

Thanksgiving Favorites

I forgot to poll our Thanksgiving guests, but I was wondering about everyone's favorite Thanksgiving dish. Judging by what the kids had for breakfast this morning, I would say my kids' favorite Thanksgiving dishes are as follows:

Taylor, age 9 – sweet potatoes (we put marshmallow creme in ours)

Sammie, age 5 – mashed potatoes and gravy

Disney, age 3 – oatmeal (ok, so oatmeal wasn't at the Thanksgiving dinner, but Disney didn't really eat Thanksgiving dinner, so I don't think she has a favorite dish. She LOVES oatmeal though!)

Christopher, age 16 mos. – turkey

And for lunch, Mom and Dad had their first delicious leftover sandwiches. They were so good we think we'll have the same for dinner. We got a smoked turkey this year, and it was delicious! It was great to not have to mess with cooking a turkey with great company and all these little ones underfoot. There are so many ways to make a leftover sandwich; the best way is of course with creamed onions. We didn't have any creamed onions leftover this year, but my husband's yummy mashed potatoes make a really good leftover sandwich condiment. And not having leftover creamed onions is a good thing – I'm glad people enjoyed them! Creamed onions are my favorite Thanksgiving dish AND my husband's! So what's yours? Feel free to add anything in the comments section I may have forgotten!

[poll id="10"]

Happy Thanksgiving!!

I am thankful every day for all that I have, but today is an excuse to feast in celebration of our thankfulness. Here's to hoping you have a safe and happy holiday!



My Thanksgiving Curse :)

I think I was somehow cursed last Thanksgiving. I fell ill the day after Thanksgiving, and just as I was starting to feel better a few days later, I felt another virus coming on. This cycle continued until just before Christmas, and because I was pregnant and exhausted, I tried to rest a lot and get well during that time, but it was stressful because I had a 1½-year-old to chase after. And while I was sick, I was unable to eat any Thanksgiving leftovers. So then all during the year, foods like turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, and even creamed onions (which I used to love) just haven't seemed very appealing to me. I think I subconsciously associate the Thanksgiving fare with being sick, but I thought I'd be over it by now – wrong. Thanksgiving dinner was great and everything, but I'm just not as enthused about those leftovers as I want to be. On Thanksgiving day, the turkey was delicious. That leftover sandwich I had on Friday was pretty

good. The cold turkey snack on Friday night was ok. I didn't finish the turkey snack on Saturday night, and today for dinner, I will have *anything* but turkey or Thanksgiving leftovers. And I am blue in the face from reassuring my husband that it was ***absolutely nothing*** he did wrong with the cooking or the fault of any of the guests who brought delicious side dishes. It's just my Thanksgiving curse, and I hope it's gone by next year. But even if it's not, no biggie because my Thanksgiving will be made more special than food by the wonderful people in my life. Maybe I should "train" my body to accept the Thanksgiving food by making turkey and creamed onions more often...

At any rate, the helpers in the kitchen on Thanksgiving day were adorable – check them out:



And below are my two oldest daughters waving to Santa at the Welcome Santa Parade from the day after Thanksgiving:



And if their names were numbers that ordered them by birth, below is a cute picture of #2 and #4:



Happy Thanksgiving!

Another Thanksgiving weekend is upon us, and so far it's been wonderful for us. Thanksgiving dinner was deliciously cooked by my husband and our guests who were kind enough to bring yummy dishes to share. We played some games afterwards and watched the movie "21" -not very Thanksgiving-y, but a good movie nonetheless. The night before Thanksgiving, my husband and I watched some Thanksgiving episodes of Friends – I think I had forgotten how funny that show was. It's strange because now when we watch Friends episodes, we are older than the

Friends, whereas when the show was still running new in prime time, the friends were older than us... oh well, yet another example of how time flies. Over the turkey last night, we also did our tradition where we go around the table and say what we're thankful for – and my ever-generic answer was the same as some of my friends, "I am most thankful for my family and friends." It may be a generic response, but it's very true, and I am very blessed to have such a wonderful family (my husband and kids and our relatives who live far away – we hope everyone had a wonderful day) and such great friends.

So now, Black Friday is upon us, and I was able to convince my husband to not go shopping. Every year, he wants to get up at the crack of dawn, if not before, and go wait in the lines to see the best sales stores have to offer. But I'm never very enthused, mostly because we have 4 children under the age of 9. I keep telling him to put it on his "when our kids aren't so little" list, although I have one that's lengthy enough for the both of us. It'd be nice if one year we could get a babysitter for Black Friday so we wouldn't have to wake all the kids up, but until that happens, I'm not willing to lose the sleep myself or have the kids lose it either. So today for Black Friday, I've already had my first turkey-and-leftover sandwich, and we're going to take the kids to see Bolt (our two oldest girls are excited to hear the voicework of Miley Cyrus) at the movie theater with a friend and her grandkids. We haven't been to a movie in forever. I just hope our 2-year-old can behave. After the movie, we'll walk across the street for dinner, and then we'll go see if Santa's reindeer have arrived on the square before we get our spots to watch the parade. Every year on the day after Thanksgiving, our town has a parade celebrating Santa's arrival. They bring real reindeer to the square, and everyone lines the streets in anticipation of seeing Santa Claus come to town. His sleigh is pulled by huge beautiful horses, and last year, Santa called out hello to us and knew us by name! When Santa reaches the town square, a few lucky children get to push the

big button that turns on the Christmas lights on the square, and everyone cheers as they sip their complimentary cups of hot chocolate. It's like something out of a cheesy holiday movie, and I relish every minute of it. I don't know who is more excited today -me or the kids! I love small town life! And right now, as I'm writing this, I just saw Santa's sleigh (covered of course) get pulled down our street with a golf cart! I excitedly yelled out, but thank goodness the kids didn't come down here in time to see it – I think it'd be better for them to see it for the first time in the parade. It was exciting for me to see though!

I'm not sure what the rest of the weekend holds, but I do know that I get twice as much time with my husband and kids as a normal weekend, and for that I'm also very thankful. I hope everyone else had a wonderful holiday!

Seinfeld And The Man Of Steel

Here's a fun game for the holidays, providing you like Superman and the show Seinfeld, for that matter. I read an interesting little blurb in the paper the other day about how Jerry Seinfeld is a huge fan of Superman. So much so that there is a reference or an image of the "Man of Steel" in every episode of Seinfeld. So this holiday season, while your turkey is cooking, digesting, or being cleaned up for you by your guests (how do you think I found the time to write this post on Thanksgiving Day?), pop in a few old episodes of Seinfeld and try to pinpoint the Superman allusion.

Skating On Very Thin Ice

I was debating on which blog to write this post. I, personally, have had enough of filmmakers making the same movie over and over again and attempting to make it a sequel. There has been Cruel [Intentions I and II](#) (based on the film [Dangerous Liaisons](#)). It even had the same characters but played by different actors. Last night, [The Cutting Edge 3](#) premiered. I did not tune in as I have seen the [first movie](#) at least once (and that is enough, thank you). The first movie starred D.B. Sweeney (a B-movie actor if there ever was one) as a hockey player who either is passed his prime or is injured. Somehow, he becomes the partner of an Olympic-medal hopeful figure skater (Moirra Kelley). What follows is as predictable as any [Dirty Dancing](#)-esque movie could be. The two meet, argue, attempt to work together, fall apart, get back together, and finally perfect their routine enough to compete. Did I mention that they also fall in love.... how predictable?

OH.... forgive me please. [The Cutting Edge 2](#) features the daughter of the characters of the original. It seems she has the same dream as her mother and meets and falls for her headstrong, stubborn skating partner. I'm sure that it is as brilliant as the first movie.... only the character names have been changed (or most) to protect the integrity of the first movie.

Unfortunately, I could find no synopsis for The Cutting Edge 3 to compare the plots of the trilogy. However, I can provide the following as a possible scenario:

A former hockey pro reluctantly agrees to become the partner of a stubborn, self-centered Olympic figure skating hopeful. Sexual tension begins to rise as they struggle to go for the gold.

Strange, but they seem like a case of been there, seen that,

and seeing that was not so great. So enough of Hollywood rehashes posing as sequels even if they are direct to video or made-for-television. At the very least, [Grease 2](#) attempted to be a completely different story... but that is another turkey.