



Off Menu – Ep 250 – Patti Harrison

Ed Gamble

Welcome to the Off Menu podcast. Peeling the banana of the internet, that's what I've got this week.

James Acaster

That's Ed Gamble. My name is James Acaster, we're a banana I guess.

Ed Gamble

Yes, we're a banana. I was just trying to work out whether I should do a fruit salad and I thought, 'That's a bit involved because I need loads of these intros, so why not just do it fruit by fruit.'

James Acaster

So, this is the first of a series?

Ed Gamble

Yes, it could be, but I mean all the episodes come out in a different order, so this is the first one but you might be hearing this way after we've broadcast some of the other fruits in a fruit salad.

James Acaster

Yes. And then eventually I guess you will say, 'Welcome to the Off Menu podcast, we've got ourselves a fruit salad.'

Ed Gamble

Yes. We've got ourselves a fruit salad, yes. Yes.

James Acaster

Okay.

Ed Gamble

So, that will be on an episode that you've either heard already or is coming up and the intro will simply be, 'Welcome to the Off Menu podcast, you've got yourself a fruit salad.'

James Acaster

Yes. And then when Ed has done that if you, the listeners can send in all the ingredients of the fruit salad that he's already said, send them to Benito-,

Ed Gamble

You get a signed chopping board.



James Acaster

You get a signed chopping board by the great Benito, he'll sign a chopping board and send it to you, but you have to send in all of the fruits in order that we recorded them in.

Ed Gamble

Yes, because I will say, 'That's the second fruit going in.' For the next time I do it.

James Acaster

Okay, that's generous of you because you could do it that you just say the fruits and they have to work out what order we recorded the episodes in..

Ed Gamble

Oh yes, that's quite hard actually, I suppose it's for a signed chopping board so I should make it a bit difficult, yes.

James Acaster

Yes. So, let's just do it that we do different fruits, the last one that goes out-,

Ed Gamble

I don't even like banana in a fruit salad.

James Acaster

I like it in a fruit salad.

Ed Gamble

It goes a bit soft.

James Acaster

It goes a bit soft, you have to kind of, like-, I mean it's a weird start.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes.

James Acaster

To the fruit salad.

Ed Gamble

But listen out for this.

James Acaster

We'll make sure that, 'We've got ourselves a fruit salad goes out last.'

Ed Gamble

Yes, absolutely.



James Acaster

And then when you've heard that send in all the ingredients for the fruit salad in the order that we said them in and then-, that we recorded them in and then great Benito will send you a signed chopping board.

Ed Gamble

Yes, that's tricky, how are we going to make sure that the, 'You've got yourselves a fruit salad' goes out last?

James Acaster

We'll do-, yes, we can do that.

Ed Gamble

We can work that out, yes.

James Acaster

I reckon we can do that. Benito wants us to be very clear because he's already-, we literally just came up with this idea on the spot and he's already exasperated by it, he's absolutely gutted. But he wants to make it clear that only the first person to guess it will get the chopping board like last time, whatever it was that we did.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Yes, yes.

James Acaster

And they did get it last time, he did sign the chopping board and send it to them, he will do it again this time, but it is just for the first person who gets it and this is harder this one.

Ed Gamble

Oh, it's very hard this and this could go on for-, I mean given how far in advance we record this could go on for eighteen months or two years.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, so you really have to be a hard core fan. You would deserve it.

Ed Gamble

Also the next intro I do I'm almost likely forgetting about that.

James Acaster

I'm not forgetting about it, so I will remind you.

Ed Gamble

Okay, yes.



James Acaster

Whenever you're stuck.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

That's Ed Gamble. My name is James Acaster, we own a dream restaurant and we invite a guest in every single week and we ask them their favourite side dish, drink-,

Ed Gamble

Wow.

James Acaster

Starter, dessert and main course, not in that order.

Ed Gamble

First person to put them in the right order gets a signed chopping board.

James Acaster

And this week our guest is Patti Harrison.

Ed Gamble

Patti Harrison. Patti Harrison a brilliant comedian, writer, performer, she is of course in I Think You Should Leave.

James Acaster

Yes. And also taking her new stand-up show to the Edinburgh Festival which everyone should go and check out.

Ed Gamble

She's over here in the UK quite a lot, so do check out Patti's live dates because she's often at The Soho Theatre. I think she likes performing in the UK so she's here fairly often and I will highly recommend going to see one of her shows. She was of course also in Shrilla, which I absolutely love.

James Acaster

Yes, Shrilla's fantastic. She was in an episode of She-Hulk, she got married.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

It was her wedding and let's just say it didn't go according to plan.



Ed Gamble

Oh, thank you very much. Very excited to speak to Patti, I think it's going to be an interesting episode.

James Acaster

Yes, Patti is unpredictable.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Which means that when we had to come up with a secret ingredient for this episode, an ingredient which we deem to be unacceptable, it's pretty difficult to, like, pick one that maybe Patti would say or pick one Patti wouldn't say, but-

Ed Gamble

We've connected it to her work.

James Acaster

'Connect it to her work.' And one of the sketches from season three of I Think You Should Leave. So, this week the secret ingredient is a cup of dog shit.

Ed Gamble

A cup of dog shit. A cup of dog shit.

James Acaster

And we're not going to ruin the sketch for you.

Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

But it's a cup of dog shit and it is at least intended to be drunk by someone.

Ed Gamble

Yes. I think already we have certain different types of listeners and I think that there's some of our listeners that are now going, 'Oh, it was a disgusting episode, no thank you.'

James Acaster

But it probably will be a disgusting episode.

Ed Gamble

Yes.



James Acaster

I would wager. So, like, if you are one of those people who doesn't like the disgusting and maybe just wait until the evening to listen to this one.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I think so, this is a post-watershed episode I'd imagine.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Shall we get into it?

James Acaster

I think we should get into it. I'm very excited about this, the first fruit salad episode.

Ed Gamble

This is the Off Menu menu of Patti Harrison.

James Acaster

Patti Harrison.

Ed Gamble

Welcome Patti to the dream restaurant.

Patti Harrison

Thank you.

James Acaster

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

Patti Harrison

What, there were two different welcomes.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Which one did you prefer? And be honest, and you can critique them if you like.

Patti Harrison

Yours felt more formal and Ed's was, like, more if it wasn't a podcast and it was just like meeting you in person. So, I think maybe yours was more appropriate for this.



James Acaster

Mine made you feel like you're on a podcast?

Patti Harrison

Yes, I felt like I was on a podcast and it woke me up a little bit.

James Acaster

And Ed's felt like?

Ed Gamble

I like to ease the guests.

Patti Harrison

Docile.

Ed Gamble

Yes, docile, yes. Yes, that's the style that I go for. Now James always says, 'We've been expecting you for some time.' But what's happened with you Patti, just to let the listener know, is that we were supposed to record this another time but you showed up a full week early.

Patti Harrison

Yes, I did, I showed up a full week early. And the way you say it too is really-, it makes it sound like I did that, like, it's my fault.

Ed Gamble

No. No, no, I'm not even-, I'm not saying it's your fault certainly. And I don't think it's a bad thing, I actually think you're our keenest guest of all time.

James Acaster

Funny.

Patti Harrison

Now what's keen mean?

James Acaster

Yes. Eager.

Patti Harrison

Hmm. Hmm, that's true, I was actually pretty terrified. I remember on the ride to-, the incorrect ride I took an Uber to this very studio and I remember kind of being in the car feeling like, 'What the fuck.' Am I allowed to cuss?

James Acaster

Yes.



Ed Gamble

Yes.

Patti Harrison

'What the fucks my starter going to be?' And then yes, I was talking to James about it earlier, but I was texting with Charlie because we were, like, also talking about making plans at some point and I was like, 'By the way I'm, like, on my way to go record with Ed for Off Menu.' And she was like, 'Oh, he's out of the country.' And I was like, 'Yes right, bitch, you have a weird dry sense of humour.' But she was right, she knew.

Ed Gamble

Yes, she was correct. My wife tends to know if I'm out of the country or not, I keep her abreast of these situations.

James Acaster

Oh, breast.

Patti Harrison

A wife a breast?

Ed Gamble

Right. Well, both of you need to stop this immediately.

James Acaster

You've got a freaky marriage man.

Patti Harrison

Strange, freaky.

James Acaster

Isn't his marriage freaky?

Patti Harrison

Hey I-, and guess what, I'm sure that's just kind of, like, the tip of-,

Ed Gamble

The breast.

Patti Harrison

The iceberg. Tip of breast, that's nipple.

James Acaster

Yes, come on, that was so-,



Patti Harrison

Well, it's safe to say.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes.

James Acaster

No one says, 'I'd like to touch your tip of the breast.'

Ed Gamble

Yes, but you would say-,

James Acaster

Nipple. I like to touch your nipple.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Patti Harrison

Well, when you say tip of the breast it evokes the image of-, or invokes-, what, invokes or evokes?

Ed Gamble

Evokes. I'd say, 'Evokes.'

Patti Harrison

Evokes the image of a breast with no nipple but a point. A breast that comes to a point with no nipple, no areola, no nothing. I almost said cornea.

James Acaster

No, cornea to it, yes.

Patti Harrison

A breast with corneas.

Ed Gamble

I don't mind, I mean I don't mind it as an image.

James Acaster

Yes?

Ed Gamble

Yes.



James Acaster

You like a breast with an eye, an eyeball?

Ed Gamble

No, I meant with no-,

James Acaster

A cornea?

Ed Gamble

I mean with no nipple, but then now you're talking about it a breast with an eye, not bad.

James Acaster

You'd like that?

Patti Harrison

Not bad.

Ed Gamble

Not bad.

Patti Harrison

What say you a breast-sized nipple? And that's not plural, just one.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Look, i think each to their own and

James Acaster

Yes, we're talking about yours.

Patti Harrison

And who are these each?

James Acaster

Yes.

Patti Harrison

When you say, 'Each to their own.' Who are-,



Ed Gamble

The own- well, I'm thinking about the owner of the breast-sized nipple and fair enough, fair enough to them and good luck.

Patti Harrison

These are, like, vague platitudes. I feel you're deflecting, like, the intimacy of real details that could kind of flesh out a greater internal world around what your real feelings are about it. But that's okay and I won't push past anyone's boundaries.

Ed Gamble

I'll be honest, I've been thinking about the eye nipple and then I started thinking about, 'What if it had a monocle?' And then I felt really weird and just started talking.

Patti Harrison

So, it's near-sighted.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Patti Harrison

And it's got, like, a steampunk aesthetic.

Ed Gamble

Aw, steampunk breast.

Patti Harrison

Yes. I guess that's-, I wouldn't want to investigate that very much either.

Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

Here's what I'm wondering, is your menu today going to be the same as the menu that you had in your head when you turned up on the wrong day?

Patti Harrison

And you're about to fucking find out. It is. Yes, it actually is. I think this was-, I had a lot of time to think about it, so it has changed, to be honest.

James Acaster

Okay.

Patti Harrison

To be jokes aside, mask off.



James Acaster

Yes??

Patti Harrison

Yes.

Ed Gamble

But will we get to hear what it was originally on the day that you came a week early? Do you think we'll hear the shift?

Patti Harrison

If you'd like.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Well, would you say it's fair to say that you are forever changed by that day? So, that all the food you liked before you turned up on the wrong day you never eat that any more because you're scarred by the fact that you turned up on the wrong day and now you're a completely different person?

Patti Harrison

I think you're assuming that that day, that moment had more of an impact on me than it may have, that's, like, really presumptuous of you. What I will say is that, you know, doesn't every day change us forever? Every day changes us forever, you and the future you is led to where you will be then by the who you are today. And what I will say is that the menu upon my first visit before my "trauma" was more earnest. I guess maybe the newer menu is tinged with I don't know, what's it called when you're, like, you want to kill someone and you can't?

James Acaster

Are you cynical. Oh, okay.

Patti Harrison

And you're not allowed to because of-, and you guys made laws-,

James Acaster

Yes, yes, yes, yes. We invented all the laws.

Patti Harrison

From the start, a lot of laws and we took some of those in the US, right? Where I'm from.

James Acaster

So, what is the feeling when you want to kill someone but you can't? Homicidal rage?



Ed Gamble

Yes, I guess so.

Patti Harrison

Did you say homicidal rage?

James Acaster

Oh, sorry, homicidal rage, sorry.

Patti Harrison

Sorry, your accents are insane.

Ed Gamble

I mean I would say homicidal as well.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, yes. I mean I just don't say homicide enough, I just never say.

Patti Harrison

It's kind of cool.

James Acaster

But I wouldn't say homo-cide. Like, I just wouldn't say that.

Patti Harrison

But what if it was like-,

James Acaster

So, I don't know why I said homo-cide.

Patti Harrison

What if there was some, sort of, branding where homo-side was actually you saying you're an ally to the gay community and you're like-, it's in really tiny, tiny print and it says, 'I'm on the-', and then it says, 'Homo-side.'

James Acaster

Yes. That's the unit.

Patti Harrison

And I'm allowed to say that?

James Acaster

Yes, yes.



Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, you can say that.

Patti Harrison

I'm allowed, I'm allowed.

James Acaster

Congratulations.

Ed Gamble

But James has said it twice so far and he's not allowed to say it.

James Acaster

No, well, yes, I'm in trouble I guess.

Patti Harrison

Well, I drew that from something you didn't say.

James Acaster

Yes, sure. Yes, I had to acknowledge it.

Patti Harrison

Yes.

James Acaster

I had to own it.

Patti Harrison

And I think you did awesome.

James Acaster

Thank you, Patti.

Patti Harrison

Yes.

James Acaster

Well, we always start with still or sparkling water, do you have a preference?

Patti Harrison

And then there would be the little sound effect you add later.



James Acaster

Yes, yes, yes. Ben would add a little sound effect or if you want you can make your own sound effects now and we can put them in instead in this episode.

Patti Harrison

Okay. So, for the still or sparkling is it like the sound of a glass, it's poured in right?

James Acaster

I think, yes.

Patti Harrison

Like something pouring into a glass.

James Acaster

Yes.

Patti Harrison

So, it's like, (makes sound effect 12.26). Like, no, that's too, like, hammy. I'm not trying-, I'm actually not trying to ham it up. It would be like, (makes sound effect). I don't know. (makes sound effect) because you know how it goes from, like, low to high as the glass gets filled? It's like, (makes sound effect) it gets a higher pitch.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Patti Harrison

Maybe just like, (makes sound effect) would be.

James Acaster

Yes, that's good.

Ed Gamble

Not only-, yes, not only do I think we should use that sound effect for your episode, I think we should use it for the next episode as well.

James Acaster

Yes.

Patti Harrison

And who's next?

Ed Gamble

Well, no idea, but they're in for a treat.



Patti Harrison

I was going to say, you guys have had so many guests. I was, like, going through to listen and I was like, 'You've had so-, you've had every person I've ever seen, on this podcast.' I mean we're recording this at, like, 9:45 I got here- Which is, like, that's a normal morning time to record a podcast, that's like-, you guys are hammering it out. It's almost like my time here means nothing to you.

James Acaster

It means everything, you're the first guest. You're the only one we're going to care about today.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

The others who come later we burnt out, we didn't, we're not gonna give a shit.

Patti Harrison

There's multiple other guests?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

We've got two more today but we're not going to be listening to them.

Patti Harrison

Is it-, who is it? Is it like Christina Aguilera and-,

James Acaster

You got the first one.

Patti Harrison

The stingray that killed Steve Irwin.

James Acaster

Yes.

Patti Harrison

Ha, ha, ha.

James Acaster

Yes, it is, it is. Christina Aguilera and a stingray, yes, correct.

Patti Harrison

Get them in the same room. Yes, attention whores. No I'm just joking. Amazing talents the both of them.



James Acaster

Yes. What do you think the stingray would choose for the still or sparkling water? Stingrays love water.

Patti Harrison

Well, do they-, do fish drink?

James Acaster

Good question.

Ed Gamble

Oh, that is a really great question.

Patti Harrison

Because are they ingesting salt water. And there's also-, I guess that stingray would have been a salt water ray. I kind of think maybe sparkling to be, you know, maybe it would be like-, you'd be like, 'Still or sparkling?' And it would be like, 'I have to say sparkling.' Or it would be like, 'I have to say sparkling.' And then you would be like, 'She's lying, you've never had sparkling water.'

Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

No.

Ed Gamble

Never had sparkling water. it's an interesting question the, 'Do fish drink?'

James Acaster

Because they can zap, right? They can zap? Yes.

Patti Harrison

What do you mean?

James Acaster

Well, stingrays can, like, zap people. Is that true?

Patti Harrison

No.

James Acaster

They can't?



Patti Harrison

There's electric eels. I think there are, like, skates that can generate maybe electric current, but stingrays have the barb.

Ed Gamble

The barb.

Patti Harrison

And they stick it in you and it has venom in it.

Ed Gamble

Stab. That's how we lost Steve Irwin.

James Acaster

I thought they zapped people and they were, like, electric.

Ed Gamble

So, were you going to say, 'Because if a stingray could zap they make all water sparkling.' Is that what you was going to say?

James Acaster

Yes, like almost have a little soda stream.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Patti Harrison

A little soda stream.

Ed Gamble

Yes, like, stingrays could drink water and then produce sparkling water, but they just stab people which is horrific.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Patti Harrison

So, it's like-, so, how does this electric ray get from producing electricity to then carbonating the water?

James Acaster

Well, because it would like, you know, it just zaps it with all the electricity and makes it sparkling, that's how-, I think that's how it works.



Ed Gamble

What the soda stream, not the stingray?

James Acaster

Yes. Yes, yes, both.

Patti Harrison

You know I don't honestly know enough about it to-,

James Acaster

That's what I was banking on, with a lot of my stuff.

Patti Harrison

Yes, and I don't even know why I'm trying to find a hole in it, that would be, like, a wonderful idea.

Ed Gamble

We need to know what you like though, do you like still or sparkling water?

Patti Harrison

I would say in my previous-, the first time I thought I was coming in when I really had my heart into to it I would say if I went to a restaurant, you know, I'm always getting flat, still water. But because I am where I am now and I've had the experiences I have now, I'm going to say I'm, like, going to fuck up the whole dinner and get sparkling water. I'm going to start with sparkling water because I'm an insane piece of shit that wants to kill, but can't. To start a dinner with sparkling water, that's food.

James Acaster

Yes. Yes, yes.

Patti Harrison

It takes up so much space, it's textured. Sparkling water is like the meatloaf of drinks, that are water.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, yes. I get exactly what you mean.

Ed Gamble

Do you?

James Acaster

Yes. It's too much, it's like you could slice it, right? You could cut a big slice of sparkling water for yourself it's so dense.

Patti Harrison

Yes. I feel like you could, like, stuff it.



James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

What would you stuff it with?

Patti Harrison

What do you normally stuff, stuff with? I don't know, maybe, like, a Turducken style thing where it's stuffed with duck.

Ed Gamble

Sparkling water stuffed with duck?

James Acaster

Could always be like, 'A pint of sparkling water stuffed with shot glass of sparkling water.'

Patti Harrison

Stuffed with shot glasses.

James Acaster

Yes, just like smaller glasses over and over of water.

Patti Harrison

Now-,

James Acaster

You've got to do it like a Turducken.

Patti Harrison

Now if we take it back out into a Turducken, if you went to someone's house and they're like, 'I've made a meal.' And it's a Turducken, but it's stuffed with glass, what would you think about that? Like, what would you think about that?

James Acaster

What would I think about that?

Patti Harrison

Yes.

James Acaster

It would depend on the friend. If it was Ed for example, if it was someone I know very well I would be like, 'Okay, Ed's had a nervous breakdown, but I've got to play this very delicately because I don't want to upset him.' So, I'd eat around the glass, but I would talk to Charlie and go, 'We really need to get Ed



some help, he's just stuffed a turkey with a glass, with another glass. And he says it was a Turducken, but it was clearly-,'

Ed Gamble

Here's what I think though, I think you inherently trust me about food, so if I turned up with a Turducken that was stuffed with glass I think you'd go, 'Sounds a bit unusual.' And then you'd eat it.

James Acaster

Yes. I would probably make a joke about it first and go, 'Ed, this is a-, you've stuffed this with glass.' And then he would say, 'It's delicious, I've had it before and I love it.' And I would be like, 'I guess I'm eating it.' And then my mouth would be getting all cut up, I'd be saying, 'Thank you.' And that would be probably how it would-, my Joker origin story.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

'Want to know how I got these scars? My friend Ed stuffed a turkey with some glass and fed it to me.'

Ed Gamble

I think that the relationship that you two have is astronomically and deeply codependent, to a point of, like, it doesn't just hurt and impact you, it probably hurts the people closest to you.

James Acaster

Oh yes.

Patti Harrison

And ripples outward.

Ed Gamble

The great Benito.

Patti Harrison

Because I can only imagine that you would have other people there, so it's two people who are very charismatic, seem intelligent, very soft spoken, you two in a room being like, 'Eat the glass.' And, you know, I feel like there's a general-, a culture sense of, like, politeness conditioning here and so I feel like there would be a lot of people politely-, and guess what, it's fresh out the oven, it's hot glass, but you have your own free will and again, I don't know why I'm-,

James Acaster

No, it's fine. I think everything you've said is valid, just then, I can't, you know. And also I would like to point out if it was someone I didn't know very well, like, you and I have met twice, if it was you and I went round and you were like, 'I've stuffed this turkey with glass.' I would say, 'Ah cool, I'm going to go



to the toilet.' And then I would leave and you wouldn't see me again because I would be like, 'I don't know Patti well enough to know that this is going to be okay. I think she might kill me.'

Patti Harrison

Well, I just-, yes, I don't know, that's really unfortunate to say because just, like, as a transgender woman I feel like there's a lot of-, there's like a pattern in my life of, like, cis men kind of doing things like that to me.

James Acaster

Yes. Ah, well.

Ed Gamble

James.

Patti Harrison

I think that would kind of drive me not to be homo-sidal, try not to turn inward.

James Acaster

Yes. See the difficult thing for me now in this situation is that we're now at the point in the podcast where I have to yell, 'Poppadums or bread?' at you. But I've just been, like-, I'm now in an area where I think that would tip it over into full hate crime and then I would not be a good guy.

Patti Harrison

Well, lucky for you it's opposite day. So, any hate crime today is well intentioned and actually is kind of like a gaff.

James Acaster

Poppadums or bread?

Patti Harrison

Scream it.

James Acaster

Poppadums or bread? Poppadums or bread Patti Harrison? Poppadums or bread?

Patti Harrison

My inner child is curled, curling, falling out of its little cot.

James Acaster

Yes.

Patti Harrison

Yes, and it's it. Poppadoms or bread, are those, like, little chip-,



James Acaster

Little crisps-, that size.

Patti Harrison

Okay. 'Okay', sorry I said it that way. I was going to say I want to let you guys know I am more jet-lagged than I've ever been in my life.

James Acaster

Yes?

Patti Harrison

And this is about for me the time I would normally go to bed in Los Angeles. My sleep schedule's already fucked up and bad, so it would be, like, around I think 2 am or something.

James Acaster

You're going to bed at 2 am?

Patti Harrison

Normally, yes. That's, like, when I start to fall asleep, so even if I get in bed earlier than that I usually don't, like, naturally stop thinking about killing a bunch of people at the mall, killing a bunch of people in a movie theatre, killing-, but that's, like, American. It's kind of like yes, I don't know, I don't want to, like, we're in London, we're talking about things you guys like. I would say bread. I think originally I would have said poppadoms. Am I saying that correctly?

James Acaster

I say it incorrectly every episode.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

And I've been told that and still haven't corrected myself, so.

Ed Gamble

Have you had poppadoms much in your life?

Patti Harrison

I think I have, I think I have.

Ed Gamble

Have you been for many, sort of, late-night Indian meals while you've been in the UK? Because you've done a lot of shows here, right?



Patti Harrison

Yes. Not late night and not on this trip, and not recently.

Ed Gamble

And never.

Patti Harrison

And never, but. No, I think I've had it-, I know I've had it before, I don't think I've had it recently. But I think now my answer would go to bread.

James Acaster

Any particular type of bread?

Patti Harrison

You know what the not fun thing is? Is I was bulimic for a really long time, and so I have this anxiety still in my system even, like, long after going through treatment and therapy and working through it where there are foods that give me anxiety. That I have during that time corrected into being, like, 'Oh, my favourite kind of bread is actually, like, gluten-free bread made of rice.' Or something like that because it's like that is what my brain internalises, like, the lowest calorie bread versus what actually tastes good. So, what this podcast has done is triggered all those feelings in me in every kind of cell and molecule in my body. So, when you ask me what kind of bread my body wants to say, 'Imaginary bread. Pass on the bread.' And that's a scary place to come back to because I was so healthy and good up until this moment in life.

James Acaster

Yes. So, we've undone all of that work.

Patti Harrison

Yes.

Ed Gamble

And even worse the time for you to do this podcast, it's been ages this wait because you turned up a week early and now it's, you know, months later. So, we've basically triggered all of that and it's been weeks and weeks and weeks that you've had to sit with that.

Patti Harrison

Yes, and I'll just be frank I've forgotten my gun, things would be different on this trip. I always had a plan. That being said, maybe focaccia. I would say maybe focaccia. What I will say to not misconstrue anything, I think now it does take me a second to be like, 'Well, what would I actually like?' And I just like when it's, like, sourdough maybe. I think that's a simple-, I think I like the outside more than I like the inside, but don't tell anybody I said that.



Ed Gamble

Well we could-, look, this is the dream restaurant, so we can just give you the outside of sourdough? A whole basket of sourdough outsides.

Patti Harrison

Okay. I would love the insides scooped out, very, very conspicuously thrown in the trash outside. Like, there's a dumpster out front of the restaurant where people have to queue and the employees are really, really trauma trained, they have to really make a big to do. Like, they have to be really loud when they throw all of in the trash in front of everybody, they have to be like, 'Argh.' Like, that it's really heavy, it's a lot of bread going to waste.

James Acaster

Yes, that's fine, we can do that.

Patti Harrison

Wouldn't it be cool if we hadn't abused, like, our planet so bad we could live in a world where we could have a lot of fun with food waste in that way?

James Acaster

Yes, it would be great.

Patti Harrison

Now we can't because it's bad.

James Acaster

I mean we did at one point live in that world, right? Where we were just having a lot of fun with food waste.

Patti Harrison

Now if you could say at one point, can you plot the years out?

James Acaster

I don't know, I'm kind of thinking-,

Ed Gamble

The 90s.

James Acaster

I guess if I'm honest, I'll be honest with both of you about what-, the period of history I'm thinking of that popped in my head genuinely, is the food fight in Bugsy Malone. And I know that's not something that really happened, I know it was just in a film and that-,

Ed Gamble

So, in your mind Bugsy Malone is an era of history?



James Acaster

Yes, yes, it was a time where we were freely wasting food because everyone was throwing food at each other and it was really fun. But I know that didn't happen for real, but in my head, as we were talking about it then I was like, 'There was a time in the 50s where most kids were gangstas and they would throw custard pies at each other all the time.'

Ed Gamble

So, that meant they died.

James Acaster

And that meant they died. But then they came back at the end.

Patti Harrison

So, I haven't seen it, I don't know what you're talking about.

James Acaster

What?

Ed Gamble

What?

Patti Harrison

But the kids die?

James Acaster

Well, they don't-

Ed Gamble

They get hit by custard pies.

James Acaster

And at the end they all come back.

Ed Gamble

They get hit by custard pies, but that then is them-, that's essentially them dying and being removed from the film, right?

James Acaster

They're taken off the board when that happens.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, yes.



Patti Harrison

Okay. And that was a fun cool thing that they had a food fight.

James Acaster

Yes, at the end there's, like, a big fight with all the guns that fire custard pies at each other and stuff. And so, like, they have a big one, but then they're all laughing and having a good old laugh with it and they sing about if you give a little love it all comes back to you, at the end, while they're all covered in the food.

Ed Gamble

It's a shame because you think, food fights are gone now forever.

James Acaster

Yes, you won't be able to do-, I mean that because it's unethical.

Patti Harrison

Did you ever have one in school?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

You did?

Ed Gamble

No. I lied. I like food too much, so I was never going to throw my lunch at anyone.

Patti Harrison

I would love someone rearing their handbag when they go to throw their food and the foods gone and then, like, the tips of their fingers and they turn around and then see you there. And your eyes are, like, rolled up in your head like a shark. You have, like, a membrane that protects your pupils when you eat.

Ed Gamble

I love that as well.

James Acaster

Are you sure you haven't seen Bugsy Malone? That's in it.

Patti Harrison

I refuse to see it because I've read the synopsis and there are themes in the film that are too close to experiences I've had in my real life.

James Acaster

Let's start with your dream starter then. We're at your proper meal now.



Patti Harrison

Okay. See you say, 'A starter.' Now, when I think of starters I usually think of multiple, but maybe that's wasteful or decedent or whatever.

Ed Gamble

Well, we've already got the skip out the front full of sourdough insides, so I don't think you need to worry about this restaurant being wasteful.

Patti Harrison

Okay. Spaghetti.

Ed Gamble

Any specifics with the spaghetti?

Patti Harrison

Arrabiata. Puttanesca. A red sauce. It doesn't matter if it's spicy or not, I don't really like spicy food. I like spicy food, I don't-, I have to, like, be kind of in a head space knowing that because I get acid reflux and stuff.

James Acaster

So, you have to, like, prepare yourself mentally, 'I'm going into the spicy food zone.'?

Patti Harrison

Well, it depends on how spicy something is, but I would say just, like, a normal red sauce with spaghetti would be nice because spaghetti is fun.

James Acaster

Why's it fun?

Patti Harrison

Because of the way it's shaped, dumbass. Have you seen that stuff?

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Patti Harrison

What's it doing?

Ed Gamble

Yes, what is it doing?



Patti Harrison

It's, like, kind of doing (makes sound). I forget people are listening to this. No, I think I like spaghetti, but I do feel weird that, like, pasta like that can be a main and then that's all you're getting for the rest of dinner is that. Because it's, like, not, that's not dinner.

James Acaster

Doesn't feel like dinner to you?

Ed Gamble

Well, that's I guess you're going for more, like, the way the Italians would actually do it, having it as a separate course, right?

Patti Harrison

Yes, I just feel like people order, like, spetti, even spaghetti with meatballs. Sorry, just called it, 'Spetti'.

James Acaster

Did you call it Spetti?

Patti Harrison

I got really excited thinking about it.

James Acaster

I didn't hear that you called it Spetti.

Patti Harrison

Gosh, okay. The inner child is out of its cot.

Ed Gamble

I think you're the first person who's told me their inner child is in a cot. Normally I'd imagine, like an inner child being like a giddy, sort of, kid running around, but yours is-,

James Acaster

A complete baby.

Ed Gamble

Mainly asleep, right? Like an actual, like, little baby asleep?

Patti Harrison

Well, you can kind of create any space for your inner child, but I think it's more-, you know, it's like when you close your eyes and you think of childhood Ed, at what age would you place that?

Ed Gamble

Oh, good question.



James Acaster

Weirdly, just for the listener, Patti is the only person closing her eyes right now.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Ed, is not closing his eyes to imagine childhood Ed, but Patti is doing.

Ed Gamble

Well, I don't need to close my eyes.

James Acaster

I'll close my eyes and imagine childhood Acaster.

Ed Gamble

Okay.

Patti Harrison

It helps.

Ed Gamble

I think maybe four, four or five.

Patti Harrison

Okay.

Ed Gamble

Yes. So, I'm not in a cot.

James Acaster

Seven, always seven.

Patti Harrison

You're seven?

James Acaster

Always, every time.

Patti Harrison

Yes. And what is the surrounding-, within, like, if there's maybe ten-foot diameter around you I guess what's it look like, what's the set décor?



Ed Gamble

Outdoors.

Patti Harrison

It's outdoors, it's outside?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Outdoors.

Ed Gamble

Maybe a swimming pool. Interesting.

James Acaster

I just opened my eyes to check Patti and he's still got his eyes open, not doing it at all.

Ed Gamble

I don't need to shut my eyes to go inside my own head.

James Acaster

We're shutting our eyes. Patti and I are shutting our eyes.

Patti Harrison

It's just richer that way.

Ed Gamble

Okay. Right, I'll shut my eyes.

Patti Harrison

Okay. Swimming pool?

Ed Gamble

I think a swimming pool, yes.

Patti Harrison

So, you're inner child's kind of treading water all the time?

Ed Gamble

No, I'm not in the swimming pool, I'm round the swimming pool.

Patti Harrison

Okay. Is someone watching your inner child?



Ed Gamble

I don't think so.

James Acaster

Just you. Are you-,

Patti Harrison

Near the pool.

James Acaster

Are you about to take a dip?

Ed Gamble

I might take a dip. Might go and get an ice cream. I'm just romping around, you know.

Patti Harrison

Okay, that's really-, that's an exciting-, that sounds like a summer memory.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I think it is. I think it's from my first memory which is probably when I was three or four where I was near a pool and I put a teddy bear up a tree.

James Acaster

Oh, yes, I did know about that.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I told you that before.

James Acaster

Yes, you told me that.

Patti Harrison

You put a teddy-,

James Acaster

That's his first memory.

Patti Harrison

You, like, threw a teddy bear.

James Acaster

And then you got covered in ants, didn't you?

Ed Gamble

Yes, I had to save it from the ants.

Patti Harrison

That's a strong arm to be a kid that young and get to throw a bear.

Ed Gamble

No, I, sort of, just placed it in a branch that was near to me I think.

Patti Harrison

Okay.

Ed Gamble

Rather than throw it all the way up to the top of the tree.

Patti Harrison

And then ants got to it.

Ed Gamble

Yes, and then ants-, well I saved them from the ants, yes.

Patti Harrison

Well, I have to ask, it's a teddy bear and then it got covered in ants, so was the teddy bear dirty and, like, covered in I don't know, icing or something?

Ed Gamble

Probably. Knowing me it probably had some, sort of, dried sugar-based thing on there. What do you think my inner child says about me, Patti?

Patti Harrison

I think your inner child has a strong sense of play that permeates into your life now which is why you're a comedian and you cherish that. It also would seem that, you know, you're protective, you have this bear that-, wait, no, that was a memory, that's not-, is that set decor in your inner-,

Ed Gamble

Not really, it's just the pool really.

Patti Harrison

Oh, okay, so it's a pool. Okay, so you like to swim.

James Acaster

Yes.



Patti Harrison

And James, what is yours?

James Acaster

Gun range.

Patti Harrison

James, is that true? Are you being funny on your podcast?

James Acaster

That's what I imagined.

Patti Harrison

Because when I had my eyes closed and you say gun range, I'm imagining a gun range and now I'm-, that's-, just so you know I'm an empath and this is really scary for me to be in this gun range. And you're seven?

James Acaster

Yes, seven years old.

Patti Harrison

There's gun ranges here?

James Acaster

I own this one in mine, I own it.

Patti Harrison

Your inner child-,

Ed Gamble

Owns a gun range.

James Acaster

Yes. Private gun range, I own it.

Patti Harrison

It's private?

James Acaster

Just for killing vampires. Just for vampires.

Patti Harrison

Okay. And why? What did vampires do?



James Acaster

Well, I'm a seven year old, this is my main fear. So, I've mainly got all those-, you know all those things that people fire at that are normally human shaped? They've got capes and stuff.

Patti Harrison

Well, what's really fascinating-,

James Acaster

But their silhouette you can tell they're wearing a cape.

Patti Harrison

Yes, a cape. Well, a cape it's interesting that you bring up because, like, a lot of vampire imagery is actually in the media is usually queer coded.

James Acaster

Oh God.

Patti Harrison

And that vampires a lot of times represent symbolically the kind of puritanical fear of homosexual people. And so this gun range where you're training, you're militarised at such a young age to kill vampires, quote unquote vampires, there's just something really fascinating and cool there. And I can't implore you enough to make the homo-side shirts and sell them on your web-, the Off Menu website. I'm giving you my permission.

Ed Gamble

How have you done it again, James?

James Acaster

I can't-, well, look, I've learnt a lot about myself this episode. I'm just going to go away and have a very long think about it.

Patti Harrison

It's crazy because I've learned a lot about you both on this episode and I've lost about myself. I've lost things about myself.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Your dream main course? Do you want to do the sound effect first? Benito will usually do, like, a microwave sound effect or something sometimes.

Patti Harrison

A microwave?



James Acaster

Yes, like a microwave getting to the end of its cycle.

Ed Gamble

That's one of the sound effects or, like, sizzling in a pan maybe.

Patti Harrison

Sizzling in a pan. What about someone opening an oven and they get hit with-, or no, it's like they-, it's when someone doesn't realise a pot has been on the stove for too long and that everything inside is burnt and on fire. And they open the pan and they get hit with super heated air and it actually gives them an injury.

James Acaster

Yes. Yes, yes.

Patti Harrison

So, kind of, like, the sound of the metal like, (makes sound effect) coming off and then the like, (makes sound effect) like that.

James Acaster

Yes, that's good.

Ed Gamble

That's good, perfect.

James Acaster

Yes, great. We'll use that.

Patti Harrison

Yes. You know, I would say when I originally was coming to do this I was like, 'I think what would be really nice is some, sort of, Congee.' I really like that. Like, my mum's from Vietnam and there's a lot of comfort foods that she would make kind of weekly that were always on the stove for better or for worse. Whether she was like, you know, keeping track of how long they'd been on the stove or if we were going to get sick from eating it, but it always tasted good. So, originally I was like, 'A Congee with-, ' Yes, that would be nice, I think it's like a filling-, that's like the carb-y version of I think what maybe some people who do spaghetti for main course. And also, I'll be honest I'm pescatarian now, so I'm not really-, it's like I don't know if I can really say that because I think the best Congee is like a bone, chicken kind of base. And I've never had, like, a vegetarian version of that, but I think because of the way that I feel now on my second go the final course will just be like a big fucking hot wad of shit filled with tampons. Piece of shit. Arrabiata. It would be shit and tampons. Tampons prepared like a fusilli or whatever, soaked in the shit. A bolognese, a shit bolognese, human shit and whatever's around.



James Acaster

So, just to be clear, a human shit bolognese is that just like someone's made a bolognese out of human shit or has someone eaten bolognese and then shit it out?

Ed Gamble

Very good question from James.

Patti Harrison

Well, let's see, James. This is a just, like, a very simple kind of science question.

James Acaster

Yes.

Patti Harrison

If you eat bolognese, if you go home after this you eat bolognese and then ten hours later, right? That's the normal digestive cycle, you shit, do you look into the toilet and say, 'Hmm, that's bolognese, I'm going to eat it again.'?

James Acaster

Well, I wouldn't say I was going to eat it again. I wouldn't say-, I mean you said, 'Shit mixed with bolognese or bolognese shit.' I wouldn't say I was going to eat it again, but I might be like, 'I've got the bolognese shits.'

Patti Harrison

Okay.

Ed Gamble

Not after ten hours though, that would have to be, like, within an hour or two I think. For you to look in and go, 'That's bolognese, I've got the bolognese shits.'

James Acaster

Well, it's more-, it's not even a visual thing for me, it's like sometimes you just feel it, you know what it is that you ate that's making you shit.

Patti Harrison

But usually, if you're getting shits that fast after eating something irritating you're not shitting that thing you're shitting the other stuff that was in there that's getting-,

Ed Gamble

Right.

James Acaster

Yes. Which I was once told by a God damn hotel receptionist.



Ed Gamble

What?

James Acaster

I tried to complain that the breakfast that I'd eaten had given me the shits. And she was like, 'That couldn't have been because when did you have the breakfast?' And I was like, 'Like an hour ago, I just shat everywhere.' And she was like, she was like, 'That couldn't have been the breakfast.' I was like, 'It was definitely. I ate the breakfast and then I went to my hotel room and I just did shits everywhere and it's all covered in shit.' And she was like-, she Googled it in front of me on the computer and then she said to me, 'There you go, that shows it couldn't have been the breakfast, it takes this long for it to effect you if you get food poisoning from something. It couldn't have been that breakfast that we gave you. We're not apologising for nothing.' And then I had to go to the next leg of my tour.

Patti Harrison

And when you say you shit, there was shit everywhere was that-, did you like diarrhoea and it ended up on the floor or something?

James Acaster

It ended up on the robe that I was wearing.

Ed Gamble

What?

James Acaster

I was relaxing, I ate the breakfast, went back to my hotel, had a shower, put a robe on, sat down to do emails, shat the robe, big time.

Patti Harrison

And after your shower?

James Acaster

Yes, after the showers the worst.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Patti Harrison

That is the worst.

James Acaster

I had to soak the robe in the sink and apologise to the-,



Ed Gamble

The fact that you then-, the level of confidence you must have had to shit in a hotel robe and then call reception and say, 'Your breakfast just made me do a shit in your robe.'

James Acaster

Well, listen I knew they were going to see that. I tried to clear up the evidence, I tried to-, I was like, 'No.' So I was like-, and I was angry about it.

Ed Gamble

Right, what I would do is I would take that robe with me and then I'd pay for the robe.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

I wouldn't call reception and admit I've just done a shit in the robe, that is-,

James Acaster

I didn't call reception, I said it to their face when I was leaving.

Patti Harrison

Sometimes robes though are, like, \$300 and then it's like I would want to then-, because I wouldn't want to-, just because there's shit on it I wouldn't want to throw it away. If I was really going to take that hit I would then be like, 'Okay, I'm going to keep the robe, but I got to wash it.'

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Patti Harrison

But then if you put a shit robe in your luggage the smell will get into the rest. And I say this as someone who has shit in underwear and been like, I was like, 'I guess I'm going to travel with it.' And I put it in a bag. Guess what, it gets through the bag. It gets through the bag and it makes your other clothes smell like poop. This was a really long time ago by the way.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, yes, so's mine.

Patti Harrison

This isn't recent, this is maybe, like-, this is-,

James Acaster

Mine was, like, ages ago.



Patti Harrison

Yes, mine was about a month. From today-, it's the future.

Ed Gamble

I will just say, even if the robe was \$300 I think I'm willing to spend that so I don't get into a situation where a hotel receptionist is Googling how long does it take for something to make you shit yourself.

James Acaster

Well.

Ed Gamble

And then showing me the results.

Patti Harrison

And also the kind of, like, the-, I don't know that's kind of, like, litigation or something. Like, the skill to be like, 'Actually, science says here on this screen.' Like, she's probably had people do that before.

Ed Gamble

Yes, that can't have been the first time the breakfast has made someone shit themselves.

James Acaster

That's what it felt like, it felt like she was, like, 'I've been here many times before, you're not going to win this.'

Patti Harrison

It feels, like, maybe the bacteria was just sitting in your gut and as soon as food touched it inflamed it. So, it probably was the food, but maybe it was the food from the night before. That's just, like, how sometimes you'll not-, if you're sick with, like, a stomach flu or something and you won't have to puke or you don't get that weird nauseous feeling until you actually try and eat something.

James Acaster

Yes, that's what it felt like.

Ed Gamble

Did you tell them about the robe?

James Acaster

No, no, I was like, 'They'll find that out.'

Ed Gamble

And was there any blowback from that?



James Acaster

No, they didn't follow up and go, 'Hey, we found that robe in the sink soaking in the sink, don't you think we don't know what you did.' They didn't do that. So, I don't know exactly what hotel it was, I'd know the hotel if I saw it.

Ed Gamble

Yes, of course, and they'd know you if they saw you.

James Acaster

Yes, I think actually I was already at the point in my career where she did know me, unfortunately.

Patti Harrison

And you went down and you were like, 'I shit.'

James Acaster

Yes.

Patti Harrison

And what did you want to-, what did you in your head, what did you want to happen?

Ed Gamble

Yes, very good question.

James Acaster

Yes, you know, at the time I guess I thought they might take the breakfast off the bill, but I don't know why I wanted that, I don't know why I thought that was a fair trade and that was worth my dignity.

Ed Gamble

Was this when you were going through a tricky time?

James Acaster

When am I not? I mean, you know, yes. Oh, definitely, it was on tour, so yes. I was at my wit's end.

Patti Harrison

You know, it really-, it's a tour I think is de-stabilising, a lot of stuff, it throws your whole body out of whack, mind, body, soul. It's okay, and maybe she saw that. Maybe she was like, 'It's not the breakfast, it's your life, it's the tour.'

James Acaster

Yes, she could have Googled my tour dates and just shown me those and gone-,

Patti Harrison

'These are too close together. This kind of geographically doesn't make sense.'



James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

'Go through that list and tick every time you've done a horrible shit.' It was every day.

James Acaster

So, just to be clear though-,

Ed Gamble

No.

Patti Harrison

The bolognese is shit mixed into the sauce.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

But that-, that's not your main, right? That's not your main course, right? The shit bolognese?

Patti Harrison

Oh, that's a second starter. That was supposed to be my main.

Ed Gamble

Are we going with the Congee or do you want to go with the shit bolognese with tampons sticking out?

Patti Harrison

Well, I don't actually want to eat that and that's not my dream restaurant because there's maybe one percent of me that would fear that there's some karmic justice to be had. That if I were to go to some sort of hell adjacent, like, plain, not, like, secular, not affiliated with any religion, that kind of is essentially amasses information from your life into this space. And somehow this information gets in where it's like, 'Ha, ha, ha bitch, you thought it was so funny to go on those really nice people's podcast and be such a total, like, emotionally deformed cunt. And not take it seriously and now you get to eat the tampon Ragu.' Sorry, I keep switching, it's not about bolognese, I can't pick. I would say maybe then I would go to, like, a Congee maybe.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, yes. And because it's the dream restaurant we could do the chicken bone, like, and no chickens get killed.



Patti Harrison

But it's like a-, it's like a chicken that is 3D printed. It's 3D, it's like the meat is not-, it's like how they've farmed meat in Petri dishes.

James Acaster

And you can't tell the difference, it tastes exactly as good, but no chickens get harmed at all.

Patti Harrison

Not at all?

Ed Gamble

Yes, it's a 3D printed chicken.

James Acaster

Yes, 3D printed chicken.

Patti Harrison

Can you imagine a world where long after we are dead and gone and, like, there's a robot, the kind of dystopian thing and then robots there's kind of, like, robots and androids and they start eating other robots as food? And they make, like, essentially like a Congee out of other animal, sort of, robots. And, like, what that world is like, it's like where do you think they're getting the flavour, from the metal? Like, if you kind of imagine one of those DARPA dogs or those Boston Dynamic dogs and just kind of throwing chunks of that in a pot, what do you think the flavour would be?

James Acaster

Yes, Ed, what do you think the flavour would be?

Ed Gamble

Well, I guess if a robot is eating a robot I guess the robot is trained to enjoy certain flavours, so they might like metal. They might like the taste of metal. But also, just to go back to the 3D printed chicken, do you mean just 3D printed chunks of meat? Because I'll be honest when you said it my first thought was, '3D print an entire live chicken, then kill the chicken and put it in the pot.'

James Acaster

Yes, chop it up.

Patti Harrison

I was imagining how they are able to make meat cells, they're, like, in a dish and they just grow the meat and it's not technically alive because-, but it is, like, bio matter.

Ed Gamble

And it's got the right texture and stuff like that?



Patti Harrison

Yes. If they could, like, replicate-, it's like a vegan meat cell, but it's essentially chicken cells that would then-, you could boil and get that marrow etc. meat flavour.

Ed Gamble

I think we can do that for you.

James Acaster

Absolutely, it would be my pleasure.

Patti Harrison

And we wouldn't have to get any, sort of, dodgy investors involved who have the money to kind of back that kind of science or anything like that, no? Like, Ghislaine Maxwell adjacent.

Ed Gamble

She doesn't have to be involved.

Patti Harrison

Has she been on the podcast? You've had everyone on this podcast.

James Acaster

Yes. Yes, yes, she's been on the podcast, she's episode two.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, yes. Yes.

Patti Harrison

Was she like, 'Macaroni.'

James Acaster

Yes, every course.

Patti Harrison

Every course, 'Macaroni.'

James Acaster

Your dream side dish?

Patti Harrison

Probably little Fingerling potatoes.

James Acaster

Yes?



Patti Harrison

In garlic.

Ed Gamble

It's a great potato.

Patti Harrison

Yes.

James Acaster

Fingerling.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Patti Harrison

Really crispy, like, when they're-, anything that's, like, crisped, I don't like when it's mushy inside i like when it's pre-fried to essentially a French Fry or something.

James Acaster

You like the crunch?

Patti Harrison

I like the crunch. I like when it's like yes, where the skin is just, like, flaking off and it's burnt, but not again super-, like, the person cooking it lifted the thing and got blasted with super heated air and inhaled it.

James Acaster

Yes. That's what you want to imagine.

Patti Harrison

I don't want that to happen to the person who's making it, I hope they have a very normal time when they make it. I haven't wished that on anybody in my whole life.

Ed Gamble

What if they were the best potatoes you've ever head in your life, but the person who brings them out to you they're face has, like, gone bright red.

James Acaster

Yes, bright red.

Patti Harrison

Is it bright red because of a burn, it's not just make up or?



James Acaster

Because they lifted the pot up and all the heat hit them in the face.

Ed Gamble

Yes, it's not they're so proud they're almost blushing because they're such good potatoes, it's because they've really burnt themselves and they come out with the pot and you're like, 'Oh my God, are you okay?' But then you eat a potato and you're like, 'Oh, I think that might have been worth it.'

Patti Harrison

I just don't now why they are serving the potatoes I guess.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, it's a good point.

Patti Harrison

In this restaurant it's, like, the chef or the chef de cuisine or the line cook is bringing out the food and you were doing it like this, like, they're holding the pot.

James Acaster

Two hands.

Ed Gamble

Yes, with bare hands.

Patti Harrison

With bare hands?

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, yes. Yes, yes.

Patti Harrison

What is that, that Canadian PSA and the woman with the boiling water.

James Acaster

What?

Patti Harrison

You've seen it, you had to have seen it.

James Acaster

No. No, I don't think I've seen it.

Ed Gamble

I'm not sure I have seen it.



James Acaster

I don't think I've seen it.

Patti Harrison

There's that really famous, like, series of Canadian safety PSAs where they're really, really graphic and it's the woman and I think she's, like, a line cook. She's in a kitchen and she's narrating what's about to happen and she's like, 'So, unfortunately for me, like, I don't see there's a big spot of oil on the floor that I should have cleaned up, but I've been rushing around. Blah, blah, blah.' And she picks up this giant pot of boiling water and she slips on it and then it, like, scolds her and she's, like, lets out this blood-curdling-, blood-curdling scream and get's in, like, the last shot of the PSA, it's like a flash of her scolded face and her skin is boiling.

James Acaster

So do you want her to bring you the potatoes?

Patti Harrison

If she did I would be star-struck. I would-, oh, so a crazy thing is, I posted that clip in the actor who-, this was a while ago and this is why I'm not a reliable narrator, but she either commented on the post or she liked it.

James Acaster

Right.

Patti Harrison

The boiled woman. But it is-, the thing is, is like, it's an incredible performance, like, it is so disturbing to watch. There's, like, another one where a woman's like hanging something on a ladder in a store and she's like, 'I should have made sure the base of the ladder was locked, but I was too busy.' and then she climbs and she's, like, 'And this is an old ladder, we should have had the store replace it, but-, ' or something like that and then she falls off the leader and goes through a glass table and she stands up and there's all this, like, glass through her face.

James Acaster

I mean, I think the craziest thing, obviously the injuries are horrific but is the-

Ed Gamble

Narrating it.

James Acaster

Yeah, beforehand that, it's not happened yet, they can still stop it and they say, they basically just say, 'Well, this is what's about to happen to me and I'm going to do it.' But that's really eerie.

Patti Harrison

Yes, it's freaky.



James Acaster

They must have commented on it and not liked it for you to know it was them. If they just liked it and you figured out it was them.

Patti Harrison

Because someone I think, tagged them in it, because I think she's an established actor in Canada and probably beyond, I don't really know a lot of actors by name

James Acaster

No?

Patti Harrison

But, well, that's not true, Julia Roberts.

Ed Gamble

Was it Julia Roberts? That would be amazing wouldn't it?

Patti Harrison

Oh, she's a stunning actress. Great head of hair, incredible lips, incredible style and her own unique acting style. But that's not what this podcast is about, is it?

James Acaster

Well, it can be about Julie Roberts if you want it to be?

Patti Harrison

Would you have her on?

Ed Gamble

Yes, I would personally.

James Acaster

Yes, I think would, yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Did we even get your side dish? Fingerling potatoes?

Patti Harrison

Yes, do you not remember?

Ed Gamble

Fingerling potatoes with garlic.

Patti Harrison

It was, kind of, my only answer that was real. It's the one thing-,



James Acaster

Well, I forgot.

Patti Harrison

You don't really seem to give a shit about-

James Acaster

Your dream drink? And just so you know, this is where in my head I've got the secret ingredient.

Ed Gamble

Oh, okay.

Patti Harrison

Still water. I'm kidding. I'm sorry I'm feeling so laughy and making a joke today. I would say my dream-, and is this a cocktail? Or is this just, like, a glass of milk?

James Acaster

Whatever you want. It can be a glass of milk.

Ed Gamble

I suspect you don't want a glass of milk because you look really angry when you even said glass of milk there.

Patti Harrison

Well, when I was a kid one of my favourite flavour combinations was, like, spaghetti bolognese, like, red sauce and a glass of whole milk. I think just because it's, like, essentially creating the flavour combination that, like, a red sauce pasta with ricotta cheese or something? It's like filling in that space, a glass of ricotta cheese maybe.

James Acaster

We should introduce you to Joe Thomas. Do you know Joe Thomas?

Patti Harrison

No, I don't think so.

James Acaster

He's an actor who's in The Inbetweeners and he used to make spaghetti bolognese and pour in cream, into the bolognese.

Patti Harrison

It's like a vodka sauce?

James Acaster

So you might like him.



Patti Harrison

Because of that?

James Acaster

Well yes, you like whole milk in bolognese so maybe if you hung out with Joe Thomas he could make you-,

Patti Harrison

Well, when I was a kid.

James Acaster

Well-,

Patti Harrison

So maybe, would he hang out with me when I was a kid?

James Acaster

Yes. He would hang out with you when you were a kid. And also you've got your inner child knocking about still.

Patti Harrison

Is that why my-, so I'm closing my eyes, I'm imagining, is my inner child on a cot locked in his house?

James Acaster

Yes.

Patti Harrison

Waiting for the creamy bolognese?

James Acaster

Yes, yes. That's exactly what's happening.

Ed Gamble

And genuinely, the thing about Joe Thomas is I think he's always thinking about his inner child because his eyes are shut through most of the conversation you have with him.

Patti Harrison

Whys that?

Ed Gamble

He's an odd guy.

James Acaster

He just does it, when he talks he just, kind of, closes his eyes and he looks very stressed.



Patti Harrison

I, kind of, like that. It seems like that's-, it's a focus, a centering thing, no?

James Acaster

Yes, I don't think he's doing it for that reason. I don't think he's centering himself, he's just panicking.

Patti Harrison

Sometimes I feel like people close their eyes because they're pushing one out.

Ed Gamble

You think when people close their eyes when you're talking to them they're pushing one out?

Patti Harrison

And to clarify, I'm talking about a shit, I'm not talking about cum, I don't think he's pushing one out.

Ed Gamble

I don't think anyone thought that when you use the phrase, 'Pushing one out', that you're talking about cum because, well, that phrase wouldn't make sense at all.

James Acaster

I thought you were about to clarify what was-,

Patti Harrison

Thank you for confirming, I really appreciate it.

Ed Gamble

There was no misunderstanding.

Patti Harrison

Well, there is sometimes, you have to agree that in the Queens English and American English, there are slight differences in, kind of, like, the euphemisms and phrases. You said, 'I threw a bear up a tree.' We would just say, 'In a tree.' you know, that's, kind of, a beautiful difference.

Ed Gamble

So in America-,

Patti Harrison

There's a cultural exchange happening. So in America-, you know, you say, 'Rub one out.' to mean a cum, wad, a load. And so I was like, maybe there's a world where I say, he's closing his eyes to push one out, and one could exist in the same space as cum in the Queens English. The King's English now?

James Acaster

Yes, maybe it is now the kings English because she cant talk any more because she's dead.



Ed Gamble

Maybe .

Patti Harrison

What if she dead.

Ed Gamble

Huh?

Patti Harrison

What if she dead? Would that be scary?

James Acaster

She's in the lamp, the queen?

Patti Harrison

Yes.

James Acaster

Oh, man, that would be scary, if I go back in the lamp at the end of this episode and the queens there.

Ed Gamble

Did we settle on whole milk by the way?

Patti Harrison

No, that was a joke, I would say some sort of bloody Mary. I love the, again, tomato sauce, anything savoury with, like, a bunch of-, not, like, too much. You know how sometimes there'll be like, 'We're putting the whole fucking hogey on the toothpick.' I'm like, 'That's a little too much for me, so-, ' but I'll have something fun on the toothpick.

James Acaster

Yes, so, what is the right balance here, of stuff, so, how spicy do you want it?

Patti Harrison

I would say a spicy but not nose-runny spicy, I don't like that feeling. I don't like sniffing, like going-,

James Acaster

Why?

Patti Harrison

Because eating food and then when you're like trying to wipe your nose it just feels like it inevitably gets in the food that you're eating.



James Acaster

Yes, you don't want snot in the food even though earlier you nearly ordered a bolognese full of shit, I'm just checking.

Patti Harrison

I think those two things can exist. I think I can like, not want to-, I think I can eat shit and tampons and still think snot is gross. Do you think, oh, because I eat a shit bolognese that, 'Oh, yummy, I'm going to eat boogers?' that's so fucking gross, that's too much gross stuff.

James Acaster

Sorry, yes.

Ed Gamble

Patti's here as our guest James and you've actually been quite confrontational throughout this whole episode.

James Acaster

I do, I acknowledge that.

Ed Gamble

Yes, thank you.

Patti Harrison

Did you see earlier when he-, it's just going to get cut out of the podcast anyway, they'll edit it out but I was, like, physically attacked.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I saw.

Patti Harrison

Yes, when I walked in I thought it was going in for a hug, picked me up by my neck and he said, 'Aargh.' he shook me and all my money came out of my pockets. And I was like, 'Oh my god, I'm being robbed', and he's like, 'I don't care about the fucking money.'

Ed Gamble

Yes, that is what happened.

Patti Harrison

And then you walked in and then he was like, 'Oh, hey, did you see the Kevin Spacey news, what's the deal with those submarine people?'

James Acaster

Yes, yes, I talked about all of that.



Ed Gamble

It was a good bit, it was a good bit.

Patti Harrison

A note to cut it all out.

Ed Gamble

No, the robbery's staying in.

James Acaster

The robbery?

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, that's all staying in.

Patti Harrison

Okay.

James Acaster

I also want to know what else, what accoutrement you do want in?

Ed Gamble

Yes, what's on the toothpick?

Patti Harrison

Well, there's got to be pickles of some sort. I like the little onions, I like the pickled onions. I like-, I really, not in any other capacity do I really like cornichons, but I don't like sweet pickles, I think that's gross. But I would do, like, maybe a toothpick that is around 30 inches long, I don't know how you measure that out here, like, 900 centimetres?

James Acaster

Do 30 inch.

Patti Harrison

900 stone and there would probably be, like, 30 cornichons on it, there'd be 20 little bulb pickled onions, there would be some lab-grown shrimp. There'd be a bunch of shrimp cocktail, there'd be a little dish that pops out and it has cocktail sauce on it. And then underneath it there would be a little clip that holds your phone so you can be on your phone, and then under that would be four to five more of the bulb onion pickles. And then for ice it will be French fries, I'm kidding, I don't want that, that sounds gross.

Ed Gamble

I don't mind, I don't mind.



James Acaster

Now you've just said that, if someone said, 'Do you want French fries in your bloody Mary?' I think I would say, 'Yes.'

Patti Harrison

I actually don't-, it's ketchup, that thing.

James Acaster

Yes, they would go soggy though, wouldn't they?

Ed Gamble

Yes, but I think it's something you at least say yes to the first time.

James Acaster

Yes, you'd try it.

Patti Harrison

Well, what if they did curly fries around the rim of a glass of shrimp around the rim of, like, cocktail thing. And it's curly fries and then it's, like, a thicker base for the bloody Mary that it could-, it functions. Because, if you put a bloody Mary-, a glass on a table and you're with friends, they're not going to be there long enough to be soggy. People will go after curly fries so fast.

James Acaster

Yes, that's true.

Ed Gamble

I'm really into that idea.

James Acaster

I love it.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Patti Harrison

The way you said it sounds like you just want to get shit over with.

Ed Gamble

No, I'm thinking about it.

James Acaster

Here's what I'm thinking.



Patti Harrison

You said, 'I really like that.'

James Acaster

Someone somewhere else in my head.

Patti Harrison

And then you fucking kicked me under the table.

James Acaster

Yes, really hard.

Patti Harrison

I'm kidding.

James Acaster

What I'm thinking is there's some bloody Mary mix in the fridge here last time I was in and I'm hoping it's still in there now she'd maybe want to drink it.

Ed Gamble

No, I'm thinking about pickles because I was just thinking, I went to a really nice place in LA, like a pickle stall and they did a pickle-tasting plate.

Patti Harrison

What was the pickle store in LA, do you remember?

Ed Gamble

I can't remember what it was called, I'm going to find out. It was in that market, that indoor market.

James Acaster

You live in LA, you've never seen a pickle store have you? He's making it up. Is he making it up, you've never seen a pickle store?

Patti Harrison

No, but I believe it would be there because they're really specific stores.

James Acaster

How long you lived there for?

Patti Harrison

For like four and a half years.

James Acaster

Do you not think you would have seen the pickle store if there was one?



Patti Harrison

But I moved there-, well, there was a year where I was essentially bi-coastal between New York and LA and that year I've, kind of, blacked out for trauma, but, because a lot of stuff happened to me. I think maybe it was at a store where they sold, I think-, oh it was pickles, yes, I got attacked a bunch at this store and then I just haven't gone back.

James Acaster

Your dream dessert?

Patti Harrison

I love savoury stuff, so I like when they do sweet stuff that stuff that's supposed to be sweet and then it ends up being more savoury because then the food just keeps on coming, it feels like dinner, it just keeps on going. So I would say some sort of savoury cake that looks like it's going to be a slice of red velvet cake and then you cut into it and you're like, 'Holly crap, that is a meatloaf.'

Ed Gamble

Now, this is probably James' worst nightmare I think.

Patti Harrison

Now why's that?

James Acaster

I'm trying to compute how I feel about it.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

It's weird.

Ed Gamble

So it's like the opposite of, like, you know that trend of is it cake? And people cut into things that you think aren't cake and it turns out they're cake. This is, like, the opposite, right, this is something you think is cake and it's actually not cake, it's meatloaf.

James Acaster

It would be a much harder TV show actually because they all look exactly like cakes, but it's called Is it cake? And actually, they're all savoury dishes but they-, visually you wouldn't be able to tell.

Ed Gamble

Or like objects.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, it's a table.



Patti Harrison

And someone's like cutting into it and the host of the show is like crying, they're like, 'Okay, what's happening?', I'm like, 'That's not cake, that's my niece.' And then they cut to it. Like a tooth, you see, like, a tooth.

Ed Gamble

That poor guy from SNL.

James Acaster

Yes, well, I don't know his name, one of David S. Pumpkins' backup dancers, that's all I know him as.

Patti Harrison

Oh, Mikey Day?

James Acaster

Yes, Mikey Day.

Ed Gamble

He dances for David S. Pumpkins.

James Acaster

He's the one that cuts into the cake.

Patti Harrison

Oh, yes. I think I saw, like, a funny infographic someone made as a joke, that was like-, and I don't talk about it any more. I see a lot of infographics on my algorithm that just don't feel like I should occupy space talking about this here, my algorithm is, kind of, bad right now.

James Acaster

Yes, why?

Patti Harrison

I had a, kind of, an anxiety a really anxious couple of weeks and I went into an anxiety spiral and I started looking up a lot of stuff about, just, like, animal attack-, fatal animal attack statistics. So then a lot of my feed now is still cluttered with videos of animal attacks and stuff.

James Acaster

That's really unfortunate Patti.

Patti Harrison

Yes.

Ed Gamble

I'm getting a lot of real police interview footage at the moment.



Patti Harrison

What do you mean?

Ed Gamble

Like, YouTube videos of, like, it's normally America from interrogation rooms. Of, like, 'This murderer thought he was going to get away with it, but he really dropped himself in it,' that sort of stuff.

Patti Harrison

So you used, what, like to watch the ones where the cops win?

James Acaster

Of course he does.

Ed Gamble

Well, yes, because they're not going to put the videos on of this murderer got away with it because then the murderer wouldn't have got away with it if they know that. So the cops win in all those videos because if the cops didn't win it wouldn't be a very good video would it?

James Acaster

It actually would.

Patti Harrison

Well, I watched videos where it's like, 'Watch this suspected criminal, absolutely serve.'

James Acaster

Oh, yes, like, run rings around them.

Ed Gamble

Oh yes. That sounds good.

Patti Harrison

It does happen and it does, kind of, feel nice.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I've seen those where they, like, break it down going, 'This is the right thing to do.' Because he's not saying anything. But those videos aren't very exciting when they don't say anything.

Patti Harrison

Do they do interrogation rooms like that here? The police don't carry guns, right?

James Acaster

I think-,



Ed Gamble

I've seen some British footage from integration rooms, but yes.

James Acaster

Have you?

Ed Gamble

I'm just saying that's my algorithm at the moment.

James Acaster

Ouch, I went to cross my legs and I smacked my knee on the desk, it really hurts.

Ed Gamble

So. James would be terrible in an interrogation.

Patti Harrison

I'll tell you right now, I have a really crazy bruise on my knee, do you want to see it?

James Acaster

Yes. That doesn't look that bad.

Patti Harrison

And then I scratched my leg when I- You know what, I haven't looked at it today and it was, kind of, crazier two days ago, I guess I should have-,

Ed Gamble

Yes, that's gone, that bruise has gone.

James Acaster

It's faded, you just showed us your knee and pointed at it.

Patti Harrison

Am I-, I'm not paid to be here.

James Acaster

I think you will be yes, you get paid.

Patti Harrison

How much?

James Acaster

For what just happened to you?



Patti Harrison

Yes. I get paid a lot of money in America.

James Acaster

How much do you get for I Think You Should Leave? How much do you get for that?

Patti Harrison

So, the first season I was just in the one sketch, so I made 900,000. The second season, so I was in two sketches, I got around \$45 million and they paid for my full body surgery and it, kind of, wasn't an option I'll be honest. They were like, 'You're getting full-', and I was like, 'If you're paying for it, great.' And then they said, 'We are.' I was like, 'Well awesome,' because that doesn't happen a lot. And then the third season I got a seat on that submarine but didn't end up going which is a good thing right, but yes, haven't been paid, so that's why I'm asking.

James Acaster

Yes, good on you. And we support you, just so you know. I'm going to read your menu back to you now, see how you feel about it.

Patti Harrison

Oh, it's written down?

James Acaster

You would like, sparkling water, you want sourdough outsides. Starter, spaghetti with red sauce. Main, 3D printed chicken congee. Side dish, fingerling potatoes with garlic. Drink, bloody Mary with a 30-inch skewer, cornichons, pickled onions, lab-grown shrimp, cocktail sauce, curly fries, holder for your phone. Desert, meatloaf that looks like red velvet cake.

Patti Harrison

Can I change the desert?

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Patti Harrison

It's going to be tapioca but when the server comes out they do a Donald Trump impression, they go, 'You're fired.' And then they just give you the tapioca. 'You're fired.'

James Acaster

Yes, you got it.



Ed Gamble

Perfect.

Patti Harrison

To the best of their ability.

Ed Gamble

Thank you for coming to the dream restaurant Patti.

James Acaster

Thank you, Patti.

Patti Harrison

Thank you both.

Ed Gamble

Thank you so much to Patti for coming into the dream restaurant.

James Acaster

I tell you what, very close to a cup of dog shit.

Ed Gamble

Very close.

James Acaster

That main course.

Ed Gamble

But she didn't pick the shit with tampons in it.

James Acaster

Didn't even pick the shit with tampons in it, but you know, it could have been a cup of dog shit round the corner so-, thanks for not picking it Patti, it was nice to have you in.

Ed Gamble

Thank you, it was lovely to have Patti in, I absolutely love Patti Harrison, I think it was a great episode.

James Acaster

I couldn't stop laughing that episode, so apologies to the listeners if it was just me laughing into my mic the whole time.

Ed Gamble

No, I love that. Yes, Benito was doing his little giggles as well.



James Acaster

Yes, he had a really nice day actually, Benito, today.

Ed Gamble

Oh, he was kicking his legs around like a little boy on a wall.

James Acaster

He was, he was loving it on his little wall. So congratulations to Benito.

Ed Gamble

Do go and see Patti live if you get the chance. Check out her website, social media, all that sort of stuff. And watch Shril, watch I Think You Should Leave, watch anything she's in.

James Acaster

Yes, and send Patti some nice videos so that her algorithm changes as well, that would be quite generous.

Ed Gamble

Yes, that would be very generous. I'm on tour James, I'm doing my show Hot Diggity dog, all over the UK.

James Acaster

Good title, I forgot it was called that.

Ed Gamble

Going all over the UK apart from to the bits that I'm not going to and I'm sorry about that.

James Acaster

Well, you're not though.

Ed Gamble

No, I'm not. You know what, booking a tour's really hard because you've got to get the right venue on the right day and sometimes you just can't do that.

James Acaster

Sometimes you can't do that, sometimes you don't want to go to their stinking towns.

Ed Gamble

No, I would go to any stinking town where people would come, to be honest. But I'm not-, also, I'm not going to go from, like, Cornwall to Scotland so if the routing doesn't work out, sorry.

James Acaster

Sorry, but-,



Ed Gamble

I'll try another time, I will.

James Acaster

You should move closer to Scotland.

Ed Gamble

Yes, if you live in Cornwall.

James Acaster

Thank you very much for listening, we will see you again sometime soon. Bye Bye.

Ed Gamble

Bye.