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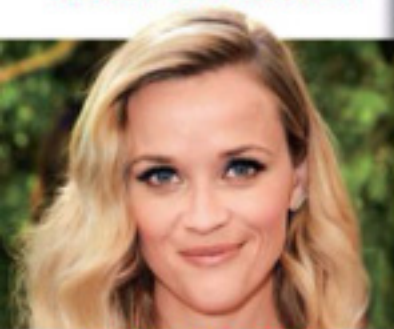
WEEKLY



KOURTNEY & SCOTT
**Breaking Up
After Baby?**



ANGELINA TALKS TO US
**On Marriage,
Kids & Fame**



REESE OPENS UP
**I'm Not What
People Think**

THEIR LAST CHRISTMAS

Recklessly spending on gifts and parties,
Teresa is desperate to give her girls a holiday
they'll remember — before she goes to jail



HELPING THE KIDS COPE

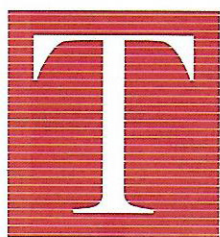


Teresa has avoided going into detail with the girls about her life behind bars. Instead, says a source, she is focusing on prison as a place to learn and "talks about how Mommy is going to miss them so much." Smart thinking, explains Beth Jakubanis, clinical director of SoCal Child Therapy in L.A.'s Tarzana. "She's taking the fear out of it," Jakubanis tells *Us*, "by using kid-friendly language like, 'Mom's going to be taking a time-out.'" It can also be a teaching moment. Adds Jakubanis, "Kids learn when you do something you're not supposed to, there are consequences."

TERESA'S LAST CHRISTMAS

As her January incarceration date looms, Real Housewife **Giudice** tries to leave her girls with a holiday for the ages

BY ERIC ANDERSSON



he wine flowed — and so did the tears. On Thanksgiving Day, Teresa Giudice's parents joined the Real Housewife, 42, her husband, Joe, 44, and their four daughters, Gia, 13, Gabriella, 10, Milania, 8, and Audriana, 5, for a home-cooked meal at their \$3.5 million Towaco, New Jersey, mansion. Before the group dug in to the traditional turkey and stuffing (and, of course, Italian meatballs), says an insider, "Joe made a toast and said how much he loves Teresa and the kids." He closed with a tribute to his father, Frank, who died in June at age 63. As the family went around the table sharing their blessings, says the insider, "Milania said how thankful *she* is that Teresa's dad

isn't dead yet." Her daughter's words proved too much for the Bravo star. Says the source, "She was tearing up before her first bite of food."

Happy holidays, indeed. With her imprisonment for fraud just weeks away, Teresa's new reality is anything but merry: When this season ends, the Giudices won't deck the halls as a family until 2019. "She's very emotional," the source says of Teresa, who reports to federal prison January 5 to serve 15 months. Upon her release in 2016, Joe will begin his 41-month sentence — after which he'll likely be deported to his native Italy. Now, with her family on the brink of being torn apart, the cookbook author is going all-out on holiday gifts and parties to make this season one her girls will cherish. But the family time brings a new wave of pain, says the source: "It reminds her that next year, she'll be eating a

turkeylike meal with canned gravy and instant potatoes — in prison.”

Girl Time

It's an image she initially tried to keep out of her daughters' heads. The day after her sentencing, Teresa admitted that she wasn't sure how or when to tell the kids their parents were going to prison. (Gia, as seen on *The Real Housewives of New Jersey*, already knew.) But she couldn't shield her girls forever. “Milania is an eavesdropper and was listening to Teresa talk about prison to Joe. There were some comments made at school too, so Teresa had to explain things properly,” says the insider. “She was vague, only telling them that Mommy and Daddy have to go away.” The reality star tried to cushion the blow — comparing prison to college. “She said they'll be able to visit and talk on the phone,” says the source. “And that it's a place where

“
I HAVE FOUR
BEAUTIFUL
DAUGHTERS AND AN
AMAZING HUSBAND.
THAT'S ALL THAT
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TERESA TELLS US

you can grow, become a better person and learn new things.” Still, adds the source, “the kids don't fully understand.”

Teresa had another serious chat with the kids about Christmas. Though the girls are used to over-the-top gifts such as a mini-Mercedes and designer duds, the source says, “Teresa explained this year will be different and spending money is

not what Christmas is all about.” In fact, says the source, she's already been bargain-hunting online. While the source insists the Giudices, who still owe \$414,588 in restitution, are “cutting back,” it's all relative: “She thinks backing down from a \$1,200 pair of shoes to a \$400 pair is roughing it. So there's a real disconnect.” Like mother, like daughters. Their 2014 wish lists are as lavish as ever. “Gia wants a Cartier bracelet and Louis Vuitton luggage,” says the source. “Gabriella wants a trip to Disney World and the Apple watch.”

Teresa *can* afford to give her time. During her final weeks of freedom, “Teresa is doing as many activities with the girls as possible,” says the source. “She has carved out individual time with each.” With Gia, for instance, she brainstorms ways to make the girl's new pop group, 3KT, a sensation. Says the source, “They talk about outfits, touring, making

THE FAMILY'S FINAL DAYS

Teresa and her brood paste on smiles



Gia's cheering section: Teresa, Joe and Audria watched the eldest's game Nov. 23.



Teresa calls Gabriella (at a gym Oct. 17) “my porcelain doll.”



A warm hug from Mom: Milania scored a stuffed Olaf at Disney's *Frozen on Ice* in Newark, NJ, Nov. 21.



Gia made a golden memory at a Nov. 27 cheerleading banquet.



"I'll be fine," Teresa (with Joe and Cohen Oct. 3) said of going to prison.

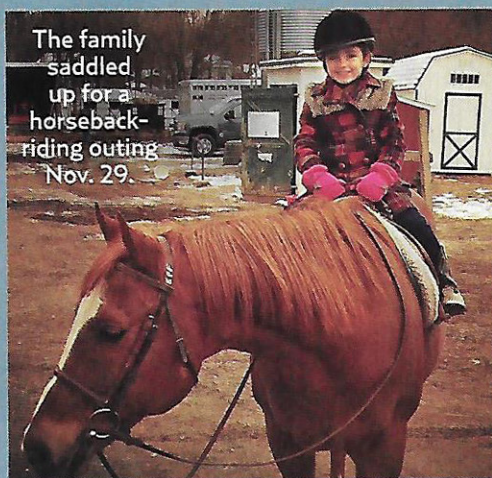
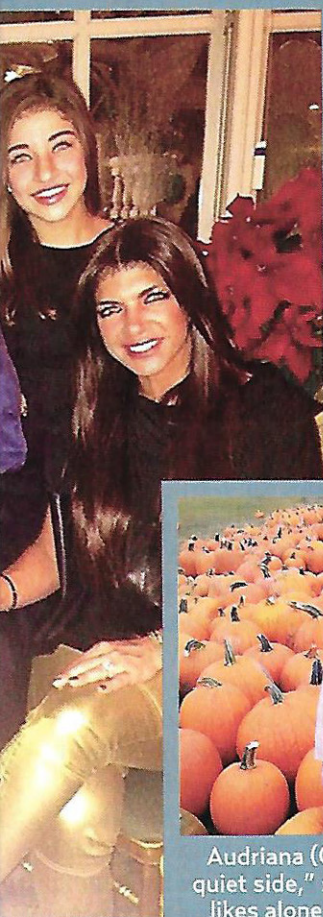
Andy Dishes on the Giudices

» He's grilled everyone from Cher to Oprah Winfrey, but *Watch What Happens Live* host Andy Cohen says his October sitdown with Teresa and Joe Giudice was his toughest interview. "It was no piece of cake," he said during a fan Q&A in Miami November 23. "I'm not throwing shade, but they're not reflective or introspective." Indeed, during the two-part postsentencing chat, Joe joked about Teresa going to jail: "I guess I'm going to be the housewife." And Teresa, despite pleading guilty to lying on documents to obtain bank loans, told Cohen straight-faced: "I don't spend money I don't have. . . . I work and get a paycheck."

videos." Milania — who shares Maltipoo Bella with her sisters and has her own parakeet, Rico — would rather window-shop at a pet store. Meanwhile, Gabriella and Audriana just want a snack and some quality time with Mom, says the source. "They get excited about french fries at a drive-thru."

The girls will have more than those memories when Teresa goes away. The source says she has nearly completed videos for each. "There will be one for birthdays, one for holidays and a video with words of encouragement for when they're sad," reveals the source. While the kids are at school or soccer practice, Mom has been sneaking off to stock up on presents for the coming year. Says the source, "Teresa wants to have gifts for the girls wrapped and waiting on their birthdays."

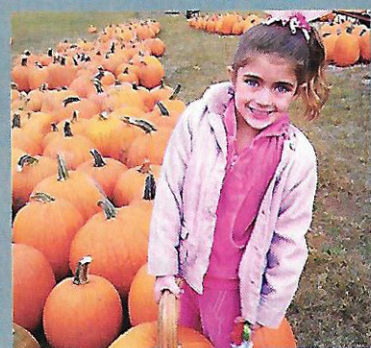
Gia, who turns 14 on January 8, won't have to wait. Days before her



The family saddled up for a horseback-riding outing Nov. 29.



Princess Audriana trimmed the tree Dec. 1.



Audriana (Oct. 16) "is on the quiet side," says a source, "and likes alone time with Mom."



Gabriella (Oct. 31) won't trick-or-treat with her mom again until 2016.



The reality star made stuffing for a Thanksgiving feast at Audriana's school Nov. 25.

incarceration, Teresa plans to throw a joint celebration for her eldest and Joe's mom, Filomena Giudice, whose birthday is also in January. Says the source, "Joe convinced her to throw a party at the house right before she heads off to do her time."

Loose Ends

Her husband, on the other hand, is less of a priority. Despite the united front Teresa and Joe put on in court and on Instagram, the source says, Teresa remains resentful of the man she publicly calls "my honey." He'll be the primary caregiver while Teresa is away — "I just want him to be with them all the time," she said on *Watch What Happens Live* in October — but he hasn't been stepping up to learn the girls' schedules. And his lack of attention has Teresa "icy," says the source. "The passion has completely fizzled. She's more concerned with nurturing her kids than taking care of Joe's needs." (Her rep tells *Us*, "Ms. Giudice has

not shared any details about her personal life with anyone.")

Still, the self-described "old school" wife will flip a table if he strays. Though Teresa is convinced she needs to hire a nanny to help Joe while she's in prison, "she wants someone who doesn't pose a threat," says the source. "Especially now that she's not giving him physical attention." In other words, Garden State beauty queens need not apply. "For a few weeks, Teresa was phoning agencies, looking for a 'chubby' nanny," says the source. "She knows Joe prefers thin women. She'd feel safe with someone a bit dumpy."

Or masculine. When her search went nowhere, she cold-called companies with another idea. "She started contacting agencies, asking for a gay 'manny,'" says the source. "But she was told asking a person's sexuality isn't appropriate." Undeterred, Teresa "is asking friends if they know anyone."

Finding Joe help for Mr. Mom detail is just one of many things on her to-do list as the clock on her freedom winds down. With Giudice Manor on the market as the family downsizes, Teresa is "organizing closets and packing boxes to put into storage," says the source. "She doesn't want important things to be thrown out of the house if the family moves while she's away."

She's not just fretting about misplaced possessions. One loss would be unbearable. "She's worried her dad will pass while she's serving time," says the source. Teresa has an incredibly close bond with her father, Giacinto Gorga, 71, who was hospitalized in 2012 for heart problems. "She asked her attorney if she can attend a family funeral while she's in prison," adds the source. "She can't imagine not being able to say a final goodbye."

L.A. Living?

Postprison, she's banking on a sunny future. "She thinks living on the

"I ALWAYS HAVE CHRISTMAS EVE AT MY HOUSE. WE MAKE ALL KINDS OF SEAFOOD. I LOVE IT."

TERESA TELLS US

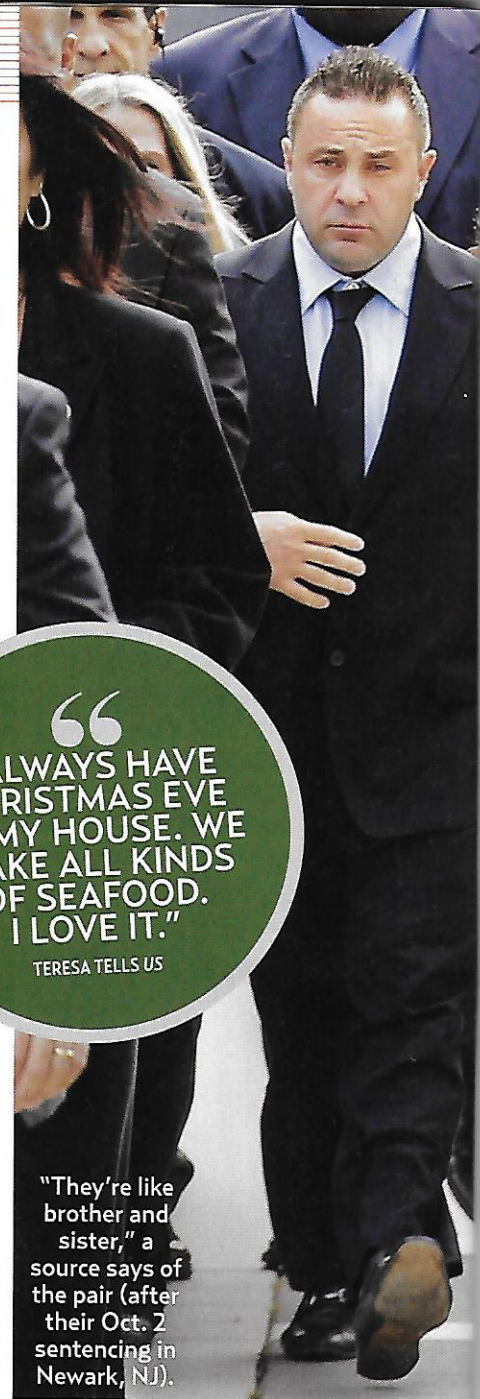
"They're like brother and sister," a source says of the pair (after their Oct. 2 sentencing in Newark, NJ).

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West Coast will help Gia's career as well as hers," according to the source, who says Teresa hopes to leverage her infamy into TV and movie roles. She's already pitched reality show ideas to Bravo execs. "She suggested joining *The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*, but that was rejected," says the source. Her second idea — a show about her running a restaurant — was also nixed.

They'd rather see her running ragged. One exec envisions putting Teresa in a small house and taping a show about a single mom raising





Ghosts of Holidays Past

No expense was spared to spoil the girls



Milania (right, with Audriana) and her sisters got a dog in 2013.



Teresa (with Mom in 2013) gave the kids a toy Mercedes in 2011.

The Giudices hired a photographer to snap their 2013 card at a poinsettia nursery.



Last year's haul included matching hats, Barbies and a \$130 pair of Uggs.

kids on a budget, says the source: "She'd be furnishing her house with garage-sale items, taking the bus and living like a normal person. She is considering it."

Their last Christmas may bring a taste of that simple life. The source says Teresa has mentioned volunteering at a shelter or soup kitchen December 25. Explains the source, "She says she wants the focus to be on the real meaning of Christmas." After all, as she told *Us* last year, "it's a time to be around family and be grateful we are together."

US



Tickets for Milania to see 2013's Jingle Ball in NYC ran up to \$390.



A hungover Joe filmed the kids tearing through their 2011 gifts.