



Off Menu – Ep193 – Arlo Parks

Ed Gamble

Welcome to the Off Menu podcast. Shaking the bottle of the internet, opening the lid of friendship, and spraying the fizzy foam of humour all over the faces of our listeners.

James Acaster

My name is James Acaster. That is Ed Gamble. We own a dream restaurant and every week we invite a guest in and ask them their favourite ever starter, main course, dessert, side dish and drink. Not in that order. And this week our guest is Arlo Parks.

Ed Gamble

Arlo Parks, a wonderful musician, James.

James Acaster

One of the most exciting musicians in the UK right now, nay the world. Is that how people talk?

Ed Gamble

Yes, nay the world.

James Acaster

But very very excited. I mean, Arlo's last album won the Mercury Music Prize, and her new album My Soft Machine is out this week, very excited to get to talk to Arlo about that. Very excited to hear the album as well.

Ed Gamble

Big rival though James, to your album, My Soft Serve Machine, which came out last week.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, and do you know what, it's from the heart that album, and if people want to listen to it I really really would appreciate it because a lot of ballads on there-,

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, absolutely.

James Acaster

About the serve.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Very excited to hear Arlo's new album. She's absolutely brilliant. But, of course, James, there will be a secret ingredient.



James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

And if Arlo picks it she's out of here.

James Acaster

As always, hey, them's the rules, and this week the ingredient which we have deemed to be unacceptable is Cola.

Ed Gamble

Cola. Why is that James?

James Acaster

Now listen, sometimes we choose an ingredient that we don't like to eat or that one of the listeners doesn't like to eat. Sometimes we just choose something that is associated with the guest, and Arlo has a song called Cola.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

So, we're, like, 'Right, let's go for it.' But we're a little bit apprehensive because we are a bit worried, because that gets chosen as dream drink a lot.

Ed Gamble

Yes, and also why did Arlo have a song about it?

James Acaster

Yes, probably because-

Ed Gamble

She loves Cola.

James Acaster

She loves Cola, right, surely?

Ed Gamble

And you know what, I'm going to back up the decision here because I like Diet Coca-Cola, I like Pepsi Max, but Cola suggests to me, like, supermarket own brand Cola which I do not like.

James Acaster

Yes, okay, okay, well, I think-



Ed Gamble

I do not like it.

James Acaster

I think if Arlo says Diet Coke or something, that doesn't count.

Ed Gamble

No, because that's a brand.

James Acaster

Yes. I think if she's says Coca-Cola we've got to-,

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

But then she's gone, right?

Ed Gamble

But can't we then go, 'Where from?' And if she says Morrison's own pissy Coca-Cola.

James Acaster

Is this how we're interpreting it?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

I'm interpreting it as just any full fat Cola.

Ed Gamble

Okay, I don't like it.

James Acaster

You don't like that?

Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

I guess if it happens we can debate it with Arlo.

Ed Gamble

Yes.



James Acaster

And see how Arlo feels, and obviously she knows what that song's about.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

She can say, 'No, I was talking about this.'

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

So, if you're doing it because of the song then it's got to be that.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Alright. Okay, well, we'll cross that bridge if we come to it. Hopefully we won't cross that bridge.

James Acaster

Yes, and just for the record for the listener, I would never put Diet Coke as the secret ingredient.

Ed Gamble

No man. You love it.

James Acaster

I love it. I love Coke Zero. I love Pepsi Max. I love Diet Pepsi.

Ed Gamble

James is hung over today.

James Acaster

Oh man.

Ed Gamble

Because we're recording this on a Sunday, which is very rare for us.

James Acaster

It's on a Sunday, I'm hung over.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Without further ado this is the Off Menu menu of Arlo Parks. Welcome Arlo to the dream restaurant.



Arlo Parks

Thank you. Hello.

James Acaster

Welcome Arlo Park to the dream restaurant, been expecting you for some time.

Ed Gamble

Here we are.

Arlo Parks

Ah, here we are. I like that intro. That was great.

James Acaster

Genie, I'm a genie.

Arlo Parks

I know, I like that.

James Acaster

I'm a genie that comes out of a lamp and I can get you any food you want.

Arlo Parks

Mmm.

Ed Gamble

This is the first-, well, no, the last couple of records we've actually had the lamp in the studio as well.

James Acaster

I'll level with you, I didn't even notice it until you guys just pointed it out. Was it in another one?

Ed Gamble

Yes, it was in the other day when we were recording.

James Acaster

Didn't notice it.

Ed Gamble

No?

James Acaster

Had no idea, but then I'm used to lamps because I'm a genie, so, like, I wouldn't notice it as much.

Ed Gamble

Yes, of course, yes.



Arlo Parks

Oh yeah.

James Acaster

Not as big a deal to me.

Arlo Parks

Oh, yes, no, that does make sense.

James Acaster

But, yes, you like it? You like the lamp?

Arlo Parks

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, it's quite an Aladdin vibe lamp that one.

Arlo Parks

Yes, I was going to say.

Ed Gamble

But I feel like that's where genie's live, right?

Arlo Parks

Yes, definitely. That's where you live, right?

James Acaster

Yes, I live in a lamp, yes, yes, and I've asked for the Aladdin, the style lamp.

Ed Gamble

But what other lamps do you imagine genies are living in then? Because surely that's-,

James Acaster

Bedside?

Ed Gamble

Huh?

Arlo Parks

Bedside?

James Acaster

Bedside lamp?



Arlo Parks

Is that a thing?

James Acaster

A bedside lamp.

Arlo Parks

Yes, no, I-, no, no.

Ed Gamble

Come on Arlo, have you never heard of a bedside lamp. I know you've moved to LA but-

Arlo Parks

They do have lamps. They do have lamps in LA. There are still lamps.

James Acaster

That would be a big breaking news story if it turned out you didn't know what a bedside lamp was.

Arlo Parks

Yes, no, I can confirm that I do, that I do, yes.

James Acaster

I don't normally ask this. How many lamps have you got in your house do you reckon?

Arlo Parks

I feel like I've got, yes, about eight. I would say eight lamps.

James Acaster

That's a good amount.

Arlo Parks

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Spread throughout the house or all just on one-,

Arlo Parks

All in one-, in one concentration, yes.

James Acaster

I would say, I'm trying to think now, if I asked someone how many lamps they've got in their house, how many they would have to say for me to think that's too many lamps, even if I haven't seen their house. I think if they said anything-, twenty and above. Actually maybe even fifteen and above.



Arlo Parks

I was going to say, fifteen lamps is quite a vast quantity of lamps in one house.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, fifteen would be too much.

Arlo Parks

Fifteen-,

Ed Gamble

I'm trying to think how many lamps I've got now.

James Acaster

I think I've got-,

Ed Gamble

It might be fifteen.

James Acaster

You haven't got fifteen lamps.

Ed Gamble

I might have fifteen lamps. How do you know?

James Acaster

I've been to your house.

Ed Gamble

Yes, you didn't go in the lamp room.

James Acaster

Oh, yes, I didn't go in the lamp room to be fair to them. Let's not talk about lamps. I want to talk about Arlo's new album. Your new album comes out this Friday.

Arlo Parks

Yes.

James Acaster

Very exciting. What can people expect?

Arlo Parks

I feel like it's-, I don't know, I wanted to surprise people a bit with this record. I feel like it just, kind of, expands the world of what I've already built and I just wanted to show people the music that I grew up



with, the music that they may not know that I like, and get more involved in the production myself and just make something new. Yes.

James Acaster

Well, it must-, because your life's changed a lot since the last album. Like, your career's changed a lot and you're living in a completely different part of the world and stuff. Does that inform everything and make you approach it differently?

Arlo Parks

Definitely, I mean, I feel like you're always, kind of, soaking up what's around you, like, geographically, and also having toured so much and having made new friends and just having learnt a lot about myself, and just seeing the world a bit more, I definitely think that feeds into the music.

Ed Gamble

There's always a danger with comedians that when you're not touring a lot and doing all that sort of stuff, the next show you write is all about service stations and-,

Arlo Parks

Oh, yes.

Ed Gamble

Is that also a danger as a musician, like, if you're constantly on the road-,

Arlo Parks

I think so. I've definitely heard some records where I'm, like, 'You haven't really been anywhere but service stations.' In, like, the depths of Germany it definitely has that vibe sometimes, yes.

James Acaster

Some musicians can really pull that off. Top of the road. The road.

Arlo Parks

The open the road.

James Acaster

And you're, like, 'Oh, yes, it's so very romantic.' And then the idea of being on the road. And then other people it's, like, 'Yes, I think he's just talked about having a steak bake from Greggs.' It's not as enticing I guess.

Ed Gamble

What is your favourite food to have on the road?

Arlo Parks

On the road. I don't know. I feel like I try and stay quite healthy on the road. I feel like it's-, I like to say it like that. On the road. Yes. I don't know. What would I usually have? It depends where you are. I feel



like sometimes when you're touring certain places there's, like, a specific staple, like, in Germany there's just Bratwursts and they'll just have a little cage of Bratwursts just spinning round, and it's always quite an ominous thing to see.

Ed Gamble

A little cage?

James Acaster

A little bird's cage.

Arlo Parks

Yes, it's, in, like, a tiny little cage, but it's spinning, yes. If you've been on 'the road' you'll know what I'm talking about.

Ed Gamble

Sorry, I've-, clearly I've been on a different road. I've never seen the cage of Bratwursts.

James Acaster

You've not been on the German road.

Ed Gamble

Yes, that sounds like the night club situation, as in the cage of Bratwurst in the middle just spinning round, going for it.

James Acaster

Be exciting actually.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Oh, I now want to see the Bratwurst cage. I mean, when we started doing stuff, I know-, when did you start touring? Like, how long ago? Because, like, we started stand up about fifteen years ago.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Arlo Parks

Just after the pandemic is the first time I was probably touring. I've been doing music for five years but I didn't really really tour until the-, I was still at school before the pandemic.

Ed Gamble

Make us feel like old pieces of shit, Arlo. What? What?



Arlo Parks

Yes, so, it's only been a few years for me, but I did, like, 125 shows last year, so, I was, like, really-,

Ed Gamble

Oh wow.

Arlo Parks

Yes. I was on the road.

James Acaster

Did you have, like-, is there a favourite place to tour, because you sound like you, kind of, did a bunch of different countries as well?

Arlo Parks

Japan was really nice.

Ed Gamble

Oh, yes.

Arlo Parks

I love Japan. I'm going back this year. I'm doing Japan, and also I'm doing Seoul. So, yes, that part of the world I'd never been to before, and I did this little, kind of, like, travel show with MTV as well where I got to experience all the Japanese spas and get food cooked by this, like, 84-year-old Buddhist monk who only cooks for the President. It was insane, yes. I had a great time.

Ed Gamble

That's really cool.

James Acaster

Wow, you were in school a few years ago.

Arlo Parks

I levelled up.

Ed Gamble

That's quite the jump.

Arlo Parks

Life changed fast.

James Acaster

Do you consider yourself a foodie? Are you, like, big on food?



Arlo Parks

Yes, I would say so. I feel like I spend a lot of my time cooking when I am at home. I'm just very, like, particular with-, I wake up and I know exactly what I want to eat that whole day.

Ed Gamble

That's great. Yes.

James Acaster

Oh, for the whole day?

Arlo Parks

For the whole day.

James Acaster

You've got it mapped out immediately?

Arlo Parks

Always, yes. Today was itsu, collectively, right.

James Acaster

Yes.

Arlo Parks

Yes, yes.

James Acaster

I was feeling it.

Ed Gamble

Yes, you were feeling it. I don't know why. itsu was in the air.

James Acaster

Maybe it's because we were going to meet Arlo. Arlo knows what she wants the whole day. So, I was there, like, 'I just know-, I know what I want immediately.'

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

And it was because I was vibing on whatever-, I was plugged into the Arlo Parks main frame.

Ed Gamble

Must have been.



Arlo Parks

Main frame.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

And also the big sushi age they have there.

Arlo Parks

Oh, yes.

Ed Gamble

It's very tempting isn't it?

James Acaster

You like the sushi cage, just following around, and it's all just coming apart as it rolls around.

Ed Gamble

Yes. It goes so fast.

James Acaster

Rice falling through the bars. What's your itsu order?

Arlo Parks

I always have just the avocado baby rolls, because I can't have fish, I'm allergic. So, sushi's a strange choice, but that specific thing is the only thing that I can have and do have from itsu.

Ed Gamble

Avocado baby roll seems like a very demeaning thing to call something.

Arlo Parks

I know.

Ed Gamble

Are you a baby?

James Acaster

Avocado baby rolls.

Ed Gamble

Avocado baby rolls.



James Acaster

I don't know. If someone started calling me avocado baby rolls, I'd quite like it. I think that's a nice affectionate-

Ed Gamble

Yes, that's your drag name.

James Acaster

Yes. Weirdly I was thinking about if a drag queen called me it.

Ed Gamble

Oh, right, okay, yes.

James Acaster

If I was friends with a drag queen and she was, like, 'Hey, avocado baby rolls.' I'd be really happy with that.

Arlo Parks

Yes.

James Acaster

Every day.

Arlo Parks

Every day. I like that.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I sat front row of a drag show when I was in Vegas and they don't say things like avocado baby rolls. They'd say some horrible stuff to you mate.

James Acaster

Did you get destroyed at that show, or did you see someone else get destroyed?

Ed Gamble

No, I got destroyed.

James Acaster

You got destroyed.

Ed Gamble

Yes. It was amazing though. It was, like, noon and everyone was hammered.

Arlo Parks

Ah, it was noon?



Ed Gamble

Yes, it was brunch. It was a drag brunch, and a woman fell over she was so drunk and all her rings came off.

Arlo Parks

Oh no.

Ed Gamble

She hit the floor so hard that all her jewellery flew off. Fantastic. It was like Sonic the hedgehog.

James Acaster

A rare laugh from Benito there in the background. Crank it up.

James Acaster

We always start with still or sparkling water?

Arlo Parks

Sparkling of course.

James Acaster

Yes?

Arlo Parks

Yes, yes, yes.

James Acaster

Of course.

Arlo Parks

Of course.

James Acaster

Why is it so of course?

Arlo Parks

I don't know. I feel like I just like the little tingle it gives me. To be honest for half my life though I hated sparkling water, and then I just woke up one day and it was only that.

Ed Gamble

Well, this is part of you waking up and deciding exactly what you want to have.

Arlo Parks

Exactly.



Ed Gamble

Suddenly one day-,

Arlo Parks

And suddenly it was sparkling.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Someone programmed you in the night. It feels like-,

Arlo Parks

Honestly, that's what it feels like sometimes, it's, like, so, specific, I always know exactly what I want.

James Acaster

So, we've had singers on before and we've asked them-, I think sparkling water is quite a popular choice with singers as well.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Arlo Parks

Really?

James Acaster

But then we always have to ask obviously you don't drink on the stage right, because then you're burping all the way through the song?

Arlo Parks

No. Yes, that's honestly one of my biggest fears-,

James Acaster

Is burping?

Arlo Parks

Like, sometimes I feel it coming and I'm, like, 'Okay, you've got to be ready for this.' Especially during a high note.

James Acaster

Oh, yes.

Arlo Parks

Because imagine that combination would be, yes, interesting.



James Acaster

Would it be a high burp?

Arlo Parks

I guess. I feel like it would be. I feel like it would match the tone somehow maybe.

Ed Gamble

Imagine if it sounded so amazing that people were, like, 'Have you heard what Arlo's doing now?'

Arlo Parks

Became this thing I had to recreate every single show.

Ed Gamble

Yes, every single time you're just downing bottles of Pepsi Max at the side of the stage.

Arlo Parks

There we go.

James Acaster

Burping on the high notes. Can't wait. You want anything in the water? You want some ice? You want some fruit?

Ed Gamble

What's this new character?

James Acaster

Huh?

Arlo Parks

I like that.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, yes.

Arlo Parks

What was going on there?

James Acaster

I was wagging my fingers for the listener.

Ed Gamble

But you also, sort of, went, 'You want anything in the water?'



James Acaster

Yes, I was, like, a gangster.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Arlo Parks

Yes, I like that. I know, I was going to say.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Arlo Parks

I would say no ice, but have a bit of lime.

Ed Gamble

Little bit of lime.

Arlo Parks

Yes.

James Acaster

What, a wedge, a slice? What do you want?

Arlo Parks

A wedge. A wedge.

Ed Gamble

I don't like this guy.

James Acaster

No, you don't like him now?

Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

He's outstayed his welcome?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

He just asks people about what they want in their water.



Ed Gamble

Yes, that's it. He won't be here for any other courses.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, I won't bring him back. But every episode we do now-,

Ed Gamble

Yes, okay, yes.

James Acaster

He's going to be there just to ask people what they want in their water.

Ed Gamble

The water gangster.

James Acaster

Yes, the water gangster.

Ed Gamble

So, a slice-,

Arlo Parks

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Rather than a wedge. You don't want-,

James Acaster

Oh, I thought you said a wedge?

Arlo Parks

No, I did say-, yes, I said a wedge.

Ed Gamble

Did you say a wedge?

Arlo Parks

Yes, I said a wedge.



Ed Gamble

Sorry, I was too busy thinking about that water gangster.

Arlo Parks

Sorry, I was getting confused. Yes.

Ed Gamble

So, are you picking the wedge out-, are you picking out the wedge out and giving it a little squeeze?

Arlo Parks

I guess, I guess I am. That was good. I like that.

James Acaster

That was a good character, from a different place.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

So, you would dip your-, you would dip it in and give it a little squeeze. Squeeze it into the water?

Arlo Parks

Well, I don't think I'd dip-, I wouldn't dip it in, I would just give it a squeeze from above.

James Acaster

So, you'll dip your hands in it -,

Arlo Parks

No, I'm not putting my hands in it. It's from above.

James Acaster

So, if it's bobbing about in the water, the wedge of lime. But you don't want it bobbing about in the water, you want to be given in separately?

Arlo Parks

Yes.

James Acaster

And then squeeze it in?

Arlo Parks

Squeeze it in and then that's it.



James Acaster

If you do get given the water and there's a wedge of lime bobbing about in it, do you consider fishing it out with your fingers and squeezing it in?

Arlo Parks

No, no, no.

James Acaster

No, you would never do it?

Arlo Parks

That's not for me. No. I'm not getting my hands in there. Is that you just fishing around in it-,

Ed Gamble

It would be your hands.

James Acaster

I've done it.

Arlo Parks

Five fingers in there?

Ed Gamble

Yes, I would do that.

James Acaster

Not my whole hand. I'd say thumb and forefinger trying to get a lime that's bobbing about.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Arlo Parks

No.

Ed Gamble

If it was trapped under a bit of ice you've got to rescue it.

Arlo Parks

No. I'm not a fan of ice either. I don't have ice in anything.

Ed Gamble

So, no ice?



James Acaster

It's a chip. It's a con isn't it?

Arlo Parks

No ice. Yes.

James Acaster

I've said this on the podcast for a long time that ice is a con. Taking up real estate in the-,

Arlo Parks

Taking up real estate?

James Acaster

In the glass, and it means you get less of the actual drink.

Arlo Parks

It's true, I agree, it is a con.

James Acaster

Well, this is Ed's thing about Yorkshire puddings, yes.

Ed Gamble

They take up your real estate as well, Yorkshire puddings. They're the ice of the roast dinner.

Arlo Parks

The ice.

Ed Gamble

I've always said that, Arlo.

James Acaster

He has always said that actually. Weirdly.

Arlo Parks

The ice of the roast dinner.

James Acaster

It's not even a joke.

Arlo Parks

I like that.

James Acaster

Poppadoms or bread? Poppadoms or bread Arlo Parks? Poppadoms or bread?



Arlo Parks

Bread.

James Acaster

Yes?

Arlo Parks

Yes.

James Acaster

Any particular type?

Arlo Parks

Focaccia.

James Acaster

Saw Jonathan Ross interviewing someone the other day, Prue Leith, and asked her what her favourite type of bread was, and she said, 'Focaccia.' And he said, 'No need to swear at me.' And it still makes me laugh now. It's a dad joke.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

But it was funny.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

It made me laugh.

Ed Gamble

It's funny stuff.

Arlo Parks

I like that.

James Acaster

No need to use that kind of language on the show.

Ed Gamble

Yes.



James Acaster

It was funny. Focaccia's your favourite?

Arlo Parks

Yes.

James Acaster

How do you want it? You want it warm? You want it with butter?

Arlo Parks

Warm with, like, a bit of rosemary on top, and, like, some-,

James Acaster

Oh.

Arlo Parks

Yes, some salt and black pepper.

Ed Gamble

You need that salt, the big crystals of salt.

Arlo Parks

Yes.

Ed Gamble

I love it. Anything with huge crystals of salt to be honest.

Arlo Parks

I agree.

James Acaster

Do you know what, I can't get over that you were in school a few years ago, because you seem more mature than me. You're having rosemary on bread.

Arlo Parks

Oh, that's the sign is it? That's the sign of maturity?

James Acaster

I think so. Like, I'm still not-,

Arlo Parks

The use of herbs. I like that.



James Acaster

Yes, well, especially rosemary, man. I bit into a rosemary once when I was a kid and-

Arlo Parks

Why?

James Acaster

Well, not on purpose, I swear to god. It was in there, whatever my mum had made, and I bit into it and it made me very upset. I didn't like how it made my mouth feel and I'm still not over it now. Whenever there's rosemary on stuff I've got to navigate around it.

Ed Gamble

James' mum is a terrible cook.

James Acaster

She's a very good cook. My mum makes wonderful food.

Ed Gamble

It was Angel Delight she'd made. Stuck a big bit of rosemary in it. Disgusting.

James Acaster

Not True. My mum will get very-, my mum listens to every episode of this podcast.

Arlo Parks

I know, I was going to say, if she's listening, she's listening.

James Acaster

She knows he's trolling her.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

But she'll rise to it, and I'm the one who gets the text. She hasn't got his number, so, I get a lot of texts about how angry she is at Ed for spreading rumours about her.

Ed Gamble

Yes. So sorry.

James Acaster

He's a very naughty boy.

Arlo Parks

So sorry.



James Acaster

Who's the best chef you know? If they're inviting you over and you're, like, 'Oh, I can't wait. I can't wait to have this meal.'

Arlo Parks

The best chef I know. I'm trying to think of the best chef I know without offending anyone.

James Acaster

Yes, tricky.

Arlo Parks

Because I bet there are a lot of people in my life who claim to be the best chef, and, you know, my mum is a really good cook though.

Ed Gamble

I think that's always the safest thing to go with, right, because-

Arlo Parks

Yes, that is the safest thing.

Ed Gamble

You won't offend anyone who's left out there.

Arlo Parks

I know, I was trying to think of all the dinner parties I went to and I was, like, definitely have told all of my friends that they are the best chef I know, so, I need to keep it together.

James Acaster

But, yes, if it's your mum no-one's going to go, 'I listened to you on that podcast. I thought I was the best chef. You say your mum?'

Arlo Parks

You said your mum.

James Acaster

Yes, they're not going to get angry at you.

Ed Gamble

What's your mum's speciality? What do you look forward to that your mum cooks?

Arlo Parks

Oh, what do I look forward to? She does, like a really nice Spanish omelette that has-, yes, it's just, like, chopped onions, tomato, and she also does great fajitas, great Mexican food as well.



Ed Gamble

Nice.

Arlo Parks

Yes, I know. She will definitely listen to this and be very pleased.

James Acaster

Yes?

Arlo Parks

Yes, yes, yes.

James Acaster

Hello Mama Parks?

Arlo Parks

Mama Parks, yes, she'll have that. Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, little shout out.

James Acaster

What's your dream starter, if we get into the meal proper?

Arlo Parks

Okay, I would say very simple, but I love, like, a tomato and burrata salad with a bit of basil, again, black pepper, olive oil, just keep it simple.

James Acaster

Is there a place where you've had that that's, like, the best place where you've been to and they make the best version of that?

Arlo Parks

There's a restaurant in LA called Speranza that is really really good Italian food, and I love that, and all the pasta's home made. I just love Italian food, it's just so, like, comforting.

James Acaster

Yes?

Arlo Parks

It just feels really warm. Yes. I love it.

James Acaster

I think I like it.



Ed Gamble

What?

Arlo Parks

What?

James Acaster

Well, here's my problem.

Arlo Parks

Italian food in general, or?

Ed Gamble

Yes, come on mate. Italian food?

Arlo Parks

What?

James Acaster

I like it.

Ed Gamble

It's one of the main foods.

Arlo Parks

It's one of the main foods.

Ed Gamble

It is.

Arlo Parks

It is.

James Acaster

I do like it, but, like, I've never-, it's never my go to.

Arlo Parks

What?

Ed Gamble

What?



James Acaster

This is the reaction I always get. So, I always get this reaction. Edward's always, like, who is this guy? What the hell is he talking about?

Arlo Parks

I don't trust you anymore.

Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

Look, I love pasta. I love chorizo broccoli pasta, you know-,

Arlo Parks

Chorizo broccoli is the go to. That was very specific.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Well, if you made it every day of lockdown.

James Acaster

Yes. So, like, you know-,

Arlo Parks

Why is that so funny?

Ed Gamble

How dare you say you don't know if you like Italian food or not after doing the wedge of lime guy?

James Acaster

My wedge of lime guy wasn't Italian.

Ed Gamble

Yes he was. Well, he had all the Italian rhythms.

James Acaster

He was London gangster.

Arlo Parks

Rhythms?



James Acaster

Yours was Italian American.

Ed Gamble

Yes, but you were going, 'What do you want, you want the-,'

James Acaster

That was you. That was your impression. Mine was-,

Ed Gamble

You had Italian rhythms.

James Acaster

'What do you want some lime with that?' And you were, like-,

Arlo Parks

It was just the hand. It was the thing that it was very unexpected-

James Acaster

Is that an Italian hand?

Ed Gamble

Yes, you did Italian hand.

James Acaster

Oh, I didn't know I did that. I probably should owe an apology.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

That was my bad. Well, here's a thing, everyone always-, when I say this about Italian food, everyone's, like, 'What the hell is the matter with you?'

Ed Gamble

Correct.

James Acaster

I like it, but, like, I've never gone nuts for it. It's never my first choice. And I went to Rome recently and I was, like, 'Here we go. I'm going to finally get it.' And I didn't get it.

Arlo Parks

You didn't get it?



James Acaster

I got the desserts. I loved the desserts from Trevi Fountain, near Trevi Fountain. Not in the Trevi Fountain.

Ed Gamble

No. Just you stood in the middle of the Trevi Fountain.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, yes. This is a place nearby with really good desserts.

Ed Gamble

But what about, like, you know, the antipasti, or the cold meats and-

Arlo Parks

Arancini.

Ed Gamble

Arancini.

Arlo Parks

None of that?

James Acaster

No, I don't think it gets me as jazzed.

Arlo Parks

What's your go to then?

James Acaster

Oh, probably I'd go for Thai over that, or Indian, or Chinese, or Japanese, a lot of European cuisines.

Ed Gamble

Like Italian?

James Acaster

No, no, no. France and stuff.

Ed Gamble

Burrata-

James Acaster

Sri Lankan, I go for that.



Ed Gamble

I always pick burrata which I think if you did a spreadsheet of all the best starter options-,

James Acaster

I do love burrata actually.

Ed Gamble

That would win out surely? Burrata is delicious.

Arlo Parks

Chorizo and broccoli pasta and burrata, that's-,

James Acaster

Yes, chorizo broccoli pasta was invented by a man from Bristol.

Ed Gamble

Gloucester.

James Acaster

Gloucester, sorry. Looked at Ed there to see-, because I don't know where Tom Kerridge is from, he's from Gloucester. But, yes, but I mean, burrata is delicious and I love a caprese salad, is that Italian?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Arlo Parks

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, I love that.

Ed Gamble

As you well know.

James Acaster

Yes, I love it.

Ed Gamble

Burrata is-, that's a great choice because some people come and say mozzarella and tomato salad, which is fine, but the burrata it's a step up.

Arlo Parks

It's a leap. It is a step up.



Ed Gamble

You've levelled up. Did you used to like mozzarella more and then one day you woke up and you went, 'I prefer Burrata.'?

Arlo Parks

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Arlo Parks

Yes, that's probably exactly what happened. That is probably exactly what happened, again.

James Acaster

Eyes opened, 'I'm a burrata person now.'

Arlo Parks

I like that. First thought of the day. Probably. To be honest, probably.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Are you going with-, because sometimes you order a burrata salad and they've already cut the burrata up or, like-,

James Acaster

Oh, no, no.

Ed Gamble

Drizzled it over and you're, like, 'Oh, I wanted the experience.'

Arlo Parks

The experience of cutting it open and it just, yes, flows out, definitely. It's part of it. I like to be in control, you know.

Ed Gamble

Explode the burrata.

Arlo Parks

Yes, yes, yes.



James Acaster

That's a big part of it. It's, like, where do you draw the line of the control though because you don't want to cook the whole meal?

Arlo Parks

No, but I want to be able to configure it how I want, you know.

James Acaster

Yes.

Arlo Parks

Like with the lime, I'll do the squeeze thank you, you know.

James Acaster

You'll do the squeeze?

Arlo Parks

Yes.

James Acaster

So, in the dream restaurant for your dream meal are you going to be overseeing things in the kitchen as well?

Arlo Parks

No, no, no.

James Acaster

You don't want to be a supervisor?

Arlo Parks

I'm just there in the kitchen stood over them.

James Acaster

Yes.

Arlo Parks

No, no, no.

Ed Gamble

You want the first bit done for you but then-,

Arlo Parks

First bit done for me and then the rest of it I can handle.



Ed Gamble

Is this why you're taking on more production duties with your albums now just to have that little-,

Arlo Parks

Probably.

Ed Gamble

You're, sort of, like, squeezing the lime-,

Arlo Parks

Honestly, yes. Yes, I want to be the one to squeeze the lime.

Ed Gamble

I was trying to extend that into an analogy about making an album but I've got absolutely no idea. I did not have the vocabulary to do that.

James Acaster

How you would squeeze the lime into a-,

Ed Gamble

Yes, into a note.

Arlo Parks

Oh, that's good.

James Acaster

A production choice. 'Can we just squeeze a lime on this song?'

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

'Arlo, we have no idea what you're talking about.' 'Well, let me squeeze the lime.'

Ed Gamble

With the burratas I love cutting into the burrata, like, delicately just releasing all the good stuff inside. Do you ever imagine you're, like, a surgeon?

Arlo Parks

No, I can't say that I've thought about opening a body when I eat burrata.

Ed Gamble

I do. Yes.



James Acaster

Because I've seen Ed in restaurants shout, 'We're losing him.' It's pretty disconcerting for everyone.

Ed Gamble

I bring one of those vacuum things.

James Acaster

Yes, those little vacuum things. He knows all the terms. That's why he pretends to be a surgeon. I had loads of vacuum things on my face-, I had a facial for the first time.

Ed Gamble

What?

James Acaster

I had a facial. I did it. Went for it. Felt really relaxed, loads of little vacuum things on my face I could feel when I had my eyes closed.

Ed Gamble

Yes, and then you went out and got drunk.

James Acaster

Yes, I got hammered after it. Completely waste of time. Biggest waste of money ever, Arlo.

Arlo Parks

I was going to say, that is a waste of time.

James Acaster

Yes, went in, got a facial. Really nice. She was, like, 'So, look after yourself.' I was, like, 'Yes, yes.' And then went to my friend's birthday party, got hammered.

Arlo Parks

It was a waste of time.

James Acaster

And then thought, 'Oh, this is absolutely reversing all the good I've done this afternoon.' But, you know.

Ed Gamble

Why have they put vacuums on? Have you ever had a facial where they put vacuums on your face?

Arlo Parks

Not vacuums on my face, no.



James Acaster

That's what I felt. I felt they were sucking my face. I didn't see any of it. I had my eyes closed, so, it could have been anything.

Arlo Parks

Oh. I feel like I fell asleep-, I've only had a facial once and I fell asleep. It was really relaxing. There were no vacuums involved.

Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

A hydrofacial, so.

Arlo Parks

Oh, what's that?

James Acaster

I think it was just, like, that they, you know, fill your face with water.

Arlo Parks

Oh.

Ed Gamble

They fill it with water?

James Acaster

Yes, I think so.

Arlo Parks

Is that a good thing?

James Acaster

I think that's what they do.

Arlo Parks

I don't think that's what happened.

Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

I think that's what it was.



Arlo Parks

I don't think that's what happened.

Ed Gamble

I'd imagine they blast water at it, right. Do they blast water-, I think there were vacuums-, are you sure? Where did this happen?

James Acaster

Putney Bridge. Your old stomping ground.

Ed Gamble

Putney Bridge?

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

What, under the bridge?

Arlo Parks

Under the bridge, that's what I was thinking.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Just a load of lads went, 'Right, close your eyes.'

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

It's going to feel like a vacuum. They all just started sucking on your face.

James Acaster

What? I look ten years younger. It went well I think.

James Acaster

Dream main course?

Arlo Parks

So, I went down the Mexican food route for that, because I love Mexican food. So, I went for some slow cooked carnitas tacos with guacamole, black beans, coriander and, like, Pico de Gallo. Yes. I love Mexican food. I spend a lot of time in Mexico.



James Acaster

Oh, do you?

Ed Gamble

Oh cool.

Arlo Parks

Yes, yes, yes, I do.

James Acaster

Has that always been a thing, or is recently you started going to Mexico?

Arlo Parks

Just these past few years. I think it being so close to LA as well, and, like, having a lot of friends who have gone out there to make music to Mexico City. But I went there with my friends in January and it was really nice. Yes.

James Acaster

What did you get up to?

Arlo Parks

Honestly, just sitting on the beach, drinking margaritas, eating tacos, doing absolutely nothing.

James Acaster

Great, and the guacamole I'm told, because I've never been-,

Ed Gamble

Hello.

James Acaster

Is the best, that it's, like, amazing. It's, like, a completely different dish there.

Arlo Parks

It's amazing. It is. I love it.

James Acaster

And they squeeze a lime into that.

Arlo Parks

Yes. I like the lime theme.

James Acaster

Would you want to do that? Would you want to squeeze the lime into the guac?



Arlo Parks

No, I think I would allow them to do that.

James Acaster

Yes.

Arlo Parks

They use control of the lime.

Ed Gamble

That's good of you, yes.

Arlo Parks

Yes.

Ed Gamble

If you're, like, going to Mexico and being, like, 'Guys-,'

Arlo Parks

And, I'm, like, 'Excuse me.'

Ed Gamble

'Guys, I know you do this all the time, but Arlo Parks is here now.'

Arlo Parks

But I'll be, 'I've got this.'

James Acaster

'I'm the lime squeezer and everyone knows it.' So, would you want these tacos for your dream meal from Mexico, or, have you got a favourite place, because LA has very good Mexican food, very good tacos?

Arlo Parks

LA does-, they really do. My favourite place probably in LA is this place called Guisados. I don't know if you guys have been there, but-,

Ed Gamble

Yes, we have. We've been there together.

James Acaster

Oh, then, yes. Oh, is that where you took me and they refused to give us certain ones?

Ed Gamble

They refused to give me the spicy one.



James Acaster

Yes.

Arlo Parks

Why?

Ed Gamble

Well, because I'm white as hell.

Arlo Parks

Oh.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

They took one look at me and went, 'You don't want that one.'

Arlo Parks

No, like, you don't.

Ed Gamble

I was, like, 'Okay, thank you.'

Arlo Parks

Oh, okay, thank you.

James Acaster

Let me tell you, Arlo, they did not disguise that reason at all. They told him it to his face. To his white white face. We can handle our spice now.

Ed Gamble

Oh, yes.

James Acaster

You and me. We can go back to that place and tell them-,

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

'Give us the hottest one.'



Arlo Parks

The hottest one?

James Acaster

Yes, we could do it now.

Ed Gamble

James and I filmed a video the other day where they made us eat the hottest tortilla chip in the world.

Arlo Parks

Okay.

Ed Gamble

And it did not go well.

Arlo Parks

What was it like?

James Acaster

Horrible.

Ed Gamble

It was the pain, genuine pain. Yes.

Arlo Parks

What did they put in it? Like, ghost peppers or something?

Ed Gamble

Yes, it's, like, ghost pepper.

James Acaster

Carolina Reaper.

Ed Gamble

Caroline Reaper. And it was blue, so, it made your tongue go-,

Arlo Parks

Did you eat the whole thing?

Ed Gamble

Yes, stupid.



James Acaster

Yes. We didn't ask, 'What is on this? How hot is it?' We were, like, 'Yes,' whole thing in one, and then afterwards, googled it, and were, like, 'Oh, it's, like, 0.5 million Scovilles,' and there are all these different things on it and people have had heart attacks and all sorts of shit after eating it, like, really horrific.

Arlo Parks

That must have destroyed your innards.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, for a good day. I mean, James walked somewhere after that and I got a cab and that was a pretty hairy cab ride home let me tell you, every speed bump-

Arlo Parks

You were on the edge.

Ed Gamble

We went over, I'm, like, 'No, no, no because I'm about to destroy my over-writing here.'

James Acaster

I had to stop at a McDonald's.

Arlo Parks

Oh no.

James Acaster

I was texting Ed from the throne, telling him, 'I'm not leaving here until it's all out of me, Ed. I'm terrified.'

Ed Gamble

You find out who you are when you eat something that spicy though.

Arlo Parks

You do, it's true, it humbles you.

Ed Gamble

I went so quiet. I went so quiet, and James, the most aggressive I've ever seen him. He was like a cornered hound.



James Acaster

I was screaming. It was physically painful. It felt like I was being stabbed in the tongue over and over again, like, properly, only when I had the milk in mouth, was, like, 'Oh, it stops for a second,' and then, soon as you swallow the milk, you're back to being attacked. It's like that for ten minutes before it even starts to subside. I was screaming. I was kicking walls. I was shouting at the crew.

Ed Gamble

Yes. What's the spiciest thing you've ever eaten and what did it teach you about yourself?

James Acaster

Good follow up.

Arlo Parks

I feel like it was probably my grandma's soup because she just has this pepper sound, and my grandma lives in Nigeria and, like, the approach to spices is quite intense there, and I remember being like, 'Oh, I can't really handle my spice, don't make it spicy,' and she made this soup, which was, basically, just water and chillies. I had, like, most of it because I was, 'She made this delicious soup for me, and honestly, it was the most unbearable-, my tongue was numb for, like, at least five days, completely.

Ed Gamble

Yes, see, when your grandma's made it as well, you've got to eat it.

Arlo Parks

You've got eat to it.

James Acaster

Did you say to her, like, 'This is too much, I can't-,'

Arlo Parks

Honestly, my eyes were just watering and I think she thought it was because I loved it so much. I was, like, 'Yes, it's great.'

James Acaster

Yes, 'She's crying, she loves my pepper soup.'

Ed Gamble

These tacos, so the carnitas is pork, right?

Arlo Parks

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Really good stuff, Guisados, so just to describe it to people, it feels like more of a café situation, doesn't it? Yes.



Arlo Parks

Yes, it is. They've got a couple in LA but they make the tortillas fresh every morning and it's just, like, a nice little hole in the wall spot, my favourite one's the one at Echo Park, and I go there, as I said, I know what I have every morning and mostly, for lunch, it will be Guisados at the studio. I'm, like, known for it. Like, ask anyone I work with, like, 'What does she have always, every day?' It's the tacos from Guisados.

Ed Gamble

So that, if you're recording music, I mean, I guess you need to think about, especially if you're recording that day, you need to think about what you're eating for lunch, then you go back and sing.

Arlo Parks

I feel like I'm quite loose. I'm quite loose with my-, I'm just, like, 'This is what I want,' and that's just going to have affect how I sound on this song.

James Acaster

That's a fun challenge for people listening to the album.

Arlo Parks

It is, which one?

James Acaster

Spot a taco take.

Arlo Parks

Yes, I like that.

Ed Gamble

Taco take, that was lovely.

James Acaster

Yes, 'We've got a taco take on this. This verse is definitely post-taco.

James Acaster

Your dream side dish.

Arlo Parks

My dream side dish, okay, I went for this one. I went for, like, some Mexican street corn, I think they call it, like, Elote corn or something and it's just they've got cheese on there. They've got, like, coriander and they've got crema fresca and butter and it's just a nice little side, and they're quite spicy as well sometimes but I can handle a little spicy bit of corn.



James Acaster

Is it on the cob?

Arlo Parks

On the cob, never off, never off.

James Acaster

Really? It's eventually off though, right, unless you're chowing down the whole cob.

Arlo Parks

Yes, eventually but it begins on, always.

James Acaster

Yes, but then you see to that.

Arlo Parks

Yes, I see to that, yes.

Ed Gamble

What's your corn on the cob eating technique? Are you going round?

James Acaster

Or across?

Arlo Parks

Across, is that a thing?

James Acaster

Across like a harmonica. Are you going left to right and then rotating it?

Arlo Parks

Absolutely not.

James Acaster

Or are you just going round, round, round and then you move position?

Arlo Parks

Round, round, round, and then move, round, round, round, like a gradual spinning top, yes. Side to side, do you guys do that?

James Acaster

Side to side like a harmonica.



Ed Gamble

We do it. Well, that's how they do it in cartoons, right?

Arlo Parks

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Like that.

Arlo Parks

That is true, that is how they do.

James Acaster

Really big in cartoons, eating corn on the cob actually, never really realised it before but it's one of the things that happens, I'd say, more in cartoons than in real life. There's a lot of eating corn on the cob.

Ed Gamble

I'm so glad someone's picked this because this is one of my favourite side dishes as well, especially if it's been properly, like, grilled, so there are the little charred bits on it and then the crema fresca, I think you said, and the little bit of cheese and lime.

Arlo Parks

Yes, and lime.

Ed Gamble

Squeeze your own lime.

Arlo Parks

Lime.

James Acaster

All the way through the menu.

Arlo Parks

All the way through, there is lime.

Ed Gamble

We may as well just bring you a bag of limes at the beginning of this meal.

James Acaster

Yes, when I went to Disney World, I'd probably been there for quite a few days at this point, at least five days, eating just Disney food.



Arlo Parks

Oh, that's too much.

Ed Gamble

Yes, correct reaction, Arlo, thank you.

Arlo Parks

Very, very long time to be in Disney World, surviving off that food as well.

James Acaster

Yes but I was god-damn Rome for eight days, boring.

Arlo Parks

At least you were in Disney World.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Couldn't get away fast enough.

Ed Gamble

They didn't do any shows in the Trevi Fountain, no parade.

Arlo Parks

No parade.

James Acaster

Yes, Mickey Mouse wasn't waving from the Trevi Fountain, I would have loved that, big shame, but when I went to Animal Kingdom in Disney, five days in, whatever, and they've got the corn on the cob there, the Harambe from the Harambe fruit market.

Ed Gamble

Harambe fruit market?

James Acaster

That's what it's called.

Ed Gamble

What named after that poor gorilla?

James Acaster

I think it was called that before the gorilla.



Arlo Parks

No, I was going to say.

James Acaster

I know the gorilla was a big deal.

Ed Gamble

Is the stall called Cobs out for Harambe?

James Acaster

It's not about the gorilla, they're very clear about that. There's no-one in a big Harambe outfit, waving at you.

Arlo Parks

I was going to say, that's what I imagine.

James Acaster

People taking photos of them with it.

Ed Gamble

Getting their little kid to go take the picture.

James Acaster

Yes. Like, I love that gorilla as much as the next person but it weren't there, nothing to do with it. I think the Disney people were, like, 'Well, it was already called it before that. We're not going to change it,' you know, but they know everyone thinks about that gorilla when they go and get the corn on the cob.

Arlo Parks

Definitely.

James Acaster

My point is that the corn on the cob was much needed because I had days of just eating junk, so having some vegetables was very nice and it was very good corn on the cob and everyone recommends it for a reason. Thank you very much.

Arlo Parks

Thank you. Thank you for that story.

James Acaster

That's the story.

Ed Gamble

I feel the Elote that Arlo was talking about is probably of a higher quality than-



James Acaster

What?

Arlo Parks

Thank the Disney World corn on the cob from Harambe's fruit market.

James Acaster

I don't know, I think I'm the only one who can speak on that. Benito, have you had the Harambe fruit market corn on the cob?

Ed Gamble

He has, Benito's had it.

James Acaster

He loves it.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Arlo Parks

He loves it.

Ed Gamble

Benito's vegetarian and he loves Disney.

James Acaster

Yes, I mean, Benito would gladly spend a month in Disney.

Arlo Parks

Really?

Ed Gamble

Two weeks is crazy as well.

Arlo Parks

I did one day, that was way too much for me.

James Acaster

In Florida?

Arlo Parks

No, in the one just outside of LA, I did not enjoy that experience.



Ed Gamble

How long is one day though because I went with my wife and she likes Disney?

Arlo Parks

From the beginning of the day, like, from when the gates open to when the gates close.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Yes, that's a long day.

Arlo Parks

It was a long day, eating that food, all those turkey legs everywhere, it was a really traumatic experience for me.

James Acaster

Oh yes.

Ed Gamble

You see, I love the turkey leg at Disney.

Arlo Parks

Oh no.

Ed Gamble

It's so artificially moist, I love it. You just bit into it and it's just, like, a pint of salty turkey water.

Arlo Parks

Oh, horrid.

Ed Gamble

Delicious.

James Acaster

So, just one massive corn on the cob?

Arlo Parks

Yes.

James Acaster

Have you ever had corn ribs, before we move on?

Arlo Parks

I have, I actually made them.



James Acaster

You into them?

Arlo Parks

Yes, into them.

James Acaster

So, you made them?

Arlo Parks

Yes, it was really hard to cut them. It was so hard, almost chopped my hand off because I put it in and I was just banging it on the-, is that what you're supposed to do? I don't know. I just stuck it in and was just banging it around my kitchen.

Ed Gamble

What, you were just, like, using the impact of banging it down to chop it half?

Arlo Parks

Yes.

Ed Gamble

So, the knife could have just come out and-,

Arlo Parks

Yes, that wasn't the way.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, I don't think you're supposed to do it like that.

Arlo Parks

Okay. I watched a tutorial and that's what the guy was doing.

James Acaster

Oh, yes?

Arlo Parks

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Did that guy have one hand?

Arlo Parks

I was going to say, maybe he did have one hand, yes.



James Acaster

Yes, that's the hardest one. Yotam Ottolenghi came on the podcast and he was saying cutting corn long is the hardest, and then we got some texts from some friends after that episode, all saying that they'd tried to cut corn long and it brought back, like, memories, listening to the pod. My stories are not great today. Even I don't like them. Normally, Benito gets annoyed at me because all of my stories are boring but even I'm, like,-

Ed Gamble

Your friends not being able to cut corn long is, I'd say, a real nadir.

James Acaster

Fucking hell. Fucking hell.

James Acaster

Your dream drink, Arlo Parks?

Arlo Parks

My dream drink, I feel like I would just go for, like, fresh orange juice, that's it.

Ed Gamble

Yes?

James Acaster

Now, have you had one from the machine that looks like a contraption?

Ed Gamble

I knew.

James Acaster

What?

Ed Gamble

Our brains now just work the same because I was, like, 'James is going to bring up the machine.'

James Acaster

The contraption machine.

Ed Gamble

It's pretty cool. Have you see those machines and it's, like-,

Arlo Parks

What, the one where it's got the orange, like, cup things?



James Acaster

It's like a Wallace and Gromit machine.

Arlo Parks

Yes, I used to be terrified of that, Wallace and Gromit, yes.

James Acaster

Why?

Arlo Parks

The one where it's, like, the baker, who is a murderer. Do you know which one I'm talking about, the film?

James Acaster

I'm trying to remember the baker who's a murderer.

Arlo Parks

There was a baker, a murderer, I have, like, a very specific list of films that traumatise me and it was the one about the baker murderer, Wallace and Gromit.

James Acaster

Really?

Arlo Parks

Yes.

Ed Gamble

So, was it the baker specifically that upset you, not Wallace and Gromit themselves, the heroes of the piece?

Arlo Parks

Well, yes, I just associate them all now with fear and terror.

James Acaster

So, you would still be scared, if Wallace and Gromit walked in here now, you'd be scared?

Arlo Parks

Yes, I wouldn't be happy.

James Acaster

So, you wouldn't be, like, 'Oh good, it's the good guys'?

Arlo Parks

No.



James Acaster

You'd be, like, 'Fuck off, oh no, Wallace and Gromit'?

Arlo Parks

'Fuck off,' yes.

James Acaster

Yes, you'd be very scared of them.

Arlo Parks

I would be very afraid.

Ed Gamble

What would scare you more, Wallace and Gromit, like, as they are when they film, little Plasticine models, or them the size that they should be in real life?

James Acaster

Just human size, yes.

Arlo Parks

Definitely human size, definitely.

James Acaster

It's scarier.

Arlo Parks

It's very much scarier, yes.

James Acaster

He's a wanker because he likes cheese, doesn't he, Wallace?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

He is just always eating cheese all the time, which makes him a knob-head.

Ed Gamble

No it doesn't. There's a lot of cheese on Arlo's menu.

Arlo Parks

There is a lot of cheese.



Ed Gamble

I'm a real cheese boy and James loves dessert.

Arlo Parks

Can you not have cheese?

James Acaster

I can have it, yes, sure but I'm not having it for dessert, put it that way, Arlo. Whenever someone orders a cheeseboard for dessert, I go through the roof.

Arlo Parks

Really?

James Acaster

Yes, yes, I go through the roof, man. If I met Wallace and Gromit, I'd beat up Wallace. I'd beat him up.

Ed Gamble

What do you reckon? Do you reckon James could Wallace or Wallace would absolutely destroy him?

James Acaster

Be honest.

Arlo Parks

He would destroy you.

James Acaster

You think Wallace would destroy me?

Arlo Parks

Yes.

James Acaster

He's a dork and he wears a tank-top and talks to his dog.

Arlo Parks

He's got a little, like, feral vibe to him. I feel like he'd bit you or something.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

That's because you're scared of him though.



Arlo Parks

That is true, I am afraid.

James Acaster

You're asking someone who has, like, a deep-rooted fear of Wallace and Gromit.

Arlo Parks

I do, I am really scared, that and the women from Chicken Run.

James Acaster

Same animators.

Ed Gamble

The pie lady who makes the pies?

Arlo Parks

Yes, she's just chopping one, yes, that was scary.

James Acaster

So, it's something about Aardman Animations that scares you?

Arlo Parks

It is. It is.

James Acaster

Have you ever watched Creature Comforts?

Arlo Parks

No.

James Acaster

Or Flushed Away?

Arlo Parks

That one's alright, with the singing toads or something, they're singing.

Ed Gamble

I haven't seen it.

James Acaster

Yes, Flushed Away, a rat gets flushed down the toilet, I think that's the film.

Arlo Parks

Yes.



James Acaster

Shaun the Sheep's Farmageddon?

Arlo Parks

No, can't say I've seen that one.

James Acaster

Could you ever watch it, do you think?

Arlo Parks

Maybe.

James Acaster

If I said to you, 'We're going to watch Shaun the Sheep's Farmageddon after this,' do you think you'd be able to watch it?

Arlo Parks

I think so, don't know if I'd want to but I could, theoretically.

James Acaster

You could but will you concede there's a chance you would get scared?

Arlo Parks

Yes, probably.

James Acaster

They might have a character in it who's similar to one of those.

Arlo Parks

Yes, definitely.

James Acaster

The baker who kills people and the farmer's wife.

Arlo Parks

The farmer's wife.

Ed Gamble

Arlo's got quite a lot on though. I feel like Arlo's got quite a lot on, so I think she probably couldn't call up her next interview and say, 'I'm going to be late. I'm watching Shaun the Sheep's Farmageddon to see if I'm scared.'

Arlo Parks

'To see if I'm scared,' is the best part of that sentence.



James Acaster

It's a good experiment.

Ed Gamble

Yes, you've had a lot of cheese on your menu so far and I respect it because we've had cheese for the starter, obviously.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Was there cheese on the taco?

Arlo Parks

No.

Ed Gamble

No but there is cheese on the corn.

Arlo Parks

On the corn.

James Acaster

Lovely, no cheese in the orange juice though.

Arlo Parks

No.

James Acaster

We're going pure.

Arlo Parks

We're going pure OJ.

James Acaster

Pure orange juice.

Arlo Parks

Yes.

James Acaster

I'm going to ask you to rank the juices now.



Arlo Parks

What, all of them?

Ed Gamble

Never seen someone look so devastated at the suggestion of a question, 'Oh my fucking God.'

James Acaster

Let's do top five, top five juices.

Arlo Parks

Top five?

James Acaster

Or even top three, if that's easier.

Arlo Parks

Okay.

Ed Gamble

Well, you've got orange.

Arlo Parks

Orange, yes.

James Acaster

You've got orange, number one, and I would say, you know, that's the original juice.

Arlo Parks

Peach juice, peach.

James Acaster

Peach.

Ed Gamble

Peach, where are you getting peach juice? I don't think I've ever had a peach juice.

Arlo Parks

Peach juice is really nice.

James Acaster

I bet it is. I love peaches, man.

Ed Gamble

Yes.



Arlo Parks

Peach juice and then just apple juice, easy, apple and ginger specifically, yes, yes. I'm not into the vegetable juices, tomato juice is at the end of that very long list, it's at the very bottom.

James Acaster

Really, not even in a Bloody Mary?

Arlo Parks

No, I can't stand it.

James Acaster

It's a bit like cold soup, right?

Arlo Parks

Yes. Yes, exactly why.

James Acaster

it is a bit cold soup-y.

Ed Gamble

I love that.

Arlo Parks

You love cold soup?

Ed Gamble

Well, I love tomato juice. I love Bloody Marys. I like imagining it as cold soup. I love gazpacho, for example.

James Acaster

I love gazpacho actually.

Arlo Parks

I hate all of those things.

James Acaster

Yes, they're all, like, at the bottom of the Arlo Parks rankings for juice.

Arlo Parks

Bottom.

Ed Gamble

What would you do if you turned on the TV and it was Wallace in a new film and he was eating gazpacho?



Arlo Parks

I'd turn it off.

James Acaster

Good question.

Arlo Parks

I'd hide.

James Acaster

What if you, like, woke up in the night and there's a figure at the end of your bed and then you realise it's Wallace, who's eating gazpacho, and he goes, 'More gazpacho soup, Arlo?' At you. Would you run out of the room, never go in your house again?

Arlo Parks

I would never sleep again. I would never sleep again.

James Acaster

I can see why you'd be scared of it. You went there recently, didn't you, to where they're made?

Ed Gamble

Went to Aardman Animations, yes, to film something at Aardman, very nice people. I said, 'How do you write your films?' They said, 'We create whatever we think Arlo Parks might be scared of.' That's how they-

Arlo Parks

Ah, that would make sense, yes.

James Acaster

Big picture of you on the-

Arlo Parks

On the big red cross, I like that.

James Acaster

'We've got to get in her head.' The Great Benito was, quite rightly, and in quite an angry tone, that he wants to watch.

Ed Gamble

Yes, the question Great Benito wanted to ask is, does the orange juice have bits in but I'm guessing, if it's fresh-

Arlo Parks

Yes, because it's fresh.



Ed Gamble

Yes, stupid question, Benito. Yes, it has to have bits in it.

James Acaster

And we already know that Arlo's not going to dip in and take all the bits out herself, with her hands.

Ed Gamble

No.

Arlo Parks

No, that's insane. That would be an insane thing to do.

James Acaster

So, hold on, we've been talking all the way through this podcast about you squeezing the lime. Are you squeezing the orange? Would you want to do that?

Arlo Parks

No, I think I'm alright.

James Acaster

Have you ever tried to make your own orange juice?

Arlo Parks

I have and it takes ages, it takes so many oranges to make one glass, so I usually, yes, don't.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Also, if you live in LA and in California, is it to do with the weather as well? Is you're sipping a fresh orange juice in LA, that must taste better than sipping a fresh orange juice in England.

Arlo Parks

Definitely, yes, it's got to be in the sun.

Ed Gamble

So, your dream restaurant scenario, we haven't even talked about where you would want to be.

Arlo Parks

Where it is?

Ed Gamble

Yes.



Arlo Parks

I feel like either it would be in, like, a vineyard in the south of France and you just have a cool breeze, the sun shining, you've just got this view of nature or it would be by the sea, a little coastal moment, I think that would really nice.

Ed Gamble

It sounds very peaceful.

Arlo Parks

Yes.

Ed Gamble

I mean, if you were in a vineyard and then they said, 'What do you want to drink?'

Arlo Parks

I said, 'Orange juice.'

Ed Gamble

You went, 'Fresh orange juice please,' they'd be absolutely gutted.

Arlo Parks

Yes but that's very me though, I'm just, like, 'I'm sorry. This is what I want and this is what we're having.'

James Acaster

I mean, they'd be upset.

Arlo Parks

They would be upset.

James Acaster

All the grapes would be shaking on the vine, 'What the fuck?'

Arlo Parks

I'll have orange wine though. I'm into orange wine, the little natural wine. If I was in a vineyard, I would. I would.

James Acaster

Would you stomp the grapes yourself? Would you stomp them?

Arlo Parks

No.



Ed Gamble

No, it's the same question as, 'Would you dip your-, ' if Arlo's not dipping her fingers in to get a bit of lime, she's not stomping the grapes.

Arlo Parks

No.

James Acaster

Well listen, last time I checked, we do a podcast where we ask the same question 50 times, so I don't know what you want from me here. It's worked so far. I'd stomp the grapes.

Arlo Parks

You would?

James Acaster

Yes but I wouldn't then drink it, no way, disgusting.

Arlo Parks

I was going to say.

James Acaster

I'd stomp it for someone else.

Ed Gamble

I think there's an extra process after people stomp the grapes.

Arlo Parks

They're not just stomping and then just pour it into a cup.

James Acaster

I think it's just straight into the bottle.

Ed Gamble

Straight into the bottle, is it?

Arlo Parks

Straight in.

James Acaster

Yes. Yes, they drag the bottle through it.

Arlo Parks

They drag it through it.



James Acaster

Then that's it.

Ed Gamble

They've picked out the toenails.

Arlo Parks

That does sound about right.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, there you go, 'This is stomped by James Acaster.'

Ed Gamble

Some people would drink that.

James Acaster

Yes. Yes, there are some weird people out there.

James Acaster

Dream dessert.

Arlo Parks

My dream dessert, I went with just pumpkin pie with vanilla ice cream. Pumpkin pie, I know it's something that people, I mean American people, mainly have at Thanksgiving but I have it all year long from House of Pies.

Ed Gamble

From House of Pies.

Arlo Parks

There's this place called House of Pies where you can get pies till, like, 3:00am, that's after a night out, I have a little bit of pie and it actually is a hack, it's so good, yes.

Ed Gamble

That's what we're missing in this country, like, good late-night food. House of Pies at 3:00am.

Arlo Parks

They have pancakes. They've got, like, milkshakes, whatever you want, and it's weird, they've got breakfast up as well. So, at 2:00am, you can just get some scrambled eggs in.



Ed Gamble

I don't even like going out that much. I'd set my alarm for 2:00am, wake up and go and get a pie.

James Acaster

Yes, I'd go to House of Pie. Do they do cherry pie?

Arlo Parks

Yes, they have, like, 55 different pies. Sometimes, like, I'll schedule a Deliveroo for when I know I'm going to get home and there's a pie at my doorstep.

James Acaster

Great.

Ed Gamble

Oh, that's brilliant.

James Acaster

That's a satisfying feeling.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Arlo Parks

It is.

James Acaster

I've been in a situation, and this is probably one of the most tense things in the world, when I'm, like, in a car home and it's smooth sailing, so I go on Deliveroo, 'Yes, okay, this is going to get there the same time as me, great.' As soon as I've paid for it and it's locked in, traffic jam and then I'm, like, 'Oh shit, oh no, oh mother of God. Like, I don't know if I'm going to get my Deliveroo now. The guy's going to ring me, being, like, "Where are you?"

Arlo Parks

Why don't you just say, 'Leave at door.'

James Acaster

Oh no, I can't do because I live in a bit, they have to get to buzz to get through to another-

Ed Gamble

James lives in a gated community.

James Acaster

Yes, so you can't leave it at the gate.



Arlo Parks

Why not?

James Acaster

Then some, like, urchins will steal it.

Arlo Parks

Some urchins.

James Acaster

Straight away, they'll have that.

Arlo Parks

Immediately.

James Acaster

Oh, that would get swiped, man, you have no idea, my area, they'll swipe it. It's just the worst. You never had that? They're leaving it on your doorstep for you and no-one's nicking that?

Arlo Parks

No, not so far.

James Acaster

No urchins where you live?

Arlo Parks

No, no urchins.

James Acaster

That's a good life.

Arlo Parks

That's a good life.

Ed Gamble

You've got to move to LA.

James Acaster

Yes, well, especially for the pie place. I mean, we've told this on the podcast before and it's another story that doesn't go anywhere but, you know, when we were in New York, Ed and I, we walked ages to go to this pie place and then it was shut but, like, all we could think about was how much we wanted some of that sweet American pie, not like the film. We weren't doing that.



Arlo Parks

I was going to say, that's what I was thinking.

James Acaster

We weren't doing that with the pie.

Ed Gamble

Trotting across New York, he couldn't wait to get to that sweet American Pie.

James Acaster

I thought it was a cultural tradition there, I got chucked out of the shop pretty quickly. That film, man, what a film. We had to talk about with Brett Goldstein recently. He asked us what the most-, Brett Goldstein does their film podcast, so he'd been doing a mash-up for Comic Relief with the food podcast, he asked us what the most arousing meal in a film is. I said, 'It's, like, when he fucks the pie.' I might have said it.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

I think it's mainly because I was thirteen years old and watching a sex film, that scene in the film.

Ed Gamble

It was a pie though. You weren't thirteen, going, 'Oh, that's sex.'

James Acaster

As far as I knew at that-, I didn't have a clue. I'd probably know what to do with a pie more than a person.

Ed Gamble

Yes, James grew up in Kettering, so the only apple pie he could lay his hand on was a McDonald's one, he really burnt himself.

James Acaster

Boiling, boiling hot, to kingdom come. In fact, I'm only just getting better now.

Ed Gamble

Pumpkin pie though, it's great. You can't get it here, I don't think, really.

Arlo Parks

Not really, yes, not of the right kind of quality level.

James Acaster

Do you ever get the tinned, the mix, the pumpkin pie, like, in a tin? Have you ever used that mix?



Arlo Parks

No.

James Acaster

You look disgusted actually, I'm sorry I brought it up.

Arlo Parks

Sorry, a very expressive face, as soon you say something, I'm, like-,

Ed Gamble

Does that give you away ever?

Arlo Parks

A lot, yes. I really struggle to, like, keep it in, in a good way and in a bad way. Like, when I love food, I always do a little-,

James Acaster

A little dance.

Arlo Parks

Yes, and then, when I don't, I'm, like-,

James Acaster

Have you got songs about food?

Arlo Parks

I feel like I mention food quite a lot actually in my songs, yes. I just like, like, sensory writing, I'll write about food and smells and flowers and stuff, yes.

James Acaster

I'm trying to think what the best song about food is, and now all I can think of is the song American Pie because we mentioned earlier, and that's about very different subject matter than the film actually.

Ed Gamble

Fast Food Rockers.

James Acaster

Fast Food Rockers?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

What's that?



Arlo Parks

I don't even know what that is.

Ed Gamble

What's that song called? Look it up.

James Acaster

I'm mainly imagining, if the song American Pie was the same tune and stuff but was about the subject matter from the film American Pie, how well the song would have done if it was just about fucking a pie.

Ed Gamble

The Fast Food Song.

Arlo Parks

What's that?

Ed Gamble

Yes, McDonald's, McDonald's, Kentucky Fried Chicken and a Pizza Hut.

Arlo Parks

What is that?

Ed Gamble

I'm sorry, I forgot, you were at school probably when it came out.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, like that, I mean, to be fair, we're really showing our fucking age now.

Ed Gamble

It's a classic of a genre.

Arlo Parks

Oh, a classic of which genre?

Ed Gamble

Fast food, fast food rock.

James Acaster

This is the most embarrassing thing we've ever done on this podcast. So, we've got to now explain to you. This is the oldest I've ever felt. When we were in school, Ed and I, we didn't have phones or anything and we would walk around singing, 'A Pizza Hut, a Pizza Hut, Kentucky Fried Chicken and a Pizza Hut.' Like, we would sing that.



Arlo Parks

Why?

James Acaster

I don't know. It had little actions with it and it was just all the fast-food chains that there were at the time. Obviously, now, there are a lot more, it would go on for ages, that song but it was such a popular song that a dance troop, like a pop music, European pop music combo did a version of it that sounded like it should be in Eurovision but using those lyrics.

Ed Gamble

Your face is giving you away again, Arlo.

Arlo Parks

I'm very confused.

James Acaster

Using those lyrics, so there was, 'A Pizza Hut, a Pizza Hut, Kentucky Fried Chicken and a Pizza Hut.'

Arlo Parks

There was dancing?

James Acaster

Yes, 'A Pizza Hut,' was you would draw a hut, like a little house with your hands. 'A Pizza Hut, a Pizza Hut, Kentucky Fried Chicken,' is you'd flap your arms like little chicken wings, 'And a Pizza Hut,' and then McDonald's, you would do, like, the arches of McDonald's, 'McDonald's, McDonald's,' and then, 'Kentucky Fried Chicken and a Pizza Hut,' and it was just that over and over again.

Arlo Parks

Over and over again?

James Acaster

That is the whole song.

Arlo Parks

That was what, that was fun?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

That was we did for fun back then, yes, in our day. That was how we had fun, we sang that.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I prefer it, I preferred that, hate to be at school now.



James Acaster

Those were the good old days, where you had to use your imagination to have fun.

Ed Gamble

Yes, rather than all this vaping and nudes.

Arlo Parks

Vaping and nudes.

James Acaster

Yes, that was about all we ever did.

Ed Gamble

Yes, so I don't know if you're doing any covers on your next tour but you could consider doing the Fast Food Song.

Arlo Parks

That would be a very, very brief cover, yes.

James Acaster

Arlo, could I ask you a favour?

Arlo Parks

Okay.

James Acaster

Could you not tell anyone about us after this podcast. Don't tell anyone who wasn't here about what we're like.

Ed Gamble

Yes, James is worried because James is about to release an album and he's worried that it's going to get out in the music industry, about what a sad loser he is.

James Acaster

Yes, I've got to be cool. They've all got to think I'm cool in the music industry and this is not going to help me. Right, I'm going to read your menu back to you now, see how you feel about it.

Arlo Parks

Okay.

James Acaster

You would like sparkling water with a wedge of lime that you will squeeze into it yourself, no ice. Poppadoms or bread, you want warm focaccia with rosemary, salt and black pepper. Starter, tomato and burrata salad with basil, olive oil, salt and pepper from Speranza in LA. Main course, slow-cooked



carnitas tacos with guacamole, black beans and pico de gallo. Oh, and when was that again, the tacos from?

Arlo Parks

Guisados.

James Acaster

Guisados, side dish, the Mexican street corn, Elotes, it says here, yes. Drink, fresh orange juice, may or may not be made in the contraption. Dessert, a pumpkin pie with vanilla ice cream from House of Pies. Ed, are you mic-ing up your stomach?

Ed Gamble

I was mic-ing up my stomach, just to show how much I enjoyed that menu because I'm hungry and then every time you mention new things, it was gurgling.

Arlo Parks

I also am hungry and I also can feel my stomach rumbling, and I'm scared that he can hear it.

Ed Gamble

Well, I tried to mic it up but, of course, as soon as the mic got on it, it was, like, 'No way, I don't perform. I don't perform for you.'

James Acaster

You can't get Ed in the studio.

Ed Gamble

That is a fantastic menu.

Arlo Parks

Thank you.

Ed Gamble

You've transported me to, like, California and Mexico as well, I think it's perfect stuff.

James Acaster

Yes, delicious, and apologies for our input into this episode.

Arlo Parks

Just generally.

James Acaster

Into this episode, yes, I can't apologise enough.



Ed Gamble

Yes, it's your dream meal. We don't need to be there at the dream meal.

James Acaster

Yes, just so you know, you don't have to put up with this shit.

Ed Gamble

Yes, we're not in vineyard, you can't hear us in the vineyard.

James Acaster

Well, Benito's downloading Farmageddon now.

Ed Gamble

What?

Arlo Parks

Love that.

James Acaster

We're going to watch it, we're all going to watch it together. Ed fell for that, can't believe I actually tricked him.

Ed Gamble

I'm very hungry. I've lost my mind today.

James Acaster

That's how boring I've been on the podcast this episode, Ed's, like, 'It can't be a joke, but he is just actually downloading Shaun the Sheep's Farmageddon.'

Ed Gamble

Arlo, thank you so much for coming to the dream restaurant.

Arlo Parks

Yes, thanks for having me.

James Acaster

Thank you Arlo, sorry.

Ed Gamble

Well, there we are, James.

James Acaster

Delicious.



Ed Gamble

Great menu from Arlo Parks there.

James Acaster

Very tasty, very simple menu. I mean, those are the ones that transport you the most sometimes.

Ed Gamble

Transportative.

James Acaster

You were in LA, weren't you? You were in sunny LA.

Ed Gamble

I was in LA but I was in LA and I wasn't really annoyed that I was in LA, like I normally am.

James Acaster

Yes, a nice change for you, yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, just going around, 'God, how are these people not wearing shorts? I'm going to have to wear shorts and I'll look like a complete moron.'

James Acaster

That's your main concern?

Ed Gamble

Yes, that's a big concern.

James Acaster

That no-one else is wearing shorts and you're wearing shorts?

Ed Gamble

Yes, because it's warm outside but they're never outside. They're always in their car or in an air-conditioned office, whereas I like to have a little stroll round, so I have to wear my little shorts and then I'll, you know, nip into some high-flying entertainment office and I look like I'm on a tour.

James Acaster

Yes, because it's freezing in the office. I mean, their air-con as well, it should be pointed out, is freezing. It's like a walk-in freezer. It's not, like, 'Oh okay, that's a bit nicer than outside.' It is, like, 'Oh, it's freezing,' and if I dress for hot outside, I come in here and now I'm freezing, my knees are knocking.

Ed Gamble

Yes, and part of the whole thing, the whole thing in LA is you've got to, like, be all brash and overly confident about what you do because, otherwise, they don't think you're any good at all and it's very



difficult to be brash and over-confident when you're the only person in an office wearing shorts and your dicks all shriveled up because of the air-conditioning.

James Acaster

It is hard to be confident when your dick's all shriveled.'

Ed Gamble

Yes, 'Did you see that shrimp-dick UK comedian come in? Ed Gamble, stupid little fucking knees and dick.'

James Acaster

Love it, love that voice, just love the voice, love the voice every time. Would you consider going into the meeting and speaking in that voice?

Ed Gamble

Yes, that would make me more confident, actually.

James Acaster

Yes, that'd be much better.

Ed Gamble

Yes, 'What's up? Hey, guys. I've flown all the way from fucking, London. I've got a shrimp-dick, make a show out of it.'

James Acaster

Now, imagine if I'd asked you-,

Ed Gamble

Good name for a sit-com, that.

James Acaster

Huh?

Ed Gamble

Good name for a sit-com.

James Acaster

Yes, what?

Ed Gamble

Shrimp-dick.

James Acaster

Shrimp-dick from London?



Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Thank you also to Arlo for not saying-, didn't say, 'Cola.'

Ed Gamble

Cola, it was a soft drink though, we went with orange, jus d'orange, if I may.

James Acaster

Yes, so no booze.

Ed Gamble

If I may.

James Acaster

Yes, oh you may.

Ed Gamble

Merci.

James Acaster

You always may, merci. So yes, I mean, yes, I don't know, is that the first time we've had a fresh orange juice as a main drink?

Ed Gamble

No, I don't think so. We've definitely had fresh orange juice before, I think.

James Acaster

Well, I mean, you know, yes, because we've probably asked about the contraption before.

Ed Gamble

Yes, we've definitely asked about the contraption before.

James Acaster

Richard E Grant chose the-, oh, because he wanted to be squeezed till his pips squeak. Yes, so of course he wanted the fresh orange.

Ed Gamble

Oh, we should remember to ask, when anybody picks fresh orange juice, 'Do you want to be squeezed until your pips squeak?'

James Acaster

Yes, shit, we should have asked her that.



Ed Gamble

She definitely doesn't because that would be like being in a Wallace and Gromit machine, wouldn't it?

James Acaster

Yes, that would be terrifying for Arlo.

Ed Gamble

Absolutely for terrifying for her, yes.

James Acaster

She's terrified of it but i'll tell you what kind of machine she's not scared of-,

Ed Gamble

Her Soft Machine.

James Acaster

Her Soft Machine.

Ed Gamble

Maybe that's what she's talking about.

James Acaster

Oh God, yes.

Ed Gamble

How did we miss that? She's talking about the orange juice machine.

James Acaster

Yes, maybe because all the Wallace and Gromit stuff is obviously made of Plasticine, so the machines in Wallace and Gromit are soft machines.

Ed Gamble

They're all soft, yes.

James Acaster

So, maybe it's about her fear of the contraptions in Wallace and Gromit.

Ed Gamble

Or her love of orange juice. Either way, we didn't ask the question.

James Acaster

Even though we didn't ask it, well, it's too late now.



Ed Gamble

Yes. My Soft Machine is coming out on Transgressive Records on Friday 26th May, go get it.

James Acaster

Arlo's going on tour in September, Dublin, London, Europe, go and get tickets.

Ed Gamble

Thank you very much for listening. We will see you again next week, bye bye.

James Acaster

Bye bye.