

Deluxe Jail
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INT. FANCY JAIL CELL - DAY

JAMES wears a spotless tuxedo. He sits against a prison wall and on a luxurious bed, as he holds a games console controller. Immediately in front of him is a wide screen TV, showing a state of the art fighting game. Large speakers are in every corner of the room and a radio is on one of them. Action music plays and loud thuds are heard. On his right is a cell door in the form of several bars. Seen outside the room are two still BUTLERS (50s). PRISONERS from outside the area are heard shouting 'James is a snitch!!' over and over again.

JAMES

Wahooah!!! Wowee!!!

BUTLER 1

Is everything to your liking sir?

JAMES continues gaming.

JAMES

I'm sorry what was that?

BUTLER 1

Is there anything I can do for you?
Maybe get you some lobster?

JAMES

I punched him hard in the face, haha!
Oh right, yes, lobster please,
thanks!

BUTLER 1 strolls away with class. A huge PRISONER (30) wearing black and white striped clothes bangs on the bars. JAMES turns to face him.

JAMES

Yes?

PRISONER

We all know you've been snitching on everyone so you get special treatment and so you get released early.

JAMES

Snitching? Special treatment? No, you've got this all wrong. I got the deluxe cell after winning a fight with another prisoner. Something you respect, no?

PRISONER

Well, when I get in fights with other people, they put me in solitary confinement.

JAMES

Yeah, but I won ten fights in a row or something like that.

BUTLER 2 looks concerned.

BUTLER 2

Is this person causing you any concern, James?

JAMES

No, but tell the warden he's been harassing me, anyway.

BUTLER 2 walks away.

PRISONER

What was that?

JAMES

Look, just go away and let me enjoy my lobster, ok? If you keep hanging around here, you're going to put me off my champaign, too.

PRISONER

Ooh scared. What was it you're in jail for? Trespassing in a military base whilst wearing a pink dress? Not exactly a respected crime.

JAMES

Yea, deal with it.

A dramatic voice comes from the speaker.

FIGHTING GAME

K.O.!

JAMES looks to the screen.

JAMES

Oh, I've lost the fight because of you!

JAMES gets up and turns the computer off. He then turns on the radio, blasting out sophisticated sounding classical music. He sits back down on the bed with his hands on the back of his head.

JAMES
(contently)
Ahh.

PRISONER
You can't be behaving in a worse way
James, it's not possible.

JAMES
Yeah? Well I'm having the time of my
life. Or I was.

JAMES reaches into his pocket, takes out a lighter and cigar
and starts puffing.

JAMES
Ah, nothing beats a Cuban cigar.
Given to me after I told the warden
who the leader of the Hardcore 15
prison gang was.

PRISONER
What was that?

JAMES
Whoops. I got too confident and said
something I shouldn't have.

There is silence.

JAMES
You look mad. Would some lobster ease
your pain? And don't feel bad,
because you earned it.

JAMES takes a deep puff.

PRISONER
And what does that mean?

JAMES
I was offered it after I snitched on
you for making prison wine, I
wouldn't have got it without you.
Mmmm lobster! Can't be beat! And
don't things taste better after you
work for them? If anything you'd like
the lobster more than me!

PRISONERS in the background continue to shout 'snitch!'

PRISONER
Can't you hear the other prisoners??
They're not happy!

JAMES

They may have been shouting 'snitch' for two hours now, but that's only because it's their favourite word. They clearly like it very much. My favourite word on the other hand is 'muffin'.

JAMES smiles.

PRISONER

No, snitch isn't their favourite word, in fact they hate it...

JAMES

They keep repeating it because they have autism, or something then? I get that, I keep looking at my watch to see my favourite times. Is 12:34:56 the best time, or is it 11:11:11? It's a tough question, and something I...

PRISONER

(interrupting)

Look, you need to take back you've been saying about all the prisoners or you're getting in serious trouble.

BUTLER 1 walks to the outside of the cell, with lobster on a tray.

BUTLER 1

Your lobster, sir.

PRISONER

Did James get it for winning ten fights in a row?

BUTLER 1

He's a very talented fighter. He could, what is it you say... rough you up?

PRISONER

You have got to be joking.

BUTLER 2 arrives.

BUTLER 2

I've snitched on this prisoner here, James.

BUTLER 2 gives JAMES a thumbs up.

PRISONER

This can't be real. This whole situation I mean, it can't be...

BUTLER 2

This situation is rather unorthodox, granted, but he's a dream come true for the jail staff...

PRISONER

The second you open the door to give James the lobster, I'm going to batter him.

BUTLER 1

Not very likely. He is an expert in kung fu.

The PRISONER takes the lobster and eats it.

PRISONER

Mmmmm.

BUTLER 1

I'll snitch on him for you, James.

JAMES

Thanks.

BUTLER 1 strolls away.

PRISONER

I mean WHAT. THE. (expletive)?

JAMES

What now?

BUTLER 2

Yes, would you like to clarify things for James, here?

PRISONER

Would I like to clarify things for James, here? You really are (expletive) mental, aren't you?

BUTLER 2

I'm sorry?

JAMES takes another puff.

PRISONER

Look, take back what you've been saying, or your life will never be the same. Your short life.

JAMES
I have an idea.

PRISONER
Yes?

JAMES
I take back what I've been saying
after I leave jail! Which is tomorrow
because of all the snitching I've
done!

BUTLER 2
A wise move.

PRISONER
Ok, you have a radio show, don't you?

JAMES
Yes, against all reason I have my own
radio show.

PRISONER
I want you to take everything back
when you're hosting it.

JAMES
That's going to be a wacky show...