



Off Menu – Ep 224 – CMAT

Ed Gamble

Welcome to the Off Menu Podcast, taking the white bread of conversation, spreading on the butter of humour, slicing the cheese of the internet and adding a healthy dose of the pickle of friendship, James.

James Acaster

That sounds like a cheese and pickle sandwich to me.

Ed Gamble

Cheese and pickle podcast.

James Acaster

That is Ed Gamble, my name is James Acaster, together we own a dream restaurant, and every single week we invite in a guest and ask them their favourite ever starter, main course, dessert, side dish and drink, not in that order. And this week, our guest is CMAT.

Ed Gamble

CMAT, a brilliant musician, she's got a brilliant album called *Crazymad, For Me*.

James Acaster

Don't forget the comma, Ed. And *Crazymad* is one word.

Ed Gamble

Crazymad. *Crazymad, For Me*.

James Acaster

Very good.

Ed Gamble

Thank you very much. She is touring later this year as well, James.

James Acaster

Yes, very exciting. The album's great, you should check it out if you haven't heard it.

Ed Gamble

Absolutely.

James Acaster

And you should go and get tickets to the tour as well.



Ed Gamble

Yes. And I am reliably informed that she is a foodie, James. She knows her stuff.

James Acaster

Yes. Yes. That's very important for the touring life, of course. So hopefully that will serve her well on the road. We'll hear all about that. I mean, I hope that we get some dishes from around the world maybe, a sort of touring musician.

Ed Gamble

She's travelling around. But we are big fans of CMAT, sure.

James Acaster

So are all of our girlfriends.

Ed Gamble

So too are all of our girlfriends.

James Acaster

This is for you, this is for you.

Ed Gamble

Are we dedicating this to our girlfriends, are we?

James Acaster

Yes. Your wife, Benito's civil partner and my girlfriend.

Ed Gamble

What a complicated-, just the women in our lives.

James Acaster

We couldn't do this without you. We love you. You changed our lives.

Ed Gamble

I can't wait for you to win an Oscar.

James Acaster

Yes?

Ed Gamble

Would you do that in your Oscar speech?

James Acaster

I would, yeah, I would do that in my Oscar speech. And say, 'For all of our partners'. Yes, yes.



Ed Gamble

For Ed Gamble's wife.

James Acaster

We couldn't do what we do without you.

Ed Gamble

The great Benito's civil partner and my girlfriend. I couldn't do what I did without you.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

I love you, you changed my life.

Ed Gamble

If CMAT says a secret ingredient that we have pre-agreed upon, then she will be kicked out of the dream restaurant. And often, it's an ingredient we think's disgusting but sometimes it relates directly to the guest's work. And it's one of those today because the secret ingredient is KFC.

James Acaster

KFC.

Ed Gamble

KFC. I didn't know you were going to do it like that. I didn't know you were going to go K-F-C. Because no one says it like that.

James Acaster

What? Everyone says it like that?

Ed Gamble

Do you?

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Is it?

James Acaster

Yes.



Ed Gamble

Kettering Fried Chicken.

James Acaster

K-F-C. Because the football club are called Kettering Town F.C.

Ed Gamble

KTFC.

James Acaster

Yes. So if you're saying KFC too fast, people mishear it. Think you're going to football. So you have to spell it out K-F-C. Kentucky Fried Chicken.

Ed Gamble

Well, CMAT has a song called 'Another Day (KFC)'.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

I've been to a KFC with you before, James.

James Acaster

Yes, you filmed me ordering and they told you to stop filming.

Ed Gamble

Yes they did. Respect to the people at KFC.

James Acaster

Full respect, we couldn't do what we do without you.

Ed Gamble

We love you so much.

James Acaster

You changed our lives.

Ed Gamble

This is the Off Menu Menu of CMAT.

Welcome, CMAT, to the dream restaurant.

CMAT

Hiya.



James Acaster

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

CMAT

Cool, thank you. Have you? Have you known who I am for some time?

James Acaster

Since before you were born.

Ed Gamble

Well, James is a genie so he sort of hovers above all of time and space.

CMAT

Yes. Do you know my mum?

James Acaster

Yes.

CMAT

What's her name?

James Acaster

DMAT.

CMAT

Yes.

Ed Gamble

It shouldn't be DMAT though, should it? It should be BMAT.

James Acaster

Fuck.

CMAT

Why? Why BMAT?

Ed Gamble

Because she comes before CMAT in the alphabet.

James Acaster

Yes, it should be BMAT, really.

Ed Gamble

And your grandmother is AMAT.



James Acaster

That's for your grandmother.

CMAT

Yes.

James Acaster

I don't know your mum. Do you know your mum?

CMAT

Yes. Her name is Sinead.

James Acaster

Sinead. And what's Sinead into?

CMAT

She loves running. She did loads of marathons back in the day although her ankles are a bit in bits now because of it and she really wants me to not run marathons, which is fine because I don't want to do that.

James Acaster

She makes you promise not to run marathons.

CMAT

Yes. And she loves, unfortunately, no, she doesn't love it anymore, but when I was growing up, I mean, if we're going to talk about food, my mother's really not a good cook, bless her. Because she was well into the Weight Watchers things. So there was a lot of, like, pre-packaged food, a lot of Curly Wurly bars put in the freezer and then smashed up into little bits and we weren't allowed to have them. And it was like a Weight Watchers thing where you'd, like, break up a bit of the chocolate and then have, like, a little bit throughout the day so that your sweetness was satiated but you were only having, like, 100 calories. That kind of thing.

James Acaster

Wow. Smahsing up the Curly Wurly..

Ed Gamble

Wow. When you said Curly Wurly in the freezer and smashed up I was like, 'That sounds quite good.'

CMAT

That sounds good if you have it in one go.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes. Or on the top of an ice cream, or something.



CMAT

But you're saving it throughout the day. Yes. As a topping on ice cream.

James Acaster

That's exactly what I thought.

CMAT

Yes.

James Acaster

Straight away, put it on a sundae.

CMAT

No, it's actually sadder than that. But yes. I feel like my very intense affinity for food culture and my love of food in general is, like, a continuing act of teenage rebellion in a way. Like I feel like I got really into weird food really performatively when I was a teenager to be like, 'I'm not like you.'

Ed Gamble

Was there any particular items of food that would really stick it to your Ma?

CMAT

I mean, I don't think it's sticking it to her any more because she's, like, a nice person. And is like, 'Oh, that's great that my daughter likes things.' Like, she's not a bitch. Am I allowed to swear on this podcast?

Ed Gamble

Yes, you go for it.

CMAT

She's not a fucking bitch.

James Acaster

I wasn't saying she was a bitch.

CMAT

Are you calling Sinead a bitch?

Ed Gamble

Unbelievable.

James Acaster

I didn't think Sinead was a bitch.



Ed Gamble

CMAT's been on here for three minutes and you've called her mum a bitch.

CMAT

No, she's not. She's a legend. But I feel like anything, and this is a word that my boyfriend uses all the time, unctuous, anything unctuous, you know? Butter, butter, stock, salt. Like anything that's absolutely laden with fat was, like, illegal in Ireland diet culture world of the, like, 2000s to early 2010s. So like, using butter in general was like, ahhh.

Ed Gamble

It's nice that butter got two shout-outs there on the list.

James Acaster

Butter butter.

CMAT

I can't stress enough the importance of butter.

Ed Gamble

I mean, you don't need to tell us. But let's talk about butter for a bit.

CMAT

Yes. I spend probably an inordinate amount of money on butter in my adult life, because I like to get the one that's really posh. Have you ever seen that video of that French man who owns a butter factory, the handmade butter factory?

Ed Gamble

No, but I want to.

James Acaster

No, but I like the fact it's referred to as that video, like it's something that everyone knows.

CMAT

It's a bit of a sacred text for me because I've probably watched this video easily 200 times in my life, and I put it on when I'm drunk. And it's all in French but his name is Monsieur Bordier and he owns Bordier Butter, and every time he talks about butter he starts to cry. And he, like, hand-cranks it through a malaxage machine. It's like the only one left. It's the only original one left from, like, the 1500s and he makes his men use it because he's, like, 'If there's no love in the butter then I don't want it.' And he genuinely cries about three times during this video about how proud he is of the butter that he makes.

Ed Gamble

So his job is to make this butter and he's making it all day.



CMAT

Yes.

Ed Gamble

How do you cry about something you're doing all day?

CMAT

I guess he was being filmed and so he was reflecting on his life's work and he was just overwhelmed at how much he loves his life's work. Because it is just butter. But it is absolutely incredible. And you can only really get it in France because they don't send it overseas, because they're like, 'No, that's going to ruin it. Like, it's going to ruin the butter.' I think maybe you can get it in some dodgy places, like, black market butter.

Ed Gamble

Black market Bordier.

CMAT

Yes, black market Bordier. But it's all handmade, it's all little paddles. And he's like, 'I could make money. I don't want money. I want to be a nice little man who has nice little butter.' And he just goes on and on about it.

Ed Gamble

Is that quote?

CMAT

It's like a translation of the French where he calls himself a nice little man who makes nice little butter.

Ed Gamble

I love him.

CMAT

And again, he's intermittently crying through this whole video. I will send it to you at some point. I'll find it. I'm immediately going to find it afterwards.

Ed Gamble

Have you had this butter before?

CMAT

No. I haven't. I haven't been able to find it. And I go to Paris semi-frequently because of music and every single time I probably dedicate about a half an hour to trying to just, like, find. I'm like, 'Okay, I have a half an hour between soundcheck and whatever, let me walk around and see.' I could probably put more effort in. But I think it has to be as magical as I think it's going to be. But they do loads of different flavours. They do, like, seaweed. So you put seaweed through it, and he does like, a chilli. But he does loads of flavoured butters and then, like, salted, unsalted. I think about it all the time.



Ed Gamble

And now I'm going to.

James Acaster

Also, once on the podcast a while ago, we had Joe Thomas on and he mentioned a guy called Willie who did a show called Willie's Perfect Chocolate Christmas, and we ended up doing an episode with Willie and Joe in the future. So you and the little butter man, maybe we'll do a special in the future if we can track him down.

CMAT

That would be great craic because he definitely doesn't speak English and I think that could add a level of tension to the podcast.

Ed Gamble

But we'll know when he's talking about butter because he'll burst into tears.

CMAT

He'll start crying. Yes. Monsieur Bordier. What a man. I love him so much.

Ed Gamble

A nice little man.

James Acaster

Would you say you're Crazymad for butter?

CMAT

I like that, yes.

Ed Gamble

What a link. Linking into the promo.

James Acaster

That's a good link, right?

CMAT

I thought it was good.

James Acaster

Not bad.

CMAT

It was alright.



Ed Gamble

But for it to be a good link, what would happen there is you'd very then smoothly move into the actual promo rather than just talking for ages about the link itself. Because now it's not a link, now you're going to have to awkwardly gearshift into talking about the album.

James Acaster

But I thought you would, like, pick up the baton.

Ed Gamble

The baton? The baton. Okay, I'll pick up the baton. Your new album is called *Crazymad, For Me*.

CMAT

It is called *Crazymad, For Me*. And it's been a bit of a wild ride recently. Because I was like, 'Oh yes, I'm going to release an album and then it's just going to plop out.' And then the people who like me, will be like 'Oh yes, that's a good album.' And then I'll just continue on. But it seems, I think because of a couple of television appearances that I've done recently that there is now, like, ten times the amount of people looking at and listening to me. And that is a bit terrifying. And it keeps me awake at night.

Ed Gamble

It's weird that sort of thing, isn't it? Because I think we all get that, working in creative industries where you've got people who really like your stuff. And you're like, 'Great, they'll enjoy something I do.' And the aim should be for more people to see it. But then you're like, 'Oh no, other people, strangers.'

CMAT

Then it happens and I'm like, 'Fuck.'

Ed Gamble

And it's more casual people who might just end up going, 'Oh, I'll have a little listen to this.'

CMAT

Yes. And I think it's an interesting one because, like, what I do is definitely niche. Like, I find it even funny that I'm on, like, this podcast doing things that normal people who have normal jobs in media do because I don't really consider myself in that bracket of people, if you know what I mean. Like, because my music is weird. But then people seem to be enjoying it, so I don't really know what's going on. Like, I have songs about Vincent Kompany and stuff. And then it's also about me cutting all my hair off when I lived in Manchester and then taping it to the wall because I had a complete mental breakdown. And it's also country music, but it also sounds like Meatloaf. So I find the whole thing that's been happening recently very puzzling because I didn't think it was going to happen, do you know what I mean?

Ed Gamble

Well, I guess a lot of people will have done all those things separately, maybe one of those things. And people like country music, people like Meatloaf.



James Acaster

And loads of massive pop stars and weird and sing about weird things. And, like, now genre is not even a thing. People do mash up stuff now. So people are way more open now to things like that. You know, it's great.

CMAT

Yes it is great, it is great. But it feels like it's now starting to move out of the niche and I'm like, 'What's all this then?'

James Acaster

I think the big leap is when you say, like, ten times as many. Because I think what we've experienced as comedians is by increments each time.

Ed Gamble

Yes, tiny increments.

James Acaster

So I've never had it. I've never experienced what you're talking about where suddenly it's like, bam. Ten times as many people. And that is, like, mad.

CMAT

And what's weird is that's happened in like, the last two to three weeks, right? Like I also had that incremental build. Like, I've been working for years with nothing happening. And then first single as CMAT had a little bit of, you know, I probably had 3,000 followers and everyone was enjoying it, was having a great time. But two weeks ago we were on the Graham Norton Show and it's literally been non-stop since then. And that's been crazy because I just, like, hang out in my house and do things. And then my mam will be like, 'This person was talking about you and this person was talking about you and this person was talking about you.' And I'm like, 'Great.'

Ed Gamble

That's when you know things have got bigger, if your mum knows people who are talking about you.

CMAT

Oh yes. The way that I know that I've truly, I'm on the road to making it, is that my local pub, Brady's in Dunboyne, shout out Brady's in Dunboyne, absolutely best pint of Guinness in probably the world, 100 million per cent. Dunboyne, County Meath. They have all these cabinets in the pub, it's like, a long pub. They have all these cabinets in the pub and, like, framed photographs on the wall. And all just like, do you know GAA? It's like Irish football, it's like Gaelic football, Irish football. So there are like, GAA teams, hurling teams, another Irish sport, there's, like, a rugby player called Trevor Brennan who has his own cabinet because he's won loads of trophies playing for Ireland. But he's not even from Dunboyne so I don't really know how he got there. But all these things. And now there is me.

Ed Gamble

You've got your own cabinet?



CMAT

I don't have my own cabinet, but I'm working towards it.

Ed Gamble

One day.

CMAT

I've been considering, because I have a lot of trophies and stuff. Because I've got two number one album trophies now and I've got a Choice Music Prize. And I'm kind of just like, 'If I just give them all to Brady's in Dunboyne will they give me a cabinet? Will they kick out Trevor Brennan and give me my own cabinet?' Because that for me is the mark of success.

Ed Gamble

Kicking out Brennan.

CMAT

Yes. Kicking out the rugby players and the GAA Ladies Team. Get out of there. 1996, no one remembers you. Leave. That's my plan.

Ed Gamble

What do you think you'd have to get in order-, because what you've already listed is enough but, you know.

CMAT

It should be enough but maybe if I got like, an Ivor Novello or something nice. Some songwriting award or something. I don't know. Who knows?

Ed Gamble

I don't feel like that's going to sway them, to be honest. I don't think the Ivor Novello is what's going to put you over the edge at the pub.

CMAT

I think it might be, when you play on the Graham Norton Show, you get a tote bag that says The Graham Norton Show on it.

Ed Gamble

That's more likely to be that.

CMAT

If I give them that, like, do you know what I mean? And then put stuff inside of it.

Ed Gamble

And you've come on here and said it's the best pint of Guinness in the world.



CMAT

It genuinely, and I don't know if that's because of obviously, nostalgia and where it is. But I've never had a better pint of Guinness in my life and I've drunk a significant amount of Guinness in my life. I've never had a better pint than in Brady's.

James Acaster

Is that where you had your first pint of Guinness, was in Brady's?

CMAT

No, I don't think so. I would have had it in Whelan's in the music pub in Dublin. Definitely would have had my first pint in Whelan's and not enjoyed it that much. But Guinness is an acquired taste so when you first drink Guinness, you're like, 'This is disgusting. Why do families get ruined by it?' Sorry, I don't know why that's the first thing that came to my mind. Why are entire empires built on this horrible black liquid? And then it takes you.

Ed Gamble

I mean, my first pint of Guinness would have been in a terrible pub in London.

CMAT

Yes.

Ed Gamble

And I was still like, 'Hey, this is nice.' So imagine what I'm going to be like if I go to Brady's.

CMAT

Have you ever had a pint of Guinness in Ireland?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

CMAT

Okay, well then, you have probably had some approximation of a good pint of Guinness. Because I was worried that you've only drunk it in London.

Ed Gamble

No, and I've drunk it in nicer places in London where everyone says it's better. But also, I've had it in Ireland and it probably is better but I'm starting to think that's a myth.

CMAT

It's not a myth. It's actually the fucking truth and I will not sit here and listen to an English man tell them that there's no discrepancy between quality of Guinness country to country because there is.



James Acaster

I was trying to remember, because I was like, I've had a conversation with someone recently who insisted that it's not different. And who was it? And I've just remembered it was Ed.

Ed Gamble

I choose violence sometimes.

James Acaster

I was opposing his point of view.

CMAT

Well, thank you, James.

James Acaster

Along with my friend who insists it's different and always, when they say they're going to go to Dublin they always put on an Irish accent and say, 'I'm going to have a pint of the black stuff.'

CMAT

Okay, well that I'm not loving. But thank you for your general Irish solidarity.

James Acaster

That's not Ed, that's a friend of ours.

Ed Gamble

I'll tell you why I started rebelling against this point of view because in England, that's something that English wankers say. Where they're having a pint of Guinness and they'll go, 'I'll tell you what, it's much better in Ireland, actually. You've not had Guinness unless you've gone to Ireland.' Like, tossers say that.

CMAT

Okay. I see that. I see that. However, there are two things in it, right? One is travel time. Guinness has to be, like, fresh. It has to be quite fresh. I was just in Chicago recently and they've just gotten the Guinness brewery. I think it's the first one outside of Dublin. They built it in Chicago, which is absolutely hilarious to me that they were like, 'It's got to be Chicago.' But also, because of the freshness, you need to get rid of the keg quite quickly. It can't sit there, right? People very predominantly only drink Guinness and Beamish and Murphy's, the three big stouts, like, it will be the only thing they drink. So you can get rid of a keg in a day in a pub in Ireland, right? Which means that it's just, like, staying nice and the tap is running. Whereas in London, you could have a keg sitting there for a week and it's just not going to be good.

Ed Gamble

That's interesting.



CMAT

I think that's actually the bigger point, that it's not getting run through quick enough. Also, last point re Guinness. Unbelievable ingredient in food. Two of the nicest home-cooked dishes I've ever made in my life was like, a Guinness cake and a Guinness stew. But the Guinness stew, I'm not going to lie had at least a half a block of butter in it as well. Like, easily, easily half a block. Maybe close to a full block of Kerrygold. Which is absolutely lit butter as well. But yes, it's an unbelievable ingredient.

Ed Gamble

I completely. I've made Guinness stews before, I made a Guinness chocolate cake on Celebrity Bake Off.

CMAT

Did you?

Ed Gamble

Yes, I love it. Absolutely love it.

CMAT

What else did you make on Bake Off?

Ed Gamble

I made some gingerbread skull biscuits that didn't quite work out. They were a bit too-

CMAT

Was it thin gingerbread or was it thick gingerbread?

Ed Gamble

It was thin, but they had to have, like, little, you know when you crush boiled sweets and put them in to make a little window? So they had, like, red boiled sweets eyes. But I think I just didn't put them in the oven for long enough. So they were a bit cookie-ish, which was a shame. And then we had to do raspberry doughnuts for the technical, which we all fucked up massively.

CMAT

That's really hard. Have you, sorry, I'm going to go off on a tangent now because you said gingerbread and gingerbread is maybe my favourite thing in the world. Have you ever been to Cumbria?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes.



CMAT

Right. Are you aware that William Wordsworth's sister invented a patented type of Cumbrian gingerbread that you can still only buy from this one bakery in Cumbria. In Grasmere. It's called Grasmere gingerbread.

James Acaster

I've got some in my cupboard at home?

CMAT

Isn't it unreal?

James Acaster

It's good stuff.

CMAT

I ordered two boxes of it because we just did a week of rehearsals because we're going on tour in, like, a couple of days. I ordered two boxes of it to satiate the crew and the band and just every so often when someone looked like they were going to kill each other I would just force feed them some Grasmere gingerbread and they were like, 'Mm, that's so delicious.' And I was, like, 'Yes, I know it is.' Distraction tactic. But also, the nicest shit I've ever had in my life.

Ed Gamble

I did not know this.

CMAT

It's really good. It's really, really good. Do you know as well, she sells-, she's dead, it's Sarah Nelson and she's long gone. May she rest in peace. Because it's covered in this crumbly breadcrumb, gingerbread breadcrumb thing, they sell big bags of just those crumbs for £3 so you can make it in, like, a cheesecake.

James Acaster

Wow.

CMAT

Do you know, like you can make a cheesecake with that or you can sprinkle it on top of other things. Unreal. It's only £3.

Ed Gamble

Straight in the mouth, right?

CMAT

I was going to say.



Ed Gamble

No one's making a fucking cheesecake with that.

CMAT

No. I would be shovelling it straight into my mouth.

James Acaster

It's great stuff.

Ed Gamble

This is about crumbs. You'll love this story, and I'm not sure I've told it on the podcast before.

James Acaster

I don't remember a crumb story.

Ed Gamble

My wife told me the other day that when she was a little kid at nursery and primary school that if it was someone's birthday, that a cake would get brought in. And rather than just everyone getting a slice, the teacher would make it into crumbs and then make all the kids sit there with their mouths open like that and then drop the crumbs into their mouths. And it was called birdy crumbs.

James Acaster

I do love that. Of course I love that.

CMAT

That is really disturbing.

Ed Gamble

It's pretty disturbing when you think about it, isn't it?

CMAT

Why would they do that? Were there other adults around?

Ed Gamble

I don't know. But all the kids are lined up with their mouths open for birdy crumbs.

James Acaster

I definitely don't think any teacher would do that now, even though it's not technically out of order. I think you would still be like, 'I feel like I'm pushing some sort of boundary here.'

CMAT

It would be one thing if they've, like, you know like when you pull meat and you shred it with a fork. Say they get the cake, they shred it up and then they get a spoon and spoon it onto individual plates and



then the kids do the birdy crumbs themselves. But you're telling me that an adult human made the children stand in line and feed them-,

Ed Gamble

Birdy crumbs. Yes. That's the bit, isn't it?

CMAT

They may as well chew it and then spit it into their mouths like a fucking bird. Like, what's going on?

James Acaster

Regurgitate it.

Ed Gamble

Pretty weird.

CMAT

Like starlings. Do starlings do that? Ace Ventura does that.

James Acaster

Yes, Ace Ventura does it in the second film.

CMAT

That film hasn't aged well at all. It's really bad.

James Acaster

No, neither of them have aged well.

Ed Gamble

No, both of them got some-,

James Acaster

Pretty bad.

CMAT

Jim Carey hasn't aged well in general. Not physically. I think he look fabulous.

James Acaster

He looks great. Jim, you look great.

Ed Gamble

We always start with still or sparkling water, CMAT. Do you have a preference?



CMAT

Still. I'm not a psychopath. I want still water with my meal. I really, really dislike fizzy water. I will only have it in the context of, is there a half of a lemon squeezed in? Do you know what I mean? Like if it's lemony and fizzy and there's, like, a flavour there. Otherwise I feel like something bad is happening in my brain when it's in my mouth because it's wrong. Like, you don't expect it to sparkle, do you know?

James Acaster

Even if you see it coming and you know it's sparkling water?

Ed Gamble

And you've asked for it?

CMAT

You don't expect it because it's water. It's supposed to satiate you and it's supposed to run through your body in a normal way that doesn't cause discomfort or stress. But it does when it's fizzy.

Ed Gamble

So even if you know it's fizzy, they've brought it, they've poured it in the glass, you know it's going to be fizzy, your body still goes, 'Hang on, what the fuck's going on?'

CMAT

Yes. It's not right. And as well, like, the point of water with your meal is to help digestion. Fizzy water, it just feels counter-intuitive. And it doesn't feel neutral. It's supposed to be a neutral delicious substance that brings health and vitality. And fizzy water is like eating TV static or something. It's just, it's wrong. I know a lot of people use that comparison, but it's right. Or white noise. Not good. Sorry, I've made a lot of noises in the microphone.

Ed Gamble

No, it's great. We love it.

James Acaster

It's a podcast, it's an audio medium. The noises the better.

CMAT

(clown horn) Is that a noise?

James Acaster

You can the little clown horn.

Ed Gamble

You could be Jim Carey.

James Acaster

Although you did it with two hands there.



CMAT

Awooga. That's another noise.

James Acaster

Another horn. I think the mask does that noise. Has the mask aged well?

CMAT

Oh, I don't know. But Cameron Diaz is the most beautiful woman I've ever seen on screen in that. I think that's the best a person has ever looked in a film is Cameron Diaz in that movie.

Ed Gamble

Walking into the bank.

James Acaster

Yes, when she walks into the bank.

Ed Gamble

First appearance.

CMAT

I love her. She's married to a Good Charlotte. Did you know that?

Ed Gamble

She is.

James Acaster

I didn't know she was married to one of the Good Charlottes.

CMAT

It's standing the test of time, they've been together for, like, fifteen years. Which is like 70 years.

Ed Gamble

I think she's married to Benji. Benji or Joel.

James Acaster

You've stumbled into Ed's area of expertise.

CMAT

Really?

Ed Gamble

Well no. Also, I did know that because I've just started watching the new series of Ink Master and Joel Madden is the new host of Ink Master.



CMAT

And is that the Cameron Diaz one?

Ed Gamble

No, I think that's the other one.

CMAT

That's the Nicole Richie one. Because the other one was married to Nicole Richie.

Ed Gamble

That's the Nicole Richie one. Yes, that's the Nicole Richie one.

CMAT

I bet they're charming as hell. You've got to be funny and charming as hell to keep up with the wondrous master that is Cameron Diaz.

Ed Gamble

But you know, they're known for believing that girls don't like boys, girls like cars and money. So they must feel on edge every day.

James Acaster

That is one of the few Good Charlotte songs I know, actually.

CMAT

And they've both married women who are definitely infinitely wealthier than them. So it just goes to show you what's going on. Love them. I actually love them, they seem like such good vibes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I went to a CDUK special recording of Good Charlotte.

CMAT

Woah.

Ed Gamble

They only did three songs. They had to go all the way to Hammersmith.

CMAT

Cat Deeley.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Deely, legend.

CMAT

Cat Deeley UK. Isn't that what that was?



Ed Gamble

I don't think, did it stand for Cat Deeley UK? That's going to blow my mind if it did.

CMAT

Because she was on it.

Ed Gamble

She was the host, yes.

CMAT

I thought that's why it was called CDUK, it was Cat Deeley UK.

Ed Gamble

I thought it was just CD because CDs have music on them. Or was that a double meaning?

James Acaster

It works on two levels.

Ed Gamble

Wow.

CMAT

There you go, love her, queen of Ireland.

James Acaster

I wrote a poem for her once sent it in to SMTV.

Ed Gamble

Hang on, what? Hang on.

James Acaster

Did you?

Ed Gamble

James, why have you never told me this?

James Acaster

I thought you knew. I thought you knew that.

Ed Gamble

No. Can you remember any of the poem and I need to know immediately-,

James Acaster

Yes, I can remember the whole thing but I'm not going to recite it.



CMAT

Recite it.

James Acaster

It's too embarrassing.

CMAT

Recite it.

Ed Gamble

James, it's already, you've already told us that you wrote a poem to Cat Deeley.

CMAT

Was it like very, was it giving William Wordsworth or was it giving like Andrew Diceman Clay or something? Hickory, dickory dock.

Ed Gamble

Did it start a little-,

James Acaster

A little bit, a little bit of a crossover I think. I thought it was going to be a funny poem but I think it came off-,

Ed Gamble

Was it horny?

James Acaster

Quite horny. Well, or just very earnest like I was in, it was, I was 11, I wrote the poem and sent it in.

Ed Gamble

Benito, can we book Cat Deeley for this podcast please? I've met her before, she's great.

James Acaster

Let's not talk about booking other guests in front of, midway through-,

CMAT

No so fair. You're just going to have to bring me back when she's here, be like, hello.

James Acaster

Poppadoms or bread, poppadoms or bread CMAT, poppadoms or bread.

CMAT

Bread.



James Acaster

Yes.

CMAT

Obviously. I mean, with my meal, poppadoms are delicious and I do love them but with my meal that I have in my head planned out for today's events, it's got to be bread. Also, I love bread, maybe it might seem obvious but a lot of my tastes lie in French stuff, like French food, I think is my general food taste and, like, oh my god, 90 cent baguette that you just get in any fucking boulangerie in any part of Northern France and it like cracks, do you know, it goes, like that and then I'll eat a whole thing, I'll eat a whole thing, unreal.

James Acaster

So, if you went to a boulangerie in Paris and you were walking back to your house with the bread and it's sticking out the top of the packet, do you wait until you get back to where you are or are you going to bite the top off on your way back?

CMAT

Absolutely not, I'm going to bite the top off. I'm going to do that thing where it's like under my arm, poking out of a tote bag realistically, like, quite a deep tote bag-

James Acaster

Graham Norton tote bag?

CMAT

I'll be walking and maybe I'm using my phone and (crunch bite noise), like that movement, where it's like tucked in but it's like hands free access to the baguette I think.

Ed Gamble

I love that you're on the phone while this is happening as well.

James Acaster

Who are you on the phone to?

CMAT

I'm just doing business. I'm a pop star, I'm a busy woman. I'd be like, 'Yes, I went all those sheets on my desk by Monday.' You know?

Ed Gamble

The person on the other end is going, 'CMAT, did you just bite a baguette?'

James Acaster

'CMAT, be honest.'



CMAT

Yes, I did. And I'd do it again.

Ed Gamble

Are we going with the Monsieur Bordier butter with-

James Acaster

Or the Kerrygold?

CMAT

Oh, I mean, listen, Kerrygold is absolutely fabulous and it's tried and tested but I think because this is my dream and I haven't had it yet, I'm going with the Bordier butter.

Ed Gamble

You've got to go Bordier butter.

CMAT

Actually, I'm going with, right, this is what I imagine, because I know you use lots of different butters, I'm imagining, like, a plinth, a plank. You would have on a plank, wouldn't you? You know, sorry, that's a-, have you ever seen that episode of Come Dine With Me with the Welsh girl who just uses her hands to toss the chips?

Ed Gamble

No.

CMAT

So, she's, like, from Wales and was like, 'For my episode of Come Dine With Me I'm going to go to TK Maxx and buy loads of planks. Like wooden chopping boards.' So she serves every single dish on a plank.

Ed Gamble

Fantastic.

CMAT

And she keeps on like, 'If you were in a posh restaurant you would have it on a plank, wouldn't you? You would have it on planks.' Yes, like, she just keeps saying the word plank.

Ed Gamble

I've not seen that one, obviously I know all the big hits from Come Dine With Me, the sad little life, and the guy with the whisk in his mouth.

CMAT

I think she's a big hit, I honestly think she's coming up the ranks. She's a new addition to the pantheon of Come Dine With Me content but she is definitely, she is, like, stirring the food. You know the way you



would stir it with, like, a spoon or a wooden spatula? She just has her oven mitt and she's doing it with the oven mitt.

Ed Gamble

Oh, with the oven-, it's even worse with the oven mitt on for some reason.

CMAT

It's disgusting, it's so gross. And then she's just forking everything on to a plank, it's so good. She's, like, deconstructed pavlova and it's just, like, loads of smashed up bits of food on a plank.

Ed Gamble

That's great.

CMAT

And then she gets a bit of sauce and goes like this and she's like, 'Design.' But anyway, so I would have it on a plank. I would have a little, like, dollop-y selection of different butters, like a butter flight, if you will.

Ed Gamble

Nice.

CMAT

I think, like, seaweed, chilli, salted, unsalted, whatever, and then I would-,

James Acaster

They're all salted with tears.

CMAT

Maybe instead of spreading, because I'm a freak I would just, like, rip off a bit of bread and just, like, smear it, do you know what I mean? And just go in, I want to taste that butter.

Ed Gamble

Yes, you'd have to try them all separately first maybe and then do the wipe.

CMAT

Yes, like get a little spoon and eat like this.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, yes.

James Acaster

Give you unlimited, we'll keep the planks coming.



Ed Gamble

Yes.

CMAT

Yes, also side note, I was recently in a restaurant in New York and it was a Jewish-Japanese fusion restaurant and they had, like, a challah bread but it was like a little mini challah bread, and it was absolutely gorgeous but they served it with a cinnamon raisin butter.

Ed Gamble

Wow.

CMAT

And it was like a sweet and savoury experience that absolutely blew my fucking balls off, it was so good. Like, it was so fucking tasty.

Ed Gamble

They missed the Japanese fusion on that bit.

CMAT

I don't think there was any Japanese in there, it was just Jewish but it was absolutely fabulous. It was absolutely fabulous. To be honest, I can't remember the name of the restaurant, it was a good restaurant but, like-,

Ed Gamble

I've heard of the place, what's it called?

CMAT

Yes, Shalom, yes.

Ed Gamble

Shalom Japan.

CMAT

It was really, really nice but their version of, like, Jewish and Japanese fusion was, like, it's a bowl of ramen but they've just put a matza ball on it. Like everything else then is just ramen but it just has mots balls in it.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, yes.

CMAT

I was, listen-,



Ed Gamble

It sounds good.

CMAT

It was fucking great, would recommend, but that bread and their raisin and cinnamon, whatever that was, was so good.

James Acaster

But you're going for the French baguette with the plank of butter?

CMAT

I think if I'm on my death bed I'm like, 'Give me bread and give me a flight of butter.' Do you know?

James Acaster

Yes, yes, made by the crying man.

CMAT

Yes, yes, yes, so that's me-,

Ed Gamble

Would you like the crying man serve it to you?

CMAT

Who's the crying man?

James Acaster

From your videos.

Ed Gamble

Well, it's Monsieur Bordier.

CMAT

Oh, yes. Oh, yes, sorry. Abso-fucking-lutely, and I want him to eat the entire meal with me and tell me stories about his life because I think he's a very interesting man.

Ed Gamble

How quickly would him crying all the time get annoying?

CMAT

I'd actually probably just start crying with him, I'd go on that journey with him. I'm quite an empath, do you know? Like, if he's crying about his life's work I'd just start crying about my life's work, do you know? Like, wow, I'm so proud of that song.



Ed Gamble

And then I think he'd start crying about, about that as well.

CMAT

Like, I put headphones on him and he'd be like, 'Wow, it is so good, I love this song.' That's my French accent.

James Acaster

It's good.

Ed Gamble

It was great, I liked it.

James Acaster

It's good, yes, yes.

CMAT

They make that noise a lot, 'Weh.'

James Acaster

Yes, that's them saying, 'Yes.'

CMAT

'Weh.'

James Acaster

Your dream starter.

CMAT

Okay, my dream starter, and luckily dreams do come true because I think I've had this multiple times this year. It's basically interchangeable but it's the same thing, I've been in two restaurants this year that have served a variation of the same starter which essentially was an artichoke that is lightly battered in flour but also parmesan, and then deep fried.

James Acaster

Lovely.

CMAT

And I've had that in Lena Stores but only in the summer. And then there is a restaurant in Brighton, where I live at the moment, called Tussaux, which does approximately the same thing but it's with broccoli and broccolini. So it's like they, it's genuinely unbelievably good. It's like they just whack the broccolini around and powder, and then somehow make parmesan in to a powder, and also batter, and then they deep fry it and you just eat it as it is.



Ed Gamble

Wow.

CMAT

Bit of olive oil, bit of balsamic, whatever. It's so good. I think something that's very important to me in this life is a filthy vegetable, do you know what I mean? Like a vegetable that has been treated horribly and is, like, all of the health has been removed from it and it is just a delicious treat.

Ed Gamble

Yes. That does sound amazing.

CMAT

And I think that's my dream starter. That's really, really, really good.

Ed Gamble

Do you want both of those things on the dream starter?

CMAT

Yes.

Ed Gamble

You can have the artichoke and the broccolini and broccoli as well, yes.

CMAT

Maybe like, again, a flight on a plank.

Ed Gamble

I get the feeling all of this is going to be on planks.

CMAT

It's all going to be, 'You would have it on a plank, wouldn't you?'

James Acaster

Would you like the Welsh woman to be preparing your food?

CMAT

Maybe not preparing my food because I don't really look-,

Ed Gamble

Putting it on the planks?

CMAT

No, I actually don't want her touching my food. I don't want her touching my food but I would like her to also be at my table with me. I think she seems like a really nice person.



Ed Gamble

How do you think her and Bordier are going to get on?

CMAT

I think they'd have a great time. I think the two of them would get-, they wouldn't understand a word the other person's saying and they just, like, have good vibes, you know? It's not really about communication on a verbal language level, it's just about, like vibes, do you know what I mean?

Ed Gamble

General vibes, yes.

CMAT

General vibes. And I can, kind of, sit silently and enjoy my food while being entertained by people I love around me. I think that's, like, a good vibe at a restaurant.

Ed Gamble

Nice.

James Acaster

I feel like maybe the two of them are quite, you know, polar opposites. Because, like, he's very meticulous from what you described about how he makes his butter. If he saw her-,

Ed Gamble

With her mitts on.

James Acaster

Tossing stuff with her mitts on.

CMAT

But there definitely was a passion in the way that she put everything on a plank. You know, like, I think she has a love of food and there is, like, a heart and a passion there.

Ed Gamble

Well, he loves planks as well, right?

CMAT

He does.

Ed Gamble

So there's the plank-, yes.

CMAT

Because he batters the thing with planks and wood, and stuff like the malaxage machine is, like, just wooden planks slapping the butter over and over again. Like, it's unbelievable.



Ed Gamble

So they could chat about planks for a bit.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, they've got that.

Ed Gamble

Or they'd just point at planks and give a thumbs up.

James Acaster

Yes, get a pirate involved as well, do you want a pirate there on the?

CMAT

Yes, and then I'd walk it, you know.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Walk the butter plank.

CMAT

And jump in to a pool of butter.

James Acaster

I'd hate to walk the plank.

CMAT

Would you?

James Acaster

Yeah.

CMAT

Why?

James Acaster

I'd be terrified.

Ed Gamble

Yes, it's not-,



James Acaster

It would suck, man, because, like, if you get thrown off the boat that's bad enough but, like, if they make you walk the plank, the only point of that is to scare you even more. Because they could just chuck you off but for their entertainment they make you walk the plank which is, I think, out of order.

CMAT

Yes, pirates haven't been known to be, like, compassionate that much.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

No.

CMAT

So it's not shocking that they would make you walk the plank.

James Acaster

But this is them at their worst, in my opinion.

CMAT

Yes.

Ed Gamble

But they did try and make pirates, like, jolly and, you know, like cartoons of them and stuff, and 'Oh pirates are a laugh.'

CMAT

Yes.

Ed Gamble

But they're still making people walk the plank which is awful.

James Acaster

They were still doing that even when it was like, 'Yo ho ho and a bottle of rum and we're jolly pirates.' They were still making people-,

Ed Gamble

Pug-wash?

James Acaster

Pug-wash. They were still making people walk the plank.



CMAT

But if you think of the time period that we're in, right, realistically pirates, that shit is kicking off by the 1500s, the time of, like, Magellan, right?

James Acaster

Yes.

CMAT

What else was going on at the time? Well, I'll tell you one thing. The English were invading Ireland, that was pretty bad, they were doing terrible things there. But also just in general if you were like, a lowly orphan coughing and you were like, 'Please, Sir, I've got no money, can I steal a loaf of bread for my family?' And then they catch him, this little orphan stealing the loaf of bread, they might make him sit on the Spanish donkey or something. Do you know all that medieval torture stuff that goes on at that time?

James Acaster

I didn't know about the Spanish donkey.

CMAT

It's like a sharp triangular thing that they make people sit on naked and tie ankle weights, and then they just slowly split in half.

James Acaster

What?

CMAT

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Why is that called a Spanish donkey?

James Acaster

And put a little orphan boy on there?

CMAT

I don't remember, yes, they put a little orphan boy on that. Or they stretch them out until they snap in half as well.

Ed Gamble

I know that one.

CMAT

There's that one. Like, there's loads of terrible, honestly walking the plank is humane by the standards of, like, the stuff they were doing to punish people in the-



James Acaster

That doesn't mean I would like it, I wasn't saying it like it would be the worst thing in the world.

Ed Gamble

Keel hauling as well, pirate-wise.

James Acaster

I would hate it, I don't want to be split in half on a pyramid either.

CMAT

I think that maybe the people of the sea, though, people of the sea might be a bit more, they might have, like, a bit more heart than people of the land, you know? So I just don't want you to have a bad impression of pirates and sea people in general from the plank because I think in there context of what was going on at the time you would have had a much worse time committing a crime, or getting at it people on land. Hanged, drawn, and quartered, they did that as well.

Ed Gamble

Yes, that is fucked.

James Acaster

Yes, they did that stuff. But then, you know, the pirates aren't even doing it if I've committed a crime really.

CMAT

They are though.

James Acaster

They don't like the cut of my jib and they make me walk the plank.

CMAT

If someone doesn't like the cut of your jib, that's a crime, you know, and you're stuck in-,

Ed Gamble

I mean, that is literally a boat term as well, so.

James Acaster

Oh, yes?

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes.

CMAT

Is it?



Ed Gamble

It's a sailing term, yes.

CMAT

Is it?

James Acaster

I'd just sit on the end of the plank and I'd refuse to go any further.

Ed Gamble

Well, they'd walk down and stab you, mate. That's the point.

James Acaster

No, because I would then, I'd then shake the plank, they'd fall off. And every time they try and walk down and get me-,

CMAT

Drowning must be horrible.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Well, keel hauling was something they used to do where they used to tie people to the bottom of the ship and then go along. So then you'd drown for a bit but then the ship would come up and you'd get some air, then you'd go back down again. And then you keep, basically keep going.

CMAT

That's so embarrassing.

James Acaster

Yes.

CMAT

That's such an embarrassing way to die, like, that is so cringe.

Ed Gamble

Yes, you get all sliced up by the barnacles on the boat as well.

James Acaster

Horrible.

Ed Gamble

They're not nice guys.



CMAT

No.

James Acaster

No.

CMAT

But still, again, I just have to put my foot down. Within the context of the time the people of the sea were better than people of the land.

James Acaster

Yes, I think mainly because-, is this mainly based on the fact that our lot were invading you?

CMAT

Yes, to be honest with you.

James Acaster

Yes, that's fair enough.

CMAT

English people love land like, do you know what I mean?

James Acaster

Yes, yes, yes.

CMAT

They love just, 'Oh, see that bit of land? I'm going to take that.'

Ed Gamble

I can't deny it, I love walking round.

James Acaster

I love it.

CMAT

Well, you can't do that either because all the land in England is fucking privatised, you can't even go for a poxy walk without trespassing.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

CMAT

Do you know about this? Like there's, like, no free land left-, I read a pamphlet that's released bi-annually called Weird Walks and-



James Acaster

What?

CMAT

I absolutely love it, and it's about people who love going on walks around the British Isles which, listen, I don't love the term but it is what it is. And basically if you are like, 'Oh, I want to go for a walk in the wilderness in England.' You're going to be trespassing no matter what you do. Almost all of the land in England is privatised so technically you're not allowed to go and see-, say you have, like, an amazing from the iron age, and it's in Canterbury somewhere, you're not actually allowed as a human being technically allowed to go see it because it's illegal.

James Acaster

Because it's not country park, is that private?

CMAT

I don't know where that is. Brigstock.

James Acaster

It's in Northamptonshire, I went there a lot as a kid.

CMAT

Is that where you're from?

James Acaster

Yes.

CMAT

I don't even know where that is, where is that in context of the other places in England?

James Acaster

East Anglia.

CMAT

Where is East Anglia?

James Acaster

20 minutes on the train from Leicester.

CMAT

So where is Leicester in relation-,

Ed Gamble

Midlands.



CMAT

Okay.

Ed Gamble

East Midlands.

CMAT

I know the West Midlands because I have a friend from Wolverhampton and he has a song about the West Midlands called the WM.

James Acaster

More East Midlands.

CMAT

East Midlands, okay, okay.

James Acaster

Kind of, opposite of Wolverhampton.

CMAT

Okay.

James Acaster

Country parks around there.

CMAT

Okay.

James Acaster

Is that private?

CMAT

Very possibly could be, very possibly could be, look it up.

James Acaster

Your dream main course.

CMAT

Okay, so, this is just something I had this year that I was going in the Rolodex of my brain and I was like, 'What are the best meals I've had this year?' And one just kept popping out at me over and over again. I was like, 'Okay, this is the best meal I've had this year.' The best main dish I had this year was a risotto with poached salmon on top. It doesn't sound that good, right, doesn't sound spectacular. The risotto was, I believe, boiled in a chorizo stock so it was set in a chorizo stock, right, and it would have been, you know, classic risotto where you dice carrots, onion, celery, and then you, you know, toss the



everything in a bit of parsley. And then you ladle the chorizo stock in, chorizo stock, right? But then when it was done they just fucking stirred in double cream. So they just stir double cream through the risotto, right, that's the base. Then dotted around they had, like, ten mussels, like in the shell. Like mussels in the shell. Just, like, dotted around like real cute, like a little flower. They were delicious. But then the poached salmon on top was unbelievable, and I don't even know how they did it, it was just, like, the most perfect bit of fish I've ever had in my life. So they poached it and it was a big, massive bit of it. But then they clearly fired and marinated the salmon, so then they fired the skin, so the skin was this perfect, crispy, like, crisp. It's like you know when you get really good pork crackling or something? It was like that but it was this fish skin. And it was absolutely the best main course I've had this year, it was unbelievably good. Unbelievably good.

Ed Gamble

James' stomach has been going fucking crazy over here.

James Acaster

Yes, with that description. It's a great description.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

CMAT

It's really good.

James Acaster

It was a very good food description.

Ed Gamble

Where did you have this?

CMAT

I had it in Paris, I had it in a restaurant called-

James Acaster

You love Paris.

CMAT

I love Paris. I love Paris for food, I love French foods. Because I like vegetables and they grow it all there and it's nice, do you know what I mean? You just have to travel so you don't feel guilty about it every time you have a lemon, which I do. Do you know, because it's come from, like, South America and I'm like, 'What? I'm in Brighton, how did it even get here?'

James Acaster

Do you think that comes from the Guinness travelling, like, you don't like if food and drink travels?



CMAT

Yes, I don't like when food and drink travels. It feels like food colonisation or something. It's like, why do I actually have to have a lemon? Like, I live in England at the moment, like, can I not just live without a lemon? You know, like maybe give lemons to people who deserve lemons more, do you know? Unless they grow lemons here, I don't think they really do grow lemons here though, do they?

James Acaster

No idea.

Ed Gamble

I don't think you can, I don't think the climate's right for lemons.

CMAT

And yet I eat lemons all the time, that's terrible. But yes, that's my dream main dish. Risotto, poached salmon on top.

Ed Gamble

That sounds amazing.

CMAT

It is unreal, it's unreal. And that restaurant is called L'Restaurant 24, or the 24-, I don't know. L'Restaurant 24, I don't know what 24 is in French. That was probably also-, and I know it's not important when you're really treating yourself but it's absolutely one of the, like, best value meals I've ever had. Like, it was like their, what do you call it when it's just, like, a set menu? They have a word for it.

James Acaster

I think just a set menu.

Ed Gamble

Yes, they do, yes.

CMAT

Menu du jour, or something.

James Acaster

Oh, I see.

CMAT

It's like starter, main course, desert, and it's like you don't get any choice. It's like, 'This is what you're getting.' And it was, like, 30 Euro or something.



Ed Gamble

There's so many amazing, like, bistros like that where you just walk in and, like, 'Just give me what you've got.' And it's just incredible.

James Acaster

Did you sit outside?

CMAT

Yes, I sat outside and it was sunny, and I had ran there because I was over the other side of Paris so I was over the other side of Paris so I was like, okay, I was in to running at the time and then my mother was like, 'Stop running, your ankles will be fucked.' So, but I was running so I ran from one side of Paris to the other and life is all about balance so I was like, 'I am going to go eat a disgusting amount of food right now.'

Ed Gamble

Great.

CMAT

And then that was, I-, now, I sound like a posh person when I talk about food but it is the thing I probably spend the most money on in my life. I absolutely love food and I love really good food.

James Acaster

I don't think you sound posh, what do you mean?

CMAT

Well, I'm being posh with my food choices, like, do you not think?

Ed Gamble

Paris, Paris comes up a lot.

CMAT

Paris does come up a lot but I am over there for work all the time.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, yes.

James Acaster

It sounded like you like good stuff.

CMAT

Also I travel a lot, right, and I don't get to make my own food most of the time because I'm constantly, constantly on tour. So I have to have someone make me a meal that is actually nice and not terrible, and full of grease, or I will-, my whole day will be ruined. Like, if I eat a meal and I've spent money on it, and it's just like a crap Nando's, I will genuinely be upset for the rest of the day and it will affect my



mood very poorly for the rest of the day so I've had to get smart. And the Michelin guide app, do you use the Michelin guide app?

Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

No.

CMAT

It has changed my life forever. That is maybe a bit of an exaggeration but I actually don't think it is because it is so good. You basically, whatever city you're in, you go on the Michelin Guide App, you set the setting to, like, they have these little Euro signs. It's like one Euro, and then two Euro signs and three Euro signs. You basically only want to go to the one or the two, you want to do the first two brackets, because everything after that gets a bit nuts. You know, crazy food people. I love that, I think, you know, if you're out and about, day-to-day, you don't want to be-

Ed Gamble

You don't want a twelve course tasting menu that costs £800.

CMAT

No, you don't, you don't. So, that's how I find loads of my restaurants and I was like, stopped running and I was like, 'Okay, let me see what's open.' And it was like five minutes away from opening, that place. I was like, 'Cool, I'll just walk over there.' And I had literally the nicest fucking meal of my life. Of my life. Because it's not just places with Michelin stars, right? It's just like, things that are on the guide and bib gourmand.

James Acaster

Dream side dish.

CMAT

So, side dish, much like in the-, with the starter. I have a general shape of the side dish but I haven't locked in, like, the exact one, but I kind of know what it is. I love butter beans.

James Acaster

Okay.

CMAT

Right? And butter beans boiled in, like, a delicious stock with vegetables throughout it, as a side dish, is like my favourite one. I can think of two examples, one is that, like, one day I walked into my friend's mam's house in York, Florencia. Shout out Florencia Clifford, of Partisan. I forget the name of her new restaurant, I'm not going to lie, she'll probably fucking kill me for that. But you know, the two places that Florencia looks after in York are unbelievable. But she was just making, like, a home cooked meal that day and I walked in and she was like, 'Are you hungry?' And I was like, 'Yeah.' She's like, 'Here just



have this, it's just sitting on the stove.' And it was like a butter bean stew, with, I think again a chorizo stock, but a bit of fish stock in it as well. Then, like, loads of veg and like, spinach throughout. Then you just have it with a bit of bread, it's unreal. And then the other day I was in-, I'm going to try and remember the name of this pub off the top of my head. It's near Stockwell in London, I believe it's also, like a gastropub, that is like posh vibes. The Canton Arms?

Ed Gamble

The Canton Arms, I was going to say.

CMAT

Do you know the Canton Arms?

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, yes.

CMAT

So, I had, like, it was mutton, I'm pretty sure, it was just a chop of mutton. But it had butter beans in, like, green, kind of, stock. I actually genuinely don't know what it was, I think there was apple in there, it was apple and celeriac and then also, like, some kind of meat stock that it was boiled in. And that was, like, on the side of the mutton chop and it was fucking unreal. Like, the beans were arguably nicer than the chop.

Ed Gamble

Quite French again, this is-,

CMAT

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Sticking with the theme, yes.

James Acaster

It's the first time we've had butter beans.

Ed Gamble

Butter beans, yes.

James Acaster

Come up on the podcast.

Ed Gamble

I used to hate butter beans, but I think the first time I had, like, a proper cassoulet in France, I was like, 'Oh no, this is how you do beans.'



CMAT

This is the thing, you have to make them dirt, you have to make them a bit, like-, you have to really-, because obviously butter beans there are a lot of foods that are unfortunately very wrapped up in diet culture. So, they're just foods you would never touch in a million years because it's like, you know-, I think beans is a good example. People are always doing, like, skinny beans, and 'Hmm, so good for digestion, skinny beans.' You're just doing a bit of-, you know what I mean, like? Doing it in the skinny way. Or, even, like, as an example, the poached salmon, poached salmon for me is like associated with you also do it with a bit of steamed rice and steamed carrots and no flavour and no nothing, or whatever, whatsoever. I think butter beans get that unfair wrap because they're tied up with 2000's diet culture because people would always lob them into the salad as the protein and carb. But if you absolutely just boil them in, like, butter and a meat stock and then diced, roasted vegetables throughout, a bit of spinach in there, why not? There's your health and you just have that, it's absolutely outrageously good.

James Acaster

I think you had your eyes closed for a full minute then.

CMAT

I did, I did. Unctuous, unctuous.

James Acaster

Unctuous. And you love butter?

CMAT

I love butter, I love butter.

James Acaster

Do you think that's what led you to the butter beans?

CMAT

Maybe, maybe. Maybe this is a patriotism thing, I say deep down I'm a very patriotic woman. Because butter is essentially the national dish of Ireland. Do you know what I mean, like? That is essentially our national dish, because it's in everything, and there is absolutely fucking loads of it. We don't really do spices or nothing, and I think that gets a bit of an unfair wrap in Irish cooking. I also think the reason I like French cooking is because it's a bit like Irish cooking, a little bit, but they've got a bit more going on. They've got a bit more growing over there because they've got nicer weather. But like, the Irish national dish, I think is ham and cabbage. What is the actual-,

James Acaster

Really?



CMAT

I don't actually know what the Irish national dish-, it has got to be ham and cabbage, or colcannon or stew maybe, it's just Irish stew, yes. Like, that has got a half a block of butter in it, if it's a good stew it has got half a block of butter in there. It's unreal.

Ed Gamble

I'm glad you mention Kerrygold as well, that keeps up our run of every Irish guest we've ever had, has mentioned Kerrygold.

James Acaster

You'd have been the first not to if you hadn't done it.

CMAT

Well, that's good, I'm glad. Because the thing is right, respectfully-, and again, you know, I love English people individually, right? Love them individually.

Ed Gamble

Not all of them, right?

CMAT

Not all of them definitely. And you know, I don't love every person individually, some people are fucking-,

Ed Gamble

There you go.

CMAT

Some of my best friends are English and-,

James Acaster

Oh dear, here we go.

CMAT

My boyfriend, Willy, bless him, is English.

James Acaster

The beetroot loving bastard.

CMAT

Bless him, he does fucking love beetroots as well, you know? But I still sometimes struggle with the concept of it overall.

James Acaster

Of English people, yes.



CMAT

Just living here, can be a bit difficult sometimes, because there is just like a thing in the back of my head, like, 'Wah. 800 years' And where my patriotism really kicks in, is in the supermarket, because when you go to buy butter, the only butter that I can buy in my local supermarket that does not have the union jack emblazoned across is, it Kerrygold. Every single other one, in the Sainsbury's it has some design of Union Jack and I'm like, 'I can't do it. Like, I can't have this.'

James Acaster

Fair enough.

CMAT

Like Willy, my boyfriend, has like a Jack Wills hoodie that has the Union Jack in the logo of it, across the front of it.

Ed Gamble

Not any more. Purple all the way across now.

CMAT

I just hid it on him, it's like in the attic. He doesn't know where it is, he's always like, 'Where's my hoody?' I'm like, 'Oh, I don't know babe.'

Ed Gamble

You should just tell him.

CMAT

Just where my Bomber Bicycle Club hoody.

James Acaster

Where do you think it is, Willy, you fucking-, you know how I feel about the fucking Union Jack and you bought that hoody?

CMAT

It's so funny, and as well, my old guitar player, Josh and he's from Calvin, so he should know better. But he was cutting around on tour, he got on the tour, and I looked at his feet and I was like, 'Are you wearing a pair of fucking Reebok's man?' And he was like, 'Yeah, I am.' And I was like, 'Give me them.' And I'm quite good at embroidery, so you know the way it has the little tiny Union Jack on it. I just did an Irish tri colour over them.

Ed Gamble

Great.

CMAT

It's just the little things, and for me Kerrygold is, like, the only safe space of butter in England.



James Acaster

Also, I mean, you shouldn't be ashamed of any of this, it's great. But like, I wouldn't say it's the little things, because earlier when I said, 'I wouldn't' want to walk the plank.' Your response was, 'You invaded Ireland.'

Ed Gamble

It wasn't exactly how the conversation went, but that was the heart of the matter.

CMAT

I mean, you didn't.

James Acaster

I benefited from it, I probably still benefit from it to this day, I'd say. I'd say I'm still, probably still reaping the rewards of those people doing that.

CMAT

Acaster.

James Acaster

Yes.

CMAT

What's that name?

James Acaster

Anglo-Saxon name, kind of North East of England.

CMAT

Yes, you benefited.

James Acaster

I've never done a family tree thing, but I'm pretty sure I benefited from all the bad stuff in the world.

CMAT

Gamble.

Ed Gamble

Irish.

CMAT

Go on. Knew he had it in him.

James Acaster

He's sitting there, I bet you couldn't wait to be asked.



Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

You were sitting there going, 'Yeah, ask me what Gamble means.'

CMAT

Willy, my boyfriend, we fight about one thing, this is actually disgusting, but I'm just going to say it. We fight about one thing, which is that man. So, when I first met him, right, he didn't eat food, because he'd been on tour for about 11 years.

James Acaster

Willy didn't?

CMAT

No, he really didn't eat food, he wasn't an eater. He was like, a smoker and so didn't eat and was like, 'I'm a starving musician.' So, he didn't eat any food, and then over the course of being in a relationship with me, his appetite has, like, quadrupled and now he eats probably ten times more than me, because he's quite a tall guy and he's naturally skinny. I think when those kind of people start eating food, they're like, 'Oh my God, I can't stop, because food actually feels good.' So, he eats all the time, but now the problem I have is we live together and he wakes up in the middle of the night, almost every single night, at two o'clock in the morning, three o'clock in the morning, and he goes downstairs and he starts eating food. He eats one of two things, he either eats a bar of chocolate, or he eats a block of Comte cheese in its entirety.

James Acaster

A block?

CMAT

Or, like, half of it at least, right?

Ed Gamble

This guy is my hero.

CMAT

And when I'm not home which is quite often because I'm a business woman who does business and eats baguettes.

Ed Gamble

Of Course.

CMAT

He will eat this food in bed, so recently I was on a FaceTime call with the producer for fucking Graham Norton or something, like, very important phone call. And I was in bed, because there was loads of stuff



going on downstairs with the band, I think they were bringing gear in and out. And I was in my bed and I found a fucking mouse poo, a mouse poo. A mouse poo. A mouse dropping in my fucking bed, where I fucking sleep. And I've never had such an argument with someone. I was like, 'This is because you eat cheese and chocolate in bed every night.' And then the worst thing was like, I started giving out to him over it, so he started like, trying to hide his tracks. So, sometimes I'd get into the bed and there would be wrappers, like, evidence of wrappers beneath the pillow cases. Because he's like-

Ed Gamble

He's not done a great job of hiding his tracks there.

CMAT

No, he's useless at hiding his work.

Ed Gamble

Throw them in the bin, probably.

CMAT

Then, even if he remembers, I'll know because the sheets will smell a little bit like Comte.

Ed Gamble

Oh my God, are you sure Willy is not a massive mouse?

CMAT

This is the theory, that he is actually the mouse, because he does kind of do this with his hands a lot. He does kind of stand like this sometimes.

Ed Gamble

Willy, you've got to sort this out.

James Acaster

Willy, come on man, stop eating cheese in the bed and attracting all the mice, who love cheese.

CMAT

The other day I was sitting downstairs, and I was up late, working. He went to the kitchen to get a cup of tea and as he was, like, I could feel him sneaking back upstairs and I looked at him and he had, like, four biscuits in his mouth. But he was holding them in his mouth, because he thought the silhouette of holding biscuits would give the game away. He thought I just wouldn't look at him. He was literally like, biscuits in his mouth and I was like, 'Get them fucking biscuits out of your mouth and eat downstairs like a normal person.'

Ed Gamble

Yes, you can't eat biscuits in bed.



James Acaster

Eat all the biscuits in bed.

Ed Gamble

God damn-it Willy.

James Acaster

Your dream drink.

CMAT

So, like, with this meal, it has got to be a dry white wine, I reckon. It has got to be a Chablis, do you know? Or, my actual favourite wine that I drink most weeks is the Kylie Minogue branded Provence Rose, not her Rose-Rose, because that's not as nice, Kylie respectfully. But the Kylie Minogue Provence Rose, is like, actually one of the actual nicest Provence roses that you can get in most parts of this country. Because obviously, like I said, I'm in a France a lot, I'm in Paris a lot, if they give you rose, it's the nicest fucking shit you've ever had in your life, it's absolutely delicious. But Kylie Minogue's Provence rose is unreal.

Ed Gamble

What would they say in France though, if you were like, 'I love Kylie's Provence Rose.'

CMAT

They'd probably be like, 'Yeah, it's absolutely passable. As an every day wine.'

Ed Gamble

I've never had Kylie's rose, I love a rose.

CMAT

The normal rose isn't as nice, is a bit wet, a bit fruity, it's not my vibe. But her dry Provence rose is really, really good. It's just really drinkable, and it's really good with food. But in general, I love a Chablis.

James Acaster

What's your favourite Kylie song?

CMAT

Oh my God, I love, like, the Wow era, 'Read my Lips, I'm into you. I'm into you, can't resist you're so'. I love that. I also love obviously Padam. Sorry, I'm just going through Kylie, I love Kylie Minogue. Also, 'Better the Devil you know'. What else? She has just got so many good eras man, she's so good. Like, her song writing and the songs that come out of that women are just, like, unreal. She's excellent.

James Acaster

Always reinventing herself.



CMAT

But not too much.

James Acaster

When you look at people like that who have been going for a long time, do you think, 'Oh, I'm going to have to reinvent myself at some point.'

CMAT

But she doesn't reinvent herself too much, I don't think.

Ed Gamble

Yes, she's not like, 'I'm Goth Kylie now.'

James Acaster

Madonna was goth Madonna.

Ed Gamble

Oh, really?

CMAT

No, I mean actually she did do that. She did the, they call me the white rose, but my name was Elisa.

Ed Gamble

Was that the Nick Cave stuff?

CMAT

Yes, that was the Nick Cave one. What was I saying?

Ed Gamble

Kylie's wine.

CMAT

I love it, Provence Rose, love Kylie Minogue.

James Acaster

But you would have a Chablis instead?

CMAT

Interchangeable for me, like, I just don't really enjoy-, I'm not one of these people that's like, 'Hmm, oh my god, this is the most delicious wine I've ever had.' But I love wine within the context of food. Because I love food and I think wine goes really well with, like, the fish and the veg and the risotto and all that. Like, I think a dry wine, dry white wine.



Ed Gamble

Nice.

CMAT

I love, like, if I was drinking on its own and there was no food involved, I love actually-, I'm kind of a Christmas girlie. I love a mulled wine. I love a hot, sweet, tart wine with some fucking cloves in there and cinnamon sticks and a bit of orange.

Ed Gamble

I love a mulled wine, I've only got into it in the last few years really, but yes, I look forward to it.

CMAT

It's lovely, it's lovely.

James Acaster

I got sent some mulled wine for Christmas last year.

CMAT

Did you?

James Acaster

Didn't use it, the other day I got-, last night, I got home, the mulled wine is out, the bottle, half empty.

Ed Gamble

The cat.

James Acaster

I said to my girlfriend, 'Well, have you been drinking mulled wine?' She's like, 'No.' She didn't have a clue. We narrowed it down to her friend Lauren, or my mum, has just drunk it as is.

Ed Gamble

What, just cold?

James Acaster

Just out of the bottle. Because there's no evidence of mulling going on in the house.

Ed Gamble

Have you checked for stains? I'll tell you why.

James Acaster

No stains anywhere.



Ed Gamble

I love mulled wine and I buy bottles from Top Cuvet do their own mulled wine every year and it's good stuff. Had it in the wine rack at home, didn't drink a couple of the bottles, February, I say, come down, into the kitchen, wine all over the opposite wall. Because it has got so much sugar in it, I think, if you leave it in the bottle it starts to push the cork out, so don't keep the mulled wine.

James Acaster

No, no, no, so this has been moved. It was in the cupboard, now it's out on the side.

Ed Gamble

It might've really rocketed off.

James Acaster

Now it's out on the side, and no one has mulled that wine. It has been drunk cold as is out the bottle, half the bottle, my mum cat sat for a weekend.

Ed Gamble

Could've been the cat.

James Acaster

It's not the cats. It's either my mum, or it's my girlfriend's friend Lauren. And you can keep this in the podcast.

Ed Gamble

Hear me out-,

James Acaster

Because-,

Ed Gamble

Willy, it feels like Willy might've done this.

James Acaster

Could he have snuck over?

CMAT

Yes, where do you live? Actually don't answer that question.

James Acaster

I'm not going to tell you, because then you will tell Willy.

CMAT

He's just there rustling away, 'Oh, hey.'



James Acaster

I've got enough cats, they'll catch him, the big mouse.

Ed Gamble

They'll swarm him.

James Acaster

They'll swarm him and take him down, big mouse Willy.

CMAT

He would be the type of person to drink an entire bottle of mulled wine as well. Because he has this thing, he's not an alcoholic, right?

James Acaster

Okay.

CMAT

He's definitely not an alcoholic, I don't even know why I said he's not an alcoholic because that makes him sound like he is.

Ed Gamble

Making him sound like he is an alcoholic, yes.

James Acaster

Chocoholic.

CMAT

But I've witnessed that man-, because food is such a new experience to him, because of all of the years of touring and just ignoring food. I witnessed him drink, like, an entire bottle of Bailey's because he couldn't get over how delicious it was. Like, he just was like, 'Oh yea, let me just have this.' And he was like, 'Oh my God, it's so good, it tastes like milkshake.' Drank the whole fucking thing.

Ed Gamble

You would've done that, the first time you had Bailey's.

James Acaster

Yes, really difficult to stop drinking the Bailey's.

CMAT

Do you ever have the strawberries and cream one?

James Acaster

No, I think that would be too much for me.



CMAT

It's unreal, it's unreal, and the salted caramel one. Actually, there is an Irish cream liqueur from County Waterford which is like, a white chocolate based cream liqueur. And it's called Cool Swan. It's from County Waterford which is where all my family are from.

Ed Gamble

I think I've had Cool Swan, I had to do a taste test of things for Observer Food Monthly.

CMAT

It's like white, it's like bright white.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I've had it, yes.

CMAT

It's the most delicious thing you've ever had in your life.

Ed Gamble

I really liked it, but it was tasting something and going, 'I can't have this ever again.'

CMAT

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Because I'll chug it.

CMAT

So, yes, me and Willy have easily, on a Christmas or a New Year's, had an entire litre between the two of us.

Ed Gamble

Nice.

CMAT

Very easily, it's so good, it's so tasty. So, that's actually technically my dream drink if it was just I'm drinking and there's no food involved, is probably a Cool Swan, over ice, honestly.

James Acaster

A lot of the time we have let people pair different drinks for different courses, so if you want for your dream drink, Cool Swan, and those wines can come out with your courses.

CMAT

Okay, amazing.



Ed Gamble

You can have Cool Swan as a digestif at the end.

CMAT

Yes, because Cool Swan over ice would actually go with my dessert.

Ed Gamble

There you go.

James Acaster

Well, let's get on to the dessert then, what is your dream dessert?

CMAT

So, this is embarrassing, my sister told me not to say this because she said it would be embarrassingly egotistical of me, but last week I made-, I made a dessert and it was hands down the best dessert I've had this year.

James Acaster

Great.

CMAT

But it is followed to the T from the love of my life, Nigella Lawson's cookie repeat. It's a bread and butter Christmas pudding recipe, so it's like a Christmas bread and butter pudding, right?

Ed Gamble

My God, that sounds amazing.

CMAT

It is genuinely the nicest-, like I had to physically stop myself from having six bowls of it, it was so good. I actually made it for-, I was in Eye in Suffolk, with Willy's mum and dad, and I didn't realise that, shout out to Steve, bread and butter pudding is his favourite thing at all time. And he's not a man of many, many words, but his dad after I made the bread and butter pudding, kept doing that classic, like, older English man thing of taking me aside, maybe three times over the course of that evening. He would just take me aside and be like, 'I really loved that.' Like, staring at me deeply in the eyes and being like-, putting his hand on my shoulder and being like, 'I really loved that.' Like, and almost tears in his eyes over how much he loved it, like, it was so cute. It was really, really-,

Ed Gamble

Obviously a Bordier levels.

CMAT

He was giving Bordier. But, so the Christmas bread and butter pudding recipe by queen of my life Nigella Lawson.



James Acaster

Yeah, let's get into it.

CMAT

It is obviously stale, white sandwich bread, grand. Butter both sides, traditionally you just chopped it up into triangles and you, like, lie it down and you pour the custard over it. Because she's a fucking genius, she was like, 'Oh, mince meat, right?' Like, mince meat that you put in a mince pie, you make mince meat sandwiches, so you put a big thick layer of mince meat and then you put the bread on top, and you cut up triangular sandwiches and then you lie that down in the pan. And then, you pour the custard over it and you bake it. Because traditionally, right, you put, like, you know, raisins, sultanas over the top, they just get dry.

Ed Gamble

Yes, they sit on the top.

CMAT

Or, it's like, you know, or the pudding is too wet, or whatever. But this is actually, because the mince meat and stuff is, like, in the body of it, and it's not too much, it's not overpowering. It's perfect, it is like the perfect texture and the perfect consistency and the raisins are perfect, the mince meat is perfect-, everything about is absolutely fucking perfect. It is, like, the nicest dessert I've had all year.

Ed Gamble

Is there anything else in the custard that makes it more Christmassy or is it just the vanilla?

CMAT

It's just, like, vanilla, eggs. Actually I think I put an extra egg into the custard than it said in the recipe, just because I had another egg, and maybe not enough double cream. But it's like, full fat milk, double cream, eggs, cinnamon, sugar, not too much sugar though, it's only two heaped teaspoons of caster sugar.

Ed Gamble

You've got the mince meat and stuff, right?

CMAT

Yes, you've got the mincemeat and everything, and that custard actually, when I finished making that custard, I probably should've had a little sip of the raw shebang, because it has just got eggs in it. But oh my god, it was unreal. And then you just pour that over and then you bake it for, like, 40 minutes, and then I served it with a very hot custard.

Ed Gamble

Really?



CMAT

I don't usually do that, but I was kind of just like, I think I want hot custard with this and I think it was the right call. But that's where I'm saying, I could have Cool Swan over ice as my drink, because I actually think all those flavours would go very well together.

Ed Gamble

Yes, that sounds good.

CMAT

It might be a bit sweet and overpowering, but my God, that is the nicest dessert I've had in a very long time, and I just made it myself and it's so easy.

Ed Gamble

I want to make that now.

CMAT

It's so easy, and actually very, like, cheap, like cost-, you don't need loads of stuff. It's like, a sliced pan of bread, loads of butter, there's a lot of butter in this recipe, I should've pointed it out, because you're buttering both sides of each of the slices of bread that you're using. Then also, you have to put loads of butter down in the pan so that it, like, lifts off. Maybe explains why it's one of my favourite recipes, but it's really, really good.

Ed Gamble

You've got me excited for Christmas now.

CMAT

You should just make that in not Christmas, I'm probably going to make that tonight to be honest with you. I keep talking about it and my sister, Roisin, keeps going, 'Why didn't you make it for me?' She's really jealous, love you sis, she's in the next room.

Ed Gamble

Lovely impression you did of your sister.

James Acaster

Yes, it was good.

CMAT

She's real jealous you know, she always has been.

Ed Gamble

I only met her briefly, but she didn't sound like that when I met her.

James Acaster

No, didn't sound like that.



CMAT

She sounds exactly like me, my sister is-, well, I have two sisters, and we all sound exactly the same when we talk, but we're just all very different, you know, in that kind of way. She's a nurse and has like a real job and stuff and lives in Australia.

James Acaster

You've got a real job.

CMAT

She's an adrenaline junkie, she jumps out of planes and stuff like that.

Ed Gamble

That's not for you?

CMAT

Absolutely not, no. I get, like, I was talking about this, I don't need adrenaline, my adrenaline starts pumping if I'm, like, if the bus is in two minutes and I'm a one minute walk away. DO you know what I mean? I start to go, like that. So, jumping out of a plane, I would probably just die, do you know what I mean? I'd just pass out in the air and not come back to life, I think.

James Acaster

What if someone made you walk the plank out of a plane.

CMAT

I'd be grand actually, well, I'd just be ready to die at that point, do you know what I mean? If someone was like, 'Walk the plank out of a plane.' I wouldn't do it slowly, I'd just lob myself out and be like, 'Let's go.'

James Acaster

Yes.

CMAT

End of life, I've had a good run, do you know?

James Acaster

Yes, I think if I had to accept it at that point, I'd maybe just leg it down the plank.

CMAT

Yes.

James Acaster

Have one last hurrah.



CMAT

Leg it down the plank and have a good luck at the scenery, you know? Hopefully, you get thrown off a plane in, like, a nice location, do you know what I mean? And you don't spin out so that you die before you hit the ground, you know the way some people do that, they jump out the plane and their head disconnects from their body or whatever.

James Acaster

Yes, I wouldn't want to do that.

CMAT

No, you'd want to have a look.

James Acaster

What if you jump off the plank from the plane and then you landed on another plank coming out of a pirate ship. What if that happened? You walked the plank twice.

CMAT

I mean, surely that plank would just split you in half, the speed you're going at.

Ed Gamble

It be like sitting on a Spanish donkey.

James Acaster

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

CMAT

Okay.

James Acaster

You would like still water, you would like a French baguette with a flight of Bordier Butter. Starter you would like buttered parmesan, artichoke and broccolini.

CMAT

Buttered?

James Acaster

Battered. Battered. Sorry, there's so much butter.

CMAT

We're thinking about butter.

James Acaster

On this menu that I thought, 'Surely they're buttered.'



CMAT

Yes.

James Acaster

Main course, risotto with poached salmon and mussels from 24 Le Restaurant in Paris.

Ed Gamble

Parise? No one has ever said Parise before.

James Acaster

Side dish, butter beans, cooked in stock and butter. Drink, well, we've got the Chablis here for all the courses, but then for dessert, you're going to bring out the Cool Swan because you're having Christmas bread and butter pudding, a la Nigella Lawson with steaming hot custard.

CMAT

Steaming hot custard.

James Acaster

That sounds really good, I would like to eat-, I think I would definitely want that bread and butter pudding and definitely want that main course.

Ed Gamble

I want all of it.

James Acaster

Yes, all of it would be nice, but those two are like-,

Ed Gamble

I want the Bordier Butter straight away.

James Acaster

I guess so actually, yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

CMAT

I want that butter. Do you get loads of spon con food, like, sent to you for doing all this?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

CMAT

That's my dream.



Ed Gamble

Quite often. What do you want?

CMAT

I want all of the food that I just-, I definitely want Bordier Butter.

Ed Gamble

I can't see Bordier getting in contact and sending some butter over.

CMAT

No, they're too exclusive, that's why it's special.

Ed Gamble

I reckon the Cool Swan people might get in contact with you.

CMAT

Cool Swan, people of County Waterford, my nan is Norrie Lanigan and she's from Dungarven and let me tell you, original name, Newnan. If you don't send me some bottles of Cool Swan for plugging you so hard, my family will be after you.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

CMAT

There are about 75 million of them in County Waterford, so be careful.

Ed Gamble

It started well.

James Acaster

A lovely threat.

Ed Gamble

I feel like they might've sent you some stuff originally and you said that your family are going to be after them.

CMAT

I take it back, I love you.

James Acaster

Listen, if the people at Whittaker's Chocolate are listening, if you don't send me some fucking chocolate, I'm going to send my dad around your house and he's going to fucking stab you in the kneecaps with a screwdriver.



Ed Gamble

And if there are any pirates listening, please, please, don't make us walk the plank.

James Acaster

Do not make me walk the plank, I would hate it, please.

Ed Gamble

Thank you so much for coming to the Dream Restaurant, CMAT.

CMAT

Thank you for having me.

James Acaster

Thank you CMAT.

Ed Gamble

There we are James, a great menu from CMAT.

James Acaster

A delicious menu, no danger of KFC coming up in that menu. You surprised yourself with a cough then, didn't you?

Ed Gamble

I did, I can't believe that happened.

James Acaster

You didn't know you were going to cough, and then you coughed, and then you looked all confused, like a baby that has sneezed for the first time.

Ed Gamble

We've just had lunch, so I think we're all a bit tired.

James Acaster

You think?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

That's what it is?

Ed Gamble

Yes. A little baby-,



James Acaster

When you say, we're all a bit tired, it's just you.

Ed Gamble

Yes man. I'm tired.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, you did a cough that surprised yourself. But CMAT didn't choose KFC.

Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

Kentucky Fried Chicken.

Ed Gamble

Kentucky Fried Chicken.

James Acaster

And chose some absolutely delicious dishes and CrazyMad, For Me is out now.

Ed Gamble

Is out now.

James Acaster

Thank you so much CMAT for coming on the podcast, wonderful stories and, you know, I would say, at some point, if we can get the butter man on the podcast, to make that episode happen.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

I mean, there are a lot of people that CMAT talked about that I'd like to get on the podcast. Willy.

Ed Gamble

Willy. That's the first time we've ever said Willy at the same time.

James Acaster

No it's not.

Ed Gamble

Oh yes. Thank you very much to CMAT, we'll see you again some time soon. Goodbye.



James Acaster
Bye.