

JAMES: Hello listeners! Welcome to a wonderful new podcast, hosted by me, Dan and Ben!

DAN: Screw you James.

JAMES: Why?

DAN: Oh, sorry. I was just expecting you to say something offensive to our audience.

JAMES: I couldn't have been more hospitable.

DAN: I know, I know. It's just all the pigeon stuff and that. It just keeps happening.

JAMES: I've seen a therapist.

DAN: What was the session like?

JAMES: It was just me and her sitting down. There was a pigeon with us, but it didn't say much. Probably because of laziness.

BEN: Watch it.

JAMES: I'm so sorry. I mean it was quiet because of my appalling behaviour. It was probably just sad and nervous.

BEN: That sounds right to me. But let me start the program next time. It's my show, not yours. Pigeon hater.

JAMES: I'm NO pigeon hater. I was just misguided. That's all.

DAN: What did you talk about?

JAMES: At first, I was shown a picture of one of the birds and I was asked to say the first words that came to mind.

DAN: Dare I ask what they were?

JAMES: Stupid, hate, rage, that kind of stuff. She pointed out that wasn't normal.

BEN: It's not normal.

JAMES: Right. Then she started talking about why I might feel that way.

DAN: What were her ideas?

JAMES: Maybe because pigeons are harmless scapegoats. It was at that point the pigeon that was with us started to shed a tear.

BEN: I didn't know pigeons could cry.

JAMES: Oh yes.

BEN: What was meant by 'harmless scapegoat'?

JAMES: You were right, last podcast. Apparently I think of myself as an idiot.

BEN: Told you.

DAN: Let me guess - the therapist said how great you are to make you feel better?

JAMES: Sadly no. She just told me to be a better person.

DAN: Oh.

BEN: Is that something you're working on?

JAMES: I was nice earlier wasn't I?

BEN: It came across as fake, though.

JAMES: I like you, Ben.

BEN: That was creepy.

DAN: Do you like me, too?

JAMES: I'm...

DAN: What?

JAMES: I'm sorry, I can't...

DAN: Oh you asshole!

JAMES: Bellend.

DAN: You haven't changed at all!

JAMES: I'm taking things one day at a time.

DAN: Why is this hard for you??

JAMES: Dan... I like... your shoes.

DAN: That was torture for you, wasn't it?

JAMES: I think... I think I'm going to be sick...

BEN: Oh no.

JAMES: Blueeeeeegggh!!!!!!!!!!

DAN: Well... All better now?

JAMES: (Starting to cry) N-no...

BEN: Let it all out.

JAMES: I don't feel well...

BEN: What's wrong?

JAMES: I feel dizzy. I have stomach cramps. I feel cold.

DAN: How are you in so much pain??

JAMES: If I'm nice to you one more time... I think it could be the death of me...

BEN: Just let him call you a bellend, Dan.

DAN: No!

JAMES: I'm not asking, I'm begging!

DAN: Get lost.

JAMES: Blueeeegh....

BEN: Dan, he could die!

DAN: Let him call YOU a bellend!

BEN: Na.

JAMES: Ben... It could work...

BEN: You dare.

JAMES: Be... bell...

BEN: I'm warning you.

JAMES: Bellend!!!!!!!!!!

DAN: Your colour's come back and everything. How do you feel?

JAMES: Like a million dollars.

DAN: Is this situation something you'd like to discuss with your therapist?

JAMES: Nope.

BEN: Why not?

JAMES: You don't know how she was looking at me.

BEN: How was she looking at you?

JAMES: Like I was some kind of freak!

DAN: Surely she wasn't looking at you like that ALL the time?

JAMES: Actually, she was...

DAN: Don't therapists usually try to compliment the people they're working with at least once?

JAMES: I hope not.

DAN: What else did you do with her?

JAMES: I was made to stare into the pigeon's eyes.

BEN: Why?

JAMES: It was supposed to be an empathy building exercise, but it just made me feel stupid.

DAN: How did that make the pigeon feel?

JAMES: I'm not sure. It just stared through my soul... I was actually fearful. Then it nodded at the therapist with respect.

DAN: If there's anything you could say to the bird now, what would it be?

JAMES: I guess... I hope you have a nice life. Good luck to you.

BEN: That's the kind of thing we want to hear.

JAMES: Thanks.

BEN: James, how would you feel if we brought another pigeon in here?

JAMES: That would be fine...

(A DOOR OPENS)

MAN: Here's the pigeon for you, Ben.

BEN: Thanks.

MAN: Later.

(A DOOR CLOSES)

JAMES: That's a fine animal.

(HAPPY COOS)

BEN: What would you say to those who call them the rats of the skies?

JAMES: Actually that's a myth. Well some people say it is and some say it isn't.

BEN: What's your opinion?

JAMES: I'm not qualified to say...

DAN: Is that your way of insulting it without getting noticed?

JAMES: Er...

DAN: It is, isn't it?

JAMES: (Sad) Yes.

DAN: James, you have a long way to go...

BEN: James, I want you to call your therapist.

JAMES: That sounds like a good idea.

BEN: This will be interesting...

JAMES: Hello, Sarah? It's me, James.

BEN: Hold your phone to the microphone when she talks...

JAMES: Ok...

SARAH: How are you feeling?

JAMES: Tense.

SARAH: Why?

JAMES: I'm sharing the room with a pigeon again.

SARAH: Why???

JAMES: I don't know. It could be a practical joke.

SARAH: Just breath deeply.

JAMES: I want to, but the pigeon really smells...

BEN: (Outraged) Oh!!!

SARAH: Who was that? Was that your carer?

JAMES: No!

SARAH: Remember the exercise. Look the pigeon in the eyes.

(COOING)

JAMES: I am...

SARAH: What do you see?

JAMES: I see sadness.

DAN: Oh my God, this is great.

SARAH: Are you going to say sorry?

JAMES: Sorry, pigeon.

DAN: What about me? Can you get your client to say sorry to me for being a jerk?

SARAH: Who are you? Oh never mind. Well, James?

JAMES: Sorry, I can't. It will kill me.

SARAH: For me...

JAMES: Dan...

DAN: Yes?

JAMES: I'm sor...

(CRASHING SOUNDS)

BEN: James!

DAN: He's fainted!

BEN: The pigeon's pecking him!

(COOING)

DAN: What do we do??

BEN: I can hear Sarah talking, I'll hold the phone to the mic, again...

SARAH: This will be very bad for his therapy program! Now he'll REALLY hate birds!

BEN: What do we do??

SARAH: Make him think this is all a dream!

DAN: James, can you hear me?

(GROANS)

DAN: (Eerily) Thiiiss isss allll a dreaaaaam...

JAMES: (Weakly) Pigeons...

DAN: Alll in youuurr miind...

JAMES: Get the bird off me....

DAN: No. Not yet.

JAMES: Please.

DAN: This is all in your imagination. You'll wake up soon.

BEN: I suggest we carry James into another room and fully wake him without the damn bird.

DAN: Agreed. We can't have James going into a full blown rant.

(COOING)

BEN: Quiet!

DAN: Oh go on then. One more peck.

(COOING)

BEN: Sorry listeners, we're going to have to go for a while. But when we're back, we will be talking about whether pigeons make good pets!

DAN: I think they make GREAT pets.

BEN: Should be fun! Don't go away!