



Off Menu – Ep 231 – Iain Stirling (Live)

Ed Gamble

Hello, it's Saturday, and you know what that means.

James Acaster

Bonus.

Ed Gamble

It's a bonus live episode from the Off Menu live tour 2023, recorded on the 21st of October 2023 at the SEC Armadillo in Glasgow.

James Acaster

Crunchy on the outside, smooth on the inside.

Ed Gamble

And if you're listening to this on the day it comes out, it's the day before my birthday.

James Acaster

Happy Birthday Ed.

Ed Gamble

Our special guest at this show was the brilliant Iain Sterling.

James Acaster

Now, some call-backs to the first half won't make sense to you, and that's fair enough. We had a lovely evening with Iain Sterling though.

Ed Gamble

We did.

James Acaster

There was a nice chat to him, backstage, afterwards we went for a lovely drink in the hotel bar with Iain, he was a brilliant guest as people are about to hear. But I just can't believe every single fucking episode we've got to say, 'Oh, some call-backs might not make sense.'

Ed Gamble

They get it now, I'm not doing that for the next one.

James Acaster

You're all smart enough.



Ed Gamble

Yes, you're all smart enough, you know that.

James Acaster

You know.

Ed Gamble

Secret ingredient as picked in the first half by our audience was pumpkin spice.

James Acaster

Pumpkin spice and all things nice, that's what Iain Sterling's made of.

Ed Gamble

This is of Off Menu Menu, live in Glasgow of Iain Sterling.

James Acaster

Iain Sterling.

Ed Gamble

Welcome to the Off Menu podcast, taking the mince of humour, the tatties of conversation, removing the corned beef of evil and putting it into the big pot of the internet. That's right, it's a stovely pot baby.

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 asked them their favourite ever, starter, main course, desert, side dish and drink. Not in that order, and this week, our guest is Iain Sterling.

Ed Gamble

Iain Sterling. Very excited to finally have Iain on the podcast, he's a good pal of ours, a wonderful comedian, we are going to welcome him to the dream restaurant. We already know the secret ingredient, which if he says it, he will be kicked out, and by the sounds of the man who suggested the secret ingredient, he will also be killed. So, without further or do, this is the Off Menu Menu of Iain Sterling.

James Acaster

Iain Sterling.

Iain Stirling

Hello. Thank you.

Ed Gamble

Pop yourself down. James, what are you doing?



James Acaster

Yes, sorry.

Ed Gamble

Thank you. Iain is it your prerogative as the guest, if you wish to stand up and rub the lamp that is up to you. Would you like to rub the lamp to release the genie?

Iain Stirling

I would love to rub a lamp.

Ed Gamble

Okay, you can go over there and rub it, absolutely. We can do it in our imaginations, I don't mind really. Let's rub that lamp.

Iain Stirling

Yes, rub.

Ed Gamble

It's happening.

James Acaster

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

Iain Stirling

Hello, hello.

Ed Gamble

Welcome Iain, pop yourself down. Thank you for-, I mean, that prop I'd imagine, a lot of man hours into making that and you wanked it off. You wanked.

Iain Stirling

I rubbed that up a treat.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

It's a nice technique Iain.

Ed Gamble

I think it's the first time the genie's ever been-,

Iain Stirling

Hang on a minute. What the fuck is this?



Ed Gamble

We're making you feel at home.

Iain Stirling

You were so worried about coming across as English, and you're on stage with Irn-Bru sugar free.

Ed Gamble

Which we bought in your country, I'll have you know it's available. And I'll have you know, I have a chronological disease.

Iain Stirling

Yes, it's called, 'English Bastard.'

James Acaster

And I'll have you know, that for five years I didn't drink regular Irn-Bru, and then I started drinking sugar free Irn-Bru and let me tell you, now it tastes like normal Irn-Bru.

Iain Stirling

You're going to drink it now aren't you?

Ed Gamble

Just like mamma used to make, secret recipe since 1901.

Iain Stirling

Well even the new stuff, you know about old recipe, new recipe.

Ed Gamble

No.

Iain Stirling

What? Basically, in Scotland, we're all pro-European, apart from rules on the amount of sugar you can have in a drink. That's the only time we get a little bit, 'Brexit.'

Ed Gamble

Right.

Iain Stirling

D'you ever have an Irn-Bru bar?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Iain Stirling

D'you remember them?



James Acaster

Yes, I lost my first tooth in a Wham bar.

Iain Stirling

Did you actually?

Ed Gamble

Yes, that won't surprise anyone.

Iain Stirling

An Irn-Bru bar would kick the fucking shit out of a Wham bar.

James Acaster

Yes, I got them both for free on the front cover of the Beano.

Iain Stirling

Do you remember back in the day, when you used to get Wham bars in a magazine for children.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Iain Stirling

Because that was the, sort of, time when I was a kid, like, when I was doing sport, my parents instead of giving me water, would just give me Sunny Delight, yes.

James Acaster

I wanted Sunny Delight so bad for so long. I remember seeing the advert and being, like, begging my parents for Sunny Delight because it looked so great and radioactive and every time we were in Sainsbury's-

Iain Stirling

Orange, ironically.

James Acaster

Yes, 'Please, please let me get Sunny Delight,' and they were always, like, 'You're never drinking that.' So, as soon as I was old enough to buy my own juice, I got a Sunny Delight and I drank the whole thing.

Ed Gamble

Yes, and it's no surprise that you turned out the way you did. You running on stage tonight was exactly what a Sunny Delight kid looked like.



James Acaster

Yes, I'm full of Sunny Delight when I come out on stage and I'm proud of it.

Iain Stirling

Can you still get it?

Iain Stirling

Yes.

Iain Stirling

Does it still exist?

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

But it's new recipe Sunny Delight. It's fucking bullshit. EU bullshit.

Iain Stirling

Yes, it's not as delightful anymore. Sunny alright. Thank you. Thank you.

Ed Gamble

Come on, that was good shit.

James Acaster

I love Sunny alright, that's funny. Look, to me, this tastes delicious.

Iain Stirling

Yes, it's fine, isn't it? It's, sort of, like, fine.

James Acaster

It's got a strong man nipping at the brew.

Ed Gamble

Irn-Bru man could beat the shit out of any other food or drink mascot, don't you reckon?

Iain Stirling

Er, what's got the oats guy?

James Acaster

Oh, yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, that almost sounded thirsty the way you cheered there.



Iain Stirling

Yes.

James Acaster

He is sexy though.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Iain Stirling

That's how you get pregnant in Scotland. The man dresses up as the oats guy.

Ed Gamble

We're talking about the Quaker Oats guy, right?

Iain Stirling

Yes, who else would we be talking about?

Ed Gamble

Quakers fuck, man. Quakers fuck.

Iain Stirling

There's nothing else to do.

Ed Gamble

Quakers fuck silently. You never know they're fucking they're so quiet.

Iain Stirling

Quakers man.

James Acaster

Quakers fuck quiet man.

Iain Stirling

Sorry, sorry. Every time James says anything, I find it funny because it's funny and I'm, like, 'There's every chance next tour that's on the t-shirt.'

James Acaster

Yes, you never know. These things escalate.

Ed Gamble

I feel like this is our version of what we think the Joe Rogan podcast is like. Just going, like, 'Quakers fuck quiet, man.' 'You ever see a Quaker fucking quietly?'



Iain Stirling

'They do, man. Pull that up, James. Quakers fuck quiet.'

James Acaster

'Pull it up. That's a Quaker fucking. We probably won't get away with fucking showing this shit.'

Iain Stirling

'The Quakers will try and silence us ironically.'

Ed Gamble

That's a good Joe Rogan.

Iain Stirling

I can do alright accents actually.

James Acaster

I do good accents. Do you like porridge?

Iain Stirling

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, yes.

James Acaster

And what do you have in your porridge?

Iain Stirling

Salt. More salt than porridge, really.

James Acaster

Oh yes? You should hang out with that guy. He's a salty motherfucker right there. He probably puts the olives and the anchovies in there and gobbles it down.

Iain Stirling

Or that pizza guy.

Ed Gamble

When Iain gets back to Scotland, he goes proper Scottish. So, now he's saying he has salt. As soon as he gets back to London it will be almond butter and goji berries, won't it, Iain?

Iain Stirling

No.



James Acaster

This is how Iain Stirling talks in London. He says, 'How do you do.'

Iain Stirling

How fucking dare you.

James Acaster

We said, 'Iain, do you want to do the Off Menu podcast?'

Iain Stirling

You sound like you've swallowed a guitar. No, I'm very Scottish all the time.

Ed Gamble

Okay.

James Acaster

Not true. We said, 'Iain, do you want to do the Off Menu podcast?' He was, like, 'Hmm, I'll let you know later, chaps. Toodle pip.' 'I'd like to do the Royal Albert Hall gigs because, of course, it was named after Albert who was the husband of Queen Victoria. Long live the Queen,' is what you said.

Iain Stirling

I mean technically, it's nearer to my house so I've not really got a fucking leg to stand on.

James Acaster

Are you a foodie in general, Iain?

Iain Stirling

I think so, yes. I wasn't growing up, but then I've slowly come around to it.

Ed Gamble

Food, you like food now?

Iain Stirling

Food, where I grew up in Scotland, food was always a hassle. Just, like the thought of it, 'Oh, here we go again.' You know, 'I bet there's going to be vegetables in this.' Do you know when you eat out, and you're, like, 'Oh, can I have this?' 'Oh, I bet you've put carrots in this, you prick,' or whatever it is. Now, I've got a more refined pallet.

Ed Gamble

So, every time you ate out, you were suspicious that they put carrots in it?

Iain Stirling

Just vegetables or, like, 'Oh, it's got cream or whatever it is.' Do you know what I mean though?



Ed Gamble

I think you're angry about other stuff.

Iain Stirling

Mushrooms.

Ed Gamble

Mushrooms, right.

James Acaster

I would say vegetables and cream are in very different groups. I'm not sure exactly what you don't like, Iain.

Iain Stirling

No, I don't know. I don't know. Just stuff that wasn't the three things I liked I suppose.

Ed Gamble

What were the three things?

Iain Stirling

Pasta. I had pasta, sort of, plain, on its own when I was a kid and then I'd have a chippy.

Ed Gamble

A chippy.

Iain Stirling

With chippy sauce. What? Oh, yes, sorry. You have, like, what is it? Salt and vinegar or heroin, whatever they have in Glasgow.

Ed Gamble

We would like to apologise for our guest.

James Acaster

Iain, English people like us can't say that. Whoa.

Ed Gamble

So, plain pasta?

Iain Stirling

Plain pasta.

Ed Gamble

Chippy?



Iain Stirling

Chippy.

James Acaster

Chippy with chippy sauce.

Iain Stirling

Chippy sauce.

James Acaster

What is chippy sauce? I still don't know.

Ed Gamble

No one knows.

Iain Stirling

How dare you. It's brown sauce and vinegar mixed together into a, sort of, liquidy goodness.

James Acaster

It's a real room splitter. I love it.

Ed Gamble

Yes, oh my god.

James Acaster

I love that noise. The boos and the cheers mixing together. You would never think that's the same audience who gave us laser-printed popadoms. Three geniuses on the front row and everyone else, 'Boo, chippy sauce.'

Ed Gamble

What was the third thing?

James Acaster

I like it. Keep the passion coming.

Iain Stirling

What was-. Chips.

Ed Gamble

Plain pasta.

Iain Stirling

Chips.



Ed Gamble

Chips with chippy sauce.

Iain Stirling

Crisps probably.

Ed Gamble

To be fair, where the fuck are you going to hide a carrot in that?

Iain Stirling

I know. They do carrot crisps now probably.

James Acaster

Yes, they do. Those vegetable crisps.

Iain Stirling

Yes.

James Acaster

I love them. The beetroot ones, the parsnip ones.

Iain Stirling

Those beetroot ones? You don't have them?

James Acaster

Oh yes, I love those.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I like them as well.

Iain Stirling

The pot pourri ones?

James Acaster

They're not pot-,

Ed Gamble

He's got you there though. They do look like pot pourri.

James Acaster

I've been done. He absolutely got me. I mean it does look like pot-pourri I'll grant you, but, you know, you're talking to a man who once ate pot-pourri accidentally at the end of a Nepalese meal.



Ed Gamble

Correct.

Iain Stirling

The first time I ever went to a Japanese restaurant, my old flatmate had edamame and ate the whole thing-

Ed Gamble

Great.

Iain Stirling

And shit himself in the restaurant.

James Acaster

Would a whole edamame do that? I think he was going to shit himself anyway.

Iain Stirling

Oh, I think he was on his way, but I think the husks tipped him over the edge, but a whole bowl of them. He couldn't work out why no one else was having the husks. He was wolfing them down.

James Acaster

So, you didn't bring it up at any point? He didn't go, 'Why is no one else having the husks?'

Iain Stirling

Yes, he said, 'Stop sucking the salt of my husks.' He was raging.

Iain Stirling

Yes, 'These are good husks.'

James Acaster

All for me?

Iain Stirling

I wish I was joking and he, yes, shit himself.

James Acaster

Sounds like he probably did a whole bunch of things that day.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

That was similar to that. He sounds like a real, like, you know, carefree kind of guy. I bet he eats a whole corn on the cob like an apple. The whole cob goes down, everything.



Iain Stirling

Yes, even the little skewers that they go in the side. 'Delicious, oh, oh, I'm going to shit my pants again for the fifth time today.' Do you ever remember that lady that used to-, She got stopped, the-,

Ed Gamble

Hold on. Bare with him, bare with him. Let him cook.

Iain Stirling

Do you know what happened then genuinely? There's loads of people here, but I was just talking to you guys and then I had that weird moment where I went, 'Oh, I'm in front of humans.'

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Iain Stirling

I was talking to you and then I realised, 'Oh everyone's quiet. I'm in the middle of an anecdote and there's people listening.'

Ed Gamble

It's quite insulting to say, 'I was talking to you guys and then I realised there were humans here.'

Iain Stirling

You know what I mean.

Ed Gamble

None taken.

Iain Stirling

You're a genie, technically.

James Acaster

Yes, thank you very much for respecting that.

Iain Stirling

Yes, and your a diabetic.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I am. Correct. The magical, mythological creature, the diabetic.

Iain Stirling

We never seen them growing up in Scotland because the young didn't survive. When you're born, you get given a can of Irn Bru and if you survive it, you qualify.



Ed Gamble

Yes, all your teeth fall out and you have to survive on edamame husks.

Iain Stirling

Yes, what were we talking about.

James Acaster

You said, 'There was a woman.' You said, 'There once was a woman-, What were we talking about? Well, we would love to narrow it down here, Iain because you said, 'There's a woman, ay, oh, ay, oh.'

Iain Stirling

They stopped doing the serviettes to wash your hands in KFC and she thought it was a lemon flavouring for the chicken. She was, like, 'They've stopped doing the lemon flavouring on the chicken,' because she was wiping the-, You can Google that. You can Google that.

Ed Gamble

I don't know, you know, I don't doubt it.

James Acaster

Simultaneously, unsophisticated and sophisticated at the same time. 'Oh, a lovely lemon dressing. Let me buff up this chicken with the lemon rag.'

Iain Stirling

That's me doing it.

James Acaster

That's you doing it, is it?

Iain Stirling

Yes. I'm getting into this now. It's fun doing podcasts.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Iain Stirling

I've never really-, I haven't done one for ages. Yes, yes, yes. Fifteen years I've been doing stand-up.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Iain Stirling

I didn't have one for fourteen years and I'm married. Imagine being married and not having a podcast. What a waste.



James Acaster

I'm glad those two things were connected because for a bit, I thought you were just listing everything about yourself.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

I've been celibate for fifteen years.

Iain Stirling

I've never done a podcast. I'm married. I'm six foot two.

James Acaster

Six foot two? I didn't know that.

Iain Stirling

Six foot two. No, just, like, you know what I mean, because it's content now, isn't it? If I forget to take the bins out, my wife kicks off. I go, 'Hey, oh, hang on,' we'll talk about that-

Ed Gamble

On the podcast.

Iain Stirling

On my podcast, yes at Wembley or wherever.

James Acaster

We always start with still or sparkling water.

Iain Stirling

I'll have Sunny Delight, please.

James Acaster

If you want Sunny Delight we will let you have some.

Iain Stirling

I think I'm alright. I don't know if you're allowed to do this, but I genuinely think I'm alright. I don't know if that's been done, but I'm alright for it.

James Acaster

You are allowed to do it.

Ed Gamble

We have let people do it.



James Acaster

Yes, but-

Iain Stirling

I don't want to kill the mood.

James Acaster

No, you've not killed the mood at all, but tell us why you're alright for water.

Iain Stirling

I don't drink it.

James Acaster

Right.

Iain Stirling

So, it just sits there.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Iain Stirling

Then sometimes you ask for tap water and you feel the guy judging you, even if you're in an expensive restaurant where you're spending loads of money, you still think they're judging you for being a cheapskate.

James Acaster

Yes, sure.

Iain Stirling

And then I'm not getting sparkling water because I'm not a king. I've got a mate called (redacted) and I never forgot it. When we were at a stag do once when I was, like 24. Young marriage. It's ended now, obviously.

James Acaster

I was going to ask, 'How did it work out for the couple?'

Iain Stirling

They never work. They never work. Don't get married.

James Acaster

I imagine it's relevant to the story. I'd like to know if it ended in divorce or not.



Ed Gamble

I feel like if we just sat here in silence and watched you, you would just tell us every single secret.

James Acaster

You're a journalist's dream. Iain was telling us earlier that he's got to do promo for his tour, like we all do. Now we're having this interview with you, I think you should have a PR person in the room with you while you're doing the interview because literally, all they have to do is ask you one question and just sit back, and you will have yourself cancelled within five minutes.

Iain Stirling

Now I hate to break it to you, but after BBC Leeds three years ago, that is what happens.

Ed Gamble

Good stuff.

Iain Stirling

His name is (redacted). No, wait, it doesn't matter about his surname.

James Acaster

Is this the groom?

Iain Stirling

That was the groom yes. He got married at 24 and he said, 'He got married too young and everyone's presents were shite because they were skint.' That's why you shouldn't get married when you're young. Anyway, the point I'm trying to make is we were at this stag do and the couple next to us ordered sparkling water and then my friend (redacted) said-

James Acaster

His name's changed.

Iain Stirling

No, this is another person at the stag do.

James Acaster

Oh sorry. So, (redacted) is coming up, I guess.

Iain Stirling

(Redacted) does something, yes.

James Acaster

There's you, (redacted) are at the table, right?



Iain Stirling

He's a young stag. That's the one benefit of getting married young is loads of people come to the stag do.

Ed Gamble

Yes, you've got loads of mates.

James Acaster

So, we've got (redacted), you, (redacted). Who else have we got on the stag do?

Iain Stirling

(Redacted) was there. (Redacted) was there, obviously.

James Acaster

Fucking hell. How old (redacted)?

Iain Stirling

He's 36 now. He works for, (redacted). Actually, I can't say. No way. No, can we actually take that out?

James Acaster

Yes, sure. Don't complete that sentence in your head.

Ed Gamble

We can take it out the recording, Ian, but you do know these people-

Iain Stirling

No, no they're fine. They'll forget.

Ed Gamble

You know we don't have a Men in Black machine. We can't-

Iain Stirling

Oh, I wish we had Men in Black machines.

Ed Gamble

So, (redacted)?

Iain Stirling

There's loads of other-, Do you want me to go through everyone?

Ed Gamble

Yes.



Iain Stirling

There's (redacted), and then (redacted).

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Iain Stirling

I'll do an English one, but he's ginger, so it's allowed. So, (redacted). Right, he's self-employed now because he went on a stag do, but then he stayed in Marbella for a week after and they sacked him.

James Acaster

Is this a different stag do or the same one?

Iain Stirling

Yes. No, it's a different one.

James Acaster

A different one?

Iain Stirling

That wasn't even-, I didn't even know that one. That was a friend of a friend.

James Acaster

Okay.

Ed Gamble

It's amazing that storytelling is essentially your career, Iain because-,

Iain Stirling

I'm more one-liner, voice-over, out of sight these days.

Ed Gamble

Let's (redacted) that the couple-,

Iain Stirling

It's not worth it. Long story short-,

Ed Gamble

Trust me, this has been worth it.

Iain Stirling

(Redacted) got annoyed that they had ordered sparkling water and they said, 'What has annoyed you about that?' and he went, 'I don't know. I can't put my finger on it. It just annoys me.' Then that's when my friend, (redacted) said, 'Yes, I bet they go on holiday in Dubai.'



Ed Gamble

So not worth it. Fucking brilliant.

Iain Stirling

So, now every time I see someone drinking sparkling water I think, 'Oh, I bet you go on holiday in Dubai.'

Ed Gamble

Also, I just love that we heard about so much other stuff and the story you've chosen is probably the least interesting night out you and your friends have ever had.

Iain Stirling

We've had some mad ones, like.

James Acaster

Popadoms or bread? Popadoms or bread, Iain Sterling? Popadoms or bread?

Iain Stirling

I wanted to go popadoms because it feels like a more unique thing to do. Yes, totally, but then I want a naan and I want a keema naan.

James Acaster

Yes.

Iain Stirling

I want a big meaty boy.

Ed Gamble

Big meaty boy?

Iain Stirling

Yes.

Ed Gamble

I don't think we've ever had a keema naan on the podcast before have we?

James Acaster

I'm thinking. We definitely had naan before. We must-, I mean I feel like we might have had a keema naan, but, like, it's very exciting to hear one.

Iain Stirling

I love a keema naan and I would have it-, The Edinburgh-Glasgow debate will always rumble on and we'll never know. We'll never know. We can't possibly get into it tonight, but-,



Ed Gamble

Somebody just went, 'Glasgow's better.'

Iain Stirling

But I would have-, The best Indian in the UK is in Glasgow. It's Mother India in Glasgow.

James Acaster

Mother India. That is very interesting because our tour manager, Paul, had Mother India before the show and said, 'It was disappointing.'

Ed Gamble

Did he say that?

James Acaster

Yes, he said that.

Ed Gamble

Bring him out. Bring him out.

James Acaster

He's right behind the curtain. Didn't like the chicken. He said, 'The chicken wasn't very nice.'

Ed Gamble

Well, maybe it doesn't deliver well. There's loads of good restaurants that don't deliver well. We've never had keema naan before by the way.

Iain Stirling

You've never had it?

Ed Gamble

No.

Iain Stirling

It's just the best. The Mother India keema naan. It's, sort of, doner meat but it's posh. Why is that?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

It's doner meat, but it's allowed.

Iain Stirling

Yes, but I can't order doner meat in the day. I would love to. People look at you all judgey and that. Whereas you can get a keema naan and, 'Hmm, ambassador.'



James Acaster

The keema naan's in a pyramid.

Iain Stirling

Yes, you can't go, 'I'll have a loaf of Hovis and some doner meat.' People look at you funny in the street.

James Acaster

Yes, they would do.

Iain Stirling

But a keema naan. Ooh, la, la or whatever they say in India.

James Acaster

Yes, they say ooh, la, la, yes.

Ed Gamble

They say ooh, la, la in India, yes, to the ambassador they say it.

James Acaster

Mamma mia.

Ed Gamble

Mamma mia, ambassador.

Iain Stirling

Mamma mia.

Ed Gamble

It is very mamma mia. I don't think I've ever had a keema naan.

Iain Stirling

What?

Ed Gamble

I always think, 'I'm going to have meat so I don't want to have another meat thing.' I don't want meat on meat on meat.

James Acaster

Is this Ed Gamble talking? I'm sorry, what the fuck is going on?

Ed Gamble

But the naan bread is a wonderful thing, don't get me wrong and now and again, sure, I have a Peshwari naan.



James Acaster

Mamma mia.

Iain Stirling

No, no.

James Acaster

Oh, a bigger cheer for Peshwari than the keema.

Iain Stirling

Peshwari?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Iain Stirling

That's like a cake.

James Acaster

Oh, I'm sorry. Cakes, the notoriously delicious things that everyone loves?

Ed Gamble

But with a spicy curry, especially like a tomato-based spicy curry and a Peshwari naan, you get the sweetness from the Peshwari. It cuts through the spice. It's a wonderful combination. You get-

James Acaster

Someone there, it's like you just summed their life up in one sentence. Yes.

Ed Gamble

But with a keema, what's that bringing? Especially if you've got, like, a lamb or chicken curry, I don't think the meat and the keema is necessarily bringing anything, but I will say, I've never had one so I can't speak on the topic. Thank you, Iain.

Iain Stirling

Oh, this isn't the direction I thought. I thought it was just watch your favourite menu, not we'll ask you what you like and then tell you to go and fuck yourself.

Ed Gamble

No, I said I've never had a keema naan and you reacted annoyed, so I was just letting you know why.

Iain Stirling

Do you know what? I forgot I did that actually. Fair play. If anyone's seen me on anything, that happens a lot.



James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Iain Stirling

I get carried away. I fly off the handle. I react and then I reflect on it and I think about that for the next six years.

James Acaster

Well, listen. I've never had a keema naan or a Peshwari naan.

Iain Stirling

Why?

Ed Gamble

Genuine shock from down here.

Iain Stirling

What are you doing?

James Acaster

Profiterole tower.

Iain Stirling

I just have a Cornetto.

James Acaster

That's how we do it in the Acaster house.

Iain Stirling

Well, I think that sounds lovely.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Yes, so if you want that at the start of the meal, do you want any, sort of, dips or anything with it to dip the keema naan in?

Iain Stirling

I haven't thought that far ahead. I like meat. I would have, like, maybe a chicken pakora with it or something.

Ed Gamble

Wasn't quite the question I had asked, Iain.

Iain Stirling

I can dip in.



Ed Gamble

I mean you could try and dip a keema naan in a chicken pakora, sure. I'm not sure it's physically possible.

Iain Stirling

You can blend them up.

Ed Gamble

You want blended chicken pakora as a dip?

Iain Stirling

I've had worse on a night out. I'll have a chicken pakora, sort of, blended.

James Acaster

Blended chicken pakora with your keema naan?

Iain Stirling

No, I've actually thought about this. You just threw me with that sauce. You never said the source was coming.

Ed Gamble

It's not a fucking difficult question, is it, mate? I'm asking if you want a dip.

Iain Stirling

I'll have a chicken pakora. I'm in now. I just want chicken pakora with the keema naan.

James Acaster

Wow, I feel like I'm watching Clash of the Titans over here. You two were at each other's throats. It's a bloody site.

Ed Gamble

I actually think blended chicken pakora sounds like it might be alright, you know.

James Acaster

You would do it? You would eat it?

Ed Gamble

I would eat that, yes.

James Acaster

You would drink that down?

Ed Gamble

Yes, I would glug that.



Iain Stirling

I would glug it right down.

Ed Gamble

Now, it's gone sexy.

Iain Stirling

Okay.

James Acaster

Right, let's do your menu proper, Iain. Your dream starter.

Iain Stirling

I would have a cheesy, truffle risotto. Yes.

James Acaster

Here we go. The judgement in the room.

Iain Stirling

It's from a restaurant called Es Pati in Majorca.

Ed Gamble

Look at me. Look at me and tell me what you want. Don't worry about the audience.

James Acaster

Don't worry about them. Don't worry about them, Iain.

Ed Gamble

I can see you worrying. I see you're worried. All the great Irn Bru chat just washing away all the credibility going, but look at me. You tell me about the restaurant in Majorca and the cheesy truffle risotto.

Iain Stirling

What's thrown me is I don't know why got a laugh. I'm trying to be serious for a second.

Ed Gamble

You should be serious.

James Acaster

It is serious.

Iain Stirling

It's a restaurant in Majorca that I like called Es Pati.



Ed Gamble

Es Pati?

Iain Stirling

Es Pati as in E, S, P, A, T, I.

Ed Gamble

Oh, Es Pati.

Iain Stirling

Es Pati, yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes. When was the first time you went there then?

Iain Stirling

Once my friend, Greg-,

James Acaster

Here we go.

Ed Gamble

What he went to Es Pati and ordered risotto and accidentally ate the plate?

Iain Stirling

And shit himself. Yes, it's a place-, It's near where I used to record Love Island. It does a five-course tasting menu. I had booked it for my now wife, but then she was, like, a girlfriend or whatever you might say. Yes, thank you. Three people, big fans.

James Acaster

Big fans of love.

Iain Stirling

But I didn't know-, I didn't know what a taster menu was, so when we got there, you just get what you get. I booked it for-, Me and Laura hadn't been going out long and the first course was a watermelon gazpacho. It was rank. It was soup that was cold.

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes.

Iain Stirling

It was rank. I was like, 'Oh, no, I'm so screwed here.' Then the second course came in and it was this cheesy, truffle risotto and it's a mixture of one of the nicest things I've ever tasted plus that massive relief of like, 'Oh I've not messed up this date with this amazing person.' So, I was, sort of, eating it and



going, 'Oh, this is so nice,' and at the same time be like, 'Fucking yes.' It was just so creamy and lovely and yes, it was amazing. That restaurant's amazing. It's, like, run by a South African couple who live in Spain, but also go to Germany in summers. I can't remember why. They told me.

Ed Gamble

That man is on witness protection.

James Acaster

I like how anyone who encounters you has to be ready for their life story to be shared on a podcast in front of an audience.

Iain Stirling

He's a cool guy, Felix. He's a good guy.

Ed Gamble

Did Laura enjoy the watermelon gazpacho?

Iain Stirling

Yes, I think she liked that. I was too busy panicking to know.

Ed Gamble

If you were on a date and she was enjoying the watermelon gazpacho, did you have to act like you were really-, firstly that you weren't surprised that it was cold.

Iain Stirling

Yes.

Ed Gamble

And secondly that you were enjoying it, so how did you make out that the first bite you had you were like, oh I knew that was going to be cold. Did you make a face?

Iain Stirling

That's a really good point. I think I might have said that's cold. I think I said 'Is your's cold?'. That's what I said.

Ed Gamble

Absolutely the worst thing you could do.

Iain Stirling

'Is your's cold?' And she'd come all the way to Spain, we hadn't been going out that long. 'Is your's cold?' And she went 'yes, it's gazpacho'. I didn't know what that meant.

James Acaster

Is this where Love Island's filmed?



Iain Stirling

Yes it's really near, it's in this tiny little town nearby and that's so small they're, sort of, like-, they actually got asked to film a date, like one of the Love Island dates in there and they said no, which made me like it even more. I was like, 'Yas,' rock and roll. And it's in this tiny little town and you should definitely go there if you're ever in the area.

James Acaster

Ed's been in the area before.

Ed Gamble

Oh fuck off.

Iain Stirling

What were you doing there?

James Acaster

You filmed Love Island.

Iain Stirling

Oh yes do you remember that guy? Curtis. Curtis Pritchard.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Iain Stirling

And then you were in Hollyoaks for a bit.

Ed Gamble

I was in Hollyoaks for a bit wasn't I? With my brother.

James Acaster

It was a boost to you, a bit career boost.

Ed Gamble

Everything that guy does is terrible, so all that happened, like, he looks like you or whatever.

Iain Stirling

But he doesn't look like you, he literally is-, like you're identical. You look more like him than his brother that hangs around with him all the time.

James Acaster

Your dream main course Iain Stirling?



Iain Stirling

I'm going to go with-, I've thought about this a lot genuinely, more than you'd ever know, but every time I came back to it-, a proper home cooked spaghetti bolognese. You can't beat it. My mum, spag bol. You know what you're getting, an offensive amount of pasta.

James Acaster

Oh yes, you're like pasta, that's one of the three, I've got that.

Ed Gamble

But it was plain when you were a kid.

Iain Stirling

I know, now it's got, like, whatever's in the bottle.

Ed Gamble

You have really thought about it, haven't you?

Iain Stirling

Really, although yes, no I like that. Do you know when you get so much pasta and you, sort of, like tell people. Look I've done too much I'm not going to get through this, and then as the meal goes on you get to tell people, I'm doing it.

Ed Gamble

Who are you telling? Who are you telling?

Iain Stirling

Everyone near you, look I'm eating all the pasta.

James Acaster

Laura's got to be sitting there thinking 'The signs were there with the gazpacho, this is my own fault'.

Iain Stirling

Is your's hot? One of them looks like Ed Gamble. Yes and I like the communal element of everyone just.

Ed Gamble

I mean that mime you did didn't look very fucking communal Iain, I'll be honest. It's just like you eating from a big bowl.

Iain Stirling

It's every man for themselves when it comes-

Ed Gamble

While your family just sit there watching it happen.



Iain Stirling

My mum just sits on so proud, she cooks a really good spag bol and sometimes I quite like doing, when you do a Quorn one, yes but the best about doing a Quorn is when you don't tell anyone, and halfway through you go 'You know that was Quorn?' And then everyone in the room goes 'yes we did, yes.'. Tastes nothing like mince of course.

Ed Gamble

Iain's hosting the new series of Punkd. That's in the first episode.

James Acaster

It's a doozy. He gets Tinie Tempah with the Quorn.

Iain Stirling

I go to Tinie Tempah, 'Hey, Tinie Tempah, Ed Gamble's about to serve you real mince spaghetti bolognese' and then Curtis from Love Island walks out with some Quorn.

James Acaster

Hot.

Ed Gamble

He is the Quorn version of me actually.

James Acaster

He is.

Ed Gamble

That's what I'll start telling people.

Iain Stirling

Better for the environment in the long run.

James Acaster

No you see that's where it falls apart.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

So with your mum's spaghetti bolognese, what's different about it to anyone else's? Despite the fact there's loads of it.

Iain Stirling

She's just really good at it, you know there's something about a family recipe where there just-, there's something about your own family's cooking that it's just undeniably familiar.



James Acaster

I wonder where the word familiar comes from?

Iain Stirling

You're all laughing, you've no idea-, it's hard doing this in front of 3, 000 people.

James Acaster

Oh yes 100%, it's really fun to fuck with you.

Ed Gamble

Does she have any little, sort of, things that are just her own, any signature twists?

Iain Stirling

Well she puts, what's it called?

Ed Gamble

Mince.

Iain Stirling

No-, yes, not soy sauce.

James Acaster

Looks like parmesan.

Ed Gamble

Worcestershire sauce.

Iain Stirling

Worcestershire sauce, that's in there.

James Acaster

Big old game of charades here.

Iain Stirling

Worcestershire sauce, tinned tomatoes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I don't think that's hers.

Iain Stirling

Passata. Chocolate, she actually does do that.

James Acaster

That guy is fucking trolling me man.



Iain Stirling

But dark chocolate, like 90% cacao.

James Acaster

Well if it was your mum's recipe up on the Pointless board I'd be a different man. I wouldn't need to do this podcast, I'd be rolling in my billions if I'd won Pointless.

Ed Gamble

Carrots.

Iain Stirling

Carrots.

James Acaster

I thought she said what about parents.

Iain Stirling

I mean for all my fronting early doors, a bit of celery might go in there sometimes.

James Acaster

One solitary boo.

Ed Gamble

The holy trinity man, you've got to put celery and carrot and garlic and all of that, onion.

Iain Stirling

I just think vegetables are not as good as mince, so why are you putting it in a spag bol?

Ed Gamble

Because it's the base of flavour Iain.

Iain Stirling

It's not-, what, worse flavour?

James Acaster

You don't just do the best ingredient and then everything else can fuck off. Because then it's just mince, it's not spaghetti bolognese then. Let's rank all the ingredients, what's the best one? We're just having that.

Ed Gamble

Avril, start from 15 and we'll go all the way up.



James Acaster

I'd love to hear Avril's top 15 spaghetti bolognese ingredients. Where's this deep fried Mars bar? These people laser printed some poppadsoms in the interval.

Iain Stirling

Neither of you have had one have you?

Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

I've never had a deep fried Mars bar.

Iain Stirling

Snickers fried is better. It holds its shape because of the nuts. The problem with a Mars bar is the caramel becomes like a weapon inside that.

James Acaster

Too hot.

Iain Stirling

I'm from Edinburgh, I've seen many an American tourist get some molten caramel.

Ed Gamble

They've been taken down by it.

Iain Stirling

And no one warns them, we see it coming, 'Oh the deep-fried Mars bar,' like, 'Yes, cool, good luck.' Launch into that, you mug. 'My great great grandpappy's from Scotland,' yes, cool. Have your molten Mars bar, Helena. See how you get on. 'It's sticking to my lip, burnt right on my lips.'

James Acaster

I love this character so much.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I do. She gets higher and higher, the more she gets burned.

Iain Stirling

'Excuse me, where's the castle in Edin-bars?'

Ed Gamble

Hang on, has she got all these bad burns and now she's still trying to find the castle?



Iain Stirling

She's had a burn. Now she's like, 'I've had so many deep-fried Mars bars.'

Ed Gamble

'Kind of reminds me, have you heard of Robert Burns?'

Iain Stirling

'Robbie Burns, I want to rub the dog's nose, can I go rub the dog's nose?'

Ed Gamble

There are some chip shops in Scotland where you can take what you want to be deep friend, and they'll do anything, right?

Iain Stirling

I think you can do that in any chip shop.

James Acaster

No you can't man, you can't go to Nick's Fish and Chips in Kettering and ask them to deep-fry anything. If I went in there-

Iain Stirling

Are you sure if you walked in-?

James Acaster

Oh, 100%. Look, I'm a local celeb, people love me there, but if I walked into Nick's Fish and Chips and said 'Can you deep-fry this wedding cake for me?'

Iain Stirling

That's what all about being in Glasgow is, you just said deep fry this wedding cake and anywhere it would get a big laugh. I saw some people go, 'Mm, a gap in the market.'

Ed Gamble

Not a bad idea.

James Acaster

I wish I hadn't got married at 22.

Ed Gamble

What would you deep fry? Which chocolate bar are you deep frying out of any chocolate bars?

James Acaster

Oh it's a question for me. Thank you Ed.



Ed Gamble

I'll move onto Iain, don't worry. I'm giving him time.

James Acaster

I guess if I was to fry any chocolate bar-, oh my god, ask Iain first. This is really hard.

Iain Stirling

If you want for structural integrity. I've seen them all fried.

Ed Gamble

What do you mean you've seen them all fried?

Iain Stirling

Pretty much I've seen them all fried.

Ed Gamble

Hang on, when have you seen them all fried?

Iain Stirling

Well like you've been in Edinburgh long enough, you've seen enough people ordering-, because, like tourists do it and then you think, 'I'm not going to do that, that's for tourists,' and then you get drunk, and you've got a Twix in your hand and you think why not.

James Acaster

Can you demonstrate a tourist asking for a Twix?

Iain Stirling

'Good evening to you all.'

Ed Gamble

Hang on.

Iain Stirling

My voice broke. 'Hey, my great grandpappy visited these fair isles many moons ago, and he always wanted a nice piece of chips.'

Ed Gamble

Piece of what?

James Acaster

Piece of chips?



Iain Stirling

'Piece of chips with a deep-fried Twix. He was quirky in those ways. So can I please young man sir have my Twix deep-fried?'

Ed Gamble

Very polite.

Iain Stirling

'No pun intended, mama, pappy boy.'

Ed Gamble

So Twix for you?

Iain Stirling

Yes, one thing worse than no round of applause, is someone trying and 3, 000 people going 'Absolutely not, no, that's not happening'

Ed Gamble

I think they just wanted to hear more from the character.

Iain Stirling

'Not today'. Best for structural integrity, Double Decker. Honestly, once it's been fried, you bite into it, it's like nothing happened to it. It's just in there like, 'And what?'

James Acaster

Order us one of them. Order us deep-fried Double Decker, that's what I want. I don't want no deep-fried Mars bar.

Iain Stirling

See the Mars bar's inside like 'phwoar'.

James Acaster

Yes, if that's going to scorch my mouth, that's not what my great grandpappy died for. I'd rather have a deep-fried Double Decker, please.

Iain Stirling

Double Decker, Snickers, I think we all agree.

Ed Gamble

Crème Egg?

Iain Stirling

Crème Eggs beat-, but again that is a daredevil spore. I'd rather sky dive than each one of them.



James Acaster

I love that, like, when you had gazpacho you didn't know it was meant to be cold, but you are a connoisseur when it comes to deep fried chocolate.

Ed Gamble

Throwing out terms like structural integrity.

James Acaster

Every single chocolate bar, you throw any chocolate bar at Iain, 'Well, you're playing with fire there'. Top fifteen deep fried chocolates from Iain Stirling. This audience, just a heads up they love top fifteens.

Ed Gamble

Yes they love top fifteens. From about fourteen to two it's really going to feel like they don't love it, but they're with you.

James Acaster

I mean, it's up to you if you want to attempt it or not.

Iain Stirling

Considering earlier on I forgot the word for a wet-wipe, I think fifteen chocolate bars is a stretch. Crème Egg would be fifteen. Worst.

James Acaster

That's bottom.

Iain Stirling

Bounty, fourteen.

Ed Gamble

Okay we're doing it.

James Acaster

We're away.

Ed Gamble

You can't not do it now.

James Acaster

You can't go onto fourteen and not finish it Iain.

Iain Stirling

Well Maltesers would be fun but thirteen.



Ed Gamble

They would be fun.

James Acaster

They would be fun but they're going to dissolve.

Iain Stirling

It's one of those fun ideas, they would dissolve in the fat wouldn't they, if you think about it.

Ed Gamble

Yes, you'd need a thick batter.

Iain Stirling

Yes, it would just be more batter than anything else, they're thirteen. Twelve, Milky Bar.

Ed Gamble

Yes, too soft.

James Acaster

You're not getting any of the flavour.

Iain Stirling

Yes you're right, there's a lull isn't there?

Ed Gamble

Yes but I'm saying you've got to hold strong because what you're actually doing is they are fascinated into silence.

James Acaster

They're fascinated, they're compiling their top fifteens in their head. I've never been anywhere before where top fifteens is even a think.

Iain Stirling

I know, why not a top ten?

James Acaster

In Glasgow, they're obsessed with top fifteens, not top fives or top tens like most people. It's got to be top fifteens.

Iain Stirling

Top fifteens. Where am I?

James Acaster

You've done four.



Iain Stirling

Twelve. Eleven, Dairy Milk, ten Fruit and Nut.

James Acaster

Okay.

Ed Gamble

Well that's interesting because you said they nuts in Snickers help with structural integrity.

Iain Stirling

That's why it's above.

Ed Gamble

The Fruit and Nut, what's that now, what number is that?

Iain Stirling

Fruit and Nut's ten. Above the Dairy Milk because it's got no structural integrity, Fruit and Nut's ten.

Ed Gamble

Yes, but that's quite low down for something with nuts, which as we know provides structural integrity.

Iain Stirling

But we're nowhere near the nougat based snacks yet.

Ed Gamble

We are mate, what's a Milky Way?

James Acaster

We're commenting a lot on audience reaction, but I would happily have this conversation to silence and carry on because it's so up my street. So we're in the top ten now.

Ed Gamble

This is great.

James Acaster

So number nine.

Iain Stirling

Oh my god, a Dime Bar, that would be a soup once it was finished.

James Acaster

Look man, you put your head in the dragon's mouth. You took your life into your own hands there, we can't do anything for you.



Ed Gamble

Do you think Dime Bar would melt?

Iain Stirling

It would be a soup with just some caramely croutons.

Ed Gamble

But that's rock hard in the middle. You're talking about structural integrity, that is like a fucking iron bar, that is incredible.

Iain Stirling

Irn Bru bar, number nine.

James Acaster

That is not chocolate Iain.

Iain Stirling

It's not legal is it? Eight, chocolate orange, who said that? Right we might have a spoiler for the top five.

James Acaster

Chocolate Orange.

Iain Stirling

A deep fried chocolate orange, just ate like a Viking.

Ed Gamble

So you're not going individual segments battered, you're doing the whole thing.

Iain Stirling

No the whole thing, I'd dip my hand in like that. Fingers fried, worth it, worth it. I might lose a hand but it's in the name of science.

James Acaster

Yes, good on you man.

Ed Gamble

Your mate from the edamame beans eating a chocolate orange with the foil still on 'I've done it again, Iain help me'

James Acaster

So where are we in the list?



Iain Stirling

Seven now. Seven Star Bar.

James Acaster

Star Bar seven.

Iain Stirling

That was suggested but that was always going to be seven.

James Acaster

I like how as we get closer to the top five and we're running out of things, you're shouting out more because you're so anxious that your favourite isn't going to be in the list.

Iain Stirling

Six, Bounty.

James Acaster

Oh I thought Bounty was-

Iain Stirling

Bounty but the Celebrations Bounty which tastes better than Bounty.

Ed Gamble

Interesting.

James Acaster

Man, I've never been so glad to have done a top 15 in my life. This is controversial stuff.

Iain Stirling

This might genuinely be the most stressed on stage I've ever been in my life. Five, Boost.

James Acaster

Boost, number five.

Ed Gamble

Iain, what is interesting about this top fifteen, and I've seen a lot of top fifteens, is that you're running through the list as if you've got it preplanned in your head, and every hang on, every time you say a number, the first thing that someone else shouts, that's what you say. 'Number five', 'Boost', 'Boost'.

Iain Stirling

That's not true, number four, what he said.

Audience

Curly Wurly.



Iain Stirling

Oh my god.

James Acaster

There should be a law passed that that can only be said in a Scottish accent.

Ed Gamble

I got a boner when I heard that, that was incredible.

James Acaster

Absolutely, a Curly Wurly boner at that. Amazing. I've never heard that said in a Scottish accent before.

Iain Stirling

Never?

James Acaster

It was incredible.

Iain Stirling

Curly Wurly.

James Acaster

It was the way he said it, I imagined his eyes literally rolling around in his head.

Iain Stirling

It's like he just woke up, 'Curly Wurly,' then went back.

James Acaster

You know what, there's a chocolate bar that I can't believe hasn't been said yet and if it isn't said-,

Ed Gamble

That's what I was hoping would be bought up, the Kit Kat Chunky.

James Acaster

The Kit Kat Chunky.

Iain Stirling

Well, spoiler alert, four.

James Acaster

Oh, here we go.

Ed Gamble

Now is it a spoiler alert Iain or have you just remembered?



Iain Stirling

Curly Wurly. Three Twix, two Snickers, one Kit Kat Chunky.

James Acaster

Whoa, what happened to the Double Decker?

Ed Gamble

No Double Decker mentioned, no Mars, Mars didn't even make the top fifteen. You said we haven't even got to the nougat-based bars yet, none of them made it into the top ten.

James Acaster

The best one, you'd already named the best ones before that, so I was like well at least he's got his number one locked in.

Ed Gamble

Yes, chocolate orange never came up again either.

Iain Stirling

Oh my god.

James Acaster

Yes, spoiler for the top five, shouldn't have thought so, forgot about it, as soon as someone shouted out Curly Wurly.

Iain Stirling

I've never been made to feel a fool about a thing that's not known, a thing that's not a thing.

James Acaster

You're probably going to school me here, we really should move on from deep-fried chocolate bars, but-, and I'm going to sound like a novice, I'm sure you're going to think this is a ridiculous thing, but Tunnocks Caramel Wafer not getting deep-fried?

Iain Stirling

Don't know if you fry it, it's just perfect as it is, is it?

James Acaster

It is perfect, it's one of the best. It's the best chocolate bar in Britain.

Iain Stirling

I mean, talk about structural integrity.

James Acaster

And I'm not saying that to pander, it's the best chocolate bar in Britain.



Ed Gamble

It's not a chocolate bar.

James Acaster

Huh?

Ed Gamble

It's surely not a chocolate bar.

James Acaster

What?

Ed Gamble

It's a biscuit.

James Acaster

Fucking, I'm sorry what? Who's this guy? Are we okay with this?

Ed Gamble

Sorry, sorry, the Tunnocks Caramel Wafer is a biscuit.

James Acaster

Whoa, sorry what the fuck? Are you even from Glasgae? It's a chocolate bar. A biscuit? What the fuck?

Ed Gamble

Yes so look, biscuit, you could have it with, like a cup of tea, a cup of coffee, you can have two or three at a time like you can with a biscuit.

James Acaster

No, you've just described a chocolate bar, Ed.

Ed Gamble

It's in the biscuit aisle.

Iain Stirling

Aisle, also that's a nightmare in a Scottish accent. Never has aisle had so many syllables in it in its entire life. Aisle.

James Acaster

It should not be in the biscuit aisle, come on.

Iain Stirling

'Ayela'.



James Acaster

I'm going to campaign like people did against Jaffa Cakes. Make sure.

Iain Stirling

What is it, if they start hard and go soft they're a cake-, no if they start hard and go soft it's a biscuit, if they start soft then go hard it's a cake. The law decided that.

Ed Gamble

The law decided that.

Iain Stirling

Yes, there was a Jaffa Cake case. You know the Jaffa Cake case?

Ed Gamble

It's about tax isn't it?

Iain Stirling

Tax yes, you pay more tax on-, that's it yes. They baked a massive one.

Ed Gamble

Hang on, you just believe everything this audience say.

Iain Stirling

And actually-

James Acaster

You are aware that you haven't got these on an in-ear, we can hear them too.

Ed Gamble

This is like you're on Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway, and they're telling you everything to say. 'They baked a massive one', 'Yes they baked a massive one, I don't know if you-'

James Acaster

You're talking to us like we haven't heard them every time.

Iain Stirling

Look, listen, when you're a boy from Edinburgh and you hear a Glaswegian accent, you do as you're told.

Ed Gamble

Jaffa Cakes would be good deep fried as well, we should move on from this.



James Acaster

Dream side dish, because I've just looked at the clock, we're at an hour, we've got over half of it to go. We've got half left, this is mad. So that's the biggest side track we've done of all time.

Iain Stirling

Yes that was-, I regret doing that.

James Acaster

Oh hey, we all regret it.

Ed Gamble

Side dish Iain.

Iain Stirling

Do you know what I keep doing as well, I keep trying to think which friends I've fully named to ask them to get taken out.

Ed Gamble

You've not fully named anyone but I feel like how many are there called (redacted)?

Iain Stirling

More than you'd know actually. Dream side dish, thanks for asking. Haggis bon bon.

Ed Gamble

Very popular on the audience's menus as well when we were reading through them, haggis bon bon, very popular.

Iain Stirling

Basically you want deep fried, you want haggis, but you want to come across as well to do.

James Acaster

Yes, I've never heard of this.

Iain Stirling

Never had a haggis bon bon?

James Acaster

Never heard of it.

Iain Stirling

My favourite, there's a place in Edinburgh called Angels with Bagpipes, cool pub on the Royal Mile. It's part of The Witchery, it's like the pub bit of The Witchery, and they do good bon bons.



Ed Gamble

Could you name your top fifteen places to get haggis bon bons?

Iain Stirling

Probably more confidently than I could do chocolate bars.

Ed Gamble

Yes tell us more about haggis bon bons.

Iain Stirling

Small, succulent, lovely bits of haggis, fried and then they normally come with a dipping sauce, normally a whisky dipping sauce. In Edinburgh we do chippy sauce. Aye.

James Acaster

We would have got him out if we had gone with you, we could kick him out now and be out at the right time. That would have been perfect.

Iain Stirling

Yes, normally chippy sauce and then you dip the little succulent balls of goodness and two bites a bon bon is the best size I think. You normally get three to four bon bons a serving. Sometimes they put it on some leaves if it's posh.

James Acaster

L E I T H?

Iain Stirling

Yes. They put it on that, and then sometimes there's a little carrot where it's cut dead thin.

Ed Gamble

But you spot it right? You can spot it?

Iain Stirling

I see it straight away, what's that doing there?

James Acaster

Like predator vision.

Iain Stirling

What's that cheeky little boy doing? Flick that away, nudge it off.

James Acaster

Predator vision as in the horror movie character. Iain's not one of the ones you need to worry about.



Iain Stirling

I don't really know what else to say on that.

Ed Gamble

I love haggis man, I came to haggis too late in life I think.

James Acaster

It's so up your street.

Iain Stirling

It's when you have to describe it, because when you have to describe it that's the problem with haggis, but it's actually delicious. And actually, despite what this audience think, vegetarian haggis is a triumph. Yes it's brilliant, they just fear change.

James Acaster

Well actually earlier when someone said vegetarian haggis, we did not get the response we were all expecting. Everyone was like 'Shut up it's great'.

Iain Stirling

Really?

James Acaster

Yes, actually.

Iain Stirling

I was wrong, I apologise.

James Acaster

People throw the veggie haggis.

Ed Gamble

The first time I had haggis, you know when you buy it from the supermarket in the plastic.

Iain Stirling

Yes, do you know which one you got?

Ed Gamble

No I don't know, but you steam it and then you put the knife in and it starts oozing out like a big pimple, fuck me that's satisfying.

Iain Stirling

Yes it's amazing.



Ed Gamble

The pressure that builds up in that fucker.

Iain Stirling

And also the best way to cook it is in the microwave which is dead quick. Like, the easiest way to cook it is in my opinion the best way to do it.

James Acaster

Microwave's best.

Iain Stirling

A few minutes, boff.

James Acaster

How much to you ever get, because you live in London now, and you speak differently there and you, kind of, denounce Scotland a lot. How often do you get to eat haggis in London.

Iain Stirling

I still have it a lot, I get it sent down, my mum sends me it sometimes in a care package. She does.

Ed Gamble

What else it in the care package, just a big old shoebox full of spag bol?

Iain Stirling

Irn Bru, Tunnocks Tea Cakes which are great.

Ed Gamble

Can you deep fry those?

Iain Stirling

Deep fry those.

James Acaster

I love a Tunnocks Tea Cake.

Iain Stirling

I love a Tunnocks-

James Acaster

Dark chocolate ones are my favourites, is that controversial? Saying I prefer the dark chocolate Tunnocks Tea Cake to the milk one?

Iain Stirling

No the dark chocolate ones are nice. It's the one with the jam we don't trust.



James Acaster

Oh you don't like the jam one?

Iain Stirling

No.

James Acaster

That's fair.

Iain Stirling

That's a Jammy Dodger isn't it?

Ed Gamble

It's a Wagon Wheel.

James Acaster

Wagon Wheel.

Iain Stirling

Wagon Wheel, that's what I'm looking for.

James Acaster

It's a chubby Wagon Wheel.

Iain Stirling

Chubby Wagon Wheel, that does sound like someone in Glasgow, 'Oh you fucking chubby Wagon Wheel.' 'What was that, you chubby Wagon Wheel, say that to my face, you fucking chubby Wagon Wheel'.

Ed Gamble

That's a great side.

James Acaster

I love it, dream drink Iain.

Iain Stirling

I go Guinness but from Dublin. There's a pub-, sir? It's the same? What is?

James Acaster

Oh my god.

Ed Gamble

The Guinness everywhere is the same.



Iain Stirling

No, Dublin's much better. Do you know what? Ireland, because my wife's from Ireland and sometimes they say things like the butter's better in Ireland and, like, Cadbury's chocolate's better in Ireland, it's wild, it's not it's the same. But Guinness is so much better in Ireland.

James Acaster

It is.

Iain Stirling

It's like undeniably better.

Ed Gamble

I used to be of that thought, and then I realised I think they're probably the same and I'm just being a complete wanker.

Iain Stirling

No, man, it's thicker, it's creamier.

Ed Gamble

I'm sure it used to be different because they know how to look after Guinness, they know how to look after the pipes and they know the right glasses to use, but I think that school of thought has transferred more over to the UK, so I think you can get good Guinness in the UK now.

Iain Stirling

Right, I think that's bollocks.

James Acaster

I think it's nice in the UK, when I first had a pint of Guinness in Dublin, it was like my head was in a Mr Whippy machine.

Iain Stirling

Yes, that's what it feels like, it feels like your head's in a Mr Whippy machine.

Ed Gamble

Yes you've always said that, haven't you?

Iain Stirling

Oh I've said a lot of things today if I'm being honest, and I only regret about six-, I don't regret 60% of it. Yes, I would go Dublin.

Ed Gamble

A particular pub in Dublin?



Iain Stirling

Yes, so Bray near Dublin, there are a few pubs in there I really like.

Ed Gamble

Do you split the G?

Iain Stirling

I've attempted it, it's impossible.

Ed Gamble

No it's not.

James Acaster

Oh, Jesus Christ. Is that when you drink down to the-

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Fuck me, man. I was at a wedding in Ireland, and a guy came up to me after the main ceremony, a really nice bloke. 'Hey, how's it going?' Didn't say he knew who I was or anything, just like 'Are you enjoying the wedding? Yes cool.' Went into for the meal (ph 59.09), he went 'I'm going to get a Guinness, you want a Guinness?' I was like, 'Yes,' bought it back, he said, 'Right you've got to drink down to there,' like what? I thought you were a nice man. He went, 'Yes you've got to drink down to there, you've got to do it, if you can't do it we'll just carry on until you can do it.' Alright. I tried to do it, I did it in two, I was quite pleased with myself, he wasn't happy. And then he would get more and more drunk and then eventually he just went, 'Why do you ask people poppadoms or bread?' I was like, 'Oh shit, this guy's known who I am all along.' He's really got it in for me, he's furious. And he's drunk a million Guinnesses because he keeps trying to beat me at a competition I'm not playing.

Iain Stirling

Splitting the G's a nightmare, you've got that gambling thing where then you find this time-,

Ed Gamble

This pint.

Iain Stirling

Sorry, I'm just laughing at how stupid to remember the name of the place is.

Ed Gamble

What's the name of the place?

Iain Stirling

It's called the Harbour Bar, but I forgot that.



Ed Gamble

Oh, there you go, so we need to put some suggestions up and one of them was the Harbour Bar.

Iain Stirling

The Harbour Bar, it's an amazing pub, it's got live music on, different types from different areas, it's like a mind-fuck when you're drunk. Because you're in one gig, and it's live rocky people, and then you walk into the next room and there's a guy with a fiddle, and you're like, 'What's happening? My life's falling apart.'

James Acaster

And that's where you want to go?

Iain Stirling

Yes. And the Guinness is just next level. I once went with my father-in-law once and-

James Acaster

Let's have his full name and job, anything that he's ever done to disgrace himself.

Iain Stirling

I'll have a Guinness from Ireland and it is better.

James Acaster

What do you want on the top?

Iain Stirling

Oh, you've got to go with the four leaf clover, right?

Ed Gamble

No, they fucking don't do that in Ireland, they get angry about that shit, no logo in the foam.

Iain Stirling

Is that a thing?

James Acaster

You just got rumbled my friend.

Iain Stirling

Hang on, I didn't get rumbled, you asked me. I was just 'Yes, and-ing' I was playing along.

Ed Gamble

O'Neill's pubs do that and stuff.

Iain Stirling

I think it is quite hard to do it though.



Ed Gamble

Yes it is quite hard.

Iain Stirling

Like getting a love heart in your coffee.

Ed Gamble

This is the dream restaurant, you can have whatever you like in the foam.

Iain Stirling

I want nothing. Why are you pressuring me?

James Acaster

Well, it just seems a shame that you're ordering a Guinness in the dream restaurant and I can genie up anything in that foam for you, and you're having nothing. I could write a whole Robert Burns poem in there for you.

Iain Stirling

Alright, I want To a Mouse then.

James Acaster

What?

Iain Stirling

To a Mouse.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Tiramisu?

Ed Gamble

He wants tiramisu.

James Acaster

Oh, imagine a Guinness and the head is a tiramisu.

Iain Stirling

Oh my god, we have just spotted another gap in the market.

James Acaster

Ed, speak fondly of me at my funeral because I'm in heaven.



Iain Stirling

That's what I want in the top of my Guinness, the phrase 'Speak fondly of me at my funeral because I'm in heaven.'

Ed Gamble

Yes, that's lovely.

James Acaster

Speaking of tiramisu, let's get onto your dream dessert.

Iain Stirling

Despite everything that's happened tonight-

James Acaster

And there's a lot that's happened tonight.

Iain Stirling

I've not got much of a sweet tooth. I don't really like desserts really.

Ed Gamble

Keep talking, keep talking Iain.

James Acaster

Edinburgh is full of fucking twats.

Iain Stirling

Alright, I once went to the Heston Blumenthal restaurant the Fat Duck,

Ed Gamble

Fat Duck, yes.

Iain Stirling

And there was a dessert-, aye, I'm earning-, well I'm not earning, my wife's earning. And there was a dessert, it was a pillow, it was floating, I'm not making this up.

Ed Gamble

I know this is a dream restaurant, but this is just something that happened-

Iain Stirling

No this actually happened, there was a pillow floating and the dessert was on the floating pillow. All I remember is it said on the plate don't touch the pillow. And this is how well my wife knows me, when they bought it over, my wife literally leant in and went, 'Don't touch that pillow.' Because she knew I was having that pillow. Anyway, I don't remember what it was, what was on it, I don't remember anything, I just remember the floating pillow. I don't remember what dessert was on it, I was just so taken aback by



the pillow. So basically, the point I'm trying to make is I want the floating pillow, but I want a cheeseboard on it.

Ed Gamble

Our first live cheeseboard. Take a seat Iain, take a seat Iain and take your licks, my friend, this is not going to be nice.

James Acaster

This is the first one on the tour, and I wish it wasn't the word that is a sign of affection here, but you are a cunt mate.

Ed Gamble

James, but he's having it on a floating pillow.

James Acaster

I did hear that he was having it on a floating pillow because he can't remember the dessert that was on it originally, which is even worse, that there was a lovely dessert on that floating pillow, you can't even remember it and you're about to put a shitty cheeseboard on it.

Ed Gamble

Iain, what sort of cheeses would you like on the floating pillow?

Iain Stirling

Like, sort of, just the most savoury ones. Do you know what I mean?

Ed Gamble

Good choice, yes.

Iain Stirling

Probably more cracker than cheese really.

Ed Gamble

Alright, fuck off mate.

Iain Stirling

No I'm joking. I do like a Cheddar.

Ed Gamble

Like a mature cheddar.

Iain Stirling

Just really mature, I'd like a Stilton, and then I'm out of cheeses now.



James Acaster

Doesn't even know cheeses, he's ordering a cheeseboard, he knows the main two that everyone knows.

Iain Stirling

Emmerdale, whatever it's called, I'll have Emmerdale.

Ed Gamble

Emmerdale?

Iain Stirling

Emmerdale.

Ed Gamble

He wants Emmerdale James.

Iain Stirling

Mango-, what's in called? Manchego.

Ed Gamble

Manchego, he wants Emmerdale, he wants Manchego.

Iain Stirling

Stilton, cheddar.

Ed Gamble

Stilton, cheddar, Emmerdale, Manchego.

Iain Stirling

Manchego.

Ed Gamble

What else do you want?

Iain Stirling

I'll have a Babybel, fuck it. Babybel.

James Acaster

I knew we'd end up with Babybel.

Ed Gamble

It's a lovely cheeseboard, Emmerdale and Manchego.



James Acaster

Even you would not like Manchego.

Ed Gamble

I would like Manchego.

James Acaster

Fuck me.

Ed Gamble

Beautiful Spanish cheese Manchego.

James Acaster

Absolutely, it's always offensive when someone chooses a cheeseboard, but when you can't even name more than two cheeses-

Iain Stirling

I named like five then.

James Acaster

No you didn't, newsflash, you didn't.

Ed Gamble

James he named five cheeses.

James Acaster

Two cheeses, a soap opera, a made up word-

Iain Stirling

You know what I meant.

James Acaster

And then a processed plasticky cheese that everyone knows.

Ed Gamble

What else do you want, any other cheeses?

Iain Stirling

What was the blue-

James Acaster

Don't shout out cheeses for him now.



Iain Stirling

Aye, Brie, oh Brie. I'll have Brie.

Ed Gamble

Blue you said, so you want something blue which is nice.

Iain Stirling

Blue, veiny. What's the veiny one?

James Acaster

Fucking smurf's dick. What's blue and veiny?

Ed Gamble

What's blue and veiny?

Iain Stirling

Oh what's the meaty looking one, it's long and it's smoky and it looks like a sausage.

Ed Gamble

Smurf's dick.

James Acaster

You keep saying it, we'll keep saying it. You keep setting us up for it.

Ed Gamble

You know the one.

James Acaster

Jesus fucking Christ.

Ed Gamble

The ones you get in supermarkets when you can buy five cheeses for a pound, the little smoked one, yes. I like that one.

Iain Stirling

I'll have that, I'll have that.

James Acaster

Stirling, you used to, like, host kids TV. If those kids knew that you were a cheeseboard motherfucker, they wouldn't have watched any of that shit. I bet Hacker wouldn't choose a cheeseboard. Hacker the Dog, the OG. We're just innocent men.

Ed Gamble

How do you feel that Hacker's done his best work since you've left?



James Acaster

That is true.

Iain Stirling

I mean, it is mad that he, sort of, carried on and became a stalwart for the BBC. You know Robbie from EastEnders, he got chucked out of EastEnders and Wellard or Wallard, what's the dog from EastEnders?

James Acaster

Wellard.

Iain Stirling

Wellard carried on. I'm like Robbie from EastEnders or whatever his name is.

Ed Gamble

Dean Gaffney.

Iain Stirling

Jim Gaffney.

James Acaster

Dean Gaffney. Fucking hell, had better luck getting you to name a cheese.

Ed Gamble

We've gone past an hour and twenty now so Iain's forgotten all words.

Iain Stirling

I've forgotten everything.

Ed Gamble

James do you want something to cheer you up?

James Acaster

Yes I would like something to cheer me up after that absolutely kick in the balls.

Iain Stirling

I have a Dairylea Dunker, I'll have one of them as well.

Ed Gamble

Thank you very much.

James Acaster

Fuck me man, now he's gone you're lucky I'm not beating the shit out of you. Oh there's another pot.



Ed Gamble

Got a little message on the screen there, but to end the show before we do Iain's menu, we have received a deep fried Mars bar.

Iain Stirling

Yeah boy, can I film you eating it?

Ed Gamble

You can, I mean I'm not sure where my blood glucose level's sitting now.

James Acaster

Ed, I'll do it all, oh there's two of them.

Ed Gamble

There are two.

Iain Stirling

Boys can I film you doing it?

James Acaster

I was genuinely gutted if I wasn't going to get a full one.

Iain Stirling

I need to film you.

Ed Gamble

You can film us doing it Iain, but is there not a bit of Manchego for me?

Iain Stirling

Let me see it.

James Acaster

Don't even joke, Ed, it's not funny.

Ed Gamble

There's bits of paper stuck to mine.

James Acaster

I've not got bits of paper to mine.

Ed Gamble

Here you go.



James Acaster

Cheers.

Ed Gamble

Cheers.

James Acaster

Cheers everybody.

Ed Gamble

There's absolutely no structural integrity to that whatsoever.

James Acaster

Lady and the tramp here, you wish you fucking perv. This is delicious, I absolutely love this.

Ed Gamble

Yours is more full, look at mine, mine's baggy.

James Acaster

Oh yes Ed's got a bad one, it's covered in paper and has got no insides.

Iain Stirling

That's the problem with deep fried chocolate though, people start to go oh, they think it's going to be wild, and then they eat it and it's just really nice. Can I read what it just said there?

Ed Gamble

What?

Iain Stirling

That your team just wrote on the screen, stop talking and do the fucking menu.

Ed Gamble

Our team.

Iain Stirling

Well Benito.

Ed Gamble

Yes it was Benito.

James Acaster

Sorry team, but you just sent out some molten caramel for me to eat. Don't know what else I'm meant to do here. Iain I'm going to read your menu back to you now, see how you feel about it.



Ed Gamble

James' eyes have glazed over.

James Acaster

I've never read a menu with a full boner before.

Iain Stirling

Don't forget all fifteen chocolate bars as well please.

James Acaster

Water, pass. Poppadoms or bread, Keema naan from Mother India with chicken pakora blended in. Starter, cheesy truffle risotto from Es Patty.

Ed Gamble

Nice to have cheese to start.

James Acaster

Main course, spaghetti bolognese with an offensive amount of pasta cooked by his mum. Side dish, haggis bon bons from Angels and Bagpipes. Drink, a Guinness from the Harbour Bar in Dublin-, in Bray.

Iain Stirling

In Bray, yes.

James Acaster

Dessert, never mind.

Ed Gamble

The Off Menu menu of Iain Stirling.

Iain Stirling

Thank you.

Ed Gamble

Thank you very much Glasgow, you've been absolutely amazing.

James Acaster

Thank you so much for coming the lovely Iain Stirling's here.

Ed Gamble

Once more for Iain Stirling. Thank you very much, goodnight. There we are, brilliant episode with Iain, thank you so much for coming to do it Iain, and he's on tour now, doing a stand-up show Relevant. Go to iaindoesjokes.com, that's one of the crazy Iains with an extra I, for tickets. That just say iaindoesjokes.com for tickets.



James Acaster

Yes, the true fans know how to spell Iain Stirling.

Ed Gamble

Yes that's true.

James Acaster

You know.

Ed Gamble

Bye.

James Acaster

Goodbye.