

## “Thanksgiving Plan B”

by  
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- What** This funny monologue features a woman who has given up trying to be the perfect hostess on Thanksgiving Day. She is subtly apologizing to her guests about her lack of holiday pizzazz, while trying to hide the fact that she is at her wit’s end.
- Themes:** Thanksgiving, Family, Comedy, Monologue, Expectations, Honesty
- Who** Woman- 30’s-40’s
- When** Thanksgiving Day
- Wear (Props)** You can go as big or as simple with this script as you’d like. The setting is a living room.  
Apron  
Slippers  
Dish towel  
Wooden spoon (or another kitchen utensil)
- Why** 1 Thessalonians 5:18; Philippians 4:6
- How** Media Note - This monologue could be accompanied by funny photos on screen that add visual humor to what she’s saying.
- SFX Note – Sound of “thumping” (like the sounds shoes make in the dryer)
- Time** Approximately 4 minutes

*Actress enters and addresses the audience as if they are all her family.*

**Actress:** Can I get everyone's attention? Thanks for coming over for my favorite holiday of the year. Last year will be tough to beat. It was just so perfect! The truth is...that this year, everything was rolling along just fine until...a few days ago I was running around the house stressing about napkin rings, while everyone else was watching TV, and I had a little bit of a meltdown. My husband called it a nervous breakdown of epic proportions, but we all know he exaggerates. (*beat*) However...there are a few tiny, hardly noticeable details that will be slightly different than last year. I wanted to tell you all before we all sit down to eat, so that we'll have more...realistic expectations.

First of all, you probably noticed that our sidewalk was not lined with homemade, paper bag luminaries like I promised. After a trial run, I decided that no matter how cleverly done, rows of flaming lunch bags ...not welcoming.

When you came in, you probably noticed the entry hall was not decorated with the swags of Indian corn and fall foliage like I made last year. Instead, I've gotten the kids involved in the decorating by having them track in colorful autumn leaves from the front yard. The mud was their idea.

Also, our centerpiece will not be the tower of fresh fruit and flowers that I'm known for. Instead we have a hand-crafted decoration made with the finest construction paper. It looks like a duck hatching out of a football, but the artist assures me it is a turkey.

And speaking of football, I would like to remind my young diners that "passing the rolls" is not a football play. Nor is it an invitation to bean your sister in the head with warm tasty bread.

And I'm sorry to say, but dinner's gonna be late. I realized at 5:00 this morning that the turkey was still hard enough to cut diamonds...but don't worry! The children will entertain you while you wait. And I will accompany them with the sounds of tribal drumming. If they should mention that I don't own a tribal drum, or that the tribal drumming sounds suspiciously like a frozen turkey in the dryer, (*sound FX of a dryer thumping*) ignore them. They are lying.

Now, I know usually someone carves the turkey at the table, and everyone's watching with eager anticipation. That ain't happening this year. For reasons I can't go into here, the turkey will be carved in a private ceremony that only I will be invited to.

PURCHASE

Oh, and about the gravy, this year it might look somewhat like cheese sauce, but just go with me on this one...I promise it tastes great on mashed potatoes.

Before I forget, there is one more change from last year. Instead of offering a choice among 12 different desserts, we will just be serving pumpkin pie...in the form of Pumpkin Pie Pop Tarts. As with every year, let's focus on and be thankful for what we do have.

This concludes the Thanksgiving updates. If anyone needs me, I'll be in the kitchen with the turkey while you all enjoy the recital.

*Dryer Sound FX repeated.*

*Lights fade.*

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