

hello it is me Faleena Hopkins with the Unstrictly Speaking podcast did I mention I have a tiny ukulele...did I mention I have a tiny ukulele

[Music]

UL

play it like a rock and roll

guitar play it like a rock and

roll

guitar tiny

ukulele tiny

ukulele

so this is UN-strictly Speaking for a reason this is the podcast where I get to talk about whatever I want and it doesn't have any kind of a I'm just getting things off my chest I was isolating for a very long time I wasn't connecting with people I was becoming very very very boring and very very bored of my life and very sad I was sad there was sadness had some drama it's passed it's in the past it's behind me it's over thank goodness so I started this little podcast where I could talk sometimes I'm talking about self-publishing tips sometimes I'm talking about life stuff I'm basically just rambling and talking about whatever I feel like talking about in the moment and there might be a topic authorFaleenaHopkins.com is where you want to go to follow uh to find out about what's going on with me other stuff my books my photography I don't know if you know I was a photographer for a decade and a friend uh was kind enough and just gave me that when he upgraded his camera um I had given my camera package to another friend who was becoming a photog or wasn't becoming photographer just really wanted to get in photography and my um my dad had just our dad had just passed and um he had been taking care of our dad at the end there and I just wanted to give it to him so I gave him Canon 5D and lenses and the whole thing and um and then I thought I was done with photography and then all of a sudden I started feeling inspired lately and lo and behold a friend of mine says Hey I just upgraded my uh my camera I got a new camera it has I can't use these lenses anymore do you want my camera

package how's that for Pay It Forward how's that for manifesting things give and you shall receive crazy crazy cuz I was just thinking I really wanted to get back into photos I want to do some black and white photography uh I'm going to have some photos on my website if you'd like to download them for screen savers or for portraits I have some I know some people have some of my art in their houses if that's something you're interested in they're going to be there available as digital prints and you can download them

um so this week is Thanksgiving week it's a time for family um we're just going to ignore the horrible way the actual holiday came about first let me say a huge apology to everybody

um to all the ancestors all the horribleness of that thankful that Thanksgiving is now more about family though I have some friends who don't want to go and see their families and I get it um I'll tell you what I lost my mom and my dad okay it just got

emotional um my mom in '05 and dad in 2021 this was my stepfather but he raised me he's my dad he stepped up um and it just made me realize you know oh and my brother see I just

keep I just keep not thinking about that uh my brother just was in a car accident on October 5th um and I almost saw him the day before I don't know if I said this in another podcast again this is unstrictly speaking I just am talking you get to follow along this is how my random brain works um but I was just going to to I was just considering calling him I'm sorry visiting him the day before and I uh I was like I was going to do it I had the plan I'm like yeah he didn't know he didn't know but I said he's only 45 minutes away and I didn't and then the next day he got in a car accident and I will never see him again so and I didn't have any we had a fight in the past but we made up thank goodness so let me just say if you have anybody that you're fighting with right now I would suggest that you heal it um especially if it's family because you never know when they're going to disappear and then you can never see them again and that's the saddest ukulele

ever this podcast episode just went on a down note but it's true love your people so if you can do that this week for Thanksgiving even if it's just to make a call or maybe your people are your friends maybe maybe you just have one person maybe you just have your animals and that's okay too put a lot of love into them this week maybe say a few things you're grateful for that they have something to do

with and I don't know maybe say something you're grateful for about

yourself I'm grateful I have this tiny ukulele and then I'm still walking on this planet and I get to talk to you thank you for listening and thank you for watching this is my very first video podcast which you can find on YouTube if you've been I have some um subscribers now on my podcast so if you're over if you're listening to this uh audio only go check out um YouTube um I'm going to have the link on my website again authorin hopkins.com

uh yeah and join my newsletter because that's probably going to be where it's going to be easiest for you to hear information that's coherent and written out this again is rambling and strictly speaking with Felina Hopkins put the ukulele down give the kisses Mah Mah thank you for watching thank you for listening peace and

light hey there so if you're enjoying these episodes at all of

Unstrictly do that through venmo @lovestories because that's what I do - love stories - you know my my movie my books and it's a little heart that's my avatar my last four of my phone number is 3462 ...because it often asks you to make sure you're sending it to the right person love stories is all put together like one word love stories or you can do uh Zelle or uh PayPal on my website author felah hopkins.com is it Zell or Zelleee. I don't know. Transcripts of the podcast, links to the books and movies and stuff like that ,and you know photography stuff all kinds of stuff authorfaleenahopkins.com [Music]