

Xaverian High School

***I Got A Feeling '21 Is Gonna Be A Good Year***

These past two years have really taken a toll on everyone. I was so excited when school was back in person and other activities like music and performing returned. I'm so thankful I can get to see all my friends, in person! I finally got to step foot in a Dave and Buster's arcade again. Two whole years we were deprived of Guitar Hero Arcade...but no longer! That was fun. Most importantly, what I am really looking forward to is Thanksgiving. I have not seen members of my extended family in upwards of two years now. I finally have a chance to see them all again, and at my house, no less, because at long last, we can have a "normal" Thanksgiving party.

That's a bit weird for me to admit, because in all honesty, I never really appreciated Thanksgiving very much before 2020. Do you know how they always say, "You don't know what you've got until it's gone?", "they" of course being hair metal group Cinderella in their 1988 chart topping power ballad? Thanksgiving was just another holiday for me every other year. It was just "oh, we're off to whoever's house to have some turkey and pumpkin pie (and ham for me because I don't touch turkey.)" We didn't even watch much football. Maybe just the parade. For a grand total of ten minutes and then put a movie on. I had nothing against Thanksgiving, don't get me wrong here...It's just that now, I think this is the first year in a line of many where I'm going to relish every second of it. I miss my cousins, and their kids. I miss sitting around at the table and being social. I miss being able to sit down and watch "A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving" with everyone. That's another thing I've become sentimental for. Mom and my sister always throw that one on, and I always used to leave the room...only to come right back inside and watch it with them because I love Snoopy.

These past two years have really turned my perspective on these simple things you don't often think about, around. I never thought I'd be getting nostalgic for a cartoon from 1973 I used to pretend to dislike. I never thought I would miss a party that used to, before, just be my prelude to Christmas, nor did I think we would jump on the opportunity to host the whole thing when given the chance. All I know is, as I'm writing this, we are T-minus four days to "the big day",

and I couldn't be more ready for it. I think the only thing I can safely say I'm more excited for right now is the old red guy in the sky coming back around.