

THANKSGIVING AT MARY'S

By Siobhan Hill

Character list:

MARY: 30, eldest daughter. Mary is a pushover, with a plain appearance, and a slightly sarcastic edge. She should be dressed in sensible, and comfortable clothes with very little make-up and hair.

JEN: 50's, Mary's mom. Jen is a perfectionist, the average suburban mom who is all about schedule, cleanliness and keeping up appearances. She should be dressed classily, but not extravagantly with simple jewelry and small heels.

KEN: 20's, Mary's brother, middle child. Ken is a jokester, a little immature and madly in love with Anne. He's a likable, blue collar worker and should dress accordingly.

BEN: 50's Mary's dad, laid-back. Ben is the strong, silent type, he loves his children and his wife and finds her idiosyncrasies endearing. He is well-meaning, but not in the loop. He should be dressed in a hideously themed sweater and slacks.

LEN: 40's, Jen's brother. Len is the older version of Ken, a blue collar worker who gets on his sister's nerves. He's a genuinely happy and and enthusiastic person.

GWEN: 20's Mary's youngest sister. Gwen is 'perfect', the vision of what Jen wanted as a daughter. Pretty, successful, social butterfly and charming. She should be dressed fashionably, but not gaudily.

ANNA: 20's, neighbor. Anne is a fiery young woman, perfect for Ken and Mary's childhood best friend. She has an undeniable zest for life, but is currently preoccupied with a secret. She's dressed flatteringly but casually.

TEAGUE: 40's, Anne's uncle. Teague has an indistinguishable accent and heritage, and struggles with english. He's here for the holidays and has a boisterous and eccentric personality. He's fascinated by everything American and this is his first Thanksgiving.

PENNY: 20's, Gwen's best friend. Penny is politely giddy, but reserved. She's a legal consultant and a little dry, but very sweet. She should be dressed in a fashionable fitted suit.

NANA: 70's, Jen's mom. Nana is the typical well-meaning, but passive aggressive grandmother. She drinks a little too much and is very religious. She should be dressed in a tacky floral or pastel skirt suit, her sunday best, with brooches and buckles and preferably with a very large hat.

MEE-MEE: 90's Nana's mom. Mee-mee has lived too long. She should be a chain smoking, take-no-prisoners, Rosie the Riveter generation type, who doesn't care what she says or who she says it to. She should be dressed gaudily, extravagantly, with animal print, khakis, red heels and a cane.

NICK HAGGEN: 30, firefighter. Mary's high school crush. July-on-firemans-charity-calendar handsome.

SETTING: Mary's house. Living Room - Dining Room - Kitchen divide the set in thirds, obnoxiously decorated with fall themed knick knacks. There's a staircase, and a large window against back wall. Front door is stage left, back door is stage right. The kitchen door swings, and should almost hit someone every comedic chance there is. The faster the dialog the better. Simple lighting.

CURTAIN

JEN

(setting dining room table) Mary, where are you? They're going to be here any minute!

MARY

(from upstairs, offstage) Mom! This doesn't fit! I said it wasn't going to fit, and it doesn't.

JEN

It fit last year, it's those hips, you eat too much junk food.

MARY

I've never seen it before in my life, mom, and I don't eat too much junk food. (comes down stairs wearing a comedically small, ghastly pink dress)

JEN

Maybe it was your sister's she got that lovely figure.

MARY

Thanks mom.

JEN

I'm just saying, you could stand to lose those last few pounds.

MARY

I like the way I look, mom. (heads back upstairs)

JEN

(absently) That's all that matters, sweetie. How'd your date go last night? Hmm?

MARY

(from upstairs, offstage) Fine mom, he's a nice guy.

JEN

And?

MARY

And... what?

JEN

(scoffs) You're too private about your private life Mary, I am your mother, after all. You've never told me anything since that Nick Haggen incident? Remember that boy in 9th grade? The one that you got your braces stuck on? His mother says he's a fireman now.

MARY

(from upstairs, offstage) (aside) What's a holiday without painful memories. (to JEN) He's just some guy from work mom, relax. Remind me again why we're not at your house.

JEN

Because the downstairs toilet doesn't work and your dining room is bigger. Have you put the turkey in the oven yet? And when was the last time you dusted?

MARY

(from upstairs, off stage) Turkey's in the oven. I dusted this morning.

JEN

(wiping a finger on the coffee table) Hmm. Where's your duster?

MARY

(coming downstairs) Mom, I already dusted.

JEN

I'm just going to do a touch up, that's all. (starts opening cabinets and closets) Where's your father?

MARY

Dad went to pick up Ken who went to pick up more chairs from Uncle Len.

JEN

You didn't think about how many chairs we needed? Mary, that should have been on your list, you made a list, right?

MARY

I didn't know until this morning that Anna and her deranged uncle were coming.

JEN

Mary, he's not deranged he's foreign. (finds duster in closet, starts dusting)

MARY

He's deranged, mom. Last Christmas he called my jeans 'Texas Canvas Pants'.

JEN

(shocked) You wore jeans to church?

MARY

Yes mom, it's the 21st century, I wore jeans to church.

(Knock at door)

BEN

(Opening door) Look who's here!

KEN and LEN

Hey!! (puts down bags of groceries)

MARY

Hey guys! (hugs the boys)

LEN

I'll go back out for the chairs. (LEN exits)

JEN

How was your trip?

BEN

(kisses her cheek) It's started snowing. We picked up some canned goods, candles and batteries.

JEN

You think we might lose power?!

BEN

It's only a precaution, dear.

JEN

Mary, how long until the turkey's done?

MARY

It should be done by four.

JEN

What if we lose power by then? Why do you always leave things down to the wire?

KEN

Oh my God mom, it's a little snow, lay off.

LEN

(comes in, snow flurries, wind) Wooh! It's picked up out there!

JEN

Mary! (darts into kitchen)

MARY

Mom, relax. It's going to be fine.

JEN

(returns, mixing something in large bowl) Call your sister, she's driving six hours just to see us. Tell her to drive slow.

BEN

I just talked to her, she's fine, she'll be here soon.

KEN

(unpacking groceries) Oh, is Miss. University coming home to see the commoners.

MARY

Hey, I went to college.

LEN

You got a Liberal Arts Associate degree. I don't think it counts. (LEN and KEN high five)

JEN

Stop picking on your sister, and you, act more like an adult.

LEN

I'm like 8 years older than her.

JEN

(whacks LEN with spoon) You're still her uncle.

LEN

Blah blah, you sound like mom.

KEN

Ah yes, where is the darling old bat?

JEN

She's taking a bus, and bringing Mee-Mee.

KEN

Oh God, no.

MARY

Mom, you're 50 years old, can't you call her Grandma?

JEN

I'm 49, thank you.

LEN

Sure. (JEN whacks with spoon)
(timer sounds)

JEN

Mary! The turkey!

MARY

I got it. Mom, everything will be done on time and on that table at 5:30 sharp, okay?

JEN

You should have bought more timers, I have a timer for every dish at my Thanksgiving.

BEN

Jen, I think we raised Mary well enough to cook a little dinner, let her do it her own way.

KEN

Yeah, mom, Mary's got this! (whispers) Hey, Mary can I talk to you for a second?

MARY

That depends, can you baste?

KEN

Can I... what?

MARY

Follow me, grasshopper.

(KEN and MARY go into kitchen, lights fade to kitchen – MARY starts checking everything)

MARY

(goes into drawer) This is a baster. (takes turkey out of oven) This is a turkey. (exemplifies basting turkey) (hands it to KEN) Go. (Takes out bag of potatoes, lays out newspaper and starts peeling) So, what do you wanna talk about?

KEN

It's about Anna.

MARY

Oh yeah, how's that going. I always forget you're dating, you know?

KEN

(awkwardly) Good, it's good. Yep, bangin' the neighbor.

MARY

Very romantic, Ken. 'A +'. Would it kill you to be a serious adult?

KEN

It might actually ...

MARY

Is that so? Taxes. (KEN chokes) Briefcase. (KEN clutches heart) Ties. (KEN falls to floor) Cubicle.

KEN

You've killed me! To death!

MARY

That's redundant. What did you want to talk to me about?

KEN

(gets up) I can't keep it a secret anymore -

MARY

NO! No secrets.

KEN

(covers MARY'S mouth) Shh!

MARY

(wrestling to get out of kitchen) You know I can't keep secrets, my eye twitches, and I don't blink, and I do that weird high laugh thing-

KEN

(Whispers) Shh! I know, I know – I just need your help!

MARY

(Whispers) No, I can't! (Puts hands over her ears) don't tell me!

KEN

(wrestles arms away) Please! I. Need. To. Tell. Someone.

MARY

(whispers) Nonono - lalala shh, I can't hear you, shh, no nonononono!

KEN

(whispers) I'm going to ask Anna to marry me at dinner!

MARY

(both pause) Oh God.

KEN

Thats it, thats all.

MARY

Noooo.

KEN

I need you to make sure her glass has the ring in it when we toast.

MARY

Why! Why me? Why not Mom, or Gwen?

KEN

Gwen is on the road and Mom would have made a big deal out of it. She can't know. Promise.

MARY

I can't.

KEN

Promise!

JEN

(enters) What are you two to doing in here?

KEN

(long pause) Potatoes.

JEN

Oh, okay, make sure there's enough for everybody. We have to have enough for everybody, and the turkey - Mary, are you okay, you look like you're going to be sick.

MARY

Fine. I'm fine. Dandy. I am one peachy girl.

JEN

Okay, well your father just left to get Nana and Mee-Mee from the bus stop. Any word from Anna?

(MARY panic giggles) What?

MARY
What?
JEN
Your eye is twitching.
MARY
Is it?
KEN
Anna just texted me, she's coming back from the airport, with Teague.
JEN
Great. How are the cranberries?
KEN
Mom, stop pestering! Mary's got this.
JEN
Alright. I'll leave you to it. (exits)
KEN
Mary, get a hold of yourself.
MARY
This is a big secret, Ken!
KEN
I know, shh, I know, listen I owe you okay? I owe you a Ken Coupon.
MARY
This is it, I'm cashing it now! No more secrets, this is it – never again!
KEN
Done. Thank you. (hugs)
MARY
Get out of my kitchen!
KEN
Okay. (goes to living room) (re-enters) (hands ring box to MARY) Champagne. Dinner.
MARY
Get out!
KEN
Okay. (exits to living room)
MARY
(sighs, looks over shoulder, opens box, whistles) Wow. Go Ken. (takes ring out, plays with it, looks over shoulder, puts it on, smiles, tries to take it off, panics, struggles to take it off, it's stuck) (whispers)
Nooooooooooooo.
NANA
(enters from living room) Where's my snickerdoodle?!
MARY
(panics, hides hand behind back) Nana!
NANA
My baby! Oh, how are you? How's my little girl? (hugs and kisses)
MARY

Nana, I'm 30.

NANA

Honey, when you get to my age, everyone's a little girl. So how are you, how's the job search?

MARY

Fine, good. I've got a temp job in a high school while the sex ed teacher is out on maternity leave. But it's giving me time to focus on painting.

NANA

Oh don't worry honey, you're a late bloomer. You'll find a real job soon.

MARY

Yeah.

NANA

So how's your sister? She's coming right?

MARY

Yeah, she's good, she's got 2 years left at law school, so...

NANA

She got a boyfriend? Sacked a good man? She's so pretty, I bet she has.

MARY

I really don't know.

NANA

And you? Any boys? You've got such a lovely smile from those braces your mom bought you.

MARY

Um ... n- (tries to put hands into pockets)

NANA

(gasps loudly) A ring? You're engaged! OH I'm so happy!

MARY

No! I -

NANA

Jennifer! Jennifer! Why didn't you tell me my granddaughter's engaged?!

MARY

No, I'm not, I'm -

JEN

(bursts through door) What!

NANA

Look at the size of this rock!

JEN

Mary! You should have told me! Just some guy from work, you tease, you!

MARY

Mom, I'm not en-

BEN

(enters) Mary, come out and say hi to Mee-Mee.

JEN

Ben, Ben! Isn't it wonderful! Our Mary is engaged!

BEN

... To who?

MARY

No one! Mom! Stop! It's not mine it's-

LEN

(enters) Why is everybody shouting!?

NANA

MARY IS GETTING MARRIED!

LEN

No way! Congrats kid!

MARY

It's not mine, it's-

KEN

(enters) I can't hear the game, guys, could you keep it down?

LEN

Mary's getting married.

KEN

What!

MARY

(hold up hand displaying ring) (everyone rushes to hug except KEN) (mouths - 'It won't come off. I have to tell them.')

JEN

I'm so happy!

KEN

(mouths 'No don't.')

NANA

Does anyone have a tissue?

MEE-MEE

(enters) You fucking gobshites missed a great touchdown. Where can you get some smokes in this fucking joint.

MARY

(mouths 'I have to!')

KEN

(mimes various 'shut up' motions) (MARY nods vigorously)

MARY

Guys, I'm sorry but -

ANNA

(enters through back door) Guess who's here!

TEAGUE

Hello, Americans!

ANNA

We bought pie and – what's going on? (MARY and KEN shoot panicked looks at each other)

MARY

(throws hands in the air) I'M GETTING MARRIED!

End Scene BLACKOUT

(LATER - MARY is alone in the kitchen, lights on her, she's checking dishes)

MARY

(putting pies in the oven) (quietly) Yea Mom, I'd love to have everyone over. It'll be fun. Make sure to invite everyone before asking me. (starts cleaning dishes) I love surprises. I love secrets too. Just lay them on me. Its Fort Knox in here. Did I mention I'm getting married? To a fictional character no less. You must be so proud.

LEN

(enter) Knock, knock. Need any help, bride-to-be?

MARY

Please don't call me that.

LEN

Alright, jeez. So whats his name again?

MARY

Harry.

LEN

Dursley, right?

MARY

Right, Harry Dursley.

LEN

Harry and Mary Dursley.

MARY

Yep.

LEN

Cool, so when do we meet him?

MARY

He's ... coming ... for ... Christmas.

LEN

Awesome, can't wait to meet him. (kisses cheek) (exits to living room)

MARY

Me neither. (groans, leans head into counter)

TEAGUE

(enters) 'Allo Marie. Joy to see you!

MARY

Hi Teague, I'm joy to see you too. How was your flight?

TEAGUE

Very high, very fast, but the clouds are worth it, yes? I see you are wearing your texas canvas pants! I too have liked in such an exciting novelty! I am asked Anne for them to send me at Christmas. What is eating tonight?

MARY

Well, we're having turkey, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, green bean casserole, stuffing, steamed and candied carrots, spinach and mushroom quiche, hot rolls, pumpkin pie, apple pie, apple cake and ice cream.

TEAGUE

(gets very serious) Then you know?

MARY

Know what?

TEAGUE

(leans in very close and whispers) Quiche.

MARY

... It's not that hard, I can give you the recipe-

TEAGUE

NO! Don't speak it aloud. They will come for you, like they will for me.

MARY

Teague?

TEAGUE

I can hold your secret, not tell. (holds fingers up to his lips, looks around suspiciously and exits)

MARY

Well, he's started early.

ANNA

(enters, laughing) What on earth, did you say to Teague?

MARY

Anna! Nothing, quiche! What, w-what are you doing back here?

ANNA

What's up with you?

MARY

(startled) Nothing! Nothing is up. Nothing, but the ceiling. The ceiling and God! Am I right? (nervous giggle)

ANNA

Cut the crap Mary, I've known you since you were seven. You're acting like the time you got your first kiss from Nick Haggan in 9th grade, after you got your braces unstuck.

MARY

I said I was sorry, I didn't know you were going with him to homecoming.

ANNA

Yeah yeah, you had a crush on him for years, I'm over it. I've got your idiot brother. Is it boy troubles? Are you freaking out over the wedding?

MARY

Yes! Yes. That is it. That is the reason I am freaking out. No other reason whatsoever.

ANNA

(excited) I can't believe you're getting married!

MARY

Me neither! (fakes girlish excitement)

ANNA

You know I haven't even seen the ring yet! Let me see!

MARY

(louder and more aggressive than appropriate) NO! (ANNA shocked) Um, I mean, no. I put it away upstairs, you know, I didn't want to accidentally bake it into a pie or something.

ANNA

(laughs) I'm so happy for you! Really!

MARY

What is it Anna?

ANNA

Nothing, I'm just-

MARY

You're freaking out about something too! I can tell!

ANNA

(whispers) Listen, I've got to tell you something. But I don't want you to get how you get. You can't tell anyone!

MARY

A secret?! Its a secret!? Don't you dare Anna!

ANNA

I know I know! And I want to be happy and supportive and I want today to be all about you because of this wonderful news, but I have to get this off my chest!

MARY

NO! This is a Ken thing right? I'll go get Ken. You can tell Ken!

ANNA

NO! (grabs MARY) Don't! He can't know!

MARY

(struggles toward kitchen door) What could you possibly tell me that you can't tell your four year boyfriend?! I'm getting him!

ANNA

Stop! No! You're my oldest and dearest friend!

MARY

He's your oldest and dearest boyfriend! KE-! (ANNA covers MARY's mouth) MMM

ANNA

Shh! No! Stop it! (pins MARY to ground)

MARY

(whispers) What are you doing!? Look at what you're doing right now!

ANNA

(whispers) I have to tell you!

MARY

(whispers) NO! No more secrets!

ANNA

I- (MARY covers ANNA's mouth, ANNA wrestles free) I'm a week late!

MARY

(long pause, MARY becomes limp) Nooooooooo.

ANNA

We used protection.

MARY

Nonono

ANNA

The pregnancy test won't be accurate until sometime today but... I don't know how it happened.

MARY

Dooon't. Stop telling me!

ANNA

Well. I know *how* it happened.

MARY

Oh my God. You're pregnant?

ANNA

Only maybe! Shh, you can't tell anyone please, Mary, please!

MARY

This is the day I die. Please just kill me now. (pause) Can you even imagine a baby Ken?

ANNA

... Oh my God.

LEN

(enters kitchen door) There she is! That Lady in white! Hey, for something borrowed, want to drive my pick up to the church? It's blue, and I bought it new, it's just old now.

MARY

(turns slowly to face ANNA, ANNA stifles giggles) Sounds nice.

LEN

Yeah? And I got this girl at work, she can get you a deal on some fine dinnerware, but we'll have to pick it up if the wedding location violates her parole. (pause) What are you doing on the floor?

ANNA

Just... showing Mary how to tackle.

LEN

Well don't do it on the linoleum, take it outside before Jen sees. (looks outside) wow, it's really picking up out there.

ANNA

No matter, I'm done telling her. We're good. (gets up, helps MARY up)

LEN

(checking oven) Hey Mary?

MARY

What, Len?

LEN

I don't think this turkey is going to be done by 5:30. If I hear your mother talk about this turkey one more time... This guy at work, he taught me how to deep fry and -

MARY

Do what ever you want Len. (LEN gets excited and races out the back door with the turkey)

JEN

(enters kitchen door) Oh Mary, I'm so happy for you. Go into the living room, relax, I'll take it from here. Go on, go on, relax. Watch the game!

MARY

(shell shocked) Okay.

JEN

(sighs happily) My baby is getting married! Just think, one day Gwen will bring home a nice handsome man too- (checks oven) WHERE'S THE TURKEY?

ANNA

Len brought it outside, he wants to fry it.

JEN

And you let him?! (storms out back door) Len!!

ANNA

Can I use your bathroom? I'm going to take the test again.

MARY

Yeah. (ANNA exits upstairs. MARY exits to living room, sits on the couch. BEN, KEN, TEAGUE, MEE-MEE, and NANA are all distracted, watching the game. TEAGUE gives her a very obvious wink.)

BEN

So how come I haven't met this guy, huh?

MARY

(deep sigh) Because I don't bring guys home dad.

BEN

Why not? You brought that uh, what's his name, that Nick guy, Nick Haggen, with the braces.

MARY

Will no one forget the braces thing? Mom's side of the family wouldn't approve of them.

(door bell rings)

MARY

(blankly) I'll get it.

MEE-MEE

If it's the pizza guy, tell him I already smoked the weed.

MARY

(opens door) Well, hel- (MARY is yanked out the door)

JEN

(enters through kitchen) I swear none of this would happen if I was hosting Thanks- Where's Mary?

TEAGUE

(staring at the TV) Pulling weeds with pizza man. No quiche at all.

NANA

It looked like a woman.

BEN

Woman?

NANA

Or one of those queers.

TEAGUE

I said no quiche.

BEN

Quiche?

JEN

Mom, you really must adopt to the times, they're called homosexuals.

BEN

(pause, dawning comprehension) Jen, I think we should have a talk about Mary.

(Lights focus on back window, snow flurries drift down and MARY, GWEN and PENNY can be seen huddled together)

GWEN

(quickly) Mary, I need your help. This is Penny.

PENNY

Hi.

GWEN

I dropped out of Brown three semesters ago and have been using the money Dad's been sending me towards an art gallery in Manhattan.

PENNY

It's absolutely beautiful, full of natural light and windows that overlook the city.

MARY

(blankly) Oh, how nice.

GWEN

Penny is my legal consultant, and my fiance. I need you to cover for me at dinner so no one knows I'm a lesbian, and a law school dropout.

MARY

A secret, really?

GWEN

You can do this! Come on what's one little secret?

MARY

Why is this happening?

GWEN

Just redirect conversation, or something, you know. Got it? Good. Okay lets go inside!

(Lights up on living room/dining room)

GWEN

(GWEN, PENNY, and MARY enter front door) Happy Thanksgiving everyone! (Everyone gets up to hug)

End Scene BLACKOUT

(JEN, NANA, MEE-MEE, PENNY, GWEN, MARY, ANNA, and TEAGUE seated at dinner table, laughing)

JEN

So how'd you meet Penny?

GWEN

Well... um

PENNY

You see...

MARY

Weren't you guys... Sophomore roommates?

GWEN

You're right, Penny got transferred into my dorm after she switched majors.

PENNY

And we've been best friends ever since.

JEN

Aw, well thats nice. Where is your father with the turkey?

MEE-MEE

They better not fuck up my dinner!

JEN

Settle down Mee-Mee (mouths and NANA) where are her meds?

ANNA

I'll get them, I have to use the bathroom anyway, The one in the hallway right? (MARY nods, ANNA runs upstairs)

JEN

Actually, me too, Mary, can I use the bathroom in your room?

MARY

Sure. Why don't I get some ice and the champagne while we wait? (goes to kitchen) (gets ice and champagne) (takes ring out of pocket)

KEN

(enters through back door) Hey Mary? (MARY jumps, drops ring down sink, looks at KEN) No!

MARY

Oh my god.

KEN

You didn't

MARY

I'm sorry!

KEN

Oh my god.

MARY

I'll call the plumber!

KEN

It's Thanksgiving Mary! No plumbers are coming on Thanksgiving!

MARY

Well what do we do?!

KEN

I don't know!! (pause) (throws hand down the drain)

MARY
Do you feel it?

KEN
No. (grunts) My arm is stuck.

JEN
(enters) What's going on in here?

KEN and MARY
Nothing! (huge bang, lights go out)

JEN
GREAT, Mary. We've lost power! This never happened at my Thanksgiving, anyway that's not what I wanted to talk to you about, I found this pregnancy test in your bathroom-

TEAGUE
(enters from kitchen door, screaming) THEY'VE COME FOR ME!

BEN
(enters, from back door) THE TURKEY'S ON FIRE!

JEN
WHAT?

GWEN
(enters from kitchen door) What is going on in here!?

JEN
CALL THE FIRE DEPARTMENT (GWEN exits, swinging the swinging door into PENNY who is knocked to the floor)

GWEN
OH MY GOD!
(ANNA runs in, gives MARY a hug)

KEN
WILL YOU MARRY ME ANN?

ANNA
I'M NOT PREGNANT!

LEN
(enters from back door) THE TREE IS NOW ON FIRE!

KEN
WHAT? IS THAT A YES?

NANA
(enters from kitchen door) SOMEONE HAS KILLED PENNY!

TEAGUE
THEY SKY IS FALLING!

GWEN
PENNY'S NOT DEAD! SHE MY *GIRLFRIEND*!

JEN
CAN SOMEBODY PLEASE CALL 911!

BEN
GIRLFRIEND? YOU'RE GAY *TOO*?

JEN

MARY'S NOT GAY, SHE'S PREGNANT!

NANA

WHO'S QUEER AND WHO'S PREGNANT?

BEN

(to MARY) YOU SAID YOU DON'T BRING GUYS HOME, (to NANA) YOUR HOMOPHOBIA
IMPRISONED MY DAUGHTER!

JEN

OH GOD I'M JUST LIKE MY MOTHER!

GWEN

*I LIKE WOMEN! I LOVE PENNY! I WANT TO BUY A SILVER BULLET TRAILER AND
TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH HER.*

KEN

YEAH, GWEN!

ANNA

KEN WILL YOU MARRY ME?

KEN

IN A HEARTBEAT!

NANA

CAN SOMEONE PLEASE CLARIFY WHO GAY, WHO ENGAGED, AND WHOSE PREGNANT?

LEN

SOMEONE EITHER CALL 911 OR PASS ME THE PHONE!!

TEAGUE

NO ONE CALL THE POLICE! IS UNDER CONTROL!

MEE-MEE

(enters from kitchen door) *EVERYBODY SHUT THE HELL UP!* (silence) NOW SIT THE FUCK
DOWN, WHEREVER YOU ARE, JUST SIT THE FUCK DOWN! (everybody sits, MEE-MEE picks
up phone, dials) Yes 911, we have an emergency, someone set the turkey on fire, impregnated the
neighbor, killed a lesbian, and my idiot great grandson seems to have his arm stuck in a drain. Yes,
thank you. It's on Main Street, you can't miss it, we're sending up fucking smoke signals. Thank you.
(hangs up) (silence)

(timer rings)

MARY

(calmy gets meat tenderizer. tenderizes timer) Quiche is done. (TEAGUE gasps, MARY grabs
champagne off counter, opens it, and takes a swig from the bottle.) Now I need everybody to listen to
me. If I start crying or stuttering it's not because I'm sad, it's just where I'm at right now, so no one say
anything. I hate putting condoms on bananas and grading papers. I did not want to have Thanksgiving
here. I think that turkey is disgusting, and so is cranberry sauce. I hate having people over because I
hate doing dishes, dusting, vacuuming and entertaining in general. My dog died two years ago and none
of you RSVPed to his funeral, or seemed to even notice. When I was 14, I saw a skinny old man in an
Armani suit get on the bus with three pizza pies topped with M&Ms and he ate every single piece
before I got off and I still think about it. I believe in the Loch Ness monster and aliens. There's a video
of me on youtube somewhere drunkenly explaining that Narwhals are the result of a rhino impregnating

a seal and people believed me. I owe over two hundred dollars to the library and I never intend to pay it back. Mom, I didn't really go to the job conference in Florida this summer, I took the money for the ticket, the plane and the hotel and drove to Harry Potter world at Universal because I love Harry Potter and sold a painting for \$400 of Hermione Granger and none of you realized I made up my fake boyfriends name from the book. Nana, homosexuality has been practiced for thousands of years, longer than christianity, get over it. Mee-Mee, no one likes your second hand smoke. Len, when has deep frying a turkey ever gone well? You never hear of it ever being successful. Teague, quiche is a pie, these are jeans, and Americans are awful people who wiped out an entire race and then celebrate it on this day. The rest of you, I AM NOT A PIGGY BANK FOR YOUR SECRETS. Just to clarify, I am not gay, I am not pregnant and I am not getting marr-

(NICK HAGGEN ENTERS IN FIREMANS UNIFORM, carrying an axe)

NICK

WHERE'S THE TURKEY?

MARY

Nick?

NICK

Mary?

KEN

Nick? Nick Haggen? The braces guy?

END PLAY