Random Christmas Thoughts in April

Hello everyone! Is it too early to be talking about Christmas? Not for me...

I can't believe it's already the first of April. I've been taking a little bit of a break from producing Christmas content both here and on my podcast. The new year started off

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with a very busy life schedule, and I needed a bit of a break. So between driving my kids all over, unexpected plans, illness, and general insanity of life, I suddenly find March is almost over, and Spring is here. I don't know about you, but I need some Christmas to help me relax. So it's time to dust off the Christmas music, and enjoy these fun Christmas questions I found online.

(The internet is truly a wonderful place...)

If you were a Christmas elf, what would your specialty be in Santa's workshop?

According to www.yourelfname.com my elf name is Mistletoe Hollydust... I'm not sure what Hollydust is, but it sounds illegal! Anyway, this website was a lot of fun to spend some time on - I can even design my own elf picture... what do you think, does this look like me? Try it out! This isn't an ad for the website, but it is free and it has some fun, family friendly Christmas activities on it.

I remember taking a buzzfeed quiz about jobs at Santa's Workshop, and it said I should be in the gift wrapping department. I must have answered some questions



wrong because I hate gift wrapping! Either that, or buzzfeed quizzes are inaccurate. And if you can't trust an online quiz to tell you which job you'd have at the North Pole, or what Harry Potter character you are in real life, then what's the point of the internet?



Anyway, my specialty in Santa's Workshop would have to be working in the North Pole Bakery, helping Mrs. Claus make all the Christmas cookies. And probably eating a few too. After all, someone needs to taste test those cookies, so it might as well be me. Now, some might say it's too early for Christmas music, but can it EVER be too early for Christmas cookies? (Hint: No.)

What's your go-to excuse for getting out of awkward family gatherings during the holidays?

Ah, as an introvert, this question resonates with me. If you are looking for some good excuses, I've got you covered:

"Sorry, I can't make it. I've been appointed as the official taste tester for eggnog at home." I mean, that eggnog isn't going to drink itself. And if I'm not at home taste testing it, my kids might get it before me... and then I would have failed as a father! Imagine, letting them drink untested eggnog. For shame.

Here are some other excuses you might like to use:

"I'd join, but I'm currently in a heated debate with a particularly stubborn gingerbread man." And I'm about ready to bite his head off... This excuse works particularly well, because who would want to spend time with someone who thinks their cookies are talking to them?

"My pet mistletoe is feeling lonely and needs some quality time with me." The key to using this excuse is to say it fast, then run away quickly. By the time they figure out your plant doesn't actually care if you are home or not, you'll be long gone. "My Christmas Cactus is about to bloom..." or "My poinsettia is about to die..." are also acceptable alternatives.

"I'm on a top-secret mission to save Christmas cookies from the clutches of hungry monsters. It's a tough job, but someone's gotta do it." Although some might object to you calling your kids "monsters", this one at least rings true.



But if you just want to straight up be a Grinch, why not just use one of the greatest scenes in Christmas movie history? "Even if I wanted to go, my schedule wouldn't allow it! Four o'clock, wallow in self pity; Four-thirty, stare into the abyss; Five o'clock, solve world hunger, tell no one; Five-thirty, jazzercize; Six-thirty, dinner with me - I can't cancel that again; Seven o'clock, wrestle with my self-loathing... I'm booked!"

If you could replace Rudolph with any other animal to lead Santa's sleigh, what would it be and why?

How about a Polar Bear? It would definitely need to be a friendly magical north pole polar bear because I'd worry if he got hungry and realized there were 8 tasty reindeer right behind him. That could ruin somebody's Christmas for sure!



What's your ultimate Christmas karaoke song, and can you give us a sample?

There are so many good ones, but I'd probably go with either "All I Want for Christmas is You" or Elvis Presly's "Blue Christmas". Now these are not my favorite songs at all, but they are ridiculous, and they have great potential where you can add some silliness and awesome dance moves to it. I cannot supply you with a sample, as my singing voice is considered "cruel and unusual punishment" by the US Constitution.



If you could create a new tradition for Christmas, what would it be?



This isn't new, but I love the idea of jolabokaflod - the Icelandic tradition of reading on Christmas Eve and enjoying chocolate. I mean, reading and eating chocolate all day before Christmas? It sure beats running to the store trying to start your Christmas shopping...

But if I could start a new tradition, I'd love to see the week between Christmas and New Year be considered a national holiday, and as many people as possible would get that time off from work. It seems (in America anyway) that everyone is in such a hurry to have Christmas be done by

midnight on Christmas day, it's really depressing. Don't rush it! Take the week to relax, spend time with family, get yourself refreshed and ready to start a new year. Studies show that it helps with your productivity when you have to go back to work in the new year. Granted those are studies that I did, and I asked only myself, but still. Your employees will thank you!

I hope you enjoyed these silly questions, and in the process got to know me better. How would you answer them? I'd love to hear from you - reach out to me at cozychristmaspodcast@gmail.com. Thanks for reading!

Art Kilmer
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