

Ep #36: We Accidentally Bought a Mansion with My Husband Mark Uyeno



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With Your Host

Jess McKinley Uyeno

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Jess: For me, one thing that allows me to maybe be a little bit faster acting is my flexibility in what I earn. And I think that has also been something that I trust myself so much that I'm not scared to come up in spending or in investing in certain ways that otherwise would make someone who has a set amount coming in, Oh, okay, this is my max. I don't really see a max. And I have had situations in the past in my personal life and in my business where I've wanted to do something and the math didn't math from a purely spending perspective. And so I had to just make more money.

Hi, Fun Money friends. I'm in an extra good mood today because I finally got my husband on the show. And if you don't know, Mark is a finance guy. I'm a fun money girl, but my knowledge and expertise in money is in a totally different world than most people that have a finance background. And so it's always fun when people get to see the behind the scenes of how a couple does finance. And we've done an episode like this in the past in my old show, Sincerely Future You. That's still available if you wanted to check out the episode with him. I know it was a fan favorite.

But today I really wanted to have him come on because there's a lot of things going on personally for us in the money realm. And our life is changing. We're entering a new chapter of our wealth journey, and so we have a lot of decisions to make. We have a lot of dreams that we can start to turn into reality.

And I wanted to have him on so that we could share with you kind of how this happened and if you are going through this or if this is on the horizon for you, maybe some of the ways that we have this conversation can help. Hey, how can this be fun? Some people really dread having money conversations with their partner, especially if you aren't on the same page with exactly the direction or the way you want to go about spending your money, investing your money.

And because Mark and I are so different and the way that we track our money is different, the way that we prioritize our money can sometimes be

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very different. I think it's extra helpful to have these conversations with you guys listening so that you can see that behind the scenes and see that it can still be fun and it can still be respectful and it can still be productive even when you start the conversation with completely different visions. So welcome to the show, hon.

Mark: Thank you. I'm happy to be here for a fourth time.

Jess: Okay. So like, I can finally tell you guys. I feel like I've been tight-lipped for months and months and months. And now I shared on social media. But what is the exciting behind-the-scenes thing that happened for you that kind of prompted this new chapter for us?

Mark: Yeah. So the company that I've been working with, family business for the last 20-some odd years, finally came across the finish line and was acquired by another company. So there was a definitely a payout there for all owners, us being included in that. So yes, a very exciting time for myself, for my family, for the other owners of the company. And it's just fun to be able to think about what we can do now with a little extra cash in the bank to fund some of the fun dreams that we've had over the years.

Jess: Yeah. And so this has been something that's been going on behind the scenes for months and months, and you guys, anyone who knows me knows that a good new secret is like burning a hole into my soul. It has been so difficult not to tell you guys about this exciting news. And yeah, the acquisition officially closed what, Wednesday?

Mark: March 4th.

Jess: March 4th.

Mark: Yes. And she wanted, I believe you wanted to do this podcast on the night of March 4th. Everything was quite fresh at that moment. So I actually said exactly this to her. I said, it wouldn't exactly feel like a Fun Money conversation that soon after I'm decompressing from the month's worth of

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work to get us there. So we've been able to breathe a little bit over the last couple of weeks and in a much better mindset and place to have a more fun discussion about it today.

Jess: Yeah. Well, also, if we tried to have the conversation then, there also has been major change that's happened in the past two weeks since that day, which is so crazy to say, but basically, when it was coming up to the time of the acquisition being done, we had one or two conversations really about, okay, what does this mean? What do we want to do? And we just didn't agree, right?

We just like have different things that if the money was completely yours or completely mine and we weren't a shared partnership in our vision, that we would spend it differently. So tell people kind of like what your thought process was for receiving this, and kind of how you think about like timelines for investing and saving and spending and all that.

Mark: Yeah, I think when I saw the money come in, I think my first gut was to sort of take a beat and not make any immediate quote-unquote rash decisions on what to do with it. You'll find out relatively soon that we actually failed at that, but I think generally speaking, that is my mindset when it comes to those things.

I think the very first thing we did when we received it was throw it in a long savings, high-yield savings account just so that we can earn some interest on it in the short term when we actually decided to make the decisions of what we wanted to do with it. And I know Jess is more let's go all in on something and learn from it and make sure that we can get in now while everything's fresh and hot.

But I think the balance of us sort of at least thinking about what those options would be and what makes the most sense to balance a future growth mindset, but also reap some of the benefits and experiential and financial benefits of it in the more short term as well.

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So it was a conversation to balance out all those priorities, and I'll let Jess say exactly what we landed on. But I think it ultimately is a good move on both of those sides.

Jess: Yeah. So if you're listening to this and you listen to these episodes consecutively, maybe three to five episodes ago, I had a episode called, I actually don't even know what we called it, but it was about the different ways that people can lose sight of their values and end up overspending in order to keep up with the Joneses or they start to spend because they feel like, oh, I should spend on this when I'm in this bracket of income. And I went through some things that for me, I will spend more money on as we earn more and some things that I won't.

And one of the things that I explicitly said that I won't is to buy a bigger house. What, wouldn't you know it that this has been a trend for me that it's like the second I say, no, for sure, I don't want that. I have this massive test from the universe of like, oh, you know what? Actually, we have the freedom to change our freaking minds. Like we are adults.

And I even said it in our vows. I said, when Mark and I first started dating, I was freshly divorced. I had a young child, and I said, listen, I don't know that I ever want to get married again. I probably don't want any more kids. I don't want to like buy a house. I'm kind of like an apartment girl. I like to be able to move to different places. And within a matter of a couple of years, we decided to have a child together and to get married and to buy a house. And it's like the second that you meet the person that you know is your person. Really all the things that you say you didn't want become the next obvious next step.

So what ended up happening for us is that it was nice out, right? Like I think that was the catalyst. It was nice out the damn weather. And Mark was like, you know what would be so fun? We should just take the kids and we'll go to the open houses in the area. Just for fun. I was like, that sounds fun. So we did. And was this the first house we walked into?

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Mark: Yes, I believe it was the first house. Yeah.

Jess: Yes, it was

Mark: First of four, I believe.

Jess: First of four houses. We're just going around. The kids are running through. It's mostly chaotic, right? But we walked into this house and I just had this like feeling of just like, this house will be mine. And I was like, whoa, that's weird. Like we're not buying a house. So I don't know why I had that feeling. We didn't really talk about it so much in the house. You know, we were like, oh, this part's cool. This is cool. But that's that. We went on to other houses somewhere that were even like nicer in some ways. I don't know. Or had things that we

Mark: More finished.

Jess: And some that made more sense. I think all of the rest of them would keep our son at his current school. So this one like just really didn't make sense. But it was just a visceral experience and we came home and we were just like, this house is even out of our price range. Like, what are we even talking about?

But we were like, okay, just for fun, what if we could math it out? Because this is a process that actually is one of our money commonalities, is that we love to just do the math. Because once you've done the math of something and you understand, okay, well, maybe we thought this is out of our price range, but what would it take? Like, what could we stretch up to? What would we have to change in terms of our expenses? What could we pull from savings or investments if we wanted to?

Mark: How many fewer times would we have to go to our favorite restaurant in a given week? Yeah.

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Jess: Yeah. That is one thing I did own up to in my ways that we spend more the more we make is we just, we're dining out hoes. We love to dine out. But so we talked about all of that and we kind of came to a number as our best and final. And then we were like, all right, could we put in an offer?

Mark: Well, what you're missing was the biggest catalyst, I think, in this whole thing is the last house that we went to visit was about five houses down from ours. It was an open house, and we walked into that house, and there we met a real estate agent who now is our real estate agent, but we met her who was running the open house there, and she remembered our house. We had actually had met her a couple of years ago randomly at a different open house just for fun that we were walking through the neighborhood.

Jess: Yeah, we do this. We just do this for fun. This really is something that we had no intention of buying a house.

Mark: And so she was like, oh, I remember you. Yeah, you're from the blue house. And then she threw out a number to us that what she thinks we could actually sell ours for and it was when I say it was significantly higher than what we would have ever expected, it really then made us both look at each other and say, if we sold our house for what she believes we might be able to sell our house for, then it's no longer out of our price range. Then this new house theoretically could be in our price range. So I think that was the first time when we heard that we were like, there could be an actual reality here.

And then at that point, we then went back to that house with this agent and then started looking at it a little bit differently, less, wow, this is cool. Like this is a big room, or this is nice, this and that. But really thinking about the functionality and the realisticness of what we would need to do and where the kids would sleep, and, you know, the priorities of projects that would be needed.

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And I think then, again, piecing all those things together, we then came to the realization of, okay, well, if we could get it for the number that we feel good about, you know, as step one in the process of putting in an offer for that house, then maybe it's something we consider, and we did that.

Jess: Yeah. And so we put in this offer that was over 100k lower than what they were asking. I think 125k lower. And they countered. They only came down 25k, right? So we're still like 100k off. And then we came up a little bit more, another 25k. And then really, we were 75k away, and we were like, this is our best and final. And they were like, they kept trying to counter, and we were like, no.

And I have this moment, it was actually my birthday and we were like, oh, I'm just such an energetic person. There's certain things in my life that I've known and it doesn't make logical sense. I knew for sure that my pregnancy with Mari was going to stick even after having a miscarriage. I knew she was a girl. I started giving away all of my son's baby clothes that I'd held on to for five years, and I just gave them all away right before we were finding out the sex of her. And it was the same thing with this house. I just knew it was ours. I just knew it. And I was like, ah, but like, I don't want to lose the house over 25k. And what did you say?

Mark: I said, I mean, listen, the reason why we ran the numbers is to set a limit for ourselves. And I think that's a really important thing for everybody to sort of understand. It's like, obviously, there's opportunities to stretch, but I think we were already in that area. We were already kind of feeling the comfort level being exposed a little bit and wanting to just make sure that we felt good about it on multiple levels, both financially and about, you know, the home that we're moving into. And I think I was definitely the person who was a little bit more firm and steadfast on that decision.

I think if it was solely up to Jess, you could probably chime in, but you would have probably been more willing to guarantee it versus leaving it in the hands of another party to make the decision as to whether or not they

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were willing to accept what we had offered. So I tried to take as much emotion out of it as possible, and then ultimately it did work out for us. And so we got an accepted offer. And really, it was the day after her birthday. So it wasn't quite a birthday present.

Jess: We were like, oh, for sure. Like they're going to come back and say yes. And it was difficult. He's right. Like I was like, oh, I had just come to know that this house was ours, but here's the thing about another principle that I teach when it comes to business is this idea of the let go, where it's not like you let go of your goal or your desire to have something. You're really clear. Like this is what we're doing.

This is the goal I'm coming for, whether it's like a sold-out launch or your revenue goal for the year or your savings goal. And then you take the action you need to take from the belief that it's already done. And then once you've taken the action, like we had, like putting in this offer, you let go of the need for it to look exactly the way you need it to look.

So I thought, okay, this house is ours. I already knew it. And in my head, when they came back with that final counter and we were only 25k away, I'm thinking, okay, we'll just go up, and that's how we get it, right? And when he said, no, this is our best and final, you have to be willing to let it go, to potentially lose it. I was like, ah, yes, you're so right. Like this is the let go. I just have, as soon as I let it go, they're going to come to us.

That's exactly what happened. And yeah, it feels uncomfortable in that moment, but the more you practice that, the more you surrender to that, I think the more you start to see how half of this is logical and half of it is energetic and half of it is like this co-creation with the universe or God or whatever you believe to come to have the life that you want. And that is also how we got this house. We haven't even talked about that, but like we had the same thing where we were going back and forth, and we just like let go of the need to play the game with these people. And we were like,

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okay, yeah, this is what we feel good about. And ultimately got this house that way too.

We got an accepted offer and now we have this house and now we're selling our house. So by the time this next episode comes out, we will already probably have an accepted offer on our house. I feel pretty good about it. But if you if you want to buy a house in Garden City, New York, email me.

Anyhow, this money that's coming in, let's talk back to the acquisition for a bit. So obviously, exciting chapter. First of all, I'm so proud of Mark. Like, he's been working tirelessly on this deal, and it was so cool. I would love to have him back on the show in a future episode to talk just about the process of acquisition and what that was like, but it was so cool watching him go back and forth and do due diligence and the things that he had to think about, right? In terms of making your asset of a business very desirable for another company to come in and what you have to show and all that. It was so good. We'll definitely give you more details on that. But the acquisition didn't just completely come in. So we got a lump sum cash flow in, like last week, and then over the next however many years? How many?

Mark: Four years. Yeah.

Jess: Four years, each year. You want to tell them a little bit about how that's structured? I feel like my Fun Money people.

Mark: Yeah, high level, it just is four-year payout based off of business performance. So there's targets that are established that are agreed upon by both parties, the buyer and the seller, and we're all still very much involved in the day-to-day management of the business that hasn't changed. So from an operational perspective, there's no changes or difference in leadership. So we still have full autonomy from that perspective, which is important because again, earnouts over the next four years are dependent on the performance of the business.

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So having complete control over the way in which the business operates is obviously a key factor in your ability to affect those results. So that's what we're striving towards, and yeah, we're looking forward to continuing to grow the business on the path that we have, which made it a desirable purchase, and then continue to grow it for the new owners and onward. So very exciting time right now.

Jess: Yeah, it's so exciting. And yeah, it's so fun to watch. And so he's going through that, and kind of knowing that this was dripped out was another factor for us because it really works out for us and for our vision, because we purchased a house that requires a lot of work. Like this house was built in 1906?

Mark: Six.

Jess: 1906. And we are going to be replacing windows and putting in new electric, and replacing some plumbing situation. Like, there's all sorts of things and bathrooms, kitchens need to be done, like all sorts of things. And knowing that like requires a lot of cash, but this was a moment where we said like, listen, we're not interested. And we kept saying that the market has changed a lot since we've moved here, but so is our financial situation. Like both of our careers, we have grown quite a bit.

And so in order to make it make sense for us to move, it had to be a house that felt significantly different because when we're making decisions and this is really important, if you are building a future and you want to have one of the most interesting lives in the world, you can't build your future from your past and even from your present. And that's something that Mark and I both do that I always found very attractive about him.

He's thinking about where he's going and the life he wants to have then, and he makes decisions now based on that future instead of thinking like, okay, well, what have we done, and we want to buy a house that makes sense for us right now. It's like, no, we always knew that if we were to

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move, it would be into a house that was like going to be a forever home type deal. So that is this for sure.

And we've just been having so much fun. Like the projects that we're dreaming about and like for Mark and I also, I taught a class called Power Couples recently. And I was talking about how the importance in a relationship like this is that you have something that you're working on together as a couple that isn't your family and that isn't your work. And to have this home as kind of like maybe this decade-long project that we're going to have that is fun for both of us and is a creative outlet for both of us, I feel like is so fun.

Mark: Yeah, I hope it takes less than a decade. But yes, no, I definitely agree, and I think it's fun to prioritize, you know, looking at all the possibilities that exist for things that we can make it our own there. And I think that, you know, maybe Jess has touched on this in a prior episode, but when we were buying the house that we currently live in, we were between this house and one other house.

And really what it came down to, I think at the end of the day was this house, again, at this time in our lives, we would be able to make it our own and add things to it that puts a little bit of a stamp of us in it, which if you speak to the individual who's helping us redesign this house for the purposes of sale, she will definitely agree that it has been individualized for our taste. And thus needs quite a bit of work to make it more accessible to the masses.

Jess: She's making us take down our egg wallpaper in our kitchen and the floral. Well, actually, I think this is staying now. My, if you guys watch any of my videos on Instagram in my office, I have quite a maximalist wallpaper in my office and it's anyway, this is part of the process, right?

Mark: Yeah, but that well, to sidetrack a little bit there, like that does sort of play into the whole the let go, I think is what you called it, right? Because

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when someone says you have to depersonalize your home in order to sell it, initially, you have thoughts and feelings on that for sure. But then you think these are professionals who A, stage homes for the purposes of sales and B, sell houses as a real estate agent.

You have to understand, at least it took me a little bit of time to understand it, but I ultimately did, is that this is what they do. And if they need someone to help move their pet, I'm sure they wouldn't try to do it themselves. They'd probably reach out to the professionals. So if you aren't able to let go of the things that you don't really have an expertise in or control over or an ability to influence, then I really think you're setting yourself up for the potential of things not going as well as you want them to go. And I think that's where we're at. We want this process to move smoothly and quickly and effective when from a cost perspective. So leveraging these experts to get us across that finish line was definitely something important for us to do.

But kind of sidetracking off of that, back to the two different houses that we were talking about, the other house was a little bit more expensive, and we realized ultimately that if we ultimately went with that house, we would have just been buying and living in someone else's home. We wouldn't have been able to do anything. We would have been in their living room. We would have asked them to leave furniture because we wouldn't be able to furnish the house. So it's like being able to add your own personal touch to where you want to live is for us a very important thing.

So these projects and all these things and all these opportunities that exist within this house are really what makes us so excited about moving there is because we can make it our own. It was someone else's for 50 years, and it was uniquely suited for their needs. But now we get to go in and make it uniquely suited for our personal needs as well. So that's what is the most exciting part about this whole process.

Jess: Yeah. And that was kind of what made me change my mind, right? When I say, like, I didn't care about having a bigger house, I really don't.

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That isn't necessarily the main thing about why we're buying this other house. Like, yes, it is double, more than double the square footage of the house that we have right now. And that is uniquely suited to our lives. You know, I have a crazy big family. We want to host holidays. We've had 11 people sleep at our current house, and it was quite tight. And this is just going to be so great for that. But...

Mark: Jess has grand aspirations to host many dinner parties, many functions of high standard in gala-esque.

Jess: You can all come. You want to come? I know. I've always had like this vision of having like a Great Gatsby-style event at our house, like invitation, but just like for a regular party, and for no occasion, no reason. And I always knew that was a part of my vision for my life. And now it's crazy what happens when you really take your dreams and your visions and your future so seriously.

Money is just a vehicle. It gets to be the fun part. And so many people, like even our lawyer who definitely makes more money than us. And we make a lot of money, but was like, this is a lot of money that you're putting on this house, right? Because this process is contingent on us selling our house, and we're putting it all on black, right? We're going all in on our future and on our vision, and the way that we think about money is really like this is what it's for. It's to go all in on building your most interesting life.

And so the way that Mark and I were talking and the giddiness that we both felt in just designing this house in our mind and staying up late at night, being like, oh, and we could do this, and what about this? And Mark's like, oh, we could put a golf simulator. I keep being like, the garage. He's like, you mean the golf simulator room?

Mark: Yeah. Yeah.

Jess: And so it's just like, to me, this is what money is for. This is what life is about. And it's not for bigger houses. It's for...

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Mark: Golf simulators.

Jess: It's for bringing out the joy and the fun and the passion and the connection between you. And you don't need more money to do that. But when you find something that is fun that is in alignment with your values, go all in. And so now we are going to be pouring definitely a lot of this money into the house. But there's some other things as well.

You know, my business is growing, and we're deciding like what Mark potentially will want to do after the four years. Is he going to stay with the company? Like, we have no idea, is the company going to keep them on? Like, we just don't know what that will look like. And so it's like, oh, like I am also like, how do we diversify? How do we diversify our income streams? My original thoughts and my ideas for this next chapter was like, oh, could we buy a business? And Mark was leaning towards not that because it's not his zone of genius.

Mark: I say less leaning away from that and more just leaning on the idea that buying a business, should take, in my opinion, take a little bit of due diligence. And you know, I'm coming fresh off of an experience where another company just purchased our company. And I saw and I was heavily involved in the 12 month process of financial due diligence, technological due diligence and all the elements that and again, I don't think that the type of business that we would be buying would be at that level of size or scale, but I think it still requires the thought management and the due diligence to make sure that what you're buying is the right fit for your financial goals and your operational goals are and things like that.

So I just didn't want to make any, again, any more rash decisions on the money, and more just focusing on understanding what the possibilities are. And then when the time is right, and we feel like we've done all the right research and understanding on what that would look like and what that would take, then we could consider making that. But it wasn't something that I was feeling overly excited or keen on doing immediately.

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Jess: Yeah. And this is why I wanted to have this conversation, so that you guys could hear it, because you and your partner, whether it's a business partner or your romantic partner, may have different ways that you approach these things. And for me, obviously, I am in the business entrepreneurial space where I have clients that have acquired lots of businesses. I know that there are so many different ways to go about it.

But however, I do think that like I can lean in more energetically convicted and like I don't associate decisions with time. I associate decisions with due diligence and gut. Like but I think that there are different factors and filters than time. And for someone that makes decisions differently, like Mark has a different process for making decisions, it can make him a little nervous and uneasy, like how emotionally excited I can get just at the idea of something, because he likes to get excited once something feels imminent and decided, and I like to get excited beforehand.

And that was kind of what the process even of buying this house, like we walked into the house, as soon as we started to entertain it, I was like, this house is ours. Yes, amazing. And he was like, I'm nervous you're getting emotionally attached to this house. And I was like, no, what you don't understand, this is like how I manifest. This is how I create results in my life, is I decide something's done in my mind, and I'm willing to be heartbroken if it doesn't work out.

And I just want to offer that to you guys as well, right? It's like some people will say it looks delusional or naive, but for me, people are trying to protect themselves from an emotional experience that I'm just willing to have. I have things that I get excited about that fall through all the time.

And all of that said, I have a real respect for Mark and the way that he approaches making decisions. So while it's different and sometimes it can have a couple of frustrating conversations on both of our end, where we want the other person to understand where we're coming from, it's like, I'm willing to have the conversation as long as it takes until we get to a place

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where our vision for the future aligns again. So it certainly did pretty quickly with this house, even though we came about it from a different way. Like we came to it within a week.

Mark: Yeah, and I think it's less my willingness or, you know, individual's willingness to not be willing to feel the positive emotion going. It's really more the idea, at least in my mind, of not allowing those emotions to dictate the decision that you make. And that's what I was really trying to be more confident in, or more hold my conviction in, is yes, I really wanted the house. I think potentially just as much as Jess did. I just wasn't willing to let that feeling of really wanting the house influence what I also knew was a financial element of it that I believed in the moment should be more of a deciding factor in our ability to purchase the home.

So, it's I think it's a unique and healthy balance to have those two different dynamics in a relationship. I think if both people are like me for this example, it may be too slow and lack of ultimate decisions actually being made, and a result, ultimately not happening, which could delay some things. If you have two people like me, if you have two people like Jess, more expensive and maybe potentially a mistake made because the heart is leading the way, not the brain and the heart, but just the heart in general. So I think there's a potential for something to maybe be overlooked if you're letting your only your emotions drive the decisions.

So I think it's that healthy balance is what makes this specific decision, what we both believe to be a really good one, but ultimately, in general, makes all decisions more appropriate if you're kind of balancing the brain and the heart feelings on the situation.

Jess: Yeah, and not to say that I don't with my financial purchases do the math because it's a huge part of what I teach and what I do, but I think it can look like I am less focused on the numbers. But I think sometimes when you think about the six money games, right? Earning, spending, saving, investing, having, giving, what you are so largely focused on in this

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case was the spending game, of course, and the savings game, and understanding, okay, like how much will we have in savings? How much would we have to pull from our net worth? Or the having game and how much are we spending?

And for me, one thing that allows me to maybe be a little bit faster acting is my flexibility in what I earn. And I think that has also been something that I trust myself so much that I'm not scared to come up in spending or in investing in certain ways that otherwise would make someone who has a set amount coming in, oh, okay, this is my max. I don't really see a max. And I have had situations in the past in my personal life and in my business where I've wanted to do something and the math didn't math, from a purely spending perspective. And so I had to just make more money.

And so, like, because I have years and years of evidence of being like, oh, okay, like if we want to do this, you like the same when we wanted to go business class to Japan. It was like, well, you've got to go and make \$30k in this week. And I was like, okay. And then I did.

So, yeah, I think that sometimes allows me, and it's why I love being an entrepreneur. It allows me to be like, oh, okay, I can trust myself. I can trust this desire. I can trust this like pace because I trust myself to leverage the other money games, including earning. Yeah.

So there's a lot coming. I mean, obviously this is just the first year of the four years of this exciting new chapter that Mark has brought into our lives of the acquisition. It was something that was not expected before, obviously, I mean, it's been expected for the last year, but it's just been like, oh, what a fun little icing game. And the move is just one piece of it. It's like, who knows, maybe we've been in talks of like, do we get an investment property? Do we, right, like buy another business or what else is on the horizon for us?

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We don't know, but in the interim, we feel pretty calm about this one investment in the new house and in making it the home of our dreams. And then we're going to put the rest of it into long-term savings and invest the rest and let the money compound, whatever money we don't pour into new bathrooms, right?

Mark: Yeah, we'll see. Heated floors are expensive, so. And golf simulators.

Jess: Golf simulators. Oh yeah, I actually don't even know how much that costs. What's the...?

Mark: You've got to find out.

Jess: What's the damage? What's the damage?

Mark: I don't know. I don't know either. We'll have to find a guy. You have a guy, right?

Jess: You know a guy? Oh, actually, I mean, I know...

Mark: A girl, actually.

Jess: I know a girl. And I know a guy that has one. So we'll see. But yeah, it's all fun over here. We're having so much fun. I just got back from Puerto Rico yesterday. We leave for Florida tomorrow to hang with our... Oh, you know what I want to talk about? We didn't talk about. We got like five minutes. We'll wrap it up.

But like so when we didn't have this house on the table, we had made plans and said like, oh, okay, we know that we're going to be pretty responsible with most of this money, which that went out the window. But we were like, okay, since we have all of this, let's just take a certain amount of money and spend it like a gift card.

And this is Mark's idea. Are you kidding? He was like, you get a certain amount, I get a certain amount, and we could spend it, but we have to

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spend it on ourselves. Like it has to be fun. And I was like, I love this idea. Okay. And I just honestly, you guys, as much as I'm talking about spending, saving all the thing, I couldn't really think of anything I wanted to spend the money on that felt like I was like, oh, you know, clothes, this spa thing. I was like, uh.

And then I was like, wait a second, a party. Like to me, there's nothing more fun than like spoiling our people. And we had a pretty intimate wedding, but since then, we have made some pretty great friendships in our town. And so we're like, what our anniversary is coming up. So we're going to have an anniversary party and we're just going to like throw it like it's a wedding.

Like, just have a dinner and then we're going to get a party bus and we're going to bring it to this divey karaoke bar that we used to go all the time when we were dating. And we're just going to like go crazy there. I'm so excited. So that's what I'm spending my money on. What are you spending your fun money on? Do you know?

Mark: I didn't know we still have that with the house purchase.

Jess: Well, the party probably.

Mark: The party. The party will be our collective use of that funds.

Jess: Yeah. So that's probably that. Yeah. So just a reminder, and I hope this episode can be a good encouragement for you guys to be thinking about the fun pieces of life, and everything doesn't have to be so serious. And I know every time I say that, there are people that are arguing for the seriousness of their finances, and they're like or they go into this must be nice, must be nice to have all that money just come into your account. And I used to be like this. I really used to be like must be nice for the people who aren't single parents. Must be nice.

But the more I've gotten out of that and said like, oh, wow, that is possibility. Oh, wow, could I build up my company to be an asset that could potentially

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be sold? What would that look like? What would that mean financially for my family? And when you start thinking in this way of possibility instead of separating yourself from this story, and you start to think, okay, what could we do with our money now that's coming in? How could we be really smart with our spending and our investing and our savings so that we could get to a place where we can spend more? Or if you are just in this space where it's like, how could I guarantee that I create more income streams where I'm earning more? How could I go bigger?

And if you are serious about all of these money games, it's time to get inside of the mastermind. Our mastermind is opening up the next round on April 9th, The Most Interesting Women in the World. And this is really what it's about.

It's about using the vehicle of your most interesting life to create your most lucrative business, to create the life that you are going to get to your deathbed and think like, oh, I didn't just buy things, right? Like I made a life that was meaningful and fun and aligned with what mattered most to me. This guy matters the most to me, and we're just having the time of our lives over here. Thank you for coming on the show, even though I know you've got a lot of things to do now that this company has sold.

Mark: Yeah, no, happy to join. Happy to do it in a in the better mindset. You can talk to Jess offline. I didn't want to do it that first day, but I'm very excited to be on it now that I feel way more fun about everything. And also, we have more to talk about, too. We did it then, we wouldn't have had the house to talk about.

Jess: So it would have been all hypothetical.

Mark: Yeah, it would have been a very boring podcast. So yeah.

Jess: He's always right. I love you guys so much, and I am rooting for you. If money doesn't feel fun for you yet, like, what are you doing? It's time to dial it way the fuck up. Let's go. I'll talk to you next week.

[Fun Money with Jessica McKinley Uyeno](#)

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That's it for today's episode of *Fun Money*. But if your brain is buzzing and you want more, come hang out with me over on Instagram, @JessMcKinleyUyeno or visit us at FunMoneyPod.com because that's where the real magic happens. Until next time, stay bold, stay interesting, and for the love of God, go do something fun with your money!