

**NARRATOR:** This is Scary Stories for Modern Minds. Episode Eighteen: Seconds and Thirds.

*...vaguely Jewish music? Of some sort? I'll figure something out.*

**NARRATOR:** If you've ever been lucky enough to enjoy a meal during a Jewish holiday, you know what a treat it can be. Dishes upon dishes, a table piled high with favorite foods, recipes that go back for generations upon generations. Every food has a meaning, and every plateful tells a story. A delicious, delicious story.

Imagine, if you will, a beautifully-laid table with every food you could hope to see at Hanukkah. You eagerly sit at your place and accept a helping of everything offered to you. Your plate is piled high, tantalizing scents wafting over you. You eat a bit of everything, then settle back in your chair, satisfied.

*Sound of a contented sigh. Then, a magical chiming sound. After that, a confused noise.*

**NARRATOR:** How strange. You could have sworn you had eaten every last bite. Someone must have refilled your plate when you were in conversation with your aunt. Well, no matter. It is a holiday, after all, and a little extra never hurt anyone. You dig in happily, perhaps a bit past the point of comfortably full by now.

*Slightly more tired sound. Magical chiming. Another confused noise.*

**NARRATOR:** Did your plate just...refill itself? I suppose you had better eat that third helping to find out.

*Uncomfortable-sounding sigh. Magical chiming. Concerned whimper.*

**NARRATOR:** Oh, would you look at that? More food to enjoy.

*Exhausted noise. Magical chiming. Whimper. The sounds of distress grow as they repeat in the background behind the narration.*

**NARRATOR:** Every time you clear your plate, it refills, looking as perfect and untouched as it was the first time around. Try as you might, you can never seem to get it to stay clean. Over and over again, the meal piles itself back onto your plate. Delicious though it remains, you wonder if you'll ever see the end of it. Feeling as though you may burst, you finally throw in the towel and drop your knife and fork in defeat.

*Sound of a knife and fork clattering against the plate.*

**NARRATOR:** The nearly-empty plate seems to taunt you, but you know it's best to surrender while you still can. Feeling a warm wave of relief wash over you, you settle back in your chair with a groan, when suddenly...

**RELATIVE:** Now who wants dessert?

*Magical chime sounds.*

*Outro music.*

**CAROLINE:** Scary Stories for Modern Minds was created, written, edited, and voiced by Caroline Mincks, with graphic design by Kate Cipolla and music by Gavin Crockett. This podcast is produced on occupied Appamatuk land.