

**Caitlin Moran, Egg & dill salad with smoked mackerel and an Albariño**

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Our podcast might contain the occasional mild swear word or adult theme. Hello and welcome to Dish from Waitrose. I'm Nick Grimshaw.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** And I'm Angela Hartnett.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Hi Angela Hartnett.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Hello Nicholas.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Angela Hartnett has her glasses on and a pen

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** I know, i'm looking very official

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** You look like you are about to do the news

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Very official

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Very official, did you like last week with Tim Minchin

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Loved Tim

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Well today, we have, I guess, one of the most famous writers in the country and one of the most celebrated writers...we have Caitlin Moran coming into see us. Have you met Caitlin Moran before?

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yes, she goes to Noble Rot a lot, a great restaurant in London. They always do this dinner once a year, called the Beaujolais Nouveau dinner and she was there and I was there and ended up there for many many hours gossiping on Lamb's Conduit Street about life and all the rest of it

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I've met her at Glastonbury before, similar sort of interaction, before we get her on, we have an email from Will, hi Nick, hi Angela, I'm a Sommelier at the Pig in the South Downs and I just want to know, what's your favourite ever meal to cook from Waitrose and what wine would you pair with it. Have you got a favourite one that we've done on the [waitrose.com/dishrecipes](https://www.waitrose.com/dishrecipes) website

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Oh Crikey, we've done so many, we're near series 4 Will. I'll tell you which one I think was a show stopper and he wrote it for Waitrose, [Jeremy Lee's one with all the lamb](#). Do you remember we did that for, I say 'we' in inverted commas, I did that for Prue. All those lamb cutlets with all that lovely peas and broad beans.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Eggs, broad beans and asparagus

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yes, that I thought was brilliant

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** The Coronation episode, yes

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Did we do a wine with that?

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** We did do a wine, because Prue Leith's request was, when we said what do you want to drink...she was like whatever she wanted, and she said keep the alcohol coming

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Keep it coming, I thought that was brilliant

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Shout out to Prue

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** And we loved Stanley's [Spaghetti al Vongole](#)

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I loved Stanley's [Spaghetti al Vongole](#). I really enjoyed, Will, who's got in touch, the gravy you made for Hugh Bonneville

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Oh yes that was good wasn't it? that gravy

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yes, really good, anyway Will says, what wine would you pair it with? Well that's your job Will

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah exactly Will

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** You tell us Will, let us know... Will says Love the podcast and if you're ever in the South Downs area, any time soon, come and say hi. Ah that's nice

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Lovely Will, lovely Will

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Do you know Will?

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Not met Will

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** No, thanks Will, we will

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** We will Will

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** We will

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Alright, let's welcome our guest in Angela. Today's guest, an extraordinary person, bestselling author and journalist who has been described by others and by us as the Lady Gaga of feminism.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I'll take that.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** It's the unstoppable Caitlin Moran, everybody.

[Applause]

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Hi Lady Gaga of feminism!

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah, thank you.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Is that a real life thing?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Oh no, I love that. I think I probably made that up and then-

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh, okay.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Usually anything to do with my legend is something that I wrote and put out there hoping other people would pick up on it.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** I love it. Changing your Wikipedia page on a daily basis.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** On the hourly. Minute by minute.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah. Non-stop. Well, welcome to Dish, and normally we do a lunch or we do a dinner but today we are doing, we're doing a breakfast.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I know, bold right?

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And you know what goes great with breakfast?

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Wine!

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Wine!

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** White wine! Cause it was put on the menu, like the wine, and I was like, wait, I swear- when I saw this the other day, I was like, I swear we're Caitlin at like, nine o'clock in the morning.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Mmm.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And also it said in our notes that you weren't gonna drink

**CAITLIN MORAN:** No. As Angela will be able to attest, me on wine is not good. Last time I saw Angela - you would have to tell me what happened, 'cause I think-

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Well, we probably we'd have to tell each other, I think that's fair to say, or call Dan.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Where, where did you last see each other?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** It was Beaujolais Day at Noble Rot and all they serve is wine at Noble Rot. And I had to explain, I can't drink wine, as with most women, we cannot metabolize wine anymore, you lose the enzymes in your stomach as you get older. So what was previously like a bit of a bender but you will live the next day, just turns into a three-day existential nightmare. So I was like, I cannot drink wine and I cannot drink wine, they're like, but it's Beaujolais Day, they're new wines, you must try the new wines. Anyway, I tried a lot of the wines.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yes.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Had a very long, what I thought was fascinating conversation with Angela, and then suddenly went, 'I need to go. A friend of mine is at an award ceremony and I need to see if I can blag in.' I'd bought a new coat that seemed like really posh, and I was like, let me see if the power of this coat will allow me to blag into this award ceremony down the road.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** And didn't you come back?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** That's right, I did-

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Did the coat not get you in?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** No coat worked.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh, coat worked.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Coat worked, I got in, they had to kind of make an announcement and take me into the middle of this award ceremony to find my friends at a table. Then it's just a series of blurry snapshots. I remember the ground coming towards me. I remember three men in fluoro tabards kind of carrying me back outside. I remember the gravel impacting with my knee, 'cause there was still a scar there a couple weeks later. And then I came back to the pub.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** You did come back, I remember, 'cause we were sitting in the street talking with Dan.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Wow.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** What- I mean, God. Yeah. And I think I'd served another dinner in between you leaving and coming, and God knows what, it was just...

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Beaujolais Day- I literally gave up drinking for six months after that. I woke up the next day.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Can't wait for this November is all I'm saying.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I know. Ready for the next one, I am.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I might come to Beaujolais Day. Well, today, yeah, we were like you- you said you weren't gonna drink, but now that we're here

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** It does feel a little bit- I think you get me going.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Right?

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I think, I feel like- you know them people that you see and I'm like, yeah. Cancel tomorrow.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** It's the minxy twinkle in the eye.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yes.

*(Pepper Grinder sfx)*

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** How is everything with you? What is going on? How is life?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Life is generally very good. We're doing- I'm a middle-aged woman, so I'm doing the classic kitchen extension at the moment, so every day, wake up and there are just men in my house, men coming in, men going out.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** And are you in charge of this?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I am.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Okay.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And I'm a very good project manager.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** I can imagine.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I've watched so many episodes of Grand Designs that I know what all the kind of trip points are.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Mm-hmm.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Right.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** So very in advance ordering my glass and glazing.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah, you gotta do that.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Was prepared for the second fix, had all my electrics in very early and stuff. I've been, I've been absolutely on it, I pride myself.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** So how long is this going on for? Weeks.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Oh, it's been years-

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Done.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** It finishes in four weeks and I can't wait to get my kitchen back cause I love to cook.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Uh-huh.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Good, yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And I love gardening, and I haven't had a garden and I haven't had a kitchen, so I feel quite rattled, I don't really know what to do with myself, so all I can do now is chain-smoke and drink coffee, so I need my kitchen and my garden back.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** You need to do it.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** For your sanity.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Do you ever do a breakfast interview when you are, you know, working as your journalist career?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Famous people generally don't like to do early mornings.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Okay.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Do they, unless you've got someone on an international junket.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Uh-huh.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** So, yeah, no, it's usually- all interviews seem to happen at two-thirty in a huge hotel.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I mean, I did the radio, at breakfast time.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Right.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And you are right, like people would be...

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Complaining

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Complaining or asleep.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** They'd have a good- like you'd go into the like green room to get 'em.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And they're fast asleep, which is not a great-

**CAITLIN MORAN:** No.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** -start, is it?



**CAITLIN MORAN:** I like doing interviews now, like, I'm lucky, I'm in the point now where like I only get to interview people I like, which is great, I don't need to ask them tricky questions and we get to go and do stuff. I'm not actually very good at interviewing people, I just like to watch them do things and then write about it. So I interviewed Bob Mortimer recently, we went back to Middlesbrough, his hometown, and he's a big fan of the football club, which I presume is called Middlesbrough. We were outside the stadium and he was like sort of sighing and going, 'Oh my God, it's such a magic place, I love it.' And it was eleven-thirty in the morning and I was like, 'Well, I reckon we could blag our way in Bob?' And he was like, no, and I was like, you are Bob Mortimer. We can definitely blag into this stadium.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Uh-huh.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Two minutes later we're on the middle of the pitch taking pictures of each other. It was like, you can go anywhere if you're Bob Mortimer in Middlesbrough.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah, of course you can.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** That must be a nice day at the office hanging out with Bob Mortimer.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Oh, he was- the best bit was when we were doing the photo shoot. So anyone who's seen Gone Fishing will know Bob likes his snacks.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Like, he's just got pockets with snacks in. Everyone else has got fishing gear, he's just bringing a pork pie out of an inner pocket. So we're doing a photo shoot and the conceit was we were both sitting in the street eating fish and chips, and so- and I'm just posing with my chip, touching the lip in that, in that coy way Bob's just huffing them down and the photographer just keeps going, 'Can you just not chew for a minute Bob? We just need to get one clear shot,' and he'd be like, 'Right, got you squire,' - thirty-seconds later, 'Bob, you need to stop eating the chips.' And in the end, Bob was like, 'You just can't not eat chips, can you?' We had to take them away from him.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah, you can't, you can't.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** They're there.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** It was fair enough.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Exactly.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Have you ever had anyone where you are like, what the hell am I gonna write?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Well, I- I made a difficult-ness for myself when I interviewed Paul McCartney.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Uh-huh, right.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** So, psychologically tricky situation for me to put myself in any anyway, because I both want Paul McCartney to be my dad.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Mm-hmm.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** But I would also very much like him to be my husband.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Right.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I kind of like, so that's...

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** And you are a huge Beatles, so you, huge Beatles fan.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Exactly. Like, kind of like, just love him so much, and I was also on my period, I was very emotional.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Uh-huh.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And they take you through a whole experience before you meet Paul, so like, first of all, they introduce you to his instruments, so they go, this is the acoustic he wrote Yesterday on.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh wow.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And this is the Hofner bass - and each time I'm introduced to a guitar, I'm crying. So this is gonna be quite difficult when I interview Paul. And over the years, and you must have had the same thing, sort of like when you're meeting famous people, like kind of like, your response to how you deal with them changes. So when I first started interviewing famous people, when I was fifteen, sixteen, my plan was, this is an interview, yeah, sure, but we're also gonna become friends and possibly we'll have sex. That didn't work out. Literally never. That never worked out. So then I went into phase two, which was like, what the famous people would like most is to be given their space. Normally when they walk in room, everyone wants to talk to them, the thing I will do to show my respect is to leave them alone. So, I was doing a radio show with John Peel, who I love.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And he was being so friendly and trying to chat to me between records, and I was just like, yeah, alright, John Peel. Yeah, yeah, just leave it.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Keep your distance.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Just leave it, leave it. Just thinking in my head, the third time I meet John Peel, that's when we'll become friends, that's fine. Then he died two months later, so I abandoned that plan.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Had to move on.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** That doesn't work.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah, it didn't work.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And then these days, my plan is, the way you show your love for a famous person is that you come up with the cleverest question they've never been asked before.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Right.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Because you always get asked the same ten questions, so when I went to interview Paul McCartney, I'd spent weeks trying to come up with the greatest of all possible questions to ask Paul McCartney. And the question was this, and I thought it was a very clever question: Paul McCartney, Sir Paul, if you heaven forfend, were involved in a massive car crash where your face got completely mashed off, would you rebuild your face as that of Sir Paul McCartney, or would you have a completely different face? And this is a really clever question because it's like you've been famous all your life.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Always recognised. Would you like to have anonymity now for the remaining seventy years of your life, or are you still happy to be this famous? Would you opt back into it? Paul didn't see it as a clever question, Paul saw it as a really horrible question and I know that because he said, 'That's a really horrible question,' and then the interview finished three minutes later, so... that didn't go so well.

*[Cutlery sounds]*

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** We're having an enforced kind of big breakfast now, are you a big brekkie person or are you like a get up, go, have a black coffee?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I have had to learn to be a breakfast person 'cause my natural inclination is to immediately smoke a cigarette, drink some black coffee and start writing. And then I realised that basically I was just becoming very ill and hungry and fainting.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Can't think why?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I know, right? So I just had to give myself the conversation. You just go have some breakfast. So I now make a massive smoothie that has all the nutrients I need for a day in it.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** One of those big swampy green things.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh yeah, yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** That like scare people.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And do you sort of like bring it around the office all day, or do you just get it down you?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I offer it to my children and they just go, no, thank you.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** They're like, no thanks.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah, no.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I hate when people make it and then they've got it all day.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Like get- oh, I don't want your nutribullet on my desk.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah, and it basically looks like Shrek's swamp and just kind of like fermenting.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Just drink it. Yeah, 'cause Ange doesn't do a breakfast either.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Ah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I think that's so chef-y and so fab, don't you? Like I just have a black coffee and go. Okay, Ange, what have we got going on here?

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** So we've got a potato rosti, boiled eggs, a little bit of dill cream, and some smoked mackerel.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I love a rosti, cause basically to me it's like someone took millions of chips and stuck them together in one kind of super chip. But Angela, are you supposed to say rosh-ti 'cause the Swedes say it rosh-ti and then I'm thinking I should it like that.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Oh, yeah, probably. Go on, you say it like that.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Rosh-ti.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Actually I am a boiled egg person.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I love a boiled egg.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** I'm not necessarily a poached egg, I like boiled eggs or fried, I think fried eggs.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I love all eggs. The thing that you'll most commonly find in a handbag or ruck sack that I own is one or two hard boiled eggs.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Oh really?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** You've got protein.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Delicious.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Filling.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah. Conversational starting point.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** When you bring an egg out your bag.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah, be like, oh, you've got an egg in your handbag?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Is that a, is that a bag egg?

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** That feels so m-

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Ah the old bag egg?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Every so often I forget that I've got one in there and a couple of weeks later there will be a terrible smell and I'll look in the back of my rucksack and the egg, the hard-boiled egg will have been crushed flat.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yes.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And then all the loose bits of tobacco from my tobacco pouch will be stuck all over it.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Nice.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Mm.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** It'll come out looking a bit like the Gruffalo had been run over.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh my God.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I remember. Oh Angela, this is gorgeous.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** This is so good.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Pleasure.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** How'd you make- how'd you make a rosti?

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Grate the potato, season it with a little bit of salt and then put it in like a tea towel and just squeeze out all the moisture.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh I like that, that sort of like, bit Victorian, doesn't it.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I was gonna say, and is potato water useful for anything? Is it like aquafaba, could you take that potato water?

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Probably could actually.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Potato water, yeah.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** The new scent, the new scent from Chanel: Potato Water.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** She would. Take potato water.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Sorry.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Oh, actually it's starch, isn't it? You would use it to iron-

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** But you don't like ironing, so use that on your shirt.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Okay so you put- grate the potato into a tea towel.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Squeeze the tea towel potato juice on your bedding. Ha... only joking.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah, keep it for either your bedding or something else, then season them with a touch of salt and then melted butter and in a non-stick pan - or it doesn't need to be non-stick, just lay it flat and then cook it.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** If you want to try this recipe, by the way, if you wanna attempt a rosti, [waitrose.com/dish recipes](https://www.waitrose.com/dish-recipes).

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Breakfast wine?

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yes.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** When do we start? Cause I think Angela's already started hers.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Oh yeah, I'm not-

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh, I've had a sip, yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Have you, should we- are going to do?

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** So we're going for a little white breakfast wine.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** What is the wine?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I think that's a very good substitute for coffee or tea.



**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I think so. The wine we've gone for is an Albariño, which it says here, great match for mackerel and egg.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** There we go.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** So that's why we've gone for it.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I would be really sad if someone said I was a great match for mackerel and egg, I have to say.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah, you know Caitlin? She's a great match for mackerel and egg.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah. She's making me think mackerel and egg.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah. Mackerel and egg. It's kind of a diss.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

*(Pouring wine sfx)*

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Having listened to your podcast many times-

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Aw.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** -I always think that the best way to say, 'This is beautiful Angela,' is when your mouth is full. Cause it really shows that you're enjoying it, that you couldn't wait until you'd swallowed it to tell you how amazing it is.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I sound like a big fat liar on that podcast 'cause my mum's like, you can't like it every week.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Really?

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Like, I do.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Can't believe your mum's dissing my food.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I know.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** I'll have to have a word with her.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** She ignored it for a year and then she's binged it all over week.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Oh really, yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Go on though, was there one that you didn't like? What- if there was anything that Angela's ever cooked, what was the one you were bit like, gonna have to have a word.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I'm not joking, they're actually- there actually wasn't really. Like even stuff like when we had Tim Minchin and we did, which was a pasta salad, I just thought that sounds a bit like it's from Boots.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Right, yeah. Meal deal.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Pasta salad.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Meal deal, right.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Sounds depressing.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** But it was delicious. I can't make them taste like Angela can.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** No.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I think it's like singing. You've just got it.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah, no, she's got it.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** She's got it.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Tim Minchin and I were the proud creators, one desperate night, of the gin and Rioja.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Mmm!

**CAITLIN MORAN:** We'd run out of tonic and we invented the gin and Rioja.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** How did that go down?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah, that was a pretty special night and a very, very interesting week after. Took about four days to process that!

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I love those like, late night house party-

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** -ones what you do when you're a student.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Mm-hmm.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And you're having like, I don't know-

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Student?

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh-

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** This was two weeks ago!

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Or a bestselling author.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I was thirty-seven.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Tony Award-winning musical writer.

[Cooking sounds]

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** So you do all the cooking, then, doing it all the time?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** There is no cooking. We've got a microwave and a single Tefal hot plate that we bought from Argos.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Oh my God. So, yeah, I'm just literally- I found that what I'm really excited about what- as I can't cook, is just simply eating every single kind of tomato soup that is in shops. That's been my comfort thing.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And did your family- 'cause you're from a massive family, you've got eight siblings, right?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Huge family, yes.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** So ten of you.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** In a house. Did you always cook as family? Like so I listened to you on Annie's podcast and you talked about how when the food shop would happen, you know, great at the start of the month and then there's ten people.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** It dwindled.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** So it was drawn out.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes. It would dwindle. So we were on benefits, there was not much money at all, so like, kind of like the shopping list was absolutely tight, and a very recurrent image of getting to the checkout and having to go and put things back.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Like that bit where you're sort of totting it and you're like, we can't do this.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** But there was so many of us who'd buy in bulk. And then once we'd sort of come home with the food, everybody would form a chain and sort of like bring all the stuff into the house, and yeah, for the first sort of two weeks- also, my dad had managed to get a dodgy, some kind of dodgy ID that allowed him to go to the wholesale market and buy fruit and veg wholesale.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Mm-hmm.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** So we would buy huge boxes of apples and fruit and stuff. So for the first two days, we'd gorge on the fruit and the grapes, then everyone would get terrible diarrhoea, just walk around the house going, I have done too much too soon.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Fermenting inside from all of the fruit. And then the last week before we'd sort of get the next amount of money, there just would be nothing in the house, so we'd maybe just make chapatis out of flour and water.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Right.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And then I realised that if you prodded them all over with a fork to make lots of indentations, you could fit even more margarine on them. Just pack as much fat into the holes as possible to try and make it taste of anything.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And would you all sit down, ten of you, and eat dinner of a night?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Ha! We had- Nick, we had no table.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Right.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** So what should have been the dining room had to be commandeered as a bedroom around the time we had the fifth child. So no, we'd all just sit on the floor.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Uh-huh.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** So Christmas dinner would just be like, kind of like a huge roast dinner and then just everyone sitting on the floor watching The Sound of Music, which is still my preferred way to eat now, to be honest.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Hunched over a plate watching a musical.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** We can get one on if you want. We can- yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Absolutely, do it.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Whack Evita on or something, to help the mackerel down. And then you moved out really young, didn't you? Didn't you move out on your eighteenth birthday?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes. Because eighteen is the age where you are first allowed to get an overdraft. So, so on my eighteenth birthday I went to Barclay's Bank in Queen Square, Wolverhampton, and got the maximum overdraft I could, and then moved down to London that day. My birthday present was my dad driving me down to London. Even though it was supposed to be my birthday present, but when he dropped me off, he was like, well, I'll need some corkage for the petrol. I was like what?

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** No!

**CAITLIN MORAN:** He was like- yeah, no, you, no, you know, I need like 20% to pay for the petrol. I was like, I thought my birthday present was you driving me here? And then I lived in Camden and it was the height sort of, we were just sort of ramping into Brit Pop and I was literally one street away from the Good Mixer Pub, which was the legendary Brit Pop pub. And as I was a feral child who'd moved down to London with an Alsatian dog, I wasn't very good at doing things like paying bills. So like very regularly the phone would be cut off and people would know to leave a message for me behind the bar of the Good Mixer. And it was, you know, I just describe it to my kids now, 'cause like, teenagers of this generation are really into Britpop in the nineties, they just think it was a magical time, which it was.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And I'll tell them things like, yeah, you know, I'd be in the Mixer every day and Graham from Blur would be drunk and he would bite me on the bum, and they'd just be like, this sounds like an incredible time.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Like, yeah, it was, it really was...

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Really good time...

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Really great times...

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Do you remember feeling like scared about moving to London at that young age? Because now when I think of younger me- I was twenty-one when I moved to London. And just left and didn't know anyone did the same thing, like got a credit card. I actually got a credit card to go to someone's birthday party that I'd met on MySpace.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Wow.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And then ended up living in London. And like-

**CAITLIN MORAN:** What, you just went to a party and then never left?

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** No, I like went back for about two weeks.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Mm-hmm.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And then they were like, you should live here.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And I was like, I would love to live in your spare room.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah!

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Looking back, that gives me like, the fear. But how is it for you when you are looking back and like younger you, do you have like the fear, embarrassment, ick, or are you proud, or- how do you feel like, little you?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** well, I guess you, you must have had the same thing at the time, if where you are born feels wrong to you and you don't have much money and you know you've gotta go alone and do something and become someone else, you just don't have the option of being scared. You're just like, well, it's this, this is what I've gotta do, like, kind of like, there's no other options. So it was just, I had to go to London, that's where the, the work was. And now I look back and I'm absolutely terrified, like, kind of like I would wake up in the morning and like, you know, there would be like a tramp who'd overdosed on heroin on my front doorstep, like kind of, and I was just walking around on my own. I mean, mainly I'm scared because I was so stupid. I went through a phase of deciding that I wanted to show how special and not like the other girls I was, so I stopped wearing shoes for six months.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh my God.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Interesting take, that.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** In Camden?!

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Why?!

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Why?!

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Camden, yeah, especially.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I know. But then to me, the pavements in London were so beautiful compared to the ones in Wolverhampton.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** They're quite rough and scratchy and kind of like concrete-y. But in Camden they've got these beautiful kind of grey slate-

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** -old, hundred year old paving stones. And I was just like, I bet they would feel sensual and special on my feet, and I'll look like a really special and unusual girl.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And you did..



**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah, I really did.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And you really, really did.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Coming home and picking the glass out of my feet.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Well that's youth, though, isn't it?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** You just feel like you can do anything.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Oh, totally.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** And that's the beauty of it in a way you should, yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah. The part of your brain that should have all that fear hasn't grown yet.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah, exactly.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** You kind of need it at that- I mean, I've seen all the research, I, you know, read a lot about brain development and stuff and you literally, the two things you don't have at that age is the part of your brain that really properly calculates risk, and also the part that truly allows you to understand what other people are going through, which is why you are quite self-obsessed and can be quite cruel.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Mm-hmm.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** You look back at some of the things you said and did when you were a teenager and you're like, oh my God, I would never think or do that now.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** But you literally don't have that part of the brain then.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** And you were home schooled.? All the kids were?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Well, theoretically - so there's two kinds of home-schoolers.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** There's the ones who are like, I come from an academic background myself and I don't think school maximises the education of our children, like you know, if we go for a walk in the woods we could be teaching them about geography and geology and all this kind of stuff, and everything should be educational. My parents weren't those kind of home-schoolers.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Right.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** They were quite lazy people who, as they confessed, just didn't like getting up early every morning and making sure everybody had clean pants and socks for the school run.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Right.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I mean, it's a lot for eight.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** and you know, we were not helping.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Mm-hmm.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** So they just decided, just take 'em outta school. And so we literally never had a lesson. We were just completely feral, and we would just get ourselves up in the morning, make our own breakfast, and then we'd just watch musicals and cartoons all day. So like, you know, classic Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck, and classic musicals starring Judy Garland. But the one thing they did do was take us to the library every day.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Right, okay.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And so I literally read everything in the library, so everything I know is from Daffy Duck, classic musicals, and Wolverhampton Warstones Library.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** So you self-taught to read and write in a sense.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Well, I'd- we all stopped going in 1986.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Right.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** So I went till I was eleven, so I'd been taught-

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** So you'd got, yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** But to be honest, I had taught myself to read before I went to school mainly coz... There was one epic day where I just wanted my dad to- my dad was quite a grumpy man, and I was just like, play with me, and he was like, no, why don't you just bugger off and learn to read? And so I just went, okay, well, okay, I will.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I will actually, and then I'll become a massive writer.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Exactly.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** And then you'll have to play with me.

[Salt grinder sounds]

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Talk to us about What About Men?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Your eighth book.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes. God is it eight? Wow. So yeah, well I have spent the last 10 or so years writing about women and girls. That's my thing, I do the feminisms. And as anyone who is a feminist will tell you, if you're doing a public event and you're talking about the problems of womens and girls, the third question you'll be asked is, yeah, but what about men?

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Mm-hmm.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And for the first five years I was like, I don't care about men. They'll have to sort themselves out. Like it would be the ultimate irony of

feminism if women had to sort out all of women's problems and then all of men's.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And then men.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Someone like, e.g. Gary Lineker will have to sort this out, it's not my wheelhouse.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** But then the years of gone by Gary Lineker has not sorted out the problems of men, God bless him, and then my teenage daughter started coming home from school and going, teenage boys who we thought would be sort of liberal, progressive, sort of feminist men have started saying things like, it's easier to be a woman than a man. Women are winning. Feminism is a cancer, feminism has gone too far, you're feminazis. And I was like, what? Like kind of like, how is it that sort like teenage boys- I thought every generation was supposed to become more progressive. And so I started looking into this complaint that I kept hearing from younger men all the time, which is that it's harder to be a man than a woman now, and I think they have a point. I have to say, we've done, you know, almost every other sort of like group has had amazing progress over the last ten years, you know, campaigns by the LGBTQI community, feminism, people of colour, but we haven't really talked about the problems of men. And if you look at the list, boys are the ones who are most likely to be excluded from school, they're the ones who are most likely to be put on medication for disruptive behaviour, they're the ones who are least likely to go onto further education. They make it the majority of the homeless population, the majority of the jail population. Suicide is still the main cause of death for men under the age of fifty. Like kind of suddenly you start looking at these stats and you're like, yeah, we haven't actually talked about men or boys for a while. And then you see the rise of people like Andrew Tate, very misogynist, very right wing man, and you go, well, yeah, at the moment he's the only person who's going, let's talk about men.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Mm-hmm.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Like kind of like, you know, you should be proud of being a man, you should be proud of being a boy. And obviously I don't like what he's saying, I think what he's saying is very damaging not only to women, but also to boys/ But it's like, well someone needs to step up and start talking about the problems of men and boys and it looks like it's gonna be a busy mum. It's me, I'll do it, I'll put it on my to do list.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah, I'll do it.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** No one else has done it.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Why do you think that is, why do you- it's what, everyone's just dismissing it, or no one actually believes there's a problem? What's your theory on that?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Well, I think a lot of it is because we've spent so much time sort of like, you know, doing feminism quite rightly.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And talking about sort of the problems of women's stuff, we haven't realised how much time's passed.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Like, you know, for people of our generation, things like Beyonce and talking about feminism and stuff, and kind of like, lists, like, you know, the future is female, seem like a very recent corrective to 10,000 years of patriarchy. But if you're a teenage boy, all you've known is a world where everyone's going, the future is female. We've got feminist clubs at school. Girls are really proudly talking about their vaginas and sort of buying vagina-based merchandise on Etsy. So to them, they'd never known a time when men were on top and no one's talking about them. So, yeah, we need to address these problems.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Was there a moment for you where you were like, right, that's the next book, I've gotta talk about this.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah. It was my daughters coming home from school and just going- because I'd always said, no, I'm only, I'm only about women of feminism, and just suddenly realising, oh God, if boys are starting to become very radicalised into their misogyny, then that is a problem for women.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Mm.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Mm.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Like half the problems that women face are, let's face it, troubled, angry, bigoted, prejudiced, boys. And if you don't fix the boys, you can't fix the girls, like kind of, that's half the problems they're gonna have, so I was like, okay. And also as well, I just suddenly realised that when I wrote How to be a Woman in 2010, part of that was because even reading women's magazines, but everywhere you went, the tone that people were using to talk about women was so unkind and hateful. It was all just basically like, kind of like buy a designer handbag and sort your minge out. It was very kind of like- it was not a nice time to be a woman.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And I wanted to write a book that was like, guys, we've got problems, let's talk about this, let's have fun. Let's be honest and truthful and fun. And I suddenly realised that's how we talk about men now.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** The only time I hear people talking about straight white men is going, oh, toxic masculinity, ugh, typical men. Typical straight white men. And if you're a teenage boy, growing up in a world where you only hear people just going, ugh men, you're gonna get angry.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Course you are, yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** You're gonna get angry because- and also if you're being made to feel shame for how you were born, that's the classic definition of being in a bigoted environment, like, you know, if you're born a straight white boy, you can't help it. And if you're being told that everything is your problem and you're going, but nothing- I didn't do anything.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I'm twelve!

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah, right, literally, I was just watching Paw Patrol five minutes ago, I have not made a patriarchy.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And now im a pig

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Right.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Literally.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah. So I wanted to write something that was kind and funny. And just do what we've been doing to women for the last 10 years and go, let's talk about, some of your problems are silly, like the fact that- what I call the Love Island jeans, the super tight jeans.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Mm.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I can extrapolate a whole host of social problems off the back of those. They are so tight-

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** And rightly so.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes!

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** So tight.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I mean, aesthetically troubling.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yes.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** It looks like men have left the house wearing a pair of women's hundred-denier tights.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yes.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Like kind of like- or mediaeval hose. You can see everything that's in those jeans-

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Horrible, horrible.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Like kind of like there- you know, there are body parts pressed up against the seam of those jeans like Han Solo's face frozen in carbonite. And then if you look on top of that, of the fact that like, you know, slightly more seriously that kind of like the rise of boys who were really unhappy about their body image. One in five boys said that they had had suicidal thoughts about their body not being strong enough or not being thin enough. And it's like, well I know from having lived through the bodycon dress era as a woman, that the tighter and more revealing your clothes are, the worse you will feel about yourself.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah, of course.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** You need to wear clothes that make you look good, not clothes that you need to make look good by going to the gym for fifteen hours a day. So we must burn the Love Island jeans. We must wear looser trousers. Men, it would make you happy.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** There's a bit in the book where you talk about, you are having lunch or dinner with a director and they talk about what men go through to get those bodies that we see in movies.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah, that was really interesting.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Because you do think like, oh, I could look like that.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** But you actually can't.



**CAITLIN MORAN:** Well, if you look at like- so when I was growing up, like the sort of the big heroes of the screen were like Indiana Jones and Luke Skywalker and Han Solo. Han Solo looks like he's about to lean against the wall of a spaceship and go, 'I am knackered,' and have a fag, and Luke Skywalker looks like a callow youth who would write volumes of poetry. But now when you look at the superheroes that you see, like they recently brought out the new rebooted Star Wars merchandise and Luke Skywalker now is massively ripped, like he's got huge biceps. Everywhere you look now men's bodies have gone for being kind of very relatable, sort of like Indiana Jones type men who were fit for an archaeologist, but in no way Arnold Schwarzenegger.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** To now everyone's ripped. And I had this lunch with a director of a massive superhero franchise, and he was saying, we always talk about how difficult it is for the women in movies, they all starve basically for six months. But the men, to get that level of muscle mass that you need to play a superhero, it's punishing. You're in the gym for five or six hours a day, all you're doing is eating protein, on the day that you shoot, you have to become massively dehydrated 'cause it shows the muscle definition more.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Oh God.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Then, then they have to go and sit in ice baths' cause they're in so much pain from working out. Athletes are not doing what actors in action movies are having to do in order to look good on the screen. And then we show a thirteen or a fourteen-year-old boy that movie, like in the same way that I just thought that I had to look like Marilyn Monroe when I was twelve.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Sure.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** You're like, well, that's what a grown-up looks like.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** That's what I should, should look like.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah. That's, that's what I have to be.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah. And it's impossible 'cause I've tried.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** But then the bad, but then the bad thing that boys have is that girls, over the last ten years, you cannot move for comedians, female comedians, who are doing stand-up about unrealistic body images, you know, and really taking the mickey out of all this stuff. But as yet, we do not have male comedians going, this is an unrealistic body image. Women are in a high tide of being filthy, taboo busting-ly honest and reassuring to other women going, you don't need to listen to this stuff, this is the reality, we're all together girls. Men have not yet gone to that place where they will talk really honestly about very personal things, about their sex lives, about their bodies, about their insecurities, and you know, that's the comedy I would really like to see next from men.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Because men have run out of jokes otherwise. You know, women have taken over comedy now, like men have running outta material and that's where you need to go, boys, go into that stuff.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah, get in there. And I guess like men- I mean, you probably have those conversations, those deeper conversations with maybe their wives.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Or maybe they're girlfriends, but I don't know if men like down the pub being like, 'I feel bit sad inside.' Like, you know what I mean?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** 'I'm broken.'

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I can't imagine like them conversations.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** No. Instead they go, 'Did you see that disgraceful display last night? Arsenal just think can walk it in.' Well that was the thing that I found when I was, when I was doing the book, like kind of like just talking to men over and over again, and men feel that they can have deep emotional conversations when they talk about their anxieties and fears.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Mm.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** But maybe only once or twice in their lives.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** When it reaches a crisis point. Whereas women are having those conversations- ten minutes after women turn up we're immediately talking about our operations and our children and our mental health and all this stuff. It gets visceral and deep and supportive really, really quickly.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Mm.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Whereas men have to be right on the outermost edges of being able to cope before they'll finally have those conversations.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And what do you think it is, like competitiveness or not showing weakness?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Well it starts at school. I mean, if you think, I mean- all the interviews that I did, they were just like, you know, you grow up and you're just told like, I don't know, man up, don't cry, don't be and like the- so the only two emotions, and you can observe this in boys, like when you're a three or four year old boy, they'll still be whimsical, they'll be dressing up, they'll be crying, they'll talk about their favourite things and things they love. By the time they're seven or eight, the only emotions that you get them to display usually are either anger or banter. And I love a bit of banter. I will happily get on the banter bus to Banterbury and become Banter Claus like- but it can't be your only conversational mode.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Sure.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Uh-huh.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** It's like wearing clown shoes all the time.

*[Drink pouring sounds]*

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Okay, Caitlin, you have been writing for many a year and interacted with many a person and have many a great tale. So basically we have selected some of your articles throughout the years and we've put some in here. All you've gotta do is delve into the oven mitt-

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** The oven glove.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** -take out the title, and just tell us a little bit about that. And pull out a topic and just tell us what you remember about writing it.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Theme parks. Oh my God. So I want a million other different careers, but one of them is I want to become a theme park planner. I want there to be theme parks for different decades.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh yeah?

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Oh, yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Like so you could go to like 1986 land, or like 1952 land.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And not only have the buildings then, you'd have the radio turned to what was coming out of the radio that day, so you can actually remember what it was like.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Mm.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Because I think when we're having these conversations about kind of like society and progress and culture and what's problematic and stuff, the problem is that we don't remember what things, what used to be normal, when younger people are berating older people for kind of being out of date or out of touch and stuff it's like, you've gotta know what was normal in our day.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** This is the progress that we've made and it's really hard to remember, what you thought was normal in 1992 is completely unacceptable now. So walking around, hearing people talking as they would've then, making the same jokes and quips and stuff, and actually being able to go, oh God. Now if we don't understand the past and the history and where we've come from as people, then you cannot understand the present and you cannot improve the future. So- and mainly I want there to be a 1992 land so I can walk around there in all the clothes that I've kept from 1992, listening to the radio from 1992 reliving my youth going, yay! It's crazy!

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** That would be fun, that would be very, very fun.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** What have we got next....

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Wind turbines.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Wind turbines.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I don't understand. I feel very passionately about wind turbines, as you could probably tell.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** The voice has gone up a notch, but like so many people are angry about them and go, well, they're ugly, they just spoil the countryside.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Oh, I love them.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** They're sexy, right?

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** I think they look gorgeous.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I think they look really modern.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Genuinely. When you drive through Scotland and you see them, I think they look incredible.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah. I mean, if they were just like an art installation you'd be like, wow.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** You'd be like, wow.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** That's amazing.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Nice one, Anthony Gormley.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Literally this, right, it's a rotating Angel of the North.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** This works really well. But not only do they look absolutely beautiful and are a staggering feat of engineering, but they give us freedom, like they give us freedom from kind of like, you know, petrochemical wars and international- sort of, political machinations across the world and stuff. We don't have to like, you know, suck up to repressive regimes in order to get oil if we've got wind turbines.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And they mean that our country won't be filthy dirty and disgusting and full of dead fish and sad people. It's like they're all round perfect. You can't tell me a bad thing about a turbine.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** And I genuinely find them attractive, and me and my girlfriends have a lot of conversations about how - maybe 'cause there aren't that many good men around at the moment – inanimate objects that we would marry if we had to.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** And a wind turbine's one.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah. My single girlfriends who've been on Bumble and they're just going, yeah, there's not much out there at the moment, so I'm like, okay, well if you could marry a building, what would it be? And she's like, oh St. Paul's Cathedral. It's got really broad shoulders, it looks like it knows what it's doing in that kind of way.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** What would you do? The gherkin?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** No I think- good for one night. I think long time the Gherkin is a prick. I wouldn't- I don't think, I don't think the- I don't think the chat's good with the Gherkin.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** No.

*[Bottle popping sounds]*

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Should we do the end of the show question? This is for the Waitrose goodie bag.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** And it is good. Not rubbish.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Really? I love Waitrose. When I moved to London and I discovered Waitrose for the first time, it was the happiest moment of my life. The beautiful marble floors, it was literally like walking around the Parthenon or something. They did not have beautiful supermarkets in Wolverhampton, I can assure you.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Now you have interviewed people for many a year, you have many great stories. Been in a sex club with Lady Gaga.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Had an argument with Keith Richards about whether or not he wears wigs.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yes.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Had Jamie Oliver in your kitchen at 8am making toasties, swapped clothes with Nigella Lawson, smoked marijuana in a fairground with the Beach Boys.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** No, not the Beach Boys, the Beastie Boys.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh The Beastie Boys! I was gonna say, the Beach Boys? I was like, wow. The Beastie Boys.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Brian's had enough.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah. Brian-

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Brian needs not to touch another bifter again.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Right, done.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** What do I do with this?

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh yeah, so open the envelope and then just see what it is, and then no, so you have a question in there that is for you, and if you choose to answer it.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** You win the Waitrose goodie bag.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Tell us a celebrity story you've never written, spoken about. Oh my God. Okay.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Oh- and do you know what? Cause I think that's hard.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** No.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** You can tell us the story and not tell us the celebrity if you want. So you can just be like...

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Okay, you, you can have a- you can have a clean one or you can have a dirty one that I can really skirt around the issues on.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** What should we go, dirty skirty?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Dirty skirty, okay.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah, dirty skirty.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** So now we did ask for the dirty skirty version, but it actually was too dirty to broadcast. Here are the bits that we could play.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I went to interview a band, i won't say who it is...Band members, it was a very posh hotel, jumped up onto the bar and pulled down the chandeliers, the jewels off the chandeliers and gave them to me and draped them on me as jewellery...



...And so they brought over, um, some cheese and tomato sandwiches. This is like three o'clock in the morning at this point.

Do you know what I mean, i'm trying not to say...Im picking around my words

Whole limes...whole limes

There's a popstar passed out on my floor with no clothes on, can you just get him removed...

We'll pause there, coz the next bit you definitely can't broadcast...

Then I went and had a bath

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Amazing... You've won the goody bag...!!

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**CAITLIN MORAN:** Thank you. Thank you. If you need a cleaner one, that's a very short one about Benedict Cumberbatch that I can do.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Okay, yeah, come on.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah, let's do it.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I love that we just got thumbs up.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Okay, okay. So about five or six years ago now, at the height of Sherlock mania, I went to Glastonbury with Benedict Cumberbatch, he knew that I was going down and I had like a caravan, he was like, can I come? I was like, that would be delightful, that would be amazing. And we had a fine old time and I'll gloss over all of that. But what was really interesting is when we walked out to go into the main arena out of the VIP bit, I was like, what is gonna happen to you when you go out there? Like you are literally the most famous man in the world at the moment. Like, are, are you not scared of going out? And he was like, just watch, just watch. And as we stepped from the VIP area into the main arena, he just turned off Benedict Cumberbatch.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Mmm.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** This is where you like realise that actors are like amazing. He just literally turned off Benedict Cumberbatch, we walked around the whole place for the whole weekend. He wasn't wearing a disguise, he was just wearing really normal clothes. And at one point a girl came over and went, 'Are you Caitlin Moran? Can I get my picture taken with you?' And I went, yeah, of course, put my arm around her, and she handed her phone to Benedict Cumberbatch to take our picture. And looking at her I knew she would've been a Sherlock fan, you know?

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I mean, every girl was at that point, and I was like, wo- if I told you who's taking this picture out, you would go bananas.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Wow.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** But that's true acting when you see someone do that.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah, just turn it off.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Turned it off for the whole weekend.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Just did it.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Turn the face off.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Yeah.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Love to turn the face off. Caitlin that was so fun.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Thank you, Caitlin, amazing.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I loved breakfast wine with you.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yeah.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Well can we open another bottle?

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Yeah, come on.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Have the rest.

**CAITLIN MORAN:** Let's, let's keep going, right?

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Let's just keep on going.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Just bring Chris in, it'll be fine.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** You're wearing oven mitts as a scarf.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Yes.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** So it's a pretty good day. Round of applause for Caitlin Moran, everybody!

*[Applause]*

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** That was really fun.

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Thank you.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Did we ask any questions?

**CAITLIN MORAN:** I don't think so ...but I always think it's a failure if anyone has to ask me a question, let's just keep going

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** Next week on Dish joining us for delicious meal, cooked by Angela Hartnett is, we have Clara Amfo.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** So just say me and Ange are coming round for tea, what would you do, what's your go-to? that you can't mess up?

**CLARA AMFO:** Salmon fillet, lots of lemon, big ol salad, i'm obsessed with rocket, or arugula for the American, I don't like the sound of arugula

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** I don't like the sound of arugula, sounds medical

**CLARA AMFO:** Exactly, rocket packs a punch

**CLARA AMFO & NICK GRIMSHAW:** Rocket!

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** If you would like to recreate today's dish for your friends or family, or maybe a stranger in the street, head to [waitrose.com/dishrecipes](https://www.waitrose.com/dishrecipes). That is where you'll find all the meals we've ever made on the podcast

**ANGELA HARTNETT:** Follow Dish wherever you get your podcasts, so you'll get it delivered to your device every week. And if you enjoy it, please leave us a great review.

**NICK GRIMSHAW:** If you don't, just listen to something else. We can't all have a Michelin-star chef in the kitchen, but you can get some Michelin-star advice. Email your questions for Angela wherever they are to [dish@waitrose.co.uk](mailto:dish@waitrose.co.uk).