



Off Menu – Ep140 – Claudia Jesse

Ed Gamble

Welcome to the Off Menu podcast. Taking the banana of chat, the milk of conversation, the peanut butter of humour, the-, what else goes in a smoothie? The raspberries of good times, putting them in the blender of the internet, hitting go and creating a lovely podcast smoothie.

James Acaster

Coabanga, everybody. That as Ed Gamble. James Acaster here. Welcome to our dream restaurant, I'm a genie waiter. We're inviting a guest in and we're going to ask them their favourite ever starter, main course, dessert, side dish and drink, not in that order and this week our guest is Claudia Jessie.

Ed Gamble

Claudia Jessie, a wonderful actor of course. You'll know her from Bridgeton. You'll know her from Line of Duty and many many other things.

James Acaster

That's quite the CV.

Ed Gamble

Very accomplished, James.

James Acaster

Very excited to have Claudia Jessie come in. I don't know what, kind of, food she likes.

Ed Gamble

No, no idea.

James Acaster

No idea what her preferences are here, pretty exciting stuff.

Ed Gamble

We're probably getting the exclusives on this stuff.

James Acaster

I mean, I guess we often get the exclusive on people's dream meals. That's why all the tabloids go after us.

Ed Gamble

Yes, exactly. They hunt us down.

James Acaster

Yes, they go. Let's get some hot scoops from this but they don't listen to the full podcast. They just listen to the first ten minutes and they get their story from that.

Ed Gamble

Maybe she'll pick hot scoops as her main.

James Acaster

Hot scoops, my nickname.



Ed Gamble

Maybe. Or maybe we should start a restaurant.

James Acaster

Oh, yes.

Ed Gamble

Called Hot Scoops. A journalism themed mash potato restaurant.

James Acaster

So like every dish is based on like a big news story.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Hot Scoops. Hot Scoops and mash potato but with like, you know, mixed it in with like, I don't know. What are some of the big-

Ed Gamble

Like that guy sucking Fergie's toes.

James Acaster

Yes, that will be one of them.

Ed Gamble

That was a hot scoop.

James Acaster

Yes, that was a hot scoop when that happened.

Ed Gamble

Hot Scoops. Coming to a high street near you.

James Acaster

Yes please. But also, look, I'll tell you what we won't be serving in Hot Scoops and that is the secret ingredient. A guest says it on the podcast we chuck them out, kick them out on their ass and this week the secret ingredient is.

Ed Gamble

Huel. The meal replacement powder.

James Acaster

Yes. I mean, no thank you.

Ed Gamble

No, I've had it a couple of times.

James Acaster

Yes, I know you have. Well, yes, we're on a chat group with a bunch of other comedians and Ed once mentioned having a Huel and then a few months down the line someone mentioned that Ed had had Huel once and Ed was like adamant that he had never had Huel. And that they were just assuming that he would have because he's such a healthy boy. And don't just assume that I've had it. I would never eat that and I had to scroll back and screen grab it and go there's you saying you just had some Huel.



Ed Gamble

And then the next night I bought a Huel as joke but I did have it.

James Acaster

Yes, he had it.

Ed Gamble

It's very thick and it's the sort of liquid that could pour itself out the glass when you aren't looking, you know what I mean? It's pretty miserable but, you know, I guess some people like that, sort of, thing. Some people don't care about food do they?

James Acaster

Sure. Some people just decide whatever.

Ed Gamble

And that was from Chris who tweets on Twitter. Go and follow Chris who tweets.

James Acaster

Yes, and every time they tweet something make sure you reply by saying is this as good as the Huel tweet?

Ed Gamble

Not as good as Huel actually Chris who tweets. Thank you very much Thank you. But thank you very much for that suggestion from Chris who Tweets.

James Acaster

Thank you Chris who tweets. Good suggestion. Huel.

Ed Gamble

I'm on tour James. My tour is called Electric.

James Acaster

Goodbye.

Ed Gamble

No, no, not now. I'm talking to you now but I'm generally on tour doing a brand new stand up comedy show electric.

James Acaster

Buzz.

Ed Gamble

Buzz. Yes, that noise might be in it. Spoiler warning. Come along, watch that show. It's very funny. I'd like you to be there.

James Acaster

Yes, I'm going to go to one of them. I'm not going to tell you which one listeners so who knows. You turn up. You might want to get tickets to all of them because when Acaster's in the building it's going to be a fun gig.

Ed Gamble

It turns into a party when Jimmy's in the building.



James Acaster

Yes, that's when Ed really tries.

Ed Gamble

We'll be chatting to Claudia Jessie momentarily who's in the new series of Bridgeton.

James Acaster

Very exciting. You know, everyone and their mother talking about Bridgeton.

Ed Gamble

Yes, certainly my mother and me. So there you, that's the two.

James Acaster

There you go.

Ed Gamble

NI watched the last series. Loved the last series. Can't wait for this new one.

James Acaster

Netflix, correct me if I'm wrong.

Ed Gamble

Netflix. You are not wrong. I would not dare correct you, sir, you are correct.

James Acaster

Thank you.

Ed Gamble

They say things like that.

James Acaster

Hello good sir.

Ed Gamble

Kiss me on the down stairs bottom. That sort of stuff.

James Acaster

Good sir.

Ed Gamble

Our second star of Bridgeton of course.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

The first star of Bridgeton we talked to locked herself out her flat so let's see if. I mean, Claudia is going to be in the room with us so it's going to be impressive if she manages that.

James Acaster

Who knows? This Bridgeton bunch. Anything can happen.

Ed Gamble

So let's get to it. This is the Off Menu menu of Claudia Jessie. Welcome, Claudia, to the dream restaurant.



James Acaster

Welcome Claudia Jessie to the dream restaurant. We've been expecting you for some time.

Claudia Jessie

Thank you so much.

Ed Gamble

Now, Claudia, James is a surprise genie there. I think you're the first person who's ever jumped at the Genie coming out of the lamp.

Claudia Jessie

I knew it was coming. Such a big fan and I thought I would be able to just like really be like nice to see you too but it took me still.

James Acaster

Well, it's different in person isn't it because, like, you know, you hear it on the pod maybe and you imagine what it's like but in real life it's a bit more confronting.

Ed Gamble

Because there's a bit later on where people do jump sometimes. It's odd that there was that amount of surprise straight away.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, it was almost, sort of, happen just when the arms raised actually.

James Acaster

Yes, people don't see the arms raised.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, because I didn't expect it. That's it. I don't ever imagine you with your arms in the air when I listen to it.

Ed Gamble

He's a very physical performer.

Claudia Jessie

Oh, it's beautiful and I do feel like I'm in a presence of a genie.

James Acaster

Thank you very much.

Claudia Jessie

Thank you.

James Acaster

Normally, I guess when people imagine genies they think we've all got our arms folded. I think that's that the standard pose on like for genies.

Claudia Jessie

And just a wispy bum.

James Acaster

Yes, the wispy bum.



James Acaster

Well, he does have a wispy bum. That's true but the arms folded no.

Claudia Jessie

Old wispy bum.

James Acaster

Old wispy bum over here.

Ed Gamble

But yes, the arms folded very passive aggressive a lot of genies.

James Acaster

Well, no, it's not passive. No, fuck off. It's not passive aggressive. It's like-

Claudia Jessie

Do they wear watches? Because I feel like that might be a little bit to do with the crossing of the arms because it's a good-, you know, it's a good space to always, kind of, look down.

Ed Gamble

But if anything defines a genie I'd say it's that they're not really in a rush. They've got a lot of time on their hands.

Claudia Jessie

And they're only going to go back to the-, what is it? Plant pot that they live in but it's not a plant point is it?

Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

It can be if you want.

Ed Gamble

This is your episode.

Claudia Jessie

Oh, a lovely little terracotta pot. Oh, wispy bum and his little terracotta pot.

James Acaster

I don't mind. I'll live in a plant pot.

Claudia Jessie

Lovely. That's very nice.

Ed Gamble

Quite open at the top for a genie because they're, sort of, trapped aren't they?

Claudia Jessie

Yes, and I guess you water it instead of rub it would be the way that would work.

James Acaster

I'd prefer that to get a nice-,

Claudia Jessie



It's nice to be water than to be rubbed by a stranger.

Ed Gamble

Exactly yes. If it was a choice of the two with a stranger I think pour water on me rather than rub me.

Claudia Jessie

Hydrate me.

James Acaster

Yes, hydrate me. Are you a big fan of food?

Claudia Jessie

Yes, I think about it a lot and I talk about it a lot. Like I'll always do-, when I'm on sets or whatever, I'll do food heaven and hell and we'll break it down into categories so if you did like food, heaven and hell with potatoes, chips wouldn't be included because chips would have it's own category because then it works out a bit longer and you spend long days on the set.

Ed Gamble

I was going to say this is all based around the fact that you're literally there for like 12 hours working.

Claudia Jessie

4 hours as well.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

But I don't think I grew up eating a lot of like good food. Sorry, Mum. I don't know if she had too much time to be incredibly domesticated so we, sort of, had egg and chips which I loved. It would be like home made chips, egg and chips or corn beef hash or stuff like that but then I went vegan when I was like 24 and then in my early twenties I didn't have enough money to like eat. So I think by the time I got to an age and a place financially where I could eat fancy foods I went vegan and then there aren't-, so I feel like I missed out on loads of those like real fine dining experiences but I do love food and a lot of my day revolves around me thinking about what (inaudible 08.16).

James Acaster

You sound born and raised in Birmingham as well.

Claudia Jessie

Yes. So I moved around a bit when I was younger but, yes, born in Brum and, yes, back in Birmingham now. So, the town of the best samosa which I did bring-,

James Acaster:

You brought it there on a plate. Quite exciting. Tell us about this Samosa.

Claudia Jessie

So, the reason I know about it. My best mate Leila. There was a first episode of something I was in and she threw like a mini screening at her house and then she ordered just like 80 samosas, veggie samosas and they cost 25 pence each and they're the best samosas I've ever had. And sometimes we'll make just small trips to Bearwood, an area in Brum, to get them. It's from Sagar Sweet Centre and they're so delicious so I bought loads but they're really good hot. I actually ate one like on the way home yesterday when I got them so you guys do have more of a soggy batch of very delicious veggie samosas. It's a gift from Birmingham.



Ed Gamble

That's very nice of you. Thank you very much. I would eat one now but also I'm aware that if people are listening to this in headphones the last thing they want to hear is me eating a samosa.

James Acaster

Sure, but maybe I'll eat one.

Ed Gamble

Oh, they want to hear you have one.

Claudia Jessie

That's misophonia isn't it? Is that misophonia when you hate the sound of people?

Ed Gamble

Yes, it's when you hate the sound of people eating I think is-, yes

James Acaster

Now there's a flier in here. Let's look at the flier.

Ed Gamble

Is it a flier or a menu?

James Acaster

Well, it looks like a flier but then it opens up in the middle. What's that, a pamphlet?

Claudia Jessie

That's a very small book.

James Acaster

Yes. Sagar Sweet Centre. Sweet centre?

Claudia Jessie

Yes, they do loads of those delicious.

Ed Gamble

He's so excited.

James Acaster

Not fair because it says Sweet Centre and then I open it up and it's, and meat kebab wrap. Oh, sweets at the back here. Yes, I like the look of that.

Ed Gamble

Honestly, we could edit around this and it looks like you're looking at something very different.

James Acaster

Huh? Really? Oh no.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, I like the look of that.

James Acaster

Oh please no. Apparently, I'm not allowed to talk and eat so you two have a chat and may I say before I eat this-,

Claudia Jessie



Yes, what do you think?

James Acaster

Here's what's great about it that the handle of the samosa I would say-, the I guess what, kind of, a triangle would this be. Not equilateral.

Claudia Jessie

A really delicious one.

Ed Gamble

Yes, it looks like a delicious equilateral to me.

James Acaster

The handle is very crispy and very rigid.

Ed Gamble

Yes. So, sort of, pasty style really.

James Acaster

Yes. But the rest feels very nice and soft and it's got a lovely golden brown finish to it so it does look very very promising. I'm going to eat it. You can mute me if you like Benito so we don't get complaints from everybody. God forbid. The podcast that you get for free isn't exactly what you want it to be.

Claudia Jessie

About food.

Ed Gamble

About food.

Claudia Jessie

About actual food.

Ed Gamble

Yes, specifically about food, yes.

James Acaster

Here we go. You two talk amongst yourself.

Ed Gamble

So this is a vegetable samosa.

Claudia Jessie

It's a veggie samosa. It's quite spicy I think. I like a spicy samosa. You look like you're enjoying it and I do agree they do have a handle and I also got four pakoras for myself.

Ed Gamble

Yes, good.

Claudia Jessie

When I go to the bus home. The bus home from Bearwood. It really looks like you're enjoying it. It makes me so happy. Oh my god. This is the best day of my life.

Ed Gamble

His face is an absolute picture right now.



Claudia Jessie

I've not been this happy for a long time.

Ed Gamble

Yes, he's definitely enjoying it. Yes, there we go.

Claudia Jessie

But even when you google this place, even though it's a sweet centre, so many of the comments on Google reviews are best slices you'll ever get. Great samosas. Love them. They're really nice.

Ed Gamble

So that accent is very much within grasp for you there.

Claudia Jessie

Yes but all others are not. That's what I have discovered that a Brummie accent fine. Every other accent unless you want, sort of, generic American I cannot do and I can't believe I've outed myself now but you also can't do accents.

Ed Gamble

Yes, James can't do accents either, especially with a mouth full of samosa.

James Acaster

Can you do Shrek?

Claudia Jessie

Alright. No? Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, I mean, it's better than James' to be honest.

Claudia Jessie

It's not as funny as James'.

Ed Gamble

Did you use to have the Brummie accent?

Claudia Jessie

I don't know if I ever really did. I moved about and then, yes, life was all over the... so I don't really know and the my job. I feel like I've done so much RP. I wonder if that's, sort of, kicked anything out of me.

James Acaster

That was delicious by the way. Absolutely delicious.

Claudia Jessie

I'm so happy.

James Acaster

Would you call it pastry.

Claudia Jessie

Yes.



James Acaster

The outside is absolutely fantastic. The thing that makes them so good is that every element of it is great. The spice that's in there and the contents but also the structure of it all. With each bite I took, it didn't start falling over and I've got to allow for something. Oh dear, now I've got to hold it like this. I've got a situation on my hands. No stress. Take a bite, it just stays standing as it is. Really delicious pastry. Flavourful in itself. I could eat that pastry on its own. I'd be very happy.

Ed Gamble

What I was very impressed was the structure. While you're eating it, you're holding it. You could gesture with that.

Claudia Jessie

You were flinging it about.

Ed Gamble

You can have a full conversation and gesture. You could do a Ted Talk holding that samosa.

Claudia Jessie

You could conduct an orchestra with that samosa.

Ed Gamble

And what a wonderful orchestra it would be.

Claudia Jessie

Delicious.

James Acaster

It's really good. I'm going to have another one before I go home. Thank you very much for bringing that in. What a treat.

Ed Gamble

And that's not even on your menu.

Claudia Jessie

That's not on my menu.

Ed Gamble

That's just an extra bonus treat. This is great. Very exciting. Bridgeton is coming back.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, it's coming back for a second season. Very good.

Ed Gamble

One of the shows that I watched in lockdown where I eventually had to work out I had to shut the blinds to my house because my neighbours would occasionally walk past and see what was going on and they always walked past just at the right moment for it to look like I was watching something very sexy.

Claudia Jessie

Well, it is very sexy.

Ed Gamble

There was a lot of very sexy stuff in that show.



James Acaster

Yes, you don't watch anything that doesn't have sexy stuff in it (inaudible 13.55) aware.

Ed Gamble

That's true. It made a nice change actually. It's actually a lot more chilled out than the lot of the other stuff I'm watching.

James Acaster

What can we expect? Is there anything you can tell us? Any juicy gossip?

Claudia Jessie

I don't know. Eloise will be can I say even more Eloise? I think so. She's very funny. She's, sort of, the rebellious one. Well, I suppose there's nothing really rebellious about not wanting to get married and just have your own autonomy.

Ed Gamble

But in the world of Bridgerton that is rebellious.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, absolutely scandalous.

Ed Gamble

And determined to get to the bottom of the mystery.

Claudia Jessie

Of (inaudible 14.25)

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

We all bloody know don't we.

Ed Gamble

We know now yes.

Claudia Jessie

She was on the pot.

Ed Gamble

Yes, we've had her on and she locked herself out of her own flat.

Claudia Jessie

And she ate mostly cartoons and a rap made by Robbie Williams so-,

James Acaster

If anyone knows what that rap is by the way tweet the podcast. Let us know because we've got to get to the bottom of that. Or tweet Nichola directly.

Claudia Jessie

We're excited. We're really excited and it was beautiful to film. I felt mostly just buzzing to had a job. People loved it during the lockdown. I feel like it was a nice, sort of, cuddle that people-, a big sexy cuddle that people needed during a very difficult time.



Ed Gamble

It was absolutely huge wasn't it?

Claudia Jessie

I know it's weird but we were all just like. I was just on my boat like wearing a mask an cold lockdown and it's only now really after finishing filming season two that we're all a bit like bloody hell. What was all of that?

Ed Gamble

You know you didn't need to wear a mask if you were just in where you live by yourself right?

Claudia Jessie

I live with my partner.

Ed Gamble

Oh, right. You were like, no.

Claudia Jessie

Absolutely not.

James Acaster

I don't want to take the chances.

Claudia Jessie

And I was very difficult because we were watching Bridgerton as well so I was like, 'Don't you get any funny ideas sir. I'm keeping this mask down.' And it's just like good, exciting, sort of, yummy fun isn't it.

Ed Gamble

Yummy fun.

Claudia Jessie

Much like this podcast.

Ed Gamble

It was the biggest show on Netflix right? And then did Squid Game which just shows you can't get a handle on what people like.

Claudia Jessie

Sexy guy licking a spoon. Death. It's very scary.

Ed Gamble

People after Bridgerton going. Okay, Bridgerton's the biggest show on Netflix. We need to do that again and then suddenly a horrible death game show from Korea is like, 'No, we're big too.'

Claudia Jessie

Bloody good weren't it?

James Acaster

Yes, you would think that, you know, a lot of people would look at that who hate TV and go, 'Oh, so you've really just got to make sure you make something as good as it can be, take that idea and make the best thing of it.' But instead they go, 'No, let's try just copy what they did and see if we get as big. Why isn't this working?'



Ed Gamble

Is series two of Bridgerton introduce more Squid Game style elements to the story?

Claudia Jessie

Yes, you basically stuff yourself senseless with cake and whoever doesn't pass away gets to be the new queen.

Ed Gamble

Perfect. Great.

James Acaster

That was our idea for this show.

Claudia Jessie

So, I don't want to swerve too far from the rules because I think they're there for a reason, okay. Ideally, Ideally, I'd have a pint of Neck Oil. Ideally, I'd have a pint of neck oil because I can't drink beer once I've eaten food but I love to drink beer.

Ed Gamble

That's such a good point.

Claudia Jessie

Right? Because I can session some lovely delicious pints of Neck Oil. I can only do really one Gamma Ray.

James Acaster

Session.

Ed Gamble

No, no. This is good chat because I'm completely on board with this.

Claudia Jessie

You can only have one Gamma Ray?

Ed Gamble

I can only have Gamma Ray.

Claudia Jessie

Same.

Ed Gamble

If I have two Gamma Ray, right off. We regularly go out for pints with Nish Kumar and he'll always go Gamma Ray.

Claudia Jessie

To start?

Ed Gamble

To start.

Claudia Jessie

And to finish.

Ed Gamble

And to finish. Gamma Ray all night that guy can do.



Claudia Jessie

Oh my gosh.

Ed Gamble

Yes, but Neck Oil I can handle. Gamma Ray is just far too much.

Claudia Jessie

I'm the same. Sometimes I'll start with a Gamma Ray if I'm feeling particularly saucy. I'll be like I might kick off with a Gamma Ray but then I know I can't continue so I'll just go to Neck Oil so ideally I would but I don't want to do that.

James Acaster

Well, I think we're not going to let you have that. I think you've made the case for that because you said that you can't have it after you've eaten and it would be-

Claudia Jessie

I just (inaudible) I went no. (talking over each other 17.59)

James Acaster

So sounds like there's nowhere else to put the drink and so if you wanted to have it at this point I think we would be pretty cold hearted to not let you have that as your dream meal.

Ed Gamble

I think you've completely sold us on it bearing in mind that-

Claudia Jessie

Really?

Ed Gamble

Yes, because you love beer but you can't have it after you've eaten or with your food so you need one pint to kick off the night and beer is basically old water anyway.

Claudia Jessie

Thanks.

Ed Gamble

How many pints before you're ready for dinner?

Claudia Jessie

I'm going to say three.

Ed Gamble

Three.

Claudia Jessie

It might be one Gamma Ray, two Neck Oil or three Neck Oil but it's never three Gamma Ray. Absolutely not. It's not even two Gamma Ray, one Neck oil. So can I have it?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes. We're not hard asses. I think, yes, it doesn't make any sense to not let you have that.



Claudia Jessie

Thank you.

Ed Gamble

You can have two pints.

Claudia Jessie

Oh my god. If you'd let me.

Ed Gamble

Two pints to kick off with.

James Acaster

Yes but no more. So what we talking? Two neck oils or a neck oil and a Gamma Ray?

Claudia Jessie

I'm going to go two Neck Oils just for safety because it's-, because sometimes you can start off with a Gamma Ray and then you're like, 'Whoa, I knew I shouldn't have done it. It's too much for me.' Can you have one?

Ed Gamble

Yes, I can have one Gamma Ray but then I'd have to move onto something else. I think it's just too strong otherwise.

Claudia Jessie

Neck Oil?

Ed Gamble

No, Gamma Ray.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, but what do you go onto afterwards?

Ed Gamble

I'll move on to Neck Oil, sure.

Claudia Jessie

Okay. So we're all having it together.

Ed Gamble

Beavertown are absolutely elated by this entire conversation. We've said Gamma Ray and Neck Oil so many times.

Claudia Jessie

I know.

Ed Gamble

Have Beavertown. Why don't they get you hooked with like a pump on the boat or something like that.

Claudia Jessie

Oh my god. It would be the end of my life.



Ed Gamble

What if it was like, you know, where the rudder is and what if that was a little pump so like it's still the rudder but on the inside of the boat it's a beer pump so you can just tip it towards you and so while you're steering the boat around you can just pour yourself a Neck Oil.

Claudia Jessie

I see. Now I would like that. If there was any place I'd have the pump it would be by the tiller because then you could just pour yourself a little jug and-, yes, that would be nice. Yes, I would like it.

James Acaster

It's all about the tiller being the pump.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, also, this bit.

James Acaster

Yes, that actual bit that you hold and steer. That is the pump.

Claudia Jessie

Oh, then I would very much like that. Yes, please.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

But surely if you keep pushing it down to get the beer out would that not change the direction of the boat.

Claudia Jessie

No, because it's right to left as opposed to up to down.

Ed Gamble

So you if you pulled it up that wouldn't do anything.

Claudia Jessie

It doesn't move.

Ed Gamble

Oh, that's good.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, it only goes right and left.

Ed Gamble

He's actually come up with a great idea, you know.

James Acaster

(inaudible)

Claudia Jessie

Bread. That scared me as well. Yes, and there was a point during the Beavertown conversation-, in fact actually when you were talking about the samosa and really going into detail I was like (inaudible)



James Acaster

I still had a few stray samosa bits in my mouth so I wouldn't have risked screaming and potentially and spitting samosa across the desk at you and then that would be the end of the interview.

Ed Gamble

But I mean, how good are those samosas? Would you welcome the, sort of, spray?

Claudia Jessie

Yes, I would. Second hand spray of samosa spray. But bread. I'm going to go bread. I always thought it would be this delicious like (inaudible 21.10), olive oil, flat bread from a place called Damascena in Birmingham. It's like a Syrian café. Really beautiful But then I remembered. I was living in a flat in Homerton with my best pal for like six months and hen we had to leave because we used to live as like guardians of properties.

Ed Gamble

Oh wow.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, because it was the cheapest way to live and there was a massive Tesco's near us and they'd do this like silver circular tin bread thing and it would probably be-, I think it was like a quid but then me and Leila knew the perfect times to go and get it and we once got it for eleven pence and you'd bake it and it was like a tear and share thing and it had sun dried tomatoes, jalapenos and mozzarella in it.

Ed Gamble

Lovely.

Claudia Jessie

I'd like that to be vegan friendly now if that's okay genie.

James Acaster

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

It would taste exactly the same.

James Acaster

Yes, I would make it taste exactly the same but it's all vegan. Yes, easy.

Ed Gamble

What I like about that trade of thought that you had was-, so you initially thought it would be a zaatar bread from a Syrian restaurant did you say and what you've ended up going with is discount Tesco bread.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, I know. I know. But I think it's more of the memory.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I think so. Me and Leila have had the zaatar bread together as well but this was just like we'd bake it and we'd just stand in the kitchen and eat it together and it was so good and I messaged her about it today being like, 'I'm right that this is where we got it.' And she was saying, 'Yes. I really want that bread now.' In fact, we were both very poor in that flat and I remember once coming home and, sort of, there was one-, you know the book ends of the bread. That's got a name. The heel. I once got that last slice, balled it up in my fist, dipped it in a jar of mayonnaise, ate it and went to bed just to get rid of that pang of hunger. That's not the bread I'd like.



Ed Gamble

I was going to say.

James Acaster

Oh, the fist full?

Claudia Jessie

Although it actually wasn't that. It actually wasn't that bad. I think it's because I quite like mayonnaise. It's probably a bit disgusting but I liked it but I'm going to go with the eleven pence.

James Acaster

The day it was eleven pence.

Claudia Jessie

The day it was eleven pence because we felt so victorious.

Ed Gamble

I bet that tasted so much better that you got it for eleven pence.

Claudia Jessie

Oh yes, and it was massive and that was a dinner.

Ed Gamble

The guardians things. You're in the place that's to stop squatters moving in basically. It's like vacant properties.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, so you look after vacant properties.

Ed Gamble

Are you literally guarding it? If someone tries to break in are you like kicking off with them.

Claudia Jessie

Well, one of them did get-, I've lived in like a what used to be a rehabilitation centre in Tooting. I lived in an old estate in Homerton that just needed a few people in there and then I lived in a former doctor surgery in Waterloo and that actually did get broken into and I was the only person in it. It had like sixteen rooms but me and Leila were the first people to move in with our cat and it was like four in the morning and I heard someone break in and saw someone move past and I had to phone my mum because Leila was back in Brum. And I was like, 'Mum, I don't know what to do.' But I know that Punch our cat is downstairs so I ran downstairs. I was petrified and then I grabbed a knife and my cat and then ran up and locked myself in my room.

Ed Gamble

Oh my god.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, obviously didn't sleep and then Leila came back and I was like, 'We have to leave.' So we left. We lived there for two weeks.

Ed Gamble

You did a terrible job at guarding.

Claudia Jessie

I know. They walked straight in and they almost had the cat.



Ed Gamble

So this guardian-, sorry. What is this? So the guardians thing, you're not actually there to do anything.

Claudia Jessie

No you're just there to live. It's a cheaper way for me to live and it's a way to keep vacant properties not vacant.

Ed Gamble

Okay. Who's this Layla character?

James Acaster

Layla has popped up a few times already.

Claudia Jessie

Layla is great.

Ed Gamble

How do you know her? What is she up to? What does she do?

Claudia Jessie

She's my best pal. We met when I was eighteen and we worked at my first bar job together in a pub called The Cross. It's now called the Dark Horse in Moseley. We met there and sort of fell in love and she works for a mental health charity. But yes, her to thank for the samosas as well because these are her favourites and then got me into them. And then the bread-, the thing is, when we lived in Tooting, there was a place next to us that sold two bottles of red wine for a fiver. So whilst we were feeling victorious for like 11p on a bread dinner, we'd speak all of our fivers on those two bottles of red wine and they were just like, they might as well of just had a white label on it and just said, 'Red wine' in Comic Sans. It was disgusting but we freely spent our money on that. I say freely. It was a fiver for two bottles.

Ed Gamble

£2.50 each?

Claudia Jessie

Yes, that's how it worked.

Ed Gamble

For you and Layla.

Claudia Jessie

Me and Layla, chugging away. Yes. And we lived for those three years in London and then we also lived above a shop in East Dullage. That was a bit rough because that wasn't with the guardians. They were with some people. Not some good people. No, we had to lock ourselves in a room with our cat.

Ed Gamble

Again?

Claudia Jessie

Again.

Ed Gamble

Punch?



Claudia Jessie

Punch, yes. He's great. He's still alive, he lives in Birmingham now.

James Acaster

By himself?

Ed Gamble

Yes. Couldn't care.

Claudia Jessie

He was sick of it. Although, once we came home to the flat in Homerton and he had eaten a whole curry and two Krispy Kreme doughnuts and had learnt how to open the microwave so he'd jump up on top of the fridge and then the microwave was on top of the fridge and he'd poke the button with his-, like jab the button. Then the door would come up, bop him on the head but then he'd be able to get anything that was in the microwave out.

James Acaster

Honestly, until you said he could get anything that was in the microwave out, I was only imagining him opening the microwave so he could put something in the microwave himself.

Claudia Jessie

The curry?

James Acaster

Yes. He needed to warm up the curry.

Ed Gamble

Piercing the film lid with his claws. Opening it half way through, stirring it, put it back in. Do you have any doughnuts?

James Acaster

Apparently Krispy Kremes are good in the microwave as well.

Claudia Jessie

Amazingly, he understood the concept of a dessert actually and to have two. Two Krispy Kremes.

James Acaster

To move on from the curry and then to know.

Claudia Jessie

'I need something sweet.'

James Acaster

He does have a stomach for sweet stuff, hasn't he? Ever noticed that? 'I can't stop myself let alone anyone. What am I like? This is awful.'

James Acaster

Let's get on to the starter then. Your dream starter.

Claudia Jessie

Okay so there's an amazing Cantonese restaurant in Birmingham city centre in the Chinese quarter called Chung Yings. Now, I don't want to brag but we've had two master chef professional winners from Birmingham two years in a row.



James Acaster
Congratulations.

Ed Gamble
Well done. It doesn't sound like a brag.

Claudia Jessie
Because it's got nothing to do with me.

Ed Gamble
Yes I'm going to go out on a limb here and say that you had nothing to do with it.

Claudia Jessie
But for some reason though, I feel like that's the thing with people from Birmingham who just want to own everything about Birmingham.

Ed Gamble
Yes, proud.

Claudia Jessie
And if you meet another Brummy on a set or something, you're both just like, for ages, 'I can't believe we're both from Birmingham.' It's the biggest thing in the world.

Ed Gamble
I bet they can't believe it with you. You sound nothing like it. They're like, 'Bullshit.'

Claudia Jessie
Yes, 'Bollocks. Prove it.'

Ed Gamble
But what people don't know about you is you run a cooking school from your boat so actually, it is bragging when you say about the chefs.

Claudia Jessie
They came from my school.

Ed Gamble
That's exciting. Two Masterchef winners.

Claudia Jessie
On the bounce. Stu Deeley and Dan Lee. And when we were watching the Masterchef Professionals finals, one of them journeyed back to Birmingham and then I was so excited because he was eating in Chung Yings which is my favourite take away. I think it's just whenever you see something, again, from Birmingham, on telly. You're like, 'Oh my god, I know where that is. I've walked past there, that's great.' So, I would like to pick there for my starter and I'd like their vegan duck and pancakes which they do actually do. It's just crispy fried bean curd but with all of the regular stuff. The thing is about this place is, you know when you've got an idea of what you want for a Chinese takeaway and then sometimes it gets there and you're like, 'Oh no, it's not actually what I want.' You want sort of like the movie version of Chinese. You know when you see people on telly eating Chinese food and you're like, 'I really want that.' That's what this place is. Their prawn toast is like the size of a Mars bar. It's unbelievable.

James Acaster
Yes quite often when I decide I want a Chinese takeaway, I think what I want is one from the 90s when I was a kid.



Claudia Jessie

Yes. With the boxes.

James Acaster

Or from an American film where it's the cardboard boxes with the little metal handle.

Ed Gamble

Or the Pixar films, they've got the same box.

Claudia Jessie

Every episode of Friends. That's kind of what it is except it doesn't come in those cardboard tubs.

James Acaster

But it's sort of like the platonic ideal of a Chinese takeaway meal.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, it's so good that I don't miss the idea of having duck pancakes and I feel like I remember the first time I ever had duck pancakes and being like, 'What is this saucery? This most amazing thing to be able to put your own food together.' And it's also really good the next day if you store the pancakes correctly.

Ed Gamble

And how are you storing the pancakes? James really was just going to say something there. Claudia, quite emphatically. It was so directed towards James, it was like you were like, 'Look, only one of them isn't going to store the pancakes properly and it is James so let's make sure that he knows it. That he should be doing that.' Did he look quite-, I obviously couldn't see James' face when you shouted at him.

Claudia Jessie

It's banter.

James Acaster

I'll hold my hands up and say (TC 00:30:00), 'Okay, I'll store them correctly.' Message received.

Ed Gamble

How are you storing them Claudia?

Claudia Jessie

You've just got to make them air tight.

Ed Gamble

So just leave them in the box, right?

Claudia Jessie

Yes but just don't throw them around. It's so obvious. You would have known that James. You would of known it.

James Acaster

I appreciate it.

Claudia Jessie

Make sure you store your pancakes correctly.



Ed Gamble

Yes, don't take them out the box and leave them on the floor.

Claudia Jessie

Because then you get the crispy edge and then you're like, 'These are not as soft as they were yesterday.'

James Acaster

I read it as you thought I was about to say to you, 'Yes, but you've got to store them correctly' and you were getting in there before me.

Ed Gamble

Yes, you store them correctly. Yes, alright James. Don't be boring about this.

Claudia Jessie

I don't feel like that, I'm so sorry. It was such an attack. I'm just so excited to be here. So yes, that's what I'd like. They're really delicious and I'd like a double helping.

James Acaster

Yes, sure.

Claudia Jessie

If that's okay? Now I'm getting cocky, you've given me neck oil and I'm like, 'And I'd like it twice.' But just because then there's left overs for the morning. I think Chinese takeaway the next day.

James Acaster

And Punch can microwave it.

Claudia Jessie

That's it. And have some Krispy Kremes afterwards. Something sweet.

James Acaster

Open it up.

Ed Gamble

So it comes with all the hoisin and the shredded spring onion and cucumber and all of that business.

Claudia Jessie

Yes I mean I do pancake, bean curd. No, I don't.

Ed Gamble

Uh oh.

Claudia Jessie

I do sauce, bean curd, onions, cucumbers.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I would do that too. I always go sauce first, you get an even distribution of sauce. Then the meat, then the veg.

Claudia Jessie

Back of teaspoon.



Ed Gamble

Back of the teaspoon, right?

Claudia Jessie

Back of the teaspoon.

James Acaster

Yes, come on. Anyone doing it with the front is an idiot.

Ed Gamble

Who's doing it with the front?

James Acaster

You're going to shred it up.

Ed Gamble

Ripping the pancake up.

James Acaster

It's like, 'This doesn't work.'

Claudia Jessie

No but sometimes I'll do that, you know when you get mayonnaise and you'll get it with the scoopy part of the spoon.

Ed Gamble

God knows what you're doing with mayo.

James Acaster

Yes, we know what you do.

Claudia Jessie

And then you'll pop it somewhere but then you realise you've still got loads on the scoopy side rather than the spready side.

Ed Gamble

I'm surprised you didn't screw the pancake up in your hand and just dip it into the sauce. Stuff it in your mouth and go to bed.

James Acaster

Yes, straight to sleep. Don't brush your teeth.

Ed Gamble

Good night. Grab the knife, off to bed.

James Acaster

Yes. Grab the cat, grab the knife. Go to bed.

Claudia Jessie

Oh god, yes.

James Acaster

Again with the sauce, you are getting an even distribution. You're not just going, 'A little bit where the actual bean curds are going to be and I'll just put it all in that same bit.' You are going all round the pancake.



Ed Gamble

You're not going round the edge are you?

Claudia Jessie

No.

James Acaster

Not up to the edge but how much of border are you leaving?

Claudia Jessie

Well I get quite nervous for the first pancake because I'm like, I don't want to over stuff then be left. Because I'm always left with so many spring onions. I get quite nervous about the distribution like if you've ever made enchiladas. You know when you stuff the wraps to then put at the bottom of the baking tray. I've always got on massive one and then it just gets progressive smaller and smaller and that's sort of what ends up happening with me. But I'm not like doing the edge like it's an envelope.

James Acaster

No.

Claudia Jessie

And I'm not doing full disk.

Ed Gamble

You don't do full disk do you?

James Acaster

I don't do full disk, are you mad?

Ed Gamble

The maximum you would do would be imagining it as if it was like a full size pizza, like leaving a crust. You'd leave a crust right? Right, let's not get started on my bloody wife. This is how she does it, right. This is crazy.

James Acaster

By the way, Ed got married last year. Before he got married, all the stories about his partner were positive. Since they got married-,

Ed Gamble

That's not true.

James Acaster

Absolutely become an old school comic.

Ed Gamble

She's been doing this since we met.

James Acaster

No, don't worry. He's always complaining about her. Here we go.

Ed Gamble

The first time we had duck pancakes together, I thought everyone just does the sauce on the bottom, even distribution. You get a thin layer, right? Because then you know how much sauce



there is, you know how much you're using. She goes veg, duck and then drizzles sauce over the top. She's using half a pot of sauce on her first pancake.

James Acaster

Claudia just put her hand over her mouth.

Ed Gamble

Can you believe that?

James Acaster

Can't believe what she's hearing.

Claudia Jessie

When you first said drizzle, I thought of a balsamic glaze but then you said half the tub. That's not drizzling it.

Ed Gamble

Well because she's like spooning. She's across that.

Claudia Jessie

That's dipping it on top. That's so -

Ed Gamble

Unbelievable. You can't teach someone a new duck pancake technique because that is baked in. I don't know, that's like a family thing.

James Acaster

Claudia now I'm going to ask you the question that I ask all guests after Ed's told a story about his wife like that. Normally it gets edited out of the podcast. How long do you give it?

Claudia Jessie

Are you placing bets? Is there a lead-,

James Acaster

I was just wondering.

Ed Gamble

They were all doing it at the wedding, you know how normally -

James Acaster

How long are you giving it with that?

Ed Gamble

Do you need any background?

Claudia Jessie

No I mean you've told me the most important thing about the woman, it's her pancake.

James Acaster

Over ten years they've been together already.

Claudia Jessie

If this is the straw.



Ed Gamble

That would be crazy, right?

Claudia Jessie

But then the straw, it's a bit like those little sprigs of spring onion isn't it?

Ed Gamble

Yes. It's the sprig that broke the camel's back.

Claudia Jessie

Isn't it? That broke the duck pancake. I see a long future.

Ed Gamble

Yes I reckon so.

Claudia Jessie

You've just got to see it as charming.

Ed Gamble

Yes, we just don't have Chinese that often. That's the best way -

James Acaster

Never let her ever have a duck pancake ever again and the marriage will be fine.

Claudia Jessie

You can't watch it.

James Acaster

Let's move on to your main course. It's a good menu so far.

Claudia Jessie

Do you think so?

James Acaster

Personal memories attached to everything, it's very nice.

Claudia Jessie

I was really hoping you guys would like it. So, I've always known this one because I remember the first time I ever had this dish. It was pre-Vegan life so I had like a pork version of it and I remember thinking it was one of the greatest things I've ever eaten in my life and it's a Bibimbap. So that's the Korean-, it's like a rice dish with different vegetables all julienne and it's like a really hot pot. So you get crispy rice at the bottom with a gochujang sauce and you can have a fried egg on it. I had it pork the first time I had it. The first time I had it was in a restaurant called Toppoki (ph 36.01) in Birmingham Gay Village. That's genuinely what it's called on the map because somebody told me off once and said, 'You can't call it that.' And I went, 'No I actually can.' It was the best thing I've ever had and I always thought, that's my menu heaven. Then I went vegan and I was like, 'I'm never going to be able to have this again, am I?' But it's foolish. I was filming in Glasgow and I was there for about five nights and after my first day's filming I was staying in a really nice area of Glasgow called Finnieston, it's quite trendy. It's really cool. I was walking around looking for dinner and then I walked past this place called Kimchi Cult and I went in and there was a dish called the Vegan Bap and it was the Vegan Bibimbap and I went back every single night for five nights and had the same dish. On the side, I had a crispy, deep fried tofu and kimchi bao and it was my first ever bao. I'd never had a bao before and I remember being like, 'Wow.' And I had that every single night to the point where, by the fourth night, they were like, 'Do you want the same thing?' And I was like, 'You better believe it.'



Ed Gamble

I love that you were there for five nights, had the same thing every night. So they really got used to you after three nights and then after five nights, you just never went back. They were probably baffled. They were like, 'Is that lady okay?'

Claudia Jessie

'She's had too much Bibimbap.' But it's the most delicious thing I've ever eaten in my life, is that dish. So well done Kimchi Cult. But it's got like big, massive chunks of deep fried crispy tofu. Tofu is a controversial one. What do you guys think of Tofu?

Ed Gamble

I love tofu.

Claudia Jessie

Do you?

Ed Gamble

Absolutely love it.

Claudia Jessie

I think people sometimes hate it just because it sounds cool to hate tofu. To be like, '(inaudible)'

Ed Gamble

That's what people do say.

James Acaster

That's what they sound like.

Ed Gamble

You said you couldn't do accents. You can do tofu hater. You can do idiot voice.

James Acaster

I like it but I'm not having it loads. So to me, it's not like-, I actually understand it more when like vegetarian or vegan friends hate it because they're like, 'It's in so many dishes, I've got to eat tofu and I'm sick of it now and I never want to eat tofu ever again.' I get that. When people aren't vegetarian or vegan and they go on about hating it, I'm like, 'What are you talking about?'

Claudia Jessie

It's so good.

James Acaster

It's quite nice just to have it every now and again.

Claudia Jessie

It's just a big sponge.

Ed Gamble

Really nice. And deep fried, so good as well. I actually had a vegan sort of bibimbap style thing the other night.

Claudia Jessie

Where from?



Ed Gamble

At Mildreds.

Claudia Jessie

Oh lovely.

Ed Gamble

The one in Kings Cross.

Claudia Jessie

Very nice.

Ed Gamble

Very-, loads of kimchi. Loads of amazing rice. Loads of gochujang and then deep fried tofu sort of bricks on top. It was fantastic.

Claudia Jessie

See that sounds exactly like that so I don't need to go back to Finneston although I'd like to go back there because it was very-, it was a tiny little place. It sat like six tables and there was a little bench that you could go on and I was waiting there every night after work. It was just so delicious and I'd absolutely demolish it and it was the summer and then it would stay late until like 11 o'clock and it would be like beaming sun and I can't get to sleep. But after loads of Korean food, my belly. Delicious. I'd have it every day.

Ed Gamble

Does it come in the hot stone bowl?

Claudia Jessie

Well no because I always took it back to the hotel.

Ed Gamble

And they don't give you a hot stone bowl if you (talking over each other 39.07)?

James Acaster

But they know you're going to be back the next night?

Claudia Jessie

I could of. They'll be like, 'You'll return the bowl won't you? You saddo. You can't go anywhere else.' But I would have it just in like a little black tub. There was never any room in the restaurant, it was always filled. And it's got-, I was looking at the menu today because I was making sure-, but they don't have the bao anymore. They don't have the bao.

James Acaster

That made you say wow.

Claudia Jessie

The bao that made me say wow, baby.

James Acaster

How are you spelling wow?

Claudia Jessie

Woa. AO. So that's WoaAO.



Ed Gamble

So do you want that as part of your main? Would you like the bibimbap and the little baowoa.

James Acaster

Lovely stuff, cute.

Claudia Jessie

I've got a side, so I don't know.

Ed Gamble

Look, you've already hacked the water course.

Claudia Jessie

I know. And I've asked for two starters of the same thing. (TC 00:40:00)

Ed Gamble

Yes, one for left overs.

James Acaster

Yes but that's just double portion, that doesn't count.

Ed Gamble

I think this is also maybe the first time that someone's thought about their dream meal carrying over to the next morning for breakfast.

James Acaster

Which is nice actually.

Claudia Jessie

I feel like that is a big thing for takeaway. Do you guys get doggy bags if you've got loads of food left over at a restaurant?

James Acaster

Yes if it's something that like-, I feel quite bad wasting stuff so definitely if it's something that you're like, 'We can definitely eat this at home tomorrow.' You've got to get a doggy bag.

Claudia Jessie

Well some people don't like to do it because they're embarrassed.

Ed Gamble

I've never been in that situation.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, no. Finished, done.

Ed Gamble

All done. Yum yum.

Claudia Jessie

All done, yum yum. Little boawow. Then maybe I will have a little boawow on the side.

Ed Gamble

Yes you can have a little boawow on the side because it's tied into the dish. It's tied into the memory.



Claudia Jessie

And they don't do it anymore so I'll (mw 40.44) the terracotta pot over here.

Ed Gamble

The terracotta potta.

Claudia Jessie

If that could happen, that would be really nice.

Ed Gamble

Do it all in one.

James Acaster

The terracotta potter with a wispy little botta (ph 40.53).

Ed Gamble

Love it. There we go. I'm sure he can magic that up.

Claudia Jessie

Then maybe I will-, pardon. Maybe I will.

James Acaster

You look surprised. I genuinely don't even know what it was that happened but it was like, you malfunctioned and then just looked absolutely shocked.

Ed Gamble

It was a proper little side board.

Claudia Jessie

Because we've been saying little boawoa and stuff and then saying the boa that made me say wow. I said wif instead of with.

Ed Gamble

Maybe I wif.

Claudia Jessie

Maybe I wif do it. It's like baby talk, almost. Yes, maybe I will have a little boawow on the side, if that's okay.

Ed Gamble

Yes of course.

Claudia Jessie

It was really delicious and I got it every single night. I really feel bad for Finneston because there were so many restaurants around and I could of tried anywhere but I just kept going back to this place.

James Acaster

Gochujang, is it? Is that how you pronounce it?

Claudia Jessie

Yes.



James Acaster

I made something with that recently for the first time. I'd never used it before but also, first time where I've copied a recipe off Queer Eye.

Ed Gamble

Really?

James Acaster

I did it. Look, like the series of Queer Eye.

Claudia Jessie

Which one was it?

James Acaster

It was the one with the lady who owns all the animals on the big estate.

Claudia Jessie

The cauliflower dish.

James Acaster

Yes, so I did the cauliflower steak and I thought, that looks really good and really simple so I just copied it along with the TV show.

Ed Gamble

I've not watched Queer Eye for a couple of series. Has he upped his game? Series one was just like an avocado and stuff.

James Acaster

Yes, it got back to him pretty quickly and I would say that he has really upped his game, knows what he's talking about and I love him. I think he's a really humble guy. Knows that, 'Okay, people make fun of me for this but I'm not going to strike back. I'm just going to just demonstrate that I do have a lot more knowledge than people think I do.'

Ed Gamble

That's the edit you see. There's probably loads of stuff on the cutting room floor where he's like, 'This ones for the fucking haters. Does this look like guacamole to you mother fuckers?'

Claudia Jessie

Is he your favourite Queer Eye guy?

James Acaster

No Bobby is.

Claudia Jessie

That's my boyfriend's favourite as well because he has to re do an entire building. He's working so hard.

Ed Gamble

Yes, he's really doing the lion share there.

James Acaster

I just think he really connects with the people they talk to. I think he really talks to them on a human level and really goes out of his way and actually, I think has more of a connection and I think that's nice. I think everyone else is doing their jobs really well but you can see there's the TV sheen to it



and that's what I'm here for. I'm watching a TV show and I'm not complaining but I think Bobby has a real connection with those people and it's good stuff.

Claudia Jessie

I agree with you. He is lovely. That's my boyfriend's favourite Queer Eye guy as well.

Ed Gamble

I like Tan.

Claudia Jessie

Tan France is my favourite.

Ed Gamble

Yes, Tan. Tan's the best.

Claudia Jessie

Possibly one of the most beautiful looking men in the world actually, I think.

Ed Gamble

I sat near him in a bar once.

Claudia Jessie

No.

Ed Gamble

And he is very beautiful in real life.

Claudia Jessie

As stunning, yes.

Ed Gamble

Truly.

Claudia Jessie

Has an incredible face and hair. Salt and pepper hair. Lovely. Imagine if you were the sixth Queer Eye guy.

Ed Gamble

Yes, come on then. Finally, the straight perspective.

James Acaster

Yes, hello. This house needs more terracotta immediately. Anyway.

Claudia Jessie

There you go. That's the other Netflix show.

Ed Gamble

You've got to plug other things in the Netflix family though, right? It's part of the contract.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, it's a major part of it. They wouldn't keep me otherwise. You guys seen Stranger Things?

Ed Gamble

We have. We've had one of the Stranger Things kids on the show.



James Acaster

Yes, not that he would remember. He had no idea what was going on.

James Acaster

Side dish now is exciting because we've given you a bonus side dish so.

Claudia Jessie

I don't know if it's as exciting as the bonus side dish you gave me.

James Acaster

As the little boawoa?

Claudia Jessie

As the little boawoa but I'd like a battered sausage.

Ed Gamble

Yes you would and you may have one. That is such a great idea for a side dish.

Claudia Jessie

Okay I'm so pleased because I think they are the most delicious things in the world.

Ed Gamble

Battered sausage.

James Acaster

I'll say this before you even say it to me about battered sausage, because I'm looking forward to what you have to say about it, but more than any guest, every time we approve of a dish, you're like, 'Oh, thank God.'

Claudia Jessie

Can you tell my dad left 20 years ago?

James Acaster

If we don't approve of a dish, I don't know how it's going to go down. You've got your notes in front of you and you rip them all up. 'Well this has been a waste of time.'

Ed Gamble

Every time we approve of a dish, it feels like every single tension in your body is relieved. You're like, 'Oh God, thank god for that.' Somehow, we get to another dish and all that tension is back again and then it just goes again.

Claudia Jessie

That's a life of anxiety baby. That's a little panic disorder. I feel like a lot is riding on this. I really want you to like the menu.

James Acaster

I love it so far.

Ed Gamble

And you've just bought a battered sausage into the equation.

Claudia Jessie

Yes and I think there's something very particular I need for the battered sausage and it's like gnarly batter. You know that batter. My boyfriend always says, 'What you don't want is a saveloy in a golden wetsuit' which you see a lot.



James Acaster

Wow, this guy.

Ed Gamble

It's rare it happens but-

Claudia Jessie

Oh no it's really annoying.

Ed Gamble

No, this is rare it happens but you hear one phrase and you just know, I like that guy. I'd get on well with that guy and I'm going to use that phrase from now on.

James Acaster

I'll tell you what I like. It's the fact that he's clearly said it more than once. You're like, 'As my boyfriend says, what you don't want is a saveloy in a golden wetsuit.'

Claudia Jessie

Yes, as the old saying goes.

Ed Gamble

And that's not like an old Birmingham phrase. That's something he's invented?

Claudia Jessie

No that's something that came out of his mouth because we were talking about the battered sausage and he was like, 'Yes, because what you don't want is a saveloy in a golden wetsuit.' And I was like, 'That is one of the reasons I love you. There's the man I fell in love with.' And it's true. Very thin layer of batter. I had a really shit battered sausage the other day. Battered vegan sausage. I've had a great one. There's like this really tiny kebab shop called the Veggie Chippy in, I think it might be Hockley area in Birmingham. Everything on their menu is called like, 'Vish and Chips,' 'Vic'en and Chips.' No actually, that's the one thing they don't put the V in front of. Is the sausage. They're like, 'Vausage is stupid.'

Ed Gamble

Vicken, we're fine with.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, Vish, Vicken and chips. Amazing. But they do a battered sausage and it was really good there. However, what I'd like is that the whole of the country just goes vegan for this one day and that the four of us could go on a little trip to some lovely chippies and just try out a few and see which ones the best one but in the chippie.

James Acaster

Hold on, I'm going to Google the best battered sausage in the country.

Claudia Jessie

Are you?

James Acaster

Yes. Just to see if it comes up.

Ed Gamble

The best vegan battered sausage or best battered sausage?



Claudia Jessie

No let's just go battered sausage because the genie-, you can make it vegan.

Ed Gamble

The venie.

Claudia Jessie

Mono, thank you. That's why they call you the Great.

Ed Gamble

I think you should move to Glasgow.

Claudia Jessie

I would. I mean I'd happily die in Scotland.

Ed Gamble

Not what I said.

Claudia Jessie

That's right.

James Acaster

Okay, I'll tell you what.

Claudia Jessie

That's not what you said.

James Acaster

There's not a lot here.

Claudia Jessie

Really?

James Acaster

Best battered sausages in England restaurants. I've got a top 4934 list here.

Claudia Jessie

Jesus, is that how many we're going to visit?

Ed Gamble

Let's start from the bottom.

James Acaster

I think this is the top one, it's not far away, it's at What the Fish in Hammersmith.

Claudia Jessie

What the Fish? I like that name.

James Acaster

And also, Ranmore Friary in Sheffield. Stokesbury Fish and Chips in Newport. That's the top three.

Claudia Jessie

Those are the top three?

James Acaster



Yes, that's the top three that comes up but there's also a place called Veggie Corner in Coventry, is number four.

Claudia Jessie

Oh gosh, in Coventry as well.

James Acaster

So the fourth one on the list is a veggie place.

Claudia Jessie

I'm in Coventry on Saturday watching QPR play Coventry.

James Acaster

Well, you might want to go to Veggie Corner and get the best veggie battered sausage that you could get, and it's number four on a list of over 4,000, nearly 5,000 places.

Claudia Jessie

Oh my goodness.

Ed Gamble

Benito, have you looked it up, Veggie Corner, does it look legit?

James Acaster

Not only do Veggie Corner do a battered sausage, they also do a vegan jumbo battered sausage as well,

Claudia Jessie

That's going to be the fucking one, isn't it? That's going to be the bloody one.

James Acaster

Do you know what, the word jumbo isn't used enough, we don't hear it used very much. Jumbo jet, jumbo sausage are the only ones I can really think of.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

What else do you think, could you use it for, like, clothes, like jumbo jumper?

James Acaster

Yes, I would love to wear a jumbo jumper, I'd love to have a jumbo bed instead of a king size bed.

Claudia Jessie

Jumbo bed, that's good.

James Acaster

Yes, I think all of that would be great.

Ed Gamble

I guess, do they have, like, jumbotron, so the big screens at sports games is called the jumbotron.

Claudia Jessie

I feel like it would be something like a chain restaurant would do as well, you know, it was very big to supersize, in America, and McDonald's. Maybe there would be, like, another burger joint that would be like, 'Do you want that jumbo?'



Ed Gamble

Do you want that jumbo, yes.

Claudia Jessie

See my accent.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I would love that.

James Acaster

There we go.

Claudia Jessie

You want that jumbo?

James Acaster

You've got that part of slightly nervous waitress absolutely sewn up. Do you want that jumbo?

Claudia Jessie

You want that jumbo?

Ed Gamble

I just - in a table of mobsters all having a meal. I like that.

Claudia Jessie

Do you want that jumbo, sir?

Ed Gamble

I'd like the gabagool please.

Claudia Jessie

Do you want that jumbo? She's great.

James Acaster

She is great.

Ed Gamble

You would be nervous if the mobsters were there, if they're known for flipping out and killing anyone for whatever reason.

Claudia Jessie

Absolutely.

Ed Gamble

They might be offended by, 'Do you want that jumbo?'

Claudia Jessie

And she's worked there for years. Or it could be her first day.

Ed Gamble

It will be her first day and she's been told, 'That's the mob table, don't offend them.'

Claudia Jessie

You go over there, Sally. 'Do you want that jumbo?'



Ed Gamble

Mumbo jumbo.

Claudia Jessie

Mumbo jumbo.

James Acaster

Mumbo jumbo, yes, I mean, often used I think by the wrong people in a rather dismissive fashion, I think they've taken the word jumbo and they've completely, maybe that's why people don't use jumbo that much because they've ruined it.

Ed Gamble

But what does that mean, does that suggest that if you're talking nonsense, you're talking mumbo but if you're talking loads of nonsense, you're talking mumbo jumbo?

James Acaster

Mumbo jumbo, yes.

Ed Gamble

Jumbo, that's your word, jumbo.

Claudia Jessie

Do you want that jumbo? It's good.

James Acaster

Everytime.

Claudia Jessie

Maybe there's a casting director listening to this.

James Acaster

The nervous waitress who has to ask some mobsters if they want a jumbo, great character. Absolutely, I think that's a great side dish.

Claudia Jessie

No sauce, salt and vinegar.

James Acaster

How heavy are you going with the salt and vinegar?

Claudia Jessie

Quite heavy on the vin.

James Acaster

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

A little bit crazy, mumbo on the vin. No jumbo on the vinegar, mumbo on the salt.

James Acaster

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

It's the other way around so mumbo on salt, jumbo on vinegar.



James Acaster

Yes. Also, at the vegan place you mentioned earlier, what do they call vinegar there if they're switching it? The first letter of everything for a v?

Claudia Jessie

Inegar.

James Acaster

Just inegar?

Claudia Jessie

They'll just get rid, they'll be like, 'We don't want to confuse people because they might think it's vegan vinegar. Or something.' They also do a vonner, like a donner kebab. That I've actually had and it's absolutely tremendous.

Ed Gamble

I'm really confused why they don't say vausage?

Claudia Jessie

I know because I was looking through the menu and I was laughing, like, vacon and chips, vish and chips, and I was like, sausage. Okay, fine, cool.

James Acaster

Drink because we know it's not going to be.

Ed Gamble

You've had a couple of pints already.

James Acaster

Pints because you can't have them after you've eaten.

Claudia Jessie

No, no pints. I think I love an old fashioned, like, a lot so I go from drinking like IPA or bourbon, palate of an elderly man.

Ed Gamble

Or me. Just my palate.

James Acaster

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

Delicious but my mum's got this amazing blender, that's what -

James Acaster

Such a great start to the story.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, and I went over to visit, it was halfway through, like, filming Bridgerton and I had a week off, and I went home. And I was like, 'My mum's got a blender, I'm going to make frozen marg aritas, I've never made them before, I'm going to make them for my family.' So, I bought all the booze, all the good stuff, like the agave syrup to put in there. And then, they loved them, they loved them so much. My mum, my stepdad and my brother, they'd never had one before. I'd had loads but I'd never made any, and then, a few days later I went around and they'd stocked up on all of the same ingredients again and were like, 'Are you going to make those frozen marg aritas again?' And I was



like, 'I mean, yes, let's do it, let's go.' And now, they're obsessed with frozen marg aritas, they love them. But then, apparently, my stepdad got so poorly the other night because he had such an intense brain freeze, but then, apparently, you just put your thumb on your soft palate.

Ed Gamble

Did that sort it?

James Acaster

Yes, thanks for demonstrating that.

Claudia Jessie

I know.

James Acaster

You demonstrated it and immediately made eye contact with Ed, it was very funny. You put your thumb on your soft palate, mouth open, and just looked straight at Ed.

Ed Gamble

Straight at me as if to say, 'Right?'

James Acaster

Straight in the eyes, like, please.

Claudia Jessie

And also, I didn't wait until the word palate was done, I went soft palate.

James Acaster: Yes.

Claudia Jessie: Apparently that gets rid of brain freeze which I don't know.

James Acaster: You're right.

Claudia Jessie: Well, apparently. I've never heard that before.

Ed Gamble

Brain freeze is not something that's necessarily troubled my adult life too much. I don't think I've had it that much really.

Claudia Jessie

What about you love ice cream?

Ed Gamble

I love ice cream, yes, absolutely adore it.

Claudia Jessie

Have you ever had it when it's too cold?

James Acaster

Yes, I've definitely given myself brain freeze before, too eager.

Ed Gamble

You love brain freeze?

James Acaster

I've never tried the soft palate.



Ed Gamble

I bet you love brain freeze.

James Acaster

Yes, I love it.

Claudia Jessie

And, like, you have wasabi, you're like, 'Go on, you prick.'

James Acaster

Yes, I do like wasabi.

Ed Gamble

Very funny that you pitched that as an absolute universal observation. 'You know, when you have wasabi and you say, go on, you prick.'

Claudia Jessie

Go on, you prick.

Ed Gamble

Yes, it was like that, you didn't say it like that. You said, 'Oh, it's like when you have wasabi and you go, go on, you prick.' It was like that, it was like suddenly you were Ray Winston.

James Acaster

Yes, you've just come on here in the hope that casting directors are listening, right? You're doing all the characters.

Claudia Jessie

All my characters even though I claimed I can't do any accents.

James Acaster

Yes, you're doing all of them.

Claudia Jessie

I do all the characters but only one voice really, and it's nervous Sally.

James Acaster

The emotions get across though, that's what counts.

Claudia Jessie

There we go. Yes.

Ed Gamble

Ray Winston in a Japanese restaurant.

Claudia Jessie

Thank you, go on, you prick.

James Acaster

No, I don't like brain freeze. I mean, I do like the wasabi thing though, I love the wasabi and then, I'm like, 'Oh, go on, you prick.'



Claudia Jessie

Yes, see, go on, you prick, so delicious. I think I've only had brain freeze with, like, Slush Puppies when I was younger. You know when you get them after school, it would be, like, an off-license, not an off-license, a sweatshop that would have the swirly machines. I'd get one of those and I'd have brain freeze with that, obviously, I didn't know about the soft palate.

James Acaster

No. You know, don't beat yourself up.

Claudia Jessie: Listen, I only do that sort of stuff, embarrassingly, in front of adults on a podcast, thank you. So, I think I'm going to go for frozen margaritas.

James Acaster: Made by yourself?

Claudia Jessie

Yes, made by me for my family. Because I just find it so adorable that it's, like, their favourite drink, they love it now. And tequila, apparently is the only alcohol that's an upper, have I heard that correctly?

Ed Gamble

Yes, I think so.

Claudia Jessie

And apparently, it's good for your digestion. So, glug, glug, glug.

James Acaster

All these lies we tell ourselves.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, exactly. It's actually really good for you, it actually turns back time.

Ed Gamble

One glass of red wine is actually better for you than no wine.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, exactly.

James Acaster

I think I've heard that about tequila.

Claudia Jessie

Yes.

James Acaster

Do I believe it?

Claudia Jessie

Well, I don't know because you still feel a bit shit, don't you? But I'd like that, frozen margaritas, at my mum's house, with my mum, my stepdad and my brother, I think that would be really nice.

James Acaster

Lovely, so why was it that the stepdad was the only one to get brain freeze, was he just, like, really guzzling?



Claudia Jessie

I think it must have been, like, necking it back. Also, he made it so he might have over-iced.

James Acaster

Sure.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

I like mine somewhere between, like, a liquid drink and a slush puppy but his was full slush. His was, like, snow cone levels of ice so I think he might have just iced himself out.

Ed Gamble

Yes, he iced himself out. But then, no one else, was he drinking them on his own that time? Or was everyone else having them?

Claudia Jessie

No, he made them for everybody.

Ed Gamble

So, they didn't ice themselves out.

Claudia Jessie

But I think my mum had just waited.

James Acaster

Just imagine the situation of making frozen margaritas just for yourself, if you're home alone.

Claudia Jessie

I don't know, I reckon I could.

James Acaster

Do you think you could do that without thinking about how bleak the situation is?

Claudia Jessie

Yes, no, it's not nice but I did get that same blender as a gift for my birthday.

Ed Gamble

I'll tell you who definitely could make themselves a frozen margarita on their own, Punch.

Claudia Jessie

Punch. Punch could, he'd learn how to work the machine.

Ed Gamble

Punch would make it, wouldn't he?

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Maybe pour it on the top so it doesn't splash around.

Claudia Jessie

Give it a shake. My dog likes beer, she likes liqueur.



James Acaster

And one's being lying around and she's drunk it, ash she?

Claudia Jessie

Well, I took her to bed for the and she put her paws on the table and then, had a couple of licks, and seemed to have a nice time.

Ed Gamble

When you're dog had a couple of licks, did you just drink the rest of the pint? Yes.

Claudia Jessie

Yes.

James Acaster

I would.

Ed Gamble

You would? Yes, to me that might as well be toilet water at that point.

James Acaster

Really?

Ed Gamble

Yes, I'd just pour it away.

James Acaster

If it was your own dog?

Ed Gamble

Yes, my won god. I don't want to, no.

Claudia Jessie

Really?

Ed Gamble

That's not a judgement thing, that's just the way I am. I wouldn't be able to do it.

Claudia Jessie

Okay, how do you guys feel about peeing in the shower?

Ed Gamble

Interesting.

James Acaster

Me or a dog?

Claudia Jessie

You or a dog?

James Acaster

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

You.



James Acaster

How do I feel about peeing in the shower?

Claudia Jessie

I met someone recently who was disgusted by the idea of it and I couldn't believe it.

James Acaster

I feel fairly neutral about it, I don't feel disgusted by the idea.

Claudia Jessie

No.

James Acaster

No, not disgusted by it. My shower that I've got at the minute goes through stages of the water not going down very fast. So, if it was during one of those stages, I would not be pissing in the shower because then I would then just be paddling in it pretty quickly.

Claudia Jessie

Ankle deep.

James Acaster

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Now, I'm interested to know how the question, 'How do you feel about peeing in the shower,' links into you drinking a pint that your dog's licked?

Claudia Jessie

Yes, I'm not sure. I don't actually know but I felt there was something about the brain connecting, like, you saying it's my dog and being like, 'Well, it's my piss in the shower.'

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

Maybe that's where my brain went. Either way, I piss in the shower, my dog drinks my beer. I think that's what we've decided (ph 10.23), haven't we? That's the sort of person I am, that's on this podcast.

Ed Gamble

There we go.

James Acaster

So, we come to dessert now.

Claudia Jessie

Before dessert, I was just wondering how you guys felt about palate cleansers.

Ed Gamble

Soft palate cleansers, putting the thumb up there?



Claudia Jessie

Very good, that was beautiful.

Ed Gamble

Thank you.

James Acaster

Feel great about palate cleansers.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

Like a sorbet?

James Acaster

I could or leave a sorbet really, especially after I've had a frozen margarita.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, that's very true, I have just had a frozen drink.

Ed Gamble

It's almost quite like a side

Claudia Jessie

Yes, but what if it was Calpol flavoured?

James Acaster

What are you talking about?

Ed Gamble

Oh, no, remember, our most fragile guest we've ever had.

James Acaster

Okay, sorry. Yes, well, tell us a bit more.

Ed Gamble

Take it down a couple of notches.

James Acaster

Listen, if someone said to me, 'I've got some Calpol flavoured sorbet,' there's no way I wouldn't try it. I would try it, you know. I am very intrigued by this. And you've had some I'm assuming?

Claudia Jessie

No.

James Acaster

Oh, okay.

Ed Gamble

But take it down.

Claudia Jessie

I'm feeling quite sensitive.



Ed Gamble

Do you want it jumbo?

Claudia Jessie

Do you want it jumbo?

Ed Gamble

Do you want a Calpol sorbet?

James Acaster

Calpol.

Claudia Jessie

Our new special of the day is Calpol sorbet.

James Acaster

You could have it mumbo jumbo.

Claudia Jessie

Well, I just thought, I loved Calpol growing up, like, I'd feign illness to have Calpol because it was so delicious and I don't have much of a sweet tooth.

Ed Gamble

Okay.

Claudia Jessie

I know.

James Acaster

This is interesting.

Claudia Jessie

And I thought, 'That's a nice palate cleanser.' It's sweet.

James Acaster

I'm looking at your notes now because I know worried that I haven't ever seen what it is.

Claudia Jessie

And remember, she's quite fragile.

James Acaster

Oh, no.

Ed Gamble

Your lovely Calpol sorbet, we've got to remember the Calpol sorbet.

James Acaster

(talking over each other)

Ed Gamble

No, we don't - Okay, it's fine, they brought us samosas.

James Acaster

Play it, okay.



Ed Gamble

God, he's quite nervous about how we're all going to react to her dishes remember, so Calpol sorbet, we're talking about the palate cleanser, lovely Calpol sorbet.

Claudia Jessie

I just think that I reckon it will taste nice, just a tiny little dome.

Ed Gamble

You're really selling it -

James Acaster

I would, kind of, maybe prefer just a glug of Calpol for old time's sake rather.

Claudia Jessie

But what if the sorbet came the classic plastic spoon with the 15.50 ml. Is it 15.50 ml? I think it might be.

James Acaster

She's chugging it from the bottle.

Claudia Jessie

You would straight from the bottle but imagine.

James Acaster

Get it back by the sink by the time my mum gets in, popped back in the bath, she doesn't know what's happened, I'm not even ill.

Claudia Jessie

Alright, maybe we'll do, like, okay, could I have a swig big old -

Ed Gamble

Take a piss, go to the bath.

James Acaster

Yes. Nothing mum.' 'Well, I could tell, James, you been drinking that Calpol again?'

Claudia Jessie

What do we think about just a swig of Calpol then?

Ed Gamble

A swig, I think we should stick with this Calpol sorbet because it's very rare a guest completely invents a dish that no one has ever had before, including them. So, I think a little dome of Calpol sorbet is a lovely way to go.

Claudia Jessie

I hate myself.

Ed Gamble

No, don't say that, come on. I think someone will try and make that based on this podcast.

Claudia Jessie

I feel like that could happen.

Ed Gamble

I think it will happen.



James Acaster

Yes. And I did absolutely love Calpol and it's nice to hear it get a shout out on the podcast, sneaky little bonus dish because, you know, we were all looking for ways to sneak Calpol into our diet as kids anyway. So, I like the fact it's, you know, a little cheat-code -

Ed Gamble

I could see it being on a restaurant menu, like, a new restaurant menu in London and that's what makes the headlines, and that's what gets people in.

Claudia Jessie

Oh, my god. Absolutely, that would be the thing, wouldn't it?

James Acaster

'Have you heard about this place, they do a Calpol sorbet?'

Claudia Jessie

Yes. It's fucking amazing.

Ed Gamble

Amazing

James Acaster

And later in the course, you get, like, a Benolyn one or whatever, and realise that all the fun's over and the rest of your life's going to be shit.

Claudia Jessie

And then, you get a thermometer up the bum for the final course.

James Acaster

Good course.

Claudia Jessie

There you go. Well, then if that's allowed, I think that would be quite cool and then all of us could try it. And then, if it's shit, we'll just go, 'Well, no.'

Ed Gamble

But I think it would be nice and nostalgic.

Claudia Jessie

I think it would be nice.

Ed Gamble

Yes. And it's nice to have something a little bit sweet before you go into your final course.

James Acaster

What is it?

Claudia Jessie

When I was writing this down, I was almost going to put, just in big capital letters, 'Cheeseboard.' Just for you to see it and be freaked out because that's not actually very nice. But I really racked my brain because I wanted to have a dessert, like, a proper dessert.

James Acaster

Yes.



Claudia Jessie

So, I don't think you'll be disappointed.

James Acaster

Okay, well, great.

Claudia Jessie

But I do find it a little bit fun that there's a bit of tension.

James Acaster

Yes, there was a bit and I genuinely was thinking, 'I don't know how to respond.'

Claudia Jessie

To this mess.

James Acaster

Because if she has a cheeseboard, I won't feel good about shouting at you which is normally my go-to, and I did consider just leaving the room if you said cheeseboard. The only way I can deal with it is I have to literally exit the room and then, that will be it. And then, when you come out, you know, you have to talk about your dessert with Ed, wrap up the podcast, and then when you come out, you would have seen that I would have fully gone home. And I think that's the only way of doing the joke properly is to just walk out, get the train, and then you come out and go, 'Oh, he's actually gone.' Yes, that would have been the only way to do it.

Claudia Jessie

I would rather you shout at me actually because then you've just got to stay. Just because then you'd still be here but I understand why.

Ed Gamble

True abandonment if he left, if he absolutely left, that would be awful.

Claudia Jessie

I mean, hello. I don't think I need that, thank you. And you can guess. So, have any of you guys ever heard of a Little Chef?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

Right, actually, my boyfriend's dad used to call it little thief because it was so expensive.

Ed Gamble

That's a great dad joke.

Claudia Jessie

So good.

James Acaster

But I thought you were about to say your boyfriend's dad was the Little Chef.

Claudia Jessie

No.



Ed Gamble

Yes, he was modelled after.

Claudia Jessie

He is somewhere, the little logo is somewhere between the Lurpak butter guy and the Michelin man, tyre guy, isn't he? Or Caspar the ghost.

James Acaster

Yes, I mean, all those guys I think are basically the same family, right?

Claudia Jessie

Yes. Sort of, plump mascots.

James Acaster

Plump mascots.

Claudia Jessie

I didn't really go on holiday growing up but we'd go on long drives.

James Acaster

Nice.

Claudia Jessie

Doesn't that sound nice?

Ed Gamble

Yes, intriguing. How long were these drives?

Claudia Jessie

Until we could find a dad. So, I mean, one of them's still ongoing actually, my mum's circling. No, just until someone couldn't do it anymore I guess.

Ed Gamble

Say in, like, a day?

Claudia Jessie

Yes, we'd go a few days or, like, a day trip or whatever. Yes, but we couldn't really leave the country. Me? But we would go to Little Chef and they'd obviously do those massive breakfasts, wouldn't they, in those big, white oval plates. And then, they'd have those burgers that had the sausages that were round, but they had the slits in them, do you remember those, guys?

James Acaster

Vaguely.

Ed Gamble

Like a Cumberland sausage?

Claudia Jessie

But, you know, it was within a burger but you could see the little marks in them.

Ed Gamble

I think they're called something like a bendy bun, right?

Claudia Jessie

Bendy bun?



Ed Gamble

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

Love him.

Ed Gamble

I think it was, I mean, it might not be at Little Chef but I think they did do like a curly sausage in a bap and they would call it a bendy bun.

Claudia Jessie

Bendy bun.

Ed Gamble

Yes, bendy in a bun, if I've made that up, copyright. That's going on the Calpol restaurant menu, I think bendy bun.

Claudia Jessie

Nice.

James Acaster

Yes, no themes at the restaurant.

Claudia Jessie

No, it's insane. But they used to do these tiny, sugary doughnuts with a hot chocolate dipping sauce. But they were really hot, the doughnuts, everything was just really hot and it was amazing. But you know the doughnuts where you can't really see the whole, it's more of, like, a cat's anus of a the hole, if you will. And you'd dip those in the hot sauce and I was obsessed with those, I loved those very, very much. And I think that would be my dream dessert, I'd get, like, eight of those mini sausages (ph 18.06) in a big ramekin, it was molten, they were so hot.

James Acaster

Yes, get those at fairgrounds sometimes and in Kedwin (ph 18.14), on the high street every now and again, there's a guy who has a dinky doughnut stand and you just smell it, all the way down the high street, you go, 'Oh, dinky doughnuts are here today.' You smell it, like, a really long way away.

Claudia Jessie

Dinky doughnuts are here today.

James Acaster

Yes. And then, you'd, like, walk around the corner, he's there, you usually get and yes, they've got dinky doughnuts.

Ed Gamble

I like that you're pitching this as if you're with other people, like with some mates or family, and you're all like dinky doughnuts. When we all know it's just you walking down the street and out loud to yourself, you say, 'Dinky doughnuts is here today.'

James Acaster

Yes, I smell dinky doughnuts are here today. And then, I walk down the street and then, I see him.

Claudia Jessie

And did you say that he would be shouting that they've got dinky doughnuts today?



James Acaster

Yes, he's also going, 'Dinky doughnuts, we have dinky doughnuts here.'

Claudia Jessie

Got it.

Ed Gamble

Dinky is the opposite of jumbo, right?

James Acaster

Yes, it is.

Claudia Jessie

Woah. Would you ask dinky doughnuts if they could make it jumbo?

James Acaster

Yes. This dinky doughnut, can you make it jumbo? Yes probably. Is that the dinky doughnut? Can I make the dinky doughnut jumbo, please? And then, would the jumbo dinky doughnut just be a normal doughnut?

Claudia Jessie

No. Oh, a jumbo dinky, yes.

James Acaster

Because that's a jumbo dinky, it's normal.

Ed Gamble

Interestingly, the cat's anus thing, you're talking about they're so, sort of, puffed up that there's almost no real hole.

Claudia Jessie

You couldn't put your finger in it.

Ed Gamble

You could jumbo that so then, there's, like, almost no hole there, right?

James Acaster

Oh, yes.

Ed Gamble

So, a jumbo dinky is not the same as a normal sized doughnut.

James Acaster

Yes, so a jumbo dinky would be the same size as a normal-sized doughnut but the hole is as tight as a dinky doughnut.

Ed Gamble

Yes, like a lion's anus.

Claudia Jessie

Oh, okay.

James Acaster

Yes, pop a thermometer in that.



Claudia Jessie

So, yes, okay, but it's the size of a normal doughnut?

James Acaster

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

Because jumbo for dinky is normal but we're just going to make the hole compact.

James Acaster

So, it's still to scale.

Claudia Jessie

To lion?

James Acaster

Yes, to scale.

Claudia Jessie

It's to scale.

James Acaster

So, the hole is still the same as a dinky hole in terms of how much room you've got.

Claudia Jessie

I beg your pardon. Excuse me?

James Acaster

We know what we're talking about.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Dinky doughnuts.

Claudia Jessie

And would it be a bit like my bread course where you tear and share, and dip the sauce?

Ed Gamble

It's up to you.

James Acaster

Well, I don't want to share it.

Ed Gamble

I think the dip would also have to go jumbo so you've got that size would also, by the same amount, increase. So, you've got, like, a substantial size dip that you can actually dip this jumbo dinky in.

James Acaster

Are we pushing the pot of sauce into the middle of the jumbo dinky?

Ed Gamble

I would like to.



Claudia Jessie

That would be nice. Or we could do your wife's technique and, like, drizzle it on top.

Ed Gamble

Absolutely not.

Claudia Jessie

Oh, no.

James Acaster

Never do his wife's technique.

Ed Gamble

It's a waste of sauce.

Claudia Jessie

Okay. So, the genie would like the hot sauce in the middle of the dinky jumbo doughnut?

James Acaster

Yes, but well, I wouldn't put the sauce in the middle, I would want the sauce on the side and I would want to be able to pick up the doughnut and dip it into the big pot of sauce like I would do a dinky doughnut, but with, like, the jumbo dinky. And I would like to do it like that, that's what I would like to do. Ed would like it, I believe, in the middle.

Ed Gamble

Well, I mean, if this is so puffed up, you're not getting a pot of sauce in there, are you?

Claudia Jessie

It's going to do damage because it's not just going to expand and the hole is going to let you in. For god's sake.

Ed Gamble

We know what you mean.

Claudia Jessie

But you're going to do damage to the dinky jumbo doughnut dough.

James Acaster

Yes, no, I'm saying jumbo dinky, you're saying dinky jumbo.

Claudia Jessie

Dumbo jinky.

James Acaster

No, jumbo dinky.

Ed Gamble

No one's saying dumbo jinky. No one said dumbo jinky until you've just said it then.

Claudia Jessie

So, dinky jumbo, that's how you're saying it?

James Acaster

No.



Claudia Jessie

No, I'm saying it incorrectly?

James Acaster

Yes, so it should be because it's a dinky that's been made big, so it's jumbo dinky.

Claudia Jessie

A dinky jumbo.

James Acaster

A dinky jumbo would be a big doughnut that's been made dinky. But a dinky jumbo is just a dinky doughnut, I think.

Claudia Jessie

Okay.

Ed Gamble

No, it's right.

James Acaster

Is it? I don't think a dinky jumbo is a dinky doughnut because I think a jumbo doughnut is even bigger than regular doughnut.

Ed Gamble

So, a dinky jumbo is a normal doughnut?

James Acaster

Yes, so a dinky jumbo is a normal doughnut but the hole is normal.

Ed Gamble

Yes, that's the dinky jumbo. A jumbo dinky has a dinky hole but it's the size of a normal sized doughnut.

James Acaster

Yes.

Claudia Jessie

Okay, great. I'll have two of those. Yes, I think then I'd like one, oh, which way is it? Jumbo dinky, please. I'd have one jumbo dinky with, like, a lot of the hot chocolate sauce and then, I would like about eight of the dinky dinkies.

James Acaster

I mean, I'm not so sure if I wasn't saying dinky jumbo now. I think I've been saying dinky jumbo.

Claudia Jessie

I think it's going to need to be workshopped.

James Acaster

I think I was saying dinky jumbo and you were saying jumbo dinky, and then we talked you into saying dinky jumbo. And then, you said dinky jumbo and then, we made it up with a long way.

Ed Gamble

No, but then, you just you want a plate of eight dinky dinkies which we've not even discussed yet.



Claudia Jessie

Oh, my gosh, no, that's like a Weeto, isn't it?

James Acaster

Yes, it's like a bowl of cereals.

Ed Gamble

Weetos.

Claudia Jessie

Yes, it's Weetos, isn't it? I don't want Weeto-sized dinkies.

Ed Gamble

No.

Claudia Jessie

Screams Claudia Jessie. I want my Little Chef, my little thief, doughnuts and then, I want the one that we've created as well.

Ed Gamble

Yes, okay, great.

Claudia Jessie

For my dessert, I thank you, everybody.

James Acaster

I'm going to read your menu back to you now, see how you feel about it.

Ed Gamble

Baffled I'd imagine.

Claudia Jessie

Yes.

James Acaster

Water, two pints of neck oil. of bread. Poppadoms or bread? The 11p Tesco tear and share bread, the vegan friendly one that I'm going to make for you, doesn't exist. Starter, two vegan duck pancakes from Chun Yin's. Main course, vegan bap from Kim-chi Cult and Lil Bowow Side, vegan battered sausage, loads of salt and vinegar. Drink, frozen margarita, home-made. Little palate cleanser, Calpol sorbet. Dessert, eight dinky doughnuts from Little Chef, little thief, and one jumbo dinky.

Claudia Jessie

Please, thank you.

James Acaster

It's a pretty good menu actually.

Claudia Jessie

Do you reckon?

Ed Gamble

It's a really good menu, it's very inventive. The Calpol sorbet, you'll be surprised to hear we've never had that before.



Claudia Jessie

Okay. Little Chef?

Ed Gamble

Little Chef's probably come up.

James Acaster

Maybe it's come up.

Ed Gamble

Not as a menu item.

Claudia Jessie

Thank you, I like that menu.

James Acaster

I think it's a great menu, I really enjoyed it and thank you very much for coming into the restaurant.

Claudia Jessie

Thank you so much for having me.

Ed Gamble

Thank you.

Claudia Jessie

Thank you. What would you do if I broke into tears?

Ed Gamble

Wouldn't be surprised. Well, there we are. Great menu. Great samosas.

James Acaster

Thank you for the samosas so much, Claudia, delicious samosas.

Ed Gamble

Above and beyond.

James Acaster

Yes. Much appreciated and real insight into her life I thought.

Ed Gamble

Loved it, absolutely loved it. Great episode. Well done. So, she's earned a plug from that, Bridgerton launches globally on March 25th on Netflix.

James Acaster

Very exciting stuff.

Ed Gamble

Very exciting and thank you Claudia for not saying Huel.

James Acaster

Yes, no Huel there, thank you.

Ed Gamble

No, thank you Chrissy tweets.



James Acaster

Thank you, Chrissy tweets, thank you for tweeting.

Ed Gamble

I'm on tour, my shows called Electric, get on Ed Gamble dot co dot UK for tickets. I'm all over the place, I'd love to see you there.

James Acaster

And I would love to see you there.

Ed Gamble

Yes, James will be at one of them.

James Acaster

One of them, but which one?

Ed Gamble

And he'll be hiding.

James Acaster

I will be disguised so you will have to go up to me, it'll be a very good disguise, and you have to say James Acaster I presume?

Ed Gamble

Yes, you have to say that and you have to hold that note for that long.

James Acaster

Yes, and only if you do that will I say and reveal if it is me.

Ed Gamble

Yes, will then his disguise will unlock at the face like Haney in Total Recall.

James Acaster

Exactly like that but those are the rules.

Ed Gamble

Those are the rules, see you there. Thank you very much for listening to Off-Menu, we'll see you again at another time. Bye-bye.

James Acaster

Bye-bye.