

Here to Judge- Bitch Me Out

Cast:

Priya Hall

Leila Navabi

Robin Morgan

[Here to Judge Theme Song]

Robin: Welcome to Here to Judge where we scour the internet to dissect dilemmas and decide who's to blame. Here to Judge today is me, Robin Morgan.

Priya: Me, Priya Hall.

Leila: And me, Leila Navabi.

Priya: 'Am I the asshole for getting annoyed that my fiancé won't just SMILE for a picture instead of making a stupid gaping mouth face?' Smile is in capital letters. 'My fiancé makes this really stupid face in pictures. Smile big, but with your mouth closed. Then just let your jaw hang open. It's this awkward, weird cross between a smile and gaping mouth. Sometimes he just opens his mouth really wide without a smile, and looks super I don't know, shocked? Excited? He only does it sometimes though.

Before we started taking pictures, I just asked him if we could try to make these nice pictures so we can share them. Got the camera ready and he makes the face. I ask him if he could just smile regularly he got all pouty, saying 'That's no fun' and 'Come on, lighten up'. I got really frustrated because we took about five pictures with that stupid face. I even made the face with him once thinking it would get him to do a normal one, but he refused.

I got really frustrated and asked him why he's doing this, does he not want to make an announcement? Etcetera. And he said he did, but he didn't get what was wrong with 'showing a little personality' while we did it. I said that we don't have many nice pictures of us other than

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the ones at other weddings where he's not making that face, so can we just get one? And if it's so important to him, he can send the one of us making that face together to his family and friends and I'll send the other one out to mine. He said that was stupid.

I finally said 'Fine, we'll just send out an old picture from someone's wedding or something where we actually look nice'. He told me I was being hypersensitive and that it shouldn't matter so much what other people think. And I said 'It's not about what other people think, it's about what I think'. Maybe I went too far, but I said 'If you can't even just pose for a few pictures with a normal face instead of looking like you're a drunk frat guy waiting for someone to shove a cock in your mouth'...

Leila: Oh my god.

Priya: ...'maybe you're not mature enough to get married yet'. He said I overreacted big time and is pissed at me for the 'cock in your mouth' comment. I asked him what the fuck that face is supposed to be, since it's obviously not a smile. Am I the asshole???' The too long to listen on this is, I hate my fiancé, that's it.

Robin: Yeah, yeah, that's a really good summary.

Leila: But also I feel extremely awkward when having pictures taken, I don't know about you two?

Priya: Yeah.

Robin: I think if you do feel awkward about getting your picture taken, you might just do that as a kind of like, I'm going to do a silly face, but I know I'm doing a silly face and then if anyone says 'You look stupid' it's like 'I know, I purposely look stupid'.

Priya: [Laughs]

Leila: Yeah.

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Robin: As a defence mechanism.

Priya: I'm in control of this situation.

Robin: Yeah I'm dialling this up to crazy.

Leila: Yeah absolutely it is that isn't it? It's like making yourself look bad so that you don't look bad on accident [laughs].

Robin: Yeah definitely like I don't photo well. Me and my wife...

Leila: You do photo well, I think you look lovely in all of your photos.

Robin: What my professionally taken headshots that have cost hundreds of pounds in Photoshop? Thank you very much, that's very kind of you.

Leila: [Laughs]

Robin: My wife probably has her eyes closed in 90% of photos that she's taken. We're not a very photogenic couple.

Priya: Me and my partner are the same. There are very few photos of us together online and in almost all of them the comments on it are that he looks like a professor who's sleeping with his student.

Robin: [Laughs]

Priya: Because I dress like a child and he dresses like an old man, but we're the same age.

Robin: That's really funny.

Leila: At the start of our relationship we used to do it constantly. And now I think, I don't know, now we don't really. I mean you know we never had someone else take a picture of us. I don't know it's all a bit, I don't give a shit what face she pulls, as long it's not one of disgust.

Robin: But if it was on an engagement card or like a wedding invite and you're doing a picture of you two?

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- Leila: Don't put a picture of yourself on your wedding invite, just don't do it.
- Priya: Yeah. They should know what you look like if you're sending them a wedding invite.
- Leila: Yeah [laughs].
- Robin: Should we go to this? Oh they do look nice. Yeah they look like a nice couple, we'll go.
- Priya: I know of a couple, I don't know them personally it's just like gossip about people that other people know, that have a professional couples photo shoot done monthly. For why?!
- Robin: That is amazing. I love that so much.
- Leila: Oh no. No, no, no. No.
- Priya: Imagine the amount of money they're spending? Incredible.
- Robin: Why?
- Priya: I don't know these people so I don't know the justification, I've only heard through a friend but by all accounts it's because it's like their first serious relationship, each of them it's their first serious relationship so they want to make a huge thing to commemorate it. But monthly. Monthly.
- Robin: How long have they been together for?
- Priya: Years now.
- Robin: They've been together for years. Do you think both of them hate it but they just don't want to upset the other one thinking that...
- Priya: Yeah [laughs] they're committed they...
- Robin: ...I'm in so much debt [laughs].

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Priya: They've got the photographer on retainer.

Robin: Yeah, yeah totally. That's fucking wild.

Priya: It's mad isn't it?

Robin: Monthly.

Priya: Nothing but respect for it, they're really committed to it but what an insight show.

Robin: Have they posted the photos? Are the photos available on like?

Priya: They post them on Facebook. And have I seen all of them? Yeah I have. Do I know these people? No [laughs]. I'm not on Facebook anymore so I don't have the link but I will ask the friend who I have in common for the link. The friend who does listen to this podcast.

Robin: Sure.

Priya: So maybe when she hears this she can just send the link instead of me having to ask for it directly.

Robin: Yeah that's easier, this is why we do podcasts, we don't need to speak to our friends.

Priya: Yeah, yeah, yeah sure.

Robin: And if they listen to us then they're true friends and then they'll carry out our wishes.

Priya: [Laughs]

Leila: God I think the problem, back to this couple.

Priya: Oh yeah.

Leila: I think the trouble here is at what point does a smile become a silly face? Do you know?

Priya: Yeah.

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Leila: God.

Priya: I like the idea of this one that they're like having a continual argument while trying to do a photo shoot.

Robin: Yeah.

Priya: And yet every time he goes back to doing the face and she's like 'This time promise me you won't'. And he's like 'I promise. I promise'. And then he does it again, I love that vibe, truly awful, I love him.

Robin: Yeah. And she's got some weird homophobic undertones to this as well.

Priya: Oh for sure. For sure.

Leila: Yeah.

Priya: I'm 100% sure that OP is a wrong 'un. Even if her partner is annoying her.

Robin: Then they deserve each other [laughs].

Leila: He should go get a cock in his mouth as far as I'm concerned.

Robin: Yeah totally. That might make him a bit happier and smile in photos a bit more.

Priya: [Laughs]

Leila: Yeah. Asshole? Not asshole? Is that question? Yeah, am I the asshole?

Robin: That was like a version of Shakespeare, Asshole or Not Asshole, is that the question? [laughs]

Priya: [Laughs]

Leila: She is an asshole.

[Here to Judge- Interim Music]

[Promo for I Wish I Was An Only Child- New episodes every Wednesday!]

Robin: 'Am I the asshole for getting angry over a partially eaten gift? So as back story, my significant other ordered me some expensive chocolates for Valentine's Day. Unfortunately, due to a massive influx of orders and a snow storm, they were massively delayed, despite him paying for expedited shipping (my issues with the seller are another story and I do not hold him accountable for that)' Oh boy!

'Mid February, I was informed what the gift was and the delay was explained. I expressed that I would just cancel the order as I'm not a huge sweets person and after reviewing the website it was clear they specialized in alcoholic chocolates. I don't drink, and my significant other is aware of this. He assured me, however, that none of the chocolates he ordered contained alcohol. I was still a little peeved that he would get non-sweets liking me chocolates, but it was a nice gesture. I assumed that the gift was cancelled or in flux or whatever, but it came up in conversation tonight that they arrived yesterday.

He added that he ate some of them because they had alcohol in them. I'm not sure if they changed the order or not and included the boozy ones (he swears they did, I have my doubts). But my issue is that he ate some of them and now wants to give them to me incomplete. I told him that was pretty rude, and that I'd have been happy to give him the chocolates that I didn't want but it was a bit much to want me to hand six week late gift (not his fault) missing pieces, because he had a sweet tooth last night. This has now escalated to a screaming match where he swears 'It's no big deal' and that I'm overreacting. And I'm basically accusing him of having horrible manners and being raised by wolves. Am I overreacting and being an asshole here?'

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Priya: I don't think she's the asshole.

Leila: No I don't either. I should. I feel like I should think she's the asshole.

Robin: I think she sounds a lot of work.

Priya: I think she's at her wits end with this man [laughs].

Leila: She shouldn't be annoyed that he's eaten it, for sure. That's like for me it's just like, she doesn't fucking like them!

Priya: That's the bit that turned me.

Leila: Oh is it really?

Priya: I was like onboard with the partner until I saw that he'd eaten a bunch of the chocolates before even telling her that they arrived. And I was like, oh he's a prick OK. Sure, sure, sure that's what's happened here.

Robin: Mm. Because is this one that we're genuinely going to disagree on?

Leila: I think we might.

Robin: This is quite interesting. I think that he doesn't know her very well and he gives bad gifts.

Leila: Yes! That's what I think.

Robin: I think he's stupid because he's clearly ordered alcoholic ones as well.

Priya: Yeah.

Robin: And then he's tried to double-down on it by going 'Well you weren't going to eat them anyway'. So I think he doesn't know her very well.

Leila: Yeah.

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Robin: He's quite rude but I think? No maybe you're right actually, maybe she is just at wits end with this person who she should not be with.

Priya: I was thinking she's a dick up to the point where he'd eaten the chocolates, because don't get annoyed at someone for buying you a present, even you think, oh I'm not going to like. But then the notion that he would buy her boozy chocolates while he knows she doesn't drink. if he doesn't know she doesn't drink then he's almost definitely an asshole. And then yeah eating half of her present before even telling her the present arrived is such a dick move man.

Robin: Yeah.

Leila: Wait, first of all question. Did he know beforehand that she didn't like boozy chocolate?

Robin: You'd assume so, she said she doesn't drink and that's quite like...

Priya: Yeah.

Robin: It's quite a big thing for a youngish couple isn't it?

Leila: OK in my head what's happened is he's ordered this chocolate for her and thinks it's a lovely gift, OK. Then he says it's delayed and it's also this and she goes 'Well I fucking hate those chocolates anyway, fuck you, they're horrible, blah'.

Robin: [Sniggers]

Leila: 'I don't like them'. And then they've arrived and he's like, well fuck you then I'll eat them.

Robin: Yeah that could be it, I think...

Leila: Which to me, first primary point is they should not be together [laughs].

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Robin: Oh yeah definitely.

Priya: We can all agree on that [laughs].

Leila: Yeah secondary point but then for me it's like well if she gave you a mare because you did something innocently not knowing something and then they came and you knew she didn't like them because she told you and she told you in quite explicit terms then eat them I think.

Priya: I'm not with ya.

Leila: Oh my god, we disagree.

Priya: The way I read it was, she finds out that he's bought her chocolates because he's like 'They're going to be really, really late'. She's like 'OK that's not your fault but I'll return them because I know I won't like them because they're boozy chocolates and I don't really like chocolate'. And he goes 'No, no, no, no, no, trust me, there's no boozy chocolate, you'll love them. Just trust me'.

Leila: Right.

Priya: And then they arrive, he realises he's bought one that's half boozy chocolates, he also knows now that she doesn't drink so he's like ah fuck! So to hide that he just hoofs a bunch of them into his face.

Robin: Oh yeah.

Priya: And then doesn't tell her beforehand. So it's only when she's been given her present that she's got half the chocolates there and she's like 'For why?'

Leila: Yeah.

Robin: Yeah that's so cheeky.

Priya: That is wasteful when she wanted to return them.

Robin: There will be no boozy chocolates in your order, wink, wink. Don't you worry about a thing.

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- Leila: Can you return chocolates? I thought you couldn't return like food?
- Priya: You can cancel and order. So they were like six weeks behind orders, so she was going to cancel the order.
- Robin: I now think that he... is responsible for the shipping delay as well.
- Priya: [Laughs] OK.
- Leila: He is responsible for the Suez Canal as far as I'm concerned.
- Robin: Yeah [laughs].
- Leila: That's his fault.
- Robin: I've loved that story so, so much.
- Leila: Oh don't.
- Priya: Oh my god it's been a joy.
- Leila: Best thing that's happened. How nice that the story is a boat got stuck.
- Robin: Yeah.
- Leila: You can't disagree with that, you can't fight it, that's the news, the boat is stuck. Hooray.
- Priya: And no capitalism is struggling.
- Robin: Yeah totally, I was watching the ten o'clock news and seeing people looking at a boat, and it was a big boat, a really big boat that was stuck in sand. And I was crying laughing. And my wife was like 'Are you OK?' and I was like 'It's just so funny'.
- Leila: It's great.
- Robin: It's so big.

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Leila: That's what the news should be. The news should be just vacuous shit that's happening that's just like.

Robin: Yeah. A big boat got stuck today!

Priya: Also things that we can't do anything about.

Leila: Yeah.

Robin: Exactly.

Priya: Oh it was such a joy to be like, I don't have to feel bad about this because I am nothing to do with that boat.

Robin: Like the rule of the internet, I saw people saying that it actually was a bad thing because one of those shipping containers contained lots of rabbits and now the rabbits are going to die.

Leila: You know how I feel about rabbits.

Robin: [Laughs] Was it you? Was it you who did it?

Leila: It was me [laughs].

Priya: You saw the blockage and you were like 'Order a bunch of rabbits now before they cotton on'.

Robin: All of those containers were full of sub four unit animals.

Leila: Guinea pigs, rabbits, yeah full of it, yeah, yeah, yeah. Run free.

Priya: Amazing.

Robin: So what do we think then? Who's in the wrong?

Leila: I think she is, sorry I do. I think they should not be in that relationship but I do also think that, eat the fucking chocolate.

Priya: I think he's the asshole. I don't think she's the asshole. But I also agree that they definitely should not be in this

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relationship and he should take his chocolate elsewhere seeing as he loves them so much.

Robin: Does that mean that I've got, not that this is how it works but do I get the casting vote?

Leila: Yeah go on. What are your thoughts Robin? Who would you want to be your friend, me or Priya?

Priya: [Laughs] We will hold you to this.

Robin: I don't want to answer that, I want to answer which of these people in the couple do I want to be friends with?
[laughs]

Priya: Oh fine, OK carry on.

Leila: Yeah, yeah, yeah fine.

Robin: Uh the chocolates, thank you [laughs].

Leila: Aww Switzerland. Wait is it Switzerland? Is that the one that's?

Robin: Bought now, Dignitas.

Leila: The one that's like...

Priya: Neutral.

Leila: Yeah neutral.

Robin: Oh right, I thought you meant chocolates, I was like yeah they're good chocolate.

Priya: [Laughs]

[Here to Judge- Interim Music]

[Promo for Welcome to Spooktown- New episodes every Monday!]

Leila: 'Am I the asshole for not liking the snooze alarm? My alarm is set for 7.30 each morning but my boyfriend sets

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his for 6.00 AM. At least two or three times a week he snoozes the alarm when it goes off, sometimes two or even three times. I think he should just set his alarm later and then sleep in a little but he disagrees.

In the past I worked before him and he would get upset if I snoozed the alarm. I did snooze it two or three times occasionally just like he is doing now. He bitched me out so I considered it and realised it was messed up that I woke him up early so I adjusted and stopped snoozing. Why can't he? He thinks I'm the asshole for getting upset at him for the snooze fest. I think he's the asshole for both being a hypocrite as well as being inconsiderate. I am now submitting myself to the judgement of Reddit.'

Robin: I like this person. I like their dialogue. I like...

Leila: It's very well put isn't it? It's very eloquently put.

Robin: I like 'Bitch me out' I think that's a phrase that we should all be using.

Priya: Great [laughs]

Leila: Yeah.

Robin: You're bitching me out!

Leila: What does that mean?

Robin: I guess it's like bitching at you to then stop you doing something, kind of like just complaining at you.

Priya: Like cussing you out is a thing in America as well.

Leila: Oh I got you, I got you, OK.

Robin: Bitching. What was it? 'He bitched me out'?

Priya: Yeah 'He bitched me out, so I considered it'.

Robin: I really like that.

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- Priya: It's such a measured response to someone bitching you out as well. Be like, 'Mm-hmm, I'll take your points on board, I'll mull them over'.
- Robin: Yeah well argued. Well bitched good sir, well bitched.
- Leila: I think she should just learn to live with him if this relationship is going to work. My advice for everyone here is just break up which doesn't bode well does it?
- Priya: [Laughs]
- Robin: No I think that's fair though, I think yeah they absolutely should break up.
- Priya: Yeah.
- Leila: Yeah. How do you guys feel about snooze alarms in general? Are you a snooze alarm user?
- Priya: I snooze so often. Like I spend at least an hour snoozing every morning. So I am this guy but on the other hand I do think he's the asshole.
- Robin: Interesting.
- Priya: [Laughs] I definitely think I'm the asshole in this situation as well.
- Robin: [Laughs]
- Priya: I'm aware of it, I simply cannot stop it.
- Robin: Sure. There is something quite nice about snoozing. It feels like naughty sleep. Extra sleep. Do you know what I mean?
- Leila: Yeah.
- Robin: Like to the point where I'd quite happily do it. I'm the wrong person to be talking to. I haven't snoozed in four and a half years. I do not have lie-ins.

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- Leila: Yeah just get children, that's the solution here isn't it?
- Robin: Yeah exactly. They should absolutely bump uglies and then a child could bitch them out. Does your partner mind Priya?
- Priya: Not really, he does the same. Not as bad as me. He thinks it's quite funny.
- Robin: Do you sort of out snooze each other?
- Priya: Yeah. I'm such a different person when I've just woken up, I'm so mean you guys [laughs] I'm so mean.
- Robin: Are you? Are you one of those people?
- Priya: When I wake up I'm horrible.
- Robin: 'Don't talk to me until I've had my coffee!' Are you one of those people?
- Priya: Just for like, the first 20 minutes or so.
- Robin: You were about to say hour.
- Priya: Leading to the first hour.
- Robin: Yeah, yeah, yeah [laughs].
- Priya: [Laughs]
- Robin: You can be honest with us.
- Priya: I quite often wake up with a start. So I'll wake up like halfway through a shout.
- Leila: Oh my god.
- Priya: I'm not a fun person to sleep next to [laughs].
- Robin: Why are you shouting?
- Priya: I'm just not a very restful sleeper and will quite often wake up ready to fight.

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Robin: Sure.

Priya: If someone wakes me up, my response is aggression early doors.

Robin: Yeah. Not fight or flight, just fight or fight.

Leila: I think I'm quite a light sleeper generally speaking. Like I can just get out of bed do you know what I mean? Like I am fine at doing those sorts of things. But being with my girlfriend has made me realise that like once her head has hit the pillow, once she's asleep, I could be dying, recently I've been experiencing a lot of panic attacks. I mean I had them loads when I was 16 and now I have no reason to have them, everything in my life is fine, apart from the pandemic. And I just wake up and I'm like oh my god!

Robin: Yeah I was going to say, give yourself a break mate.

Priya: It's a pretty big one.

Leila: Yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah. But do you know what I mean, that feeling of I'm going to die. Just like oh great, wake up in the middle of the night, I'm going to die. I'll be like shake her gently and she'll be like 'What?!' And actually it works really well because I'm like 'Yeah you're right nothing's wrong. I'm fine. I'm fine'. [laughs] Do you know I feel like we should have facilitated if it was.

Robin: Like apologetically 'Sorry to bother you but I'm going to die. I'm so sorry'.

Leila: Yeah [laughs]

Robin: 'I'm so sorry to wake you but I'm going to die'. [laughs]

Priya: [Laughs] Like 'How can I help?!'

Robin: That's so funny.

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- Leila: Imagine being that though. Do you know there are things that can happen. I feel like we've all had this, if someone is really sick or whatever happens in the night and you just wake up with a jolt and you're like 'I'm awake, what the fuck is it?' Even if it's just like you hear something outside do you know? That does not exist in her life. At all.
- Priya: That must be a weird like thing for her to know, like you could be screaming and vomiting in another room and she wouldn't hear it.
- Leila: She knows this. Yeah, no she's always like if there's something wrong, she's like 'Do you want me to go to sleep or no?' Do you know what I mean? Because she knows that if she goes to sleep there's no coming back [laughs].
- Robin: Yeah.
- Priya: Because once I'm gone.
- Leila: She might as well be dead for eight hours.
- Robin: That's so funny, I'm powering down and.
- Priya: [Laughs]
- Leila: Yeah, no chance at all. But I want to know about the sounds for alarms that you guys have chosen?
- Priya: I just have like a strong vibrate.
- Leila: Do you?
- Priya: I don't have like a sound on it.
- Leila: That's the best way.
- Priya: Because of how much I snooze, I think if I had a sound as well my partner would leave me.
- Robin: Oh sure. Yeah.

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Priya: So vibrate only.

Robin: I think in the days were people put like songs as their sort of alarm sound. There's basically a few songs that I've ruined I think for my partner because that used to be my alarm tone.

Leila: Throughout my GCSEs I used to up to Eye of the Tiger.

Robin: Of course you did.

Leila: 'Bum, bum, bum, bum!' But now every time I hear it I just get like this horrible pang of anxiety [laughs] Like I ruined that song for me.

Robin: Oh god it's biology today, oh god! [Laughs]

Leila: [Laughs]

[Here to Judge Theme Song]

Melanie: This has been a Little Wander production. Music from Rhodri Viney. Local artwork from Sam Roberts. Voice from Melanie Walters. With special thanks to Beth Forrest, Steve Pickup, Sam Roberts, Henry Widdicombe, and Jo Williams. Other podcasts from Little Wander include: I Wish I Was An Only Child, and Welcome to Spooktown. Subscribe now on iTunes, Spotify or wherever you get your podcasts.

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