

# Off Menu - Ep148 - Jarvis Cocker:

#### **Ed Gamble**

Welcome to the Off Menu podcast taking the tequila of conversation, the lime of humour mixing it with the ice of the internet and salting the rim with the salt of the friends.

### **James Acaster**

Salting the rim everybody.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Salt the rim, you got to salt the rim for a marg'.

# **James Acaster**

You got to salt the rim, that's Ed gamble. My name is James Acaster welcome to the Off Menu podcast, we invite a guest into the dream restaurant and we ask them their favourite ever starter, main, dessert, side dish and drink, not in that order and this week our guest is Jarvis Cocker.

### **Ed Gamble**

Jarvis Cocker, it's Jarvis Cocker.

#### **James Acaster**

Wow.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Wow.

# **James Acaster**

I mean I didn't think this would ever happen this is exciting.

# **Ed Gamble**

Very exciting.

### **James Acaster**

This is someone who I get told I look like a lot which I don't think I do.

# **Ed Gamble**

Energy wise.

### **James Acaster**

Maybe it's just an energy wise thing.

# **Ed Gamble**

Reach, no you've both got reach, you're both lithe I'd say.

### **James Acaster**

Back in my online days, all I ever got on social media was photos of Jarvis Cocker every day saying, 'James Acaster vibes.' Or all this or like photos and I didn't really see it much myself, I don't think Jarvis will agree, I might ask him.

### **Ed Gamble**

Well, you know, finally I get to decide.



Yes, you get to line us up side by side.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Because you're going to be in the same room and I think-, I know what people mean probably just like the, sort of, you know, a slightly wiry, like, you got a similar stance maybe, but I mean facial I wouldn't say so at all.

### **James Acaster**

No, but, you know, take that to the public Ed.

# **Ed Gamble**

I will.

#### **James Acaster**

Oh and we are right now.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Tell them right now, I have reminded you that they do listen to this the public.

### **James Acaster**

Yes.

### **Ed Gamble**

But obviously, I think-, are we in national treasure territory?

### **James Acaster**

Yes, this is national treasure.

### **Ed Gamble**

I think we're national treasure territory.

### **James Acaster**

Yes, yes, yes.

### **Ed Gamble**

Another one.

### **James Acaster**

We have a lot of national treasures, we've got enough for a treasure chest now.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes, we've got a whole chest full of them.

### **James Acaster**

No context Off Menu put that together, little treasure chest. Put all the national treasures we've ever had into the same treasure chest peeking out.

# **Ed Gamble**

Very excited to have Jarvis on the pod especially as he's written a book, he's written his memoir James, 'Good Pop, Bad Pop'

# **James Acaster**

Good Pop, Bad Pop.



I've suggested the title Pulp Fiction, I thought it might be called that, but then I realised it's a memoir so it's non-fiction, so pulp non-fiction doesn't work quite as well.

### **James Acaster**

Yes, as it is a bit clunky and also I mean it's such a famous film that you risk people thinking it's a book about the film Pulp Fiction.

### **Ed Gamble**

I'd be happy to read that, I'd be happy to read Jarvis Cocker's take on Pulp Fiction.

### **James Acaster**

Sure, absolutely. Yes, let's pitch that to Jarvis.

### **Ed Gamble**

Okay, yes, cool. But unfortunately, if Jarvis has a secret ingredient that we have pre-decided upon he will be removed from the restaurant which is going to be very awkward and today's secret ingredient is going to be cold spinach leaves.

### **James Acaster**

Cold spinach leaves.

### **Ed Gamble**

Cold spinach leaves. Look I like spinach James, I'm a spinach head, spinach is great, but you know what I like a wilted spinach, I like a cooked spinach, I like spinach in a curry something like that. Cold spinach leaves in a salad what are you doing there? You're not supposed to be cold.

### **James Acaster**

I'm tired of them I find them boring, Benito loves them he asks us to make that known to, you know, give a bit of balance there but-, and look know that I'm going to eat them again, I'll do it to be healthy, I'll have them in salads and whatnot, but I do find it extremely dull.

# **Ed Gamble**

I don't mind them in a mixed bag, when they're in a mixed bag with your rockets, your water cresses, you can get away with it because your rockets and your water cresses peppery, they're fun right, they're bringing something to the party. It doesn't matter if the odd spinach leaf sneaks in there, but the stalks, the stalks are too chewy and stringy.

### **James Acaster**

I don't like the size of them.

# **Ed Gamble**

You don't like the size of them?

### **James Acaster**

They're going into my mouth, the size of a spinach leaf just feels awkward and annoying, like, it's just a bit too big.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, just slightly too big.

### **James Acaster**

Yes, I don't like it and the textures slightly too rubbery.



You don't have a small mouth though?

#### **James Acaster**

No, but a size of a spinach leaf I don't like it.

#### **Fd Gamble**

Normal mouth, not like my tour manager he's got a tiny mouth.

### **James Acaster**

Has he? Little mouth.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, little mouth Paul Brown. We worked out-, we were staying at a hotel and they had one of those cow milk jugs where you pour the milk and it comes out of the cow's mouth and it's exactly the same size as Paul's mouth. I'll show you a picture later.

#### **James Acaster**

Thank you.

# **Ed Gamble**

Just thought I'd get that in there. Yes, so if Jarvis picks cold spinach leaves gone I'm afraid.

### **James Acaster**

He will be gone, apologies Jarvis, but hopefully that won't happen.

#### **Ed Gamble**

I'm doing some autumn dates of my tour James, edgamble.co.uk for tickets, the shows called, 'Electric', very excited, like, September, October, November around then come and watch me on it.

### **James Acaster**

Very exciting and you can pre-order my book, 'James Acaster Guide to Quitting Social Media, Being the Best You You Can Be and Curing Yourself of Loneliness, Volume One'. You can pre-order it wherever you get your books.

### **Ed Gamble**

And now this is the Off Menu menu of Jarvis Cocker. Welcome Jarvis to the dream restaurant.

### **James Acaster**

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

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh have you, well I didn't make a reservation.

### **James Acaster**

You didn't need to, it's been your destiny.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh right okay.

#### **Ed Gamble**

We all make a celestial reservation at the dream restaurant as soon as we're born.

# **James Acaster**

Yes, yes.



And now to James' more important question.

### **James Acaster**

Do you believe in destiny Jarvis?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Destiny, no.

#### **Ed Gamble**

No. Did you consider it then all in that moment?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

No, I used to, well-, Do you ever get deja vu?

#### **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

So I did use to think sometimes once you had that feeling that was like a sign that you were on the right path, like, it's like as you say you had a destiny and because you were getting this feeling like I've been here I've done this before that meant that, like, yes you were following the right path. Maybe it's because I haven't had deja vu for a long time so maybe I subconsciously I think I've wandered off the path or something, but yes I don't particularly-, It's a dangerous thing to believe in because it can make you complacent I think.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, then you never feel like you're making a decision you always feel like you're doing the right thing regardless right?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Well yes, but then again I really hate pushy people, you know, people for instance if you were in a restaurant, you know, somebody who would say, 'Right, I want this table.' And, you know, people who really like have a go at the waiter or whatever, 'Bring me a gallon of Gravy. That's not enough.' You know and all stuff like that, so I guess that's somebody who doesn't believe in destiny, who thinks that, 'I'm going to be in control of every situation.' I don't believe in that.

### **Ed Gamble**

It's my destiny to have gallon of gravy.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

I don't know what I believe in.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

I believe in something. Well, I believe in-, people say, 'Go with the flow.' Don't they?

#### **James Acaster**

Yes.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Is that the same as destiny?



To go with the flow?

### **Ed Gamble**

But the flow could change right?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, I suppose what I mean by that I suppose is like important things that have happened to me, major things have always been things that I haven't planned, you know what I mean? You know, I think sometimes when you plan something, 'It's going to be amazing, this is going to be so awesome.' And then when it comes to it it's a bit of like, 'Whatever.' And then something amazing like you meet somebody totally out of the blue or whatever and it an blow you away.

#### **James Acaster**

But then with music because if you're releasing an album there's a lot of planning involved, so is it done at the end when it comes out your just like, 'Meh.'?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

No, because-, well, but the making of music is much more of a random process, you know, that's what I like about it. You know, you walk into a room with some instruments in the morning and you leave to later that day with a song and to me, that's still kind of a magical thing, you know, that you can do that. Sometimes a song might not be that great, but you do something, you know, and you can manufacture something yourself and I think that's good. You just have to kind of launch yourself into it and see what happens and it's not too thought out, the end bit, yes when it's all recorded and you have to go and try and flog it to people then that is a bit different, you know, yes.

# **James Acaster**

Yes, you've heard it a million times by then as well, it's not going in the room that morning and discovering it.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, I think that's the thing, like when you first, like, get an idea for a song, say you're like in a room, like we could be jamming now if we all had instruments.

### **Ed Gamble**

We still are in a way.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Didn't you play the drums at one point?

# **James Acaster**

Yes, he's a bassoon player.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Bassoon?

# **Ed Gamble**

Not for a long time Jarvis, but-,

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Alright, that's a good instrument.

# **Ed Gamble**

You know, I used to dabble. Yes, I used to dabble with the bassoon.



Okay, that's good, drums, bassoon and vocal that could be a new thing.

#### Ed Gamble

That could be something.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

A good band.

### **James Acaster**

It could be a nifty band actually.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

But, you know, you start jamming around or whatever and something happens and then that's really exciting that point, you know, when you first get the idea for a song and you think, 'God, this song could be anything.' And then it's always when you kind of then have to go and record it or get it ready to play live it always kind of gets kind of tamed and in the end you think, 'Yes maybe this one isn't going to change the world, but it's alright.' But at that first moment, it's like, 'Wow, this could be anything.' And that's exciting.

### **James Acaster**

Yes, is that how you feel about a meal sometimes? Your at the start of the meal, this could be anything, could be the best meal you've ever had.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Well yes, you never know do you. I mean you've got clues that's what I think, you walk into a restaurant square plates I would just turn round and walk straight back out. You know what I mean? You have to be really aware of those things, so if I was to walk in and see a square plate I'd just say, 'Look, I think we've made a mistake here, let's get out.'

#### **Ed Gamble**

What sort of food would you expect then if you're in a square plate restaurant?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Waffles.

#### **Ed Gamble**

There must have been a time when you had a square plate, is it square food as well?

# James Acaster

That's what I was thinking.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Well, you've actually come up with maybe the only justification for a square plate I can think of, a waffle because there isn't that much square food around.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes, and bread I guess as like a sandwich or something.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, again if it was a restaurant that was just serving slices of bread you'd be thinking, 'Um.'

# **Ed Gamble**

Probably not for me, yes.



Yes, I associate it with fussy food, you know, it's like they've thought too much about the plates like, 'We're going to be a bit different, we're going to have square plates.' So then it's like, 'Oh yes, we're going to be a bit different we're going to mix sweet and savoury and then put it in a cream sauce.' Or something like that, you know, they're probably too fussy.

### **Ed Gamble**

So you're a bit more straight forward with your food, you want like honest food?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Straight edged food.

### **Ed Gamble**

Straight edged food.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Like straight edged music, yes.

### **James Acaster**

I'd like to see you in a straight edge band Jarvis.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

I am in one, I am in one, we're just not known as it.

### **James Acaster**

You just haven't made-, you're not like minor threats shouting it from the roof tops.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

No.

#### **James Acaster**

You're not in a straight edged band, are you?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Well, straight edged as I understand it which is like a-,

### **James Acaster**

Is Adam Betts still in your band?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh you're saying he's a monster?

### **James Acaster**

Adam Betts is a monster.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Adam Betts, yes Adam plays the drums in the band, yes.

### **James Acaster**

Yes, I've seen Adam drink a beer. Have you seen him drink a beer before? I've seen him drink a beer.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

No, I suppose you're right. Serrated edge, say, a serrated edge sorry.



Also, I want to talk about your book as well before we get into your menu proper.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

We don't have to.

### **James Acaster**

You don't want to?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

No, of course, it's nice if it gets mentioned, but we don't have to.

# **Ed Gamble**

We are going to talk about it for your PR's sake if no one else Jarvis.

#### James Acaster

Yes, they'll come after us.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

### **James Acaster**

They're the ones we're really scared of.

### **Ed Gamble**

Alright, okay.

# **James Acaster**

Good Pop, Bad Pop is what we've been struggling with, we've struggled to say it. Have you struggled to say it?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Good Pop, Bad Pop, I've been practising because I'm going on the solicit jaunts I've got to be able to pronounce the title of the book.

### **James Acaster**

What's the title come from?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

See my stomach made a noise, we've not even started talking about food yet and it-, well it's an adaptation of good cop, bad cop. At first actually a few years ago in the run-up to Brexit and all that I wrote a, like, little pamphlet, you know, those rough trade books do these like-, they're nice like-, well they are pamphlet, like maybe eighteen pages or something and I did like a thing for that and I just thought, 'Oh that's a good title I should use it for something else.' Originally my book was going to be called, 'This book is a song', very poetic, but I don't know halfway through writing it I kind of started again and so I thought, 'I'll change the title as well.' And Good Pop, Bad Pop seemed to work because I was born in a kind of pop age and I kind of felt that I was a bit kind of brought up by it in a way by the stuff that I saw on the telly or the songs that I heard on the radio. You know, they give you an idea of what the world's going to be like don't they, whether it's accurate or not is another thing but they kind of do raise you in a bit.

So pops had a good effect on me, but then probably a bad effect on me as well and in the book we talk about that a little bit. Also, pop kind of has been hijacked by evil people, you know, like advertising people, politicians, you know, they kind of-, the pop that I think is good pop and this is



where I sound like some kind of old bloke going on about, 'Oh back in the olden days.' Or whatever but, you know, the pop music that was around when I was a kid and people were really into it, you know, kids would come to school with a radio to listen to the chart rundown, like the midweek thing and stuff like that and, you know, singles were quite cheap you could buy it and then everybody would kind of see who-, it was a bit like betting on the horses or something, you know, like hoping that the band that you liked their record would go up in the charts that week and, you know, it was quite a kind of national pastime and I liked that and I liked the fact that weird records would be hits that nobody could have predicted and sometimes record companies would spend loads of money on promoting something and it would just bomb and then something would come out of nowhere and stuff like that. And so, to me that was good pop because it was like people were making it themselves, they were kind of involved in it, now it's bad pop, now it's Simon Cowell, you know, now it's like in music terms he's bad pop.

# **James Acaster**

I feel like it might be being wrestled from those guys now, it's wrestled out of their grips now a bit with the way the inherent is, such a just everyone can just again just put it out there themselves. I think you're going to see the end of him soon, people like that.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, well that would be great, so you're saying like good pop could be coming back?

### **James Acaster**

I think good pop's coming back.

### **Ed Gamble**

The next edition of the book might have to be called, 'Good Pop, Bad Pop, Good Pop'

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

### **James Acaster**

So let's start with your meal.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Alright, okay.

# **James Acaster**

We always start with still or sparkling water?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, that's a good start. Yes, I thought about this and what about somewhere in the middle because not all sparkling waters are equally fizzy.

### **Ed Gamble**

True.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Like for instance Perrier mega fizzy, but if you get something like a San Pellegrino not that fizzy. You say this is a dream restaurant, so to celebrate that let's have some bubbles but not too much bubbles that will give us kind of like we're burping all the time which isn't very nice when there's other people. I assume there's other people in the restaurant?

### **James Acaster**

If you want there to be.



Well, it's your dreams so if you want to be eating in a completely empty restaurant just you or just with someone else that you know that's fine too.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

What about eating round a corner. Yes, so that you can hear that there are people there.

#### **Ed Gamble**

But you're round a corner.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Actually in a corner is my favourite place to be in a restaurant.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Facing outwards or inwards?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Outwards.

### **Ed Gamble**

Outwards?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, because then you'd know, there's no-, I don't know whether it's a kind of instinct that you know you can't be attacked or something like that, but you're in the corner so you don't have to worry about anything that's happening behind you and then you kind of look out into the room and you can see what's going on. That is my favourite place to be and if I'm with my girlfriend which I would hope that she was allowed to come to this restaurant.

### **Ed Gamble**

Of course she's invited, yes.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

So what we normally do is either be sat next to each other or if you're in a corner then you can kind of be one person on one angle of the corner and one on the other. I don't like sitting opposite somebody, it seems like a job interview or something, it's like a confrontational, just being opposite people like I'm opposite you now, you know, it's like.

### **Ed Gamble**

We feel a bit at loggerheads here, yes, yes.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

You know what I mean, especially at a dinner table where you're quite close. If you sit next to each other then you've both kind of got the same-, you're looking at the same thing so you've got something to talk about then.

### **Ed Gamble**

It's more like you're at home really then isn't it if you're sat, sort of next to each other it feels a bit more homely?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, a bit or you're watching the telly or something, you know, then you can just, like, pass comment on the plates or the people or the, you know.



I had a meal with my girlfriend recently in a restaurant and we were just sat opposite each other.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Nothing to say to her.

#### **James Acaster**

No, I had nothing to say, I had nothing to say. Behind her there was nothing, but behind me, there was a window, there's always plants outside and kind of a little jungle and there were loads of these stray cats that kept on going down and playing together and she was having a great time watching all of that. And they were all friends, so there was a story she was building in her head for how they all met and I was sort of looking at nothing.

### **James Acaster**

Yes.

#### **Ed Gamble**

So did you want to be looking at the stray cats as well?

### **James Acaster**

Yes.

### **Ed Gamble**

You wanted that rather than you both had nothing to look at and had to talk to each other?

### **James Acaster**

Yes, I'd rather that I was sat on her side with her and we got to both see the stray cats rather than her go, I'd see her face change then I'd quickly spin round to try and look at the stray cat and it had gone or whatever and I'd have missed it.

### **Ed Gamble**

What's your dream animal to see while you're eating Jarvis?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Not a rat.

### **Ed Gamble**

Not a rat.

### **James Acaster**

Oh he doesn't like rats.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Well I once saw a mouse. It was at a restaurant that I used to like to go to in Paris, because I lived there for a while, and I used to go in the daytime. It was always really busy at night and if you went in the daytime it was quite quiet, so quiet that sometimes the mice would get embolden, you know. And I remember just like eating something and watching, it was walking along the top of the exit sign, you know, like that and I was thinking, 'Fucking stay up there, don't come down here.' Because I'm quite scared of mice.

# **James Acaster**

Are you?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.



That's quite funny isn't it?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Not really, not if the fear is as strong as it is with me.

### **James Acaster**

But I think, yes as a tall person myself I think I can say that, you know, tall people being afraid of mice is visually funny.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Probably.

#### **James Acaster**

Visually amusing, it's cartoonish, you know?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, I guess so.

# **James Acaster**

I get compared to you a lot do you know this?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

No.

### **James Acaster**

When I used to be on-, I'm not on social media anymore but I used to be, every single day people would tweet me photos of you saying, 'James Acaster's having a nice time.' Or whatever.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Well now we're in the same room you can see it's probably not-, what do you think, not that true is it?

### **James Acaster**

Not true is it?

#### **Ed Gamble**

There's some nice similar energies and you're both, you know, your quite lithe but, you know, I don't think, I wouldn't say you look like each other.

# **James Acaster**

We don't look like each other do we?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

No, I don't think so.

# **James Acaster**

No.

# **Ed Gamble**

Now I'm just going to say this now Jarvis I don't want you to be scared, but James played a mouse in a film I don't know how that makes you feel about him



Would you be scared of me if you know that I played a mouse in Cinderella?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

No, because actually strangely enough maybe we are similar than you think I've played a mouse in a film.

### **Ed Gamble**

There you go.

#### **James Acaster**

What?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

There was this thing on Netflix at the beginning of this year called, 'The House' and it was like a, you know, like stock motion animation, but it wasn't for kids it was kind of a quite strange film actually, quite good and it had like three stories all based in the same house and I was in the middle story I was a mouse property developer. I was kind of doing the house up to flip it on, you know, trying to sell it for a profit.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, this is amazing.

### **James Acaster**

What's your mouses name?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

He didn't have a name he was just the mouse property developer, there can't be that many of them.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, you don't need a name character when it's a mouse property developer, no ones going to get mixed up.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

What was your mouses name?

### **James Acaster**

John.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

John, right and what did you have to do?

# **James Acaster**

Cinderella.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Alright.

### **James Acaster**

So I changed from a mouse into a footman.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Was this like live action, real?



Yes, but then the mouse CGI mouse and then gets changed into me as a boy as you see me now and then I got changed back into the mouse again. But yes it was me, Romesh Ranganathan whose mouse is called Romesh and James Corden and his mouse was called James and my mouse was called John because John Mulaney was meant to play that part but cancelled, so I had to fill in at the last minute.

### **Ed Gamble**

That will make me laugh every time you say it.

#### James Acaster

Yes. Poppadoms or bread, poppadoms or bread? Jarvis Cocker, poppadoms or bread?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Well, I'm trying to be a bit gluten free these days.

### **James Acaster**

I mean we just watched you eat a panini.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, I know. I'm not really succeeding.

### **Ed Gamble**

He did say trying to be fair.

### **James Acaster**

Yes, yes.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Thing is you don't want to fill yourself on bread before you start the meal do you, you don't want to do that, so.

# **James Acaster**

Oh it's a proper conundrum isn't it, I like it.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

No, no, I'll go for some bread, I'll go for some bread.

### **James Acaster**

I like it. There's other things you have prawn crackers.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Could you have like a Melba toast?

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes you could have a Melba toast.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

You know that super, yes that's alright. I'll have some Melba toast please.

# **James Acaster**

Yes, you can have some Melba toast.

# **Ed Gamble**

No ones ever had Melba toast before.



No, I don't think so.

### **Ed Gamble**

Right, okay.

# **James Acaster**

Quite exciting when we get a new one.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Very thin, crispy.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

It's thin and it's super brittle yes.

#### James Acaster

Would you want anything on that?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Just a tiny scraping of butter.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes. Was that your mouse voice?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

The property mouse had a normal voice.

# **James Acaster**

Your voice?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, well normal-ish.

# **Ed Gamble**

That's why they're hiring you for your voice I would have imagined?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

# **Ed Gamble**

I would have imagined they would have been very disappointed if you'd have turned up and started doing a mouse voice.

# **James Acaster**

That's what's annoying. It's annoying when like actors do, like, voices for stuff and they put on an accent for a cartoon and you go, 'Why've you hired that person?' Just hire someone that's from there and I was about to give you to give you an example, but now I'm not going to give the example because I know what would happen.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Alright.



James is referring to Shrek because James does a very good Shrek impression. Would you like to her James' Shrek impression Jarvis?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, come on.

### **James Acaster**

Well, what would you like me to talk about as Shrek Jarvis?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Imagine you're talking to the donkey about, you know, it's personal hygiene.

### **James Acaster**

Personal hygiene. Donkey, you got to wash behind your ears, you're being so disgusting donkey, you got to brush your teeth donkey. Come over here and listen to me when I'm talking to you.

#### **Ed Gamble**

How do you feel about that?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Well, I'm glad to have witnessed it, yes. It's a long time since I've seen Shrek so I can't say exactly how accurate it was.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Well it's very good, the film and James' impression, both excellent.

# **James Acaster**

Equally good.

### **Ed Gamble**

And there's Shrek the Musical which is available to watch on Netflix and I popped on the first five minutes the other day and it's utterly horrifying.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, yes?

### **Ed Gamble**

It's terrifying.

# **James Acaster**

Is it live action?

#### **Ed Gamble**

A man dressed as Shrek, it's Shrek the Musical, as in like a live stage version of Shrek the Musical, a big green man.

# **James Acaster**

Do you like musicals as a musician?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh god, no I don't, like when I used to do a radio show on Six Music on a Sunday when I got in the lift it would always be Elaine Page on and she plays loads of musicals. I can last about, you know, it's only three floors by the time I got to the third floor I was going, 'Please let me out of this lift.' It's just like so. You know, that kind of, I just hate it, it's like, 'Shut up.'



That's good though, I'd watch that musical.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

You think I could get a job on Shaftesbury Avenue?

### **James Acaster**

Yes, I'd watch you in Shrek the musical if you were doing that, yes.

### **Ed Gamble**

I think a Pulp jukebox musical, but then people turn up and everyone's doing it in that voice would be-.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

This would be a desecration.

#### **James Acaster**

I think Pulp fans would like that though, if there was a Pulp the Musical and it was all your hits and everyone sang it like that, not really annunciating any of the lyrics.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

You're just trying to finish what's left of my career aren't you?

### **James Acaster**

Stater, your dream starter? Your sat in the corner with your girlfriend looking out of the restaurant.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

I don't know about you personally but sometimes I'm impatient just to get to the main course. I mean I suppose-, but then again sometimes it just fills in a bit of time because if you just say, 'Oh I'm going to go for a main.' And then you might have to wait like forty minutes whilst they cook it or something, so you have to go for something reasonably small. I might just go for a classic such as a prawn cocktail.

### **James Acaster**

As soon as you said classic I knew it was going to be a prawn cocktail.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Yes and it's the ultimate classic starter.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes and the thing is that you can think, 'Oh maybe that's ironic.' Or whatever, but a nice prawn cocktail is really good and it fulfils the criteria of a starter because kind of comes and there's a volume to it but most of its just lettuce really and then some pink, that Marie Rose sauce stuff.

### **James Acaster**

Do you want some big prawns, you got king prawns in there?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

No, I wouldn't go for them.I will have, in fact, mine would be more like a shrimp cocktail. I don't like them massive prawns.

### **Ed Gamble**

No?

# **Jarvis Cocker**



No, that stems from going on holiday to Spain with my mum when I was younger. They would make those Paella things, you know, a giant one for about like 50 people and they'd have them giant prawns, like, oh God. I suppose I was a kid so they just looked massive.

### **Ed Gamble**

So from your perspective.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Like some kind of-, and then you had to get hold of them and they were right greasy and you had to kind of, and then your hands were all covered in like yellowy stuff and then you're supposed to eat it and then you've got like the head there looking at you, I didn't like it, so I've never got over that, so I prefer the shrimps because, like, you know white knobbly things, you don't have to remove anything.

### **Ed Gamble**

They're just straight in the mouth no messing around.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, there's no kind of peeling and stuff like that.

#### **Ed Gamble**

What would be more scary, looking up at an exit sign and a mouse going across it or a king prawn scuttling across it?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Well a king prawn, I mean out of water is useless, so I wouldn't feel that scared, the thing about a mouse is it can move so fast, that's why I was looking at it on top of that exit sign because I knew that, you know, they can be just down by you in the twinkling of an eye, so that's what I didn't like On occasions I have had a mouse in the flat I was living in once and I was a nervous wreck because you always think you're seeing it out of the corner of your eye and stuff like that, horrible.

#### **James Acaster**

First place I lived in in London there was mice everywhere.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

#### **James Acaster**

And one of my house mates woke up and there was a mouse on her face. How do you feel about that?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Well, what did she do? I mean surely she didn't stay in the flat or the house after.

### **James Acaster**

We complained to the landlord and he evicted us.

# **Ed Gamble**

That's my favourite mouse.

# **James Acaster**

That's what happened.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Well, that's terrible.



So there's mice everywhere and he went, 'Get out.'

#### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, they're renting you shouldn't be there.

### **James Acaster**

They're good tenants. You're in her bed.

#### **Ed Gamble**

When I was a student in our house once I walked into the kitchen and there was a frog in there.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Really?

#### **Ed Gamble**

Massive frog, yes. I think there was like a hole in the back door or something and the frog had come in like a sort of stray cat.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

And what was it doing, was it on a work surface or?

### **Ed Gamble**

It was on the floor, but it could have hopped up to the work surface, big hops but I had to, sort of, bundle it up in a tea towel I, sort of, secured the towel at the top and then, sort of, let it out.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Well, that's very humane.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, I mean it's tricky to-, I'm not going to splat a frog in the kitchen, it seems like I'm making more work for myself. So for you the starter-, I'm a starter boy Jarvis.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Alright.

### **James Acaster**

He loves starters, it's his favourite course.

# **Ed Gamble**

I love starters because it's a little bonus mini-meal for me, but it seems like you're talking about the amount of the lettuce is key because it's, sort of, got volume but it takes up time while you're eating the lettuce while you're waiting for the main course essentially?

### **James Acaster**

Yes, yes, it's all about not peeking too soon.

#### **Ed Gamble**

I don't know.

#### **James Acaster**

I mean I know that there is a thing, you know, sometimes people will have three starters and that's it they don't even bother with a main.



Not me, I'll have three starters and then the main.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Right.

#### **Ed Gamble**

I love a starter, but the idea of just chewing lettuce to fill time before the main comes.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

No, it's not so much that it's just pacing yourself, that's what it is pacing.

### **Ed Gamble**

I've never had that skill unfortunately.

### **James Acaster**

No he's very-, like as a little boy he would get very excited about having a sharer starter to himself.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, I'm very greedy. I was a very greedy little boy and I'm a greedy big boy.

### **James Acaster**

So your dream main course then, the thing you're looking forward to that you don't want to fill up too much on the prawn cocktail, so what's the main course going to be?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, I've taken this podcast very seriously.

# **Ed Gamble**

Very glad to hear it.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

So I wrote down quite a few options.

# **James Acaster**

If you want to shout out some honourable munchens you can.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Well they're all over the place, some are high and some are low.

# **James Acaster**

Do you want to start low and go higher? This will be like when you were a little boy listening to the radio in the playground, the charts. This is like us we're gathered around the radio listening to the charts of your top ten meals.

# **Ed Gamble**

See what's done well.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Well I suppose back in the mists of time we could do chronologically.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, that would be lovely, yes.



So at one point, my favourite was that boil in the bag cod in butter sauce, you know, but that was kind of practicality because that was when I first came to London and we were going to raves and so I kind of came up with this thing that you had to eat the blandest food possible before going out all night because otherwise there may be consequences. So I just used to have cod in butter sauce and mashed potato, just very basic white food.

### **Ed Gamble**

To just give you energy for the night?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, maybe some peas might be involved there.

### **James Acaster**

If you're feeling risky chuck some peas in.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

And I still kind of like that, but you wouldn't get that in a restaurant.

### **Ed Gamble**

No, but do you think you like eating that sort of stuff because it makes you feel like you're about to go to a rave?

### **James Acaster**

Yes, must do, must have that effect on you now.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

I wanted to feel like I was still-, yes, I hadn't thought about that, yes. My raving days are behind me basically.

### **James Acaster**

Pavalovian though, you feel that cod on your tongue.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

And then I'd like get up.

### **Ed Gamble**

Coming up on the cod.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, that wouldn't and I might get thrown out of the restaurant if I suddenly, like, stood on the table, like.

#### **Ed Gamble**

I thought he was in a straight edge band now, he's absolutely of his face on cod.

### **James Acaster**

Or there's a bad cod in butter sauce.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, but I still do like some fish, fish is quite a good one. It seems like I've got an obsession with only eating things that aren't heavy, but I don't like that feeling that then when you're, like, sat there, like, and you feel, like, weighed down by food.



Yes, like a bit bilious and yes.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

I mean I have to say actually one thing that I meant to say at the beginning of this conversation is that, like, I don't think that, like, music and food go together at all.

### **Ed Gamble**

Really?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

### **Ed Gamble**

In what way?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

I don't know they just seem to be the different things somehow.

### **James Acaster**

Like eating food while listening to music?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Terrible.

### **James Acaster**

You hate it?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

And just I remember, you know, there was a festival on Black Heath, I think it was rumoured that it was partly funded by John Lewis, it's called 'On Black Heath'. It started, like, about ten years ago or something and I was DJing there and I was walking around the site and they did have, like, they were like little mini stages but then there was a guy coming on cooking, you know, it's really, really weird to watch somebody doing that. And then there was one festival that way played in Switzerland it was and in the backstage area they had, like, raclette stuff that they have, it's like melted cheese.

# **Ed Gamble**

They like scrap the melted cheese of right?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, and then you'd, like, dip bits of bread. So they had one of those backstage and it was on all the time, all the time we were playing all I could smell was, like, really strong melted cheese the whole way through which was, like, it was killing you because I was going, 'Oh it smells nice that.' So then it's putting you off, it's like, I don't know, and the really bad thing was we finished the concert and I went back and they'd turned the fucker of so I didn't even get any of it, I just got tortured by it. And then it was like, you know, some bands have a dry ice machine, some bands have like a cheese fog machine and that wasn't really the vibe I was looking for and yes, I don't think it goes together that well, I don't know what your opinion is?

### **Ed Gamble**

No I see-, from, like, a gig goers perspective I never enjoy a gig as much if I've eaten a big meal before hand because I don't feel like I can throw myself into it.



Yes, and you wouldn't stand there eating a sandwich or something whilst watching or would you? I don't know.

### **Ed Gamble**

No, I wouldn't because I think of it-, so from a comedians perspective whenever I've done a gig where, like, weekend comedy clubs and they give people food to eat as well, like, they're getting, you know, burger and chips and pints and watching the comedy. It's very distracting and it really feels like you're bottom of the pecking order when someone's tucking into chicken and a basket while you're trying to tell jokes.

### **James Acaster**

We had a gig together once and during my set an audience member shouted out, 'Where's my fucking chips?' And it was very, very depressing for me, Ed enjoyed it, Ed enjoyed watching it happen.

#### **Ed Gamble**

I remember it so distinctly, it was in Leicester and it was in a cinema, they had one room where they did gigs in this Showcase cinema and a woman shouted at James, 'Where's my fucking chips?' And James immediately said with no gap whatsoever, 'I'm never doing this gig again.'

### **James Acaster**

It was in Coventry, but close enough.

#### **Ed Gamble**

I don't remember it that distinctly.

### **James Acaster**

Coventry Showcase.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, well I'd imagine it's more dangerous for you because if you tell a joke and then people laugh then, like, bits of food are going to come flying out, horrible.

# **James Acaster**

All over the place, yes forget it. Alex James says that I'm-, forgive me I don't know what the relationships are between various people in Brit-pop, but Alex James does a festival that's food and music, is that correct?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

I rest my case.

#### **Ed Gamble**

That was him with the cheese machine trying to put you off.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Maybe it was, yes.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes, he makes his own cheese doesn't he.

#### **James Acaster**

I saw-, have you heard of Damon Albarn.



I've heard of him, yes of course I have.

#### James Acaster

I saw him do a gig the other day and it was all newish stuff that no one had really heard and at one point him and his band started playing a song and there were no lyrics yet, no vocals and his doing this song and he's building and building and everyone started going, 'Oh he's going to-, he's covering Common People this is exciting, he's about to-,' Because it was just the cords to Common People in the same rhythm and everyone was like,' It's going to be Common People.' And it wasn't, he's ripped you off.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

No, well I can't say that because-,

#### **James Acaster**

Take him to court.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

That song is very, very simple, so it's not hard to be playing the riff to it really it's only got three cords, so I don't think Damon would do that.

### **James Acaster**

No, he wouldn't do it, but-,

### **Ed Gamble**

It's fun isn't it, it's fun to say.

### **James Acaster**

It's fun to start some beef, fun to try and be a little stirrer.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

I'm not taking that.

### **James Acaster**

I knew you wouldn't, I knew you wouldn't, if I thought there was any risk I wouldn't have even bothered.

#### **Ed Gamble**

What else is on this potential list of mains?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Baked potatoes are nice.

#### **James Acaster**

Yes.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

They are aren't they.

### **James Acaster**

Now, someone came on this podcast recently and said that they were better than chips and that chip were overrated, would you agree with that?



I don't see why it has to be an either or situation, you know, one of the most swanky meals I ate was a baked potato with caviar on it.

### **James Acaster**

Oh that's incredibly swanky.

### **Ed Gamble**

Where was this?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

That was in Paris.

#### **Ed Gamble**

In the mouse restaurant?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

It was called-, it wasn't in the mouse restaurant, no. It's a place called, 'Caviar Kaspia'

#### **Ed Gamble**

Caviar Kaspia?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes. It's main claim to fame was that you can have caviar there, yes.

#### **Ed Gamble**

And was it just caviar on the baked potato or was there like some other-,

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Just a tiny little bit of soured cream as well, lovely.

#### **James Acaster**

Oh that's a nice touch.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes. You know because a baked potato not saying it's a humble meal, but it's, like, it's a pretty standard meal isn't it, so I quite liked the fact that you were having, like, the poshest baked potato that could be imagined really. How could you make it posher than that?

# **Ed Gamble**

It's almost posher to do, like, something like a baked potato with caviar on it than just to have the caviar because you're almost saying like, 'Look at this normal thing, look what we'll do with this really expensive thing we'll put it on a baked potato.' You know what I mean, it's so fancy.

### **James Acaster**

It's a bit dirty isn't it.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

It was dirty, but yes I don't know whether I would have that though I mean that's like a thing that you would have occasionally. I realised I'm really giving you more like unusual main courses that I've had in the course of my life. Also in Paris, other cities are available, but there's a restaurant that only serves soufflés and I don't really know much about soufflés they were always like a joke in 70s sitcoms, somebody would try and cook a soufflé and it wouldn't rise or whatever, that was, 'Ha,ha,ha, wow that's funny.' But this restaurant has savoury soufflés and sweet soufflés and I went



there once and that's interesting because mainly that meal consists of air, you know, most of what you're consuming is air.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, they've absolutely done you there haven't they?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Well I know, but it's like flavoured air.

### **Ed Gamble**

It's air and egg isn't it, I suppose there's some egg.

#### **James Acaster**

I love a good soufflé.

# **Ed Gamble**

Do you?

### **James Acaster**

Yes. I've talked on the podcast before about being taught to make a raspberry soufflé in Edinburgh by Mark Greenaway and he's still got a restaurant in Edinburgh and every time I go there's a different flavour soufflé on the dessert menu and I have to have it. He did a sticky toffee one last time and it was exceptional.

### **Ed Gamble**

What soufflé do you remember eating in this restaurant in Paris?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

It was a cheese one and then after you could have one that they set on fire.

### **Ed Gamble**

A flambe soufflé?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, it was like you were getting everything there.

### **James Acaster**

That's amazing, getting all the French stuff all in one, that's incredible. Flambé soufflé. I mean I'd say that for a man who's scared of mice you're playing with fire quite frequently, you're doing gigs where you're fogging the stage with cheese, you're getting the cheese soufflé, these mice are going to come flocking.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Alright, you're right yes, maybe cheese plays too big a part in my life, I hadn't thought of that.

### **James Acaster**

Yes, just us looking out for you, worried about it. So is there any of those you're going to chose as your main, do you think the cheese soufflé would be the winner? Because actually more than any other guess we've had I've sensed that you don't really want to commit to one, did you not like choosing one specific one?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

It's almost like I'm just looking at the menu isn't it and thinking.



Yes, I don't know if I want this one.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

No, I think what I will plum for is a thing that I had not that long ago, it's up on Holloway Road there's this cafe but I can't remember the name of it and they had a vegan kebab, now you wouldn't think that was possible, would you?

### **James Acaster**

No.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

But it is. And I don't really know what the pretend doner meat was but it was tasty and so, yes maybe I'd go for that.

# **Ed Gamble**

If it is pretty tasty I think the vegan meat substitutes are better when they're doing an impersonation of bad meat, so with things like doner, like, I prefer to eat vegan doner because normal doners don't really taste like meat anyway, like, from your bog-standard kebab shop. So eating, like, a began doner feels like a weird treat if you know what I mean?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, and it's interesting that they thought of doing that because like you say your, sort of, bottom of the meat-eating food chain isn't it so how much kind of glory are you going to get for making that but it was good.

#### **James Acaster**

There's an amazing celeriac shawarma at a place called, 'Rovi' in London and it's called, 'Beelzebab' in Brighton, is that what it's called?

### **Ed Gamble**

Beelzebab, I hope so.

### **James Acaster**

It's called something like that because it's like it's kind of they've taken the fact that most of their meat is Satan and then they've made the name as junk food and then they've made the name something like Beelzebab, i think it's Beelzebab.

### **Ed Gamble**

Well, there's Temple of Satan in London, there's a few of those which are like the vegan fried chicken restaurants, but I think I prefer Beelzebab as a name, they've taken it one step further.

# **James Acaster**

I think that's what it's called but, like, they do good kebab kind of, you know, doner vegan stuff, pretty great.

### **Ed Gamble**

You've forgotten the name of it?

### James Acaster

EZ & Moss thinks Benito.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, that could be it.



Did you have any sauce on this-,

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

It did have this whitish kind of.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Garlicky?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

It was a bit yes, I got told that when I went home.

#### **James Acaster**

And your side dish is this going to be from a completely different school of things?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Probably, I'm all over the place.

### **James Acaster**

I love how many choices there are.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, this is the kind of stuff I like.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh yes, the best side dishes I've come across recently. Well I went to a restaurant in Margate called, 'Sargasso' I think it was called and they had these kinds of parmesan fritter things, they were like-, you know, like, if you've ever had profiteroles at the end of a meal, you know, that like that round bally type thing but they were cheese. I'm obsessed aren't I let's face it, I didn't realise it I've got a problem, can we not turn this into some kind of like self-help kind of thing of how you can wean me off. They were good or a Yorkshire pudding because I am from Yorkshire and that's one thing, I mean you were talking about soufflé, Yorkshire pudding is related to a soufflé in some way isn't it, I mean it rises hopefully. I was kind of embarrassed that I didn't know how to make one, so it's over the last kind of four or five years I've been persevering and now I'd say I'm not bad.

### James Acaster

So I love Yorkshire pudding, Ed famously has gone on the record many times saying that he hates them.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Really?

#### **Ed Gamble**

It's a surprisingly controversial view point.

### **James Acaster**

Yes, because it's wrong.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Well yes, well I wouldn't go as far as saying it's just wrong, but it surprises me in that it's not got a strong flavour or anything so what is it that you particularly object to?

### **Ed Gamble**

It takes up a lot of real estate on a plate and it's not got a strong flavour, so it doesn't earn its place for the amount of space it takes up on a plate.



But if you were to fill it with gravy?

#### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, and then I'd slurp the gravy out of it like it's a big goblet.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Okay.

### **Ed Gamble**

And then it goes soggy at the bottom.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, but that-, yes well, you know, obviously you two have discussed this at length, you're never going to change your mind are you really.

### **James Acaster**

But then, you know.

#### **Ed Gamble**

You're a very reasonable man Jarvis I know James was trying rile you up to, sort of, physically attack me.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Well, you know, I am from Yorkshire so you're basically committing a heresy by saying that.

#### **James Acaster**

We haven't had someone from Yorkshire like step in, weigh in on this on the podcast yet, we haven't had that, that's why I'm taking the opportunity now to be like, we've actually got a Yorkshireman who can say-,

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

That you're dissing my national dish.

# **James Acaster**

Although I have dissed on of your national dishes.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

What's that?

# **James Acaster**

Henderson's relish. Hendo's, you know Hendo's I've dissed that on stage in Sheffield and got in trouble.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, I bet, did they chuck bottles at you?

# **James Acaster**

Yes, well the first time I didn't know what it was and I was doing some routine about sauces and condiments, that the kind of comedian I am and someone shouted out, 'Hendo's!' And I was like, 'What's that?' And then they started getting very annoyed that I didn't know what it was, but in a good-natured way told me what it was. Well first of all I said, 'What is it?' And they said, 'It's not Lea & Perrins.' And that's how they chose to, first of all, describe it.



Yes, well that's understandable because it's the same colour and the bottle is pretty much the same shape, so.

### **James Acaster**

Yes, and it tastes the same.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

No, it doesn't, no and you know because you must have been made to try it?

#### **James Acaster**

Yes.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

It doesn't taste the same, Lea & Perrins is it's almost like a chilli sauce, it's quite hot and Henderson's relish is much mellower than that. It's just got a flavour, that particular flavour, yes.

#### **James Acaster**

What would you use Henderson's relish for? What's Hendo's going on?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

It's very versatile. It often is in a chip shop. If you go in a good chip shop in Sheffield, it would be there, you know, next to the vinegar and that, and it's very good on some mushy peas.

### **James Acaster**

Oh, really?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh, yes. It melds with that in a, kind of, magical way. It's nice on chops as well, yes.

### **Ed Gamble**

Would you put it on the Yorkshire pudding to have the ultimate Yorkshire treat?

### **James Acaster**

Yes.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

You could. You could. Yes, you could do that, yes.

# **Ed Gamble**

It's very versatile.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

### **James Acaster**

Are you tempted to go ultimate Yorkshire for your side dish here, and go Yorkshire pudding covered in Hendo's relish?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, go on then. One of the last times I was up in Sheffield, there was this band, they, kind of, do, you know, they play known songs, but they change the lyrics to reflect Yorkshire things, and one was, they did a song about Henderson's relish.



Great.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

It was to the tune of Coldplay's Yellow. It was, 'And it were all Hendo's.' The best one that they did that night was, you know, Depeche Mode, they did that version of 'Your Own Personal Jesus'.

# **James Acaster**

Yes.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Well, no, they wrote that song, didn't they? Theirs was, 'Fine Collection of Cheeses.'

### **Ed Gamble**

Oh. dear.

#### **James Acaster**

Oh, no, it's back.

### **Ed Gamble**

Oh, no, Jarvis. Now, you're singing about cheeses.

# **James Acaster**

A lot of my family live in Sheffield and they're big Sheffield United fans.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh, dear.

### **Ed Gamble**

Oh, dear.

### **James Acaster**

Apologies, and I went to a game with them once, and it might have been the same band, there was a cover of Penny Lane on, but they had changed it to Bramall Lane.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh, right, yes, it could be then. They're called the Everly Pregnant Brothers.

### **James Acaster**

I think I would've remembered that.

# **Ed Gamble**

Dream drink, which I've got a prediction, I know what the dream drink's going to be.

### **James Acaster**

I've got no prediction. I'm going with the flow.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes, well, I think it's going to be-, Jarvis.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

I you trying to, kind of, like, beam it into my mind?

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes.



Well, in a restaurant, I would drink wine, and again, in this place I went to in Margate, they had orange wine, and I thought, 'Hmm, not heard of that,' so I tried it, and I thought that was really good. so, I would probably go with that.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Was that what you were thinking?

# **Ed Gamble**

That wasn't what I was thinking.

### **James Acaster**

Do you remember what sort of orange wine it was? DO you remember the particular orange wine that you ha in Margate?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Delicious.

# **James Acaster**

Delicious orange wine.

### **Ed Gamble**

It's the dream restaurant, he can just say that, if he wants.

# **James Acaster**

Delicious orange wine.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

It was delicious. No, look, I can't remember. I think it was from France.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

That narrows it down a bit, doesn't it?

### **James Acaster**

It's always a good bet.

#### **Ed Gamble**

It's a bit of a revelation, orange wine, isn't it?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

I think it was made from grapes.

# **James Acaster**

Grapes were involved at some point.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, I think so.



Yes, yes, yes.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Marmalade grapes. That's what orange wine tastes like, liquid marmalade, the real good stuff.

#### **James Acaster**

No. no.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes, that's what I think.

#### **James Acaster**

No, that's, like, dessert wine.

# **Ed Gamble**

I'm drinking liquid marmalade.

### **James Acaster**

No, orange wine, you're thinking, sometimes the really funky tuff tastes like a, sort of, farmyardy, it's got that farmyard flavour.

# **Ed Gamble**

What?

### **James Acaster**

Really, sort of, organic tasting.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

It was dry. It wasn't sweet or anything and yes, it was good.

#### **Ed Gamble**

I thought you were going to choose a cup of, 'Welcome to the Peppermint Jungle.'

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh, tea.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Well, that's a nice idea. That would be more after the meal, but you're referring to the fact that, when I released-, well, when Jarvis, which I've got a group which confusingly has my name, but it is actually a band, but when we released our last album, we did a collaboration with a tea company, Dragonfly Teas. They did this mint blend tea, which ended up being called Peppermint Jungle, and I was really pleased with that, because apart from the thought that it tasted nice, then they allowed us to, like, put a line from some of the songs on the tab. You know, when you get that Yogi tea and it'll have, like, something like, 'The highest achievement is calm,' or something like that, I don't know. They say things like that. I like the fact that you make your cup of tea, and then, you look at that and think, 'Oh, yes.'

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, a more chilled out version of the Penguin joke.



Yes

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, yes, I suppose so, yes, or, like, getting a fortune cookie. You know, 'You will have a long life,' or whatever. Nice idea. So, I guess they're called affirmations, are't they, or whatever? So, they're on the tabs. So, I was very happy with that. Have you tried Peppermint Jungle tea?

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes. I was visiting Adam Betts.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh, right, yes.

### **Ed Gamble**

At his home, and he's like, running me down the selection of stuff that he had. He said, and this is, like, you know, he told me the story behind it. I was like, 'I' I I try that' Obviously, Adam was drinking, like, a crate of vodka or something. You know, but like, I was having a lovely Peppermint Jungle tea, it was very nice.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes. I liked it.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, as I say, I think it's nice to have a mint tea at the end of a meal. A, kind of-,

### **James Acaster**

Settles the stomach.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes, that's my favourite thing, and next time we do our dream menus-,

### **James Acaster**

Don't point at me. Why are you pointing at me like that?

#### Ed Gamble

Last time, Ed and I did our dream menus on here once, and I should've said, and maybe I did say it, but I should've said that, for the end, I want fresh mint tea, because that is my favourite way to end a meal.

# **James Acaster**

No, I think you said, at the end of a meal, we go and sit by the fire together and get hammered.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, probably.

### **James Acaster**

Yes.



Like, I think having a fresh mint tea at the end of a meal is the best. So good.

### **James Acaster**

I prefer the orange wine choice.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, sure.

### **James Acaster**

I think the orange wine is a great choice, and also, it still freaks people out. If I've got a bottle of orange wine and I'm like, 'Have a look at this,' and pour it in, it's like you've done some sort of magic.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

### **James Acaster**

They don't know what it is.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes. I suppose I chose it because of the novelty value. I thought, 'Oh, I've never heard of orange wine before,' but then, it actually tasted really good, because sometimes, red wine, I like red wine, but you do run the risk of falling asleep before the end of the meal if you have too much. Whatever. White wine can be a bit, like, vinegary.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

### **James Acaster**

Yes.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

I've had grey wine.

### **Ed Gamble**

What?

### **James Acaster**

What?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes. It wasn't really grey. It's like a really pale rose.

# **James Acaster**

Really?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes

# **James Acaster**

Do they call it grey wine?



Yes, well, vin gris, yes. Somebody took me to Tangier once, they had it there. There you go, grey wine, you heard it here first.

### **Ed Gamble**

You got through all the travelling.

# **James Acaster**

Yes, grey wine.

#### **Ed Gamble**

I think your first glass of rose is the best glass of rose you'll ever have and it never is as nice as that ever again, is that fair enough?

#### **James Acaster**

I disagree.

### **Ed Gamble**

The first time I had a rose, I was like, 'Wow, this is a game-changer.'

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, but you've just got to make sure it stays cold.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Even to the extent that maybe you might ask for some ice cubes, so you can keep putting them in, but then, sometimes, you get funny looks for that. Whatever, but yes, it's got to be cold, otherwise, it's not so good.

#### **James Acaster**

I love it, I think the first rose I had was probably quite bad, and now, you get the good stuff, I hate to be basic about this, but Whispering Angel.

### **Ed Gamble**

I don't even know what that is.

### **James Acaster**

The sun comes out, I have my first bottle of Whispering Angel of the season. 'It's Whispering Angel day,' I shout.

# **Ed Gamble**

What? What's this?

### **James Acaster**

'It's Whispering Angel day.'

## **Ed Gamble**

This is the first time on the podcast I've not understood a word you're saying.

### **James Acaster**

The angel goes, 'Shh.'



## **Ed Gamble**

What are you talking about?

## **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, it is. That's the name of it.

#### **Ed Gamble**

The sun comes up and you're saying, 'It's a Whispering Angel day'?

## **Jarvis Cocker**

Sometimes, it's known as lady petrol, that.

### **James Acaster**

It revs this lady up.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

### **James Acaster**

This lady starts chugging.

### **Ed Gamble**

Any petrol. So, what is it? So, sorry. There's a day-,

### **James Acaster**

It's just a type of-,

# **Ed Gamble**

There's a day each year where you wake up and when the dun comes up you-,

### **James Acaster**

Well, no, just when it feels Summery, that first day where it feels a bit Summery.

## **Ed Gamble**

Oh, okay. Okay.

# **James Acaster**

Then, you know, I buy some Whispering Angel, get it out the fridge on, like, a hot day, doing a barbecue or whatever, pour a glass of Whispering Angel, I'm like, 'Summer's begun. The angels are whispering.'

# **Ed Gamble**

Is there a food or drink that makes you feel like Summer's begun, Jarvis?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

An ice-cream.

# **Ed Gamble**

Good on you.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

You know, like, that draft ice-cream, I call it. You know, I mean, it isn't, obviously, but that, where it just psst, comes out of the thing, yes.



You know why that makes such sense to me, the draft ice-cream, because it reminds me of the Boddington's advert.

### **Ed Gamble**

Do you want a Flake in that, love?

# **James Acaster**

Do you want a Flake in that, love?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh, yes.

### **Ed Gamble**

I was about to say that as well, before.

### **James Acaster**

Yes, yes.

### **Ed Gamble**

As soon as you said draft, I thought, 'Do you want a Flake in that, love?'

# **James Acaster**

It was Melanie Sykes, wasn't it?

### **Ed Gamble**

Melanie Sykes.

# **James Acaster**

Yes, 'Do you want a Flake in that, love?'

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes, do you remember, you know, 'Do you want a Flake in that, love?'

# **Jarvis Cocker**

I know what you're saying.

### **James Acaster**

Yes, yes, yes.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

I know what you're saying, yes.

#### Ed Gamble

So, I mean, moving on maybe to your dream dessert. Is ice-cream featuring?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, again, I've got a few options here. The most unusual dessert I cam across was in a restaurant in New York that isn't there anymore, there was a place called The Four Seasons and it was quite an amazing place, you know, quite, kind of, sophisticated, loads of, like, mid-century art on the walls, but then, when it-,

# **James Acaster**

Square plates?



Not square plates. No.

#### **James Acaster**

No way.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

No, I wouldn't be in there, but the dessert was candy floss. That was their speciality was, like, a, kind of-, when I first saw, you know, it being taken over to somebody, I thought, 'What the hell's that?' because you see this big dome of strange looking stuff, and it was candy floss, yes.

# **James Acaster**

Just candy floss?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Candy floss, well, with, kind of, like, some dark bits in it.

### **Ed Gamble**

Oh, yes? Suspicious.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, but yes, I mean, they call it cotton candy, don't they?

### **James Acaster**

Yes.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, I don't know how that had evolved, but that was their, kind of, signature dessert, but I wouldn't choose that, I just wanted to show off and say that I'd been in a restaurant that had candy floss as a-,

#### **James Acaster**

That had candy floss, yes, yes, yes. I think that sounds amazing.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes, it does sound good. There was an episode of The Walking Dead the other day, where just-, I hated The Walking Dead and I've watched every episode, and there was an episode where a little girl tries candy floss for the first time. She's been born in the zombie apocalypse, she'd never had candy floss before, then she ends up in some settlement where somehow they've managed to make candy floss and-,

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Well, that's it. I mean, that's the first priority anywhere.

### **James Acaster**

Yes.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes, and she tries it, and her eyes nearly pop out of her head at how delicious it is, she can't believe it, but everything about the show annoys me these days, so as soon as she acted all wild for the candy floss, I was like, 'Oh, shut up. Stop eating the Goddamn candy floss now.'

# **James Acaster**

I'd say, surely, one of the only benefits of a zombie apocalypse is kids don't get addicted to refined sugar, right?



## **Ed Gamble**

I think so, yes. Kids get really healthy and whatever.

### **James Acaster**

Everyone has a chance to be a bit more healthy and not have things like candy floss knocking around.

### **Ed Gamble**

No, they finally found just a settlement that is just like anywhere else. They managed to keep the zombies out.

### **James Acaster**

I have seen the first two seasons of that show, I'm pretty sure every seasons they find somewhere that's just like everywhere else, and it turns out that it's a bit weird.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, kind of, but I mean, for a while, there was a period of time where it was one of the best TV shows I'd ever seen, and now, it is an absolute joke, and because it's the final season, I'm like, 'Well, I better just finish it, but it doesn't feel great. 'It doesn't feel great to be still watching it.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

I can't join in here, because I've not watched it.

## **Ed Gamble**

If you're scared of mice, don't watch this. Zombies are even more scary. You don't want to see it.

# **James Acaster**

You don't want to see a zombie scuttling across an exit sign.

### **Ed Gamble**

You don't want to see it, Jarvis. What would be your-, have you binged any TV shows during the pandemic or anything like that, that you would say-,

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Well, I was a bit behind the curve, I suppose, and myself and my girlfriend, we watched The Sopranos, because I'd never seen that when it first came out

## **James Acaster**

Yes.

# **Ed Gamble**

I've never seen it.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Now, we've got a dog called Tony.

# **Ed Gamble**

Great

### **James Acaster**

Amazing.



We got the dog not long after we'd finished watching it, and so, we were still obsessed with Tony Soprano, so now, the dog's got to, kind of, live up to that name.

### **Ed Gamble**

What breed of dog is it?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

It's a chihuahua.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

# **James Acaster**

The most opposite from Tony Soprano you could possibly be as a dog.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

I don't know, he's making a good effort.

### **James Acaster**

Yes.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes. Jarvis, I'd absolutely love to see you walking a chihuahua.

## **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

# **Ed Gamble**

That's a bit close to a mouse though. You want to be careful.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

No, no, he's quite big.

# **Ed Gamble**

If you see that out of the corer of your eye.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

I'll show you a picture of him later.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

To go back to the dessert, I know this sounds boring, but rice pudding is nice.

# **Ed Gamble**

Now, I flipped out at a guest in the past for having rice pudding.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Sorry.

# **Ed Gamble**

I don't feel-, no, just so you know-,



I wouldn't have jam in it.

#### **Ed Gamble**

I feel absolutely fine about it now, but I know that I'll be called a hypocrite by the listeners for not going-,

## **Jarvis Cocker**

Come on then, so tell me.

### **Ed Gamble**

No, I'm not going to.

## **Jarvis Cocker**

Tell me what's-.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Well, bearing in mind, the guest who chose it last time, her main course was a Ploughman's lunch.

## **Jarvis Cocker**

Alright, okay.

### **Ed Gamble**

I'd already got annoyed about how bland the Ploughman's lunch was as a main course, and then, the dessert being a rice pudding pushed me over the edge.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Right.

### **Ed Gamble**

So, it's more that I was teetering already, rather than the rice pudding on it's own annoying me.

### **James Acaster**

Yes, I think that was it.

### **Ed Gamble**

I do enjoy a rice pudding.

# **James Acaster**

I think I quite enjoy a rice pudding as well.

# **Ed Gamble**

I actually buy one of those Muller cold rice puddings from the shop. So, I forget they exist. You know, the Muller pots of rice pudding that's got, like, it might have some jam in it.

# **James Acaster**

Yes.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

## **Ed Gamble**

I completely forget about them, and then, every now and again, you see them, remember they exist, I get really excited, and then, I buy, usually, the vanilla one, if it's there, because it's got, like, a custardy thing in it, and they are good. So, I'm not going to manufacturer the rage.



I also enjoy, now and again, if we get a delivery from the Turkish restaurant around the corner from us, they'll throw in a rice pudding.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh, really?

# **James Acaster**

As in, in a pot, they don't just pour it on top of everything, but it's got, like, cinnamon on top and stuff.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, nice.

#### **James Acaster**

It's really rich and tasty. Are you thinking cold rice pudding or hot rice pudding?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

No, I'm glad you've asked me that question. I would prefer to go with hot. You know, I think cold can work, it can work, but I think hot is more interesting, yes.

# **James Acaster**

Yes.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, the cinnamon and maybe there could be a couple of raisins in there.

# **James Acaster**

Yes, yes.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

What about that?

## **James Acaster**

Just a couple. So, you're playing hunt the raisin?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Three or four.

# **James Acaster**

Why not, go crazy? It's a dream restaurant.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

### **Ed Gamble**

Caviar, maybe.

## **Jarvis Cocker**

No. No, ugh, God, that would be horrible.

### **Ed Gamble**

You wouldn't like that?



No, that would make it like what, what's that stuff, you sometimes have it in a Chinese restauranty. Is it called kongee?

# **James Acaster**

Kongee, yes. Like a rice porridge, right?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

We played in Hong Kong once and we encountered that there.

#### **James Acaster**

Yes.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Somebody compared-, I'm not even going to say what they compared it.

### **James Acaster**

We can use our imaginations.

## **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, you can imagine. Some male fluid.

# **James Acaster**

I think saying that is worse than actually just saying the word.

## **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh, no, I'm not going to say it.

#### **Ed Gamble**

I'd rather you just said a bowl of cum than male fluid.

# **James Acaster**

Male fluid. Tiptoeing around it and then saying male fluid. When you encountered it, was someone making it just offstage while you were playing?

## **Jarvis Cocker**

No. No.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

### **James Acaster**

Alex James again.

# **Ed Gamble**

Fogging the stage with his scent.

# **James Acaster**

He's fogged many a stage, Alex.

# **Ed Gamble**

So, is it rice pudding you're going to go with, with the cinnamon and the raisins?



Yes, I think so.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes?

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes. I think so.

### **Ed Gamble**

Sometimes, when you get rice pudding in a restaurant, they might put a little biscuit with it or something, or a shortbread, or something crunchy on the side. Would you like anything on the side of your-,

# **Jarvis Cocker**

No.

### **Ed Gamble**

No?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

No. no.

### **Ed Gamble**

No.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

I mean, they can put it there, but I'd just leave it.

#### Ed Gamble

It would be weird to pick that for your dream meal, for them to put something on the side, and then, just leave it.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

You know, the thing is, I've chosen these things for a meal, but what I generally like is when somebody else chooses the food.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Right.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

You know, like, when you go out, especially if there's a lot of you, and you're thinking, and you go through this rigmarole of, 'He's having that,' or whatever, and then, you've got to think, 'Oh, maybe they're going to order something better than what I'm going to order.' So, then, if somebody just goes, 'I've been here before. This is good, this is good, this is good,' and then, it just all comes, and then, that's great. Then, maybe, you might discover something that you've never eaten before, and so, I really like that. I don't consider myself to be, you know, somebody who knows a lot about food. I've only really started to learn about it a bit since I've been going out with my girlfriend, because she's really into food. So, she's, kind of, educated me a bit, and as I say, I don't think music and food go together. SO, it's always good when somebody, kind of, teaches you something about it, or you discover something new.

# **James Acaster**

How far before a gig will you eat?



Oh, that's a good question. You've got to leave at least two hours.

# **James Acaster**

Yes?

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

# **James Acaster**

Fully digest.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh, God, because it's horrible if you go on stage, and then, you feel like you jump up and down, you're going to feel bilious or something.

### **James Acaster**

Yes.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

It's horrible.

# **James Acaster**

It's not a nice feeling.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

You just feel sluggish, if you've eaten too near to going on stage, yes.

# **James Acaster**

I feel the same. James will eat walking on the stage.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Really?

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

### **James Acaster**

You've eaten on stage before, as well, haven't you?

# **Ed Gamble**

I've eaten on stage, yes, and just, like, I have no-,

# **Jarvis Cocker**

No boundaries.

# **Ed Gamble**

No respect for my craft or my audience anymore.

### **James Acaster**

No boundaries whatsoever.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes, no, I-,



People leave you ice-cream on the stage and stuff, right?

#### **Ed Gamble**

Yes. People sometime, because I go on about how much I like ice-cream, especially on this podcast, you turn up somewhere and walk on stage and they've left, like, a tub of Ben and Jerry's and a spoon on there, or something like that, and I just think, 'Pretty funny just to eat it while I'm doing my show.'

### **Jarvis Cocker**

See, I would find that very disturbing, because I'd be aware all the way through the concert or the performance that it was melting.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, exactly.

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

You're just thinking, 'Oh, what a waste that is.'

## **Ed Gamble**

Yes, yes, but I've had that as a TV show where, what was that? Big Fat Quiz of the Year, and it's such a long record, that they go, 'You can have some food if you want,' and I've said, 'A tub of ice-cream,' just for a joke, and then, they have it in the freezer bag, but you look in it and it really is melting fast. So, I've eaten an entire tub of ice-cream, like, really quick, like peanut butter ben and Jerry's, and then, I felt like I was on drugs. I was just sitting there, like, everything was going speeded up and slowing down, and i couldn't really keep up with the quiz anymore, so I'd really gone too hard on the ice-cream.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, because people used to throw jelly babies on the stage when The Beatles played, supposedly. Ive read that in a book, somewhere. I think once in an interview they'd said that they like jelly babies, so then, people popped them on stage, but I'm trying to think. I don't think we've ever had food thrown on stage, and I wouldn't eat it, anyway.

# **James Acaster**

No, it's that odd thing, isn't it? Food delivered by a complete stranger that you've not asked for -

#### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, I mean, nowadays, I might not eat it, maybe. I don't know.

## James Acaster

Especially ice-cream. Melted ice-cream.

#### Ed Gamble

Yes, yes. Well, for a while, people would put whole cabbages on stage when I was doing gigs, because-,

# **James Acaster**

Really?

### **Ed Gamble**

I had a joke of something that had happened to me, and maybe this was quite wasteful, and I shouldn't have done it, but I would just kick them off the stage.



No, that could be dangerous, because a cabbage is quite a dense-,

## **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Are you sure it wasn't a lettuce?

# **Ed Gamble**

No, a cabbage.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

A lettuce would be safe. Cabbage could hurt somebody.

# **Ed Gamble**

A lettuce would explode. it would be quite nice, yes, but cabbage, I'd just football kick it off.

# **James Acaster**

You'd have that as a starter, wouldn't you?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

## **Ed Gamble**

I'd kick it into the wings, I wouldn't kick it into the audience, Jarvis.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Oh, right, good, because I as going to say, yes, cabbage coming at you full-speed.

### **Ed Gamble**

I don't want you to think-,

## **James Acaster**

Oh, I thought-, yes.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes, no. No, I'd be looking at a law suit.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Like, if you got that in your face, that could break your nose.

## **James Acaster**

That's a broken nose, if you get a cabbage full pace.

### **Ed Gamble**

No, I'm not doing that.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Good, I'm glad.

### **Ed Gamble**

I'm kicking them into the wings.



Alright.

### **Ed Gamble**

I stopped doing that when I walked on stage once, there was a cabbage there, I kicked it into the wings, and then, someone in the front row burst into tears and walked out, because they'd put the cabbage there and thought it would be a nice fun little joke, and they didn't like my reaction. So, I felt pretty bad about that.

### **James Acaster**

Yes, your audience are pathetic.

### **Ed Gamble**

Jarvis, I want to read your menu back to you now, see how you feel about it.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

I'll probably feel, like, instant indigestion or something. Yes, go on, okay.

## **Ed Gamble**

You would like lightly sparkling water, the perfect amount of bubbles in there, poppadums or bread, you want Melba toast with a tiny scraping of butter. Starter, shrimp cocktail. Main course, a vegan kebab from the place on Holloway Road. Side dish, ultimate Yorkshire, Yorkshire pudding with Henderson's relish. Drink, orange wine, and dessert, a rice pudding with cinnamon and raisins, and then, maybe a mint tea.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, I think mint tea, yes, I think we've got to round it all off with that.

# **James Acaster**

Yes, that'll sort any indigestion out.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, Welcome to the Peppermint Jungle.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Do you feel good about that?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes, I think that's okay.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes, I think it felt okay.

## **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

### **James Acaster**

I'm very okay.

## **Jarvis Cocker**

I'm satisfied. I feel quite satisfied.



I'd like that menu.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

I'm imaging that I've eaten it.

# **James Acaster**

You feel good? You don't feel too-,

# **Jarvis Cocker**

No, I feel good.

# **James Acaster**

You wouldn't do a gig?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

No.

## **James Acaster**

You'd just go home and-,

# **Jarvis Cocker**

I might go to a disco.

### **James Acaster**

Yes?

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Yes.

### **Ed Gamble**

Yes. If you want to go to a disco-,

## **Jarvis Cocker**

There aren't any discos anymore though, are there?

#### Ed Gamble

I'd get you some boil-in-the-bag cod before you go to the disco, that's the thing I eat even more.

# **Jarvis Cocker**

That's a rave.

## **James Acaster**

We don't know the difference, Jarvis.

### **Ed Gamble**

Look at us, we don't know the difference between a rave and a disco. We're squares.

# **James Acaster**

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

# **Jarvis Cocker**

Well, thanks. Thank you, the service was impeccable. I'll be leaving a tip.



Well, there we are. Jarvis Cocker, James.

#### **Ed Gamble**

Wow, we did it.

### **James Acaster**

We did it, man.

# **Ed Gamble**

We interviewed Jarvis Cocker and it was great.

### **James Acaster**

He didn't say cold spinach leaves once, as was our fear.

# **Ed Gamble**

No, we were very scared it was going to be cold spinach leaves for every course and we were going to have to chuck him out and we wouldn't get to interview Jarvis Cocker.

### **James Acaster**

Immediately, but we did, and he was lovely, and it was great, and I loved it.

### **Ed Gamble**

I loved it too.

### **James Acaster**

His book is out on 26th May. It's called Good Pop, Bad Pop.

# **Ed Gamble**

Good Pop, Bad Pop.

### **James Acaster**

Very difficult to say, because my mouth goes for cop.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

### **James Acaster**

I know that's the pun, but my mouth is so used to saying Good Cop, Bad Cop.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes, you say it a lot.

# **James Acaster**

Good Pop, Bad Pop.

# **Ed Gamble**

We say it whenever we're going to interview someone.

### **James Acaster**

Yes.

## **Ed Gamble**

We say, 'Good cop, bad cop?'



We say, 'Good cop, bad pop?' don't we?

# **Ed Gamble**

What? Oh, God.

# **James Acaster**

That is being published by Vintage and it's out on 26th May and I cannot wait to read it.

# **Ed Gamble**

Brilliant.

### **James Acaster**

Let's not forget that my tour is happening in the Autumn again.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes.

### **James Acaster**

I've done the first leg, I'm doing another leg, James, Ed Gamble - Electric, edgamble.co .uk for tickets, including if you live in London, I am doing a show at the Hammersmith Apollo on October 22nd, and you would be most welcome to that.

# **Ed Gamble**

Yes, absolutely, and also, I'll be touring Scandinavia in September.

## **James Acaster**

Thanks again to Jarvis Cocker for coming on the podcast, we will see you again next week. Good bye.

# **Ed Gamble**

Good bye.