



Off Menu Live – Ep 219 – Jamelia

Ed Gamble

Hello and welcome to the Off Menu live episode. So, this is the first live episode that we're releasing, James.

James Acaster

Just to be clear, we're not doing this bit live.

Ed Gamble

No, this is not live. We're not dying on our arse.

James Acaster

I mean, if they think this is the radio now.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Because we're saying this is a live episode.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

And I think the listener needs to know, this is not live.

Ed Gamble

Why are you saying the radio? You know this isn't on the radio, right?

James Acaster

But that's what I mean. If people think this is like radio when it's live.

Ed Gamble

Oh, right. No, no, no, this isn't happening now. For us it is.

James Acaster

For us it's happening now, but for you hearing it, it's not. So, when we say live episode.

Ed Gamble

We're going to play you when we went on the tour, and we did the podcast live with a special guest on each tour date and that's what we're about to play you.



James Acaster

In front of an audience.

Ed Gamble

Yes, and that's why I've not done my traditional intro because I do that on the live episode.

James Acaster

Ed does it on the live episode.

Ed Gamble

Yes, and this episode was recorded at the Birmingham Hippodrome on the 8th of October 2023. It was the first of our tour shows and the special guest was the wonderful Jamelia.

James Acaster

We couldn't believe it.

Ed Gamble

We couldn't believe that Jamelia said yes and also, just to let you know, if you weren't at the live show, there might be some jokes in this that don't make sense to you, but they're call backs to the first half of the show where we went through the audience's dream menus.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

And it was specifically my intro on a lot of these live shows, specifically relates to something that happened in the first half. If you don't understand that, that's absolutely fine. You weren't there, you're not supposed to understand it, but you know, the rest of it you'll be able to get to grips with.

James Acaster

Fun game for yourself, you can imagine what was said. Make your own first half in your head.

Ed Gamble

Yes. We also get the audience to pick the secret ingredient for the episode and the secret ingredient that was selected this week was grey peas.

James Acaster

Yes, which is a specific thing.

Ed Gamble

A specific Birmingham thing. So, listen out for grey peas. Pray that Jamelia does not say grey peas. This is the first of the Off Menu live tour shows with the brilliant Jamelia.



James Acaster

Ed.

Ed Gamble

What's up, man?

James Acaster

Why don't you kick this second half off like only you can.

Ed Gamble

By doing one of my famous intros that genuinely, even though this is the first date of our national tour, I didn't remember I had to do until I was in the dressing room just now.

James Acaster

He forgets every single episode, it's really fun to watch.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Welcome to the Off Menu podcast, taking the potatoes of humour-, no, that's not it. Cutting them into the oblongs of friendship, dipping them in the orange batter of the internet and-, oh, no, the oil was going to be internet and frying them in the oil of-, welcome to the 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 we ask them their favourite ever starter, main course, dessert, side course and drink, not in that order and this week our guest is Jamelia.

Ed Gamble

Very excited to have Jamelia on the podcast. This is obviously a hometown show for Jamelia, so we're very excited.

James Acaster

Hometown show, but who knows? Will there be choices that you can relate to, are Birmingham classics, will there be some that are Birmingham disgraces?

Ed Gamble

We will see.

James Acaster

Who knows, you already know the secret ingredient, we don't have to go through that, just keep that in your head.

Ed Gamble

Shall we just crack on, James?



James Acaster

I say we just crack on.

Ed Gamble

So, without further ado, this is the Off Menu menu of Jamelia. Please, take a seat. Welcome to the dream restaurant.

Jamelia

Thank you. Hi, guys.

Ed Gamble

What are you doing, James?

James Acaster

What?

Ed Gamble

What are you doing?

James Acaster

Sorry.

Ed Gamble

Thank you. We do not want James here, we need the genie here. Everyone imagine, imagine you're rubbing it.

James Acaster

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

Jamelia

Thank you.

Ed Gamble

That's a big entrance to follow up.

Jamelia

It was a bit rubbish for me because I could see him crouching down. Sorry.

James Acaster

That didn't happen. That never happened, Jamelia is lying. We've got a liar on the pod, it's a real shame.



Ed Gamble

That would be a terrible genie. if you got a lamp and you opened it up and you could see him just in there like that, that would be less magical, wouldn't it?

Jamelia

Yes.

James Acaster

That's quite demeaning for the poor genie, actually. That's why you should rub it first.

Ed Gamble

Jamelia just did a face that suggested, 'What sort of podcast have I come on?'

James Acaster

The best podcast in the nation.

Jamelia

Yes, one of, sorry. Sorry.

James Acaster

We got slamelia'd. We got jam slammed. Early doors. I didn't know we were jamming and slamming tonight.

Ed Gamble

Don't you apologise Jamelia, that is the perfect response to that.

James Acaster

Yes, you got us, man. What are the other good podcasts? Have you got any favourites? I mean, we don't normally do shout outs to other podcasts.

Jamelia

The only podcast I listen to is the Off Menu podcast.

Ed Gamble

And judging by the chat we had before you came out here, you listened to it for the first time in the car on the way here.

Jamelia

No. I said I was doing research, I wanted to make sure because you usually have comedians on. So, I was like, 'Oh, what could be a funny answer to that?' But now I'm just going to answer honestly, yes.

Ed Gamble

You don't need to think of a funny answer, you've came straight out here and slammed us into hell. You've got this Jamelia.



James Acaster

Also, you're a fan of our work in general, aren't you Jamelia? You saw us on-, you were saying to us backstage and then you said, 'Actually, no, I'll save it for when we're on stage.' But you were going to compliment us, I think.

Jamelia

I feel like we're starting off on the wrong foot now. So, basically what I told them in the dressing room was that I watched them on Hunted and I was very annoyed because they weren't playing the game properly, they were messing about.

Ed Gamble

That was Jamelia's first words to us. Was, 'I saw you on Celebrity Hunted.' And we were like, 'Here we go.' She went, 'I actually found you quite annoying.'

Jamelia

I really did, but I was really excited when I got asked to do this. I was like, 'Oh, okay, that should be fun.' Because you are funny, and I like to laugh. So, I was like, 'Shall I go home?' Oh my God.

Ed Gamble

Sorry to dwell on this, what was it that we did on Celebrity Hunted that you found particularly annoying?

James Acaster

Because we tried our best on that.

Jamelia

I just don't think you did. You just kept doing silly things like letting everyone see where you were, telling people where you were. Like, you're supposed to be hiding, it's like a hide and seek but you were like, 'We're here.'

James Acaster

It's the last thing they'll expect.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

They're trying to catch you, if you keep saying, 'Here we are, we're here.' And showing them your face, they're going to go, 'It can't be that easy.' And they leave you alone. That was our thinking.

Jamelia

Yes, and then you shot them with wee?



James Acaster

No, no, I shot them with water, but I told them it was piss.

Jamelia

Oh, okay.

James Acaster

More mind games, Jamelia. You've got to do this when you're on the run.

Jamelia

Okay.

Ed Gamble

And what we found is the best way to live your life is to anger ex-cops and military men by telling them that you're spraying them with piss because then they really rough you up quite a lot. So, you don't even get the pleasure of actually shooting them with the piss and you still get beaten up.

Jamelia

Oh, no.

James Acaster

Yes, they didn't like us at all when we did that to them to be fair.

Jamelia

No.

James Acaster

But in general, I thought we did really well on Hunted.

Jamelia

Okay.

James Acaster

We were in Birmingham for Hunted.

Ed Gamble

Yes, we came straight to Birmingham.

James Acaster

Came straight here.

Jamelia

Yes.



James Acaster

Straight here.

Jamelia

Yes, because I remember I recognised where you were. I was like, 'Isn't that town?' Because you were in town, yes.

James Acaster

Yes, maybe that's not good if people can recognise where we are actually. Hearing that out loud, we came, and we instantly got Tiger Bites Pig boa buns when we came here on the run. That was our first-, well, that wasn't our first food on the run. We immediately went to a Michelin star restaurant and had a meal.

Ed Gamble

That was in Shrewsbury. We did quite a lot before Tiger Bites Pig.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Again, we're not there now. And then we went to Birmingham, you threw your shows out the window on the way there, I had to give you a piggyback through some of Birmingham's street because it was covered in glass and needles.

Jamelia

Was that Broad Street?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Jamelia

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes. And then James bought a wig, a bright pink wig.

Jamelia

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, which bearing in mind Jamelia, I don't normally have bright pink hair.

Jamelia

Can you see why I was annoyed?



James Acaster

What would you do if you were on the run, and you were being hunted? What would be your first course of action do you reckon?

Jamelia

Well, obviously, I wouldn't use any cards, I wouldn't use my social media, I wouldn't turn up at a famous restaurant. Sorry, I'm not shading you but like, I just wouldn't do everything that you guys did.

Ed Gamble

So, we served a purpose in a way.

Jamelia

Yes, I guess so.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Are you a foodie?

James Acaster

Are you a foodie, Jamelia?

Jamelia

Is this going well or really bad? I'm not sure.

Ed Gamble

Every time you say anything, everyone pisses themselves laughing. So, I think it's going well and it's at our expense as well. So, from our perspective, we feel like shit but you're really bringing it.

James Acaster

I'm loving it, Jamelia. This is how most people treat me all the time. It feels great, always.

Jamelia

I'm sorry, because I'm really excited to be here genuinely. Yes.

James Acaster

We're very excited to have you here.

Ed Gamble

Yes, we are, very excited.

Jamelia

Especially with this backdrop, it's wicked.

James Acaster

The sets mad, isn't it?



Jamelia

Yes.

James Acaster

It feels unnecessary.

Ed Gamble

Once we sat down to have a chat with you, it does not feel necessary at all, does it? Yes.

James Acaster

Yes.

Jamelia

What was the vibe that you told the designers?

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Here she comes again.

James Acaster

Slam jam baby, slam jam. We basically said, 'Just do as many fart clouds as possible.'

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

It's about food. That's a poppadom behind you, that's a poppadom there.

Ed Gamble

Yes, were you wondering what that was?

James Acaster

Huh?

Ed Gamble

About half the audience went, 'Oh.'

James Acaster

Oh, Jesus, how much did that cost Benito?

Jamelia

Sorry. I thought it was the moon, but okay.



James Acaster

They think it's the moon. You guys know that that's a lamp, right? Because I had a whole thing with that a minute ago and that's embarrassing if not. Are you a foodie, Jamelia?

Jamelia

I really am, in every way. Yes, scarily so. Not no scarily, sorry, everybody likes food, don't they?

James Acaster

Yes. All these people do, for sure.

Jamelia

Yes, well, you definitely do. You come to a podcast about food, like, come on. You're here. Yes, but sorry, sorry.

James Acaster

No, good on you. Hey, listen, Jamelia, if you do get scared of food, you're in the wrong show-

Jamelia

I feel like I'm being really rude. I'm not a rude person at all.

James Acaster

No, you're not. Jamelia, I know you didn't catch the entire of the first half, but I called one man a cunt three times.

Jamelia

Oh, no.

James Acaster

You're not being rude.

Jamelia

Okay.

James Acaster

You're alright.

Ed Gamble

You're alright.

James Acaster

You're the height of manners compared to what they had to tolerate at the start of the evening.



Ed Gamble

And you're right, these people love food. For example, there's a woman over there who regular drinks soy sauce.

Jamelia

Drinks?

Ed Gamble

Yes. Swigs it out the bottle whilst she's cooking to trick herself into thinking it's normal.

Jamelia

It's not.

James Acaster

You just got slamelia'd.

Ed Gamble

Jam slammed.

James Acaster

I'd commission this TV show.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Just an audience with Jamelia but she just slams everyone.

Ed Gamble

And then looks really guilty about it immediately afterwards.

James Acaster

Yes. 'Who's got a funny quirk?' 'I drink soy sauce. I think it's normal.' 'It's not.' Applause. 'I'm so sorry. I feel awful. I don't like- I'm trying to stop slamming people.'

Ed Gamble

Do you cook as well, Jamelia?

Jamelia

I love cooking. I recently got to the final, well, final five, but it's still the final of Master Chef.

Ed Gamble

I saw it. Yes.



Jamelia

Yes. I will mention that a few times because it's probably-

Ed Gamble

That's fine. I watched it. I actually found you quite annoying on that.

Jamelia

Me too. I kept crying every five minutes.

Ed Gamble

No, you were brilliant.

James Acaster

Did you serve them the food and tell them it was piss? That's what I would have done, 'This is piss.'

Jamelia

No. I love to cook, I love to eat, I love to go to restaurants, I love watching people cook. So, I watch all the food shows, I listen to the food podcasts. I'm a proper foodie, yes.

Ed Gamble

Excellent.

James Acaster

I'll tell you who you wouldn't enjoy watching cook, old soy glugger over there. We always start with still or sparkling water, Jamelia. Do you have a preference?

Jamelia

I do, but okay. My preference is still, but I really hate when you say still, and they bring you tap water in a bottle because I want a bottle with the lid screwed on. You know when they have those bottles with (pop noise) the little thing and you've just filled it up in the tap and I hate that because if I ordered sparkling, you'd bring it me in the bottle. Sorry, is that just too pernicky?

Ed Gamble

No, no, this is great. We've done over 200 episodes of this podcast, and I don't think we've had anyone angry about those tops to bottles before.

James Acaster

Because they've realised it's a scam. Scamelia.

Ed Gamble

So many TV shows that we've come up with tonight.

James Acaster

I don't know what's happened to me, man.



Ed Gamble

It's a rebooted version of Watch Dog and it's called Scamelia.

James Acaster

'Welcome to, first of all, the bottle that goes- What the fuck is in that shit? That ain't still water.'

Jamelia

And I don't want to sound like a cheapskate, but I never know, are they charging you the same price as they charge you for sparkling for the fake still water?

James Acaster

Yes.

Jamelia

I mean, I know it's still water but it's from the tap, but it's just in a bottle but you've just filled it up at the tap. So, I don't want to pay for that, and I hate tap water.

James Acaster

There's a lot to address there.

Jamelia

A lot to unpack.

James Acaster

One, I think we should start calling tap water, fake still water.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

That's a great name for tap water. We've got some fake still water here.

Jamelia

In a restaurant setting, if I was in someone's house.

James Acaster

You wouldn't go, 'That's fake.'

Jamelia

I mean, to be honest I'd opt for the cup of tea because you boil water then and yes, but if they didn't offer me a cup of tea then I'd just be like, 'Oh, no, I'm alright.'

James Acaster

Because you hate tap water.



Jamelia

I don't drink tap water at all.

James Acaster

Ever?

Jamelia

Ever.

James Acaster

So, if you're ever at someone's house and they go, 'Do you want a water?' How do you get around that?

Jamelia

I say no.

James Acaster

Just say no.

Jamelia

'No, thank you.' Because I have got manners despite how we started this podcast.

Ed Gamble

What do you not like about tap water?

Jamelia

It tastes different. And also, I'm very particular. I'm not promoting, well, I am now, I guess.

Ed Gamble

I'm not promoting but I only drink Evian.

James Acaster

Ah, keeping it teal. Good stuff.

Jamelia

I only drink Evian. And when I was offered water, I said, 'Yes, can I have it, but can I have it in a plastic bottle? And can you make sure that the lid's screwed on?' And he was a bit like, 'Oh.'

Ed Gamble

Absolutely amazing. I think you're the only person in the world still going, 'And I will have a plastic bottle, please.'



Jamelia

Well, that's what he told me. He said, 'We only have water in cans.' And I was like, 'Why is it in a can?' He was like, 'Oh, it's better for the environment.' And I was like, 'Yes, I'll still have it in a plastic bottle.'

James Acaster

So, hold on. Hold on a second, Jamelia. The main reason-

Ed Gamble

Slam, mother nature.

Jamelia

Do you know what, I really did so much good for my reputation on MasterChef and in this one episode of this podcast, I'm going to be right back down there as the most hated woman in Britain. But let's carry on.

Ed Gamble

I love that. 'Yes, it might be in cans, you go out there and get me a fucking plastic bottle. And then afterwards, I want you to go and throw it into the sea.'

James Acaster

Where all the fake water comes from. Jamelia.

Jamelia

Yes.

James Acaster

You're saying that you want it in a bottle so that you know they haven't messed with it? So, you can open it. But in a can, surely, that's the ultimate, there's no way they're scamming you there.

Jamelia

Absolutely. I've just never heard of water in a can before. And I don't want to turn this into a therapy session, but I think that it's the fact that I've got trust issues and that's why I need-, but because I've never heard of it being in a water, I mean, what is this, CanO, is that what's it's called?

Ed Gamble

CanO water.

Jamelia

Oh, CanO water. Is it yours? Your brand?

Ed Gamble

No.



Jamelia

Oh, okay, sorry. No, the way he just said it, it was like, you named it CanO water.

Ed Gamble

Is Evian your brand?

Jamelia

No but I've been drinking it.

Ed Gamble

CanO water. It's CanO water. Available from all good water stores. Imagine if that was my brand. And you rocked up here and went, 'I don't want that shit. By the way, you're annoying on Celebrity Hunted. What time does the show start? I just listened to it in the car on the way here.'

Jamelia

I'm going home. Not really.

James Acaster

So, you don't trust it because it's in a can?

Jamelia

It's not that.

James Acaster

Sorry to continue to grill you on this. But it's blowing my mind.

Jamelia

I've just never heard of it being in a can. Now, Evian has got, like, this kind of milky taste.

Ed Gamble

That's coming up on the Dream Menu.

James Acaster

Just a heads up, you've completely split the room again. They may not agree with that.

Jamelia

It's got calcium in it and I think that's why. I don't like milk and I don't drink milk, so I've always thought if I drink this, then I'll be getting my calcium in. And as I'm saying it out loud, I'm like, 'You idiot.' Oh my goodness.

James Acaster

So, you get your calcium from water because you don't drink milk?



Jamelia

Yes. Can we start again?

James Acaster

No, I get it. I don't trust milk because you've got those foil tops and anyone can remove that, replace it with fake milk, and put it back on. And you know what fake milk would be.

Jamelia

Oh my God. Thanks for that.

James Acaster

Sorry, Jamelia. Lowered the tone there.

Ed Gamble

So, what are we going with for the Dream Menu. I'm completely lost.

James Acaster

Oh yes, what are we going with? What kind of water do you want?

Jamelia

Still water but in a bottle with the top screwed on.

Ed Gamble

Yes, so no-one's messed with it.

Jamelia

So no-one's messed with it.

James Acaster

Poppadoms or bread? Poppadoms or bread, Jamelia? Poppadoms or bread?

Jamelia

That genuinely scared me, then.

James Acaster

Yes, well if you listened to the podcast before, it wouldn't have scared you. No, no. I got you proper there, didn't I?

Jamelia

Yes, you did, actually.

James Acaster

You weren't expecting that.



Jamelia

No, I genuinely wasn't.

James Acaster

I know you were expecting it at some point, but I got you good. You should've seen your face. Do you have a preference, poppadoms or bread?

Jamelia

I definitely do. I feel like it's unfair to put poppadoms and bread next to each other. They're not in the same, like, category. I would say poppadoms, and I don't want to offend anyone here because, yes, I just don't. But aren't poppadoms in the same category as, like, crisps? No? No. Okay, maybe I'm wrong. Are poppadoms crispy?

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, no I know what you mean. In terms of texture, definitely in the same category as crisps. But I wouldn't put them in the same dining category.

James Acaster

I'd say if you got to a restaurant and they brought out a packet of Wotsits.

Jamelia

I'd love that, I love Wotsits.

James Acaster

Maybe that's going to be your choice.

Jamelia

Okay, so. I would choose bread. But I don't like hard bread. You know, like that really thick crust. I hate having to fight to get into it. I also don't like bread with butter in a restaurant. Ooh.

James Acaster

Ooh. You might be our most controversial guest yet, Jamelia. You don't like bread with butter in a restaurant but do you like it at home, bread and butter?

Jamelia

At home, I don't like bread and butter. But I like toast with butter, but it's got to melt into the toast. Sorry, I'm going too deep here. Anyway.

James Acaster

No.



Ed Gamble

No, you are absolutely not. This is what this podcast is all about.

Jamelia

Yes, it is. But in a restaurant, the bread has to be warm. I do like it if it's got something else going on, like rosemary and salt or something. I don't know. Just something else sprinkled. And with olive oil and balsamic, you know you have to do that dippy thing. Ooh, I've got them back, I've got them back, yes. And like to do that dippy thing.

James Acaster

That sounds good. Give me a cheer the bread and butter people, people who like the butter. And olive oil and balsamic?

Jamelia

Okay.

James Acaster

Very some people being boiled alive, love it. And how long have you been into that for? Because for me, olive oil and balsamic, that wasn't an early days thing. That was like when I was in my 20s, maybe. I tiptoed around that.

Jamelia

Well, I first ate out anywhere, well, apart from the chip shop. But I first ate out when I was about 20. I was one of those people that, you know, I started going to a restaurant and then I became a restaurant person because it was like, 'Oh, I like this.' And so, yes. I always feel a bit posh when I know about it, when I know what to do. Like, I know I'm supposed to pour the balsamic into the olive oil. Or maybe it's the other way around, I can't remember. Anyway. And dip it in. Because not everyone knows that, but you seem really quite cultured when you do that.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

How long did it take you from going to a restaurant for the first time when you were 20, to when they asked you what water you wanted? 'Go on, you better not bring me fucking fake water.'

Jamelia

To be honest, I actually don't usually say yes to the water, in case. Because they might bring me out the-,

Ed Gamble

Fake, yes.



Jamelia

With the fake water. And I don't want to be rude. Because I genuinely don't like being rude, contrary to popular belief here. I don't like.

James Acaster

Well, your fear is being in the position where you have to send it back. You don't want to be in that position.

Jamelia

No. I'm not a 'sender backer'. That's not the right thing, yes. I'd never send my food because. Because I just feel like, you know, you're going to upset someone. Someone's going to be upset or shouted at. And I'm not that person.

James Acaster

The person who filled the water bottle up from the tap.

Jamelia

Yes. Exactly. I don't want that person to get in trouble, no way.

James Acaster

Yes, fair enough. They get called into the boss's office. 'We had Jamelia in today. She was not happy. I think you know what this is about. You been sending out the fake still water again?'

Ed Gamble

I can't get over what happens to balsamic vinegar when it goes into oil. It's fucking magic, isn't it.

Jamelia

It is.

Ed Gamble

It's like a lava lamp, every time.

Jamelia

Exactly.

Ed Gamble

Blown away by it.

Jamelia

It is. And then when you dip it in the bread, it does another little thing. It's like, 'Woo.'

Ed Gamble

Do that again.



James Acaster

That's a good impression. If we were doing Charades, and you said balsamic vinegar on the card and you did that. 'Balsamic vinegar, next card. Fake water bottle.' Let's into your menu proper, now, Jamelia.

Jamelia

Yes.

James Acaster

Your dream starter?

Jamelia

My dream starter. I feel like it's, kind of, like bread. And I'm just looking around and I feel like I'm going to alienate everyone now, because I don't like to be presumptuous, but you don't look Jamaican to me.

Ed Gamble

That's a fair assertion of this audience, I think.

James Acaster

And let me reassure you, when we came here in the first half, we were devastated about that.

Ed Gamble

We'd been told.

James Acaster

We were like, 'Yes, well, this is what we get.'

Jamelia

So, I would say, if you haven't tasted one of these, just write this down and make sure you do within the next week. DM me and tell me how amazing it was. But it's called a fried dumpling. Has anyone ever had one? Oh, you see, that's because we're brummies. We're very multicultural and we try each other's foods.

Ed Gamble

You're changed your tune.

Jamelia

I know. Very quickly. No, but I forgot I was in Birmingham, so it's kind of like, I did actually, you know. Have you guys tasted fried dumplings? Oh, I love that. I love that.

James Acaster

I don't think I have.

Jamelia

Have you?



James Acaster

I don't think so. I said I don't think I have. But I do appreciate it-

Jamelia

What did you have it with?

James Acaster

But I deliver everything with the same tone of voice.

Jamelia

Do you remember what you had it with?

James Acaster

No, I've not had it, Jamelia.

Jamelia

Oh, you haven't had it.

Ed Gamble

Interesting. And where did you have it?

Jamelia

I thought you said you had it.

James Acaster

This is why I was so good on *Would I Lie to You*, they never knew if I was lying or telling the truth. Same tone of voice for everything. I want to hear more about it, though.

Jamelia

That's why I was saying, it might be a bit controversial because it is a bit like bread.

James Acaster

Yes.

Jamelia

But it's not, oh, it's just delicious. But I'd have it as a starter and I did say I would mention *MasterChef* a couple of times, but it was one of my dishes that made Greg go, 'Mmm,' on the show. And I was very proud of that.

James Acaster

He should get fired for that, Greg should get fired. I'm sorry you had to put up with that, Jamelia.

Jamelia

No, it was fine. I consented, I was very happy.



James Acaster

Who were you up against in MasterChef, by the way?

Jamelia

Oh, you're up against about 50 other people. So, to get down to the last five was quite good.

James Acaster

Who was in the final?

Jamelia

Yes, in the final five, was Luca Bish from Love Island. Can I tell you a bit about Luca Bish?

James Acaster

Yes. Can I say before you say the story, I don't know who they are. But if someone from Love Island made me some food, I'm not eating that. No way. Riddled with STDs and- I would imagine.

Jamelia

He was really lovely, by the way. Everyone on the show was really lovely.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, okay.

Jamelia

But he's from a very well to do family. His dad supplies fish to all the Michelin starred restaurants in London. And so, he was getting trained every day by Michelin starred chefs.

James Acaster

When he went on Love Island, he was like, 'I'm a fish man, hey.'

Jamelia

That's the thing. You'd think he was like proper out there, no, he had nothing to do with it. He's just a nepo baby.

Ed Gamble

Slamelia, full force. Bish, dead.

Jamelia

Now, I want to repeat, and don't edit this out. What's that guy's name? Benito.

Ed Gamble

Benito, yes.

Jamelia

Don't edit this out.



James Acaster

What'd you call him?

Jamelia

Benito, yes?

James Acaster

Oh, yes, sorry. I thought you called him Binto.

Jamelia

No. He's lovely and he did work hard. But we just didn't all have, you know, Michelin starred chefs. Am I saying it right? Michelin.

James Acaster

No, no, you're alright, yes, you are. But it's absolutely bonkers that he did. You know, Ed's been on Love Island.

Jamelia

Do you know, I genuinely thought you had.

Ed Gamble

James Acaster

Yes, he is. Well, he was.

Jamelia

Have you?

Ed Gamble

No, Jamelia.

James Acaster

Contestants.

Ed Gamble

Few years ago, there was a contestant on Love Island called Curtis Pritchard.

Jamelia

Yes. You do look a bit like him.

James Acaster

Good point.



Jamelia

Sorry, sorry.

James Acaster

No, that's a sound point. You do look like him.

Ed Gamble

But yes, that's who James is referring to. Curtis Pritchard. And then I thought it was all over and then Curtis Pritchard learned how to do stand up for a charity show. So, there was just loads of pictures of him with like, 'He's trying stand up comedy for the first one.' And people going, 'That's a bit harsh on you, Ed. You've done it loads.'

James Acaster

They're married now. Ed married him.

Jamelia

Nice. Congratulations.

Ed Gamble

Thank you, Jamelia.

James Acaster

Who else was in the MasterChef final, Jamelia, before we carry on? I do want to hear about these dumplings but, actually, we'll ask you throughout the episode who was in the MasterChef final. Let's get back to these dumplings. So, these dumplings, what have they got in them?

Jamelia

So, the fried dumpling that I made on MasterChef was like a curry chicken dumpling. Very self explanatory, curried chicken inside the dumpling. It sounds so basic and it really is, to be honest. It's something I would make with my eyes closed. But it's delicious. So, I'd have that as a starter but just, I don't know, sexy it up a bit so it looked a bit nicer than it actually does.

James Acaster

Did you sex it up for the MasterChef people?

Jamelia

No.

James Acaster

No? Just gave them it as it is.

Jamelia

They kept mentioning my presentation or lack thereof. Because I was just like, you just have to eat it. Like, why does it need to look?



Ed Gamble

Well, I kind of agree with you. And also, if it made Gregg go, 'Hhh.' Imagine what he would've done if you'd sexed it up.

James Acaster

Yes.

Jamelia

Exactly.

James Acaster

Fucking gross, that would've been gross. Disgusting man.

Jamelia

Did you know that Gregg's not a chef?

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

He's a greengrocer and a professional rugby referee.

Jamelia

Yes. I got a bit carried away after my chef round, you know when you get to work in the restaurant. I got a bit carried away, went back in the kitchen, I was like, 'Yes, chef.' He was like, 'I'm not a chef. I'm a greengrocer.' And I was like, 'What? So why are presenting MasterChef?' They didn't keep that bit in. Don't know why.

Ed Gamble

Also, did you notice about Gregg that he has a compulsion to make bad puns at all times?

Jamelia

Dad jokes. But do you know what, I love a dad joke. Oh, I really love a dad joke. I'm making that sound really sordid. I don't mean like that. I was like, 'Ooh, I love a dad joke.'

Ed Gamble

Yes, at all times. I met him recently and he warns people. Because he can't help it. 'Just to let you know, I make jokes.' And we were doing a radio show together and Beyonce was playing, he said, 'I love Beyonce. I said to my friend the other day, I love Beyonce. And he said, yes, it's great, helps you float along in the water. I said, no, that's buoyancy.' He looked like he couldn't help it, and he looked angry at himself for saying it. He was like, 'Grrr'. I've not met him before.

Jamelia

He's lovely.



James Acaster

Yes he sounds lovely.

Ed Gamble

Sometimes if you don't have an anecdote you can just move on.

James Acaster

And I've not met him before.

Ed Gamble

Dream main course?

Jamelia

Again, I think this goes to my trust issues. I do love a restaurant but I recently discovered a restaurant in Birmingham. It's a Korean barbecue called Haidilao. They serve you all the ingredients but it gets brought to you by a robot. Just stay with me, stay with me.

Ed Gamble

Now when we asked you to do a dream restaurant it didn't have to be a restaurant that you've seen in a dream.

Jamelia

I know. It is amazing. So they bring you all the ingredients and you kind of cook it yourself, and I kind of like that because you know that it's been cooked well. You know? It's delicious. You order the meal and then they'll bring you spring onions, and I don't know what everything is, chicken, prawns, whatever, and you put them in these different-, It sounds so weird. It's like these vats of, some are water, some are like a soup type of thing, but you cook the whole meal yourself.

Ed Gamble

It's a hot pot, right? That's what it is. Yes, hot pot.

Jamelia

Yes I think that's what it's called.

Ed Gamble

There's a Haidilao in London as well, it's really, really good.

Jamelia

Oh is there? Oh okay. It's not unique.

Ed Gamble

It doesn't have a robot though.



Jamelia

It doesn't have a robot?

Ed Gamble

No the one in London doesn't have a robot, it goes with people.

Jamelia

Yes you lot would probably steal it, that's why. Sorry.

Ed Gamble

Literally you're so quick and you're like, 'Bang, see you later.' Then, 'Oh my god I'm so sorry.'

James Acaster

I thought you'd transformed.

Jamelia

I didn't mean you, but I just mean like-,

Ed Gamble

You mean Londoners in general.

James Acaster

All people in London.

Jamelia

No. I'm just saying in Birmingham we can be trusted to have nice things.

James Acaster

You stole Tom Cruise's car.

Jamelia

What?

James Acaster

Didn't you? I thought Tom Cruise had his car stolen round here? Is that right? Yes.

Jamelia

I did hear that Tom Cruise was in town in the Bullring.

James Acaster

He came to Birmingham, he had a curry right? Twice, same curry twice. Had his photo taken outside the curry house, loved it. Went back to his car, someone had nicked it. Probably a Londoner on holiday.



Ed Gamble

Tiny little car though, you just pick it up and walk away. He's small. It's because he's short Jamelia. He's short.

Jamelia

Yes.

James Acaster

I love this, a hot pot. So a robot brings it to you in Birmingham?

Jamelia

Yes.

James Acaster

With all due respect this sounds awful.

Jamelia

It sounds it but it's so fun. Oh I haven't mentioned yet, I've actually got four daughters. I don't know why I feel at this-, no it is important, because it's like an interactive meal. I've got my eldest daughter is 22, I've got another one she's almost eighteen, a five year old and a baby. Everyone's entertained. Everyone's entertained because you've got the robot, you've got the cooking, and they're very nice to kids as well. They give the kids like-,

James Acaster

The robots are nice to kids, yes.

Jamelia

No. There are servers in there to help you out.

James Acaster

So what are they doing? The robots are bringing stuff out, what are the people doing?

Ed Gamble

I'll be honest, I'll be pissed off if a robot brings me the food and then I have to fucking cook it myself. You're a robot?

James Acaster

You're not inconveniencing a robot, are you? The robot can make it.

Jamelia

Well no because it's part of the experience. It's really fun.



Ed Gamble

I agree, I love hot pot. I think you're right, I think it's brilliant. You get different flavoured broths to cook everything in. You can get a spicy one with beef tallow and you can get all sorts, yes.

Jamelia

Maybe, I don't know if it's because I'm new to it, but I'm fascinated by it. I've tried loads of different cuisines and stuff like that but I just thought that this was genius. As I said, it might feed into my trust issues but it's the fact that I've cooked it myself so I know it's alright. Never had a problem.

James Acaster

And you trust the robots?

Jamelia

Yes, I love the robots.

James Acaster

AI is a big problem right now Jamelia. AI is scary and these robots coming out, how do you know that one of these robots, when there's the uprising, these robots aren't going to destroy us all? Are you trusting these motherfuckers? I don't trust these robots.

Jamelia

They're not like putting together the dish, they're like this, and they just come up to your table, you take the food and they go.

Ed Gamble

It's amazing. I like that you-

James Acaster

Okay well what would you do if the robot comes over, it brings the food over and it puts it down and it looks at you and it goes, 'Enjoy, ha ha ha.' Would you trust that robot?

Jamelia

I'd be like, 'Oh my gosh it spoke, wicked.'

Ed Gamble

Very incredible. You don't trust a human being to bring you water, but you trust a robot to bring you boiling hot broth.

Jamelia

But no, the robot is just a bit of fun. There are servers in there and they are really kind and really cute and they give the kids toys and stuff.

Ed Gamble

What's your favourite thing to dip in the hot pot and cook?



James Acaster

Oh yes.

Jamelia

So they've got this, it's like a prawn mash which sounds disgusting, and it looks disgusting as well, but when you put it in and cook it it's actually really nice. Like it's something that you never knew you wanted to taste, but now that you've tasted it. Like even now I'm thinking about it I'm like, 'Oh I wonder how long they're open until.' You know?

James Acaster

I don't think I've ever come across prawn mash. I'm the mash king Jamelia, I don't know if you know this.

Ed Gamble

You're strictly potato. You're old school though, aren't you, you're potato-based.

James Acaster

Yes but maybe the mash king could turn his hand to mashing prawns. Was it proper like, did it look like mashed potato with prawns or was it just like-

Jamelia

No, no, no. It's just prawns. Or imagine like minced prawns. I don't know, it's like a little pile. It sounds disgusting and you scoop a bit, drop it in the water and wait until it goes pink. It kind of floats to the top when it's done and it's delicious.

Ed Gamble

I'm backing Jamelia on this. I've had it. It's absolutely delicious. Did you get the hand-made noodles when you were there?

Jamelia

Oh my gosh yes, I forgot to tell you about that. There's a man who walks about and he's like doing all of this stuff. He literally looks like me with my braids.

Ed Gamble

What, he's doing an impression of balsamic vinegar?

Jamelia

So imagine, this man he looks like he's going a bit crazy in the corner, so you're like, 'What the, is going on?' Sorry, I don't swear. Then you realise, 'Oh he's making noodles.' He's just got them all flying around and then he serves them to the table. I wasn't brave enough because I wasn't sure how hygienic it was.

James Acaster

The old trust issues coming back.



Ed Gamble

Also I love the way you explained that only to me even though I was the one who brought it up and I've seen it happen before. It is amazing yes, they whip them round and stretched them out and stuff, yes.

James Acaster

You didn't trust that?

Jamelia

No, it was so entertaining I just, I'm not there yet with the airborne noodles. He kind of like whips them around the restaurant. After Covid and stuff like that, I'm a little bit like, 'Ooh.'

James Acaster

Well, what? You look over, a man swinging noodles in the air is like, 'That's probably got Covid on it,' but a robot coming out with all your food on a tray, 'This will be fine.' Are you sure?

Jamelia

Yes. I don't like thinking about like-,

Ed Gamble

It's because, this was in the news, Covid sticks to noodles more than it does anything else.

James Acaster

I missed that.

Ed Gamble

If you're whipping them round you get all Covid on the noodles.

James Acaster

So Covidy noodles in this place.

Jamelia

Covidy noodles. That's really funny.

Ed Gamble

Well done James, first thing she's said that and we've been on for 45 minutes.

James Acaster

Didn't know that's what we got told if it was funny.

Ed Gamble

It's crushing to find that out 45 minutes in. I think it's a great choice. I love hot pot, I've been to a branch of Haidilao, it's excellent, it's really good fun.



James Acaster

Who else has been there in the Birmingham one? Anyone been to the Birmingham one?

Jamelia

Yay.

James Acaster

Sounds like more people have got to go, if you all live here. It's on Jamelia's dream menu.

Jamelia

It looks like that person's got a bag. Is that a bag from Haidilao?

Audience member: Yes.

Jamelia

No way. Love it. What did you get in the bag?

Audience member: I got a little cookie.

James Acaster

I got a little cookie.

Jamelia

Love it.

James Acaster

He's the happiest guy in the world.

Jamelia

Did you meet the robot?

Audience member: Yes.

Jamelia

Wicked. Did you see the noodle man?

Audience member: Yes.

Jamelia

Love it. Did you eat the noodles?

Audience member

No.



Ed Gamble

Interesting. Fucking hell.

James Acaster

I guess I haven't seen this noodle man to be fair. He could look absolutely gross, spinning the noodles.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Is it something to do with that particular man?

James Acaster

No one wants to say it. 'Yes I just didn't trust the noodles after Covid, let's put it that way.' As he's sneezing and spinning the noodles round.

Ed Gamble

No what he does it, you've not seen it, he puts one up here and then pulls out the other one. It's impressive.

James Acaster

Noodles? I love the thought of the noodle man having a cigarette break with one of the robots. 'Well they like you, it's easy for you to say, they fucking like you. No-one wants a single noodle.' 'You just have to be more charismatic and friendly.'

Ed Gamble

So in your head is the robot like a man robot who walks around like that?

James Acaster

It's like an R2-D2 or one of those ones. 'There there noodle man, it's okay. One day they will eat your noodles, you just have to blow your nose. See you later, I'm on the clock. Work, you know what it's like.' 'Yeah, yeah, fuck off, I've heard it all before.' Your dream side dish Jamelia?

Jamelia

Side dish. Have either of you guys tried plantain? Has anyone tried plantain, anyone else?

Audience member: Yes.

Jamelia

Love it. Okay so do I need to explain what plantain is?

James Acaster

Some people might not know ,it's always good.



Jamelia

Okay so it's basically like a banana that you fry but it's delicious. I mean bananas are delicious as well, but like a savoury banana but it's not savoury, because you serve it as a side dish. It's not a fruit, you don't eat it as a fruit, you don't eat it like you'd eat a banana. Am I explaining it right?

James Acaster

I actually don't think I know what one is now. I did before you explained it. I knew exactly what plantain was and now I have no idea.

Jamelia

I'm not sure if I do either. It's just delicious, it's the most delicious thing. You can cook plantain in so many different ways but I like it fried, that's my favourite way. You can have it with any savoury meal, although I put it in a sandwich on Master Chef. I told you I'm going to mention it a couple of times. They told me, 'Oh this doesn't go together.' It wasn't my finest moment, I was very embarrassed because I'd been banging on about it all day. Yes Greg and, what's his name? John. Sorry. No I love John. John Torode, I know his name, I do.

James Acaster

Torode, dead.

Jamelia

No I love them, but yes it didn't go down too well.

James Acaster

It's time for another quick update on who was in the final five. Are we getting another person from the final five?

Ed Gamble

Yes, who else?

James Acaster

You, Love Island. Strap in because one of them is going to blow your mind.

Jamelia

Wynne Evans. Do you know who Wynne Evans is?

Ed Gamble

Yes James is going to be excited to find out who Wynne Evans is.

Jamelia

He is the guy who did the Go Compare adverts. 'Go Compare.' Do you hate him?

James Acaster

Wow. That guy man, that's insane. I'm obsessed with that guy.



Ed Gamble

Yes? Gio Compario?

James Acaster

Huh?

Ed Gamble

Gio Compario is the name of the character.

James Acaster

Is that the character's name?

Jamelia

Really?

Ed Gamble

Yes, did you not know that? The character's called Gio Compario.

Jamelia

Gio Compario. How do you know that?

Ed Gamble

Just know it. Just something I know. It's a good pun.

Jamelia

Did anyone else know that?

James Acaster

Some people knew it, but most people didn't know it. Greg Wallace would love that, it's a funny pun isn't it? Gio Compario, Go Compare, is that a pun?

Ed Gamble

Don't think it counts as a pun.

James Acaster

I'm not very good at comedy.

Ed Gamble

Do you remember that time Jamelia thought you were funny? It was six minutes ago.

James Acaster

I'm going to carry that in my heart always.



Jamelia

Wynne was lovely, oh sorry.

James Acaster

What was he like because here's the thing with him, Wynne Evans, I've just learnt that's his name. I think it's amazing that he did this mascot character and it's got all the way now to the adverts are often him playing himself in some sort of like pathos, quite sad melancholy advert with him as himself and then the Go Compare man comes in, but then they both are on screen and they both look at the camera like, 'This is our life.' He's playing himself and he has a chat with the Go Compare man that's always like, you know, 'Oh this is an old friend, here we are still.' 'Oh yes, we're still here.' 'Well I guess you better do it.' Then he goes, 'Go Compare,' then they both go, and it's amazing, I've never seen an advert do that before.

Jamelia

He's actually my friend now, I love him to bits.

James Acaster

Strap in for a slam.

Jamelia

No, I was just going to say he has done so well off of those adverts. I would love a gig like that. It's changed his life and yes he's proper, I don't want to say too much, but yes he's done quite well.

Ed Gamble

The great thing is, I suspect with Jamelia, if we just keep looking and leaving silences she will just tell us exactly the things she doesn't want to say.

James Acaster

Exact bank balance.

Jamelia

Yes he's done quite well. I can't say. I'm sorry I shouldn't have mentioned it, I feel so silly now.

James Acaster

This feels like at some point during the final, Wynne Evans walked up to you and was like, 'How's it going? How you doing Jamelia?' 'Yes I'm good, I'm just trying to work on this plantain sandwich they say is unworkable, so you're stressing me out.' 'Yes I'm having a bit of a nightmare myself over there, it's not going too well, not that I need it though.' 'Okay good luck.' 'I said Jamelia, I said I don't really need it.' 'Yes, good on you Wynne, I'll see you in a bit.' 'Yes might check my bank balance whilst I'm here actually. Ooh yes that is a lot. I'm just going to leave my phone here, you can Go Compare.'

Jamelia

Shall I tell you one thing though? The most Brummie thing I did was I did ask him, 'Can you get me any money off my car insurance?' He can't.



James Acaster

That's what Tom Cruise asked when he was here. He doesn't have to worry about that now. Fried plantain we're going for?

Jamelia

Yes.

James Acaster

Just not in a sandwich. Okay, cool. That's delicious. Your dream drink?

Jamelia

Right my dream drink is, have you ever had carrot juice?

James Acaster

Yes, love it.

Jamelia

Okay. No just the juice of a carrot, it's like-,

James Acaster

Oh sorry I thought that's what it was.

Ed Gamble

No then.

James Acaster

I have to reframe what I think about everything today.

Jamelia

Actually you know what, sorry, this is really unprofessional. I'm going to change what I had just because I feel like this is a better answer.

Ed Gamble

But you can't leave us with the carrot juice mystery. We do need to hear what carrot juice is if it's not the juice of a carrot.

Jamelia

Okay, carrot juice is delicious. Just as delicious as the drink that I'm going to choose.

Ed Gamble

Yes but what it, what is carrot juice like?



Jamelia

It is the juice of a carrot but it's mixed with condensed milk and nutmeg and cinnamon and it's absolutely delicious.

Ed Gamble

Can you use evaporated milk instead?

Jamelia

Absolutely not.

Ed Gamble

Because they are interchangeable in a lot of things.

Jamelia

Definitely not, it would be disgusting. I feel like that's an insult.

James Acaster

Ed Gamble

James' mum did a recipe for us once. We did a cook-along together on Zoom during the pandemic. When we went back into the second lockdown because someone had fucking noodles. If anything takes that out of context, that's me cancelled forever.

Jamelia

Yes.

Ed Gamble

That sounds bad.

James Acaster

If any of you are filming this, just clip that up and put it online. Usual tricks.

Ed Gamble

I'm fine with that, you could do that. Anyway, James' mum said, 'Do this.' And I did the recipe, and it was shit, it was a bad recipe. That's all you need to know.

James Acaster

She did not, Jamelia. She gave him a precise recipe and he ignored the recipe. So, condensed milk, he ignored it and replaced it with evaporated milk and complained afterwards that it didn't taste how it was supposed to.

Jamelia

Yes, that'll do it.



Ed Gamble

She's a shit cook.

Jamelia

Are you having that? Have you two have ever had a fight? I'm not instigating, I'm just asking.

James Acaster

Your honour. No, I can't fight him here in front of everyone, I'll get him in the dressing room when he's not expecting it. Speak about cussing my mum out on stage.

Jamelia

Terrible.

James Acaster

So, you're not choosing the carrot juice?

Jamelia

I'm not going to go for the carrot juice just because I would like to educate the audience. And maybe you already know what this is, but, have any of you ever had something called sexy juice?

James Acaster

Sexy juice?

Jamelia

Yes.

Ed Gamble

And it's not-, hang on.

Jamelia

No, it's not that.

Ed Gamble

Hang on, I've been tricked before with the carrot juice. Okay, sexy juice.

Jamelia

Right, sexy juice. It's basically the same as carrot juice, but, you substitute the carrot juice for pineapple juice. Maybe that's why it's called sexy juice. You know that thing about pineapple?

Ed Gamble

So, hang on. Let's track back.

Jamelia

I have never noticed that. I can't wait to listen to this. Oh my God.



Ed Gamble

So, we've worked out why it's called sexy juice. There'll be people who don't know what you mean. Explain what you mean.

Jamelia

Right. I hope my mum doesn't listen. Alright, moving on. Right, so, sexy juice is-, sorry, did you say you want the recipe? No? Yes?

James Acaster

Yes.

Jamelia

Okay. It's pineapple juice, condensed milk, a bit of nutmeg, a bit of cinnamon. It's not fancy, but it's delicious, it really, really is. I don't want to speak about sexy juice anymore.

Ed Gamble

Fair enough, we all know why it's called sexy juice now.

James Acaster

We respect the guest's boundaries, we're not going to make you talk about sexy juice anymore.

Jamelia

I feel like I've made it so awkward. I'm sorry. Let's go back to carrot juice. Carrot juice, that's my drink.

James Acaster

No. Do you think you've now ruined sexy juice for yourself though now that you've put that in your head?

Jamelia

No, I'll still have it.

James Acaster

Good on you, mate.

Ed Gamble

We can bring you, like, a tumbler of each if you want. You can have some sexy juice and some carrot juice.

Jamelia

Thanks.

Ed Gamble

Yes, no worries.



Jamelia

Thank you, really appreciate it. No, don't go quiet.

Ed Gamble

Does that work with any other foods?

Jamelia

Say again, sorry.

Ed Gamble

Does the thing work with any other foods?

Jamelia

The thing?

Ed Gamble

The pineapple thing that we're all thinking about now, and won't stop thinking about until after the show's done. Does that work with any other foods?

Jamelia

I don't know. Are there any, like, parent and child in the audience? There are, there's loads. I'm so sorry. No, I'm just saying because they might have to have the conversation on the way home or something. I mean, you don't have to.

Ed Gamble

You don't have to, we'll do it now.

James Acaster

The most awkward question, 'Are there any parents and children?'

Ed Gamble

Sometimes when two people love each other very much.

James Acaster

Look, I don't know the science behind it, I don't know if it's true.

Jamelia

Me neither, don't look at me, I don't know.

James Acaster

Sorry, I'll look at Ed. I don't know if it would work for other fruits.

Ed Gamble

Well, we've got about fourteen tour shows left.



James Acaster

Yes. I've only heard them if about pineapple.

Ed Gamble

So, tomorrow night at the Royal Albert Hall I'll eat pineapple before the interval.

James Acaster

Yes?

Ed Gamble

And then we've got a way to open the second half, haven't we? That probably exists in fan fiction somewhere anyway, so might as well.

Jamelia

Oh my Goodness.

James Acaster

Yes, there's loads of fan fiction about us fucking.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

You just talk about food and then those grubby little pervs online-

Ed Gamble

Well, I don't mind it.

James Acaster

No, because you're always the dominant and I'm always getting fucked and crying my eyes out. They love it, look at them fucking grubby little bastards. I'm always the one drinking the pineapple, put it that way. Old SpongeBob here.

Jamelia

Oh my God. If you had told me this is where this was going to go, I'd have still been here. Oh my goodness.

James Acaster

Well, I don't like saying this sentence after what we've just been talking about, but, we arrive at your dream dessert.

Ed Gamble

Pineapple upside-down cake.



Jamelia

My dessert is going to be what I was going to make for the Master Chef final, because there comes a point, right, where you're doing quite well on the show, that you then start to believe, 'I'm going to end up in the final.'

James Acaster

Let me know what that's like.

Jamelia

I got really cocky towards the end. And so, I don't know if anyone saw my last episode, but it was an absolute-, I'm going to swear, shit show. And it's just because I didn't practice, I really thought I was a chef. I really thought, 'I don't need to practice, I've got this.' Like, I really thought I was going to end up in the final. Turned out it was an absolute disaster. Anyway, before you go on the show you have to tell them what you're going to cook, like, weeks in advance. So, I had it all planned, and I'm going to try and describe it to you because I don't know exactly what it's called. But, I just kept watching all these, like, cheffy videos on YouTube. I was like, 'Oh I'm going to do that.' So, let me describe it.

James Acaster

Try not to look at him because you just said a whole bunch of things which we inherently find funny and we know we've got to, like, get to the end of the show. But, we both find it really funny that you were going to make a desert, you don't know what it was called, can't remember, you watched some YouTube videos, cheffy things, and thought, 'Oh, I'm going to do that.' Every single point there was something that we both know the other one finds amusing, and I was trying not to look at him, and then caught him at the last minute looking at me going-, go for it, Jamelia, sorry.

Jamelia

So, I've got to describe it now. I hate stuff like this, but I was going to do it anyway because I thought I was a chef.

James Acaster

But, you hate it and it's your dream desert.

Jamelia

Yes.

James Acaster

Okay.

Jamelia

So, it was going to be a deconstructed-

James Acaster

Yes.



Jamelia

Yes, exactly.

Ed Gamble

Already annoyed. It's taken so long to get here.

Jamelia

If I would be that person in the audience when I hear this-, but, listen to what I thought I could cook, right? So, a deconstructed apple crumble with a custard foam, with sponge sugar inside a chocolate sphere. And it was going to have, like, smoke coming out. I started the show making dumplings and I thought that I can serve John and Greg. That was what I was going to have. So, that is my desert. Don't know what it's called, but, bring on the jokes.

James Acaster

Shot out the sky. No, can't do anything with that. If every guest figured that out, all they need to do is say their food choice and then go, 'Bring on the jokes.' I guess we've got nothing.

Jamelia

I think that that example just shows you how deluded I was by the end. Because you do actually go mad.

James Acaster

No, not on a cooking show.

Ed Gamble

No way. People stay very sane on those things, you know?

James Acaster

You've got to keep things in perspective, Jamelia.

Jamelia

Honestly, like, I was making pasta from scratch. I worked in a restaurant, like, one time, and my dish was me repeating the meal in a Michelin-starred restaurant. Like, that was one of the dishes that I made on the show. I was so deluded. Like, I was literally like, 'I can do anything. I'm actually a chef.' I was so gutted when I got voted out.

Ed Gamble

Have you practised the deconstructed apple crumble with custard foam insight a chocolate sphere with smoke coming out of it?

Jamelia

Not at all. Not even one element of it. Well, I've made an apple crumble before.



Ed Gamble

So, you're halfway there basically?

Jamelia

Exactly. How hard can it be?

James Acaster

I made deconstructed flapjacks once. No points for me either. I mean, it does sound nice thought. So, are you saying that what you would like for your dream desert is that done well?

Jamelia

Yes.

James Acaster

Do you want it still made by you, so you've got that thing of, like, 'Oh, I've actually did the thing that I set out to do,' or do you want it made by someone else? The robot or something?

Jamelia

I think I'm all too aware now that there is no way in hell I could create such a dish, so I would like it made for me, please.

James Acaster

But, this is the dream restaurant. I'm a genie, I can give you the power to make that desert, and you could make it.

Jamelia

I didn't know you could do that.

James Acaster

What the fuck? No one's ever questioned my powers before and said that I can't do it.

Ed Gamble

Doesn't feel good, doesn't it?

James Acaster

What the hell?

Jamelia

Well, I just thought it was a restaurant, so you just get served. I didn't think, like, I could be the chef. Because I'd like that, you know, as you know, I like Haidilao.

Ed Gamble

I like the way you're, like, 'I didn't think I could be the chef.' You cooked your started on this menu.



James Acaster

And your main course, no one's bought it to you, you made that.

Ed Gamble

You've cooked everything so far on the menu.

James Acaster

Yes, 'I didn't know I could be the chef.'

Jamelia

Humbled, yes. Okay, yes, I'd like to cook it myself.

Ed Gamble

Because this is a dream restaurant, you now have the skills to cook the deconstructed apple crumble with custard foam inside a chocolate sphere with smoke coming out of it. Would you like when you've cooked it-, you're eating eating it, and then John and Greg come in and they try it and they go, 'Congratulations, you are the master chef.' Would you like that? This is a dream restaurant.

Jamelia

I think I'd prefer the noise. No, because imagine-, not just imagine, when you make a meal for someone and they, like, 'Oh, that's lovely, that is.' You'd much rather hear that then, 'You've won.'

James Acaster

You'd much rather hear him do that-,

Jamelia

Yes, I mean, not necessarily that, but just grunts of appreciation.

James Acaster

Fucking hear enough of that when he's glugging down the pineapple juice and then getting ready for later on. I'm going to read your menu back, Jamelia, see how you feel about it.

Jamelia

Okay.

James Acaster

You would like a sealed bottle of still Evian, bread with rosemary salt with olive oil and balsamic. Starter you would like curried chicken fried dumplings made by yourself on Master Chef. Main course, hot pot from Haidilao served by a robot. Side dish, fried plantain. Drink, sexy juice and carrot juice, so you can drink and compare. Go compare-,

Jamelia

Yes.



James Acaster

Next advert is him as himself, him as the Go Compare man-,

Ed Gamble

Good question.

James Acaster

Drinking different juices and sucking each other off. That is funny, that's a good impression. Desert, you would like deconstructed apple crumble with a custard foam and sponge sugar inside a chocolate sphere and smoke coming out of it made by yourself with the powers that I've given you as the genie.

Jamelia

Yes, thank you.

James Acaster

That sounds good.

Jamelia

Pretty solid.

James Acaster

Good meal.

Ed Gamble

I also like that Jamelia is so committed to having a sealed bottle of Avian that she hasn't even fucking opened it.

James Acaster

Doesn't trust it.

Ed Gamble

As soon as she opens it it breaks the spell.

James Acaster

You're right to do because with my genie powers I've turned it into piss. This is piss just like I did on Hunted.

Ed Gamble

Thank you so much for coming on the Off Menu Podcast, Jamelia.

James Acaster

Jamelia, everybody.



Jamelia

Thank you so much.

Ed Gamble

And thank you very much to every single one of you.

James Acaster

We very much appreciate you coming.

Ed Gamble

Good night.

Well, there we are. What a wonderful way to kick off the tour that was, James.

James Acaster

Thank you so much again, Jamelia. We've thanked you profusely in the corridor afterwards even though you had made minced meat out of us and slammed us.

Ed Gamble

Absolutely slammed us.

James Acaster

Massively in front of the audience. We were still ever so grateful, and we are still to this day.

Ed Gamble

Not the first of our live guests-, well, the first, but also not the only guest on our live tour who went away, got fantastically dressed up and looked amazing, and then came back and realised we'd just put some T-shirts on.

James Acaster

Yes, we put our own merch on and went on stage.

Ed Gamble

So, sorry. And we'll be releasing the rest of the tour shows every Saturday in the order of the tour. So, you've got fourteen more of those to come every week, as well as the studio episodes.

James Acaster

Because it's in order you can see if we get more or less tired as the tour goes on, you know?

Ed Gamble

Yes. The first five were five nights on the bounce.

James Acaster

Five nights on the bounce bear that in mind.



Ed Gamble

Bye.

James Acaster

Bye.