

Thank you all for coming. Don't worry, I'll be quick, and then there's more food than any of us can reasonably eat.

I turned fifty this week, and I've been trying to figure out what you're supposed to say at your own party. I don't think you're supposed to give a speech at all. But this is my house and I'm making the rules tonight.

Here's the only piece of my life I want to tell you about.

In my early thirties, I spent three solid years planning a move to Seattle. I had folders. I had a job lined up twice. I talked about it so much that some of you in this room probably assumed I'd gone.

I never went.

And the year I finally stopped planning it was the year I met half the people standing in my kitchen right now. It was the year I signed a lease on the studio, which turned into the pottery, which turned into most of my Saturdays for fifteen years. It was the year my life stopped being a draft.

I'm not saying don't make plans. I'm saying I spent three years looking at a door, and the whole time the room I was standing in was the good one.

So at fifty, I'm not going to stand here and tell you about goals.

I want to thank people instead.

Beth, you have flown in from Denver for every single one of my birthdays since 2009. Every one. You have never mentioned it once, and I have counted every time.

Create your own personalized speech at birthdayspeeches.com

To the four of you I've known since high school, thank you for still finding this funny after thirty five years.

To everyone from work, twelve years is a long time to sit near the same people, and I genuinely like all of you, which statistically should not be possible.

I've got a house with too many mugs I made myself, a hiking group that tolerates my pace, and a kitchen that is full right now.

That's the whole ambition for the next fifty. Keep this room. Keep these people.

Would you all raise a glass with me, and then eat something, because I made too much.

To all of you. Thank you for being here.

This speech was created with birthdayspeeches.com. Answer a few questions and generate your own personalised speech now at birthdayspeeches.com

Create your own personalized speech at birthdayspeeches.com