Simon 1: Hello, what's bugging you now?

Simon 2: I'm still thinking about the time I bought shoes in Staines…

Simon 1: What happened??

Simon 2: When I tried on shoes that were too big for me, I asked 'would I grow into them'. It's the kind of thing a 7 year old would ask! My feet stopped growing years ago, it's a well known fact feet don't keep growing in your late 30s and not only that, everyone nearby heard my question!

Simon 1: It's ok, I nearly once asked my dad 'when is Christmas?' Simply because I didn't know what else to say. I didn't say it, though. Anyway, even if your feet are still growing, why not ask for the right shoe size for now and buy bigger ones later?

Simon 2: Right, that made things even worse. What I meant to say was 'will the shoes shrink into my size?' which sounds magical and well beyond what normal people would expect from shoes, but it has happened in the past.

Simon 1: You put them in a washing machine by mistake?

Simon 2: No, they just shrunk.

Simon 1: I don't believe you.

Simon 2: Oh. Maybe they were magical, then.

Simon 1: Where did you get them?

Simon 2: JD Sports…

Simon 1: JD Sports and their magical shoes, it's a great advert.

Simon 2: Yeah, but if it turns out my shoes weren't magical and I did in fact put them in the washing machine, lots of customers will be disappointed and angry.

Simon 1: No, JD Sports could claim the shoes don't magically change size but they just bring good luck. Prove that wrong.

Simon 2: No, that's REALLY criminal.

Simon 1: It is, isn't it? It would put them out of business…

Simon 2: Yes, either the company consists of frauds or the staff are all mentally ill.

Simon 1: I wouldn't want shoes made by a crazy person…

Simon 2: Why?

Simon 1: He could eat parts of them…

Simon 2: Eat their soles?

Simon 1: Yes, exactly!

Simon 2: Are you undead technically speaking if you don't have a soul/sole? I'm just asking because wearing undead shoes is a bit too much for me to handle…

Simon 1: I'll Google if people with no souls are undead…

Simon 2: Well?

Simon 1: Good news! You're not undead if you have no soul BUT you ARE dead.

Simon 2: Wearing dead shoes is creepy, too.

Simon 1: It sounds creepy, but leather is made from dead animals…

Simon 2: Oh my God, I have indeed worn dead shoes!

Simon 1: Yes, but not undead shoes.

Simon 2: If there ever is a zombie outbreak, what kind of person would ask themselves 'Can I make shoes from these zombies?'

Simon 1: A long term plan, maybe?

Simon 2: I guess in a way it points to optimism, but it's a morbid optimism.

Simon 1: Things will get better and the zombies will stop being a threat, but the shoes I've made may trigger you?

Simon 2: Right.

Simon 1: What are you planning to call this interview, by the way?

Simon 2: A.I. has suggested I call it 'Foot Size and Growing Pains'. I haven't mentioned pain once…

Simon 1: The title wasn't completely wrong, though. At least it wasn't simply called 'Pain'…

Simon 2: No, that would be way off…

Simon 1: It could refer to mental pain…

Simon 2: Ok, calling this interview 'Physical Pain' would be way off.

Simon 1: It makes you wonder where those two words would come from…

Simon 2: Maybe A.I. is experiencing physical pain?

Simon 1: And what would be the point of making A.I. feel pain?

Simon 2: An incentive not to crash!

Simon 1: Oh yeah. Just as pain in humans gives incentives not to get injured…

Simon 2: There you go.

Simon 1: Out of curiosity, what is A.I. calling the interview now?

Simon 2: Now the suggested title has changed to ‘Simon’s Story About Foot Size…’

Simon 1: And now?

Simon 2: Now A.I. has suggested ‘Simon’s Story About Growing Pains’…

Simon 1: Is that true?

Simon 2: Not really. Well in a way; the titles haven’t changed that quickly. I also haven’t been writing this interview in a logical order, I keep going back and adding things, meaning I’ve been giving you a distorted view of A.I. The suggested titles were real though.

Simon 1: Ah. Nice use of a semicolon, btw.

Simon 2: Thanks. Anyway, I’ve just called the interview ‘Shoes!’ instead.

Simon 1: And what’s bugging you now?

Simon 2: I worry the staff will go around telling their friends and family a middle aged man asked if his feet are still growing, it’s not normal.

Simon 1: Forget the shoes!

Simon 2: I’ll tell you what’s bugging me: I woke up with the thought ‘it would be bad for both ends if they warped the challenger drive’. I mean… what’s it mean? I was confused so much, I immediately wrote it down to reflect on.

Simon 1: Personally, I think it could be a Star Trek reference. It sounds spacey…

Simon 2: I’ve never watched Star Trek in my life.

Simon 1: It would be bad for you and me if some unknown group of people misshaped a rebellious computer storage device?

Simon 2: I guess it would be bad…

Simon 1: Why?

Simon 2: It just sounds bad.

Simon 1: But you don't know what it means?

Simon 2: I have no idea!

Simon 1: What does A.I. make of the sentence?

Simon 2: I was given an explanation, but I didn't understand it!

Simon 1: Personally I'd say this story is a lot more distressing than the one about asking staff about shoe sizes. Simon… have you been taking your medication?

Simon 2: Sure. I didn't hallucinate the phrase or anything, again, I woke up thinking it.

Simon 1: It would be bad if you did hallucinate it. You'd have to explain to your psychiatrists that you have a delusion and obsession about it being really bad for two different people if they damaged a computer storage device. The delusion could be worse, but it's not a concern coming from a sound mind.

Simon 2: Yeah, speaking of psychiatrists, as I was getting my blood taken for my monthly Clozapine tests, a nurse asked me what I'd be dong after the appointment. Oh no. I had to explain I would be writing for a website. I hoped that would be the end of discussion, but just as I feared, she asked me the name of my site as she wanted to check it out…

Simon 1: She's going to read all about James?

Simon 2: Probably.

Simon 1: Oh no.

Simon 2: Right, oh no.

Simon 3: That's bad.

Simon 1: Hang on, where did Simon 3 come from?

Simon 2: I don't know… I think we're imagining him!

Simon 1: Oh good, I think he's gone.

Simon 3: Hi.

Simon 2: Argh!

Simon 1: Oh great, I'm going to get some serious questions from my mental health team and now I'm imagining someone who isn't really here.

Simon 3: I AM here, though!

Simon 2: He’s very convincing…

Simon 1: Maybe he is really here, then. If I’m used to being two people, I suppose I can get used to three.

Simon 3: Thanks!

Simon 1: And on that welcoming note… bye!