



Off Menu – Ep132– Harry Hill (Christmas Special)

Ed Gamble

Welcome to the Off Menu podcast. The little pizza table that keeps the hot cheese of bad vibes from the pizza lid of the internet. How's that?

James Acaster

I liked it.

Ed Gamble

Switched it up a bit?

James Acaster

Yes, yes, it's just, like, I mean, the listener won't know that you did a take-1 at that where you were, kind of, saying, it sounded like, you know, we were stopping the good times getting to the lid of the internet almost.

Ed Gamble

No, I guess it's the cheese is the bad times.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Which is not true, obviously, but we're the little-

James Acaster

Finally, he admits it.

Ed Gamble

We're the little plastic table, oh, no. I didn't think it through, oh, no.

James Acaster

A confession. He's trying to blast through I, but he finally confesses that cheese is the bad times.

Ed Gamble

No, cheese is the good times.

James Acaster

We got it, we got it on wax.

Ed Gamble

Cheese is the good times, especially with the Yard Sale Off Menu Christmas Dream Pizza, available now from all Yard Sale Pizza locations.

James Acaster

He confessed. He confessed that cheese is the bad times. Ed Gamble confessed it. My name is James Acaster, and I'm a winner. This is the Off Menu podcast, we invite a guest into the dream restaurant and we ask them their favourite ever starter, main course, dessert, side dish and drink. Not in that order, and this week is a Christmas special, and our guest is-



Ed and James

Harry Hill.

Ed Gamble

It's the second Christmas special in this run of two Christmas specials, very excited to have the wonderful Harry Hill joining us.

James Acaster

Wowee, Harry Hill, everyone's favourite cheeky uncle.

Ed Gamble

He is a cheeky uncle.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Especially, I'm guessing, if he's your actual uncle.

James Acaster

Yes, then there must be, like, supper, super cheeky uncle.

Ed Gamble

He's a double-unc.

James Acaster

Yes, he's a double-unc, because he's everyone's, he's the nation's uncle, but he's also your uncle.

Ed Gamble

Yes, what a wonderful comedian. Harry Hill's TV Burp, one of the best TV shows ever.

James Acaster

Absolutely love it, I mean, looking back, for probably over a decade afterwards everyone was trying to do it as well.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

That's how good it-, that's how you know a good show.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

You nail it, and then everyone goes, 'Do you know what we should do, we should all do clips that we've found online or on other TV shows.'

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

'I'll bet that'll be funny, just like Harry Hill.' Nope.



Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

No, no. No-one's as funny as Harry Hill, so bad luck.

Ed Gamble

I guess they found a way of doing it with Gogglebox.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, yes, that's-

Ed Gamble

It's, sort of, a rip on TV Burp, isn't it?

James Acaster

Yes, yes, that's ultimate TV Burp, and now, like, you know, all over the internet, people do reaction videos to stuff. I mean, Harry Hill started it all.

Ed Gamble

Still the original.

James Acaster

Still the OG uncle, watching the TV and reacting to it.

Ed Gamble

You've Been Framed.

James Acaster

Well, I mean, he wasn't the OG with that, but he perfected it.

Ed Gamble

No, of course, but he resurrected the format and perfected it.

James Acaster

He perfected it.

Ed Gamble

Thank you, Harry, but looking forward to speaking to him, but of course, even though he's done all of these wonderful things, as well as being, let's not forget, a fantastic stand-up comedian.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Even though he's done all of those things, if he says the secret ingredient that we have predetermined, we will kick him out of the dream restaurant. James, what is the secret ingredient for Harry Hill this week?

James Acaster

The secret ingredient is, hooves.

Ed Gamble

Hooves.



James Acaster

He did a show called Hooves, that's why we're being cheeky.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

We're thinking, maybe.

Ed Gamble

We're trying to be cheeky uncles.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

We're cheeky cousins, aren't we?

James Acaster

We're cheeky little cousins. Each other's cousins, or we're both brothers and we're someone else's cousin?

Ed Gamble

No, we're someone else's cousins, but we're cousins to the same people, so we only really see each other at weddings.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, but we get on.

James Acaster

We get on, but we only see each other at weddings.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

That's what we aspire to one day.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes.

James Acaster

Once this façade, this hellish façade of a podcast has come to an end.

Ed Gamble

We'll only see each other at weddings.

James Acaster

Just see each other at weddings. I mean, let's face it though, by the time it is over, more likely there'll be funerals.



Ed Gamble

Yes. So, we are cheeky cousins, Harry is a cheeky uncle.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

What's the Great Benito?

James Acaster

Well, the Great Benito is obviously the scrappy little nephew running around with a snotty little nose.

Ed Gamble

Yes. How do you feel about that one?

James Acaster

He liked it.

Ed Gamble

We'll probably be chatting to Harry about his new book, Fight.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Autobiography.

James Acaster

I mean, everyone should now what that's a reference to.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

If they don't, where have you been?

Ed Gamble

Where have you been, guys?

James Acaster

Where have you been, guys? Great book, can't wait to ask him about it, can't wait to hear what his meal is.

Ed Gamble

Yes, very excited, and also, we're not going to chat about this but I'm on tour in February, James. I start my tour in February, goes through until April. Ed Gamble, Electric. Ed Gamble that could eat a cake of details. Buy yourself some tickets for Christmas.

James Acaster

I'm going to, because Ed still refuses to give me freebies.

Ed Gamble

No way.



James Acaster

He won't do it.

Ed Gamble

We must act like the general public, James, we're not the government.

James Acaster

We're not the government, well.

Ed Gamble

Look, if Ant and Dec are doing satire, I'm going to join in as well.

James Acaster

Yes, you've done well. Are And and Dec doing satire?

Ed Gamble

We'll talk about it later.

James Acaster

Okay.

Ed Gamble

Now, here's the Off Menu menu of-,

Ed and James

Harry Hill.

Ed Gamble

Welcome, Harry Hill, to the dream restaurant.

Harry Hill

Thanks very much.

James Acaster

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

Harry Hill

It's the genie, it's at the restaurant.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

How do you feel about genies, Harry?

Harry Hill

Well, one of my first breaks in show business was when I was nine. I was Widow Twankey in, you know the name of the panto, I think.

James Acaster

Aladdin, I believe.

Harry Hill

Aladdin, yes, you genies would know this.



James Acaster

Yes, yes, I know the name.

Harry Hill

This was big.

James Acaster

May I say, before this anecdote even continues, nine, pretty young to play Twankey.

Harry Hill

Well, yes.

James Acaster

How did that happen?

Harry Hill

Well, it was-,

James Acaster

Youngest Twankey in history.

Harry Hill

It was, sorry, I should have prefaced that, it was the Cub panto.

James Acaster

Okay.

Ed Gamble

Right, okay, so everyone was young then, yes.

Harry Hill

Even then I was young, you know.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Harry Hill

Because, you know, Cubs goes up to about eleven, I think.

James Acaster

Yes, I think you're right, there.

Harry Hill

So, there were a few people, obviously, that were passed over for the role, and I can't remember who played the genie, actually.

James Acaster

That's a big role, but it's ageless as well, so it could have been one of the newer Cubs.

Harry Hill

Yes, but it was really, you know, Aladdin is what put genies on the map, I think.



James Acaster

Yes, big time, it was huge for us, Aladdin.

Ed Gamble

And also, you know, I mean, to be fair, Aladdin did a lot for widows as well.

Harry Hill

Yes. Yes, it's between them and Scottish Widows, isn't it?

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, a lot-,

Harry Hill

Those are the two main widow promotional devices.

James Acaster

Yes, did you-,

Ed Gamble

Certainly in terms of, like, positive representation of widows, because in a lot of the other stuff they're very sad, aren't they?

Harry Hill

Well, there was the TV serial, Widows.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes.

Harry Hill

Which was quite on the nose as a title for it.

James Acaster

Yes, they weren't messing around.

Ed Gamble

I suppose there's the spider, the black widow.

James Acaster

Now of course, the superhero, Black Widow.

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

You know, I mean, the film franchise, probably wouldn't have happened were it not for Widow Twankey. Did you do a lot of research for the role? Did you talk-,

Harry Hill

She was like the seed widow.

James Acaster

Did you talk to a lot of widows before you played Widow Twankey?

Harry Hill

I did research, I hung around the undertakers.



James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

Excuse me-,

James Acaster

Nine years' old.

Harry Hill

Are you visiting your husband? Yes, so I did do a lot of that research. I know that the kid playing Aladdin had ginger hair, he wasn't a natural choice.

James Acaster

Already, that's not exactly-,

Harry Hill

For the role.

Ed Gamble

Do you want to give him a shout-out?

Harry Hill

Yes, I was just talking to him in the car on the way here, funnily enough, it's a coincidence.

James Acaster

Really?

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

Still in touch with Aladdin?

Harry Hill

Because his mum's just died.

James Acaster

Okay.

Ed Gamble

Sorry.

Harry Hill

It's true.

James Acaster

Yes, that's true.

Harry Hill

My mum, you know, like-, I don't know about you, my mum's 84.

James Acaster

Yes.



Harry Hill

All her friends keep dying, and so she's got so blasé about it. So, this is my best friend, Ad, from school and she says, she just texted me saying, 'Yes, great to see you at Christmas, Adam's mum died.'

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

Just like that, like, another one gone, you know.

James Acaster

So you rung him up.

Harry Hill

It's just become so blasé.

James Acaster

Did you ring him up to give him-, because obviously, you yourself have been a widow before, did you ring him up to give him advice on the grieving process.

Harry Hill

Insight, yes. Well, he wouldn't be a widow.

Ed Gamble

No, that's not what they're called.

James Acaster

No, no.

Harry Hill

He'd be an orphan.

James Acaster

Oh, yes, I know that kids get called a widow.

Harry Hill

Widow Junior. Widow Junior, there's a film.

James Acaster

Yes. Widow Junior would be a film that you can pick.

Ed Gamble

I'm just going to say it again, Kidows, there you go, just really keeping it clean, thank you.

James Acaster

There you go.

Harry Hill

What's that?



James Acaster

Ed's joke is, sorry, I'll tell him.

Ed Gamble

It's a kid widow, it's, yes.

Harry Hill

Kidows.

Ed Gamble

Kidows, like-,

Harry Hill

Like Kadults?

Ed Gamble

Spelt with a 'W' at the end.

Harry Hill

Yes, yes. Go on.

James Acaster

This is one of our strongest starts.

Ed Gamble

I think so.

James Acaster

I'd say.

Harry Hill

If this is a strong start I'd like to hear some of the other starts.

James Acaster

Yes, I'll tell you.

Harry Hill

Perhaps you should just do, like, a start special, which is, like, a compilation of all the starts.

James Acaster

That would be good.

Ed Gamble

Yes, we should do actually, yes.

James Acaster

So, maybe, like, get all the starts and put them in a certain order that they might make, I mean, narrative, you know?

Ed Gamble

That's exactly the sort of thing you'd think of.

Harry Hill

Yes, this is exactly the trend, isn't it?



Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

This is one of my beefs about, forgive me, younger comedians.

James Acaster

Absolutely, go for it.

Harry Hill

In the old days you just used to be able to just tell jokes for an hour.

James Acaster

Yes, well.

Harry Hill

You didn't have to build to anything, there didn't have to be any so called narrative, we weren't all storytellers back then. We were just funny, we were just funny people with jokes.

James Acaster

No, you can't make out, Harry Hill, like, that's all you did with your shows. You put a lot into the structure.

Harry Hill

I put a lot into it, yes.

James Acaster

You would take a routine, you would divide it up into all it's separate bits, and then you would shuffle it all together like that. You put a lot-, you think, probably.

Harry Hill

I was talking about effort, chum.

James Acaster

Older comics were looking at you going, 'Look at that with his structure, back in my day you could just do a routine as a whole. You didn't have to shuffle it in with all the other routines.'

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

Have it all, there'd be all the call backs at the end, this is absolutely-, what are those horns he's honking? Actually, they liked those.

Harry Hill

Those were stolen from my lock-up recently. I went to get them, I though maybe-, you know, like, when you've got a, I've got a tour coming up and I'm thinking, 'What can I recycle? There must be something I can do,' that, sort of, panic. I go down there, I've got this big metal case for them in this lock-up under all this stuff. I share the lock-up, it's a double garage, right?

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes.



Harry Hill

A lock-up garage, and one side of it, his side, is piled high with looked like rags, just, like, rags, okay. I get down there one day, and I've got all my props and stuff, stuff I don't really need. He's there with a white van and he's sorting all this stuff out. He said, 'Oh, I'm from Nigeria, and I send this stuff back to Nigeria. I run this charity.' I thought, oh, fair enough, and on close inspection it wasn't just rags. Then one day I go in and it's been cleared out.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

He's gone. Two years pass, lockdown, I go to investigate and to get this metal box. I open the metal box up, empty. He's taken it.

James Acaster

So, you think-

Harry Hill

Well, what's he doing with them?

James Acaster

What was in there, that you were looking for?

Harry Hill

The horns.

James Acaster

The horns from your show, that were lined up-

Harry Hill

Two octaves.

James Acaster

Well, I don't know if you've seen Bill Bailey's latest show, I think I know exactly where they've gone. So, you think that maybe the man who sent stuff for charity for Nigeria, maybe sent your horns to Nigeria?

Harry Hill

I think before he went he had a little root around. There were also two kilos that were missing.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Why do you think he specifically took the horns and the two kilos?

Harry Hill

I'm thinking maybe he's floating the horns across.

James Acaster

Yes, sure. No, yes.

Harry Hill

A moat.



Ed Gamble

So, why couldn't he send-, so, the moat, he's not floating them all the way to Nigeria, there's a moat in Nigeria that he needs to get the horns across.

James Acaster

How far do you reckon?

Harry Hill

Let me answer.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, yes.

Harry Hill

May I just address the question? I'm just saying stretch of water.

Ed Gamble

Yes, okay.

Harry Hill

I'm not saying specifically a moat.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

How far do you reckon you could get those horns on two lilos, if you had to get them from here to Nigeria? How far do you reckon you could get?

Harry Hill

Me, personally?

James Acaster

If you've got, yes, you've got your two lilos, you're putting the horns on them.

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

What's the furthest, do you reckon?

Ed Gamble

We ask this to everyone, by the way.

Harry Hill

The furthest I can swim.

Ed Gamble

So, you would be with them all the time, you wouldn't-,



Harry Hill

Two lengths, two lengths.

Ed Gamble

See, I personally would, eventually I'd push them and hope that the sea takes them.

Harry Hill

Yes, well if you could get the tides right.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

If you could judge the tides correctly. So, if you could ride those tides, you could get all the way to Nigeria.

James Acaster

As you were swimming towards the shore of the Nigeria, pushing the two lilos with the horns on them.

Harry Hill

Honk, honk. Honk, honk. Honk, honk.

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

Who's that?

James Acaster

That's how you would get their attention.

Ed Gamble

Your book's out, Fight.

Harry Hill

Fight, yes, it's an autobiography, tells my story. I thought there was a bit of a gap in the market this year for comedian's autobiographies.

Ed Gamble

Yes, finally.

James Acaster

Where do you think it sits in the-, like, whose life stories?

Harry Hill

In the chart?

James Acaster

Whose life story do you think you've definitely got a better life story than that comic?

Harry Hill

Well, superficially, my life story is not terribly dramatic. I mean, it's a nice life, but it's not a good story.



Ed Gamble

Is it a real autobiography, Harry?

Harry Hill

It is, yes.

Ed Gamble

Sometimes, I don't trust you to tell the truth.

Harry Hill

Yes, I have written-, I wrote one which was called Living the Dream, which was, I had committed to writing, it was like a diary thing. An entry for one, every day of the year and I came up ten days' short, so I engineered that I was hit over the head and went into a coma for ten days.

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

So, there's a gap. There's a gap, and then I wake up from the coma. Yes, it's a useful device, a literary device, that.

James Acaster

That's very good.

Ed Gamble

Very good, the coma.

James Acaster

That's clever.

Harry Hill

I always thought that was the thing, if you were in a coma, if you went into a coma for, like, five years' or something, they'd keep you up to date with the hairstyles. 'The man in bed four is looking terribly dated, could we do a Peaky Blinders?'

James Acaster

We always start with still or sparkling water for your dream meals.

Harry Hill

Still water. I'm saying still water, really still.

James Acaster

How still?

Harry Hill

No ripples, no ripples. It's, like, you know, these-,

Ed Gamble

Ripples of time?

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

The ripples of time and, you know, how one small movement can end up with, like, a huge effect.



Ed Gamble

You don't like to be reminded of the-

Harry Hill

Chaos theory.

Ed Gamble

The butterfly effect, when you're sitting down for a glass of water.

Harry Hill

Yes.

Ed Gamble

I understand that.

Harry Hill

I always took that butterfly effect thing, you know, like, was it if a butterfly flaps its wings in Streatham, there's a typhoon in the Maldives.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Exactly.

Harry Hill

I always took from that that what we should do is kill butterflies, that's the-

Ed Gamble

Because they're causing so much trouble.

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes. Popadoms or bread? Popadoms or bread, Harry Hill? Popadoms or bread?

Harry Hill

Bread.

Ed Gamble

Straight away. Any particular sort of bread that you're into?

Harry Hill

I like a bread that is, sort of, elastic-y and oily.

Ed Gamble

Yes, wow.

Harry Hill

So, where does that take us?

Ed Gamble

Focaccia?



Harry Hill

Exactly, yes.

Ed Gamble

Coming at you.

Harry Hill

Yes, focaccia, coming at you. I mean, bread's changed so much in my lifetime.

Ed Gamble

Is this going to be a rant about younger comedians again?

James Acaster

Here we go. Here we go, the old papa bear feeling threatened, again.

Ed Gamble

Bread needs structure now, doesn't it? For narrative.

Harry Hill

Yes, now it's, you know, there weren't all these different types of bread.

James Acaster

No,

Harry Hill

That is one of the things that I'm, you know, lucky to have lived through.

James Acaster

Yes, you think that sometimes?

Harry Hill

I do, yes.

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

It was just white sliced.

Ed Gamble

You were happier when you-,

Harry Hill

Then brown came in.

James Acaster

Yes, how many breads? So, there were, like, two breads when you were a lad.

Harry Hill

Crusty loaves, and just regular soft bread.

James Acaster

Soft and crusty.



Harry Hill

We were told that the crust had more fibre in.

Ed Gamble

That's where the whole thing of, 'Make sure you eat your crusts,' comes from. Gives you a hairy chest, I was always told that, if you eat your crusts.

James Acaster

Look at that bad boy.

Ed Gamble

It worked.

James Acaster

I mean, for the listener, Harry Hill just flashed his hairy chest. Funny, because I don't think of you as having a hairy chest.

Harry Hill

When would you be thinking about it?

James Acaster

So, like, hairy back?

Harry Hill

Not so much, not at all.

James Acaster

I guess we should stop that line of question of the back.

Ed Gamble

Well, there's a few up next.

James Acaster

Arms? Hairy arms?

Harry Hill

Forearms.

Ed Gamble

Pits? Making my pits, bad luck.

Harry Hill

I don't want to talk about this anymore.

James Acaster

So, you want stretchy, elastic, oily bread?

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

With anything with it? Do you want some butter? Do you want some-,

Harry Hill

Oil, I'll have some olive oil with it, yes.



James Acaster

Olive oil. Balsamic?

Harry Hill

Just olive oil.

James Acaster

Just olive oil. What have you got against balsamic?

Harry Hill

I just prefer the oil, and it's a bit sweet, isn't it, the balsamic. I find it a little bit sweet.

Ed Gamble

Can be, yes.

Harry Hill

Can be sweet, can't it?

Ed Gamble

Do you like an olive within your focaccia, or a sun dried tomato?

Harry Hill

Well, you know, my son dries tomatoes.

James Acaster

Your son dries tomatoes? Fell for that, for a second.

Harry Hill

Hook, line and sinker. Yes, that is-,

Ed Gamble

I was doing a gig with Harry last night and he said that on stage.

Harry Hill

Yes, he set me up.

Ed Gamble

They fell for it hook, line and sinker to the extent that Harry had to explain what the joke was.

Harry Hill

Yes, yes. Yes, I had to look at my watch, and do that one. I like those jokes sometimes, don't you, that only, like, half of them get.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, yes. Well, you should come and see me, one day.

Harry Hill

I must. Yes, so sun dried tomatoes. I mean, I think I just like the focaccia, straightforward focaccia. You know this whole thing about the lockdown, everyone started baking bread and all that, I did actually try and bake focaccia, with some success.



James Acaster
Some success?

Harry Hill
I made the dough, I forgot to put the olive oil in.

Ed Gamble
It's quite important.

Harry Hill
Initially.

Ed Gamble
Yes.

Harry Hill
So, the dough is like dough, and I thought I'd better add the-, it's not too late to add the oil, so I poured the olive oil but then it becomes like a big slippery ball of dough, because you can't then get the olive oil to penetrate into the-, but, you know, I persevered and at the end of it it was quite convincing.

Ed Gamble
Wow.

James Acaster
Yes.

Ed Gamble
It always looks hard, focaccia. Whenever I see people do it on Bake Off or anything like that.

Harry Hill
It's easy.

Ed Gamble
Really hard.

Harry Hill
It's really easy.

James Acaster
You did well on Bake Off, didn't you?

Harry Hill
Well, yes, given that I was against Martin Kemp, who put his buttercream icing in the oven. I mean, like, duh. He got his, whatever it is, the batter mixed up with the icing.

James Acaster
You switched them around?

Harry Hill
He put the icing in the oven and the dough in the fridge. Yes, what a prat. Yes, so I was up against him, I was up against Roisin Conaty, so, you don't have to go any further.

Ed Gamble
Yes.



Harry Hill

She made so much gingerbread, it was like a mountain of gingerbread, just great big lumps of it. She was rolling it, rolling it out, it was, like, this thick, she was rolling it and then it's that thick. There was just so much rolling and rolling and rolling, and Bill Turnbull, who, yes, I just beat him.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

Have you done it? You've done it, right?

James Acaster

Yes, I've done it.

Ed Gamble

James is famously the worst Celebrity Bake Off contestant of all time.

Harry Hill

I saw a bit of it, what was it, something really runny you made?

James Acaster

Yes, flapjacks.

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

I would absolutely trade places with Kemp in a heartbeat. I'd kill for that story, I wish I'd just put icing in the oven.

Harry Hill

I was surprised, because I thought this is just a laugh. Then you get the instructions through and it's all, like, don't do this, what are you going to-, blah, blah, blah. Then in the tent they were quite serious, Martin Kemp was quite steely-eyed about it.

James Acaster

Maybe, I guess he had to change that attitude pretty quickly, once he'd put the buttercream in the oven?

Harry Hill

Yes, he had to present that he hadn't come in to win, it was a laugh, just a game, it was all for charity.

James Acaster

Yes, a bit of fun, but I bet he went home and just trashed his room, 'Lost to Harry fucking Hill.'

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

'Have you seen Harry Hill on TV? He's a scamp, he beat me.'

Harry Hill

Yes. Which one's he married to, Shirley or Pepsi?



Ed Gamble

Shirley, I think.

Harry Hill

Shirley, yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, he's married to Shirley, yes.

Harry Hill

Yes, 'I put me buttercream in the oven, Shirly.' 'Never mind, have your dinner, come on.'

Ed Gamble

More Junior Bake Off?

Harry Hill

Yes, I film that in the summer. That is, I have to say, the best job I have ever had.

James Acaster

Wow.

Ed Gamble

I love Junior Bake Off so much, I get so invested.

Harry Hill

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

It's so good.

Harry Hill

They're great those kids, they're so funny, you know. They are, they're just constantly surprising.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

To me, you know. I mean, obviously, some of them give me a bit of a hard time, and I've had to, sort of, take one or two into a corner and say, 'Look, mate, the bits that stay in are the bits with me, alright, so open up a bit more.' What they don't show you is all the crying, they try and cut that out. It's a very cruel programme, and the wasps, because there are a lot of wasps as well and, you know, kids, wasps.

Ed Gamble

That sounds funny, I'd like to see the wasp edit.

James Acaster

Yes, I'd like to see just pure wasp cut, just, like, you, flapping wasps away from the kids.

Harry Hill

Well, what they do is, they put up a fake wasps nest, you know, this-,

James Acaster

No.



Harry Hill

Yes, you can buy these commercially, there are fake wasps nests that you hang up and the wasps think it's already taken.

Ed Gamble

Oh, right, because I would have thought that would have attracted wasps.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

If someone, like, put a fake shop up somewhere I'd be, like, I'm going to go over there and have a look at the shop. I wouldn't go-,

Harry Hill

Not if you're a shop owner.

Ed Gamble

That's true, yes.

James Acaster

Yes, yes. You'd go, someone else is-,

Harry Hill

You're not going to, yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

You'd think, 'Well, I'm not going to open a shop here, there's another shop.' Although it's not the same with antique shops is it? You often get a string of antique shops.

Ed Gamble

They're quite stuffed.

James Acaster

What if you attract a bear, though, because you've put up a big wasps nest and the bear thinks, 'This is great. Honey.'

Ed Gamble

What?

James Acaster

Honey.

Ed Gamble

You couldn't cut that out of Junior Bake Off, if a bear came in, you'd have to leave that in the edit.

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

You could cut around some of it.



James Acaster

The director trying to take it out with a zap tennis racquet.

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

Just trying to zap the bear.

Harry Hill

Yes. Well, I've often thought, you know, that, like, people talk about in the future when mankind has died out, what would take over. Often, well, back in the, sort of, '80s, people would often say dolphins because they were considered intelligent and able to communicate with each other. I always thought it would be bears

Ed and James

Yes.

Harry Hill

Because they can pretty much move straight in, because everything is the right height. Kitchens, cars, yes?

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Big clothes, like, the bigger size of clothes.

Harry Hill

Baggy clothes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, baggy clothes, yes.

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

True.

Ed Gamble

Yes, they could slot right in, couldn't they?

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

Wouldn't have to do any alterations, pretty much, just take it over.

James Acaster

Yes, they'd love going to Paddington Station, they've already got the statue there.

Ed Gamble

Yes.



Harry Hill

Yes, 'They even named a station after us, great.'

James Acaster

Your dream starter, we're getting into your meal proper, now.

Harry Hill

I saw that, you were trying to look at it.

James Acaster

I didn't look over.

Harry Hill

Because I've written it, I wrote it down.

James Acaster

You've got it written down, I'm not trying to spoil-

Harry Hill

I thought you were trying to look at it.

James Acaster

I don't want any spoilers. You don't need to keep on top of me, I promise, I won't read ahead.

Harry Hill

Well, I've got potted shrimps.

Ed Gamble

Oh, lovely.

James Acaster

Potted shrimps.

Harry Hill

They are nice.

James Acaster

Now, I'm going to hold my hands up, I know what shrimps are but I've never heard of potted shrimps before.

Harry Hill

Well, they're like shrimps, well, they are shrimps, in butter.

Ed Gamble

But the butter's, like, hardened.

Harry Hill

Hard.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

Hard cold butter that's got, like, a nutmeg-y flavour to it.



James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

With shrimps embedded in it.

James Acaster

What is the ratio, because I'm now picturing, like, Jurassic Park, you know, the amber with the mosquito in the middle.

Harry Hill

Think again, it's more like-

Ed Gamble

It's not one shrimp in the middle of a load of butter, you don't need to-

Harry Hill

If you want a fossil reference, it's more like sedimentary rock.

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

You know, with the little shells all dotted around.

James Acaster

Yes, so what the, like, how much space is there between each shrimp?

Harry Hill

Some of them are actually very-, would be touching each other, I would say.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I think so.

Harry Hill

Yes.

Ed Gamble

It's not-, it's like rush hour, yes, rush hour on the Tube, on the Central Line.

Harry Hill

Yes, with butter.

James Acaster

So, it's absolutely rammed in there?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

Yes, but with butter. If you were to fill a carriage of the Central Line with butter.

James Acaster

And shrimps.



Ed Gamble

No, the people are the shrimps.

James Acaster

Oh, the people are the shrimps.

Harry Hill

Yes, yes, for this analogy.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Harry Hill

Then chill it down, because you'd never be able to eat that amount of potted shrimps if it was shrimps, but it would keep.

Ed Gamble

But a giant could eat that amount of human, if it was in the Tube carriage on the Central Line.

Harry Hill

Yes, like that, put his hand in.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

Rip the end off, put his hand in like that.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

I love potted shrimp. Rarely appears on a menu anymore, you don't really see it. It's, sort of, I'll be honest, initially for our wedding, Harry, not me and James, my wife, we had-

Harry Hill

Congratulations.

Ed Gamble

Thank you. We had potted shrimp on the menu.

Harry Hill

Oh, you did?

Ed Gamble

Then the caterer went bust, and the new one was not onboard with potted shrimp, they didn't have potted shrimp available.

Harry Hill

Went bust, wow.



Ed Gamble

Yes, it was over COVID, of course.

Harry Hill

Right.

Ed Gamble

We were really looking forward to those potted shrimp.

Harry Hill

Yes, well it's-, you know, and this, it comes back to your question about bread, because it's served with toast.

James Acaster

So you've got more bread, now?

Harry Hill

It comes with toast, so actually, you probably wouldn't order bread.

James Acaster

So, are you going to change it to popadoms?

Harry Hill

No. It's a fault in the format of this, in that it's rigid.

James Acaster: Yes, there are many faults in this format, Harry.

Harry Hill

Yes, well I'm not saying that, I'm just saying I've just picked one up.

James Acaster

What kind of toast are you having?

Harry Hill

I think it's just, is it brown bread, toasted? I think it is, yes, brown, just, like, sliced white, sliced brown.

James Acaster

Is this cold? It's all cold? The shrimps are cold?

Harry Hill

Yes, but the toast is warm.

Ed Gamble

The toast is hot, yes.

James Acaster

The toast is warm.

Harry Hill

Hot, yes.

James Acaster

Do you, like, put the knife in and then spread this stuff on the toast?



Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

The butter and the shrimp on the toast, and then you eat it.

Harry Hill

That's what you do, yes. Yes, I suppose it's a bit like a, sort of, terrine-y type thing, yes. I mean, the classic is Morecambe Bay, isn't it, Morecambe Bay potted shrimps. There's a lot of shrimping goes on, there. When I was a kid we would shrimp, we would go shrimping, you know, this is when the oceans were stocked full of living creatures, you know, you just had to dip your shrimp net into the water down there in Eastbourne and come back, it would be teeming with all sorts of living creatures. Shrimps, and seahorses.

James Acaster

Seahorses, yes.

Harry Hill

Yes, potted seahorses.

Ed Gamble

Potted seahorses, not as popular, now.

Harry Hill

Not these days, no.

Ed Gamble

You wouldn't get as many seahorses in, I guess. How big is a seahorse? I'll be honest, when I imagined it there it was the size of, like, a small dog.

Harry Hill

I think they're about that big, aren't they?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, little-, little action figure size.

Harry Hill

Yes.

Ed Gamble

So, you'd maybe get three seahorses in a potted seahorse, which isn't good enough.

Harry Hill

Yes, there's no relationship between seahorses and sea monkeys, is there?

James Acaster

No, no more than there is between, like, I guess, monkeys and horses.

Harry Hill

Right, but you think it's as distanced as that?



James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Well, monkeys-, think about in Planet of the Apes, monkeys ride horses.

James Acaster

Yes, good point.

Ed Gamble

Do you think there's a, sort of, scaled down remake of Planet of the Apes possible, where a sea monkey can ride a seahorse, a water one?

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

I was just thinking about that, if you were a horse and you think-, and then a monkey gets on and starts riding, you're thinking, 'What? Come off it,' wouldn't you? I don't think you'd accept it straight away.

James Acaster

No, no.

Ed Gamble

No, not at all. No.

James Acaster

If your version of the future is true, are they going to have bears trying to get on them?

Harry Hill

Bears, yes.

James Acaster

Having a bear saddling up.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

I mean, at that point, when you're a horse, I reckon you would still think, 'What?' You would think, 'I'm going to have to put up with this.'

Ed Gamble

Fair enough.

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

'This bear's going to eat me if I don't.'

Harry Hill

Threatening, because they're threatening.



James Acaster

If I don't prove to be useful.

Harry Hill

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Whereas monkeys, you could go, 'Fuck this, I don't care.'

Harry Hill

Yes, exactly, run off.

James Acaster

Yes, who cares.

Harry Hill

What was the question? Seahorses, a sea monkey riding a seahorse?

James Acaster

Did you used to catch shrimp as a little boy?

Harry Hill

Yes. Yes, I would. Yes, I'd catch those shrimps and then we would take them back to the holiday home, you know, if we had a bed and breakfast, or something.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Would you pot them yourself, then?

Harry Hill

We would boil them, and eat them just like that. We wouldn't have-, we wouldn't pot them, no.

James Acaster

As they were, you didn't add anything. They were delicious, just as they were?

Harry Hill

No, it was hard work, it's a lot of work because they were very tiny.

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

We were almost like filter feeders, you'd have to have so many to get a mouthful. My family are filter feeders, I'm glad I've explained that.

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

The gaps between our teeth, can you see that? Look, we just suck up krill.



James Acaster

Yes, Harry Krill, got that?

Harry Hill

Karry Krill.

James Acaster

Karry Krill, your sister?

Harry Hill

My sister.

James Acaster

His sister, Karry Krill.

Harry Hill

My drag alter-ego.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Karry Krill, that would be great.

James Acaster

I think people are ready for that.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

Karry Krill would be, like, the opening support act, I could come on in drag, 'Hi,' you know.

Ed and James

Yes.

Harry Hill

It wouldn't be American, but it would be something-, they're all American aren't they, drag acts, but, you know, 'Hi, everyone, it's me, Karry Krill, how are you doing? Who wants a shrimp?'

James Acaster

Then you would throw buckets of shrimp out.

Harry Hill

Shrimps, yes.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

I mean, it's not so unbelievable an idea that you would do that.

James Acaster

No, probably a lot of your fans are listening to this now going, 'I hope that-'



Harry Hill

Yes, 'We want Karry.' They'll be chanting that all the way through the first day, 'Yes, alright, okay. That was just a throwaway common on a podcast. How did I know it was going to be download 700 million times?' The most popular podcast in history. 'We want Karry.' Alright, alright, I'll do it, 'Who wants a shrimp?'

James Acaster

His garage is just full of shrimp at the end of it.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

Yes, it would be turned into a shrimp hatchery.

James Acaster

Yes, you'd get a phone call, 'Harry, I have a complaint from your neighbour, says your garage absolutely stinks.'

Harry Hill

Then you go in there and he's turned off the electricity, and all the shrimps have died. 'Oh, no, they've all died, another batch died.'

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

I'd have to get them wholesale.

James Acaster

I think the potted shrimp, I'm sorry, where did you first have potted shrimp?

Harry Hill

I'm surprised you haven't heard it.

James Acaster

Never heard of it before you said it.

Harry Hill

Really?

James Acaster

Never even heard of them.

Ed Gamble

It's very, like, because you've got the warm toast, and then you, sort of, get down into the potted shrimp. Spread it on, some of it melts, some of it stays solid, you get that delicious, like, buttery taste.

James Acaster

What did you have for your wedding starter in the end? I'm trying to remember what I had.

Ed Gamble

Scallops.



James Acaster

Yes, I had the scallops, that was-,

Ed Gamble

We had two choices. Scallops with, like, a langoustine bisque sauce, and truffle gnocchi.

James Acaster

What would you have if you'd gone to Ed's wedding? What would you have ticked, scallops or the-,

Harry Hill

What was it? Scallops?

Ed Gamble

Scallops or gnocchi.

Harry Hill

I would have scallops probably, but I'm worried with mass catering if it's cold. I don't do-,

Ed Gamble

No, no, it was good. It was good stuff.

Harry Hill

It was, yes.

Ed Gamble

Good stuff, right?

James Acaster

It was warm but obviously, you know, when you have to choose from that before you arrive.

Harry Hill

It's just that with the other caterer going bust, I'm thinking how are they choosing the caterers?

James Acaster

Yes, this is the second choice. We'll come to what was on the rest of the menu later and find out your full menu for Ed's wedding.

Ed Gamble

What food did you have at your wedding, Harry?

Harry Hill

Blood hell, so long ago, 25 years this year.

Ed Gamble

Oh, wow, congrats.

James Acaster

Congratulations.

Harry Hill

Thank you so much. We got married in Wandsworth Registry Office. So, we started off in our house, which was a short walk.



Ed Gamble

My stomach's going mental, I'm so sorry.

Harry Hill

That's alright, don't worry.

Ed Gamble

It was the potted shrimp. It's going absolutely bananas-

Harry Hill

Yes, they are nice those potted shrimp.

James Acaster

The longest.

Ed Gamble

It's probably on mic, isn't it?

James Acaster

It was doing the whole thing. It was doing a real long, like, mmm, and I was, like, trying to figure out.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I think my stomach's got tinnitus.

James Acaster

What is that? Then I realised it was Ed's stomach and I'll leave it alone.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I don't know why.

James Acaster

Then it just really went off on one again, like, a theremin or something.

Ed Gamble

I apologise.

James Acaster

The start of Doctor Who.

Harry Hill

That would be an act.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

Britain's Got Talent, wouldn't it? 'What are you going to do for us today, Ed?' The theremin sound from the beginning of Doctor Who, with my stomach.

James Acaster

So, the weddings at Wandsworth Registry Office, you can walk from your house.



Harry Hill

So, we went-, no, well, So, everyone came to our house, because the wine bar that we had it in, the do, we can only get 50 people in, so that's actually quite good. I don't know about you but if it's open-ended, everyone says, 'Oh, what about aunty so-and-so?'

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

Yes, she'd like to come, you know, and they all start spiralling, everyone's got their input, so we were quite-, in a way it was quite good. No, we met at the registry office, the registry office, back to our house for champagne, right, I'd bought sale or return, loads of bottles of champagne. Everyone got absolutely trashed, right, really drunk in a, sort of, crazy way. There was a cigarette burn in one of the speaker fronts, that gives you some idea of the-,

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, of the bedlam?

Harry Hill

Yes, it was like Sodom and Gomorrah. Then we go across the road, we walk across the road to the wine bar and in answer to your question, it was choices and I know one was duck. One was, like, confit of duck, that's what I had.

Ed Gamble

Yes, nice.

Harry Hill

I don't remember what the starter was or the pudding, I was just so happy.

James Acaster

Don't tell us who if the answer is yes, but were there any comedians at your wedding?

Harry Hill

Al Murray.

James Acaster

Well, I mean-,

Harry Hill

Why is that funny?

James Acaster

I said don't tell us who if the answer is yes.

Harry Hill

Oh, I see, I'm sorry.

James Acaster

I was going to try and do a guessing game, where we guess what comedians were at your wedding.

Harry Hill

Oh, sorry.



James Acaster

I would have guessed Al Murray.

Ed Gamble

Yes, maybe Al Murray, yes.

James Acaster

We all know you're, I mean, fair to say, thick as thieves, you and Al Murray?

Harry Hill

Yes, thick as thieves, yes.

James Acaster

So, your main course. We've got the potted shrimp to start, what's that teeing us up for?

Harry Hill

The mains, I'm going for spag-vong, spaghetti vongole.

Ed Gamble

Spag-vong, no-one's ever called it spag-vong before, and I don't know why. Spag-vong.

Harry Hill

Yes, spag-vong.

James Acaster

This is another dish I've not heard of.

Ed Gamble

Mate, you have.

Harry Hill

Oh, come off it.

Ed Gamble

This has been on the podcast before, spag-vong.

James Acaster

What, spag-vong? What?

Ed Gamble

Someone's had spaghetti vongole before, definitely.

James Acaster

Now way.

Harry Hill

Or vongole, sometimes, isn't it pronounced?

James Acaster

No way. What are you talking about? What is it? Describe the dish, maybe I'll-,

Harry Hill

Well, it's spaghetti.



Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

With a, sort of, well, with clams, little baby clams, aren't they?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

I don't know why it's called vong, where does the vongole come from? Perhaps that just means-

Ed Gamble

Is it Italian for clams, perhaps?

Harry Hill

It must mean baby clams.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

The sauce is, sort of, what is it? Sort of, oily, garlicky.

Ed Gamble

Oily, garlicky chilli, a bit of chilli in there as well, yes.

Harry Hill

Yes, a little bit of tomato. It is nice, and what I like about it is unlike some of the other, obviously, the spaghetti bolognese, and I always, there's, kind of, did you ever hear Prince Charles pronounce spaghetti bolognese? 'Spaghetti bolognese. Maybe we'll have some spaghetti bolognese.' I'm a very fast eater.

Ed Gamble

Harry, I mean, obviously, we've got to ask you where you heard Prince Charles?

Harry Hill

It was just on the news or something, it was just somewhere.

James Acaster

Was that the whole story, how he said it?

Harry Hill

There was just a documentary, 'Maybe we'll have some spaghetti bolognese.' I don't know.

Ed Gamble

I'm just trying to work out what news item that would be.

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

You saw it and you thought, 'I'll never forget that. I'm never going to forget it.'



Harry Hill

Well, I have a, sort of, slight obsession with those two.

James Acaster

With those two, who's the other one?

Harry Hill

Camilla.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, of course.

Harry Hill

And a bit with Princess Anne.

Ed Gamble

What does this obsession entail? Do you think about them a lot and what they'll be doing on a day-to-day basis?

Harry Hill

I'd rather not go into it. I mean, I, kind of, think-, well, he's just a very funny character to me, Prince Charles. Just a, sort of, big baby isn't he, he just, kind of, comes across as a big baby and I'm fascinated by his-, you know, if you have a look at his hands in some of the photographs, they're like big, red, like sausages, big Wall's sausages. Swollen, and his rings are all, sort of, tight on his fingers.

Ed Gamble

Is that a medical thing? I mean, you've, sort of, yes.

Harry Hill

I have thought that. I've looked at it thinking is that a medical thing, but it's not one that I know of.

James Acaster

No.

Harry Hill

That's not saying a hell of a lot.

James Acaster

Yes, so I guess people, like, everyone knows. There are not many comics who everybody knows what they did before comedy, but with you, absolutely everyone knows that you were a doctor, and-,

Harry Hill

I tried to keep it quiet. When I first started what I didn't want, I didn't want to be know as the doctor comedian.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Harry Hill

There were a couple around then, there was that Struck off and Die, did you ever see them? They were, like, a double act.



Ed Gamble

No.

Harry Hill

Their whole act was about being a doctor and, you know, they rose very quickly because it was, like, a new thing, junior doctors lifting the lid. I was really, sort of, dogged about not mentioning it in interviews but you only have to mention it once and it's, kind of, such a good story to the public, do you know what I mean?

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill: For some reason they just love-, I don't know if they, they don't even like the idea. They don't even like the idea necessarily, but it's just, like, 'Wow, you gave up all that, five years at medical school,' you know, all that.

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

I've had, you know, very rarely but it has happened, cab drivers saying, 'Oh, you wasted it all, you should be going back to it, mate.' We need doctors, what are you poncing about on stage for when there are people dying?

James Acaster

The stomach's going again.

Ed Gamble

I can't-, it's unbelievable.

James Acaster

Can you hear it from where you are?

Harry Hill

I didn't catch that one, no.

James Acaster

It's absolutely wailing.

Ed Gamble

Have you got a diagnosis?

James Acaster

Yes, yes. Why does his stomach keep going off?

Harry Hill

Did you have lunch?

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

I had lunch, yes, but-,



James Acaster

He had lunch, I saw him eat it.

Ed Gamble

I've been eating a lot this week, Harry, and then I had quite a, sort of, lightish lunch, so maybe it's just not used to-

James Acaster

Talking of rings on fingers as well, you've got more rings than I thought you'd have.

Harry Hill

Well, one is a wedding band.

James Acaster

Before you came in here, I thought, 'He's going to have nothing on his hands, and the smoothest chest I've ever seen.'

Ed Gamble

He said that to me. I love a vongole.

Ed Gamble

I wouldn't pick it a lot of the time just because I'm so meat-focused.

Harry Hill

Oh, are you?

Ed Gamble

Yes, but are you not? We've had two shellfish so far, are you a meat eater or are you just a shellfish fan?

Harry Hill

I do eat meat, you know, of course, but I am trying to eat less, I mean, not terribly successfully, but I'm aware that this is the drive now. My wife has stopped eating pigs after she saw that documentary where they trained them to play the xylophone or whatever it is, did you see that?

Ed Gamble

What?

Harry Hill

I don't know who it was, was it Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall? One of that bunch.

Ed Gamble

I think Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall trained a pig to play the xylophone?

Harry Hill

Or was it Jamie? One of them. They made members of the public rear animals with the expectation that at the end they would send them off to slaughter, so some families had chickens, some families had pigs, and if you watched it you did think, 'Yes, this is like a really smart dog.' They trained them, 'Go and get the blue ball,' you know, they would go off and bring the blue ball back, 'Now go and get the red ball.' 'Now go and tidy your room.' I don't know what it was. She watched this, and since that day she won't eat pork.

Ed Gamble

She won't do it anymore?



James Acaster

Some of them do tidy their room, Greg Davies told me that he saw a video of-

Harry Hill

Craig David? What did he say?

James Acaster

Greg Davies.

Harry Hill

Oh, Greg Davies, yes.

James Acaster

Similar.

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

Similar, both born to do it. He saw a video of a pig tidying its room.

Harry Hill

It's probably the same programme.

Ed Gamble

What?

James Acaster

It's what Greg told me. This was years ago.

Ed Gamble

He saw a pig tidying its room?

James Acaster

Yes, he said that he saw a YouTube video, and the owner would be like, 'Tidy your room, pig,' and the pig would go, 'Oink, oink,' and then tidy its room. That's how Greg told it, he did a snorting noise.

Ed Gamble

That's pretty good.

Harry Hill

Well, there we are.

James Acaster

Yes, that's what he told me. He told me it during a TV show where he is in charge and everyone else has to do tasks, and he was comparing the pig to my performance in the show and saying that the pig was better.

Harry Hill

I see.

James Acaster

Yes, because you tell the pig what to do and it does it.



Ed Gamble

Right, that's fair enough.

James Acaster

That is a fair point.

Ed Gamble

So, it didn't put you off pork, or did you not see the show?

Harry Hill

I was in and out, I was, sort of, drifting in and out of the show, I didn't see all of it, you know, I saw some elements of it, but not enough to convince me.

Ed Gamble

No. If you saw a video of a shrimp tidying its room, would that put you off potted shrimp?

Harry Hill

I mean, it's about interpretation, is it tidying its room or is it just swimming around its room, and every now and then its tail would flick something into place by accident, you know. Given an infinite amount of time, the shrimp will tidy its room.

Ed Gamble

As the old phrase goes, yes. What about if you saw a clam get the blue ball?

Harry Hill

Well, it would have to get the blue ball and then get the red ball.

Ed Gamble

Okay.

James Acaster

Just the blue ball, no.

Harry Hill

Once is a coincidence.

James Acaster

Where do you think spaghetti vongole would factor into Carrie Krill's act? Do you think Carrie Krill would get the-, because it's a seafood-based act.

Harry Hill

Yes, well, you're saying it's a-, I mean, it was just a coincidence that her name was Carrie Krill.

James Acaster

Didn't sound like a coincidence, it sounds like you've got to lean into it.

Harry Hill

Okay.

James Acaster

I think the audience would probably start chanting, 'Vongole.'

Ed Gamble

Well, is it another persona called Yvonne Gole?



Harry Hill

Yes, Yvonne Gole, like that. 'Where's my best friend?' Enter Al Murray dressed as Yvonne Gole.

James Acaster

Of course, yes, but Al's got previous dicey history with characters and people taking them at face value, so for the rest of his life everyone's going to be like, 'You know he absolutely loves seafood, that guy, and he loves throwing spaghetti into audiences? This what he's genuinely into, and that empowers me, and I like to throw spaghetti at people as a result of watching Yvonne.'

Ed Gamble

I feel like Yvonne would maybe use the shells as castanets, that's the instant thought.

Harry Hill

Yes, I had in my mind a dance, some sort of dance.

Ed Gamble

Yes, like a flamenco style dance.

Harry Hill

Yes, well, I hadn't got flamenco, as far as flamenco, but I thought a dance.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Carrie Krill and Yvonne Gole, I can see it.

James Acaster

I would love to see you and Al, so good.

Harry Hill

I did have an idea for a character very briefly, which was Clari Net, which was notionally me dressed as a clarinet, so you can imagine it's got a top, like a hat that goes into a tapered top in a clarinet suit, which incidentally you can't get from Smiffys, because I checked, and then I would come on and I would make, because I can do a clarinet noise, and I would just do tunes.

James Acaster

Go on.

Ed Gamble

We're going to need to hear this.

Harry Hill

Sorry, please. Hang on (makes clarinet noise). I can get into it after a while.

James Acaster

Yes, I mean, I'm going to be honest, real liberal use of the phrase, 'I can do a clarinet noise.'

Harry Hill

You try it, I mean, it's not-,

James Acaster

(Makes clarinet noise)

Harry Hill

No, see, there's a timbre to it.



James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

Doesn't sound anything like woodwind. Anyone listening to this will know that.

James Acaster

Yes?

Ed Gamble

They'll be able to tell the difference.

Harry Hill

Straight-away.

Ed Gamble

There'll be people listening to this who go, 'Is Harry playing a clarinet?'

James Acaster

Yes, 'Harry must have played a clarinet,' and they're pretending that he said-,

Harry Hill

(Makes clarinet noise)

Ed Gamble

Are you doing The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face?

Harry Hill

Yes. See? Yes, it draws you in.

James Acaster

Great.

Ed Gamble

So, Harry, this is a Christmas special, so we like to ask our guests on the Christmas special what you like to eat on Christmas day, what's your dream Christmas meal?

Harry Hill

Well, yes, this is a slightly odd question because isn't there only one meal, really, unless you're a vegetarian?

James Acaster

Interesting. Do you reckon?

Harry Hill

Roast turkey.

James Acaster

That's it.

Ed Gamble

Do you like it, though?

Harry Hill

With all the trimmings.



Ed Gamble

Do you like the turkey and the trimmings?

Harry Hill

Yes, I do, I like it.

James Acaster

Do you carve it? Does someone else carve it?

Harry Hill

I cook it and carve it, mate.

James Acaster

You cook it and carve it.

Harry Hill

My brother, who is a farmer, an organic farmer, he supplies the turkey, dead, it's a dead turkey.

James Acaster

It's dead.

Harry Hill

Yes, just for clarity, and then I roast it, I usually do all that, you know, with the potatoes. I won't list all the things that everyone knows, this is, sort of, patronising.

Ed Gamble

Well, no, I don't know, I want to hear your favourite trimmings, rank them.

Harry Hill

Oh, okay.

Ed Gamble

Rank the trimmings.

Harry Hill

Rank the trimmings.

James Acaster

Rank the trimmings.

Harry Hill

I would say I do the roast potatoes. This is so pathetic.

James Acaster

I can't believe you're the first guest that's actually said that.

Harry Hill

Roast potatoes, and I would try and get goose fat for those, you know?

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

It was probably Nigella who first turned us on to goose fat, and roast those, boil them first.



James Acaster

Shake them up?

Harry Hill

Whizz them round the pan, yes.

James Acaster

Shake them up.

Harry Hill

Shake them up, get them crispy, high heat. I would smother the turkey in butter, then I would turn it upside down. This is, I think, a Nigella trick, isn't it?

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Why are you turning it upside down?

Harry Hill

So that the-,

Ed Gamble

To confuse it.

Harry Hill

Yes, disorientate it. So that all the fluid stays in the breasts, am I allowed to say that? Turn it upside down so they remain moist and succulent.

Ed Gamble

Then, you're flipping it back when you serve it? You're not serving an upside-down turkey?

Harry Hill

No. You turn it over for the last something, half an hour or something, just to brown that off. The only problem is it then does have a sort of, cuboid look.

Ed Gamble

I see, so you've got a flat-top turkey?

Harry Hill

It's a flat-top turkey, yes. It's a flat-top turkey, that was a song, wasn't it?

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

Fats Domino.

James Acaster

Can you play Flat-Top Turkey on the clarinet?

Harry Hill

(Makes clarinet noise). No, I can't. (Makes clarinet noise). I was just turning into a wobble board. I can't just turn it on like that, you know, I need to get into the character.



James Acaster

Yes, sorry to spring it on you.

Harry Hill

Yes, it's just out of nowhere.

James Acaster

That's not in your repertoire, Flat-Top Turkey. So, you've got the crispy potatoes are number one on your trimmings?

Harry Hill

Oh, god, yes, was that as far as we've got? We've roasted the turkey, stuffing, I just like, you know, Paxo sage and onion, nothing anything meaty or heavy because it's a very rich dish anyway.

James Acaster

Are carrots getting a look in here, Harry?

Harry Hill

Carrots, yes, batons or coins.

Ed Gamble

Are you roasting or are you boiling?

Harry Hill

Boiling.

Ed Gamble

Are you boiling?

James Acaster

That should be a new Christmas section we do.

Ed Gamble

Batons or coins?

James Acaster

Batons or coins, Harry Hill?

Ed Gamble

I'd always go batons, roasted batons, I roast a carrot.

James Acaster

I love a baton as well, I'd go baton.

Ed Gamble

Love a roast carrot.

Harry Hill:

Yes, I think it's a different flavour, isn't it?

Ed Gamble

Yes, sweeter.



Harry Hill

Yes, sweeter. Carrot coins are a bit school dinners, aren't they?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

You lose respect for people who serve you carrot coins, do you think?

Harry Hill

Maybe slightly.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Pigs in blankets, are they not getting a look in now because your wife no longer wants to eat pork?

Harry Hill

Well, we would have them.

James Acaster

Yes, she's actually seen a pig tidy up its own blanket, fold it up neatly and put it at the foot of its bed.

Harry Hill

Stow it away, yes.

James Acaster

Yes, in its bedroom.

Harry Hill

'Yes, I've taken the sheets off.'

James Acaster

Is that how the pig talks?

Harry Hill

He's only stayed one night.

James Acaster

What about Carrie Krill?

Harry Hill

'I've taken the sheets off, if you've got someone else coming in tomorrow.'

Ed Gamble

So, the pig's only staying over for one night?

Harry Hill

Yes, it's just bedding down for one night.

James Acaster

Took its own sheets off.



Harry Hill

It's not even his room he's tidying, doesn't know where anything goes.

James Acaster

Just a really good guest.

Harry Hill

Pigs in blankets, this is a problem if you have one member of the family, and we have a complicated family in that I've got one daughter that's vegan, one I think is vegetarian, one is just regular, and so am I. My wife's just pork, so then you have to cook these things separately, don't you, which increase the washing up, which is-

Ed Gamble

Would you do the washing up as well or would that fall to someone who hasn't cooked?

Harry Hill

Well, that's the idea, isn't it? The idea would be that someone who hadn't cooked would do the washing up, but my kids don't ever do the washing up.

James Acaster

You can't do the washing up because the rippling water reminds you of the passing of time. Horrible for you.

Harry Hill

Very good.

James Acaster

Yes, you like that?

Ed Gamble

He remembered it.

James Acaster

You like that?

Harry Hill

See, it's the narrative creeping in. You're a natural storyteller. We've got a dishwasher, but obviously that doesn't really do pans, does it?

Ed Gamble

No.

Harry Hill

So, you know, it's a bit of a struggle, and I try not to have an argument on Christmas day, don't know about anyone else. We always end up having an argument.

James Acaster

Really?

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

I would imagine it's very hard to argue with you and not laugh.



Harry Hill

No, I'm very short tempered.

James Acaster

Yes?

Harry Hill

Yes, very short tempered.

James Acaster

I mean, you're standing there with your big collar having an argument. I mean, I don't see how they're keeping that up, straight face. 'I'm just having an argument with Harry, hold on.'

Harry Hill

No, I'm hardcore.

Ed Gamble

You wear the big collar for work, though, right,? So, Christmas do you wear a very small collar to really take a day off?

Harry Hill

Yes, I just wear a t-shirt.

James Acaster

I can't imagine.

Harry Hill

Bank Holiday Mondays, Christmas day, Queen's birthday.

James Acaster

I think my head would explode if I saw you in a t-shirt. I don't think I could handle it.

Harry Hill

I get all the time, 'Oh, I didn't recognise you without your big collar on, mate.' 'Here, why aren't you working in them hospitals sorting things out? There are people dying in the streets, there you are poncing about on You've Been Framed.' Anyway, tell you what I do like to do, because we have a roast, we probably have a roast most Sundays. I know that's quite unusual these days, but on Christmas day I do the devils on Horseback, which are nice. They are fiddly, warning, they are fiddly, and you can only eat three or four, can't you?

Ed Gamble

They're the prunes wrapped in bacon, right?

Harry Hill

Prunes wrapped in bacon, with a bit of mango chutney in the middle of the prune.

Ed Gamble

So, why can you only eat three or four?

Harry Hill

Well, they're so rich.

Ed Gamble

Yes.



Harry Hill

Oh, yes. Obviously, you've got the big meal coming down the line.

Ed Gamble

I reckon I could eat five.

James Acaster

He could, I'll back him up on that, he's not just shooting his mouth off.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I could eat five prunes, prunes wrapped in bacon.

James Acaster

What do you reckon a horse would say when a devil gets on its back?

Harry Hill

'Jesus Christ, oh fuck.'

James Acaster

I'm really scared.

Harry Hill

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Fair enough. It's going to be like, 'Oh, I guess the devil's staying on there.'

Harry Hill

Well, where's the devil going?

James Acaster

That's a point, if you were a devil and you got on a horse, where would you be heading?

Harry Hill

Stringfellows, I suppose. 'Stringfellows, now,' whatever the devil's voice would sound like.

James Acaster

I think that's about right. Your dream side dish?

Harry Hill

So, you wouldn't really have a side dish with spaghetti vongole, would you?

James Acaster

Well.

Ed Gamble

You know, you don't need to necessarily worry about the menu all seeming like it fits together, if you just want to have a side dish in there that you like, no one's judging you for having a little side dish.

Harry Hill

Okay, well I'm saying mange tout.

Ed Gamble

Lovely.



Harry Hill

I like the mange tout, but I couldn't eat a whole one, is a joke. That's not really my side dish of choice.

James Acaster

It's not, you just wanted to do the mange tout.

Harry Hill

Just wanted to resurrect that joke from 1997.

James Acaster

It's a good joke.

Harry Hill

It is a good one.

Ed Gamble

Forgot to mention when you were talking about roast dinners, your heckle put-down goes around the circuit a lot.

Harry Hill

Oh, does it?

Ed Gamble

Saying that you're going home and there's a nice roast chicken in the oven.

Harry Hill

Well, you know how that came about?

Ed Gamble

No.

Harry Hill

I had a roast chicken in the oven, it's as simple as that. You know, I always struggled. You know when you're a, I don't really think of myself as a character comedian, but I've got an exaggerated persona, I mean, I suppose this is all a character, and whenever I got heckled I couldn't deal with it, because you can't just go, you know, 'F' off.' I mean, that's what I did to start with, and actually there's a bit in the book where I get hackled at the Hackney Empire New Act of the Year, and they used to hold the heats in the pub next door, and I was on there and I got heckled and I just told this guy to F' off, and he shut up, but then I got out the pub, and was walking, Helen Austin used to be, do you remember her? She was a guitar act, she had a car and she was going to give me a life back, and I came out the pub and this guy came after me with a bottle.

Ed Gamble

Oh my god.

Harry Hill

Yes, he smashed his bottle, he was going, 'Hey,' and he called me that and all this, and I said to Helen, 'Bring the car round,' so he's chasing me round this car, she pulls up, opens the door, I jump in, slam it shut, vroom, off. So, I always struggled to come up-

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill



Then, one night I did have a chicken in the oven, and again, this guy heckles me, bla bla, I said, 'Oh, you heckle me now, but I'm safe in the knowledge that when I get home I've got a lovely chicken in the oven.' Yes, big laugh, and then I came back and ate the chicken. Amazing.

James Acaster

Then, you just said it every time someone heckled you from then on?

Harry Hill

Well, I came back and I almost wanted to tell the chicken, because I lived on my own then, wanted to tell the chicken how grateful I was to it, 'You'll never believe what happened tonight.'

Ed Gamble

Did you put a chicken in the oven to cook and then nip out and do a gig?

Harry Hill

I must have done.

Ed Gamble

Wow. I'd say that's good planning, and also pretty brave.

Harry Hill

Yes, crazy.

James Acaster

Must have been a local gig.

Harry Hill

Must have been.

Ed Gamble

Slow cook the chicken.

Harry Hill

Brown it off initially, slow heat.

Ed Gamble

Would you flip a chicken?

Harry Hill

You don't need to.

Ed Gamble

You don't need to flip a chicken.

Harry Hill

No, you just don't need to.

Ed Gamble

Oh, so this was pre-Nigella, I guess, so you wouldn't have known about keeping the juice in the breast.

Harry Hill

No.



Ed Gamble

If we can say that.

Harry Hill

I liked it dry, I liked them dry, the breasts, the chicken breasts.

James Acaster

Yes. Is that another heckle put-down?

Harry Hill

Well, I never came up with a better.

James Acaster

When you've got that, don't need one.

Harry Hill

What was yours?

James Acaster

I just tell them to fuck off, and then get attacked in the car park.

Ed Gamble

He has a breakdown and quits for a year.

James Acaster

Yes.

Harry Hill

When I first started, there used to be, like, you know The Stage newspaper, The Stage?

James Acaster: Yes.

Harry Hill

So, when I gave up medicine, naively I thought, I went out and bought The Stage because I thought that's what you did if you were in show business, and there was an advert in the back of The Stage, 120 heckle put-down lines that you could send off for, because this was pre-internet, so I thought, 'Oh, yes, got to have that,' so I sent off and it was photocopied sheets that came back with a staple in. So, it had the situation and the heckle put-down line for that situation, so man with moustache heckles, do you know what the heckle put-down?

James Acaster

No.

Harry Hill

Is that a moustache or have your eyebrows come down for a drink? Which is one of the better ones. You've got a face I'd like to shake hands with. Hey, do me a favour, close the door, from the outside. It was all stuff like that, it's very specific.

James Acaster

That's very specific.

Ed Gamble

You'd really have to learn them as well, because you'd go, 'Alright, wait there, hang on, got one for this.'



Harry Hill

Man with moustache.

James Acaster

Wow.

Ed Gamble

I think close the door, from the outside, I'm going to use that one.

James Acaster

Close the door, from the outside.

Harry Hill

Yes, from the outside.

James Acaster

So, mange tout isn't your side dish?

Harry Hill

On the vongole, no.

James Acaster

So, we're not having mange tout? I mean, you can pass on the side if you want, or just have the mange tout for a joke, so it gives you the opportunity to do the joke at your dream menu.

Harry Hill

Yes, well I will do the joke, then.

James Acaster

Yes, so you would like the manage tout so you can do the joke?

Harry Hill

Yes.

James Acaster

So that you can say, 'I couldn't eat a whole one'?

Harry Hill

Yes, because if truth be told, I find that sometimes mange tout are a bit stringy.

James Acaster

We come into your dream drink, in that case.

Harry Hill

Dream drink might be overstating it, but I like, particularly with this meal, because I am looking at this as a meal, a glass or a bottle of Gavi di Gavi, the Italian wine. A crisp white wine.

Ed Gamble

A crisp white. Are you much of a boozier, Harry?

Harry Hill

I do like to drink, but only alone. No, I like to drink, and I like the effect of drink, and I do, if I could be drunk all the time and be able to work and not suffer ill effects, I think I would be.



James Acaster

This is a very, going back to you being a doctor again, but a lot of doctors I've met I say would have this opinion.

Harry Hill

It's not so unusual, is it?

James Acaster

Well, no, but I've just met a lot of doctors who really love drugs.

Harry Hill

Now, I never did any drugs.

James Acaster

No?

Harry Hill

No, I never did any drugs. I'm surprised, I never knew any doctors, I knew one, he became a psychiatrist, but drink, yes. Well, there was a big boozing-, but I like to drink before that. I mean, not like I can't hold my drink, I mean, as you get older you can't, this is the thing, me and my friend, we used to drink, I don't know, five or six pints, but that's when beer was a pound for a pint, and now we can only drink two pints, so it's costing around the same amount to get drunk. No, I do like drink. I mean, I don't know about you, but I find it very difficult to come off after a gig and not have a drink.

Ed Gamble

Yes, especially if it's in London and you go straight back home, and then lovely, have a little glass of something.

James Acaster

I like doing a tour show, and for whatever reason it finishes a bit earlier that night, maybe it started earlier, whatever it is, you get back to the hotel with your tour manager and you realise you haven't stayed up and had a drink for a few nights, you've just been busy doing the tour, and then I like it when the idea pops into your head.

Harry Hill

Oh.

James Acaster

I want to suggest to my tour-, 'Oh, yes,' suggest to Paul, 'Why don't we drop off our stuff in our rooms, and then we'll just meet back in the bar?' That's the nicest part of the drink, and then having the drink is awful.

Harry Hill

Well, I did it on my last tour, and I don't tour much, is I had the tour manager waiting at the side of the stage with a pint of lager before I'd come off.

James Acaster

Oh, okay, that's bad.

Harry Hill

So, I could come off.

James Acaster

That sounds awful.



Ed Gamble

Neck it?

Harry Hill

Not neck, no, not quite neck it, but knock it back quite quickly, yes.

James Acaster

Did your tour manager got a sad look on his face, looking at you quite, 'Oh, here we go, Harry, oh dear'?

Harry Hill

What I did when I first started was I used to go to the gigs, you know when, like, you're the open spot? I would go to the gigs and then I would stay for the gig and I would drink as well, and so at that time I was getting drunk a lot, so then I started driving to gigs and not drinking. Club dates, I don't drink.

James Acaster

You had to do your own getaway car, I guess after your heckle put-down you don't want to be running round a musical act's car over and over again.

Harry Hill

Yes. I mean, the music acts are the ones with the cars, obviously, because they need the boot space for the instrument. That's a good tip if you're starting out as a comic, is get to know a music act.

Ed Gamble

You'll always get a lift.

James Acaster

You've got wheels, yes.

Harry Hill

Jim Tavaré was always good for a lift.

Ed Gamble

He had a massive instrument as well, didn't he, so he must have ben driving round in a minibus.

James Acaster

You mentioned You've Been Framed earlier, what's your favourite food-based You've Been Framed video that you've had to comment on?

Harry Hill

Does it include drink?

James Acaster

Yes, especially because we're on the drink course.

Harry Hill

Well, it's the classic, you know, teenage kids walks into patio doors with a tray of hot drinks, doesn't see, he looks through it rather than at it. Oh dear.

Ed Gamble

I loved listening to you just describe that then, have you ever suggested to ITV that it would be even cheaper for them to make if you just described them rather than, like an audiobook?



Harry Hill

Yes, I would like a, you know, old lady at a wedding, she's dancing on a table, oh, she's fallen over and you can see her knickers. See you after the break. Kitten on a draining board. Oh, he's fallen in the swing bin. Don't worry, he's fine. Yes, all that. Slipping on the diving board.

Ed Gamble

I'd love that.

Harry Hill

Well, you could do that.

James Acaster

So, is the tray of hot drinks one a genuine one?

Ed Gamble

Or is it, like, a classic archetype of the You've Been Framed?

James Acaster

Yes, have you seen a lot of them?

Harry Hill

Yes, I've seen that.

James Acaster

You've seen that?

Harry Hill

Yes, I've seen that a lot.

James Acaster

One of my favourite videos on YouTube to watch is the Jackass video where they have a massive hand that they can pull back, it's the size of a human, the hand, and they can pull it all the way back so it snaps, and it's by a doorway, and they get one of their friends to carry a tray of soup into the room and then they let it go and it smacks it. Really funny.

Harry Hill

I forgot about Jackass, yes.

Ed Gamble

James hasn't forgotten about Jackass, he watches videos about what they're all doing now.

James Acaster

Yes, I regularly watch videos catching up with what the Jackass crew are all up to these days.

Harry Hill

Jonny Knox-

James Acaster

Jonny Knoxville, yes.

Harry Hill

Knoxville, yes.



James Acaster

Steve-O has his own podcast, and I watch the videos of that, because the people he interviews a lot of the time are similar era people who you think, 'What are they up to?' He interviewed Aaron Carter recently, I don't know if you remember Aaron Carter, he was a pop star, a child pop star, like, in primary school still, but was singing a song about having a crush on a girl.

Harry Hill

What was the song, then?

James Acaster

Crush On You, it was called. 'How did you know, because I never told, you found out I got a crush on you.'

Harry Hill

I've noticed that when you sing, and this is not a criticism, but you don't to sustain a note, James.

James Acaster

That's just the song.

Harry Hill

Have you noticed it?

James Acaster

That's just that particular song.

Harry Hill

It's a very staccato, and I've seen you singing other songs.

James Acaster

Oh, okay, well, I didn't know you looked into-,

Harry Hill

You don't sustain, it's very, stop, so it would be, like-,

James Acaster

There are some songs I would, 'I'm a barefoot boy.'

Harry Hill

No, you're doing it again.

James Acaster

'I love the feeling of the ground on my feet, a barefoot baby boy.'

Harry Hill

'Baby boy.'

James Acaster

'I got ten little toes and they're pleased to meet you.'

Ed Gamble

Yes, it's a very good point, you, sort of, back out of the note quite quickly.

Harry Hill

Yes. Try something that does require long notes, like-,



Ed Gamble

I Will Always Love You.

Harry Hill

Well, that one, yes, that would be ideal.

James Acaster

No, but when I do, like, 'When I die, bury me with Cawston Press.'

Harry Hill

Even, you're breaking up, you're breaking the long note up into, like, four notes, like, you go, 'Pr-e-e-ss.'

James Acaster

Oh, yes. Well, it's hard, isn't it?

Harry Hill

Something to work on.

James Acaster

Yes, it's very hard.

Harry Hill

That's it, you got it.

James Acaster

It's very hard.

Harry Hill

Go on.

James Acaster

'I will always love you, will always love you.' 'Got a crush on you.' That was good.

Ed Gamble

Yes, that was good, you held that note, for sure.

James Acaster

Yes, that was good.

Ed Gamble

Curse broken.

James Acaster

I felt good about that. The curse is broken. Thank you, Harry, you are truly a doctor. We've come to the dessert now, I believe.

Ed Gamble

Yes, dessert time.

James Acaster

Now, I'm nervous going into this.



Ed Gamble

Why, because Harry couldn't remember the dessert on his wedding day? I saw you get a bit nervous there.

James Acaster

That's concerning, but also-

Harry Hill

Yes, I wonder what that was, my wife would know. Shall I phone her? No.

James Acaster

Early doors, I mean, you can phone your wife if you want.

Harry Hill

No, I'm not going to.

James Acaster

No, sorry.

Harry Hill

She's at work, she'll kill me.

James Acaster

She'll kill you. Early doors, there was something and you said you didn't like sweet balsamic vinegar.

Harry Hill

In the bread, yes.

James Acaster

'Too sweet, I don't like the sweetness,' and I immediately was like, 'Oh dear, I might be in trouble here with the dessert.' I'm a puddings boy, I love the desserts, I've even put some little chocolate miniature Cadbury's Heroes on the table to see if-

Harry Hill

Well, you say you've put them on the table, you've put them in front of you.

Ed Gamble

Yes, why did you do that?

James Acaster

I was going to eat them.

Ed Gamble

You know you can't eat during the podcast.

James Acaster

Yes, as soon as I sat down I thought, 'I can't eat this,' so I just had them there.

Ed Gamble

So, you've just been looking at them for the whole thing.



James Acaster

Yes, but also it served as a test, because I've been clocking all the way through how many times Harry looked at them, and it wasn't any times, he hasn't cared about them, which makes me worried about this dessert course. I'm now reading the ingredients in a Wispa bar.

Harry Hill

No, I'm making a point here that these, what are these from? These are Cadbury's.

James Acaster

Heroes.

Harry Hill

These are Heroes, yes. In the Celebrations, this is how you can tell the difference between the Celebrations and the Heroes, is that the Celebrations have a tiny slit here to aid-

Ed Gamble

Aid the opening.

Harry Hill

Opening of the confectionery.

James Acaster

I mean, they have them here at the top, you see, you see you've got those little notches at the top here.

Ed Gamble

This one's even got-, the crunchy bits has got an arrow here to show you.

James Acaster

Yes, there's even an arrow saying 'pull down'.

Harry Hill

If you pull on that arrow, it doesn't work.

Ed Gamble

That's a good point, actually. Oh, no, there you go, the little notch, it works.

Harry Hill

I don't know what that is.

Ed Gamble

It's going to work.

James Acaster

Works a little bit on Ed's one, and you just opened your Wispa.

Harry Hill

I'll have to eat that now, won't I?

James Acaster

Yes, you've got to eat it on your dessert course, it's like your dessert.

Harry Hill

Don't worry about the dessert, James.



James Acaster

Yes, okay.

Harry Hill

I am a dessert person, I am a pudding person, and I like, what I particularly like, is cream. I don't like anything too sweet, but I like creamy things, cream in all its forms, pouring cream, double cream, whipped cream, clotted cream, the champagne of creams. Chantilly cream, even.

Ed Gamble

Sun cream?

Harry Hill

What other creams are there? Sun cream, yes, even some of that. So, I've chosen trifle.

James Acaster

Lovely. Jamie Oliver, Armando Iannucci and now you, the trifle boys. The trifle crew.

Harry Hill

Jamie Oliver was the only person to ever complain about our portrayal of him on TV Burp, how we used his clips.

James Acaster

Really?

Ed Gamble

Really?

Harry Hill

Yes. I don't know if you remember, there was a programme, which I think was a low point for him, was Ministry of Food, do you remember it?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Harry Hill

Where it was all about, 'If you teach this person how to do this recipe, and they teach two people, and then-

Ed Gamble

I quite liked that.

Harry Hill

I didn't like it.

Ed Gamble

You didn't like it?

Harry Hill

I thought it was just pissing in the wind, I thought.

James Acaster

Oh, there was a builder on it, or there was a guy who was like, 'There's no point, I can't do any of this stuff,' and he just fell in love with cooking by the end, and it was quite emotional.



Harry Hill

Yes, sure, there were individual stories, but the whole thing about the campaign I just thought was a bit silly, and they had this, sort of, animation thing, which was, 'If one person,' so it was like a pyramid, so it starts off, 'If one person learns how to cook spaghetti vongole and teaches two other people, and they teach-, by the end of a week, 64 people will be able to cook spaghetti vongole,' right? So, I did, 'If one person doesn't watch-, ' and he was apparently really furious, and we depended on them giving us clips.

Ed Gamble

Yes, of course.

Harry Hill

So, we had to try and get in with them, so the producer said to me, 'You've got to record an apology,' so I had my phone and I thought, 'Oh, I'll-, ' so I recorded this apology, which was me singing I Just Called to Say I Love You, a video in my kitchen, and I go, 'Sorry, Jamie, I just called to say I love you.' I said, 'We've even got one of your pans,' and then I'm looking through my pans trying to, because we have one of his Jamie Oliver pans, I couldn't find it.

James Acaster

Didn't want to reshoot and put the pan in the right place? You sent him that?

Harry Hill

Well, I sent it to the producer and he said, 'I can't send him that because it'll make it worse,' so we never got any more clips from him.

James Acaster

Well, you talked yourself out of a lovely pair of pants, I'd say. We were nice to Jamie Oliver.

Ed Gamble

Yes, he recommended his pants that he wears.

Harry Hill

Jamie Oliver pants?

James Acaster

No, he hasn't made them.

Ed Gamble

No, they're not Jamie Oliver branded pants.

James Acaster

They're just the ones that he likes to wear.

Harry Hill

Which are?

James Acaster

Saxx, like, with two XXs. S-A-X-X.

Ed Gamble

Saxx sent us some pants to try for ourselves, and you know what? I don't mind saying this, they're genuinely brilliant pants.

Harry Hill

Are they?



James Acaster

I'm wearing them right now.

Harry Hill

Saxx?

James Acaster

I'm wearing them right now, Harry, I'm wearing some pants that I would not have if I wasn't for Jamie Oliver. I put them on this morning, and genuinely laughed as I was putting them on because I thought, 'What a life I've got now, wearing some pants that Jamie Oliver sent me.'

Harry Hill

He sent them?

James Acaster

Yes, he hooked us up.

Ed Gamble

No, he didn't send them.

James Acaster

Well, he mentioned them on the podcast and then we got them because of Jamie Oliver.

Harry Hill

That's how it works.

James Acaster

Really makes me laugh. You, Armando, and Jamie Oliver, if you were layered up like a trifle, who would be what?

Ed Gamble

Good question.

James Acaster

Thank you.

Harry Hill

Well, I would be, you know, modesty prevents me from saying that I would be the cream, but I would say I was the custard.

Ed Gamble

The thing is, that shows us how much you love cream, because you've considered cream to be the best thing on the trifle and you don't want to say you're the cream. For me, the cream, that's the worst bit on the trifle.

Harry Hill

Oh, gosh, really? Wow.

Ed Gamble

The cake and the jelly and that stuff, that's the best.

Harry Hill

The sponge.



James Acaster

Really?

Ed Gamble

The sponge, jelly.

James Acaster

Custard's my favourite bit.

Harry Hill

Yes. Well, it's the three things working as a team.

James Acaster

Do you know? The three of us should go out and share a trifle, it sounds like we all like different bits of it.

Ed Gamble

We all get a spoon, you eat the top layer, Harry, you eat the custard.

Harry Hill

Yes, scrape it off.

Ed Gamble

I've got to wait a long while to get to the bottom, but it's worth it.

James Acaster

Good things come to those who wait, Ed.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

So, if you're the custard, who's the cream and who's the jelly?

Harry Hill

I'm underneath the cream, which is, I would say, probably Armando, isn't he, because he's something of a legend, and then Oliver underneath as the sponge.

Ed Gamble

Oliver, jelly and sponge.

Harry Hill

As a jelly-soaked sponge.

James Acaster

Yes, that's very nice, actually.

Harry Hill

To be fair, I did do, he invited me on his pier thing, end of the pier, have you done that?

James Acaster

I heard of it.

Harry Hill

That Southend thing.



James Acaster

He was telling us about it, I think.

Harry Hill

Yes, and he didn't raise it, I didn't raise it.

Ed Gamble

Oh, there you go, it's in the past.

James Acaster

There you go, you could have sung the song live.

Harry Hill

Yes, made me think maybe it wasn't him that made the fuss, maybe it was the producer.

Ed Gamble

Yes, potentially.

Harry Hill

Let sleeping dogs lie.

James Acaster

I'm going to read your order back to you now, see how you feel about it. Water, you want still water, no ripples. Poppadoms or bread, focaccia with olive oil. Starter, potted shrimp with toast. Main, spag vong. Christmas dinner, roast turkey with all the trimmings, devils on horseback, chuck those in as well. Side dish, mange tout, just for the joke. Drink, Gavi di Gavi. Dessert, trifle.

Ed Gamble

Lovely.

James Acaster

How do you feel?

Harry Hill

Full.

Ed Gamble

You'd be chuffed with that, wouldn't you?

James Acaster

Yes, I mean, you've got a whole Christmas dinner chucked in there.

Harry Hill

I think it works really well as a menu.

Ed Gamble

Which is, kind of, rare, I'd say, because people just go a bit wild, I know we certainly did when we did ours.

James Acaster

Yes, sometimes just go for, 'Well, that's my favourite-', I always think of it, that's my favourite of that individual thing, and I'm always-, and people come on and they make it work as a whole meal, I do always think I bet their life is a lot more organised and better than mine.



Harry Hill

Possibly.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

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

Harry Hill

My pleasure.

James Acaster

Thank you, Harry.

Ed Gamble

Well, there we are, what a great menu, what a great chat with Harry Hill.

James Acaster

Loved it, loved every second.

Ed Gamble

Great clarinet impression, of course.

James Acaster

I mean, one of the ages. I think everyone should re-listen to that. I would advise people, you know, maybe go back, pause it just before the clarinet impression, then find on YouTube or something audio of a clarinet being played on its own, and then listen to Harry.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I think so.

James Acaster

Then, you know, see how wrong I was. I was quite annoyed, actually. Afterwards, I went away from it and I thought about it, and the argument that was presented to me in the room when I said, 'That doesn't sound like a clarinet,' and he said, 'Well, you do it then.' That's not an argument.

Ed Gamble

No, but also you did it to exactly the same quality and level that he did it.

James Acaster

I thought I did, but he made out that I didn't.

Ed Gamble

No, I was in the room, you both sounded exactly the same, but he didn't say hooves, so we can't kick him out for a bad clarinet impression. Hooves is the only reason we could have kicked him out, and he didn't say hooves.

James Acaster

Would have been good if he said hooves during the clarinet impression. 'Hooves,' like that.

Ed Gamble

Sorry, did someone just play a clarinet?



James Acaster

Yes, sorry, there's a clarinet in the room.

Ed Gamble

Go and buy Harry's book, Fight!.

James Acaster

Yes, buy it for everyone for Christmas.

Ed Gamble

Yes, and also buy tickets to my tour for Christmas, Ed Gamble, Electric, Ed Gamble.co.uk. For details, go and buy tickets, please also buy my vinyl, available on the EdGambleStore.com.

James Acaster

A thing of beauty. Does it warm your heart, Ed Gamble, to know that maybe some people on Christmas day will be unwrapping presents and it's, like, the Ed Gamble vinyl or tickets to-, you know, card, and you open it and it says, 'We're going to see Ed Gamble, merry Christmas,' and they're like, 'Oh, yes.'

Ed Gamble

Unwrapping an e-mail, 'Check your e-mail, merry Christmas.' That's something the internet has taken away from us, is unwrapping tickets.

James Acaster

Unwrapping tickets, yes. I mean, it tends to be they just write it in a card now.

Ed Gamble

Yes, or maybe you can write in a card a link to your special.

James Acaster

Yes, just write the link out.

Ed Gamble

Or, you know, I'm talking to the listener, maybe you want to buy James's special for someone.

James Acaster

Maybe you want to, yes, buy my special that's available on my website, JamesAcaster.com, and my special's called Cold Lasagne Hate Myself 1999.

Ed Gamble

It was only released last year.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Not 1999, don't get confused.

James Acaster

Don't get confused, but yes, you can buy them that and then write down the link, Ed's absolutely right, and then they can go on their computer and they can type the link in.

Ed Gamble

Merry Christmas, I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas, better than last year, unless you had a brilliant Christmas last year, in which case, I hope you have the same.



James Acaster: Or even better, I hope every Christmas from now until the day of your death is better than the one before.