

## Why I Am Thankful on Thanksgiving by Andre Golden

Thanksgiving is that magical time of year when we eat way too much food, hang out with family, and say things like, "I'm so thankful for this food," while secretly plotting how we can sneak another slice of pie. It's a day to give thanks, but also a chance to relax, avoid homework, and pretend like we're not already thinking about Christmas.

First, I'm super thankful for my family. Sure, they drive me crazy sometimes (like when my little sister insists on watching the same cartoon for the hundredth time or when my mom starts talking about cleaning the garage), but they're also the ones who always have my back. My parents support me in everything I do, whether it's a school project or surviving a family road trip. My little sister is the one who constantly steals my clothes and annoys me, but she also knows how to make me laugh when I need it the most. And I'm thankful for my house. It's where I can have my own space, raid the fridge without asking for permission, and take naps without anyone bothering me.

Thanksgiving is the day when we all gather around the table to eat a ridiculous amount of food. And when I say ridiculous, I mean it—turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce (which, let's be honest, some of us pretend to like just to be polite), and pumpkin pie. But the best part? The mashed potatoes. I'm convinced my mom adds magic to them, because they're basically the reason I'm thankful on Thanksgiving. After stuffing myself so much that I can barely move, I usually take a nap to recover. But not before watching some football and pretending to understand the rules.

One of my favorite Thanksgiving memories is when we all played a board game after dinner. It was supposed to be fun, but of course, it turned into an epic argument over who "cheated" (even though no one actually cheated). The best part is that we all ended up laughing so hard we couldn't even finish the game. It didn't matter though—what made it fun was being with everyone and making memories, even if those memories involve a lot of shouting over the rules.

In conclusion, Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on what we're thankful for—family, food, and the chance to wear stretchy pants without feeling guilty. It's a reminder that no matter what, we have a lot of good things in our lives, and it's important to appreciate them. So, this Thanksgiving, I'm thankful for the food, the fun, and the fact that I don't have to do the dishes.