

160. The A to Z of Christmas TRANSCRIPT

[00:00] Luke: You're listening to Luke's English Podcast. For more information, visit teacherluke.wordpress.com.

Hello, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to Luke's English Podcast. This is an extra special Christmas episode. In this one, we're going to go through a kind of A to Z of Christmas, uh, in which we cover various words or various things that you basically should know, uh, relating to Christmas. Now, you may know some of these things already, of course, because I imagine the way in which you deal with Christmas in your country is quite similar to the way we deal with Christmas in the United Kingdom. Uh, but, uh, do you know all the words and things? You know? Do you all know all the sort of words that everybody in the UK knows in relation to Christmas? Well, if you don't, then good, because you're gonna learn them all here. If you do know all those words, then that's also good. It just means that you can just sit back and enjoy this extra special Christmas episode of Luke's English Podcast.

[01:03] Luke: First of all, I'd just like to say Merry Christmas. Um, happy Christmas. I hope that you're ready. I hope you're kind of all prepared for Christmas, um, and that you've done all your shopping and stuff. Um, don't forget, of course, you can leave comments and stuff so you can reply and respond to some of the things that you're gonna hear in this episode by visiting, that's right, teacherluke.wordpress.com. You'll find a page for this episode, and there you can write your comments underneath, leave your questions and, and, uh, whatever you want to say, you can say it there. Uh, in this episode, I'm joined by my good friend Raphael, um, who is just here for a couple of days before he goes back to England to spend his Christmas in Liverpool. Hi, Raph, how are you?

[01:47] Raphael: Hi there. Yeah.

[01:49] Luke: Good?

[01:49] Raphael: Great, thanks.

[01:49] Luke: Yeah. So, you ready for Christmas?

[01:52] Raphael: Pretty much, I think. You know, still a few bits and pieces to pick up. Few last minute, bit of last minute shopping.

[01:57] Luke: Really?

[01:57] Raphael: But, yeah, pretty much good to go.

[01:59] Luke: Okay. You've done most of your shopping. You've got some last minute shopping to do?

[02:02] Raphael: Mm, last minute, yeah, yeah. It's always a little bit last minute with me, I think.

[02:06] Luke: Really?

[02:06] Raphael: Quite, quite cliché in that respect, but, uh, yeah, sort of, uh, always kind of rushing around with the rest of, uh, the kind of men of Liverpool-

[02:14] Luke: Yes.

[02:14] Raphael: ... with a slightly desperate look in my eye.

[02:17] Luke: Right.

[02:17] Raphael: Trying to grab any, anything that might pass as a present. But, uh, yeah, yeah, I'll be, uh, I have got some things though. I've got the main, the main things are, are all, are all done and dusted, so, so that's good.

[02:27] Luke: All right. Excellent. So, Raph, um, well, actually first of all, um, you, you have been on the podcast before. You've made some brief appearances.

[02:36] Raphael: Yeah.

[02:36] Luke: On Luke's English Podcast.

[02:38] Raphael: Yeah, yeah.

[02:38] Luke: But t- just tell us briefly about the, the times that you've been on Luke's English Podcast in the past. Maybe just once or twice, but, um-

[02:45] Raphael: Mm.

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[02:45] Luke: ... perhaps you can just remind my listeners, uh, of those times when you've already been on Luke's English Podcast.

[02:51] Raphael: Yeah. You might have glimpsed me, if you're a long term, long term listener or watcher, in the, um, Notting Hill Carnival podcast. I don't remember when. That's at least three, three or four years ago maybe.

[03:03] Luke: That was, that was Notting Hill Carnival 2009.

[03:05] Raphael: Good knowledge.

[03:06] Luke: So that's, that's, um, it's about four years ago.

[03:10] Raphael: Ah, yeah, yeah. Time flies.

[03:12] Luke: Yeah.

[03:12] Raphael: Um, and, yeah, yes, I was, I was in that one. That was the most memorable, most memorable podcast appearance.

[03:18] Luke: Yeah.

[03:18] Raphael: Uh, and what do you call a video podcast? Like a ...

[03:20] Luke: A, a vodcast.

[03:21] Raphael: A vodcast? Okay.

[03:22] Luke: But I don't normally call them vodcasts. In fact, most of my podcasts are audio ones. Um, but yeah, ladies and gentlemen, if you, if you don't know the podcast we're talking about, this was from, uh, you know, a few years ago. And I went to the Notting Hill Carnival, uh, and I met Raph and some others, and I had my video camera and I made a, like a video podcast. You can now find that episode on, of course, teacherluke.wordpress.com. You can go there and find it. It's something like episode 60, I think. Um ...

[03:54] Raphael: Excellent.

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[03:55] Luke: Yeah. So, you saw Raph then. So you, you have met Raph before on Luke's English Podcast. Um, and is that it? Is that the only time you've been on the-

[04:03] Raphael: I think I mi- might have had a brief, a really short sort of appearance on a, on an audio podcast. I don't, I don't remember though, to be honest with you.

[04:11] Luke: Did, did, did I talk to you about Michael Jackson perhaps?

[04:15] Raphael: Maybe. Yeah, that's, uh, that's ringing a bell. Yeah, that's, uh ...

[04:18] Luke: Yeah? (laughs)

[04:19] Raphael: Yeah, um, that, that sounds familiar. Yeah.

[04:21] Luke: Yeah. I think we ... You might be one of the people I spoke to about Michael Jackson.

[04:25] Raphael: In mourning, you know.

[04:26] Luke: Yeah.

[04:26] Raphael: A sad, a sad time.

[04:27] Luke: A grief-stricken episode.

[04:29] Raphael: Might have been crying-

[04:30] Luke: Really?

[04:31] Raphael: ... at, at the time.

[04:31] Luke: It was, yeah, it was a difficult time f- following his death.

[04:35] Raphael: Probably wasn't though.

[04:35] Luke: Yeah. You probably weren't. No. No. Okay. Right. So, what we have in front of us here is an A to Z. Now, we've just gone through, um, this. We've just

created a list of words and things, uh, that relate to Christmas. In fact, wait a minute. I've just realized there's something missing.

[04:53] Raphael: Uh-huh.

[04:53] Luke: Um, there's ... We're missing some Christmas music in the background. So I'm gonna just pause the podcast for a second, and then when we carry on, you'll hear the sounds of some classic Christmas songs which are always playing whenever you spend Christmas in ... Back, back home in England.

[05:09] Raphael: Mm.

[05:10] Luke: You know, pubs are playing these songs. You hear, hear them on the radio and you hear them in shops and supermarkets and things. So I think it's only appropriate-

[05:18] Raphael: Mm.

[05:18] Luke: ... for, for us to play some of these songs in the background to Luke's English Podcast. So, um, just give me a second and I'll set up the speaker, and then we'll have a fully formed Christmas episode going on.

[05:30] Raphael: Yes. Through the magic that is audio.

[05:32] Luke: Okay.

[05:35] Speaker 3: So this is Christmas. And what have you done?

[05:43] Luke: That's more like it.

[05:44] Speaker 3: Another year over. And a new one just begun. And so this is Christmas.

[05:57] Luke: All right. So this is Christmas, Raph. And what have you done, Raph?

[06:01] Raphael: That's a good question. That's a good question. This, this year?

[06:04] Luke: Well, it's not ... It hasn't really started yet, but as we've said that you have done most of your shopping. Um, all right, so you're gonna hear songs in the

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background that you always hear at Christmastime. This is the sound of John Lennon and Yoko Ono singing Happy Christmas War is Over.

[06:21] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[06:21] Luke: Um, I hope the volume isn't too loud. I'll keep it low, and then if we need to, I can move the microphone in and give everyone a blast of like, you know, Slade or, or something.

[06:30] Raphael: June.

[06:31] Luke: Um, all right, so let's begin. Let's begin with the letter A.

[06:34] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[06:35] Luke: And what, what's the first word that we have here?

[06:37] Raphael: Yeah, advent calendar.

[06:39] Luke: An advent calendar. Now, I actually, I should say at this point that I did record a conversation with, uh, another friend of mine called Paul, and we talk about some Christmas-related things as well. And we mentioned the advent calendar. But briefly, what is an advent calendar then, Raph?

[06:54] Raphael: Um, well, whenever I think of advent calendars, it's always, I just think of little chocolates-

[06:59] Luke: Yes.

[07:00] Raphael: ... that you, uh, that you kind of try not to eat all on the 1st of December.

[07:04] Luke: Right.

[07:04] Raphael: Because you have a, a calendar, so you have all the- but just leading up to Christmas Day, so you have 24 little windows that you open. Or do you have one for Christmas Day? I can never remember.

[07:13] Luke: There's, there's one on c- the final one is on Christmas Day.

[07:15] Raphael: The final one, it's the, you kind of overlook that one, though, usually, don't you?

[07:18] Luke: Yes.

[07:18] Raphael: You know? But anyway, you, so you open up a little window each day, and there's a picture of something connected to Christmas behind it.

[07:26] Luke: Yeah.

[07:26] Raphael: So that's like your little, uh, your little kind of mini celebration-

[07:30] Luke: Every day.

[07:31] Raphael: ... for that day, I suppose, yeah.

[07:32] Luke: Yeah. A way for you to count down to Christmas.

[07:33] Raphael: Exactly. Uh, uh, like a sort of an angel or a, a donkey or something behind-

[07:39] Luke: Yeah. (laughs)

[07:39] Raphael: Behind the window.

[07:40] Luke: Okay.

[07:40] Raphael: In the window, sorry. And then, you know, the more sophisticated advent calendars are, are sort of, you know, they have a little box inside with a chocolate in it.

[07:50] Luke: Mm-hmm.

[07:50] Raphael: Which is always quite, always quite delicious.

[07:51] Luke: Did you have the chocolate version as a kid?

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[07:54] Raphael: Every now and then. Every now and th- not e- I don't think every year, you know? In, in the more, uh, you know, when, when the, when the, kind of we were in recession.

[08:02] Luke: Yes.

[08:02] Raphael: Might've been just a picture.

[08:03] Luke: Yeah.

[08:03] Raphael: Just get the picture one out. But when, when, when times were good in the Miller household-

[08:08] Luke: Yes.

[08:08] Raphael: ... it was like, it was just chocolates.

[08:09] Luke: Right.

[08:09] Raphael: Chocolates ahoy, you know?

[08:11] Luke: Yeah, brilliant.

[08:11] Raphael: Chocolates everywhere.

[08:12] Luke: Were you disciplined? Were you a good boy? Did you, uh, or did you sort of open the doors and take the chocolates out early?

[08:18] Raphael: (laughs) Sort of craftily slide the, uh, the tray of chocolates out of the bottom of the advent calendar.

[08:24] Luke: (laughs)

[08:24] Raphael: (laughs) Well, I j- I s- I remember sometimes I'd try and save them up.

[08:27] Luke: Mm-hmm.

[08:27] Raphael: So I might, like, go all weekend without a chocolate, and then on Monday, to ease the pain of going to school on Monday morning-

[08:34] Luke: Yeah.

[08:34] Raphael: ... I'd have three chocolates.

[08:35] Luke: Okay.

[08:35] Raphael: And I'd be like, "Yes!" You know, started, started with a win on Monday.

[08:39] Luke: That's clever. So you would actually, like, not eat them every day, and you'd save three chocolates, and then on Monday morning, just to make it easier to-

[08:46] Raphael: Yeah, it's hard though. It's hard to not eat chocolates on the weekend.

[08:51] Luke: It is, isn't it? Yeah. Okay. Well, there you go, ladies and gentlemen, advent calendars.

[08:55] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[08:55] Luke: I've got an advent calendar downstairs.

[08:57] Raphael: Oh, yeah?

[08:57] Luke: It's a Kinder one, yes.

[08:59] Raphael: Nice. Have good chocolates?

[09:00] Luke: Yeah, it's very good, yeah.

[09:01] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[09:01] Luke: My girlfriend gave it to me. She, uh, she thought, "I'm gonna get, uh, him an advent calendar."

[09:07] Raphael: Yeah.

[09:08] Luke: Um, and, uh, and I'm very good. Like-

[09:10] Raphael: Are you sticking, are you sticking-

[09:11] Luke: Yeah.

[09:11] Raphael: ... to the r- the, the rules?

[09:13] Luke: I have been sticking to the rules, yeah. I haven't jumped ahead.

[09:16] Raphael: Just one a day.

[09:17] Luke: Uh, I've just been e- having one chocolate a day.

[09:18] Raphael: Good man.

[09:19] Luke: It's good. I'm, I'm starting early. I mean, I know Christmas is, uh, normally a time when you eat lots of chocolate-

[09:24] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[09:25] Luke: ... and lots of, uh, fattening food. I've already started. I started days ago.

[09:29] Raphael: Yeah.

[09:30] Luke: So by the time I get to Christmas Day, I'm already gonna be fat.

[09:34] Raphael: (laughs)

[09:34] Luke: So it's gonna be an interesting time.

[09:35] Raphael: You're well insulated-

[09:37] Luke: Yeah.

[09:37] Raphael: ... against the, uh, cold Par- Parisian winter.

[09:40] Luke: Exactly, uh, it's insulation.

[09:41] Raphael: (laughs)

[09:41] Luke: That's, that's how I think of it. Um, the next word on the list is an angel.

[09:45] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Yeah, yeah.

[09:46] Luke: So how, how is an angel related to Christmas, then?

[09:49] Raphael: Um, uh, I guess there's the, uh, immaculate conception.

[09:54] Luke: Yeah.

[09:55] Raphael: And, uh, and also I guess angels are just, they're just all over the place at Christmas, aren't they? Put them on the tree.

[10:01] Luke: Yeah.

[10:01] Raphael: There were lots of them, you know, when Jesus was born, I suppose.

[10:06] Luke: Yeah.

[10:07] Raphael: Um, just, just like, you know?

[10:07] Luke: Hanging around.

[10:08] Raphael: There also.

[10:09] Luke: Celebrating.

[10:10] Raphael: Like, you know, what a great addition to any Christmas party.

[10:14] Luke: Yes.

[10:14] Raphael: Just a few angels, like, in the corner, just like, "All right."

[10:17] Luke: "Hey."

[10:17] Raphael: "Hope you're having a good time," you know? (laughs)

[10:19] Luke: If I did go to a Christmas party and there were some angels there-

[10:22] Raphael: Yeah.

[10:22] Luke: ... I think that would be a good party.

[10:24] Raphael: That'd make it. That'd make it, I think.

[10:26] Luke: The worst.

[10:26] Raphael: You know? Just, just have a bit of wine, and then, "Oh, all right."

[10:29] Luke: "All right. So, uh, you're an angel, then, are you?" Um, uh, "How long have you been, uh, doing ... How long have you, have you been an angel?"

[10:35] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[10:36] Luke: Oh, uh, oh, your whole life? That's amazing. What, uh, infin- infinity, infinite years.

[10:41] Raphael: (laughs)

[10:41] Luke: That's amazing. Um, I suppose we should sort of state now that obviously Christmas is, is traditionally a Christian festival, isn't it?

[10:50] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Yeah.

[10:51] Luke: Um, now, um, are you, are you from a Christian family, Raph?

[10:54] Raphael: Went to a Church of England primary school. And I was in a choir when I was a kid.

[10:59] Luke: Yeah.

[10:59] Raphael: Um ...

[11:00] Luke: Choir?

[11:00] Raphael: A choir, yeah. Like a, like, you know, um, in my local church, which might've been called All Hallows, something like that.

[11:09] Luke: Yeah.

[11:09] Raphael: I could be wrong, though.

[11:10] Luke: But your, just your local church back in, back in-

[11:12] Raphael: Yeah. You used to get paid a pound for a wedding, which was pretty big. I wa- I thou- I felt was pretty big news when I was, when I was like eight.

[11:19] Luke: Okay.

[11:19] Raphael: You know?

[11:20] Luke: So, but, uh, the choir is, like, basically a group of often children-

[11:25] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[11:26] Luke: ... um, who, who sing together in, in church.

[11:29] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[11:29] Luke: That's the choir. So you, you were in the local choir, and you used to sing at weddings, did you?

[11:33] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Yeah, pretty badly, I imagine.

[11:36] Luke: Yeah.

[11:36] Raphael: But when you're a kid, you don't realize how horrendously embarrassing that probably seems-

[11:42] Luke: Yeah.

[11:42] Raphael: ... to adults. So, uh ...

[11:44] Luke: I don't know.

[11:45] Raphael: Just, just for- just for- just forget all about this noise. Just forget about all that. (laughs)

[11:48] Luke: Forget, forget that you were in a choir.

[11:49] Raphael: Yeah, just-

[11:49] Luke: I'm sure it was very, very sweet.

[11:51] Raphael: Remember, remember me from the Notting Hill Carnival. That's much cooler.

[11:55] Luke: Yeah, that is a lot cooler. But if you can picture, ladies and gentlemen, R- obviously if you've seen the, the Notting Hill Carnival video, you'll know that Raph is like a very cool guy, very sort of handsome, trendily dressed bloke. But, um, imagine that guy in church as a, as a pre-pubescent boy-

[12:13] Raphael: (laughs)

[12:13] Luke: ... uh, singing with a very high voice.

[12:15] Raphael: Yeah.

[12:15] Luke: It's not quite the same cool image, is it, ladies?

[12:17] Raphael: Sort of shattered it.... in one fell swoop. (laughs)

[12:20] Luke: But it's quite sweet, really. It's, it's quite a sweet image.

[12:23] Raphael: Yeah. You know, I was, I was ... I needed to earn some money. Gotta do it somehow.

[12:26] Luke: Yeah.

[12:27] Raphael: That sounds quite bad. (laughs)

[12:28] Luke: (laughs) Yeah. That's not the only reason you joined the choir, is it?

[12:31] Raphael: No.

[12:31] Luke: Surely it was for, uh, more Christian reasons than that?

[12:34] Raphael: Yeah. Just, uh, for the love, for the love of, uh-

[12:37] Luke: The love of Jesus.

[12:37] Raphael: ... of Christ.

[12:38] Luke: Yeah.

[12:39] Raphael: (laughs)

[12:39] Luke: (laughs) So you do come from a kind of Christian background, but-

[12:42] Raphael: A little, a little bit. I wouldn't say we're the, we're the most devout of families, though.

[12:46] Luke: No.

[12:46] Raphael: I've gotta be honest. Um, you know, uh, but, but I think England's quite a secular country.

[12:51] Luke: Yes.

[12:51] Raphael: You know? We're quite sort of, uh, you know, um, neutral.

[12:56] Luke: Yeah. I mean, we do have the Church of England, which is this, this sort of national, uh, church. But, um, generally speaking, the people of, of England consider themselves to be not very religious.

[13:08] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[13:09] Luke: Um, most people, uh, I beli- ... I, I think in surveys most people say that they don't really belong to any religion. They don't really believe. But they still will ... are willing to celebrate, uh, Christmas-

[13:21] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[13:21] Luke: ... and Easter and other things. But really, Christmas these days is all about getting together with your family and friends, and sort of giving each other gifts and, uh, having a big meal, and celebrating just being together-

[13:32] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[13:32] Luke: ... um, and sharing gifts. Now, the angel thing, of course, is because, you know, of the story of, of the birth of Christ. And that when, when Jesus was born or when he was about to be born, the a- angel Gabriel came down and visited various people in the local area-

[13:48] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[13:48] Luke: ... as if to say, "Um, you might want to ... You might want to go to Bethlehem. Something's gonna happen."

[13:54] Raphael: (laughs)

[13:54] Luke: Uh: "I'm not gonna tell you exactly what it ... Well, to be honest, it's ... It's ... Uh, the Son of God is about to be born in Bethlehem."

[14:00] Raphael: It's big.

[14:00] Luke: Uh: "It ... This is kind of a big deal, so just stop what you're doing." You know? Like, there were shepherds. There were, uh, three Wise Men.

[14:08] Raphael: Yep.

[14:08] Luke: And, uh, the, the angel visited them all in rather sort of, uh, amazing circumstances.

[14:14] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[14:14] Luke: And the angel just said to them, "Look, guys, um, put, put down the ... You know, just leave your sheep. Don't worry about the sheep. God will look after them. Um, and-"

[14:24] Raphael: Well, bring them.

[14:25] Luke: Or, in fact, bring the sheep.

[14:26] Raphael: Bring 'em.

[14:26] Luke: Yeah.

[14:27] Raphael: It's all ... More ... All, all are welcome.

[14:29] Luke: The more the merrier.

[14:30] Raphael: Don't tell Herod, though. Keep it hush. Don't, don't tell him, 'cause apparently he's not that keen on another king in the area.

[14:38] Luke: Oh. Oh, that's right. King Herod was the, the king of the area.

[14:40] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[14:41] Luke: And they had to keep it sort of on the down-low.

[14:43] Raphael: Yeah.

[14:43] Luke: They had to keep it secret from Herod.

[14:45] Raphael: Definitely.

[14:45] Luke: 'Cause if Herod had discovered that this very important baby had been born, he might have come along and sort of s- kidnapped the kid.

[14:53] Raphael: Killed him.

[14:54] Luke: Or killed him. God, that's-

[14:55] Raphael: Yeah. And then what would-

[14:56] Luke: ... that's terrible.

[14:56] Raphael: We would've been sitting here talking about, I don't know-

[14:59] Luke: Something else.

[15:00] Raphael: ... like football or something.

[15:02] Luke: Yeah (laughs) . Um, anyway, so the angel is part of the, the story of the birth of Christ, that the angel gave the news to, to the Wise Men and the shepherds, uh, that, um, Jesus was, was being born.

[15:14] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[15:14] Luke: And then they traveled to, to see, um, to see Jesus being born, and they brought gifts and stuff.

[15:20] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[15:20] Luke: We'll be going into more detail of that story later on. But you do find a lot of angels, um, as decorations at Christmas-

[15:28] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[15:28] Luke: ... um, typically on the top of a Christmas tree.

[15:31] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[15:31] Luke: You can get ... Generally speaking, you will have one of two things. You've got two options for, for what to put on the top of the tree. What are those two options, Raph?

[15:40] Raphael: A star.

[15:41] Luke: Yeah.

[15:41] Raphael: Or an angel, I guess.

[15:42] Luke: Yeah.

[15:43] Raphael: Yeah.

[15:43] Luke: That's right. It's basically a star or an angel, yeah. It's harder to put an angel on the top.

[15:48] Raphael: Mm-hmm. But that ... It's slightly rude, I feel.

[15:50] Luke: Yeah.

[15:51] Raphael: Often you have to put the top of the tree up the angel, basically. You know?

[15:55] Luke: It's like the angel's sort of got her dress-

[15:58] Raphael: Yeah.

[15:58] Luke: ... and just the, the top of the tree goes under the dress.

[16:01] Raphael: Yeah.

[16:01] Luke: And so, yeah, it's a little bit suggestive, you might say.

[16:03] Raphael: Yeah. S- Slightly, slightly inappropriate.

[16:05] Luke: Yeah. And it's also difficult to keep both the angel and the star stuck to the top of the tree.

[16:11] Raphael: Yeah.

[16:11] Luke: Like, they always fall off, don't they?

[16:12] Raphael: Yeah, sort of leaning slightly.

[16:14] Luke: Yeah.

[16:14] Raphael: Like, to one side.

[16:16] Luke: (laughs)

[16:16] Raphael: Like she's had too much wine. (laughs)

[16:17] Luke: Yeah. That's ... I think that's probably it. Let's move on to the letter B, and here we have, uh ... The first word is bells.

[16:23] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[16:24] Luke: Um, is that the ... That's not Bell's whiskey, although I think a lot of Bell's whiskey is consumed at Christmastime. But just bells that you find in, uh, the top of a church spire.

[16:35] Raphael: Mm-hmm. And this song. Isn't there a song called, uh ... Doesn't it feature the bells of New York City choir were ringing out on one of the lyrics?

[16:42] Luke: That's right. Yeah, yeah. Yeah, let's have a little listen to this.
(instrumental music plays) You can't actually hear the bells, but they're (laughs) -

[16:56] Raphael: (laughs) You just missed it.

[16:58] Luke: Yeah. The bells are in the lyrics. That is The Fairytale of New York by The Pogues featuring Kirsty MacColl-

[17:03] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[17:03] Luke: ... which is a classic bit of Christmas music. Um, so yeah, bells. I mean, uh, I suppose church bells ring-

[17:10] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[17:10] Luke: ... uh, on Christmas Day, and it's sort of very Christmassy. But also you get bells on Christmas cards and-

[17:16] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[17:16] Luke: ... decorations of bells and things.

[17:18] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[17:18] Luke: It's one of the images that you see. Next is the word Bethlehem. Um, Bethlehem was just the town where Jesus was born, right?

[17:25] Raphael: Oh, yeah, yeah. Nice place apparently.

[17:26] Luke: Yeah, yeah. Um, uh, I've never been there since.

[17:30] Raphael: Pr- Pretty busy this time of year, I would imagine.

[17:32] Luke: I expect so.

[17:33] Raphael: Yeah.

[17:33] Luke: I expect a lot of people are visiting Bethlehem.

[17:35] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[17:35] Luke: Do you think it's ... They've got a big tourist industry in Bethlehem?

[17:38] Raphael: I think they do, yeah. I think the, the, the sort of, the space around the, uh, the, uh, the ... where he was meant to have been bor- ... where he was born is quite-

[17:49] Luke: Holy ground.

[17:50] Raphael: Yeah, but it's quite kind of fought over by various religions, I think.

[17:54] Luke: Yeah.

[17:54] Raphael: You know? It's quite kind of ... It's all a bit kind of, uh, you know, tense, you know?

[18:00] Luke: Yeah.

[18:00] Raphael: 'Cause, uh, it's, it's, it's hotly contested sort of territory.

[18:04] Luke: You, y- you've got ... Uh, it's a very complicated issue.

[18:07] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[18:07] Luke: But you've got the s- ... Yeah, three religious groups all claiming ownership-

[18:11] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[18:11] Luke: ... of this spot. Wow, it's, um ... It's, it's, it's ironic really, considering the fact that Christmas is all about peace and-

[18:18] Raphael: Yeah.

[18:18] Luke: ... and, and, uh, understanding. And then there are these sort of groups of people fighting-

[18:24] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[18:24] Luke: ... to claim ownership of this holy ground. Anyway, it's complicated, isn't it, sometimes?

[18:30] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[18:30] Luke: Right. Anyway, Bethlehem. There you go. Boxing Day.

[18:33] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[18:34] Luke: Now, I, I talked to Paul about Boxing Day a bit, so we kind of cover the reasons why it's called Boxing Day. So maybe I can ask you what ... y- uh, what, um, uh, what you normally do on Boxing Day, Raph? What's your ... a typical Boxing Day for you?

[18:48] Raphael: ... it's, it's late. I late rise, getting up quite late, probably a lot, quite a bit of sleeping. Not much morning happens on Boxing Day.

[18:56] Luke: Just, just sleep in?

[18:57] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah, have a big old lie in. And then, uh-

[19:00] Luke: Yeah.

[19:00] Raphael: ... sort of assess the, the wreckage-

[19:04] Luke: (laughs)

[19:04] Raphael: ... that's been left over from Christmas Day. (laughs) You know?

[19:06] Luke: You, you mean, like, the, all the, the, the wrapping paper on the floor-

[19:09] Raphael: Paper everywhere, like, bits of turkey, like, you know, stuck to the wall.

[19:14] Luke: (laughs)

[19:14] Raphael: No, not really. But there's a, there's a, there's just kind of leftovers. You know, u- usually eat sandwiches on Boxing Day.

[19:21] Luke: Yeah.

[19:21] Raphael: Um, so turkey sandwiches with, like, cranberry sauce and stuffing, and maybe a bit of bread sauce in there.

[19:26] Luke: Yeah.

[19:26] Raphael: And, um, usually go for a walk actually.

[19:28] Luke: Go for a walk?

[19:29] Raphael: Yeah. Love a little walk on Boxing Day.

[19:31] Luke: Yeah. Yeah.

[19:31] Raphael: Like, like, hopefully you get a kind of cold but sunny day.

[19:35] Luke: Mm-hmm.

[19:35] Raphael: There's some quite nice beaches near Liverpool that you can go walking on.

[19:38] Luke: Oh, yeah.

[19:38] Raphael: But if it's windy, it's pretty awful out there-

[19:42] Luke: Yeah. Yeah.

[19:42] Raphael: ...'cause it's just bitterly, bitterly cold. (laughs)

[19:45] Luke: Yeah. (laughs)

[19:45] Raphael: So you, you ideally you're hoping for a sunny, cold, non-windy day.

[19:51] Luke: Yeah.

[19:51] Raphael: And then you just go to the beach and it's really gorgeous. But if it's windy, you gotta wrap up, you know, and, uh, and walk for about five minutes. (laughs)

[19:59] Luke: Yeah.

[19:59] Raphael: And then drive home again- (laughs)

[20:01] Luke: Yeah.

[20:01] Raphael: ... and watch more TV, and drink, and eat turkey. (laughs)

[20:04] Luke: (laughs) Yeah. Yeah, yeah.

[20:05] Raphael: So it's kinda like Christmas Day with a walk, but cold food. (laughs)

[20:10] Luke: Yes. So you're just eating, like, cold turkey-

[20:13] Raphael: Yeah.

[20:13] Luke: ... that, or, or other food that you cooked on Christmas Day.

[20:15] Raphael: Yeah.

[20:16] Luke: It's basically a repeat of Christmas Day, isn't it?

[20:18] Raphael: (laughs) It's like a slight, it's like a slightly-

[20:21] Luke: Colder.

[20:21] Raphael: ... r- rubbish version of Christmas Day. Yeah. (laughs)

[20:24] Luke: Yeah. (laughs) Christmas Day, it's like Christmas Day Two, the Sequel.

[20:28] Raphael: Yeah. Sequels are always inf- f- uh, are always inferior in quality.

[20:31] Luke: (laughs)

[20:31] Raphael: They're never as good as the original movie.

[20:34] Luke: Yeah.

[20:34] Raphael: Apart from maybe Terminator 2, you know?

[20:35] Luke: And, uh, and, uh, The Godfather II.

[20:37] Raphael: Yeah, yeah. But otherwise, it's like a, you know, it's like Home Alone 2.

[20:43] Luke: Not as good?

[20:43] Raphael: Not as good. Home Alone, amazing-

[20:45] Luke: Yeah.

[20:45] Raphael: ... Christmassy. Boxing Day is Home Alone 2.

[20:48] Luke: Yeah.

[20:49] Raphael: Not as good. You know, it's got some of the original ingredients, Macaulay Culkin's still in it.

[20:54] Luke: (laughs)

[20:55] Raphael: We've still got turkey. It's a slightly, a slightly kind of, uh, elaborate analogy. (laughs)

[21:00] Luke: I hope that my listeners understand the, the metaphor that we're creating here. We're basically saying that, okay, you know movies, like, the first movie is often very good, like, for example, Jaws, the classic Steven Spielberg film, Jaws, brilliant film. Then Jaws 2, they tried to do it again, it's not as good, you know? They can't recreate the magic of the original film. It's just not as good, right? Except in some cases, for example, Terminator 2, uh, The Godfather Part II, and maybe Star Wars: Episode V - The Empire Strikes Back. Maybe Back to the Future II in, is arguable, but usually sequels, uh, to movies are not as good as the original movie. In a similar way, Boxing Day is a bit like the sequel to Christmas, isn't it? Christmas Day.

[21:43] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[21:44] Luke: Um, Boxing Day of course being the 26th of December, Christmas b-Day being the 25th of December. So Boxing Day, you just repeat what you did on Christmas Day, but it's not as good, because the food is, is, is, uh, less fresh. It's like, you know, you're eating the cold turkey that you didn't eat the day before. And usually you're a bit more, you're a bit hungover-

[22:03] Raphael: (laughs)

[22:03] Luke: ... 'cause you drank too much on Christmas Day and then so on, on, on, uh, Boxing Day you're just feeling a bit rough. And you're, and feeling a little bit sort of guilty as well-

[22:13] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

[22:13] Luke: ... because you haven't done anything.

[22:14] Raphael: (laughs)

[22:14] Luke: You've just sat around watching TV, drinking-

[22:17] Raphael: Yeah.

[22:17] Luke: ... and opening presents.

[22:19] Raphael: Fighting maybe with relatives that you haven't seen for (laughs) numerous months.

[22:23] Luke: Yeah.

[22:24] Raphael: Or maybe a few years. (laughs)

[22:25] Luke: Yeah. Typically, I mean, it, it's ironic because we associate Christmas with being together with the people you love, but in fact what often happens is that you just argue with-

[22:34] Raphael: (laughs)

[22:34] Luke: ... members of your family that, uh, that you, you know, usually you choose not to see.

[22:39] Raphael: (laughs)

[22:39] Luke: You know? (laughs)

[22:40] Raphael: Yeah, exactly. But it's Christmas.

[22:42] Luke: It's Christmas so we're forced to, we're forced to, uh, spend time with our, the people that apparently we love.

[22:49] Raphael: Yeah.

[22:50] Luke: Um, that's the dark side of Christmas, isn't it?

[22:52] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah, yeah.

[22:53] Luke: Shall we move on? Yeah.

[22:53] Raphael: Yeah, maybe.

[22:54] Luke: All right.

[22:54] Raphael: Keep it, keep it, keep it light. (laughs)

[22:56] Luke: So, okay, that's Boxing Day. Um, and, uh, so, uh, I also have on the list here brandy butter.

[23:03] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[23:03] Luke: All right? Tell us a little bit about brandy butter.

[23:06] Raphael: Yeah. I mean, it's, it's just I guess, like, butter-

[23:10] Luke: Yeah.

[23:10] Raphael: ... with brandy in it. You know? (laughs)

[23:13] Luke: It's that simple.

[23:13] Raphael: It really isn't complicated. It's not, it's not, like, a, a complex recipe.

[23:18] Luke: Yeah.

[23:18] Raphael: It's, uh, I guess, I guess at Christmas you try and have probably quite a lot of alcohol. And some enterprising individual thought, "I don't know what, what else can we put alcohol in? We can put it in butter."

[23:33] Luke: Yeah.

[23:33] Raphael: Um, and maybe they just wanted something else that started with B, so they were like, "Rum? No."

[23:39] Luke: Rum butter.

[23:39] Raphael: "Whiskey? No. Bra- brandy butter, yes."

[23:43] Luke: It's got alliteration.

[23:44] Raphael: Yeah, so-

[23:44] Luke: Brandy butter. But I have to say brandy butter does taste good.

[23:47] Raphael: Yeah, it's nice.

[23:48] Luke: It's got, like, you know, that, that warmth.

[23:50] Raphael: It's nice. Yeah. What d'you put it on?

[23:52] Luke: I generally would put brandy butter on, um, um, like, Christmas pudding.

[23:58] Raphael: Okay.

[23:59] Luke: So Christmas pudding is basically a kind of very rich, uh, sort of round, let's say a cake-

[24:06] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[24:06] Luke: ... with lots of fruit and nut in it.

[24:07] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[24:08] Luke: Uh, that's for the listeners. I know you know what Christmas pudding is.

[24:11] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah. (laughs)

[24:12] Luke: But, um, you-

[24:12] Raphael: Thanks though.

[24:13] Luke: Y- you're welcome. Um, you serve Christmas pudding generally with, like, a bit of, uh, butter on it, you know, brandy butter, just in case there isn't enough saturated fat-

[24:22] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah.

[24:22] Luke: ... in there already. You put brandy butter or some brandy cream as well-

[24:26] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[24:27] Luke: ... which is, as you probably can work out, is basically just cream but with brandy in it too. And the thing... There's so much brandy in, in Christmas pudding-

[24:35] Raphael: (laughs)

[24:35] Luke: ... that, like, first of all, when the Christmas pudding is served it's covered in brandy-

[24:39] Raphael: (laughs)

[24:40] Luke: ... and then the brandy is set on fire. So the idea is that the Christmas pudding is prepared, like, days in advance, and then when it's time to eat it at the end of the Christmas dinner, um, the person in the kitchen, usually your mum, um, pours brandy all over it and then, and then lights it with a match. So the whole thing is on fire. She brings it into the living room or the dining room on fire-

[25:03] Raphael: (laughs)

[25:03] Luke: ... and it's meant to be like, "Ooh." You know, everyone sort of goes, "Ooh," like that as if to say, "Wow, that's amazing." And then she puts it down on the table and, uh, you know, whoo, you have to blow it out. Like, "Put it out quick."

[25:15] Raphael: (laughs)

[25:15] Luke: ... and then you start to eat it, you know.

[25:17] Raphael: What, after it's cooled down a little bit?

[25:19] Luke: After it's cooled down a bit. But that- that's the idea. It's meant to be very sort of, uh, a special, magical moment-

[25:24] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[25:24] Luke: ... where the flaming, uh, pudding is presented. But usually it's, uh, no one can actually get it to burn-

[25:31] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs) Yeah.

[25:31] Luke: ... fine.

[25:32] Raphael: You have to sort of pour brandy on it several times, um, which can be quite dangerous if you didn't realize that it's actually still on fire.

[25:41] Luke: Yeah.

[25:41] Raphael: And then you end up with like a bottle of brandy, like a Molotov cocktail-

[25:45] Luke: (laughs)

[25:45] Raphael: ... (laughs) in- in your hand, on fire. Um-

[25:48] Luke: Christmas Molotov cocktail.

[25:49] Raphael: Which- which is bad, so maybe don't try that at home-

[25:52] Luke: Yeah.

[25:53] Raphael: ... 'cause it's, uh, it's a shame if you have to go to the hospital on Christmas Day-

[25:56] Luke: Yeah. It's-

[25:56] Raphael: ... I find.

[25:57] Luke: Yeah.

[25:58] Raphael: You know? It's not the best time

[25:59] Luke: It's never the best doctors working either, on Christmas Day. They're at home with their families probably.

[26:04] Raphael: Yeah.

[26:04] Luke: You just get like, you know, like a few students. (laughs)

[26:09] Raphael: (laughs) A few students in the hospital who've got nothing better to do. Yeah.

[26:12] Luke: Yeah. Um, there are- I'm sure there are videos, uh, of people having ... There's so many videos of people having Christmas pudding accidents

[26:19] Raphael: Yeah.

[26:20] Luke: You know? So, if you are preparing Christmas pudding with brandy, then do be careful.

[26:25] Raphael: Be safe.

[26:25] Luke: Keep a fire extinguisher there at all times.

[26:28] Raphael: (laughs)

[26:28] Luke: It might not be very festive. Although, the fire extinguisher is red, so at least it's the-

[26:33] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[26:33] Luke: ... it's the appropriate color.

[26:34] Raphael: And the foam is like snow.

[26:36] Luke: Yeah.

[26:36] Raphael: You know? So it could be nice. You'd make it like a Christmas scene.

[26:39] Luke: Yeah. It's like putting out, uh, a Christmas fire using a- a- a- a festive fire extinguisher which throws out, uh, what looks like snow, it's actually carbon dioxide-infused foam-

[26:53] Raphael: (laughs)

[26:53] Luke: ... to- to stop, uh, accidents. Um, anyway, so brandy butter. And we talked about Christmas pudding-

[26:59] Raphael: Yeah.

[26:59] Luke: ... there a little bit as well.

[27:00] Raphael: It's good, it's good "C". That's a good "C" there, isn't it?

[27:01] Luke: That was w- that we, we covered one of the C words. Um, bread sauce.

[27:05] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[27:06] Luke: Bread sauce is, uh, I don't eat bread sauce 'cause it looks disgusting.

[27:09] Raphael: Oh, really?

[27:09] Luke: It's basically just bread in the form of sauce.

[27:12] Raphael: Yeah.

[27:12] Luke: I don't know how you make bread sauce.

[27:14] Raphael: You- you kind of infuse it with flavors of onion and clove, I think.

[27:19] Luke: Oh, yeah?

[27:19] Raphael: You know? Um, my mum leaves out an onion s- like sort of full of cloves, bobbing in- in a couple of pints of milk-

[27:28] Luke: Yeah.

[27:28] Raphael: ... just for like hours.

[27:29] Luke: Yeah.

[27:30] Raphael: And then heats that up and puts loads of like bread in it.

[27:33] Luke: Yeah.

[27:33] Raphael: It's really nice.

[27:33] Luke: And eventually the milk and the bread mix up together-

[27:36] Raphael: Yeah.

[27:36] Luke: ... and you get a kind of a bread sauce.

[27:37] Raphael: But like your girlfriend said, it- it does look a bit like vomit, you know-

[27:41] Luke: Yes.

[27:41] Raphael: ... when you put it on the table.

[27:42] Luke: Yeah, it does.

[27:42] Raphael: So, it's- it's a- it's a difficult sell. It's a hard one to convince people to try. But if you do, it's nice.

[27:48] Luke: I've never eaten it that- because I've always thought it looked disgusting.

[27:51] Raphael: Yeah.

[27:51] Luke: And I thought, "I've got plenty already on my plate."

[27:53] Raphael: Yeah.

[27:54] Luke: "I don't need to add this slightly suspicious-looking bread sauce."

[27:58] Raphael: Yeah.

[27:58] Luke: Um, so I've managed to survive 36 years of my life. That's right, ladies and gentlemen, I'm 36. You heard it here first. (laughs)

[28:04] Raphael: Don't let it out.

[28:05] Luke: That may be the first time anyone's ever heard that. Y- maybe you- you thought, "Really? Y- considering the wisdom that Luke imparts on Luke's English Podcast, I assumed that he was older."

[28:15] Raphael: (laughs)

[28:15] Luke: Basically, ladies and gentlemen, the older I get, the more I become like a wizard, okay?

[28:20] Raphael: (laughs)

[28:20] Luke: I- I- eventually I will be like Gandalf, just imparting, uh, wisdom through Luke's English Podcast. Ima- imagine (laughs) one day when I, in the future, when I've done like the- the 2000th episode of Luke's English Podcast-

[28:35] Raphael: What a thought.

[28:35] Luke: ... I'll be like, um, "Hello listeners, welcome to Luke's English Podcast!" That's what I'm gonna sound like-

[28:43] Raphael: (laughs)

[28:43] Luke: ... in the future.

[28:43] Raphael: Just doing magic.

[28:45] Luke: Just Gandalf. Yes. That's right. By that point, I would have gone so far in my career that I'll be using English to like, you know, save the world from Sauron.

[28:55] Raphael: (laughs)

[28:55] Luke: You know, "Raphael, your mission is to take English and cast Murphy's English Grammar in Use back into the flames of Mount Doom!"

[29:07] Raphael: If- if you had a really rubbish student, you could say, "You shall not pass!" (laughs)

[29:13] Luke: (laughs)

[29:13] Raphael: (laughs)

[29:15] Luke: At the final end of year exams. (laughs)

[29:19] Raphael: Yeah.

[29:19] Luke: "Yeah, here are- I've got the exam results in, uh, everybody. Here they are. Just one thing to say as feedback. You shall not pass!"

[29:28] Raphael: (laughs)

[29:28] Luke: Um, yeah. "If you don't revise, you shall not pass!" Bit of Lord of the Rings, uh, reference there, ladies and gentlemen. That's one of the- that's a Christmas movie, isn't it? Lord of the Rings?

[29:40] Raphael: Yeah.

[29:40] Luke: I mean, it's the sort of film that you would watch on Chri- on Boxing Day.

[29:44] Raphael: Five gold rings, like in the song.

[29:45] Luke: On- yeah.

[29:46] Raphael: (sings) Five gold rings.

[29:48] Luke: (sings) Five gold rings. Four calling birds, three French hens, two turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

[29:54] Raphael: It's impressive that you know- you knew that, 'cause usually people only really know-

[29:58] Luke: (sings) Five gold rings.

[30:01] Raphael: ... about the rings. (sings) Four monkeys dancing.

[30:02] Luke: (sings) Three, uh, uh, three and a partridge in a pear tree.

[30:07] Raphael: (laughs)

[30:07] Luke: Um, I did a podcast a couple of years ago with my brother and we talked about that song.

[30:11] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Okay.

[30:12] Luke: You know, that- that actually if you- if you ... How many things did, um, the person get sent?

[30:18] Raphael: Yeah.

[30:19] Luke: Like, uh, one- one- what is it? A partridge in a pear tree. Two turtle doves.

[30:23] Raphael: It's already quite a big gift, a partridge in a tree-

[30:25] Luke: Yeah.

[30:25] Raphael: ... to send that to somebody-

[30:27] Luke: Yeah.

[30:27] Raphael: ... is, you know, you could say that- that that person's boyfriend was maybe a bit- a bit crazy, you know?

[30:33] Luke: Yeah.

[30:33] Raphael: Like a bit slightly obsessive.

[30:35] Luke: Bit of a stalker.

[30:36] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[30:36] Luke: Sending all of these ridiculous things. Like, "Oh God, now what? A p- a whole pear tree with a partridge in it? I have to keep this bird alive?"

[30:45] Raphael: (laughs)

[30:45] Luke: Like, you know, writing a text, "Stop sending me gifts!"

[30:48] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah.

[30:49] Luke: (laughs)

[30:49] Raphael: What's the- isn't there like- like eight lords a-leaping or something?

[30:52] Luke: Eight- yeah. Just s- eight lords.

[30:54] Raphael: Eight lords.

[30:55] Luke: How did that- how did they-

[30:55] Raphael: Jumping in through the door. (laughs)

[30:56] Luke: Yeah. Do you think Amazon did that for free? I don't know.

[31:00] Raphael: (laughs)

[31:00] Luke: Ladies and gentlemen, we're referring to a classic Christmas song which is, uh, what's it called? And the fl-

[31:05] Raphael: 12 Days of Christmas.

[31:07] Luke: And the 12 Days ... On the first day of Christmas my true love said to me, a partridge in a pear tree. Yeah. Listen to the previous episode from a couple of years ago-

[31:17] Raphael: (laughs)

[31:17] Luke: ... with my brother and we deal with that-... in, in, in great depth. Um, so there's no need to go through that, uh, again. Um, um, anyway, where were we? Uh, bread source. We, we dealt with that. We're still only on B.

[31:29] Raphael: Yeah.

[31:29] Luke: And this is, uh, we're now half an hour into this.

[31:32] Raphael: (laughs)

[31:32] Luke: Let's move through this a little bit more quickly.

[31:34] Raphael: Yeah. Let's fire, let's fire-

[31:34] Luke: Okay.

[31:34] Raphael: ... through a few.

[31:35] Luke: Let me, let me pick out some, some, some more. Let's move on to C, cards.

[31:39] Raphael: Cards, yeah.

[31:40] Luke: So, Christmas cards. Do you send Christmas cards?

[31:42] Raphael: No. Not, not really. I think it's something that I think is kind of dying out a little bit.

[31:46] Luke: Yeah.

[31:46] Raphael: Because I don't know where any of my friends live. Like, I just sort of go to their house without really knowing the address or-

[31:53] Luke: Yeah.

[31:53] Raphael: ... we meet. So, I don't, I don't... I couldn't send something to them in the post.

[31:57] Luke: Because we just use the internet now.

[31:59] Raphael: Yeah.

[31:59] Luke: We send maybe a text message on Christmas Day, "Hey, Happy Christmas."

[32:02] Raphael: "Happy Christmas."

[32:03] Luke: "Yeah, mate. Christmas." Yeah.

[32:04] Raphael: Don't, don't get too drunk.

[32:05] Luke: Yeah.

[32:06] Raphael: Yeah.

[32:06] Luke: Yeah. Um, so yeah. My parents still send cards.

[32:10] Raphael: Mm-hmm. My mum does, yeah.

[32:11] Luke: Yeah.

[32:11] Raphael: I think it's a generational thing.

[32:12] Luke: Yeah.

[32:13] Raphael: It's kind of dying out.

[32:14] Luke: Yeah.

[32:14] Raphael: It's a shame.

[32:15] Luke: Typically, on a Christmas card, you'll get like a Christmas image, you know, sort of like a... some bells, or a-

[32:20] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[32:20] Luke: ... uh, an angel-

[32:22] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[32:22] Luke: ... or like a Christmas scene with a robin in the garden.

[32:25] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[32:25] Luke: S- um, some holly leaves, things like that.

[32:28] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[32:28] Luke: Um, but yeah, not many people are sending cards anymore, which is kind of... and it's a bit sad because it's nice to get Christmas cards, but on the other hand, it's bad for the environment, isn't it?

[32:37] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Paper.

[32:38] Luke: All that paper just gets thrown away at the end, doesn't it?

[32:41] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Yeah, yeah. And you kind of, you know... also, it can be awkward if someone sends you one and you haven't sent one to them, and then it's like, quick, get... send one, but it's not gonna arrive in time, you know?

[32:52] Luke: Yeah.

[32:52] Raphael: So, it's like, oh. Oh, well. It may... maybe it will arrive on like the 29th of December-

[32:57] Luke: Yes.

[32:57] Raphael: ... which isn't really cool.

[32:58] Luke: It's not gonna be good enough.

[32:59] Raphael: Yeah.

[32:59] Luke: Yeah.

[32:59] Raphael: It's like, well, never mind.

[33:01] Luke: On, on the 29th of December, you're sick of Christmas at that point-

[33:03] Raphael: Yeah.

[33:03] Luke: ... aren't you?

[33:04] Raphael: Yeah.

[33:04] Luke: You get a Christmas card on the 29th, it's like, "Who has sent me another Christmas card-"

[33:09] Raphael: Yeah.

[33:09] Luke: "... for God's sake?" Yeah. Um, right, so, uh, carols.

[33:13] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[33:14] Luke: These are songs that, uh, you know, people sing at Christmas. Um, you know, "Good King Wenceslas looked out on the Feast of Stephen." You know, that sort of thing.

[33:25] Raphael: Great.

[33:26] Luke: Thanks.

[33:26] Raphael: Good... Good one this year.

[33:26] Luke: Yeah, I've got... you know, I can do the carol singing.

[33:29] Raphael: You've got a good voice.

[33:29] Luke: Yeah.

[33:29] Raphael: Yeah.

[33:30] Luke: Um, what's your favorite Christmas carol?

[33:33] Raphael: Oh, put me on the spot. I'd say Good King Wenceslas is a pretty decent one.

[33:38] Luke: It's good, isn't it?

[33:38] Raphael: Good choice, um-

[33:39] Luke: The Feast of Stephen. Who was Stephen?

[33:41] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs) You know, and the snow was deep and crisp and even. What a rhyme.

[33:46] Luke: Yeah, yeah.

[33:46] Raphael: You know? What a great one.

[33:47] Luke: It's a good one. Yeah. Yeah, yeah. Um, "Fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la." (laughs)

[33:53] Raphael: (laughs)

[33:55] Luke: Uh, um, "Hosanna in excelsis." Right?

[33:58] Raphael: Yeah. You sort of... whenever I do Christmas carols, I always kind of get confused, and I just sing them all in the same-

[34:05] Luke: Yeah.

[34:05] Raphael: ... kind of like cantor and-

[34:07] Luke: Yeah.

[34:07] Raphael: ... and, and like rhythm, you know. So, you sing one, and then you're like, "Okay. Away in a manger." Like the same.

[34:14] Luke: "Away in a manger, la, la, la, la, la." Oh, it's a different song. Oh, okay.

[34:17] Raphael: But the same... with the same tune.

[34:19] Luke: But I think that's the spirit that you-

[34:20] Raphael: Yeah.

[34:20] Luke: ... should use with a, with a Christmas carol. It should be lots of, "Fa, la, la, la, la, la. Christmas carol singing should be done like this."

[34:28] Raphael: (laughs)

[34:28] Luke: Um, in my opinion.

[34:30] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs) Definitely.

[34:32] Luke: Right. Yeah, it's... you know, you can't get festive and Christmassy without a bit of a "fa, la, la, la, la" in there, right?

[34:38] Raphael: Yeah. I- yeah. And you're meant to pay people so, you know, people come to your house and they sing carols outside, and you're meant to give them a bit of money.

[34:45] Luke: Mm-hmm.

[34:45] Raphael: Um, but I don't think that really happens much-

[34:47] Luke: Doesn't really happen much anymore.

[34:48] Raphael: ... now. I think, I think it's like people just probably turn the lights off and pretend they're not in. (laughs)

[34:56] Luke: (laughs)

[34:56] Raphael: And just... or pay them to stop-

[34:58] Luke: Yeah.

[34:58] Raphael: ... if they're quite bad. Like, "Okay. Yep, yep. Yeah, it's Christmas. Yeah, good. Here's a... here's a pound. Please go away."

[35:04] Luke: "Can you... can you... can you stop? Can you just stop singing now, please?"

[35:07] Raphael: Yeah. Or, or a euro maybe.

[35:09] Luke: Yeah. Yeah, yeah.

[35:09] Raphael: "Voila."

[35:10] Luke: "Voila. Uh, uh, merci, uh."

[35:14] Raphael: (laughs)

[35:14] Luke: "Bye."

[35:14] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[35:15] Luke: Um, no, it doesn't happen in France as far as I know.

[35:17] Raphael: No.

[35:18] Luke: I don't know if people come round to your house singing, expecting to be given money.

[35:23] Raphael: No.

[35:23] Luke: Um, what you can do, though, is if a group of carol singers come round to your house, just to kind of troll them a little bit-

[35:30] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[35:30] Luke: ... is that they come round and you stand there while they're singing, "Good King Wenceslas looked out," and you stand there like, "Oh, isn't... it's nice." And then you just give them some really, really horrible mince pies.

[35:40] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah.

[35:40] Luke: Like, "Well, I'm not... I... you know, uh, it's Christmas, so here you are. Would you like some mince pies?"

[35:44] Raphael: Have a cake.

[35:44] Luke: And they eat the mince pies and they're, "Mm-mm-mm, thanks a lot." And then they realize that you're not gonna give them any money.

[35:50] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah.

[35:51] Luke: This is as good as it's gonna get.

[35:52] Raphael: That's the peak.

[35:53] Luke: Yeah. Um, so Christmas carols and carol singers.

[35:57] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[35:57] Luke: Um, it can actually very... be very nice if you're walking through the center of town-

[36:00] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[36:01] Luke: ... some English market town somewhere on Christmas Eve-

[36:04] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[36:04] Luke: ... and there's a group of carol singers and they're all-

[36:06] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[36:06] Luke: ... singing together, and it can be quite a heartwarming moment actually.

[36:10] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

[36:10] Luke: Um, right. The chimney. What, um... the chimney. Now, this is related to Christmas. What is the chimney, and what's the connection to Christmas, Raph?

[36:18] Raphael: Okay. So yeah, the chimney is like, um, the part of your house which is like a big tunnel above the fire, above the fireplace so the smoke can get out of the house, but is also coincidentally where Santa Claus gets into your house-

[36:36] Luke: Yeah.

[36:36] Raphael: ... um, to leave the presents.

[36:38] Luke: Yeah.

[36:38] Raphael: And, um, you know, he's, he's quite fat but he's quite magical-

[36:42] Luke: Yes.

[36:42] Raphael: ... so he can still get in through the chimney even though it's extremely narrow.

[36:46] Luke: Yeah.

[36:46] Raphael: Um, but he just gets down there like, you know, really quickly.

[36:49] Luke: He basically lands his sleigh-

[36:51] Raphael: Yeah.

[36:51] Luke: ... on the roof of your house-

[36:52] Raphael: Yeah.

[36:53] Luke: ... and then he just goes down the chimney. Now, if he's magic, right, if he's magic, why does he choose the chimney? Why does... if he's magic, why does he need to fly?

[37:02] Raphael: Yeah.

[37:02] Luke: Why doesn't he just, you know, magic the gifts into your house?

[37:05] Raphael: Make them all go there-

[37:06] Luke: Yeah.

[37:06] Raphael: ... straight away?

[37:07] Luke: I mean, is y-... is it only specific kind of magic that allows him to go down a chimney?

[37:12] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah, I think he's kind of... he's, he's limited in his range of magical powers, um-

[37:18] Luke: Yeah, he, he's got very specific magical skills. He can only go up and down tubes.

[37:23] Raphael: Yeah, really fast.

[37:24] Luke: Yeah.

[37:25] Raphael: ... I mean, 'cause the trim- trimneys? I'm sorry, the chimneys-

[37:28] Luke: Yeah.

[37:28] Raphael: ... they are very, very narrow. I'm looking around, you know-

[37:31] Luke: Yeah.

[37:31] Raphael: ... they're about, they're about four inches across, maybe six on the bigger one.

[37:35] Luke: Yeah.

[37:35] Raphael: So you wanna be, like, really magical to get down there.

[37:39] Luke: Yeah. And some houses just don't have chimneys.

[37:41] Raphael: Yeah. But he gets them in there anyway. He's good. He's good.

[37:43] Luke: Yeah.

[37:43] Raphael: He has helpers, apparently. My mum would always tell me he has lots of helpers all around-

[37:47] Luke: Yes.

[37:47] Raphael: ... all over the place. So I think he just does, like, a few. He hits, like, the main spots and all his, like, minions, his, like, army of helpers-

[37:55] Luke: Yeah.

[37:55] Raphael: ... take care of the rest.

[37:56] Luke: Okay.

[37:57] Raphael: So he gets, like, the glory but there are a lot of guys behind the scenes.

[38:00] Luke: Parents, basically, right?

[38:02] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah. And, you know, um, people with like, you know, lots of kids, yeah, they just do all that business.

[38:09] Luke: Yeah.

[38:10] Raphael: Yeah.

[38:10] Luke: Okay. Um, so, yeah, Santa goes up and down the chimney, um, and, um, he delivers his stuff. And you're supposed to leave things for Santa.

[38:19] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[38:19] Luke: You're meant to leave him, like, a glass of brandy.

[38:21] Raphael: Yeah.

[38:21] Luke: There we go again, bra-

[38:22] Raphael: (laughs)

[38:22] Luke: ... more alcohol. So you leave Santa a glass of brandy so that when he comes down the chimney, he can, you know, refresh himself-

[38:29] Raphael: Yeah.

[38:29] Luke: ... with a brandy. You'd imagine that b- after about, let's say, uh, 200,000 houses-

[38:35] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[38:35] Luke: ... he might be a little bit drunk.

[38:37] Raphael: Absolutely legless. You would... And that's why... I guess that's where the h- the helpers come in.

[38:40] Luke: Yes.

[38:41] Raphael: 'Cause after he's had his 200,000th brandy-

[38:44] Luke: (laughs)

[38:44] Raphael: ... um, he's probably gonna be like, just he's gonna be leaving the wrong gifts.

[38:49] Luke: Yeah.

[38:49] Raphael: He's gonna be, like, going the wrong way, maybe two gifts in one house, you know. He's like, "Oh, I've been-"

[38:54] Luke: Just be asleep somewhere.

[38:55] Raphael: "... I've been here already. Oh no, which way is, which way is Denmark?" (laughs)

[38:59] Luke: Santa will just be like getting a kebab-

[39:01] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[39:02] Luke: ... and then falling asleep in a doorway.

[39:04] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah, exactly. He'd be like, "Let's go to the Walkabout."

[39:07] Luke: Yeah.

[39:08] Raphael: You know? "I wanna, I wanna go to a party. I'm always working."

[39:11] Luke: Yeah.

[39:11] Raphael: "Everyone else is partying. I'm always working on this night. My hours are so antisocial."

[39:15] Luke: He's like, "I wanna go. Let's, let's kee- let's stay out, man."

[39:18] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[39:19] Luke: "Let's go to a nightclub. Let's go to Walkabout."

[39:22] Raphael: (laughs)

[39:22] Luke: "They've got a f-... They've got a special Christmas deal on Guinness."

[39:25] Raphael: Yeah, (laughs) two for one.

[39:27] Luke: Um, all right, so let's see. Uh, we've got obviously the count-, the chimney, chocolate. You know-

[39:32] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[39:32] Luke: ... people eat loads of chocolate at Christmas. Christians, you know, it's a Christian, uh, ceremony. I wonder how other people who, um, celebrate Christmas, for example, if you're Muslim or if you're Jewish or Buddhist or another faith, I wonder how they feel during Christmas.

[39:47] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[39:48] Luke: I wonder if they feel... I won- I wonder if sort of, uh, they actually take part in some way. I, I wonder. Um, uh, Jesus Christ, of course, is the main guy. Uh, you know, that's the... who we're celebrating, I suppose. Um, actually, uh, before Christianity came along, uh, in, in England, uh, at least, we still had a, a winter festival.

[40:08] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[40:09] Luke: We still had a kind of pagan festival, a pre-, pre-Christian thing. So in a sense it's, it's same for Easter. In a sense, what happened is that Christianity sort of like basically took the winter solstice-

[40:24] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[40:24] Luke: ... festival and just put Christmas on top of it. So we would be celebrating something, even if it wasn't Chris- Christmas, we'd be celebrating a midwinter festival.

[40:33] Raphael: Been here talking about that-

[40:34] Luke: Yeah.

[40:34] Raphael: ... yeah. They re-

[40:35] Luke: Yeah.

[40:35] Raphael: ... they rebranded Christmas.

[40:36] Luke: They did. The Christians basically rebranded it.

[40:38] Raphael: Yeah. Not, not to take anything away from it, but, uh-

[40:40] Luke: Yeah. Yeah, yeah, it's still great and everything.

[40:42] Raphael: Yeah.

[40:42] Luke: And, you know, fair, fair dos to, to Jesus for being born, uh, at the right time basically.

[40:48] Raphael: Yeah.

[40:49] Luke: Yeah.

[40:49] Raphael: Kind of con- very convenient.

[40:50] Luke: Yeah. Um, so I suppose the great thing about Christmas is that you can, you can just celebrate in any way that you, that you want, right? You can find your own Christmas.

[40:59] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Yeah, definitely.

[41:01] Luke: Yeah.

[41:01] Raphael: Yeah, usually with loads and loads of brandy.

[41:04] Luke: Yeah, and chocolate and, and, and puddings and-

[41:06] Raphael: Yeah.

[41:07] Luke: ... things. Um, okay, so let's see. Ch- cranberry sauce, it's just another kind of sauce that you have-

[41:13] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[41:13] Luke: ... on your food. It's made from cranberries, you know, it's like a purple sauce and it's quite nice, fruity.

[41:18] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[41:18] Luke: Uh, cranberry sports sauce... It's like a sweet sauce with, with, uh, meat which is, uh, controversial, ladies and gentlemen-

[41:25] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[41:25] Luke: ... a fr- a sort of fruit berry sauce with meat. But try it, it's good.

[41:29] Raphael: So good.

[41:30] Luke: Crackers, all right. Christmas crackers, Raph.

[41:32] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Yeah. Yeah, they... Um, I've got mixed feelings about Christmas crackers, you know.

[41:37] Luke: What, well, what are they, first of all?

[41:39] Raphael: Um, so it's like a... It looks like a big sweet, I guess. Like it's sort of like a paper tube-

[41:47] Luke: Yeah.

[41:48] Raphael: ... um, that is, um, in three sections. So you've got like a big section in the middle and then two smaller sections at each end.

[41:55] Luke: Yeah.

[41:56] Raphael: And you hold one end and someone-

[41:57] Luke: Mm-hmm.

[41:57] Raphael: ... else holds the other end and you pull it-

[41:59] Luke: Yeah.

[41:59] Raphael: ... and then it kinda cracks open-

[42:01] Luke: Yeah.

[42:02] Raphael: ... and then inside there are like some, you know, usually like a little toy-

[42:06] Luke: Yeah.

[42:06] Raphael: ... um, a hat, um, like a, like a-

[42:09] Luke: Yeah.

[42:09] Raphael: ... like a kind of paper hat-

[42:11] Luke: Yeah.

[42:11] Raphael: ... and a really, really bad joke-

[42:13] Luke: Yeah.

[42:13] Raphael: ... usually.

[42:14] Luke: Yeah.

[42:15] Raphael: And, and you kind of have to have this ritual telling of the jokes and everyone... No one e- ever laughs. It's always like, "Mm."

[42:22] Luke: Oh.

[42:23] Raphael: Yeah, like a, like a groan, you know.

[42:25] Luke: So, so if you can picture what would happen is you'd sit down at the Christmas table, you've got all the, all the, the plates and knives and forks and glasses and everything there, the table has been set, and also in front of you there's a Christmas cracker which, as Raph has just described, it's usually sort of decorated in gold or silver paper or something like that. And you, uh, invite your... the person next to you to pull the cracker with you and, uh, if you get most of the cracker-

[42:49] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[42:49] Luke: ... if it breaks on their side-

[42:51] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[42:51] Luke: ... and you get most of it, then you keep what's inside. There is usually a little strip of, uh, something which makes it go crack when you pull it-

[43:00] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[43:00] Luke: ... sort of like a little bit of, I don't know, like gunpowdery stuff.

[43:03] Raphael: Yeah, yeah. Like a little banger.

[43:04] Luke: Yeah, like it kind of goes bang or crack when you open it.

[43:07] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[43:07] Luke: And inside, as Raph said, there's a hat, a paper hat that everyone puts on their head so you look stupid, and, uh, a little toy like a, I don't know, like a little set of screwdrivers or something-

[43:18] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[43:18] Luke: ... that you never use.

[43:19] Raphael: Yeah.

[43:19] Luke: And, and then, um, uh, a joke. And the jokes, yes, they're always terrible, like really bad jokes, but everyone shares their jokes and, uh, usually the response is to go, "Oh," meaning that's a terrible joke. Can you think of any typical cracker jokes?

[43:34] Raphael: Um, what's, what's Santa's wife called?

[43:39] Luke: What's Santa's wife called? I don't know. What's Santa's wife called?

[43:42] Raphael: Mary Christmas.

[43:43] Luke: Oh. (laughs)

[43:45] Speaker 3: Yeah.

[43:45] Luke: Mary, Mary Christmas. Do you get it? Mary Christmas.

[43:49] Raphael: Yeah.

[43:49] Luke: Yeah. Okay.

[43:50] Speaker 3: That's, that's, that's as good as they get, usually. Pretty bad.

[43:54] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

[43:55] Luke: Um, that's, that, that's a good example. I think we'll move on. (laughs)

[43:59] Raphael: Yeah. It's for the best.

[44:00] Luke: Um, so what else have we got, uh, charades is a game that people play at Christmas. Basically charades is a, it's like a st- a game that you play in the evening when everyone's had a few dr- drinks.

[44:11] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[44:11] Luke: Drinking seems to be a big theme of this episode.

[44:14] Raphael: Yeah.

[44:14] Luke: But it, it, it does happen a lot at Christmas. People often have a few drinks. But you play a game called charades, which is like a, a game where you have to pick a, uh, uh, the name of a book, or a movie, or a song, and then you, uh, like act it out in front of your family. And they have to guess which book it is. And it's hilarious.

[44:35] Raphael: Yeah.

[44:35] Luke: Absolutely hilarious. Um, all right. So, uh, sh- candles, you know, lots of candles to create the right atmosphere. Uh, Christmas cake, which is just, again, uh, basically it's a fruitcake covered in white icing-

[44:47] Raphael: Yeah.

[44:47] Luke: ... with th- which, that's decorated. And no one wants to eat it.

[44:50] Raphael: Yeah.

[44:51] Luke: Because by the time the Christmas cake comes round, usually on Boxing Day, everyone's just completely full and sick of eating all of this rich food. Um, we have other words for Christmas. Chrimbo.

[45:02] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Mm.

[45:03] Luke: Chrim- Chrimbo-

[45:04] Raphael: Yeah.

[45:04] Luke: ... is like a nickname for Christmas.

[45:06] Raphael: Sh- just a shorter, quicker way of saying it.

[45:08] Luke: Yeah, yeah.

[45:09] Raphael: Many, many ... In, in Liverpool people say it quite a lot.

[45:11] Luke: Do they?

[45:11] Raphael: You know, where I'm from, yeah. "Merry Chrimbo, mate."

[45:13] Luke: "Alright, mate, so you gonna have a good Chrimbo, are ya?"

[45:15] Raphael: Yeah. "It's Chrimbo, innit?"

[45:16] Luke: Yeah.

[45:17] Raphael: "You gonna go and see me fambo on Chrimbo?"

[45:19] Luke: Your fambo.

[45:20] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah. I don't, I don't know if people actually say that.

[45:22] Luke: Fambo's like family-

[45:23] Raphael: Yeah.

[45:23] Luke: ... I suppose. And they like doing that in, in Liverpool. They're like abbreviating words a bit, right?

[45:28] Raphael: Yeah, yeah, a bit. Or just changing them completely.

[45:31] Luke: Yeah.

[45:31] Raphael: Like fambo.

[45:32] Luke: Fambo, "Yeah, I'm just gonna go and see the fambo at Chrimbo."

[45:36] Raphael: (laughs)

[45:36] Luke: (laughs) Um, all right. Chrimbo. So, th- moving into D, and we need to, we need to hurry up a little bit.

[45:42] Raphael: Yeah, if anyone's still with us. (laughs)

[45:43] Luke: You've got, you, and you've got a plane to catch later on. We're gonna still be here, you know, in the darkness. So, anyway, T.

[45:49] Raphael: On Boxing Day. (laughs)

[45:50] Luke: Yeah. We'll be like, "I'm so hungry. I'm so hungry, let's do letter T."
Um, no. All right. So where are we?

[45:57] Raphael: (clears throat)

[45:57] Luke: Uh, we're on letter D, dinner. Well, fine. Decorations.

[46:01] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[46:02] Luke: Yeah. Uh, you put up your Christmas decorations.

[46:04] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[46:04] Luke: You're supposed to take your Christmas decorations down-

[46:08] Raphael: Twelfth night.

[46:08] Luke: ... the, on the twelfth night after Christmas-

[46:10] Raphael: Yeah.

[46:11] Luke: ... or something.

[46:11] Raphael: 6th of January.

[46:12] Luke: 6th of January.

[46:13] Raphael: Bad luck if you leave them up after that, I think.

[46:14] Luke: Really?

[46:15] Raphael: Yeah.

[46:15] Luke: So if they're still there on the 7th of January, it's bad luck?

[46:18] Raphael: Bad year. Bad year ahead for you.

[46:19] Luke: Really? So you gotta get the Christmas decorations down-

[46:22] Raphael: (clears throat) Yeah.

[46:22] Luke: ... by the 6th of January.

[46:23] Raphael: Yeah, yeah, yeah. I remember, I remember last year, m- my mum was just like pretty much on Boxing Day, she was just ready to, to get 'em down.

[46:30] Luke: Oh, really? (laughs)

[46:31] Raphael: You know. (laughs) She was like, "Shall we just take the Christmas decor off?" I was like, "Well, you know, let's enjoy the spirit of Christmas for a few more days." She was like, "Nah, let's just take it all down."

[46:38] Luke: Take it all down.

[46:39] Raphael: (laughs)

[46:39] Luke: Just go back to normal.

[46:40] Raphael: Burn the tree.

[46:41] Luke: Yeah.

[46:43] Raphael: You know? (laughs)

[46:43] Luke: (laughs)

[46:43] Raphael: And, and, and all the decorations maybe. No, no. It's not, it's not true. It wasn't that bad.

[46:48] Luke: Okay. All right.

[46:49] Raphael: Yeah.

[46:49] Luke: So, uh, Doctor Who.

[46:51] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[46:52] Luke: Um, obviously on ... Usually there's an episode of Doctor Who at Christmas.

[46:55] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[46:55] Luke: This year, there's a big Doctor Who episode happening.

[46:58] Raphael: I know.

[46:58] Luke: Yeah. 'Cause that's, uh, this year it's when w- we're gonna see the change.

[47:02] Raphael: Oh, the new ...

[47:02] Luke: He's gonna, he's going to regenerate.

[47:04] Raphael: New Doctor.

[47:04] Luke: We're gonna get a new Doctor this year. Uh, some of my listeners are big Doctor Who fans. Um, and, um, so you'll probably be excited. Other listeners are like, "What?"

[47:14] Raphael: (laughs)

[47:14] Luke: "What? What?"

[47:15] Raphael: "Who, Doc- Who is Doctor who?" "Yeah, Doc- Doctor Who." You know? It's like-

[47:17] Luke: Doctor Who? Exactly. Um, there's a joke, isn't there?

[47:21] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah.

[47:22] Luke: So, yeah. Yeah.

[47:22] Raphael: Probably in, uh, many Christmas crackers.

[47:24] Luke: Yeah. Knock, knock.

[47:25] Raphael: Who's there?

[47:26] Luke: Doctor.

[47:27] Raphael: Doctor Who?

[47:28] Luke: Exactly. Yeah.

[47:29] Raphael: Oh.

[47:30] Luke: It's terrible, isn't it? Um, so, um, yes. There's, there will be a Doctor Who, uh, Christmas special in which Doc- the Doctor is going to die, and then he's going to regenerate into, I believe, the Twelfth, I think it's the Twelfth Doctor.

[47:44] Raphael: Oh, yeah.

[47:44] Luke: He's gonna be played by a great Scottish actor called, um, uh, and the name escapes me now.

[47:51] Raphael: He's-

[47:51] Luke: He played Malcolm Tucker in th- in the ...

[47:53] Raphael: It's very funny.

[47:54] Luke: Yeah. Yeah. I c- I just ... Peter Capaldi.

[47:57] Raphael: Yes.

[47:57] Luke: That's it.

[47:58] Raphael: Good one.

[47:58] Luke: I think he's gonna be a great Doctor.

[47:59] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[48:00] Luke: Anyway, um, I- I'm not gonna be able to watch it because I'll be, we'll be too busy entertaining the family.

[48:05] Raphael: See your elbow in turkey.

[48:07] Luke: Yeah. That's right. We'll be eating turkey and trying to speak French and, and-

[48:11] Raphael: (laughs)

[48:11] Luke: ... and translating. But my parents and, and, uh, my girlfriend's parents are meeting each other-

[48:17] Raphael: For the first time.

[48:18] Luke: ... so, for the first time at Christmas. It's a recipe for ... I'm not sure. It's e- either it's a recipe for disaster or it's a recipe for just a really nice multicultural Christmas.

[48:26] Raphael: (laughs) I'm sure it'll be good.

[48:27] Luke: I think it's gonna be all right, actually.

[48:28] Raphael: Yeah, yeah.

[48:29] Luke: Yeah. We're gonna have some nice food.

[48:30] Raphael: Yeah.

[48:31] Luke: And some, some nice wine.

[48:33] Raphael: Yeah.

[48:33] Luke: And it's gonna be nice, actually.

[48:35] Raphael: Yeah.

[48:35] Luke: I'm looking forward to it. Um, right. So, E.

[48:38] Raphael: Mm-hmm. (clears throat)

[48:39] Luke: We've got the word Ebenezer Scrooge.

[48:41] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[48:41] Luke: Scrooge.

[48:42] Raphael: "What, what day is it? What day is it, young man?"

[48:46] Luke: "I- It's Chri- it's Christmas. It's Christmas Day, Mr. Scrooge."

[48:49] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[48:50] Luke: (laughs)

[48:51] Raphael: Yeah. There's a great ... Have you seen the Bill Murray Virgin? Ver-

[48:54] Luke: Virgin?

[48:55] Raphael: No. Version.

[48:56] Luke: (laughs)

[48:56] Raphael: Version of Scrooge.

[48:57] Luke: I've never seen the Bill Murray ... No, I have. Yeah. Scrooged.

[49:00] Raphael: Scrooged, yeah. So good.

[49:00] Luke: Yeah. The Bill, Bill Murray, yeah.

[49:02] Raphael: Yeah, yeah.

[49:02] Luke: Right. So if you don't know what we're talking about, w- we're referring to the classic Charles Dickens story, A Christmas Carol, which is all about, uh, an horrible, miserly man, a man who, who doesn't ... He's not generous.

[49:15] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[49:15] Luke: He I- he doesn't like to share his wealth. And he, um, he's miserable old git. And, uh, he's got like a, a, a, a shop.

[49:24] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[49:24] Luke: Um, and he's, he employs a couple of members of staff. And he doesn't give them any gifts at Christmas.

[49:29] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[49:29] Luke: He doesn't give them any extra money or anything. And he's horrible, basically.

[49:33] Raphael: Horrible.

[49:33] Luke: And he spends Christmas alone. And then that night he gets visited by a ghost of his former friend-

[49:38] Raphael: Yeah.

[49:38] Luke: ... who then s-

[49:39] Raphael: Marley, was it? Or something like that.

[49:41] Luke: Uh ...

[49:41] Raphael: I can't remember the name now.

[49:42] Luke: ... I can't, I can't remember-

[49:44] Raphael: Yeah. It's not important.

[49:44] Luke: ... his, his name either, but, um, he then gets visited, uh, uh, by three ghosts, the Ghost of Christmas Past, the Ghost of Christmas Present, and the Ghost of Christmas Future. And these ghosts show Ebenezer Scrooge, um, how, what a horrible guy he is basically, and he reali- Scrooge realizes, "Oh my God, I need to be more generous."

[50:05] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[50:06] Luke: And so he wakes up on Christmas Day and he's a different guy.

[50:08] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah. It's heart- it's heartwarming.

[50:10] Luke: It's a lovely story.

[50:11] Raphael: Yeah.

[50:12] Luke: It's, it's a great story, uh, the, uh, A Christmas Carol. And, uh, we ... There are some phrases that we ref- that we use that come from that story now-

[50:21] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[50:21] Luke: ... at Christmastime. So, don't be a Scrooge.

[50:24] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[50:24] Luke: Scrooge is a guy who's, like, doesn't celebrate Christmas and who doesn't buy gifts for people.

[50:29] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[50:29] Luke: So, don't be a Scrooge. And the other one is bah humbug.

[50:32] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[50:33] Luke: Bah humbug. Which doesn't really mean anything. It's just ... It's kind of like something you would say, uh, uh, if you're annoyed by Christmas. Oh, bollocks. (laughs)

[50:44] Raphael: (laughs)

[50:44] Luke: Oh, bah humbug.

[50:46] Raphael: Yeah, it's a slightly less-

[50:47] Luke: Slightly less. (laughs)

[50:48] Raphael: ... polite version. (laughs)

[50:50] Luke: Yeah. Uh, sorry ladies and gentlemen, that was a rude word that just jumped out of my mouth. But bah humbug is, like, the equivalent of that.

[50:57] Raphael: (laughs)

[50:57] Luke: If you got A Christmas Carol set today, he might say, "Oh, nonsense."

[51:03] Raphael: Yeah.

[51:03] Luke: "Oh, it's all, it's all stupid nonsense," um, is the equivalence of, of that.

[51:08] Raphael: Yeah.

[51:08] Luke: Oh, bah humbug.

[51:10] Raphael: Exactly.

[51:11] Luke: Yeah. Um, right, what's next? Elves.

[51:13] Raphael: Elves, yep.

[51:15] Luke: Elves, all right.

[51:16] Raphael: Santa's helpers.

[51:16] Luke: Santa has elves helping him.

[51:18] Raphael: Yeah, yeah. There's a very funny Christmas movie called Elf-

[51:21] Luke: Yes.

[51:22] Raphael: ... with Colin Farrell.

[51:23] Luke: Will Ferrell.

[51:23] Raphael: Will Ferrell even, yeah. (laughs)

[51:24] Luke: Colin Farrell is the Irish-

[51:26] Raphael: Yeah.

[51:26] Luke: ... uh, action movie star.

[51:27] Raphael: Yeah, that's a totally different-

[51:28] Luke: Yeah.

[51:29] Raphael: ... type of, uh, movie, kind of, catalog. (laughs)

[51:33] Luke: Yes. Defi- different type of movie there.

[51:35] Raphael: Yeah.

[51:35] Luke: So, anyway, Elf, yes, it's a gre- it's a funny film about a man who is brought up by elves.

[51:41] Raphael: Yeah.

[51:41] Luke: He thinks he's an elf, but he's actually just a man.

[51:43] Raphael: Yeah.

[51:44] Luke: Um, Will Ferrell movie, Elf. It's kind of a great Christmas film-

[51:48] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[51:48] Luke: ... because it's funny and it's appropriate for children and adults. So Elf, Will Ferrell, check it out.

[51:55] Raphael: Watch it.

[51:55] Luke: Uh, Will Ferrell is hilarious.

[51:57] Raphael: Yeah.

[51:57] Luke: He's great.

[51:58] Raphael: Definitely.

[51:58] Luke: Um, other words. Raph, do you wanna pick a, pick a word from the F category?

[52:02] Raphael: Yeah, okay. So, the, the main man, well, the second main man.
(laughs)

[52:07] Luke: Yeah.

[52:07] Raphael: Uh, Father Christmas.

[52:09] Luke: Yeah.

[52:09] Raphael: Yeah. That's a pretty obvious, uh, reference there, um-

[52:12] Luke: Yeah.

[52:12] Raphael: Ho, ho, ho, ho, hello children, Merry Christmas. That's a good impression.

[52:18] Luke: Thank you.

[52:19] Raphael: Yeah. Um, we've also got frankincense. Yeah.

[52:24] Luke: Gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

[52:26] Raphael: Yeah.

[52:26] Luke: Right, so thi- this is what the, the ... Going back to the story of, like, Bethlehem-

[52:31] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[52:31] Luke: ... and the birth of Jesus, um, in the manger-

[52:34] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[52:35] Luke: ... on a farm somewhere in Bethlehem.

[52:37] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[52:37] Luke: Uh, the Angel Gabriel, uh, told three wise men-

[52:40] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[52:40] Luke: ... they were, like, three kings or three wise men.

[52:43] Raphael: Yeah. Like, stargazers, I guess. Like, very-

[52:45] Luke: Yeah.

[52:45] Raphael: I think they actually worked for Herod.

[52:49] Luke: Did they?

[52:49] Raphael: They were his ... 'Cause I suppose they would kind of try and get omens about the future by looking at the stars.

[52:56] Luke: Yeah. Right.

[52:56] Raphael: Try and get, like, wisdom and information.

[52:58] Luke: Mm-hmm.

[52:59] Raphael: Bit like the internet, I suppose, you know. (laughs)

[53:01] Luke: (laughs)

[53:02] Raphael: They, they didn't have the internet, so they were like, "Let's have a look at those stars-"

[53:05] Luke: Yeah.

[53:06] Raphael: "... get some information, interpret it, and tell the king." They saw the star, were like, "We need to go over there. Something big's happening." Jesus was there.

[53:17] Luke: Yeah.

[53:17] Raphael: Um, (laughs) and-

[53:19] Luke: Jesus was there going, "Wah."

[53:21] Raphael: Exactly. And they brought gifts.

[53:23] Luke: Yeah.

[53:23] Raphael: There were three of them, so they brought one gift each. Um, it's always embarrassing if you go to a party without a gift.

[53:28] Luke: Yes.

[53:29] Raphael: So, one of them had gold. I'm sure he was popular.

[53:31] Luke: Gold.

[53:31] Raphael: They're like, "Gold? Whoo, yes."

[53:32] Luke: Brilliant.

[53:33] Raphael: "Come in. Definitely you're in the party." Next guy, frankincense. Mm, not ... Don't really know what that is, but come in anyway. Last guy, myrrh. Pfft, I mean, okay, you can come in 'cause you're with those two-

[53:47] Luke: Yeah.

[53:47] Raphael: ... but just so you know, don't take myrrh to a party. (laughs)

[53:50] Luke: What is myrrh?

[53:51] Raphael: Yeah.

[53:51] Luke: I mean, the thing is, okay, gold, frankincense, and, and myrrh are the gifts that the wise men brought to Jesus. Um, we know, we all know what gold is. Great.

[53:59] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[53:59] Luke: That's always a good popular present-

[54:01] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[54:01] Luke: ... to offer anyone at any time. Uh, frankincense, okay, it's a ... Well, we know it's kind of an incense.

[54:06] Raphael: Yeah.

[54:07] Luke: Something that smells good.

[54:08] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah, it smells nice.

[54:09] Luke: Yeah. And then myrrh.

[54:11] Raphael: I think I've got a feeling that you use it to, like, put on people when they're, when they die, like to sort of embalm bodies or something or-

[54:21] Luke: Really?

[54:21] Raphael: Yeah, so it's-

[54:21] Luke: That's a bit weird.

[54:22] Raphael: It's a bit dark.

[54:23] Luke: Yeah.

[54:23] Raphael: What? For a birth, you know?

[54:25] Luke: The point is, ladies and gentlemen, you might be thinking, "I can't believe that they don't know," but the point is that most people-

[54:31] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[54:31] Luke: ... don't know what frankincense and myrrh are.

[54:34] Raphael: Yeah.

[54:34] Luke: And that's fine, you know, that's normal. Um, gold, frankincense, and myrrh, but we don't really know what myrrh and, and, and, and frankincense are. Um, now, let's see. We've got, um, uh, friends, of course, you know, you like to spend time with your friends, uh, particularly on, uh, Christmas Eve-

[54:50] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[54:50] Luke: ... down the pub, you know.

[54:51] Raphael: Party.

[54:51] Luke: Have a little party. Football.

[54:53] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Boxing Day, always a lot of football on on Boxing Day.

[54:56] Luke: Yeah.

[54:56] Raphael: Feel so ... Sometimes feel a bit sorry for ... Well, I don't even ... I don't really feel sorry for footballers-

[55:02] Luke: (laughs)

[55:02] Raphael: ... as most of them get paid, you know, about 100,000 pounds every week.

[55:06] Luke: Yeah.

[55:07] Raphael: You know, or more. Um, sort of like the, like the poor footballers get 100,000, the rich ones get 200,000. (laughs)

[55:14] Luke: Oh, these poor footballers having to play football on Boxing Day.

[55:18] Raphael: Exactly.

[55:18] Luke: In fact, most of them have to just sit on the bench and watch other people play football.

[55:23] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[55:23] Luke: And they only get paid, like, 250,000 pounds a minute.

[55:26] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs) It's like-

[55:28] Luke: Oh, no.

[55:28] Raphael: These poor footballers.

[55:29] Luke: Yeah. They're a, they're a kind of ... But I guess maybe you could, like, get a red card in a game, like, a week before Christmas-

[55:37] Raphael: Yeah.

[55:37] Luke: ... and then you, you'd be ... You know I'm not advocating dangerous football.

[55:41] Raphael: No.

[55:41] Luke: But you'd get ... You'd be suspended.

[55:43] Raphael: ... for Christmas.

[55:44] Luke: Yeah.

[55:44] Raphael: And then you'd just be like, "Yeah, let's- let's- let's have, eat loads of turkey and- and bread sauce, and drink loads of brandy." You know?

[55:51] Luke: Yeah.

[55:51] Raphael: And then when the suspension's finished, you just start playing football again.

[55:54] Luke: Back to-

[55:55] Raphael: Yeah.

[55:56] Luke: Back to, back to football again.

[55:58] Raphael: Yeah.

[55:58] Luke: Yeah, so Boxing Day, there's always some football on Boxing Day. Um, and, uh, if you're lucky, you- you actually get tickets to see a f- see a game. It must be great to go and see a game on Boxing Day.

[56:09] Raphael: That's right, yeah.

[56:09] Luke: It'd be ... I'd love to go and see some Boxing Day football.

[56:12] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[56:12] Luke: Um, all right, so G, we- we have gifts of course, um, gold, um, gravy. Gravy, of course, is that sauce that you pour all over your turkey.

[56:23] Raphael: Mm.

[56:23] Luke: It's a nice brown sauce made from, uh, it's made from the- the- the- the- the juices that come out of the turkey during cooking. And it's a nice rich, uh, sort of juicy sauce made with meat stock. Mm. Yummy.

[56:38] Raphael: It's good.

[56:39] Luke: Um, the H, the word holy. So holy, obviously just referring to sort of, you know, uh, um, religiousness, sort of holy-

[56:48] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[56:48] Luke: ... holy, uh, holy (laughs) what? What do you say?

[56:53] Raphael: (laughs)

[56:54] Luke: (laughs) Holy hell. Uh, no, not holy hell.

[56:57] Raphael: Yeah (laughs) .

[56:57] Luke: Uh, holy what?

[56:58] Raphael: It's a- it's a holy time. It's like sacred.

[57:00] Luke: Yeah. Yes.

[57:01] Raphael: But then, um, in, uh, just saying it like that makes me think of Robin from Batman & Robin, "Holy mackerel, Batman."

[57:07] Luke: Yeah.

[57:08] Raphael: You know? (laughs)

[57:08] Luke: That's right, from the old Batman movie.

[57:10] Raphael: Yeah.

[57:10] Luke: Robin would always ... It's, uh, R- Robin would always use the word holy. Holy, yeah. Holy mackerel. Meaning wow, for example. Anyway, you don't need to know that really, I imagine.

[57:20] Raphael: I don't. Don't eat mackerel.

[57:21] Luke: But holy ... Um, is it in A Christmas Carol ?

[57:24] Raphael: Yeah.

[57:25] Luke: << Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy >>.

[57:28] Raphael: Yeah (laughs) .

[57:28] Luke: It's like David Bowie's << Holy, holy, holy, holy Christmastime >>. That's, uh ... I've just created a new David Bowie Christmas carol. << Holy Christmas, holy Christmastime >>

[57:41] Raphael: Good, yeah.

[57:42] Luke: << Ho- holy Christmastime >>. There you go, David Bowie's Christmas carol, ladies and gentlemen.

[57:47] Raphael: Oh, free.

[57:47] Luke: Yeah. Um, all right, so, um, uh, holidays of course. Uh, uh, holly. Now holly is a kind of a green leaf.

[57:57] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[57:57] Luke: It's like a spiky green leaf with red berries. We- we decorate, uh, things w- using holly at Christmas. Um, hymns we've talked about. Uh, Christmas hymns, you know, << Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-Hallelujah >>, that kind of thing.

[58:13] Raphael: (laughs)

[58:14] Luke: (laughs) Um, um, hangover, you know, we've mentioned that's, uh, if you drink a bit too much, uh, then in the morning you might wake up with a bit of a headache. You might have a bit of a hangover.

[58:25] Raphael: Drink responsibly.

[58:27] Luke: That's right, you should always drink responsibly, ladies and gentlemen, um, at Christmastime.

[58:32] Raphael: Yeah, that's-

[58:32] Luke: Uh-

[58:32] Raphael: ... that's not the name of a drink, by the way. It's just ... Uh, it's a- it's an adverb.

[58:37] Luke: It's a word. Drink responsibly. It's not drink ... It's not ... There's no product called Responsibly. They should-

[58:43] Raphael: Imagine.

[58:44] Luke: They should create a- a product called Responsibly, the new, uh, uh, uh, alcohol-free drink.

[58:50] Raphael: (laughs)

[58:50] Luke: So w- why not this Christmas drink Responsibly.

[58:53] Raphael: (laughs)

[58:53] Luke: Always drink responsibly, Responsibly.

[58:55] Raphael: And- and at the end of every other advert for alcohol, they would like advertise your drink as well.

[59:01] Luke: Yeah, yeah.

[59:01] Raphael: That's actually ... I've actually stolen that idea from my mate Billy.

[59:03] Luke: Really?

[59:03] Raphael: He wants- he wants to create a brand of beer called Responsibly.

[59:07] Luke: Okay.

[59:07] Raphael: Yeah, so that every time any other alcohol is advertised, they'd be like, "Drink responsibly," at the end.

[59:12] Luke: Yeah.

[59:12] Raphael: And it's like, "Yeah, this is an advert for, you know, Strongbow, but drink Responsibly as well." So it's like-

[59:18] Luke: Okay.

[59:18] Raphael: ... "Yes, free."

[59:19] Luke: Interesting concept.

[59:21] Raphael: Yeah.

[59:21] Luke: That could work. Um, right, icicles. We- we're onto the letter I, icicles. That's when it's very cold outside and y- you get these kind of like glass, uh, sort of stalactites made of ice.

[59:33] Raphael: Mm.

[59:33] Luke: Icicles.

[59:34] Raphael: Like hanging from- from the roof or-

[59:36] Luke: Hanging-

[59:36] Raphael: ... from the window maybe.

[59:37] Luke: Yeah. I imagine, uh-

[59:39] Raphael: Or your nose if you've r- if you've been out too long.

[59:41] Luke: Yeah.

[59:41] Raphael: You'll get a little icicle of like, you know-

[59:43] Luke: Hanging fr- hanging from the nose.

[59:44] Raphael: ... the snot. That's not very nice.

[59:45] Luke: That's not- not ... An icicle of snot hanging from your nose.

[59:48] Raphael: Yeah, snot- (laughs) snot-very-nice.

[59:49] Luke: Snot- snot-cicle.

[59:51] Raphael: (laughs)

[59:51] Luke: Snot-very-nice, Raph.

[59:53] Raphael: (laughs)

[59:53] Luke: Um, let's see. Um, uh, in- in England you don't often get freezing cold winters these days.

[01:00:00] Raphael: No.

[01:00:00] Luke: Uh, but I imagine in other countries, like I've got lit- lots of listeners in Russia, I expect they're- they've got plenty of icicles going on there.

[01:00:07] Raphael: Like as- like as big as your leg, like an icicle that's just massive. Like-

[01:00:11] Luke: Yeah.

[01:00:11] Raphael: ... like if it fell off the roof, it would probably be quite dangerous-

[01:00:14] Luke: Yes.

[01:00:14] Raphael: ... I would- I imagine. Like a massive cone-shaped piece of hard glass basically falling through the air.

[01:00:23] Luke: Yeah. I wonder, I- ladies and gentlemen, if you are in a country where it gets very cold and you get lots of icicles, uh, hanging off the- the corners of buildings, is it dangerous? Do- do- you know, do people sometimes get hit? Do you have to like wear a helmet, um, when you go outside-

[01:00:37] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:00:37] Luke: ... in Russia? What's going on in your countries? Tell me if you're from a very cold place, not just Russia, could be anywhere.

[01:00:44] Raphael: Icicle moments.

[01:00:44] Luke: Y- y- Ukraine, you know, Sweden, Norway, or anywhere in fact where it's- where it's very cold. Um, do you get lots of icicles hanging from roofs and things? It must be very inconvenient.

[01:00:55] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:00:55] Luke: Um, icicles. Ivy is just another kind of green plant that you sometimes use to decorate your house. Um, jingle bells. << Jingle bells, jingle bells (hums) >>

[01:01:08] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:01:10] Luke: << In a one-horse open sleigh >>

[01:01:11] Raphael: Hey.

[01:01:11] Luke: << Oh, jingle bells, jingle bells. << (hums) >> Hey! I don't know the words to- to Jingle ...

[01:01:20] Raphael: Really?

[01:01:20] Luke: No.

[01:01:21] Raphael: Oh.

[01:01:21] Luke: But there's this- there's an alternative version to Jingle Bells. << Jingle bells, jingle bells, Robin flew away. << Uh, uh, uh, no. << Jingle bells, Batman smells ... »

[01:01:30] Raphael: Smells, yeah.

[01:01:30] Luke: « ... Robin flew away. (hums) »

[01:01:32] Raphael: << Oh, what fun it is to ride on a one- on a one-ho- on a one-horse open sleigh. >>

[01:01:36] Luke: Yeah. << Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way. Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh. Hey! >>

[01:01:42] Raphael: There we go.

[01:01:42] Luke: << Jingle bell >>

[01:01:43] Raphael: Modern version.

[01:01:44] Luke: Yeah (laughs) . The David Bowie version. << Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way >> No, that-

[01:01:51] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:01:51] Luke: Is that David Bowie's version?

[01:01:53] Raphael: It's- it's like an old- old David Bowie-

[01:01:56] Luke: Yeah.

[01:01:56] Raphael: ... maybe type. Like can't really be bothered, just phoning you in.

[01:01:59] Luke: << Jingle bells, jingle- jingle bells, jingle bells >>

[01:02:02] Raphael: Jingle.

[01:02:03] Luke: << Jingle all the way >>

[01:02:04] Speaker 3: Ja, ja, jingle bell.

[01:02:06] Luke: (laughs)

[01:02:06] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:02:07] Luke: We're David Bowie fans, ladies and gentlemen.

[01:02:08] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:02:08] Luke: You might not know his music, but, uh, it sounds exactly like that. Um, Jesus, of course, the- the biggest, the big, uh, the main-

[01:02:16] Raphael: The big J.

[01:02:16] Luke: ... the main guy.

[01:02:17] Raphael: The J Dog.

[01:02:18] Luke: Joseph, his dad.

[01:02:19] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:02:20] Luke: Um, Joseph who's not... You don't always hear his side of the story at Christmas, do you?

[01:02:24] Raphael: Unsung hero.

[01:02:25] Luke: Yeah.

[01:02:26] Raphael: He, he had to get them to, to Bethlehem, pregnant Mary.

[01:02:29] Luke: Yeah.

[01:02:29] Raphael: Might have been a bit angry. He's like, "You all seem to be a bit pregnant, Mary."

[01:02:34] Luke: I don't, I don't remember anything happening.

[01:02:35] Raphael: "What's, what's going on? Um, as far as I know, you're a virgin."

[01:02:40] Luke: And she was like, "Yeah, yeah, i- i- it was God. It was God."

[01:02:42] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[01:02:43] Luke: And he's like, "Oh, oh, oh, okay. That's okay then. In fact, I'm quite proud."

[01:02:47] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:02:48] Luke: Yeah.

[01:02:48] Raphael: Yes. Either that or a really awkward walk to Bethlehem.

[01:02:52] Luke: (laughs)

[01:02:52] Raphael: Like, like, just, just really bad atmosphere, you know? Like-

[01:02:57] Luke: Not talking.

[01:02:58] Raphael: Just, just looking at her on that donkey, like, "Oh."

[01:03:00] Luke: "I just can't believe that you, she's-"

[01:03:02] Raphael: Pregnant.

[01:03:02] Luke: "... given me the God excuse-"

[01:03:04] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:03:04] Luke: "... of all the excuses."

[01:03:06] Raphael: Certainly. Yeah. It was... It's, it's a great one though, you know? Imagine that, if she just thought of that, maybe she thought it was just a genius excuse. But this?

[01:03:14] Luke: Oh, um, yeah. God came down and, uh-

[01:03:17] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:03:17] Luke: ... and then I woke up pregnant. Um.

[01:03:19] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah. Next thing you know, one of the biggest religions that Europe's ever known, certainly the world has ever known, is, is created.

[01:03:27] Luke: (laughs)

[01:03:28] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah.

[01:03:28] Luke: And, uh, and, and now we get to celebrate the beautiful, uh, uh, Christian festival that is, that is Christmas.

[01:03:35] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:03:35] Luke: And, uh, and, and thank, thank ev- thank God, thank, uh, thank Mary and Joseph who... Joseph did a fantastic job of getting Mary, uh, to that last inn-

[01:03:47] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:03:47] Luke: ... where, where they, they managed to, uh, sleep in the, in the manger-

[01:03:52] Raphael: With the animals.

[01:03:52] Luke: ... with the animals. What a beautiful scene that, that is.

[01:03:55] Raphael: Ah.

[01:03:55] Luke: Um, right, so Joseph, the kings, the Wise Men we've, we've talked about. Uh, moving on to the letter L, that's a list. You should have a Christmas list where you, which you take with you when you go shopping. The worst situation is when you have not managed to buy all the presents on your list, and then you end up probably on Oxford Street-

[01:04:13] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:04:13] Luke: ... on Christmas Eve. And that's just the worst place to be.

[01:04:17] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:04:17] Luke: Um, because it's so crowded.

[01:04:19] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:04:19] Luke: It's a nightmare.

[01:04:19] Raphael: It's full of men. Just men, men.

[01:04:21] Luke: Yeah.

[01:04:21] Raphael: Women are, like, usually they've done it all. They're at home, happy, watching a bit of telly, maybe watching Elf-

[01:04:28] Luke: Yeah.

[01:04:28] Raphael: ... with Will Ferrell.

[01:04:30] Luke: Yeah.

[01:04:30] Raphael: Um, drinking some, some wine or brandy.

[01:04:34] Luke: Or just some, some orange juice.

[01:04:35] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:04:36] Luke: Because, you know, you, you know, uh, it's not compulsory to drink alcohol. You can drink soft drinks and that's fine. Diet, diet cola maybe.

[01:04:43] Raphael: Water.

[01:04:44] Luke: Or just simply water.

[01:04:45] Raphael: Just some good old-fashioned water.

[01:04:48] Luke: Yeah.

[01:04:48] Raphael: And... But the point is, they're not having to suffer the, uh, the kind of last-minute rush-

[01:04:54] Luke: Mm-hmm.

[01:04:55] Raphael: ... which I'll probably be doing in about two days, remembering this moment, thinking, "Why?"

[01:05:00] Luke: Why, why was I recording an episode of Luke Singer's podcast?

[01:05:03] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:05:03] Luke: I should have been outside buying gifts. But no, no, I, instead I decided to, to just s- s- talk to, uh, talk to Luke, um, and-

[01:05:13] Raphael: About lists.

[01:05:14] Luke: About lists, instead of actually doing my shopping.

[01:05:16] Raphael: On the list, yeah.

[01:05:18] Luke: Yeah. So, um, we've got then, moving on to the letter M, the manger.

[01:05:21] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:05:21] Luke: Uh, the... Now, again this is relating to the story of Jesus and his birth, um.

[01:05:26] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:05:26] Luke: And now, he was born, uh, uh, eh, was born in a manger.

[01:05:30] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Is that the thing that the animals eat out of? Is that where you put the hay, for the, for the cows and stuff?

[01:05:34] Luke: I guess, I guess so, yeah.

[01:05:35] Raphael: Must have been a bit awkward.

[01:05:37] Luke: What, the cows were like, "Um, so well, what about us?"

[01:05:39] Raphael: Yeah. Like, "Why is there a baby? All right, he's the son of God, but I would also like to have my dinner."

[01:05:45] Luke: Yeah.

[01:05:46] Raphael: You know?

[01:05:46] Luke: The cow, the cows were like, "Moo, moo, moo. What about moo?"

[01:05:52] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:05:53] Luke: (laughs)

[01:05:53] Raphael: They were like quite festive sounding cows.

[01:05:54] Luke: Yeah, yes.

[01:05:55] Raphael: Maybe they were just really happy, though, like, "I'm not even hungry anymore."

[01:05:58] Luke: Mm, Merry Christmas.

[01:05:59] Raphael: "This is amazing, this is amazing. My life is usually pretty boring. I'm a cow."

[01:06:04] Luke: Yeah.

[01:06:04] Raphael: "Here I am. There's some gold and frankincense and what's that? Myrrh? All right. Whatever."

[01:06:09] Luke: Yeah, yeah.

[01:06:09] Raphael: "Um, and a baby which is apparent- which is the son of God."

[01:06:12] Luke: Imagine the animals would have been quite festive. You know, "Merry Christmas," or, or, "Baa." What would a sheep say at Christmas? "Baa, baa."

[01:06:22] Raphael: "Baa, baa, baa butter sauce."

[01:06:24] Luke: "Baa, friendly butter." No, doesn't work does it?

[01:06:27] Raphael: No, doesn't apply.

[01:06:28] Luke: Um, all right, so we've got, uh, merry Christmas. Mistletoe.

[01:06:32] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:06:32] Luke: Mistletoe.

[01:06:33] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:06:33] Luke: All right. Um, now mistletoe is, uh, um, okay, it's like a... Usually you get, like, a sprig or a bunch of mistletoe in the house. And it's like green leaves and little white berries.

[01:06:45] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:06:46] Luke: And-

[01:06:46] Raphael: Poisonous apparently.

[01:06:47] Luke: You shouldn't eat it, 'cause-

[01:06:48] Raphael: No.

[01:06:48] Luke: ... apparently it's poisonous.

[01:06:50] Raphael: Don't.

[01:06:50] Luke: Um, but the i- the idea, the, the thing you need to know about mistletoe, and it's probably the same in your country I expect, but if you go under the mistletoe it's appropriate to kiss someone-

[01:06:59] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:06:59] Luke: ... while standing under the mistletoe.

[01:07:01] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:07:01] Luke: You should kiss under the mistletoe.

[01:07:03] Raphael: S- look out if there's, like, you know, a creepy guy standing, like, kind of lurking near the mistletoe. If, if you happen to be walking nearby it, he might just try and, like, kiss you.

[01:07:15] Luke: Yeah.

[01:07:15] Raphael: And I don't know, if, if you, if you want to kiss him, great. You know? Ideal. St- stay there.

[01:07:20] Luke: Yeah.

[01:07:21] Raphael: You know? Tongues.

[01:07:22] Luke: What, what?

[01:07:23] Raphael: You know?

[01:07:23] Luke: Yeah, you could go all out, you know. And sometimes it's, I'm sure it's used as an excuse for people to, to get a little bit intimate at Christmas.

[01:07:30] Raphael: Oh. Oh. Here we are.

[01:07:31] Luke: Yeah. "Oh, look. Oh, oh, look there. I see there's a bit of, uh, mistletoe up there."

[01:07:35] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:07:35] Luke: "So, uh, well, uh... (smooches) Uh, uh, this is awkward, isn't it?"

[01:07:41] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:07:42] Luke: (laughs) But what, uh, you find sort of, like for example at the, at the office party-

[01:07:46] Raphael: Oh.

[01:07:47] Luke: ... there's always one guy who's got some mistletoe in his hand.

[01:07:49] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:07:50] Luke: And he's like, you know, going around the party holding the mistletoe above women that he fancies.

[01:07:54] Raphael: Really beautiful women.

[01:07:56] Luke: Yeah.

[01:07:56] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:07:56] Luke: And, and then, like, invading their personal space-

[01:07:59] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:07:59] Luke: ... under the pretext that it's just a Christmas tradition.

[01:08:02] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:08:02] Luke: But basically he's trying to get off with as many of the girls that he fancies, as he likes. And this is his only opportunity.

[01:08:08] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:08:08] Luke: It's like a loophole in the law, isn't it?

[01:08:10] Raphael: Yeah. Come on.

[01:08:10] Luke: Mistletoe.

[01:08:11] Raphael: It's Christmas.

[01:08:12] Luke: Yeah.

[01:08:12] Raphael: You know, anything's acceptable. (laughs)

[01:08:15] Luke: (laughs) Um, so you might see that in TV shows or movies where someone's got, like, mistletoe and they're trying to kiss people and stuff like that. Did you ever manage to kiss a girl under the mistletoe, Raph?

[01:08:25] Raphael: Didn't need it. Didn't need any.

[01:08:26] Luke: Didn't need the mistletoe?

[01:08:28] Raphael: No. Actually, no, I, I didn't. No.

[01:08:31] Luke: No, really?

[01:08:31] Raphael: No. I, I, I, don't ... Yeah, we didn't really have it at school and stuff. I don't know that any of the teachers-

[01:08:37] Luke: No.

[01:08:37] Raphael: ... were into encouraging that-

[01:08:39] Luke: No.

[01:08:39] Raphael: ... sort of behavior. Just bike sheds.

[01:08:42] Luke: I used to, I used to, uh, when I was a kid, a sort of teenager, there used to be a girl who I used to really fancy.

[01:08:48] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:08:48] Luke: She li- she was, she lived on my street and I used to sort of make these sort of, uh, these sort of plans of like-

[01:08:55] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:08:55] Luke: ... what I'm gonna do is ... Right, here's what I'll do. I'll get some mistletoe.

[01:08:58] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:08:59] Luke: And that's gonna be the, that's gonna be how, 'cause I was-

[01:09:01] Raphael: That's the icebreaker.

[01:09:02] Luke: Yeah, 'cause I always used to think, "No, she's far too good for me." And I, I thought that I'd never had a chance. And so I remember making these sort of, dreaming about these plans, like, "I, I, if only, if I can get some mistletoe, maybe I'll, I'll, I'll somehow persuade her to stand under the mistletoe and then she'll have no choice."

[01:09:19] Raphael: You just, you'd have tactical bunches of mistletoe-

[01:09:23] Luke: (laughs)

[01:09:24] Raphael: ... all over the place on your street, like bus stops-

[01:09:27] Luke: Yeah.

[01:09:27] Raphael: ... um, shops.

[01:09:28] Luke: Yeah.

[01:09:29] Raphael: Just, just hanging everywhere, you know?

[01:09:31] Luke: Or just one room where the-

[01:09:32] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:09:32] Luke: ... ceiling is un- is just covered in mistletoe.

[01:09:35] Raphael: Can't see the mist- can't see the ceiling anymore.

[01:09:37] Luke: (laughs) Uh, right. So let's see. Um, manger, Merry Christmas, mistletoe, myrrh. We've talked about gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Mulled wine. Mulled wine is, uh, is very nice. It's like a heated wine with some spices added to it, and you drink it at Christmastime and it's lovely. You might-

[01:09:54] Raphael: Sometimes it's less alcoholic 'cause you cook the wine. Sometimes the alcohol can be cooked, so maybe that can be a way to have less alcohol.

[01:10:00] Luke: Yeah.

[01:10:01] Raphael: Just cook the wine a lot and there'd be less of the alcohol come out. Sadly, usually people put, people put more alcohol in so it's actually stronger-

[01:10:09] Luke: Really?

[01:10:09] Raphael: ... than wine.

[01:10:10] Luke: Really?

[01:10:10] Raphael: It's fortified-

[01:10:11] Luke: Yes.

[01:10:11] Raphael: ... with brandy probably. (laughs)

[01:10:13] Luke: More brandy?

[01:10:14] Raphael: Yeah. We're back to that brandy again, the issue.

[01:10:16] Luke: Okay. Christmas is a very important time for brandy sellers.

[01:10:19] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah, exactly.

[01:10:19] Luke: Isn't it? They make all their money for, at Christmas. Um, what's the song we've got going on here? Has the music stopped?

[01:10:25] Raphael: Oh, yeah. We might have.

[01:10:26] Luke: What happened to our Christmas songs?

[01:10:28] Raphael: We might, we might have gone-

[01:10:29] Luke: We've got, we, it should be The Pretenders singing 2,000 Miles.

[01:10:33] Raphael: Oh, right. Nice. (Christmas music plays) Yeah. That's The Pretenders. There you go.

[01:10:39] Luke: So the Christmas music is still playing, folks.

[01:10:41] Raphael: Tune.

[01:10:42] Luke: It is a bit of a classic tune. Oh, no. Wait a minute. No, we need to go back to this one. This, this is ... I know that you might think this is cheesy, but this is my favorite Christmas song.

[01:10:51] Raphael: Oh, yeah?

[01:10:52] Luke: It's Paul McCartney's Wonderful Christmastime.

[01:10:54] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:10:54] Luke: And, uh, the reason I like it is because it's just so kind of weird.

[01:10:57] Raphael: Sure.

[01:10:58] Luke: It's like a, uh, a synthesizer-

[01:11:00] Raphael: Weird synthy intro, isn't it?

[01:11:01] Luke: Yeah. Synthesizers in a kind of reggae style.

[01:11:04] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[01:11:04] Luke: And then there's Paul McCartney singing about a family Christmas over the top.

[01:11:08] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:11:08] Luke: I just, I love it. (Wonderful Christmastime by Paul McCartney plays)
There it is. Merry Christmas. Ho, ho, ho, ho, ho.

[01:11:31] Speaker 3: The mood is right. The spirits up. We're here tonight. And that's enough. Simply having a wonderful Christmastime. Simply having ...

[01:11:46] Raphael: Nice message. Simple.

[01:11:48] Luke: Yeah.

[01:11:48] Raphael: Keep it simple.

[01:11:49] Luke: Simply having a wonderful Christmastime.

[01:11:51] Raphael: No pressure.

[01:11:52] Luke: Yeah. So that makes me feel Christmassy when I-

[01:11:55] Raphael: Mm.

[01:11:55] Luke: ... when I hear that.

[01:11:56] Raphael: That's nice with the bells in the background.

[01:11:57] Luke: Yeah.

[01:11:57] Raphael: The sleigh bells.

[01:11:58] Luke: Yeah. Um, all right. So we talked about mulled wine just then. Um, the O is the office party. Um, now, there are some things that always happen at the office party at Christmas.

[01:12:10] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:12:10] Luke: This is, you know, often the last day of the working year.

[01:12:12] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:12:13] Luke: And, uh, the, the, uh, in the office they organize a party and there's, like, drinks and, and mince pies and things, and everyone gets a bit drunk.

[01:12:21] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:12:21] Luke: And certain things usually happen at the office party.

[01:12:24] Raphael: Do things they definitely shouldn't.

[01:12:26] Luke: Yeah.

[01:12:27] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:12:27] Luke: People get drunk and then they embarrass themselves in front of their boss.

[01:12:30] Raphael: Mm-hmm, yeah.

[01:12:31] Luke: Or people get off with, with, uh, people.

[01:12:34] Raphael: Under the mistletoe probably.

[01:12:35] Luke: Yeah. Or they, they get drunk and they, they go into the photocopier room and they photocopy their bum-

[01:12:41] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:12:41] Luke: ... on, on the photocopier.

[01:12:43] Raphael: Or worse.

[01:12:44] Luke: Or even worse-

[01:12:45] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:12:45] Luke: ... um, if you can imagine.

[01:12:46] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah. Yeah, exactly. So it's, it's, it's definitely good and bad in fairly equal measure. But we, we, we missed N. We missed, uh, well, I think Noel.

[01:12:56] Luke: Noel.

[01:12:56] Raphael: Yeah, yeah.

[01:12:57] Luke: It's the French, uh, word for Christmas.

[01:12:59] Raphael: Yeah, it's, it's a good word. It's, uh, yeah, I guess it's just the, the Noel kind of covers the whole period.

[01:13:05] Luke: Yeah.

[01:13:06] Raphael: You know?

[01:13:06] Luke: Yeah.

[01:13:07] Raphael: So that's, that's good.

[01:13:07] Luke: Joyeux Noel-

[01:13:09] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:13:09] Luke: ... which is like joyful Christmas period.

[01:13:11] Raphael: Merci.

[01:13:12] Luke: Yeah.

[01:13:12] Raphael: Mm.

[01:13:12] Luke: Mince pies, uh, you know, the food that you, you eat around Christmas. They're little pies that contain some fruit and, and, uh, spices and stuff, and they're-

[01:13:22] Raphael: Mm, that's good.

[01:13:22] Luke: ... delicious.

[01:13:23] Raphael: That's good.

[01:13:23] Luke: People sometimes say, "Why are they called mince pies?" And the answer is just because they are, okay? (laughs)

[01:13:29] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah. It's the way it is.

[01:13:30] Luke: Uh-

[01:13:30] Raphael: Don't put meat in them.

[01:13:32] Luke: Yeah.

[01:13:32] Raphael: It's not, it's not good.

[01:13:33] Luke: Yeah. All right. Uh, mince also is a kind of meat, isn't it? It's like mashed up beef or lamb.

[01:13:38] Raphael: Mm.

[01:13:38] Luke: Mince. You, you, minced meat. But mince pies don't have meat in them, it's just sort of fruit and, and, and stuff.

[01:13:45] Raphael: Delicious fruit.

[01:13:46] Luke: Yeah. Um, uh, okay. P is presents.

[01:13:49] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:13:49] Luke: Now I've put the phrasal verb put off in there because you always put off your Christmas shopping until the last minute. Certainly you do, Raph, don't you?

[01:13:56] Raphael: Mm. Yeah, sadly. Sadly. I've been busy though. I've been busy.

[01:13:59] Luke: Yeah?

[01:13:59] Raphael: I've been studying French in France.

[01:14:00] Luke: Oh, yeah?

[01:14:01] Raphael: It's been good. But, yeah, putting things off a little bit after, I have to admit.

[01:14:06] Luke: Yeah.

[01:14:06] Raphael: That's, that has happened.

[01:14:07] Luke: You'll be running around trying to do your Christmas shopping.

[01:14:10] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:14:10] Luke: Church Street, Liverpool, I imagine?

[01:14:12] Raphael: Yes, could be, or Liverpool One.

[01:14:14] Luke: Yeah, it's the shopping center.

[01:14:15] Raphael: Other shopping centers are available, but, uh, but yeah, yeah, I'll be, uh, I'll be in there probably, um, fighting over the last sort of, I don't know, like, Body Shop kind of festive-... like, moisturizer pack-

[01:14:30] Luke: Yeah. (laughs)

[01:14:31] Raphael: ... or something.

[01:14:31] Luke: Yeah.

[01:14:31] Raphael: Which I don't even want. I don't even want it, but I need to make sure I've got something. (laughs)

[01:14:36] Luke: You need a plan B.

[01:14:37] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:14:37] Luke: Just in case you don't manage to find, like, a unique gift-

[01:14:40] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:14:40] Luke: ... you need a generic gift-

[01:14:41] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:14:41] Luke: ... that you can just give-

[01:14:42] Raphael: To anyone.

[01:14:43] Luke: ... Yeah.

[01:14:44] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah.

[01:14:44] Luke: Body Shop products are usually a success.

[01:14:47] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah. I'm just sweating just thinking about it.

[01:14:50] Luke: (laughs)

[01:14:50] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:14:51] Luke: All right. Let's get through this list and then you can, uh, actually start thinking about your-

[01:14:55] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:14:55] Luke: ... your, your, your Christmas shopping list.

[01:14:56] Raphael: Lack thereof.

[01:14:57] Luke: Um, the, the, Q, the Queen's Speech.

[01:15:01] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. I, I don't think I've ever watched a Queen's Speech all the way through, but it is, it is a good thing. I think it's awesome, like, on Christmas Day, I think at three o'clock.

[01:15:10] Luke: Yeah.

[01:15:11] Raphael: Yeah. So, it depends, are you a midday Christmas dinner person or an evening?

[01:15:15] Luke: We tend to s- we tend to eat our Christmas dinner in the middle of the afternoon actually.

[01:15:19] Raphael: Right.

[01:15:19] Luke: So-

[01:15:20] Raphael: Maybe just when it's happening.

[01:15:21] Luke: ... Yeah.

[01:15:21] Raphael: So, what it is, is at about three o'clock, the Queen, um, gives a, kind of, like a 10 minute, 15 minute sort of speech talking about what's happened in the year, um, live on BBC. And, and yeah, if you've seen the Ki- if you've seen the film, The King's Speech, it's kind of, uh, you know, kind of, connected to that I suppose.

[01:15:42] Luke: Yeah.

[01:15:42] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:15:42] Luke: The, the, the Queen's Speech, but it's not about a peach, um-

[01:15:46] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:15:47] Luke: ... owned by, owned by the Queen.

[01:15:48] Raphael: No.

[01:15:48] Luke: The Queen's Speech.

[01:15:50] Raphael: It, it's, it's a, it, the S, it's a possessive. Yeah. (laughs)

[01:15:55] Luke: (laughs)

[01:15:55] Raphael: But there is another S on peach.

[01:15:57] Luke: I'd quite like to see the Queen's Peach, if they just had that for half an hour, "Here it is, ladies and g- uh, uh, now on BBC One, the Queen's Peach."

[01:16:04] Raphael: (laughs) Just sitting there.

[01:16:05] Luke: And there's just one peach, a very nice one. Maybe sort of painted gold-

[01:16:11] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah.

[01:16:11] Luke: ... with a diamond in, in it as well. The Queen's Peach will be on TV for half an hour.

[01:16:16] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:16:16] Luke: Theref- after that it will be placed in, uh, uh, the Tower of London where tourists will be able to see the Queen's Peach, uh, afterwards. Yes. All right. Yeah. Maybe. (laughs)

[01:16:27] Raphael: (laughs) But yeah. But yeah, i- i- it's cool. I think it's cool, you know. You get to, she talks about what's been going on in, in, for her.

[01:16:34] Luke: Yeah.

[01:16:34] Raphael: She'd be like, "Yeah. Yeah, it's been a good year. Saw, saw Mavis down at the Salvation Army." (laughs)

[01:16:43] Luke: (laughs)

[01:16:43] Raphael: You know. No, not, not like that.

[01:16:44] Luke: No. The Queen, the Queen's Speech generally is sort of, um, it's sort of like, "Now on BBC One, the Queen's Speech." And you get the, the, the national anthem. (imitates static) Um, um, how's our national anthem go again? Um, (singing) .

[01:16:58] Raphael: (singing)

[01:16:59] Luke: And it fades out, and then there's the Queen standing in her, in her living room.

[01:17:03] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:17:03] Luke: "This year, this year has been a fantastic year for me-"

[01:17:10] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah.

[01:17:10] Luke: "... generally and for Britain. Um, the, more me. And, but really for me mainly. Um, uh, um."

[01:17:18] Raphael: (coughs)

[01:17:19] Luke: "Yes, I had some lovely cake and, um, and, uh, my, uh, the peach was excellent this year." Uh, she generally talks about charity work.

[01:17:29] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:17:29] Luke: And she talk, she, sort of, talks about the, the army often.

[01:17:33] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:17:33] Luke: You know?

[01:17:33] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:17:33] Luke: She talks about the soldiers and the good work they've been doing. It's quite political really.

[01:17:37] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah. Just too many wars going on, you know.

[01:17:40] Luke: Yeah.

[01:17:41] Raphael: But they, but it's, it's Christmas. What's the, what's the song called? Um, it's Christmas time, like, stop the war?

[01:17:48] Luke: War is Over.

[01:17:49] Raphael: War is Over, yeah.

[01:17:50] Luke: If You Want It. John Lennon.

[01:17:51] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah. Listen to John Lennon, Queen.

[01:17:53] Luke: Yeah. I don't really watch the Queen's Speech.

[01:17:56] Raphael: No.

[01:17:56] Luke: I just, I mean, my grandfather likes to watch it.

[01:17:58] Raphael: Goes on in the background usually, doesn't it?

[01:17:59] Luke: Yeah.

[01:18:00] Raphael: 'Cause if you've had Christmas dinner, you're probably gonna be quite sleepy at that stage. So, it's like, "Yeah, put the Queen's Speech on."

[01:18:07] Luke: Mm-hmm.

[01:18:07] Raphael: And then just, sort of, sly, have a sly little, kind of, nap.

[01:18:11] Luke: Yeah.

[01:18:11] Raphael: You know, like, like, "Yeah, I'm wa- yeah, I'm watching." (snores)

[01:18:14] Luke: (laughs) Yeah.

[01:18:14] Raphael: And then everyone, you look around and everyone's asleep-

[01:18:17] Luke: Yeah.

[01:18:17] Raphael: ... basically until, until Boxing Day.

[01:18:18] Luke: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Um, some people, I imagine, just stop everything to watch the Queen's Speech.

[01:18:24] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:18:24] Luke: Like, my, my grandfather likes to watch the Queen's Speech.

[01:18:26] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:18:26] Luke: Be like, "Oh, the Queen's Speech is on. Let's, should watch it."

[01:18:29] Raphael: Shut your mouth.

[01:18:30] Luke: Yeah. (laughs)

[01:18:31] Raphael: S- stop talking.

[01:18:32] Luke: Shut it. It's the Queen's Speech. No, he's not a Cockney-

[01:18:36] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:18:36] Luke: ... my granddad. No, he's a, he's a, he's a World War, he's a World War II war veteran-

[01:18:40] Raphael: He's a veteran.

[01:18:41] Luke: He's a veteran of World War II.

[01:18:42] Raphael: Imagine a really, sort of, Cockney royalist though, you know.

[01:18:45] Luke: "Shut it, kids. It's, it's Her Majesty's c- it's the Queen, innit?"

[01:18:49] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[01:18:50] Luke: "Shut your mouth. She's the sovereign."

[01:18:52] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:18:52] Luke: "You gotta watch it. You listen carefully."

[01:18:54] Raphael: "She's not your real mother."

[01:18:56] Luke: For example. The, if the Queen was in EastEnders.

[01:18:59] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:19:00] Luke: Yeah. Um, all right. So, um, there's so much left on this list.

[01:19:03] Raphael: Yeah. There's so much power.

[01:19:05] Luke: So, we're already nearly an hour and 20 minutes into this.

[01:19:08] Raphael: Oh, really?

[01:19:08] Luke: Yeah.

[01:19:08] Raphael: Okay.

[01:19:08] Luke: So, so, so let's wrap it up-

[01:19:10] Raphael: Yeah. Okay.

[01:19:10] Luke: ... pretty quickly as it were.

[01:19:12] Raphael: Like a present.

[01:19:12] Luke: Yeah. Wrap up a present. Let's wrap up (laughs) the podcast. Uh, so, (laughs) R is receipt. Receipt. Just keep the receipt.

[01:19:21] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[01:19:22] Luke: If you, if you buy something when you go shopping, keep the receipt. That way when you give the gift-

[01:19:26] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:19:26] Luke: ... you can say, if you buy a sweater for someone, you can say, "If it, if it's not the right size, don't worry, I've got the receipt."

[01:19:31] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:19:31] Luke: "I can take it back and we-"

[01:19:33] Raphael: If it's a bit-

[01:19:34] Luke: Yeah. If you don't like it, that's fine, I've got the receipt.

[01:19:36] Raphael: Really? Good. Can I have it? (laughs)

[01:19:38] Luke: (laughs) Yeah. But you just shouldn't say immediately, "Well, good. No, I don't like it." No. No.

[01:19:43] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:19:43] Luke: You should say, "Oh, yeah. It's great. Well, let's see. Let's see and maybe, you know, um."

[01:19:47] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:19:47] Luke: "No, I think it's great. I don't..." Yeah. All right.

[01:19:49] Raphael: Yeah. There's definitely a time period to wait. But anyway.

[01:19:53] Luke: Yeah. So, the point is that the receipt, uh, you know, y- often people say when they give a gift, they can say, "If you don't like it, you know, I've got the receipt."

[01:20:02] Raphael: You can't ask though, can you? Can you ask? I, I've never asked for the receipt. I can't say, like, I, like call them up two weeks later, "Actually, um, Aunty Pat, yeah, that, that jumper you got me. I'm not sure. Can I have the receipt?"

[01:20:16] Luke: (laughs)

[01:20:16] Raphael: "Can you send it?"

[01:20:17] Luke: Or just even unprompted, just someone gives you a sweater and you open it, (snorts) "Oh, it's a sweater. Um, you didn't keep the receipt, did you?"

[01:20:25] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah.

[01:20:25] Luke: Like, the first thing you say.

[01:20:27] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah. Just in case it's the wrong size. You know.

[01:20:30] Luke: Uh, no, I just, no, it's, it's the right size. I just don't like it.

[01:20:33] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs)

[01:20:34] Luke: Um, could... Do you have the receipt?

[01:20:35] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:20:35] Luke: No. All right. Well-Well, never mind.

[01:20:39] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:20:39] Luke: Thanks. Merry Christmas.

[01:20:42] Raphael: Yeah, all right.

[01:20:43] Luke: Um, we've got reindeers.

[01:20:45] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:20:45] Luke: So Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.

[01:20:47] Raphael: (sings) Rudolph the Red-

[01:20:49] Luke: (sings) Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer had a very shiny nose.

[01:20:52] Raphael: That's, that's, I mean, that's a, that's a c- Is that, is that a carol?
It's a song. It's a Christmas song, isn't it?

[01:20:56] Luke: It's a song.

[01:20:56] Raphael: There's no religious connotation in that?

[01:20:58] Luke: No. No, it's a commercial release.

[01:20:59] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs) Yeah.

[01:21:00] Luke: So I don't think it was done by David Bowie.

[01:21:02] Raphael: No. Rudolph.

[01:21:03] Luke: Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. Right. Um-

[01:21:07] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:21:08] Luke: (laughs) Uh-

[01:21:10] Raphael: S, S for s- yeah.

[01:21:12] Luke: Uh, uh, sales.

[01:21:12] Raphael: Mm.

[01:21:13] Luke: After Christmas you get the sales, you go down the shops as if you haven't done enough shopping-

[01:21:17] Raphael: Mental. Mental.

[01:21:18] Luke: You go to the Christmas sales, everyone's-

[01:21:20] Raphael: At 5:00 AM queuing up outside Next, you know? (laughs)

[01:21:24] Luke: What? (laughs)

[01:21:25] Raphael: Why? I mean, oh wow, I can get some more jeans for like a tenner.

[01:21:28] Luke: I can get 10% off jeans that I don't need.

[01:21:31] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs) On, on Boxing Day when I've got a really bad hangover.

[01:21:35] Luke: Yeah.

[01:21:35] Raphael: Just stay at home, you know, enjoy, enjoy it, you know.

[01:21:38] Luke: Just enjoy the family.

[01:21:40] Raphael: You've been shopping relentlessly for about a month in the run-up to Christmas, why would you wanna go anywhere near a shop-

[01:21:48] Luke: Hmm.

[01:21:49] Raphael: ... again the day after?

[01:21:50] Luke: Did, didn't you get enough mater-

[01:21:52] Raphael: (laughs)

[01:21:52] Luke: Didn't you get enough material possessions at Christmas anyway?

[01:21:54] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:21:55] Luke: You don't need to go out and get even more.

[01:21:56] Raphael: I haven't even opened all the presents yet, but I'm off to the shops-

[01:21:59] Luke: Yeah.

[01:22:00] Raphael: ... at, at 4:30 in the morning.

[01:22:01] Luke: It's also a little bit insulting to the family, isn't it?

[01:22:03] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah.

[01:22:03] Luke: It's like, "Never mind all that stuff you bought me, I'm off to get things that I actually want."

[01:22:07] Raphael: They, they were good, but what I'm gonna buy is a bit better.

[01:22:11] Luke: Yeah.

[01:22:11] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:22:11] Luke: Yeah, yeah. Um, all right, so we've got, um, um, a snowman.

[01:22:16] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

[01:22:16] Luke: If you, if it's snowing you might make a snowman.

[01:22:19] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:22:19] Luke: Do you ever make a snowwoman?

[01:22:21] Raphael: No. No. Not, not 'cause I'm sexist, but don't know, just always think of like snowman.

[01:22:25] Luke: Yeah.

[01:22:26] Raphael: Well, but if you could really say it's a man, it's just like two massive bits of snow on top of each other. It's that a man?

[01:22:34] Luke: Yeah.

[01:22:34] Raphael: I don't know.

[01:22:34] Luke: Apparently.

[01:22:35] Raphael: It's like a, it's like a snow lump.

[01:22:37] Luke: It's just snow... It's to put a face on a, on a piece of snow, isn't it?

[01:22:40] Raphael: Yeah. Would be, would be cool to like live somewhere really cold though where you can like... it stays cold enough while you're making it and you can like almost like sculpt it into something that looks a bit more like a person, you know, with like, with like tools.

[01:22:51] Luke: Yeah.

[01:22:51] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:22:51] Luke: Yeah. Like ice sculpture.

[01:22:53] Raphael: Yeah, exactly.

[01:22:53] Luke: Um, stockings.

[01:22:55] Raphael: Mm.

[01:22:55] Luke: So this is when, uh, um, uh, on Christmas Eve you get your s-stockings and you put them out by the fireplace.

[01:23:03] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:23:04] Luke: So that Santa can come down the chimney and fill your stockings with gifts.

[01:23:07] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Mm.

[01:23:08] Luke: And then in the morning you come and there they are full of gifts. Wow. Thank you, Santa.

[01:23:14] Raphael: Cheers, Sants.

[01:23:15] Luke: And Santa gets all of the credit.

[01:23:16] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:23:16] Luke: Even though the parents have-

[01:23:17] Raphael: Done nothing.

[01:23:18] Luke: ... bought it all.

[01:23:18] Raphael: I mean, he is done stuff, but yeah. Yeah.

[01:23:20] Luke: Yeah.

[01:23:20] Raphael: And yeah, I guess then you kind of buy stocking filler presents. So it's a bit of a basically a stocking filler present, will be like, it's not, it's not the number one present, but just get it in the stocking.

[01:23:31] Luke: Yeah.

[01:23:31] Raphael: This is a tune by the way. Yeah.

[01:23:36] Speaker 3: Flame of our desire. Love with tongues of fire. Purge the soul. Make room for your goal.

[01:23:49] Raphael: Remix.

[01:23:49] Luke: It's like a different version of-

[01:23:51] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:23:51] Luke: ... a classic Frankie Goes to Hollywood piece of music.

[01:23:55] Raphael: Yeah. Right.

[01:23:55] Luke: So you're talking about stocking fillers.

[01:23:56] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:23:57] Luke: These are just like little things that you buy-

[01:23:58] Raphael: Little presents.

[01:23:59] Luke: ... just to fill the stocking.

[01:24:00] Raphael: Yeah. I always used to get tangerines in the stocking.

[01:24:02] Luke: Yeah. Me too.

[01:24:03] Raphael: But every year my mom would say, "Oh, you're just getting an orange and a bag of nuts this year." Right?

[01:24:08] Luke: An orange and a bag of nuts.

[01:24:09] Raphael: I'd be like, "All right, good one." You know? But of some years maybe I was like, "Really? Maybe that might be true." Um, but it was like, "What do you want for Christmas?" "A bike." "Well, you can't have it 'cause you got an orange and a bag of nuts."

[01:24:21] Luke: All right.

[01:24:21] Raphael: It's like every year they were-

[01:24:22] Luke: A little joke.

[01:24:22] Raphael: ... joking, little joke.

[01:24:23] Luke: We're only gonna get you an orange and a bag of nuts-

[01:24:25] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:24:25] Luke: ... this year. And you're like, "Oh. Oh, really?" And then on Christmas Day there it is, a PlayStation 1.

[01:24:30] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:24:31] Luke: Uh, "Oh, I thought you were gonna get me an orange and a bag of nuts." "We were just kidding."

[01:24:34] Raphael: Yeah. (laughs) Imagine if you did though, just get an orange and bag of nuts. Most... Reminds me of a, a friend of mine whose boyfriend, she was like... did the classic thing-

[01:24:42] Luke: Mm-hmm.

[01:24:43] Raphael: "Oh, don't worry. Don't, don't get me a present this year. I don't, I don't want anything." So, so he didn't get her anything.

[01:24:47] Luke: Yeah.

[01:24:47] Raphael: And then Christmas Day came and she was like, "Oh, should we open some presents?" And he is like, "Well, you can't." She's like, "Why not?" He's like, "Well, I didn't get you anything."

[01:24:55] Luke: He said, "You told me not to."

[01:24:56] Raphael: (laughs) Yeah, exactly. Basically, if there are any men listening and your girlfriend says, "Don't, don't, don't get me anything," get her something.

[01:25:04] Luke: Yeah.

[01:25:04] Raphael: Don't listen. That is not true.

[01:25:07] Luke: Yeah. Don't get me... "Oh, you don't have to get me anything," actually means you definitely have to get me something.

[01:25:13] Raphael: Yeah. If you only remember one thing from this podcast, that should be it. (laughs)

[01:25:17] Luke: Yeah. It's very important, always get your girlfriend a gift, no matter what she says. Just if, even if she tells you, "No, it's fine. You don't have to get me anything." It's a trap.

[01:25:28] Raphael: Get it. Just get something. Body Shop. (laughs)

[01:25:32] Luke: Yeah. Um, right. So, uh, stocking. Stress is on this list because Christmas can be a stressful time. Um, let's see. Songs, we've talked about. Shepherds we've mentioned, th- those guys who keep sheep. For some reason they were invited to the birth of Jesus.

[01:25:48] Raphael: Oh, yeah.

[01:25:48] Luke: Um, Secret Santa. This is something that people do at work sometimes. Basically there's a bunch of you at work, you all put your name into a hat and you pick out someone else's name, you have to buy them a gift.

[01:26:00] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:26:01] Luke: And, uh, they don't know that you're buying a gift for them. So then on the last day of work you present gifts and it's all a bit of fun because it's a surprise.

[01:26:10] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:26:10] Luke: You don't know who the gift is from and you don't know what the gift is gonna be. Usually it's, you know, you know, a cheap gift up to about 15 pounds or something.

[01:26:19] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Mm.

[01:26:19] Luke: Secret Santa. There you go. Um, um, and, uh, you know, uh, tradition, turkey.

[01:26:26] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:26:26] Luke: Tinsel. Tinsel is that kind of stuff that you use to decorate a tree. It's like a, sort of a, a, a-

[01:26:32] Raphael: Shiny kind of like green, silver, gold maybe, red.

[01:26:38] Luke: Yeah.

[01:26:39] Raphael: Yeah. Get, get some on there. It's quite, it's quite sort of tacky but it's nice, you know.... doesn't have to be classy. Christmas doesn't have to be always like, you know, sophisticated.

[01:26:50] Luke: Yeah, you can just get some cheap tinsel from Tesco's-

[01:26:53] Raphael: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

[01:26:53] Luke: ... and just cover your tree with that-

[01:26:54] Raphael: Yeah, yeah.

[01:26:54] Luke: ... and, uh, Bob's your uncle, right?

[01:26:56] Raphael: Laughing.

[01:26:57] Luke: Um, okay. So, uh, d- uh, U would be to unwrap, to unwrap your presents.

[01:27:03] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:27:03] Luke: Usually just tear off-

[01:27:05] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:27:05] Luke: ... all the paper that was carefully-

[01:27:06] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:27:07] Luke: ... wrapped around it.

[01:27:08] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:27:08] Luke: Just ripped off in a second.

[01:27:10] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:27:10] Luke: Uh, V, for some reason we've got V for Virgin.

[01:27:13] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:27:13] Luke: Virgin, Virgin-

[01:27:14] Raphael: Virgin Mary?

[01:27:15] Luke: Virgin Mary, we've, we've discussed that a little bit. So, W would be the Wise Men or wrapping paper. Wrapping, that's W-R-A-P-P-I-N-G, to wrap. It's a silent W, isn't it?

[01:27:26] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

[01:27:27] Luke: Uh, also the concept of a white Chris- Christmas. << I'm dreaming of a white Christmas >> That's the Elvis version.

[01:27:36] Raphael: You can bet on it-

[01:27:37] Luke: << I'm dreaming of a white Christmas >>

[01:27:42] Raphael: (laughing)

[01:27:43] Luke: Thank you very much. (laughing)

[01:27:45] Raphael: But you can bet on it, can't you? You can, like there are always odds, will we have a white Christmas this year?

[01:27:51] Luke: Yeah.

[01:27:51] Raphael: So you can go, if, if you live in a country where betting is legal, um, so you know, not in America that much, but yeah, in England you can go and you can make a bet, will we have a white Christmas?

[01:28:01] Luke: Yeah.

[01:28:01] Raphael: Because usually they know. But c- to qualify as a white Christmas, only one flake has to fall apparently.

[01:28:07] Luke: Only one snowflake?

[01:28:08] Raphael: I don't know who is there to sort of adjudicate that one flake.

[01:28:12] Luke: Yeah.

[01:28:12] Raphael: You know, if you quickly take a photo of it, you know, in like Northumberland somewhere-

[01:28:17] Luke: Yeah.

[01:28:17] Raphael: ... and send it to your betting, your b- your bookmaker in London, does that count? I don't ... Probably, I'm, I'm guessing he's not gonna pay out. (laughs) You know?

[01:28:25] Luke: Dunno. (laughs) They'll have to check the, the legal small print on that.

[01:28:27] Raphael: Mm-hmm. But anyway, white Christmases are nice.

[01:28:29] Luke: Yeah.

[01:28:29] Raphael: They're nice. They're nice.

[01:28:30] Luke: A bit of Elvis going on here.

[01:28:31] Raphael: Oh, I know.

[01:28:33] Speaker 3: With your Christmas of white. But I've a blue, blue, blue, blue Christmas. Woo, woo, woo, woo, woo, woo, woo.

[01:28:47] Luke: He's talking about a blue Christmas there, not a white Christmas.
<< Blue, blue, blue, blue Christmas >>

[01:28:53] Raphael: (laughing)

[01:28:53] Luke: Thank you very much.

[01:28:55] Raphael: (laughing) That's nice. Beautiful song.

[01:28:56] Luke: Yeah.

[01:28:57] Raphael: Beautiful song.

[01:28:57] Luke: Um, okay. A blue Christmas would be if you're lonely, if you're spending Christmas on your own. Have you ever, have you ever spent Christmas alone?

[01:29:04] Raphael: Fortunately n- well, no, maybe it will be all right. But no, um, usually just minimum w- with one other person.

[01:29:11] Luke: Oh, hold on.

[01:29:11] Raphael: Oh.

[01:29:11] Luke: Now we've got white Christmas. This is the, the, the wonderful Bing Crosby.

[01:29:15] Speaker 3: Where the ones I used to know. Where the treetops glisten and children listen to hear sleigh bells in the snow. I'm dreaming of a white Christmas.

[01:29:52] Raphael: What a voice.

[01:29:53] Speaker 3: Just like the ones I used to know.

[01:29:58] Luke: (laughing)

[01:29:58] Raphael: (laughing)

[01:30:00] Luke: Sorry to interrupt you. I had to play a bit of White Christmas there.

[01:30:03] Raphael: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

[01:30:03] Luke: Bing.

[01:30:03] Raphael: No, I wasn't, I wasn't really saying anything-

[01:30:05] Luke: No?

[01:30:05] Raphael: ... like that.

[01:30:05] Luke: Okay.

[01:30:06] Raphael: That's all right.

[01:30:06] Luke: Um, so X, uh, sometimes people, uh, write Christmas as Xmas.

[01:30:11] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:30:12] Luke: Chris, like Christ, like a Christmas. It's a bit controversial-

[01:30:16] Raphael: Yeah.

[01:30:16] Luke: ... 'cause some Christians don't like it 'cause-

[01:30:17] Raphael: Oh, that's, that's awful.

[01:30:18] Luke: Yeah, 'cause i- instead of writing Christmas, they're writing Xmas, and it's like crossing out Christ.

[01:30:23] Raphael: Yeah. (laughing) Keep, keep Christ in Christmas.

[01:30:26] Luke: Yeah.

[01:30:26] Raphael: You sometimes see outside churches.

[01:30:27] Luke: Yeah.

[01:30:28] Raphael: You know? And people, I guess, go to church, go to mass. You know, that's like m- the one time my mum and my grandma go to Chris- go to church is at Christmas. She'll go to midnight mass. I usually don't go 'cause-

[01:30:39] Luke: Yeah.

[01:30:40] Raphael: ... I d- I dunno, I, I don't really ... If I'm not gonna go the rest of the year, seems a bit weird just to go on that one day.

[01:30:46] Luke: Yeah.

[01:30:46] Raphael: Uh, but they go, they like it. Yeah.

[01:30:48] Luke: Right, right.

[01:30:49] Raphael: Yeah. Yeah.

[01:30:49] Luke: Um, Y is, is just for Yuletide, which is the, the word for that period of, of the year, that season. We call it Yuletide season. That's just the general Christmas season. And then Z is just th- the only word that I could find for Z was the word zest.

[01:31:06] Raphael: Mm-hmm.

[01:31:06] Luke: And zest is basically the, the sort of the, uh, the skin of an orange, let's say. And you, you might find zest, uh, added to like a mince pie or, or, or-

[01:31:16] Raphael: Mm-hmm. Mulled wine?

[01:31:17] Luke: ... mulled wine. You'd add a bit of orange zest in there to give it that zesty flavor.

[01:31:21] Raphael: Yeah. And the smell, you kind of, when you're peeling it, I don't know, when I'm peeling like an orange or something, or maybe like a, like a satsuma.

[01:31:28] Luke: Yeah.

[01:31:28] Raphael: It's quite Christmassy.

[01:31:29] Luke: Yeah, that kind of nice, uh, zesty smell. So I'd just like to leave you with that image, ladies and gentlemen, the, the image of a lovely zesty, uh, spicy mulled wine. And, um, just have wonderful, uh, merry Christmas to everybody listening to Luke's English Podcast. Um, it's been fantastic talking to you, Raphael.

[01:31:49] Raphael: Yeah, thank you. Merry Christmas everyone.

[01:31:52] Luke: And uh, on that note, it's a very merry, Christmassy goodbye, bye, bye, bye, bye.

[01:32:12] Speaker 3: It's the most wonderful time of the year. With the kids jingle belling and everyone telling you be of good cheer, it's the most wonderful time of the year.

[01:32:32] Luke: It's not really the most wonderful time of the year, is it?

[01:32:34] Speaker 3: It's the hap-happiest season of all.

[01:32:38] Luke: Sometimes it's a very stressful time, you know? It's-

[01:32:41] Speaker 3: With those holiday greetings and gay happy meetings when friends come to call, it's the hap-happiest season of all.

[01:32:52] Luke: Not always happy. Sometimes you just argue with your family.

[01:32:56] Speaker 3: With those holiday greetings and gay happy meetings when friends come to call, it's the hap-happiest season of all.

[01:32:57] Luke: Christmas, um, can be a time when people just argue and they, they, it can be a miserable time of year. (laughing) But, uh, no, let's keep the dream alive. Just sincerely, merry Christmas. Hope you have a fantastic time. Uh, thanks again, Raph.

[01:33:13] Raphael: Thanks.

[01:33:14] Luke: (laughing) That actually is the end of this episode. So thanks very much for listening, and I'll speak to you again soon. Thank you. Bye, bye, bye, bye, bye, bye.

[01:33:22] Speaker 3: With those holiday greetings and gay happy meetings when friends come to call, it's the hap-happiest season of all.

[01:33:33] Luke: Thanks again for listening to Luke's English Podcast. For more information, you can visit teacherluke.wordpress.com. If you enjoyed this episode of Luke's English Podcast, consider signing up for Luke's English Podcast Premium. You'll get regular premium episodes with stories, vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation teaching from me, and the usual moments of humor and fun. Plus, with your subscription, you will be directly supporting my work and making this

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