

The DINNER PARTY Download
presents

LOOK UP AND LISTEN!



THE ULTIMATE LISTENING PARTY KIT

This episode is a special presentation in conjunction with the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Park Service.



WAIT A SEC, WHAT'S A LISTENING PARTY?

A listening party is an excuse to get your friends together, nosh on your favorite snacks, and tune into audio that'll spark ideas, laughs, eye-rolls, and great conversations.*

This “Look Up and Listen!” special from The Dinner Party Download® is all about nature and the night sky, so it's meant to be listened to *outside* for full effect. Any place with a seat and a sky view will do! Camp out in the backyard, climb up to the rooftop, dangle your feet off a dock... the possibilities are endless.

Share your listening party on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter/Instagram](#) (@dinnerpartydnd) by using the hashtag #lookupandlisten. We'll be making an interactive map of all the places you'll be visiting to listen to the episode, so add your location to photos or mention it in your caption!

Now let's get you some tools for an epic listening party...

*Also, who are we kidding?! Our show is called *The Dinner Party Download*. Any occasion to throw a party is a swell one in our book.



OOOH LOOK, A HANDY CHECKLIST!

- Set date and time
- Choose outdoor listening spot away from noise, light (if possible), and mama bears
- Send invite, perhaps with our invitation template
- Tell real friends and Facebook friends that you're hosting a unique party and they'd be silly not to come
- Settle on your snacks and drinks
- Download the show beforehand; internet connections may be spotty in the great outdoors
- Bring blanket and comfy seating
- Layer up! Sweaters will come in handy, since you'll be sitting still at night
- Pack a few notepads and pens for doodling (and if you like, trivia-answering)
- Going far afield? How about bug spray, flashlight, ghost repellent
- Take photos and let us in on the fun:
#lookupandlisten



MENU!

**5 EASY DISHES FOR
DINING UNDER THE STARS**

FROM FRANCIS LAM OF THE SPLENDID TABLE®

PARTY PLATTER

Go easy: get yourself some nice bread, a nice piece of cheese, some good, funky salami, and a knife. And a cutting board. Maybe some pickles and a little jar of honey, too. (Caution: remember the ants!)

CHICKEN DINNER ALWAYS A WINNER

I don't personally subscribe to the thought that cold fried chicken is better than hot fried chicken, but cold fried chicken is still better than almost all other foods, so: I say have some fried chicken. You can try this [terrific recipe](#) (I'd serve the sauce on the side so you don't de-crisp the chicken). Or skip the fuss and just buy a bucket of it.

EASY SIDE SALAD

It's summer. That means cooking is easy. Cut up some chunks of watermelon. Cut up some really ripe tomatoes. Put them in a bowl with a fistful of chopped mint or basil or both, salt them just a little more than you think you should, and dress it all with some lime juice and olive oil.

VEG OUT

Cut some vegetables — broccoli, cauliflower, broccoli rabe, carrots, whatever — into bite-sized pieces. Toss them with olive oil and salt. Roast in a 400-degree oven or grill until cooked through and a little bit charred around the edges. Dress with a mixture of equal parts fish sauce, lime, water, and sugar (tweak to taste). Add a little grated garlic or hot chilies if you want, and hey, if you have mint or basil left over from your salad, toss those on, too.

A SWEET FINALE

Well, if you really want to go for it, I'd say to make [Bill Smith's Banana Pudding](#). Or you can just get a bowl of berries, sugar them, whip some cream, and chop together some toasted nuts and graham crackers. Put them out with no instructions, and everyone will figure it out. Then lie back, look up, and listen.

An illustration of a woman with short brown hair, wearing a red and black plaid shirt, holding a wine glass filled with red wine. She is looking to the right. The background is dark and textured, with some green and blue brushstrokes. The text "BON APPÉTIT!" is written in white, stylized, hand-drawn letters across the bottom of the illustration.

BON APPÉTIT!

The image features two bottles of drinks on a leopard print background. On the left is a tall, dark purple bottle with a green circular logo on its body. On the right is a shorter, green bottle with a large, oval-shaped window in the center, revealing a yellowish liquid inside. The background is a pinkish-red leopard print. In the bottom right corner, there are some orange slices and a glass rim.

DRINK IT IN...

A LIBATION
TO SIP AL FRESCO

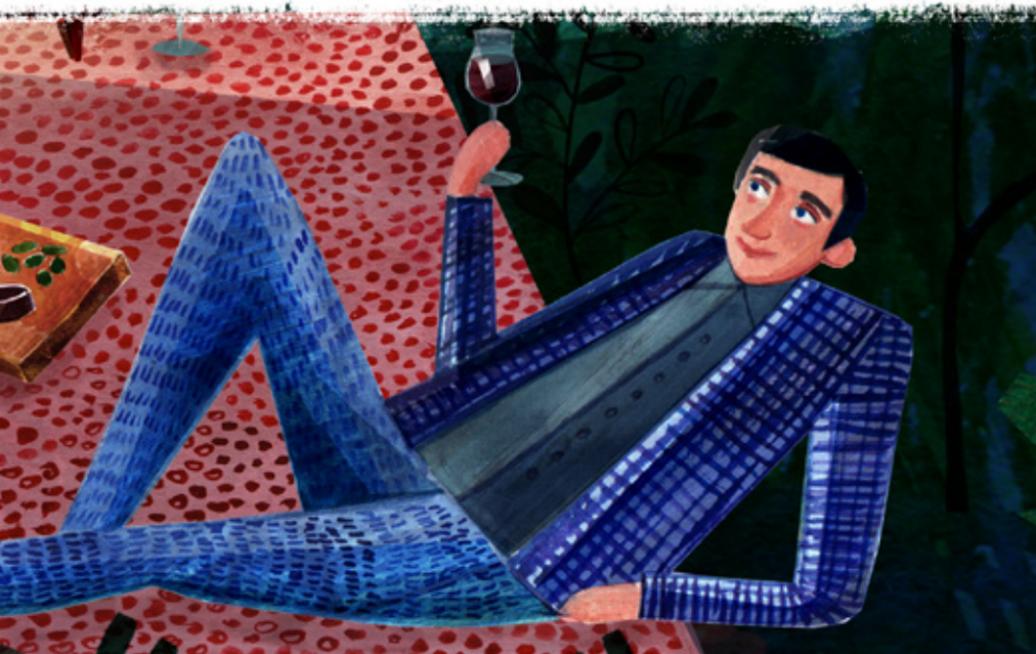
BY NICK WILLIAMS OF TINDERBOX KITCHEN ANNEX

LOWELL'S LOVE AFFAIR

A cocktail inspired by [Pluto's discovery](#), thoughtfully developed in the shadow of Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, AZ:

- 2.5 OUNCES SMALLS AMERICAN DRY GIN
- .5 OUNCE RANSOM DRY VERMOUTH
- 10 PLUMP POMEGRANATE SEEDS
- 2 SPRIGS OF ROSEMARY

Muddle pomegranate seeds and leaves of one rosemary sprig. Add gin and vermouth. Shake with ice for about 45 seconds. Strain into glass. Garnish with a twist of lemon peel wrapped around the second sprig of rosemary. Sip until you discover something otherworldly.





GET IN
THE GROOVE!

A WILD AND WONDERFUL PLAYLIST

CURATED BY SYLVAN ESSO

Really, what's a party without some music? Sylvan Esso – a fantastic North Carolina duo – designed a [custom playlist](#) specifically for your outdoor enjoyment. Use it to accompany your pre-show noshing...or your post-show dance-off. Here are some of the featured tracks:

Yo La Tengo – “Green Arrow”

M. Ward – “Beautiful Car”

Little Wings – “Look at What the Light Did Now”

Arthur Russell – “Nobody Wants a Lonely Heart”

Mariah Carey – “Fantasy”

Gillian Welch – “Wrecking Ball”

Bonnie Raitt – “Nick of Time”

Nils Frahm – “Ode”

Little Feat – “Willin”

The Dead Tongues – “The Desert”

Boards of Canada – “Dayvan Cowboy”

Fennesz – “Made in Hong Kong”

Lambchop – “If Not I’ll Just Die”

Vashti Bunyan – “Diamond Day”

Animal Collective – “Leaf House”

Panda Bear – “Comfy in Nautica”

Junip – “In Every Direction”

Want more tunes for your starry night? Check out Sylvan Esso’s phenomenal new album [“What Now.”](#)

A night sky with several bright, multi-pointed stars. In the bottom left corner, there is a silhouette of a tree and some large, dark green leaves. The background is a deep blue gradient.

BONUS LISTENING
FOR KIDS &
CURIOUS ADULTS

PRESENTED BY BRAINS ON!®

LET THE KIDS TEACH YOU A THING OR TWO...

If you've got some kiddos in tow (and even if you don't) we recommend lending your ears to the pint-sized science whizzes of "[Brains On!](#)"

On this podcast, kids from around the world pose questions about science and nature... and then act as co-host of the show as it tracks down surprising answers.

Here are a few worthwhile episodes related to "Look Up and Listen!"

- [GOING UNDERGROUND AT WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK](#)
- [TRACKING WILD HORSES AT ASSATEAGUE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE](#)
- [LIGHTING THE WAY FOR SEA TURTLES AT GULF ISLANDS NATIONAL SEASHORE](#)
- [TREES: FROM SEED TO SHINING SEED](#)
- [IS THERE LIFE ON OTHER PLANETS?](#)
- [WHAT'S BEHIND THE WAVES AND TIDES?](#)



A LITTLE
COMPETITION
IS ONLY
NATURAL

PLAY OUR OUTDOOR TRIVIA WITH
FRIENDS AND FELLOW LISTENERS

ROUND 1: GENERAL TRIVIA

*All of these questions relate to the great outdoors or to the skies above.
Look up and listen to your gut!*

- ① Which president's 1916 "Organic Act" ushered in the National Park Service... not the first Whole Foods?
- ② Originally known as "The Salty Peppers," which band landed hits including "Shining Star" and "Keep Your Head to the Sky"?
- ③ It's not even funny how bright THIS star is; it's the brightest in the night sky. (Note: the evening-time sun doesn't count, but we see you and respect you, smartypants!)
- ④ This Yellowstone geyser, not Old Faithful, shoots water plumes up to 300 feet – taller than any other in the world. (Need a little assist? Think Mark Twain or Walt Disney.)
- ⑤ What is the only marsupial native to the U.S.?
- ⑥ This Scotsman once wrote: "No temple made with human hands can compare with Yosemite."
- ⑦ The "state bird" shared by the most states – a whopping seven of 'em – is known as the "Northern WHAT"? (Hint: Missouri is surprisingly NOT one of these states.)
- ⑧ Which National Park was visited by 11 million plus intrepid folks last year... more than any other National Park by roughly double?
- ⑨ Newborn bats, sharks, and prairie dogs are all referred to by this name.
- ⑩ On which planet will you find the largest volcano in the solar system? It's roughly the size of Arizona! (Name the volcano, too, to make your friends' heads explode.)

ROUND 1: ANSWERS

- ① Woodrow Wilson
- ② Earth, Wind, and Fire
- ③ Sirius (a.k.a. the Dog Star)
- ④ Steamboat Geyser
- ⑤ Opossum
- ⑥ John Muir
- ⑦ Cardinal (“Redbird” is A-OK, too)
- ⑧ Great Smoky Mountains National Park
- ⑨ Pups
- ⑩ Mars (...and “Olympus Mons”
for the extra glory!)

ONE ROUND DOWN,
ONE MORE TO GO.
GET READY FOR
THE GRAND FINALE.



ROUND 2: MYSTERY THEME

In our final round, all of the answers somehow connect to a single mystery theme. You'll have to name it in Question 10. Warning: it's rather tricky! Godspeed...

- ① If you get caught “hooking,” “boarding,” or “butt-ending,” you’ll end up **HERE**.
- ② Hold up, which mega-hit 2016 album features the songs “Freedom” and “Sandcastles”?
- ③ You’ll find Steve Martin gritting his teeth at shower-curtain-salesman John Candy, in **THIS** 1987 movie.
- ④ At Hogwarts, you’ll usually find **THIS** Ravenclaw sulking in the first floor girls’ bathroom.
- ⑤ This comedy duo debuted on-screen in the 1921 short film, “The Lucky Dog.”
- ⑥ If two teams split the first two games of a three-game series, what might you call the deciding third game?
- ⑦ In the board game **Clue**, which character are you if you’re playing with the purple token?
- ⑧ The child of movie and music superstars, **SHE** whipped her hair back-and-forth into pop music glory at age ten, in 2010.
- ⑨ If you’re toasting the massive popularity of the “Alligator Pear,” which food are you celebrating?
- ⑩ Okay, what’s the theme connecting all of these answers? Good luck!

Tally up those scores, folks! You’ll find the answers on the following page.

ROUND 2: ANSWERS

- ① The Penalty **Box**
- ② “**Lemonade**”
- ③ “**Planes, Trains, and Automobiles**”
- ④ Moaning **Myrtle**
- ⑤ **Laurel** and Hardy
- ⑥ **Rubber** Match
- ⑦ Professor **Plum**
- ⑧ **Willow** Smith
- ⑨ **Avocado**
- ⑩ Every answer contains a type of **TREE!** Go find them in nature!

GREAT JOB, EVERYONE!
YOU HAVE CLIMBED
THE TRIVIA MOUNTAIN.
IT'S ALL DOWNHILL FROM HERE.



**National
Endowment
for the Arts**
arts.gov

This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov