

DAN: Another day, another podcast. Woo.

JAMES: You don't sound very enthusiastic...

DAN: James, I'm sick of these podcasts, and I'm sick of you. This is the 34th one now, and in literally ALL of them, something has gone seriously wrong. Because of you. Have I even said that before? I can't even remember. That's what you do to me.

JAMES: Of course you haven't said this is the 34th podcast, before. You can count can't you?

DAN: I'm going to kill you.

BEN: Now, now. Be professional.

DAN: Fine.

BEN: Anyway, today will be interesting in that it will be a special phone in event!

JAMES: But it's always a phone in event...

BEN: Yes, but today more than ever.

JAMES: Why?

BEN: Weren't you listening to the briefing?

JAMES: No...

BEN: Well, it's because Lego have finally decided to distance themselves from us. Or should I say, you.

JAMES: They'll be back.

BEN: No, I don't think so.

DAN: For the last time, why don't we just sack James?

BEN: Dan, it's because you and I aren't allowed, and our producer has placed a bet on who goes mad first because of him.

DAN: NO!

BEN: I know. Just move on.

JAMES: I bet Dan goes mad first, it has to be him.

BEN: And again, James is good for ratings.

JAMES: Yes. But the boss can make some serious money with that bet, too. Good

for him. Good for him.

(A phone rings)

JAMES: Ooh, a caller already.

BEN: Would you like to answer it, superstar?

JAMES: Yes, please.

CALLER: Hi James, I always wanted to talk to you!

JAMES: Yes! What's your name?

CALLER: My name is Simon. I'm just calling to say I drank caffeinated hot chocolate by accident and have gone mad. How do YOU deal with being crazy?

JAMES: What do you mean?

SIMON: There are lots of stories about you...

JAMES: Such as?

SIMON: You trying to buy people. In prison.

JAMES: Oh, I thought people had forgotten. Yes I bought a few. Well yeah, tried. It didn't go QUITE to plan...

SIMON: No, I didn't forget at all. No one has.

JAMES: Well, you have to think of your happy place, and my happy place is Dan falling down the stairs...

DAN: Let me talk to him, James.

SIMON: Hello...

DAN: Simon. Go away.

SIMON: Haha!

DAN: Why are you laughing?

SIMON: I was picturing you falling down the stairs!

DAN: NO!

SIMON: Are you on any medication, James?

JAMES: Nope.

SIMON: I am. And now it doesn't do anything because some MORON told me my drink would be fine!

JAMES: Wow, wow. That's tough. Sleep it off, maybe?

SIMON: Sleep it off? How am I supposed to sleep off the voices telling me to drink even MORE hot chocolate? 'Drink it. Drink it so I can rule you'. Over and over again.

BEN: I'm sorry, I'm going to have to cut that guy off. Too weird for me.

(A phone rings)

DAN: Hello?

SIMON: I know you've been reading my thoughts, Dan. Well I've been reading yours!

DAN: What was I thinking then?

SIMON: Attack James.

DAN: Well, I always think that, so...

SIMON: And kidnap him and lock him in a barn.

DAN: How did you know about that?

JAMES: I'm sorry?

BEN: It was a trick, Dan.

SIMON: And slap him in the face with a rotten fish that you've been hiding in your garden for weeks, now.

DAN: You're creepy.

BEN: Pure coincidence.

SIMON: I'm on my mobile. I'm in a coffee shop, right now. The voices are getting worse. 'Drink it. Drink all of it. Give in.'

DAN: Errrrr....

SIMON: It's not just the voices, the stuff tastes really good, too.

BEN: Just go home!

SIMON: Easier said than done, man. Easier said than done! Everyone's looking at me funny.

DAN: Stop talking crazy, then!!

SIMON: The staff have grabbed me. I can't move.

(Man heard on the phone): Just get him out of here!!

DAN: I think he's gone. I've hung up again, anyway.

JAMES: Nice guy.

(The phone rings)

CALLER 2: Er, hi. I just wanted to make clear that there's absolutely NOTHING wrong with my hot chocolates. You do know that, right?

DAN: No, it's ok. You have every right to phone up and complain.

CALLER 2: If anything, our products have a great reputation...

DAN: Again, it's ok.

CALLER 2: I worry I'll be forced to add warning labels to our menu from now on...

(Simon is heard on the phone, faintly): YOU NEED THE DAMN LABELS!

CALLER 2: Oh God.

BEN: Relax, you don't need labels.

DAN: Drink the stuff for yourself. Show everyone it's ok.

CALLER 2: I have to be honest I'm scared to. I don't want to end up like that freak...

DAN: You'll be fine.

CALLER 2: Ok, here goes... Give me that drink...

(A voice is heard on the phone): Hey.

DAN: You ok?

CALLER 2: I think so.

(Simon is heard on the phone): Yeah, well see how you feel in an hour or so!

BEN: You know what? I miss taking about Lego. Well, trying to talk about it, this is just upsetting.

CALLER 2: He's smashing the place up!

BEN: I'm sorry, I have to hang up.

JAMES: Great guy.

DAN: James, I think you should make a statement saying how hot chocolates are completely safe.

JAMES: Would YOU drink one?

DAN: Don't play mind games with me.

JAMES: Would you?

DAN: Sure!

JAMES: I can make you one, if you like.

DAN: Ahem.

JAMES: I'll only be about a minute...

DAN: Err...

(The phone rings)

DAN: I can't drink right now. There's a caller. Let's listen.

BEN: Hello?

CALLER 2: The voices! They're telling me to spam your station! The hot chocolate HAS turned me mad, Simon was right! It's poison!

BEN: Is this a prank call?

(Rioting is heard)

BEN: I'll take that as a no.

CALLER 2: Spam!

JAMES: Seriously, Dan. Would you like a hot chocolate?

DAN: Maybe later.

JAMES: No, now. I insist.

BEN: I've hung up. I honestly was expecting this podcast to go well...

JAMES: I thought it was good...

BEN: You don't really like that Simon guy, right? You say he's a great guy, but what's he done that's great, exactly?

JAMES: It's hard to explain, really. Just a vibe, I guess.

BEN: You're an idiot. You do know that?

JAMES: I see. Even so, my money's still on Dan going mad.

DAN: Podcast over!!

JAMES: He's clearly angry. Angry does mean mad.

BEN: No you haven't won the bet, and even if you did, you didn't place any money on it...

DAN: HA!

JAMES: Podcast over.