 33 at this point, it's important to note. When you're talking about like, "He was so drunk and his father had to make him," I was like, wait. Is he, like, 16, 17? Like, what are you talking about?

Teresa: Oh.

Travis: No, he was 33.

Teresa: Does that make it better that he's so much older?

Travis: No, it makes it—not the rest of it though, it doesn't make up for it.

Teresa: Yeah. She said about that wedding night that they returned to their room, were George promptly passed out in the fireplace grate.

Travis: Oh!

Teresa: "Where he fell, and I left him," she said.

Travis: Okay! She was 27 when they married, in case anyone was curious.

Teresa: I mean, at least they were close in age.

Travis: Yeah.

Teresa: Let's go to the other side of things. Away from royalty.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Let's go to best... undressed.

Travis: Scusie?

Teresa: We're talking about wild weddings. And if you're gonna talk about a wild wedding—

Travis: They were nude, nude, totally nude?

Teresa: That's right!

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Let's talk about a nudist wedding.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: In the news.

Travis: In the nudes.

Teresa: Yes. Regis and Tabitha Pearch met—

Travis: Regis and Cathy Lee. [laughs quietly]

Teresa: Noo. Met at a resort in 2004, and so it was only appropriate that they get married at that same place four years later.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Teresa: Which is very romantic if you ask me.

Travis: Sure!

Teresa: Going back to the place you met.

Travis: As long as the place you met is... nice. Right?

Teresa: Very nice, yeah.

Travis: But if it's like, "Oh, yeah. Um, like, we got into a car accident on, like, the corner of a street." Maybe then...

Teresa: That's when you—yeah.

Travis: Right? Or "We met... we met, like, at an urgent care 'cause I cut my finger open with a hedge trimmer." Maybe you don't wanna get married at the urgent care.

Teresa: Maybe not. But this couple wanted to get married at Cyprus Cove Nudist Resort.

Um, March 5th, 2008. On their first wedding day, the Pearches wore a suit and dress so their families could feel comfortable. But Valentine's Day, 2019, they finally had the ceremony that they had always wanted, renewing their vows at their beloved beach resort entirely in the nude.

Travis: I hope the weather was nice.

Teresa: I think so. Valentine's Day? I mean, February. But Cypress Cove Nudist Resort... probably it's—you know, I think that nudist resorts are probably placed in warmer places.

Travis: Right, yeah, it's gotta be nice.

Teresa: Pretty temperate climate, I would assume.

Travis: Yeah. Lots of sun.

Teresa: Mrs. Pearch told the New York Times that she had always wanted to do a nude, barefoot wedding, and she got to have her dream. And her husband of 11 years at that point added, "We are just in a wedding that we had to get all dressed up for, and it was a lot more stressful than rolling up wearing nothing."

Travis: I imagine.

Teresa: I mean, if the choice is clothes or not clothes and you want to make no choices, then no clothes is the ultimate no choice, right?

Travis: But, I mean, you do have to budget extra for sunscreen and bug spray.

[pause]

Teresa: Noted, yes, yes. Um, and this experience is not a rare one, actually. Many nudist communities throughout the United States host nude or clothing-optional weddings, and there are a number of reasons that couples decide to go *au naturale*.

Travis: So I guess you're saying it's wilder to get married wearing clothes. That's the wilder option, when you think about it.

[loudly] We came into this world naked! And we should start our new lives naked as well.

Teresa: If that's what you're into.

Travis: Sure. I would not be able to do that because the whole time I'd be like, "This—uh. Hm, uh. [unintelligible mumbling]" But that's me!

Teresa: Um, I don't think that it's the fact—they're not included because this is uncommon, they're included because there was a big New York Times article about it.

So, most nudist communities are very tight knit, so usually the couple's friends are already living near or on the property, and so it makes it very easy to celebrate. Even some couples who aren't nudists have been known to frequent these resorts as a show of vulnerability for their wedding, right?

Caroline Hawkins, who has officiated a number of nude weddings, also points out that getting married at a nudist colony is a very smart financial move, because you have—the properties usually have a clubhouse, and they can have their own little party, and you'd have to travel or take a honeymoon, right? 'Cause you're right there. Um, and they can spend more money on the party.

Travis: Yeah, makes a lot of sense.

Teresa: If you would like to know about Regis and Tabitha's nude nuptials, they would be happy to tell you about it. As of 2019, Regis was working as the activities director at Cypress Cove Nudist Resort, and Tabitha was also working at the property where they met and they fell in love.

She's a bartender at the appropriately and awesomely named Cheeks Bar and Grill.

Travis: Oh, I see.

Teresa: And Scuttlebutts Lounge.

Travis: Ah! That's great.

Teresa: Very cute.

Travis: Cheeks was good. Scuttlebutts is top notch. I enjoy that immensely.

Teresa: [laughs]

Travis: Speaking of enjoying things, Teresa, would you like to tell people at home what it means to you to have them support Shmanners through the MaxFunDrive every year?

Teresa: Well, it means the world, because it affords us to do the podcasts and the many, like, appearances or con stuff, or the different live shows and things like that. To be able to do that full time. And not only that we get to enjoy employment through that fund drive, we also support others. Editors and managers and all sorts of people. It takes a village to make all of this happen.

Um, and it's through the MaxFunDrive members' generosity that we get to pay them a good wage and benefits and really take care of the people that we employ.

Travis: And how does it feel knowing that out there there are people who care enough about our show to support it financially?

Teresa: It feels amazing. It feels so privileged and blessed. Um, and every year they continue to show and show out and blow me away.

Travis: It's incredible. And I couldn't echo those enough. It feels the same way. I feel so lucky to get to do what we do, and without the support from people listening we wouldn't get to do it. And so every year not only is MaxFunDrive a chance for us to ask you to consider supporting the show, but it's also a chance for us to say thank you. Because without you, I joke about it at the end of most of the show, but without you we couldn't do this. And it means to world to me and to my family that you all have chosen, year over year, to come out and show us support.

Um, so if you're thinking about being a supporter, do it now while you're still thinking about it. Maximumfun.org/join.

Teresa: Let's move on to most viewed weddings.

Travis: And this wasn't the nude one?

Teresa: No.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Not that one. This probably won't shock anybody, but the most viewed wedding in history is the ceremony for Meghan Markle and Prince Harry on May 19th, 2018.

Um, which, I mean, seems like... a bonkers kind of thing, right? Because not only was it, like, viewed in mass attendance, right? Inside and outside of the venue, outside of the palace, also on several television networks and livestreams and all sorts of things, um, it must be... you think about, like, Grace Kelly's wedding being considered a circus. But this whole thing took incredible orchestration, right? Such a big thing that everybody wanted to see. Amazing, right?

Let's give you some stats.

Travis: Give me them stats.

Teresa: The ceremony cost a paltry \$3 million.

Travis: Oh, that's all?

Teresa: Right?

Travis: Ah!

Teresa: [laughs quietly] But the wedding altogether cost 43 million.

Travis: Wow!

Teresa: With the bulk of that going to security and police, and other measures to ensure the safety of the royals and the guests, and also the people watching, right? So the huge crowds and things like that.

Travis: I bet pickpockets were rampant!

Teresa: It's possible.

Travis: I've talked about it I think on this show before—

Teresa: I don't have any stats on that.

Travis: I have this completely unearned fear of pickpockets. I am convinced when I leave my house there's just street urchins everywhere working for Fagan, ready to pick a pocket or two. I'm convinced.

Teresa: There were 600 guests including politicians, other members of royalty, lots of stars, including Idris Elba, Tom Hardy, James Corden—

Travis: Travis McElroy.

Teresa: —Sir Elton John—no, I don't think you were.

Travis: I didn't wanna outshine the event!

Teresa: [laughs] That's a great callback. Good job, good job, good job. Pat on the back for you.

Travis: I'm so tired.

Teresa: [laughs] And George and Amal Clooney. Um, and 2000 other people waited for them in the royal gardens, and then millions more tuned in at home. All told, Harry and Meghan's wedding drew a record breaking 1.9 billion viewers, and was said to have generated 1.27 billion for the British economy.

Travis: Wow.

Teresa: And this is not, like, an unheard of thing for the British Royal, like, extravaganza, right? Top three spots for most viewed televised weddings of all time belong to the royal family. Charles and Diana come in second, and then Prince William and Kate Middleton are third, each with their nuptials gaining more than a billion television views.

Travis: They know how to throw a party.

Teresa: They sure do. Let's move on to worst honeymoon.

Travis: Okay. Okay.

Teresa: Yeah.

Travis: How bad would that have to be?

Teresa: Okay.

Travis: Okay.

Teresa: Sir Walter Raleigh had a very interesting life. He was a naval hero, and noted feature in Queen Elizabeth's court.

Travis: An explorer?

Teresa: One of the first British colonizers of the Americas.

Travis: Sure.

Teresa: And he has a handful of towns and cities named after him here.

Travis: Raleigh in North Carolina.

Teresa: Mm-hmm, mm-hmm. He's most famous here in the States for establishing the doomed colony at Roanoke.

Travis: Sure.

Teresa: But, like I said, Raleigh, North Carolina. There's other Raleighs and things like that.

Travis: There's the restaurant chain, Raleigh's.

Teresa: No, that's Rally's.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Teresa: He was a favorite of the aging Queen Elizabeth I who required that people in her court ask her permission before they marry.

And being an idiot, he got in trouble with her in 1591, because he was having a secret affair with one of her ladies in waiting!

Travis: Aww, man.

Teresa: Giant no-no. Do not do. Right? Bad—that puts you on the bad list, right? His lover, Bess Throckmorton, became pregnant. He secretly married her without ever asking anything of the queen.

Travis: Oh boy.

Teresa: Couple of strikes against him there, right? Three strikes, you're out, and that's about what's gonna happen. Because when she found out, she was enraged.

Travis: Yeah!

Teresa: She banished them from court. She locked them both in the Tower of London. However, her heart was softened when their son of this union passed away, um, and so she allowed for Bess to be released, but Walter had to continue to serve out several months, and was still banished from court for five years.

Um, and so... [laughs quietly] he spent the next several years doing everything he could, before being imprisoned in the tower again in 1603! Probably for just being... a jerk about everything, right?

Travis: So you're saying that their honeymoon was spent in prison?

Teresa: Yes.

Travis: Okay. Yeah, that's pretty bad. Yeah.

Teresa: Mm-hmm, mm-hmm. There is kind of a couch to this, right? Because—

Travis: They got a couch in their prison cell?!

Teresa: Yes. They had extreme wealth and status, so they weren't exactly, like, in a cell like you picture, like a dungeon in chains and things like that.

Travis: [crosstalk] They did have a couch. Okay.

Teresa: They had an apartment, um, where it was living rather comfortably for the time. Bess and two other servants were allowed to live in the apartment with Walter. Um, and they even had their second child there, their son, Carew, in the tower. Which is... pretty metal, I guess.

Travis: Yeah. Alright. Well, thank you all so much for listening. Thank you, once again, for your support. This is, like I said, the last episode that you'll hear us talking about the MaxFunDrive this year. So, don't wait. If you're thinking about it, if you're like, "Oh, I do want to support them this year. I want to upgrade. I want to boost," whatever.

This is the time. Go to Maximumfun.org/join while you're still thinking about it so it doesn't slip right out of your head. We appreciate it immensely. We also want to say thank you to our researcher, Alexx, without whom we could not make this show. We want to say thank you to our editor, Rachel, without whom we could not make this show. And we want to say thank you to you, without whom we wouldn't have Rachel or Alexx. So thank you all so much for your support.

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. Also, 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.

If you have any, you know, wild wedding stories that you want to share with you, you can email Alexx, A-L-E-X-X, at shmannerscast@gmail.com. She loves to read those stories.

Also, you can send in your topic submissions and suggestions and your idioms and questions. Send it all there! And say hi to Alexx, because she reads every single 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 Shmanners...

Teresa: Manners, Shmanners. Get it?

[theme music plays]

[chord]

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