



Off Menu – Ep130 – Bridget Christie

Ed Gamble

Welcome to the Off Menu podcast, taking the frying pan of conversation, heating it up with the flame of the internet, drizzling in the oil of humour and cracking in two fresh-faced, young comedians and cooking until golden and runny.

James Acaster

Are we the fresh-faced comedians?

Ed Gamble

We sure are, James Acaster.

James Acaster

Hey, thanks Ed Gamble, this is the Off Menu podcast, where we invite a guest into the dream restaurant and ask them their favourite ever, starter, main course, dessert, side dish and drink, not in that order, and this week our guest is Bridget Christie.

Ed Gamble

Bridget Christie, it's the last episode in the series and we're very happy to have Bridget in the dream restaurant. She's a brilliant comedian and a brilliant writer, James.

James Acaster

Legend in the game, we all respect and love Bridget Christie so much, we're so privileged to have her in the dream restaurant. One of the many people who has beat me in the Edinburgh Comedy Awards.

Ed Gamble

Yes, we're trying to complete the full set of all of the people who've beaten James in the Edinburgh Comedy Awards, which is a lot of people because if you think about it, how many nominees are there per year? How many nominees?

James Acaster

Between six and nine.

Ed Gamble

So, that's between five and eight people every year you were nominated. Nominated five times?

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, wow, that could be 40 people that have beaten you in the Edinburgh Comedy Awards.

James Acaster

So, we have got to find out how many people finished ahead of me.

Ed Gamble

Well, all of them, every year.

James Acaster

Yes, probably was.



Ed Gamble

Yes, yes. Scraped in, scraped in every single year, but better to scrape in than scrape out. I don't know what that means but we're very excited to have Bridget in the dream restaurant.

James Acaster

One of the best, one of the greatest, the final episode of the series as well, that's a sad time, isn't it?

Ed Gamble

Yes, always a sad time. But, knowing us, we'll be back probably next week. And even though it's the last episode of the series, if Bridget says a secret ingredient that we've agreed upon in advance, she will be kicked out of the restaurant, and what a sad way that would be to end the series, James.

James Acaster

Really sad way to end the series, with a heavy heart, and some people are saying that during this, we should have kicked someone out already, Geoff Rosenstock apparently should have been kicked out.

Ed Gamble

Basically, he said cilantro in a chilli oil, which is coriander, but we said coriander seeds and I think he meant coriander leaf, so I don't think he was anywhere near to be kicked out.

James Acaster

Okay, well, I hear this stuff from my mum.

Ed Gamble

Yes, you're a very sad little boy, aren't you?

James Acaster

Yes, guilty as charged. And this week, the secret ingredient is donkey.

Ed Gamble

Donkey.

James Acaster

Oh, brilliant.

Ed Gamble

Thank you.

James Acaster

Donkey.

Ed Gamble

You were making fun of my Scottish accent the other week and now I'm back nailing it, and then you've done yours'.

James Acaster

Nailed it together, always good to both nail it together. Hey, donkey, come here. You-, what's cracking, donkey? Talking to me like that, stop it.

Ed Gamble

Well, I hope you're all looking forward to the next Off Menu live when we do them. We will do some more and we'll be opening with our characters, and James will be fully dressed up as Shrek doing his Shrek impression.



James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

And that's a promise.

James Acaster

That is a promise.

Ed Gamble

Bit more of that please.

James Acaster

That is a promise. If you buy a ticket to Off Menu live, I will be dressed as Shrek.

Ed Gamble

We've chosen donkey as a secret ingredient, because Bridget once did a show where she was dressed up as a war donkey, right?

James Acaster

It's called War Donkey, the show, it's a fantastic show. Bridget was dressed as a donkey for the whole thing so we're thinking, maybe, she got a taste for donkey meat during that show, and if she says 'donkey,' we can kick her out.

Ed Gamble

And Bridget's doing a new show now called Who am I? And that's on at the Leicester Square Theatre later this month. So, without further ado, this is the Off Menu menu of Bridget Christie.

James Acaster

Bridget Christie.

Ed Gamble

Welcome, Bridget, to the dream restaurant.

Bridget Christie

Thank you. Oh, gosh, what is that?

James Acaster

Welcome, Bridget Christie, to the dream restaurant, we've been expecting you for some time.

Ed Gamble

What do you think happened there, Bridget?

Bridget Christie

Right. I don't like loud noises when I'm eating and that's really put me off.

James Acaster

What other loud noises wouldn't you like?

Bridget Christie

Was that fireworks or was it, like, a water fountain?

James Acaster

Bit of both.



Bridget Christie

I mean, it is nice but I've just spilt all my drinks everywhere.

James Acaster

That was me bursting out of a lamp so there were some fireworks, maybe there was a bit of spray like water fountain.

Bridget Christie

Bursting out of a lamp?

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Oh, James is a genie in this, we probably should have mentioned this.

James Acaster

We didn't tell you that?

Bridget Christie

Is that why you're wearing those horrible clothes?

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

They don't suit you.

James Acaster

Can you describe what I'm wearing to the listeners?

Bridget Christie

Well, it's very bright. It looks like-, you know at Camden Market, there's a shop that's just got loads of material hanging down and purses, and the material's all shiny. And the shops you go in when you're at college or something, you go, 'Oh, it's so cool,' and they've got lit. James looks like he runs one of those shops and he's dressed himself in all the things in the shops.

Ed Gamble

I love those shops. I used to go to Camden Market on a weekend and go in all of those-, there was one man, who'd stand outside the shop, and I can't remember his catchphrase, it was something like shiny, shiny, t-shirt, and he'd go, 'Shiny, shiny, t-shirt?' And you'd go, 'No, I'm alright,' he'd go, 'No, shiny, shiny, t-shirt.' And then, once he dragged us all in there, into his shop to try on a shiny, shiny t-shirt, and he made us try them on, got them out a packet, try them on and I went, 'I don't want this,' and he went, 'Well, get the fuck out of my shop,' and threw the cardboard at me.

Bridget Christie

I want to meet this guy.

James Acaster

I absolutely love it.

Bridget Christie

Have you had him on?



James Acaster

What's the shiniest outfit you've ever worn or bought?

Bridget Christie

Shiniest outfit is a silver dress that was really scratchy and itchy, and so I never really wore it but I did find it in a charity shop.

James Acaster

Yes. How old were you?

Bridget Christie

How old am I?

James Acaster

How old were you?

Bridget Christie

Do you ask all your guests? No, I'm excited because I'm 50.

James Acaster

You are excited about being 50, aren't you? You told us about it before we started recording, so you heard me question how old were you, as, 'How old am I? I'll tell you.'

Ed Gamble

You crowbar it in somehow, even though it was clearly, 'How old were you,' that's what you heard, you were like, 'This is my opportunity,' 'How old am I? I'm 50.'

James Acaster

Even pretended to be offended by the question, 'Do you ask all your guests that? I'm 50 but I love it, I'm loving 50.'

Bridget Christie

It's going to be my answer to everything now. How old was I when I bought that silver dress? I don't know, 24? I'm sure I've bought something shinier than a dress to wear, out of all the odd things that I've bought to wear, there must be something shinier.

James Acaster

There must be something shinier you've worn. I mean, how shiny was the ant costume that you made yourself?

Bridget Christie

Not that shiny, actually.

James Acaster

Wasn't very shiny.

Bridget Christie

No, the only shiny thing with that was the leggings, and the goggles.

Ed Gamble

Because you've had multiple costumes. Charles I as well, was that one?

Bridget Christie

Nothing shiny about that.



Ed Gamble

No, nothing shiny about old Charles.

James Acaster

You dressed as a donkey for a show didn't you? Was that donkey?

Bridget Christie

No. There was Japanese knot-weed, a member of the bar staff had to cut me out of it using the knife that she used to cut the lemons and limes.

James Acaster

If that nicked you, that lemon knife.

Bridget Christie

She had a very trusting face.

James Acaster

That would hurt though, right?

Bridget Christie

It would hurt, with the lemon knife.

Ed Gamble

So, were you dressing as Japanese knot-weed every night of Edinburgh and she had to cut you out everyday with the lemon and lime knife?

Bridget Christie

No, it didn't make it into the finished show because it took too long to get in and out of it. I had, you know that plastic ivy foliage you can buy?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Bridget Christie

I had all of that all around me, like a green man, you know a green man? But then, I just couldn't get in and out of it. I think the whole twenty minutes was five minutes of that and then fifteen trying to get out of it.

James Acaster

I don't know, I'd like to watch that.

Ed Gamble

Yes, me too.

James Acaster

I think that'd be funny.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Bridget Christie

Yes. But, that would be another one of those things that I do where there's on comic laughing backstage, James, like the time you said, 'Wouldn't it be funny to drag that massive award out on stage,' and pretend that it was really heavy.



James Acaster

To be fair, I stand by that would be funny.

Bridget Christie

I dragged out in a funny way.

James Acaster

Bridget had won the Edinburgh Comedy Award, we were doing a gig that was all the nominees, plus the winner, awful gig. It's a notoriously hard gig.

Bridget Christie

You can't, it's awful.

James Acaster

It's always difficult. They're all sat there with their arms folded, going, 'Oh, these are the people that got nominated, are they?' And the night before in the same venue, there had been a show called The Wrestling, and at the end of The Wrestling they presented a massive, over the top trophy to the winner, and that was still on the side of the stage, and I said, 'Bridget, because you've won, it would be really fun if when they introduce you, you drag this really heavy trophy on with you like that's what you won.' So, they introduced Bridget, she dragged it on to absolute silence.

Ed Gamble

Because they don't know, do they?

James Acaster

All the way to the mic.

Ed Gamble

As far as they know, that is the award.

Bridget Christie

Yes, but also, if I saw someone dragging a thing-, you could hear a pin drop, couldn't you?

James Acaster

Apart from me and Mike Wozniak laughing our heads off. And then, you got to the middle, you went, 'Sorry everyone.'

Bridget Christie

It was light as a feather as well.

James Acaster

Yes, really light. 'Sorry, that's what they give you,' and they were like, 'What?'

Ed Gamble

It's a lesson we all learn, but never take advice from a comedian while you're side of stage, someone saying, 'It would be funny to do that because they're almost always going to fuck you up.'

Bridget Christie

Rosie Jones always does that to me as well, I'll say, 'Oh, I've had this idea but I'm not sure about it,' and she'll go, 'Do it, do it, do it,' and it never works, but I can always hear her laughing.

James Acaster

She's a bad influence, actually, in general.



Bridget Christie

She's a very naughty imp.

James Acaster

Yes. She's been on this podcast. She chose for her starter, all of the crisps.

Ed Gamble

Different crisps.

Bridget Christie

I can see why she did that. I've got a problem with crisps.

James Acaster

Go on.

Bridget Christie

Well, I just can't stop eating them. It's not a funny problem either, it's a problem. Dark problem.

James Acaster

How dark has it got.

Bridget Christie

I can't have them in the house.

James Acaster

Have you ever had to sit down yourself, really serious?

Bridget Christie

Yes, I've said, 'Come on, all the salt and what-not, just get on top of it,' but I just can't. There's no limit to how many crisps I could have, I don't think. I think I could genuinely not stop until someone pulled me away.

Ed Gamble

What sort of crisp? What's the ultimate one that sends you into a spiral?

Bridget Christie

It's just all.

Ed Gamble

Any.

James Acaster

All crisps? You can't even think of a flavour, that's how much you love them.

Bridget Christie

I can't have meat crisps because I'm veggie.

Ed Gamble

If there were meat crisps in the house, would you eat the meat crisps.

Bridget Christie

No, I can't. I had a really weird lightbulb moment where just a switch went off. It was, like, literally one second I could eat meat and chicken, and whatnot, and gone, the next I couldn't.



James Acaster

Where were you, where this lightbulb, road to Damascus moment happened?

Bridget Christie

Finsbury Park outside a chicken restaurant.

James Acaster

And what did you see that made you?

Bridget Christie

I had been in there before, and then I saw a sign that said it was halal, and I thought, 'Oh, right, okay,' and then I thought, 'Oh I didn't know that,' and then I thought, 'I don't know where any of the stuff that I've eaten lived, or how it was killed, or in what circumstances, or any part of its life from beginning to end, and that was it, I just thought, 'I can't.'

Ed Gamble

So, your issue with the meat was that you don't know its backstory.

Bridget Christie

Yes.

Ed Gamble

If you'd know a little bit more about the meat, about where it grew up, would you have been happier?

Bridget Christie

And whether it was read to at night, and stuff. It was literally, I didn't even have to think about it.

James Acaster

Yes, what about eggs?

Bridget Christie

That's the next thing to go.

Ed Gamble

I guess you, sort of, do know the backstory of the egg, right?

James Acaster

Came out the butt.

Bridget Christie

And it's always, you know, where have I got them from? I always try and get the ones with feathers still on them. And then, I keep them and I'm building them up, I'm saving them up, all these little feathers that you get sometimes.

Ed Gamble

No, you're not, Bridget, what you talking about.

Bridget Christie

I am. No, to make a pillow for myself.

Ed Gamble

Come on.



Bridget Christie

I'm going to make a scarf out of it.

Ed Gamble

Out of egg feathers? You're saving up the feathers of eggs, to make a little pillow.

Bridget Christie

A tiny pillow.

Ed Gamble

A tiny little pillow.

James Acaster

How big will the pillow be? Not to put your head on, by the sound of things.

Bridget Christie

Are you saying I've got a really massive head? I've actually got a really small head.

James Acaster

Big 50-year-old head.

Bridget Christie

In fact, I have had a nickname which is ant head because I've got a small head. I put on four stone with my first child, but my head didn't get bigger so I looked really weird.

James Acaster

The tiny pillow that you're making out of egg feathers, you're going to put your little ant head on that?

Bridget Christie

I've only got three so far, and I've been collecting them for about four years. There's not often one in there.

Ed Gamble

Where are you buying the eggs from that you can sort through them and find the ones with egg feathers on?

Bridget Christie

Well, I only buy eggs, say, I'm driving the countryside and there's a little sign outside a farm saying, 'Get your eggs here,' I just buy them. No, I don't, I just get them.

James Acaster

Where are you keeping these feathers?

Bridget Christie

In a box?

James Acaster

In a little box?

Bridget Christie

Yes.

James Acaster

Is it a Tupperware box or a cardboard box?



Bridget Christie

It's an egg box.

James Acaster

Oh, so you've kept an egg box and you've got three feathers in there.

Bridget Christie

I'm not a hoarder but I keep certain things.

Ed Gamble

What else do you keep?

Bridget Christie

I've got my children's umbilical chords.

James Acaster

Oh God.

Ed Gamble

Make a pillow?

Bridget Christie

No, because they'd be too sharp because where they dry out, they become quite hard. I'd be like, 'What's that sticking out?'

Ed Gamble

Like squid?

Bridget Christie

I've never kept a squid and kept it in a box for fourteen years so I don't know how that would age.

James Acaster

I wouldn't rule it out at this stage.

Ed Gamble

Yes, don't look at me like that's completely out the realms of possibility.

Bridget Christie

Teeth, loads of little milk teeth, and my son's hair, it was golden when he was little, like a halo, so I kept that. If I was in an accident and I lost a finger, I'd probably keep that.

Ed Gamble

Would you keep it in the same box as the umbilical chord and the hair and stuff?

Bridget Christie

That's my kid's box, so I'd probably have to have a separate box for all my stuff that had come off.

James Acaster

Yes. What accident are you imagining that means that you lose a finger?

Bridget Christie

Well, I saw my fingers, so that was the first thing I thought of, yes, because they're here on the table.



James Acaster

Any body part, if you lost it, would you keep it?

Bridget Christie

My head, if I was decapitated in a horrible accident.

Ed Gamble

You could keep that in the egg box, it's so small.

James Acaster

Just pop it in one of the chambers. We always start with still or sparkling water.

Bridget Christie

Oh God, still every time, can't do sparkling. (a) it's very gassy, gaseous, don't know what the right word is, and also it sticks in my throat, which is weird because it's water. I've got a very-, well, I think it's a small, a closed throat, a tight throat, I don't know, I have to really swallow food now properly, like, chew it up properly.

James Acaster

Otherwise it isn't getting through.

Bridget Christie

I would choke. You know, chocolate snow balls at Christmas, they've got a dusting outside? That would make me choke.

Ed Gamble

How often do you choke or nearly choke?

Bridget Christie

Do you know what? I have to be so careful, genuinely, that not at all now. A couple of years ago, it was all the time, I was like, 'I need to sort this out.' My throat is becoming too small for food, that I would normally just eat.

Ed Gamble

And is this to do with the ant head as well, do you think? Do you have an ant throat?

Bridget Christie

Do you think it's ants getting back at me because I did, like, the character.

James Acaster

You pretended to be an ant in one of your shows so now you're turning into an ant.

Bridget Christie

Do you think I might be?

James Acaster

I think it's a metamorphosis thing, you pretended to be an ant and now you're gradually turning into an ant, and it's first your head, and now your throat.

Bridget Christie

Because I can carry really big boxes, and I'm now able to carry much more than I used to, I have been working out a bit, might be that. But, yes, so swallowing things, so fizzy water.

Ed Gamble

So your throat's so small that the bubbles get caught?



Bridget Christie

I think actually that is what's happening. Because there's so much air, I'm not a scientist, but maybe all the air is, not expanding, but creating more space in my throat, I don't think that makes any sense. I don't know, maybe all the bubbles, they do something.

James Acaster

You were saying you can't eat chocolate snow balls.

Bridget Christie

No, I can eat them, I just have to lick them first, I have to lick the dust off them first because it's the dust.

James Acaster

So then, if you're licking the dust off them first, isn't that asking for trouble because you just get all the dust.

Ed Gamble

No, I totally see what you mean, because you wet the dust, because if you put one in the mouth without wetting the dust, and you inhale the powder down your throat, then I understand that that's probably an issue.

Bridget Christie

He's very clever, isn't he?

James Acaster

Yes, he's very clever.

Ed Gamble

I am a scientist.

James Acaster

Ed is a scientist unlike us. So, you get all the dust in your throat and then your throat can't take it.

Bridget Christie

Okay, so Turkish delight would probably kill me, or I couldn't have Turkish delight in a nice, dignified way if it was served to me in a restaurant, because I'd have to say, 'I've got to lick all of this first.'

James Acaster

You'd announce it.

Bridget Christie

I'd announce it, and then I'd sit there licking it all.

Ed Gamble

The white witch would have kicked you out of her carriage, you wouldn't have had a chance to betray the other kids in Narnia, they'd be like, 'That is disgusting, Bridget, get out of here. Go and hang out with Tumnus.'

Bridget Christie

But, it might work for me though. She might think, 'Who is this loose cannon, licking all the Turkish delight? I'm not going to F with her.' Oh, you swore actually, 'I'm not going to fuck with her, with this Turkish delight licking anomaly.'



James Acaster

You'd fit in in Narnia, wouldn't you? Because there's a lot of creatures there that are part animal and part human.

Bridget Christie

It's funny that you bring Narnia up because it's not really a sexual fantasy, but one of the symptoms of the menopause, which is what I'm in now, is hot flushes, and I'm having really good fun with my menopause, but I know that's not a lot of women's experience, but I am, and my sister told me this great trick to do. For any issue that you've got, visualise the thing. So I visualise, so my hot flushes, right? I imagine that James McAvoy who was Mr Tumnus is controlling my body temperature using a thermostat. So I see him in an old Victorian house, like, with the wooden floorboards.

Ed Gamble

So that's how, first of all, that's how you imagine your body as, like, an old Victorian house, is it?

Bridget Christie

No, but-

Ed Gamble

Ah, okay.

Bridget Christie

I might do now, no it's just-,

James Acaster

But that's just where your body thermostat happens to be?

Bridget Christie

It's him as a fawn specifically, in the red scarf. Because he's out in the snow so that makes me feel, 'Ah it's snowy and cold.' But also, his blue eyes, because, you know, he's mischievous, isn't he? But it's his cloppety feet and the red scarf, the whole thing. So when I'm getting a, he's just in there going, 'Let's make Bridget hot and cold and have a lot of fun with that.'

James Acaster

Yes. I wonder why you felt the need to preface that with, 'this isn't a sexual fantasy.' Because I don't think if you'd just told us that we would have thought, 'Randy old Bridget.'

Bridget Christie

I've got no idea why I said that, because there's nothing sexual about it-,

James Acaster

Just so you know, there's nothing sexual. No, it doesn't sound as though-,

Ed Gamble

No, not at all.

Bridget Christie

I mean, he's not wearing anything apart from the red scarf, that's maybe why I made that leap.

Ed Gamble

Yes, but he does have hooves.

James Acaster

Yes. But he's, like, I assume he's, like, you know, he as in the film. You haven't, you know, made it more graphic-,



Bridget Christie
Embellished him?

James Acaster
You haven't made it more anatomically correct and given him a-

Bridget Christie
Well you have now, haven't you?

James Acaster
A fawn, yes, penis-

Bridget Christie
So now that's in my head.

Ed Gamble
Yes, you're never going to be able to get rid that.

James Acaster
Now that's it. That's him swinging around while he's messing with your thermostat.

Bridget Christie
But a fawn in The Lion, The Witch, in that TV, he doesn't have any genitals in that.

James Acaster
No.

Ed Gamble
No, kid's film-

Bridget Christie
There's nothing there.

James Acaster
Kid's film.

Bridget Christie
But a satyr has a permanently erect penis, doesn't it?

James Acaster
What? Why are you looking at Ben, like, 'Ben will know'?

Ed Gamble
Looked straight at Benito then when you said that. First time you've looked at Benito for the whole episode so far.

James Acaster
Perfectly erect penis, then look straight at Benito straight away.

Bridget Christie
No, permanently. A satyr is, you know, like, the Pan god. There's loads of different names. I think that a satyr is Greek and a fawn is Roman, is that right?



James Acaster

Right, okay.

Ed Gamble

Looked at Benito again.

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

I'm sorry, it's because he's doing all the technical stuff so I assume-

James Acaster

He looks like Richard Osman over there on his laptop.

Bridget Christie

I assume that you know more than we do about satyrs and erect penises.

James Acaster

So, a satyr?

Bridget Christie

A satyr is, like, a naughty, Pan god. Like, half goat, half man. Well it's a naughty god.

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

It's the devil, isn't it? In half goat form, I think that's what a satyr is. But a fawn, I'm imagining it's less sinister.

Ed Gamble

Well he's not, sort of, Tumnus isn't sinister. Tumnus is nice, isn't he?

Bridget Christie

Mr Tumnus is not getting around with a big, hard erection, so.

Ed Gamble

Although, that would make sense, that's why he lives in the woods by himself. Been banished.

Bridget Christie

No, well don't because that will put me off woods now. Oh my God. And now I'm remembering that I've, now I can't, my eye's twitching now.

James Acaster

Yes, I can see that, yes. It is just genuinely an eye twitch you've developed.

Ed Gamble

Who are you imagining controlling your eyes?

Bridget Christie

Let's have a think. Who else has been an animal, half animal?

James Acaster

Well, I tell you someone who's played an animal in a film.



Ed Gamble

Pretty arrogant of James to bring up his own acting career here.

Bridget Christie

Have you played an animal in a film?

James Acaster

Well, it's coming out this Friday, Bridget.

Bridget Christie

What animal are you?

James Acaster

I'm a mouse in Cinderella, turned into a footman. So that's-,

Bridget Christie

Oh my-,

James Acaster

That's part animal, part-,

Ed Gamble

You probably, they've done a lot of good promo for the film. I don't know if you saw James Corden dancing in a traffic jam.

James Acaster

Can gloss over the promo.

Ed Gamble

No?

James Acaster

The promo doesn't matter.

Bridget Christie

Is this the thrusting thing that I've heard about?

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

I can't, I'm sorry if any man thrusts at me I'd kick him in the face. There's-,

James Acaster

If that was the only part of his body that was exposed I suppose.

Bridget Christie

I hate thrusting so much, I cannot even tell you. Even just one. If one of you just did one and said, 'That was an accident, my hips moved like that involuntarily, that it was nothing.' I would, I don't think I'd ever see you again.

James Acaster

No.



James Acaster
Poppadoms or bread?

Bridget Christie
Jesus Christ.

James Acaster
Poppadoms or bread, Bridget Christie? Poppadoms or bread?

Bridget Christie
Poppadoms.

James Acaster
Poppadoms.

Ed Gamble
Now, is that really your choice or have you been panicked in to it?

Bridget Christie
Bread, be too full and also I have, like, a wheat, I don't know what I've got. I've tried to look into it, but I get cramps with too much bread and stuff. I think it's the wheat.

James Acaster
You'd go pops every time. How's the tight throat dealing with poppadoms?

Bridget Christie
That's not dry.

James Acaster
That's okay.

Bridget Christie
Yes, so I'd just crunch them up.

Ed Gamble
You've got to crunch them up quite a lot, I'd imagine if you try and take them down too dry or if there in shards I'd imagine the ant throat is not going to like that.

Bridget Christie
No I wouldn't, I mean you wouldn't swallow a massive, sharp bit of poppadom. I'm not insane. I've got a small throat. That I'd swallow a massive shard of poppadom. It's just dusty things, God. Just because I'm 50. You know, you can take me out, I'm not going to, you know, be sticking things in my throat. Going, 'Ow, why didn't I chew that up?' I'm not, you know, I'm only half a century. You know, I'm not, have I got any things with the poppadoms?

James Acaster
Yes, well what would you like with it because I was going to say does that make it difficult for the ant throat if you're putting toppings on it?

Bridget Christie
We don't need to talk about the ant throat anymore.

James Acaster
Why don't we need to? I mean, we've never had a guest on the podcast who's got an ant throat before.



Bridget Christie

It's just a, I'm sure you have, a tight throat. They've just not admitted to it. I've just-,

James Acaster

Well this is the first time we've been able to talk about it and, you know, I just think it's relevant-,

Bridget Christie

It's become smaller in the last five years. It's become harder for me to swallow things in the last five years. But I do, I don't, like, chew my food up and then spit it out. I do swallow it.

James Acaster

Because we're talking about food on this podcast.

Bridget Christie

Yes.

James Acaster

Earlier you said you'd kept the umbilical cords. Did you eat the placenta?

Bridget Christie

No, it didn't come, like, I wasn't asked. And actually, when I, the midwife threw my daughter's in the bin. And I-,

James Acaster

A normal bin?

Bridget Christie

I had to fish through the bin to get it. I said, I really, I, like, burst into tears and said, 'I wanted to keep that.' And she was, like, 'It's, you know, it's waste,' or whatever. Just chucked it in the bin. Because we don't keep things like that. Lots of cultures, indigenous cultures keep placentas and, because they believe in, like, the planet and stuff. So they give something back to mother nature because they think they've been given life. So, they plant it in the ground or they attach it to a tree and they, sort of, see it as giving something back. It's really amazing all that stuff-,

Ed Gamble

God, I'd hate to stumble across that tree on a walk. I'd be absolutely petrified, imagine if you were taking a walk at night time and found the placenta tree.

Bridget Christie

No, we just throw dog shit in them, don't we, instead?

James Acaster

What in the tree?

Bridget Christie

Yes, in bags. Have you not seen trees covered in plastic bags.

James Acaster

No.

Bridget Christie

Have you not?



James Acaster

I've not seen a tree with a plastic bag full of dog shit in it.

Bridget Christie

Have you ever been on a motorway? By, in a lay-by look at the trees, people just, do you walk? Have you got a dog or anything?

James Acaster

No. I go for walks, but-

Bridget Christie

Maybe you've not noticed. Yes, trees are now, back me up here. I can't believe this. I can't believe you don't know how much people throw bags full of dog shit into trees.

Ed Gamble

No, I've never seen it.

Bridget Christie

Yes.

James Acaster

Neither of us have this. Benito?

Bridget Christie

It's a thing, it's a thing-

James Acaster

Benito's shaking his head.

Bridget Christie

Yes, it's a thing. I think you're living very sheltered lives.

James Acaster

I don't know, I think maybe you're the one living quite a sordid life.

Bridget Christie

It's not me, I haven't got a dog, I mean, I wouldn't do it. Also it's, like, why go to the bother of putting it in a dog bag? It's probably better to just let your dog foul, isn't it? Because of the plastic?

James Acaster

Did you see one tree where this was the case or have you seen it, do you see it a lot?

Bridget Christie

It's a thing and you're going to get lots of calls about this I imagine. It's a thing that people do. It is a blight on the countryside. And in parks.

Ed Gamble

I believe you, I've just never, I've never seen one.

Bridget Christie

Well you're lucky, I wish that I had not seen it, because it is, imagine all the little birds that should be in there.

Ed Gamble

Pecking into them thinking-



James Acaster

And instead they've got a tree full of dog shit.

Bridget Christie

Well I don't think they'll be pecking into the bags, will they? What kind of birds do you know?

Ed Gamble

Well I don't know any birds, but-,

Bridget Christie

Well they don't eat bags of dog shit.

Ed Gamble

Yes, but they might want to see what's in the, they might want to see what's in the bag though.

Bridget Christie

What kind of a bird is this?

Ed Gamble

What kind of tree is this, you know?

Bridget Christie

They're not going to peck a plastic-,

Ed Gamble

Right, okay they're not going to do that. Yes.

Bridget Christie

Bag that doesn't smell of berries or-,

Ed Gamble

I grew up in London, I don't really know about nature.

James Acaster

Would it peck a placenta?

Bridget Christie

It might do, actually, because that's organic matter, isn't it? Rather than a plastic bag.

James Acaster

You'd hope so.

Ed Gamble

True.

James Acaster

Would you rather sleep on a pillow made of egg feathers or sleep on a pillow made of feathers that are from birds that-,

Bridget Christie

Do you mean chicken?

James Acaster

Have exclusively-,



Bridget Christie

Eggs don't grow feathers?

James Acaster

Well, you're the one who said-

Bridget Christie

Yes, sorry, I cut you off.

James Acaster

Would you rather sleep on a pillow full of egg feathers or sleep on a pillow full of feathers from birds that have exclusively been sitting in the dog shit tree?

Bridget Christie

It wouldn't make any difference to me?

James Acaster

No?

Bridget Christie

No.

James Acaster

Wouldn't they smell a bit of dog shit?

Bridget Christie

No, because the, well, no. I mean, unless they had a bath in it, which they don't do.

James Acaster

Yes okay.

Bridget Christie

I mean, how would I know?

James Acaster

We'd be able to tell you.

Ed Gamble

We'd tell you at the end.

Bridget Christie

Oh you'd tell me?

James Acaster

We'd tell you-,

Ed Gamble

You'd have one night with, you pick your pillow.

Bridget Christie

Well the egg feathers then.

Ed Gamble

Egg feathers, yes, fair enough.



James Acaster

If you had a pet bird and you bought it and you were really happy with it and you were excited and you brought it home to your kids. Why are you shaking your head? Before I've even got to-

Bridget Christie

The, I can't even go to aviaries it bothers me so much, or zoos. I cannot cope with caged, anything caged.

James Acaster

Okay, well it's not in a cage then.

Bridget Christie

Oh so I live on a huge estate and it just flies around?

James Acaster

Flies over your house.

Bridget Christie

Yes, if it can-

James Acaster

It's a house bird.

Bridget Christie

If it can come and go as it pleases.

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

Well I've got three cats. So I wouldn't have a bird. But let's just-

James Acaster

Well, let's say it lives in harmony with the birds.

Bridget Christie

Let's just say they all get on.

James Acaster

Yes, your family love it.

Bridget Christie

Yes.

James Acaster

Everyone loves it.

Bridget Christie

Yes. It can come and go as it pleases.

James Acaster

But here's the catch. All it eats is bags of dog shit.



Bridget Christie

Do I have-

James Acaster

Yes, you've got to feed it.

Bridget Christie

That's the scenario?

James Acaster

Correct, yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, that's the scenario.

James Acaster

So everyone loves the bird it comes and goes as it pleases.

Ed Gamble

Sings so nicely.

James Acaster

Sings a beautiful song everyday.

Bridget Christie

I'd have to say to it, 'There's a lady down the road who's got a dog. You'll have to eat there and then come back when you've finished and have a wash before you come back.'

Ed Gamble

I don't think, because I think then I could call, for example, the RSPB and say that, 'Bridget's got a bird, but she's refusing to feed it.'

Bridget Christie

Hang on a sec, I was given a scenario.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Bridget Christie

With no options or deviations.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Bridget Christie

So I don't know why the RSPB are now getting involved.

Ed Gamble

Because you're refusing to feed your bird.

Bridget Christie

No I'm not.

Ed Gamble

Yes you are, because it only eats dog shit and you're making someone else-



James Acaster

Bags of dog shit.

Ed Gamble

Bags of dog shit, and your making someone else do it-,

Bridget Christie

Yes, but we've come to an arrangement. If Polly then said, 'Well I'd rather eat here.' I would say, 'Well we need to have a look at your diet then.'

Ed Gamble

Yes. I think that's a reasonable thing to say to a parrot.

Bridget Christie

Yes.

Ed Gamble

It's a parrot?

Bridget Christie

Is it?

Ed Gamble

Well Polly, I just assumed it was a parrot.

James Acaster

Polly sounds like a parrot.

Bridget Christie

Does it?

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

I hadn't-,

James Acaster

Classic parrot name.

Bridget Christie

Yes. We've got those green parrots out the back with the red beaks. What are they called? You know the ones, the green parrots?

Ed Gamble

Parakeets.

Bridget Christie

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes.



Bridget Christie

They managed to get squirrels off the nut feeders. They, like, shout at them and the squirrels go off.

James Acaster

What do they shout?

Bridget Christie

Well they go, like, 'Wah wah, get off, you stupid feathered idiots.'

Ed Gamble

They call the squirrels stupid feathered idiots?

Bridget Christie

Which is rich, because I think squirrels are cleverer than parakeets.

James Acaster

And don't have feathers.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Bridget Christie

I once saw, this is, well I only did it once and then I felt really mean. I, because there's little birds that I love coming in for their nuts and whatnot and their fat balls. But the squirrels would always just get them. So, and I had this pole and I'd made this pole that was so high that they couldn't, but they still managed to get up it. So I put a little bit of Vaseline on the pole and a squirrel, sort of, did, like, a, it, well it was one of the funniest things I've ever seen-,

Ed Gamble

Like a stripper move?

Bridget Christie

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Great.

Bridget Christie

Went all the way-,

Ed Gamble

Twirled all the way down.

Bridget Christie

Twirled all the way down. And then I, then I rubbed it off because I felt mean.

James Acaster

What?

Bridget Christie

Rubbed the Vaseline. That is not my menopause. I don't know why that is so funny, oh God. Have they got, I don't think they've got external genitals, have they?

Ed Gamble

Benito?



Bridget Christie

Squirrels. I haven't seen any, have you?

James Acaster

I've not seen any squirrel genitalia, so, yes, who knows? I don't know how easy it would be to rub one off.

Bridget Christie

Water, we've only done water, haven't we?

James Acaster

Your dream starter.

Bridget Christie

Right, can I have please, my daughter's mackerel tart? With salad from the 1980s.

James Acaster

Okay, yes you can.

Ed Gamble

Yes, of course. We need to know more about both of these things.

Bridget Christie

Okay.

James Acaster

Let's start with your daughter's mackerel tart.

Bridget Christie

So, she'll do her pastry first, shortcrust pastry which she's very good at and she'll pop it in the fridge, do it all properly. Then she does leeks in butter on the hob. So, when she's blind baked the pastry, base first, take it out, put the buttered leeks in. And with frozen peas so that soaks up the butter, that's really nice. Then you lay out the smoked mackerel, make sure all the bones are out and then it's crème fraiche mixed with eggs and salt and pepper. Pour that on top and then put some more mackerel and then bake that.

Ed Gamble

It sounds delicious.

James Acaster

Sounds good.

Bridget Christie

It's, it's very good.

James Acaster

How old is she?

Bridget Christie

Ten.

Ed Gamble

Wow.



James Acaster
Impressive.

Ed Gamble
That's really impressive.

Bridget Christie
She's very impressive.

Ed Gamble
Yes.

Bridget Christie
Loads of cakes as well and stuff. But the, her mackerel tart. And her bread, I shouldn't really have it but she's really good at making it.

Ed Gamble
And did she just-,

Bridget Christie
Loves it.

Ed Gamble
Decide she's going to do this, she's just, like-,

Bridget Christie
It's her thing.

Ed Gamble
'I'm going to crack on and do this.'

Bridget Christie
Her thing. She's going to have a van when she's, you know, that's going to be her job. A little food van.

James Acaster
When did she start this interest? When did she start getting in to this, kind of, stuff?

Bridget Christie
Couple of years ago, about two, three years ago.

James Acaster
What was it that-,

Bridget Christie
I like baking, I-, we would bake together. And then, you know, if I'm busy or something she'll just do it herself then. But it's nice to do it together.

James Acaster
Would you say the student has become the master?

Bridget Christie
She's pretty good. She's really-, she made me a lemon birthday cake for my 50th birthday, because I was 50.



James Acaster

Are you 50?

Bridget Christie

And it was really, yes, it was just, everyone was like, 'Wow.'

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

We took it to the restaurant, I was so proud.

Ed Gamble

I can't have smoked mackerel anymore, Bridget.

Bridget Christie

Oh God.

Ed Gamble

Because, I love it, but then a few months ago I had some for breakfast and I went bright red.

Bridget Christie

A bone?

Ed Gamble

No. No I've got a massive throat, I've got an elephant's throat-

James Acaster

Massive, big old throat.

Ed Gamble

No, it was something in it just made me go, I felt like my head was going to pop off.

Bridget Christie

All of a sudden?

Ed Gamble

All of my blood went to my head, I felt like it was going to pop off.

Bridget Christie

What?

Ed Gamble

I looked in the mirror, didn't, I didn't feel, I just felt hot and I looked and I'd gone completely red.

Bridget Christie

But why would that happen just out of the blue?

Ed Gamble

Sometimes I think the way, I looked it up, sometimes the way they store mackerel there's an issue with it and there's too many histamines in it. So it's, like, I had a massive allergic reaction to this mackerel and went completely red, I did. So, what do you mean salad from the 80s?



Bridget Christie

Salad from the 80s was different. You can buy a lettuce now that is more like the lettuce you used to get in the 80s which is called butter-head lettuce. But also, I've noticed, I shouldn't really say, but I've noticed that salad items and herbs, especially sage, are not what they used to be since we left. I don't know, they're just-

James Acaster

What do you mean, you shouldn't really say that?

Bridget Christie

Well, stuff is going-

James Acaster

You think you're going to get cancelled?

Bridget Christie

My fruit and vegetables and salad is going off much quicker and this is the most middle class thing I've ever said in my life and I'm ashamed to say it. But sage, when I used to get sage, the leaves used to be really nice and small and thin. And now they're, sort of, really big and chunky and hard. And they won't fry properly and I'm ashamed that I've just said that. I'm ashamed of myself.

Ed Gamble

And you this as a result of Brexit?

Bridget Christie

It's entirely, my hard, chunky sage is because of Nigel, and I hate him for that. And out of all the things that have happened, all the people who've lost their livelihoods and everything, all the worst things, my chunky sage is absolutely the worst thing that has happened. To come out of it.

James Acaster

Yes, hard, chunky sage.

Ed Gamble

Why is that then do you think? Do you think now you can only get British sage and it's harder and chunkier and beforehand you were getting, like, French sage or something?

Bridget Christie

I don't know. But I can't fry it.

Ed Gamble

Right.

James Acaster

You like frying sage?

Bridget Christie

There's a thing called sage eggs, have you done them?

James Acaster

What?

Bridget Christie

It's butter in a pan, loads of chilli flakes, sage. You fry all that up, the sage with the chilli and the butter, put it in a little jug. Another thing with the menopause is words.



James Acaster

Is that a menopause thing?

Bridget Christie

Yes, it's the, words, names, people, getting people mixed up.

James Acaster

Yes, so what happened there? Tumnus had the word jug hidden in his scarf?

Bridget Christie

I'm going to make it you now as a mouse, running off with my words because he's doing the heat thing.

James Acaster

Am I thrusting in it? With Corden?

Bridget Christie

No. That's ruined it now already.

James Acaster

Sorry.

Bridget Christie

It's going to have to be Mr Tumnus for all of my symptoms.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Can you, for the words I think you should imagine James as a mouse, Acaster not Corden, thrusting and the word is bumped away, he's thrust the word away.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

And it, like, pings off in to the distance-,

Bridget Christie

From his hip, groin area, hips?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Groin.

Bridget Christie

I mean, that might make me grasp the word quicker if I can see-,

Ed Gamble

Yes, because you've captured the-,

James Acaster

From wanting the thrusting to stop, yes.



Bridget Christie

I'm not going to be able to not see that now.

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

So every single time, I'll thank, I'll have you know, I can't think of a word which is multiple times everyday.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Bridget Christie

I will now be thinking of, which half of him is a mouse now? The bottom half or the top half?

James Acaster

Well, in the film the whole of me is a mouse and then I'd turn completely into a human, so-

Ed Gamble

No one's going to watch that so, imagine it however you'd like.

Bridget Christie

Okay so I'm going to have your bottom half as the mouse because there'd be no genitals or anything.

James Acaster

Okay.

Bridget Christie

Like Mr Tumnus.

James Acaster

Tumnus, yes.

Bridget Christie

Yes, so bottom half is a mouse and then the top half is you.

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

Because I like you and you're my friend and we've known each other.

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

So, because if it was the mouse's head and face I wouldn't really know that and your bottom half, that's not a good combination.

James Acaster

No, it's inappropriate.



Bridget Christie

I think it's much better to have a cute, furry, genitalia free bottom half.

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

Because that's quite cute, maybe with the tail.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, you need a tail.

Bridget Christie

You know, and then your top half.

Ed Gamble

Now tell me Bridget, do you imagine that if his bottom half is the mouse, is he on all fours? Is he on his human hands as well-

Bridget Christie

No, he's standing up.

Ed Gamble

Or is, he's standing up on his mouse legs.

Bridget Christie

Standing up on his mouse legs.

Ed Gamble

Okay, cool. Yes.

James Acaster

My arms, human arms.

Bridget Christie

He's actually on a bicycle.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Bridget Christie

Don't know why I've put him on a bicycle-

James Acaster

Pretty hard to thrust on a bicycle-

Bridget Christie

I don't know why I've put him on a bicycle, just-

Ed Gamble

Unicycle? Be easier to thrust on the unicycle, I suppose.



James Acaster

Yes, I can thrust on a unicycle.

Bridget Christie

No, you'd go backwards and forwards.

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

No, that would be very hard to do. I think you'd come off and I'd be stressed. I'd be trying to think of the word and stressed about you hurting yourself.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Bridget Christie

I'll just have him standing by a pond or something.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Bridget Christie

It's a good, good job you've got there. Is it a big part?

James Acaster

No. Not really.

Bridget Christie

How did you end up being a mouse in a film?

Ed Gamble

He was cast in it and then they said, 'What do you want to play?'

James Acaster

Yes, they said, 'Look. Obviously you could be in this film. Choose the role.'

Bridget Christie

Is that right?

James Acaster

No.

Bridget Christie

I wonder what about you made them think mouse.

James Acaster

I'll tell you what it was.

Bridget Christie

I'd love to know who else was up for the mouse part.

James Acaster

Well, I can tell you. I mean it wasn't meant to be, and this is, this is widely known. It's already been reported. But I wasn't meant to play the role, so originally it was John Mulaney.



Bridget Christie

Right.

James Acaster

But filming in the UK during Covid so, couldn't do it and it was, like, two days before filming. So, like, 'We need to get someone quick.' And the person playing the prince just said to the director, 'Just get James Acaster.'

Bridget Christie

This is such a brilliant story. Really?

James Acaster

Yes, and then, you know, the director Kay Cannon she hadn't heard of me but she trusted the prince. So she went, 'Yes, alright.'

Bridget Christie

Who's the, has he seen your stand-up?

James Acaster

He was watching my stand-up at the time, he was watching my shows.

Bridget Christie

At the time?

James Acaster

Like, not live. But he'd been watching them in the evenings and he was, like, 'I'm watching this guy, get him.'

Bridget Christie

That's why this business is so, you can't take anything personally or you can't, you can't, sort of, be upset about anything that happens because it's so random, isn't it?

James Acaster

Yes, yes. Pretty funny.

Bridget Christie

That's a great story.

James Acaster

That was it, so, like, the mice are all called, so James Corden's mouse is called James, Romesh Ranganathan's mouse is called Romesh.

Bridget Christie

How did he get his part?

James Acaster

Oh he was first choice.

Bridget Christie

Romesh?

James Acaster

Yes, yes. And then my mouse was called John, because John Mulaney was meant to play it.



Bridget Christie

That's funny.

Ed Gamble

They didn't change that.

James Acaster

Can't have two mice called James.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

So, John the mouse.

Bridget Christie

So they asked Romesh to be a mouse?

James Acaster

Yes, Romesh was always going, so they contacted me and said, 'Do you want to do this? It films in two days time, the other mice are James Corden and Romesh Ranganathan.' I was, like, 'Yes, of course I'll do that.'

Bridget Christie

And how much are you you in it, like this?

James Acaster

Yes, I mean I'm not, you know, my range isn't, you know, yes, I think-

Bridget Christie

Is it animated then?

Ed Gamble

Well I think what Bridget was asking is how much are you human-

Bridget Christie

Yes.

Ed Gamble

And how much are you a mouse, rather than-

James Acaster

Good question, yes, yes, yes-

Bridget Christie

Sorry, I should've made that clear-

Ed Gamble

Rather than do you act well.

James Acaster

Well, I, like, for most of the film I'm a cartoon mouse. A CGI mouse.

Bridget Christie

A CGI mouse.



James Acaster

And then we get turned into humans.

Bridget Christie

Do we see the, like, in Doctor Who, do we see you transform?

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

Do you have to go, 'Ah,' and stuff.

James Acaster

Yes, well, here's a thing that happened. So, like, yes, the first thing we had to do was turn into humans from when we were filming and we had to start in a very low down, crouched down position, the three of us. And then Kay Cannon shouts, 'Action.' And then we all had to jump in the air and land on our feet like we'd just, like, transformed. And the first take we did of that, crouch real down low, jumped up in the air, landed and then I did a big fart. A really big, loud fart in front of everyone.

Bridget Christie

Did you really?

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

Did they keep it in?

James Acaster

Well, I don't know yet, it comes out on Friday. I guess I'll see.

Bridget Christie

But did everyone hear?

James Acaster

No, everyone was very nice about it and everyone made out that they couldn't hear it. But I was, like, 'I don't know why you couldn't hear that.'

Ed Gamble

Was it nerves, like a nervous fart?

James Acaster

It was a-,

Bridget Christie

I think it was just the position, wasn't it?

James Acaster

I think, yes, it was the position, but also probably a bit of nerves.

Ed Gamble

Yes.



James Acaster

I'll admit that.

Bridget Christie

Have you got a loose rectum?

James Acaster

Yes, well I was getting into the role of a mouse and I'm pretty sure mice, mice just plop whenever, don't they? So, like,-

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Bridget Christie

They do, don't they?

James Acaster

So I thought, surely, yes, if I was, like, a human who,-

Bridget Christie

You really got in to character.

James Acaster

Who'd just been a mouse, yes.

Ed Gamble

This is a great double act, tight throat and loose rectum.

Bridget Christie

I mean I'm up for it if you are.

James Acaster

Is that what you said to the squirrel?

Bridget Christie

I don't know why the squirrel thing is so funny. I don't know why the squirrel thing is so funny. Oh God. You can't mention the squirrel again. Oh God. This is-,

James Acaster

You made it do a sexy little pole dance for you-,

Bridget Christie

Quite smutty for us, isn't it?

Ed Gamble

It is, we're not usually-,

Bridget Christie

I'm not, I'm never smutty. Oh God, it must be because I'm 50. I always think of summer-,

James Acaster

Yes.



Bridget Christie

At my dad's house and the salads, I don't know. Just everything seemed to be much more vibrant. I don't know if it's my memory of them, but tomatoes were much redder and juicier. And salad was much more natural looking, that sounds really crazy. Like, the salad that we used to get to me feels like it was all from an allotment in a way that it doesn't feel now and I can't really explain. Maybe because it's really packaged and-

Ed Gamble

That might be it.

Bridget Christie

And washed and-

Ed Gamble

In that you used to, when you got things, they were in season so you could only get things when they were in season so they would taste fresh and nice. And now the way things are packaged and stored, you can get things all year round but they're not necessarily-

Bridget Christie

As nice-

Ed Gamble

The right time to eat them.

Bridget Christie

Yes, exactly.

Ed Gamble

You want in season, 1980s salad?

Bridget Christie

Lettuce, you know, potatoes maybe. Salad cream, we don't really have that anymore-

James Acaster

Sure.

Bridget Christie

That was a really big thing, big part of the salads when, you're much younger than me, aren't you?

James Acaster

I remember salad cream, but yes-

Ed Gamble

You can still get it.

James Acaster

It's gone the way of the dodo.

Bridget Christie

I think it might have a bit of a comeback, you know?

Ed Gamble

Yes, it feels like it's due-



Bridget Christie

Because it's actually pretty nice-,

Ed Gamble

It's due a comeback.

Bridget Christie

On a new potato or an egg, isn't it? It's like-,

Ed Gamble

Or on a cheese sandwich, I'd put it on a cheese sandwich-,

Bridget Christie

On a cheese sandwich, that's really good-,

Ed Gamble

Cheese and salad cream sandwich, good stuff, yes.

Bridget Christie

That's really good, yes.

James Acaster

I got put off salad cream at a young age because a kid in my class was eating something with excessive amounts of salad cream in it and it built up in the corners of his mouth. I remember seeing him doing that and thought, 'Well that's it, never eating that again.'

Ed Gamble

That's it for salad cream.

James Acaster

Never eating salad cream again.

Bridget Christie

You should have cleaned it off for him,

James Acaster

What?

Ed Gamble

Yes, that would have, that would have got you over your phobia of salad cream if you'd-,

James Acaster

If I just, with a napkin, just-,

Bridget Christie

Dressed as a squirrel.

James Acaster

Dabbed the corner, I'm not dressed as a squirrel here. Don't get ideas, I'm dressed as a mouse.

Ed Gamble

Your main course.



Bridget Christie

This is hard. These sorts of things are always hard for me because I genuinely don't have favourites of things, like, bands, colours, you know, food, things, you know, clothes. Things are all equally good to me, I can't, it's very hard. So this is hard for me. But would I be able to have as my main meal bits from different places?

James Acaster

Are you talking about global tapas?

Bridget Christie

No, I had, right, this is, there are so many meals that I've had in my life. But there was one bowl of pasta that I had in Sardinia years ago when my daughter was about two and a half, three. My mouth is watering now just think, I don't know how they do it-,

Ed Gamble

Don't let the water build up in the corners of your mouth otherwise James will never be able to drink again.

James Acaster

No, otherwise that'll be it.

Bridget Christie

It was very simple, it was pasta with fresh pesto and pine nuts and whatever they did with it, I don't know, but I've never had anything like it before or since. And it was a very big bowl, I think it might have been for all of us, but I had all of it. And then, and then my daughter, sort of, had fallen asleep on me when I was eating it. And I always think about that and it was so delicious. I think they do do it differently over there.

James Acaster

What kind of pasta was it?

Bridget Christie

Linguine. I think they just use really good ingredients, don't they?

Ed Gamble

Yes, I think that's it. And I guess the setting and the surrounding as well and the-,

Bridget Christie

Yes, and the memory.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Bridget Christie

It was really windy and we were by a beach as well.

Ed Gamble

We have a surprisingly few amount of pasta dishes as the main course, don't we?

James Acaster

We do actually, yes.

Bridget Christie

That's what I, yes.



James Acaster

I think we've had loads of-

Ed Gamble

People take pasta for granted.

Bridget Christie

They, yes, but this is why I've picked this particular one. Because everything, everyone thinks, 'Pasta, pasta.' But if you have it in Italy, especially on an island or, like Sardinia, or somewhere, it's going to be maybe oil that they've, that they've been making the same way for a long time. Like, maybe hundreds of years or something and been making pasta like that for a long time. And making pesto like that for a long time. It's not like what we'd have here. I've not, I've never had anything like it, it's just-

Ed Gamble

Does sound amazing.

Bridget Christie

I couldn't quite believe how amazing it was. And also sometimes simple dishes, because I've eaten obviously I've eaten a lot, because I'm 50. And, you know, there's, like, fancy meals that I've had or, you know, I remember once when I was in Kerala this guy brought this fish out in this banana leaf and me and my friend were, like, 'I actually cannot believe how beautiful this is.' The taste of it, what it looked like, where we were and everything. But I always go back to this pasta, I don't know why. And all, you think of all your family meals that you've had and things like that, but-

Ed Gamble

It's got to be the pasta then, hasn't it?

James Acaster

Do you want your daughter sleeping on you?

Bridget Christie

Yes please.

James Acaster

As well, for this course?

Bridget Christie

Can I have her?

James Acaster

Yes, two and a half years old. Sleeping on you for this course.

Bridget Christie

Well then of course it's-

Ed Gamble

I mean it's a bit of a, she's all over the place in this meal because she's had to cook, she's had to cook the starter when she's ten-

Bridget Christie

And then she's had to go back in time-

Ed Gamble



And she's, and back in time to sleep on your shoulder. So what else did you, because you were talking about adding lots of different things. But this pasta seems to be the main focus at the moment.

Bridget Christie

But could I, I mean I can have a side, can't I?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, we can come to the side dish.

Bridget Christie

Also as well with the pasta I was wondering if I could have some of my dad's potatoes or chips maybe? No I can't.

Ed Gamble

Well it depends, if they-

Bridget Christie

He wasn't there, so he can't really be-

James Acaster

He wasn't there. Do you want your dad sleeping on your other shoulder?

Bridget Christie

No, he'd be, he's a noisy sleeper.

Ed Gamble

You've got some potatoes in your salad in your starter.

Bridget Christie

Can he do those then?

Ed Gamble

Yes, what's he, what's he doing to them?

Bridget Christie

Well he does cook them, I'm not sure that would go, the way that my dad cooks potatoes could be chips or, he's famous for them.

James Acaster

Famous?

Bridget Christie

I don't know what he does.

James Acaster

Do people always talk about-

Bridget Christie

Everybody talks about my dad's chips and potatoes, everybody. Literally everybody. No one who's come to the house, he's been in that house since the late 50s, has ever had a potato cooked better than how my dad has cooked them.



James Acaster

Really?

Bridget Christie

It can be chips or potatoes.

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

And because I've got siblings who live in different countries now, if they come home and dad's, like, 'What do you want?' Anything with chips or potatoes.

James Acaster

Does he keep it a secret, what he does with them?

Bridget Christie

Yes, pretty much.

Ed Gamble

Have you ever watched him do it? Do you think you've picked up the knack across the years?

Bridget Christie

I'm not bad at them but it's a fluke and sometimes they're good and sometimes they're not.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Bridget Christie

He buys a particular potato and he does something to them before they're cooked and then I think he uses very, very hot oil, they're just very light inside and very hard and crunchy on the outside. Always.

Ed Gamble

That's what you want.

Bridget Christie

And the perfect colour. Every time.

Ed Gamble

Now, I feel like they've got to make an appearance.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Because they sound so good.

Bridget Christie

Well that would be very nice.

Ed Gamble

Do you have another side dish that you-,



Bridget Christie
Spinach.

Ed Gamble
Need to get in?

Bridget Christie
Spinach.

Ed Gamble
Oh you need to get the spinach in, so where are we going to put the potatoes, James?

James Acaster
I mean, I'm prepared to allow multiple side dishes for this one.

Bridget Christie
Are you?

Ed Gamble
Double side?

James Acaster
Double side, I mean, it doesn't sound, I mean because-,

Bridget Christie
I mean if nobody else has had multiple side-,

James Acaster
Why the spinach, though? Because, like spinach to me-,

Bridget Christie
I can't really do without spinach. If I had to live without spinach I'd feel like I was going to be really ill.

James Acaster
Yes.

Ed Gamble
So is this, like, a more of a medicinal thing for you?

Bridget Christie
No, I, I love everything about it.

Ed Gamble
Yes.

Bridget Christie
I almost can't cope with how much I love spinach.

Ed Gamble
How often do you have spinach?

Bridget Christie
Once.



Ed Gamble
Once?

Bridget Christie
I'd have it-,

Ed Gamble
You've only had it once?

Bridget Christie
Most, you know, all the time. Four times a week.

James Acaster
Everyone else having it in your house or is it just you?

Bridget Christie
No, I love it the most.

Ed Gamble
Like, raw or are you cooking it? Or what are you doing with it?

Bridget Christie
I don't like it raw.

Ed Gamble
No.

Bridget Christie
Quite good microwaved.

Ed Gamble
Yes.

Bridget Christie
And, or, steamed.

Ed Gamble
Butter?

Bridget Christie
Butter, salt, garlic.

James Acaster
Look at you. You just went to another place then.

Bridget Christie
If it's on any bill ever I would always, I would always get it. But sometimes they, I have to say, 'With no cream. I don't want it creamed.' Because it's too much for me creamed. I just, and it takes the greenness away from it so it dilutes the colour. You know, it's such a vibrant, dark green, isn't it?

James Acaster
Yes.

Bridget Christie
The most amazing green, isn't it?



James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

You do feel healthy eating spinach as well.

Bridget Christie

Yes, more than anything else, like kale or anything is a bit difficult. There's something really of the earth about spinach for me. That, sort of, slightly metallic, irony-ish, the colour, just everything. If I could only have one thing that I was allowed to eat, it would be spinach.

Ed Gamble

Would it? For the rest of your life if you had to eat one thing-,

Bridget Christie

Yes, it would, yes-,

Ed Gamble

It would be spinach? You'd never get bored of it?

Bridget Christie

Well, I would but I, I mean I only had one, that was the deal, wasn't it?

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Well, yes, it's the deal you set up.

Bridget Christie

What would annoy me is that I wouldn't be able to, like, chew it. I would miss not being able to chew down on something hard. But then I suppose I could keep some raw and have, like, the stalk, the stem?

Ed Gamble

You could deep fry it, I suppose, make it like spinach crisps. And we know what you're like with crisps.

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

I wouldn't do that. I wouldn't do that.

Ed Gamble

You wouldn't do that?

James Acaster

No? Do you not think if all you had for the rest of your life to eat was spinach, that you would delve into other ways of eating it? Rather than just the same way every time?

Bridget Christie

I think you would have to, wouldn't you?



James Acaster

So you would probably open your mind a bit more to creamed spinach? Just for some variety?

Bridget Christie

Where are we getting cream from?

Ed Gamble

That's a really good point from Bridget actually.

James Acaster

Because it's the spinach dish.

Ed Gamble

Yes, but you can't, if you can only eat spinach-,

James Acaster

You can't have garlic and butter in there either.

Bridget Christie

No, but that's the point I would just have steamed spinach.

James Acaster

If you had one thing forever you'd just have steamed, plain spinach?

Bridget Christie

You've got to pick one thing.

James Acaster

Yes, I know. But, like, that surprises me. If you said that spinach with butter and salt and garlic, that was the thing you'd have forever, I'd, okay, yes, I see that.

Bridget Christie

I thought, well you didn't say I could have other things with it.

James Acaster: Well we didn't come up with this at all. This was you who came up with this.

Ed Gamble

This is all you, Bridget.

Bridget Christie

I mean, if it, if, yes, I was thinking of literally one ingredient, like, or one thing.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

What do you think yours would be then?

James Acaster

Bag of dog shit.



Ed Gamble

Ice cream.

Bridget Christie

What? It can only be one thing though, it can't be a meal made out of it or, because then that's other ingredients with it.

James Acaster

Beef.

Bridget Christie

You're going to just cook beef?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Bridget Christie

That's all, you'll be like Jordan Peterson.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

I'm on the carnivore diet.

Bridget Christie

And he's quite angry.

Ed Gamble

Yes, he's not a happy man.

Bridget Christie

So I'm not sure about just red meat.

Ed Gamble

You could have steak tartare, you could have, there's all-

Bridget Christie

No you-

Ed Gamble

The different cuts of beef.

James Acaster

I'm with you on this, Bridget, I think he would turn into Jordan Peterson.

Bridget Christie

If you, you'll be angry. If you get sick because you've not prepared it properly you'll basically, it's just, you've got water, that's all. To make you feel better.

Ed Gamble

I'm, I'm having beef. I know James is about to pick ice cream so I don't know why he's looking at me in judgment.



James Acaster
What?

Bridget Christie
Is it ice cream?

James Acaster
Yes.

Bridget Christie
That's the only thing you can eat?

James Acaster
Yes. Forever. If you say one thing forever.

Bridget Christie
One thing, just one thing forever.

James Acaster
Ice cream, please.

Ed Gamble
So, we need to get to the bottom of this. Side dish you're having steamed spinach with butter and garlic.

Bridget Christie
And salt and pepper.

Ed Gamble
And salt and pepper, and also your dad's roast potatoes. If you had to pick-,

Bridget Christie
For this pasta dish, the spinach would go much better.

James Acaster
I am in the rare position here, which I'm not usually on this podcast, where I just want to see these potatoes make an appearance because-,

Ed Gamble
Yes.

James Acaster
You know, you really sold them to us. It's quite nice that your dad has this thing that everyone always talks about-,

Bridget Christie
My niece made a video of him making chips.

James Acaster
Like a documentary?

Bridget Christie
It's like a little film when she was at film school, well as part of her course. I'll email it to you and then you'll see.



Ed Gamble

I feel like the documentary chips have got to be on there, right?

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

If the chips and potatoes are so good-,

Bridget Christie

They are.

Ed Gamble

That your niece has made a documentary about your dad making them, I feel like to boot them off the menu in favour of steamed spinach-,

Bridget Christie

It's not good enough, is it?

Ed Gamble

It's a bit of a burn.

Bridget Christie

Well I would have picked dad's potatoes over spinach, I think.

Ed Gamble

Right.

Bridget Christie

If you'd said no, I would have thought, well could we not put it with the starter then maybe?

Ed Gamble

Let's do that, let's put spinach with the starter and the side are your dad's roast potatoes.

Bridget Christie

Yes.

Ed Gamble

What's your dad's name?

Bridget Christie

Pete.

Ed Gamble

Pete's potatoes.

James Acaster

Is the documentary, like, a chef's table-,

Bridget Christie

It's not a documentary.

James Acaster

Okay.



Bridget Christie
Just a little short film.

Ed Gamble
Loudest Benito's ever laughed on the podcast.

Bridget Christie
I don't think there's any.

James Acaster
Your dream drink now. This seems even harder for you.

Bridget Christie
One drink out of all the things I've drunk?

James Acaster
Yes.

Bridget Christie
Okay, so water is always my favourite drink.

James Acaster
Okay.

Ed Gamble
You've got that, that's in the bank.

Bridget Christie
I've got that anyway, so that's good. I had a lavender cocktail once.

Ed Gamble
Right.

Bridget Christie
That was so nice I had about six or seven.

Ed Gamble
Nice. What was in it and where was it from?

Bridget Christie
I can't remember what it, I looked it up last night. It was at Soho Hotel.

Ed Gamble
Okay.

Bridget Christie
And I tried to get on to their menu, cocktail menu to find it, but I couldn't. It was in a tiny little glass and it had lavender on the top and it was very lavender-y. God it was so good.

James Acaster
Now this is interesting though. On this podcast we always, every week we have a secret ingredient that is something that we don't like that if a guest says it they get kicked out of the dream restaurant. And it's not lavender this week, but it has been lavender in the past. I guess we'd be absolute fraudsters if we sat here and said, 'That cocktail sounds delicious.' When the listeners know we don't like lavender.



Ed Gamble

I'm not a lavender fan. With the smell of it, the taste of it. Absolutely not. Don't mind the look of it, got lavender in my garden.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Been to-,

Bridget Christie

Have you?

Ed Gamble

Been to a lavender farm, it's a lovely day out. But not a huge fan.

James Acaster

I like the smell.

Bridget Christie

You like the smell?

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

It's a nice smell.

James Acaster

I just don't want to eat it. Do you like Parma Violets?

Bridget Christie

No. I think it's-,

James Acaster

They'd be a nightmare for the ant throat, wouldn't they?

Bridget Christie

Well, I'd suck it to nothing.

James Acaster

The amount of times I've got to not say, 'That's what you said to the squirrel,'-

Ed Gamble

Yes, I know.

James Acaster

Is so difficult.

Ed Gamble

But there's no, to watch all of our eyes go upwards there. Imagine the squirrel and then come back was.



James Acaster

Yes. Just knowing that Bridget said don't mention the squirrel again so I can't do it. But she just said, 'I'd have to suck it to nothing.' I mean, I think a lot of listeners at multiple points during this podcast-

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

From when you told us to not mention the squirrel again until now, there's been a few moments where I've been, like, 'Don't say that.' But I-

Ed Gamble

That's what you said to the squirrel-

James Acaster

I've nearly said, 'That's what you said to the squirrel,' quite a few times.

Bridget Christie

You can, any time you feel if it pops into your head, you can, it's fine.

James Acaster

Well no, because-

Bridget Christie

It's only-

James Acaster

Because-

Bridget Christie

Well I don't know why I find it so funny, but-

James Acaster

It is funny, I'll tell you why it's funny. You Vaseline-d up a pole in your garden and then because of that a squirrel then did a little stripper slide twirl down the pole and then you went out and you felt bad so you rubbed it off. So that's funny. It's everything on top of that, that you might have said to the squirrel.

Bridget Christie

Oh, God.

James Acaster

I think it's knowing that the squirrel has done the pole dance first, that's why. Makes me laugh.

Bridget Christie

Yes, that's probably why it's-, he was absolutely fine. He just, sort of, went like that a bit, you know.

James Acaster

Yes, looked around and-

Bridget Christie

Came back for more later.



James Acaster

Oh, dear.

Ed Gamble

She's gone again.

James Acaster

That's it.

Ed Gamble

Do you know what the booze was in this lavender cocktail?

Bridget Christie

Oh, God. I honestly did try to look it up.

James Acaster

It mainly just tasted of lavender?

Bridget Christie

No. I think, because there was lavender on the top, that, when I was drinking it, it smelt like lavender. It was so good. I couldn't stop drinking them. It was a very dense-, definitely had egg white on top.

James Acaster

Oh, yes.

Ed Gamble

Okay, cool.

James Acaster

Six or seven-,

Bridget Christie

Tiny, tiny little-, oh, you got barely nothing. I mean, it was in one of those posh little glasses that are only that deep, so it was diddy.

Ed Gamble

Right, okay, so you're smacking them back, yes. As it's the dream restaurant-,

James Acaster

Seven of those?

Ed Gamble

Yes, you can have seven of those, or we can bring a pint of it, whichever you prefer.

Bridget Christie

Ten is a nice, round number for me.

James Acaster

Okay. We'll bring you ten, in the little glasses, perfect.

Bridget Christie

Cool. I'm going to enjoy this so much. I did also-, I can't have another drink, can I?



James Acaster

Well, what are you wanting to mention here?

Bridget Christie

The wine that Jesus gave his disciples, at the Last Supper. No, I mean, can you imagine if you could get some of-, from the actual-,

Ed Gamble

Yes, if you could lay your hands on a bottle of that.

James Acaster

What-,

Bridget Christie

It's aromatised wine. They've said they know, from the diets at the time-,

James Acaster

Do you mean Roman times wine?

Bridget Christie

That's very funny. That was-,

Ed Gamble

Clever, clever humour.

Bridget Christie

That was very good. Bean stew, lamb, olives, unleavened bread, aromatised wine, that's what they had.

James Acaster

That was the meal. You're Catholic, right?

Bridget Christie

Yes, brought up very staunch, Irish, Roman Catholic.

James Acaster

Have you always known the full menu of Jesus's meal with the disciples at the Last Supper?

Bridget Christie

No, I knew there was-, we had a big tableau of the Last Supper in our-, our house had all, you know, iconography everywhere. We had a big, gold, Last Supper sculpture sort of thing.

Ed Gamble

Like a scene?

Bridget Christie

Yes, but it was, like, solid, painted gold. I just used to think about, who was there, and what did they have, and did anyone get a bit pissed? Did anyone not like the meal?

James Acaster

I expect Judas didn't like the meal.

Ed Gamble

Probably feeling a bit awkward.



Bridget Christie

A bit, yes.

James Acaster

Nervous.

Bridget Christie

Lost his appetite.

James Acaster

Yes. Knew what he had to do.

Bridget Christie

I wonder how much Jesus would've eaten. Not much.

Ed Gamble

He didn't look like an eater, from the pictures, right?

Bridget Christie

No. Well, there are-, I mean, the pictures that we've drawn-,

Ed Gamble

The photos.

Bridget Christie

From the photos.

James Acaster

All the photos of him. Maybe, at that Last Supper, he was like, 'Fuck it, I'm dying tomorrow,' and just ate loads, and was like-,

Bridget Christie

Had loads.

James Acaster

Half the potatoes, yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

I think that is a direct quote, isn't it?

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

'Fuck it, I'm dying tomorrow.'

James Acaster

Yes. 'Fuck it, I'm dying tomorrow, pass the potatoes.'

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Jesus. Put that on 'No Context Off Menu,' and make sure you cite Jesus as the person who said that, not us.



Bridget Christie

Actually, the sad thing about, when most people-, we're talking about not in accidents, or things like that, when the majority of people die, it's a very calm process. We're normally quite heavily medicated, so we don't know that much about what's happening, towards the end. It's a shame, because I think we're probably not hungry when we're dying. You like to think that you would go out with a bang, and have all the best stuff that you've always loved, and perhaps, for whatever reason, not indulged, but actually, you probably just really don't feel like it anyway.

Ed Gamble

I guess, yes, that's the sad thing, most people don't know when their last meal is. You don't get that chance of going, like, 'This is what I'm going to eat before I die,' unless you're on Death Row, for example, or Jesus.

James Acaster

Yes, and you have a Last Supper, call your mates together. Do you think he called it the Last Supper to them? Probably not. Didn't want to spoil the surprise.

Bridget Christie

No.

James Acaster

This wine.

Bridget Christie

Yes?

James Acaster

If you had it, for your meal, would you want it how it was then, or now, it's aged over all centuries, thousands of years?

Bridget Christie

If it didn't make me sick, I would want the wine, untreated, that they had. Even if I just had the tiniest, tiniest amount, that would be much better than having just the same type.

Ed Gamble

Is it red or white?

Bridget Christie

Red, I think.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes. Well, this is original blood of Christ, right? This is the first-,

Bridget Christie

The first one.

James Acaster

This is the OG blood of Christ. Would you just say, 'I'll have the blood of Christ, please,' instead of wine?



Ed Gamble

OG blood of Christ.

James Acaster

'I'll have the OG blood of Christ.'

Bridget Christie

No, I don't think I would. No, I'd say, 'Can I have the wine that Jesus had at his Last Supper, if there was any left, please.'

Ed Gamble

I feel like, if it's just a lick of it-,

James Acaster

Yes, 'You can have a lick.'

Bridget Christie

You know, you would just do that, wouldn't you? 'Oh, that's bitter.'

James Acaster

You just dipped your finger into that glass of water, there, and licked it, in front of us.

Bridget Christie

Well, just to show what I would-,

James Acaster

Yes, but that's what-, just for the listener, that's what you would do. You would dip your finger into the glass-,

Ed Gamble

Cause I think-,

Bridget Christie

Yes, wouldn't have a big glug of it.

Ed Gamble

Would you have it before the ten lavender cocktails, or would you drink the ten lavender cocktails and then lick Jesus's blood?

Bridget Christie

I would have it with a clean mouth, so I would drink lots of water. I would have this wine before I'd eaten anything.

Ed Gamble

Oh, so this is the-, this is like an aperitif?

Bridget Christie

Well, I would fast all day, then I would drink lots of water, then I would have the wine that Jesus had, then I would clean my mouth again with lots of water, and then I would have this meal.

Ed Gamble

Right, okay.

James Acaster

Oh, yes, we'll allow that.



Ed Gamble

Yes, we'll allow that, definitely.

James Acaster

Of course we'll allow that.

Bridget Christie

Is that okay?

James Acaster

Do you still want a lick, or do you want a whole glass?

Bridget Christie

Oh, I think it would probably make me quite ill if I had a whole glass.

James Acaster

Just a lick, still?

Ed Gamble

Just a lick of it, yes.

James Acaster

Squirrel.

Bridget Christie

Oh, I forgot my tea. When you have a baby, in hospital-, oh, my toast, I forgot my toast. When you give birth, in a hospital, a midwife comes and gives you a cup of tea and a slice of toast. Oh, my God.

James Acaster

Really?

Bridget Christie

There is something so profound and moving about it.

Ed Gamble

Was this the same midwife that threw the placenta in the bin?

James Acaster

I was going to say.

Bridget Christie

No, it was a different one. It's the act of being given-,

James Acaster

Jekyll and Hyde, this midwife.

Bridget Christie

Giving birth, which-, just a cup of tea and a piece of toast. So simple, but yet so meaningful and so welcomed, and so needed, and so kind.

James Acaster

White bread, brown bread? What's the tea like?



Bridget Christie

Yes, it was just white. White, buttered. Hot, buttered toast, that's what I had. Never forget it. I even remember how much the slices of toast were toasted.

James Acaster

Oh, wow.

Bridget Christie

Yes, and a cup of tea. I don't know if you live people and whether you get made cups of tea a lot, but if you haven't had a cup of tea made for you in a long time, someone giving you a cup of tea is quite a big, great thing. If you've just given birth and somebody gives you a cup of tea and a piece of toast, there's something really quite amazing about it.

Ed Gamble

Your daughter has gone even further back, now, in this meal.

James Acaster

Oh, man, yes. Here we go.

Ed Gamble

She's ten when she makes her starter. She's two and a half when she's asleep on your shoulder.

Bridget Christie

Well, we could say it was my son's birth, if you want to mix it up a bit.

Ed Gamble

Sure, we can do that.

Bridget Christie

I got tea and toast at both.

James Acaster

Wow. They remembered your order for the second time.

Bridget Christie

They did.

James Acaster

Yes. How do you have your tea?

Bridget Christie

'Milk, no sugar, thank-, so, I don't drink caffeinated-, I drink Rooibos tea with any non-dairy milk.

Ed Gamble

What hospital are you in, where you're going, 'Make sure that's Rooibos, by the way?'

Bridget Christie

No, no, no, this was-, that's what I drink now, but back then, it was just whatever.

James Acaster

During the birth. 'Rooibos, Rooibos. Give me the Rooibos.'

Bridget Christie

Well, strangely, that wouldn't have been comforting to me, I don't know why. Builders' tea is much more-,



James Acaster

Builders' tea.

Bridget Christie

Yes, and I had my children before I used to drink Rooibos tea.

Ed Gamble

Is this an extra course, James? What's going on here? Are we-

James Acaster

Yes, so-, now I'm trying to-, right, so, where would we factor this in? I'd like for you to have the cup of tea and toast.

Ed Gamble

It's a lovely memory.

Bridget Christie

Instead of poppadums. We could swap them out, could we?

James Acaster

Okay, if you want to swap them out, cause that's bread, toast.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

If you want to swap-, if you're not really that bothered about the poppadums, we can switch them out. So then, you're getting there, you're washing your mouth out with water, you're licking the blood of Christ, you're washing your mouth out with water again.

Bridget Christie

Well, I haven't called it the blood of Christ, you called it-

James Acaster

Yes. You're washing your mouth out with the water again, so then, you're giving birth after that.

Bridget Christie

Yes.

James Acaster

You would have to go through the whole birth for this tea and toast to taste the same, I think.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I think so, yes.

Bridget Christie

Okay, yes, that's fair enough.

James Acaster

You do that, and then you get the tea and toast, and then we start-, and then your starter.

Ed Gamble

Would there be a worry that, if you've just had the blood of Christ and then you give birth, that you think maybe you've given birth to a new Jesus? Would that-



James Acaster

It would be a new Jesus.

Bridget Christie

I wouldn't make that connection myself, no. Only-,

James Acaster

Well, I mean, you know. If it's sudden-, if you're not-, when you're licking the blood of Christ, are you pregnant, in this-, is that what you're imagining, or, do you lick the blood of Christ and then, suddenly, you're giving birth? That sounds like Immaculate Conception.

Bridget Christie

It does sound a bit of a coincidence.

Ed Gamble

If you turn up pregnant, you really shouldn't be licking the wine anyway.

Bridget Christie

I've only had a tiny bit on my finger.

Ed Gamble

Okay, and that's allowed?

Bridget Christie

Yes. They change their minds all the time about what pregnant women are allowed to have and not have.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, it's true.

Bridget Christie

Yes, so I think, turn up, I've fasted all day, I'm massively pregnant, my waters have broken-,

Ed Gamble

Yes. Is that the water you want?

Bridget Christie

Which a mouse ran over in real life. A mouse ran over my amniotic fluid when they broke in my flat.

James Acaster

Did it thrust? Did it stop in the middle of it and do some thrusts?

Ed Gamble

Slip over.

James Acaster

Put its hands behind its head, and do three little thrusts in your amniotic fluid?

Bridget Christie

I was so angry. Yes. We used to live in a flat that just was infested, and we couldn't get rid of them. We had everyone round, you know, what are they called?

Ed Gamble

Exterminators.



Bridget Christie

Yes, all those people. Just couldn't get rid of them at all. I remember, my waters broke on my bedroom floor, and then just a mouse ran over them, and it made me feel really sick and angry.

James Acaster

Yes. At least you saw the mouse run over them, because imagine if your waters had broken and you looked down, and there was just a mouse in the middle, you'd have thought, 'Is that?'

Bridget Christie

'Was that the baby?'

James Acaster

'Was I pregnant with a mouse?'

Bridget Christie

'Is that the baby?'

James Acaster

It's just looking up at you.

Bridget Christie

It was horrible. Really ruined the moment.

James Acaster

I bet it did.

Bridget Christie

Am I having my dessert now?

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

My mum's apple pie.

James Acaster

Lovely.

Ed Gamble

Very nice. Most of this meal has been cooked by your family, which is wonderful.

James Acaster

Yes, and very connected to family.

Ed Gamble

Even the opening drink is from Jesus, everyone's granddad.

Bridget Christie

Yes.

James Acaster

It's lovely. Your son and daughter are in this, your parents. Husband not getting a look-in.



Bridget Christie

Well, no-, he does make really good roast dinners as well.

Ed Gamble

The potatoes must always be a let-down, though, mustn't they?

Bridget Christie

I mean, I can't-, I mean, he's a really good cook as well, but we're talking about just one thing here.

Ed Gamble

Every time he makes the potatoes, it's a very stark reminder that he's constantly in competition.

Bridget Christie

You know, I have to say, 'Oh, they're much better than Dad's.' No, I don't.

James Acaster

Your mum's apple pie?

Bridget Christie

I'd thought about all the lovely desserts that I've had, really fantastic food, but if we could go back, and me watching her mixing it and making it. She was really good at baking, and she went mad once, because she used to make a Black Forest gateau, and my brother Pete used to sell it at school. She found out, went mad.

James Acaster

Hold on, how is he doing that without her finding out?

Bridget Christie

He used to sell slices.

Ed Gamble

How did he get busted?

Bridget Christie

He must have had some money, and they've said, 'Where did you get that from?' Maybe my older brother-, cause you know I've got eight brothers and sisters.

James Acaster

Wow, I didn't know that.

Bridget Christie

Did you not? Yes, so, like, one cake, we would've had to have just one little slice each, presumably. Yes, so, she was really good at baking, and it would always be really crusty on the top, those-, oh, really nice.

James Acaster

Is there cinnamon in it?

Bridget Christie

No, just really simple apple, that's it.

James Acaster

Yes.



Ed Gamble

What are you having with the apple pie?

Bridget Christie

Well, there is a town in the South of France called Mirepoix, it's a little medieval town. We always, every year, used to go on holiday, me and my husband and kids, to a little French holiday camp place called Domaine de L'Esplanade, which is in Quillan. You fly in to Carcassonne, and then you drive about 40 minutes south, towards the Pyrenees. This little town, market town, used to have an ice-cream van, which was from a farm which was about 25km away, that used goats' milk for its ice-cream. I've got a feeling this is the ingredient that you're going to kick me out, but they did a rose ice-cream.

James Acaster

That's been on the list in the past.

Ed Gamble

That has been on the list as well, but not today.

James Acaster

You're safe.

Ed Gamble

You're safe.

Bridget Christie

When did we first have it? Six, seven years ago, and we still talk about it.

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

We would drive-, it would take a couple of hours to drive there, and we would go there only for that. We went before Brexit, and then we went after Brexit, and it was the same guy selling us. He said, 'Oh, you're English?' I said yes, and he said, 'No rose ice-cream for you.' I said, 'I voted Remain.' He was joking. Everyone in the queue was laughing at us. 'Please let me have-, we've come from London, just to have your rose ice-cream.' Yes, I mean, really something else.

James Acaster

'Get the fuck out of my shop.'

Bridget Christie

If you're into ice-cream, I would almost like to take you there.

James Acaster

I'd go.

Bridget Christie

To Mirepoix.

James Acaster

I'd go to Mirepoix with you, and go and have the rose goats' milk ice-cream.

Bridget Christie

James, it will blow your mind.



James Acaster

I'd love it.

Ed Gamble

I've never been a fan of rose things.

James Acaster

Normally I'm not into rose things, but if someone says it'll blow my mind.

Bridget Christie

It's very delicate. I would like to know what you've had that has-, cause people tend to put too much in, or-,

Ed Gamble

Yes, it's quite-, I find it too heavy and too floral.

Bridget Christie

You just need the tiniest, tiniest drop, so that, actually, it doesn't taste of rose. It's just, when you're eating it, you just get this-, like you're in a garden and you've just walked past some-, actually, is it Peter-, David Austin roses, they're the ones that smell. A lot of roses don't have the scent now, which is really sad. Actually, even with my salad from the 80s, can I have roses-, but there is a particular type, they're called David Austin roses, and they always have an amazing smell. It's just like you're in a garden, and you don't even know where the roses are. That's how you should use floral stuff in cooking, I think. Just so that it gives you just a memory of something.

Ed Gamble

Oh, that's cool.

James Acaster

A memory of being in a garden.

Bridget Christie

That's the thing with food. It gets you, more than anything else, more than music. Smells get me, and tastes, more than-, of all the senses. They're the things that bring me back. Home-made apple pie, to me, is my mum, who sadly died in 1997, but if I saw home-made apple pie, I'd be right back to my kitchen when I was little, and her with her wooden spoon and her cardigan, and I'd be like, 'Well, this is the best apple pie ever,' because of what I'm thinking about when I'm eating it, as well.

James Acaster

Yes.

Bridget Christie

Food's really good like that.

James Acaster

You want the rose goats' milk ice-cream on the side?

Bridget Christie

No, it can't be in the same bowl, I'm sorry.

Ed Gamble

Different bowl.



Bridget Christie

I don't like food being contaminated by-, I like eating food together, but say if I had a chocolate tart at the end of a meal, and it came with something, that would have to be in a different bowl.

Ed Gamble

Even if it was, like, a bit of ice-cream or cream, it would go-,

Bridget Christie

No, it can't be together, it would ruin it.

James Acaster

I'm going to read your order back to you know, Bridget, and see how you feel about it. Water, you would like still water, and then you'd wash your mouth out with it, and then you're going to have a lick of the Last Supper wine, and then you're going to wash your mouth out with all the water again. You're going to give birth, and then the midwife's going to bring in a slice of toast, with some tea, a cup of tea. You would like, for your starter, your daughter's mackerel tart, with 1980s salad, and some spinach. Main course, you would like linguine with fresh pesto and pine nuts, in Sardinia, with your two-and-a-half-year-old daughter sleeping on your shoulder. Your side dish, you would like pizza potatoes as your side. Your drink, you would like ten lavender cocktails from the Soho Hotel. Your dessert, your mum's apple pie, and Mirepoix rose goats' milk ice-cream. You want to taste it, and then just feel like you're in a garden, and then you look round in the garden, and there's a pole, and it's got Vaseline on it, and a little squirrel just spirals down that pole, and then you feel bad, so you rub it off. Nice meal?

Bridget Christie

I mean, that is a meal for the gods.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

It is a meal for the gods.

Bridget Christie

I feel quite overwhelmed.

Ed Gamble

So does the squirrel.

James Acaster

Yes. You think you feel overwhelmed? Think of that squirrel's day.

Bridget Christie

That's it, isn't it? I do have to say, I wouldn't just end a meal on-, I mean, you haven't offered people coffee or cheeses, or anything like that.

James Acaster

Yes, sure.

Bridget Christie

Could I have a filter coffee, please, which you cannot get anywhere. Drives me bloody mental.

Ed Gamble

You can have a filter-,



Bridget Christie

You can't get filter coffee anywhere.

Ed Gamble

You can have a filter coffee.

Bridget Christie

Filter coffee, please, with any non-dairy milk on the side.

James Acaster

Absolutely.

Ed Gamble

Thank you very much for coming to the dream restaurant, Bridget.

Bridget Christie

Oh my God, thank you so much for having me.

Ed Gamble

Well, there we are. The Off Menu menu of Bridget Christie. Thank you so much to Bridget for coming in, and so sorry to that poor squirrel.

James Acaster

Sorry to the squirrel, thank you to Bridget, and thank you to all of you for listening to this series of Off Menu. It's been a wonderful ride, hasn't it, Ed?

Ed Gamble

It has. It's been a really good series. There's a lot of rumours bouncing around it's been our best series yet.

James Acaster

That's what people say, and by 'people,' as you know, I mean my mother.

Ed Gamble

Yes, exactly. It's your mother, your only link to the outside world apart from me and Benito.

James Acaster

Yes, you and Benito tell me that the podcast has been going well this series. You know, you could be biased. My mother, however, I know her opinions of everything else that I do, so if she's saying this is good, it must be good.

Ed Gamble

Yes, but your mum says every series is the best series afterwards, like the man who runs the Olympics.

James Acaster

Yes, my mum is like the man who-, who's the man who runs the Olympics?

Ed Gamble

The Olympic man. After every Olympics, he goes, 'I think it's been the best Olympics ever.'

James Acaster

I never heard him talk, but I love that.



Ed Gamble

Well, me neither, I mean, that voice was very much off the top of the dome.

James Acaster

Yes? Well, it was good, a good place to come from, because I enjoyed it a lot.

Ed Gamble

Well, look forward to Off Menu live, when you get to see a sketch with James playing Shrek and me playing the man who runs the Olympics.

James Acaster

Yes. There could be loads of scenarios it could be used for, that. Obviously, all of them would be Shrek doing an Olympic event, and afterwards, you just say that.

Ed Gamble

'That was the best Olympics ever.'

James Acaster

Yes. Every time, and it's me, introducing myself-

Ed Gamble

What would Shrek say?

James Acaster

Well, I would introduce myself at the beginning like Johnny Knoxville does at the beginning of each Jackass thing, so I'd be like, 'Hi, my name is Shrek, and I'm going to do the pole vault. Here we go.'

Ed Gamble

'That was the best Olympics ever.'

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Oh, it's going to be great. Bridget did not say 'donkey,' luckily, so we got to keep her in for the whole meal. Thank you, Bridget.

James Acaster

Thank you, Bridget.

Ed Gamble

Which also means we get to plug her show, Who Am I, which is on the 14th to the 18th of December, at the Leicester Square theatre in London. Go to Bridget's website for details, and Bridget's website is bridgetchristie.co.uk.

James Acaster

One of the best comedians in the world, you can't go wrong, get your tickets now.

Ed Gamble

Correct. Also, come to see me on tour, I'm also a comedian in the world. Edgamble.co.uk. On tour from February with my show Electric, and buy my vinyl from edgamblestore.com.

James Acaster

Electric.



Ed Gamble

Hey, as an end-of-series present to us, why don't you leave us a review? Whichever podcast app you use, but you know, those guys over at Apple, they love a review, so if you're listening on Apple Podcast, leave us a five-star. You can write a few things in the box if you want. We're absolute star-hogs.

James Acaster

First of all, you've got to get yourself a job at a well-known publication, and then, you've got to get yourself in the podcast review department-,

Ed Gamble

James.

James Acaster

You can write us a review, and get it published-,

Ed Gamble

James.

James Acaster

In the paper.

Ed Gamble

James, that's not how the world works anymore, man, I'm surprised your mum hasn't let you know.

James Acaster

Oh. I thought that's what you've got to do to be a reviewer.

Ed Gamble

Call your mum straight after this and ask her about podcast apps.

James Acaster

Will do, man. The rest of you, don't go hungry, and always eat your food.

Ed Gamble

Is that what you think the theme tune sounds like?

James Acaster

I'm pretty sure that is. Benito's nodding at me, and he looks he thinks that's what it sounds like.

Ed Gamble

It's sort of that through a-,

James Acaster

What would you do?

Ed Gamble

Well, I wouldn't do that through a Seinfeld filter.

James Acaster

Well, let me hear your one. Yes, yes, Benito's nodding like that's better. Well, the end, the end wasn't as good. The overall sound was good, but the end-, maybe in post, Benito, you could layer them both up on top of each other.



Ed Gamble

Have Shrek singing the lyrics to the Off Menu theme tune.

James Acaster

Yes. 'My name is Shrek, and I am green, I wave the doggy, at Princess Fiona, she is my baby.'

Ed Gamble

I think I was expecting the lyrics to the Off Menu theme tune to have something to do with Off Menu.

James Acaster

It's Shrek singing it. What's he going to sing?

Ed Gamble

Yes, no, occasional references to Shrek, I'm sure, but he'd been hired to sing the Off Menu lyrics. It's even weird you've hired Shrek to sing about Off Menu, and then he starts talking about his girlfriend, saying, 'Princess Fiona is my baby.'

James Acaster

He likes-, he likes-, he's not going to suddenly start knowing about the podcast. He's Shrek, isn't he? He's in about three films, is Shrek, and it's very clear what he was into.

Ed Gamble

Yes, that's true. See you next series.

James Acaster

Bye. Don't go hungry.