

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

Cast:

Priya Hall

Leila Navabi

Robin Morgan

[Here to Judge Theme Song]

Priya: 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, Priya Hall.

Leila: Me, Leila Navabi.

Robin: And me, Robin Morgan.

Robin: 'Am the asshole for no longer making my husband sandwiches to take to work after discovering he was selling them?'

Leila: Oh my god.

Robin: Right? 'My, female 33, husband, male 37, works at an advertising company'. His name is Don Draper. No. 'We live in an expensive area and we're struggling a bit financially because we're saving up to purchase a new apartment. He's used to eating fast food and it was costly. He had no problem spending \$20 daily on fast food and after doing the math he spends more than \$300 a month on just fast food. I talked to him about it, he agreed that I would makes sandwiches for him to take with him to work. That way he eats healthy and we save money for rent. Everything was going well but I noticed he wouldn't respond when I asked whether he liked the sandwiches I made, though, he kept asking me to make more than two since he was hungry.' How many is more than two is my initial thought at this point? [laughs].

Priya: I mean any more than two over the course of a day is too many sandwiches but.

Robin: Right?

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

Leila: Mm.

Robin: As if he's like cycling to work with a massive box full of them. Like he's the sandwich guy. 'Yesterday he came home with his friend and co-worker, we sat at the dinner table and his friend brought up the sandwiches I made for my husband and how delicious they are. I thanked him and then he said the price was a bit much.

I was confused, I asked him to explain and he said my husband sells the sandwiches I make to his co-workers and goes to buy his own lunch from the restaurant. I was stunned, and my husband denied it. I began arguing with him after his friend left, he said there's nothing wrong with it, I told him I will no longer be making him sandwiches if he's selling them to buy his fast food. He defended himself calling this an overreaction since he's not spending money on fast food and I was being unfair to start an argument over this.

I just walked into the bedroom and stayed there. He says I owe him an apology for god knows what? And he didn't think it was acceptable for me to lash out and say I won't make him sandwiches anymore. Am I the asshole?' I think that requires a too long, didn't listen.

Leila: Yeah it does.

Robin: A couple trying to save money, wife makes husband sandwiches, husband is selling them to co-workers, he gets caught out, he denied it initially and now he says that the wife is being unreasonable for not making him sandwiches anymore.

Leila: OK first thing to say is I feel like there is a discrepancy here because where's that bit where she said thank you. Yeah 'His friend brought up the sandwiches I make for husband and how delicious they are. I thanked him'. What?

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

Priya: [Laughs]

Leila: So?

Priya: Maybe at that point she thought he was giving them away.

Leila: Yeah but that still...

Priya: It is weird.

Leila: That's weird. Why would you be like 'Thank you'?

Robin: I'm such a people pleaser that if anyone has complimented me on anything I'd say 'Thank you so much'. Even if it was like 'You did a great job punching that bloke last week'. I'd be like that 'Thanks, I really tried hard on that'. Even though I hadn't done that at all. I'm so desperate for people to like me that I'd just be like 'Yeah thank you so much'.

Leila: Oh my god.

Priya: That's exactly what I was thinking. I was thinking someone could punch me in the face and I would thank them like.

Robin: [Laughs] That was softer than you could have done!

Leila: You guys need some therapy [laughs]. I'm really, really confused by this. So like is he selling them? That's disgusting that he's selling the sandwiches. Are they like in Clingfilm or? Do you know what I mean homemade sandwiches, what sandwiches is she making?

Priya: Who's buying them?

Leila: Yeah go to Tesco.

Robin: Yeah.

Priya: Why are they buying them? You wouldn't buy-- could you imagine if one of your co-workers gave you like a manky

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

sandwich his wife had made and was like 'Do you want this?'

Leila: No I wouldn't take it for free hun.

Robin: [Laughs] They work in advertising, he's clearly like upselling the shit out of this you know. He's probably like got a really tagline of it, 'It's like your wife's made them, but it's my wife'. You know something like that, it's a good tagline. It's a good tagline?

Leila: I feel like everyone else's homemade sandwiches look disgusting. Do you get that? Like I'm so ugh, no it's the Clingfilm and the smell of their fridge that you can smell...

Robin: Bah!

Leila: ...from their sandwich. Like you know exactly what I mean.

Priya: Yeah.

Leila: Uh and like people always have rolls do you know what I mean? Like a sandwich, like wet roll with cheese in it that's been Clingfilmed for its life. And is sweated out [gags].

Priya: Are you opposed to rolls?

Leila: I feel like those soft sandwich rolls have a tendency to like get condensation within them from your lunch packaging whatever that might be, Clingfilm, foil. What sort of lunch packaging are you guys? Like what would you wrap your lunch in?

Priya: Tupperware.

Leila: Tupperware, me too. What about you Robin?

Robin: I'm a foil and Tupperware guy.

Leila: Are you?

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

Robin: They're like double-wrap yeah.

Priya: Who don't you trust?

Robin: I've been hurt. I've been hurt too many times.

Leila: Yeah I like a sandwich bag, I know they're very bad for the environment but that's yeah those are fine.

Priya: For me they get too loose and your sandwich like opens up and then what you get is like a bad salad.

Leila: Oh yeah, no but I but the sandwich back inside the Tupperware.

Priya: Oh right OK.

Leila: Do you know? But I should do foil, foil is better. Clingfilm can fuck itself.

Robin: I don't understand after the first one, like you know how Sellotape is quite tricky to get off when you're opening presents, how do you get Clingfilm off after like a month, because I just sort of get these little strings around and I'm kind of like tying a bow around different bits of food, it's fucking mad. Clingfilm can absolutely fuck off.

Priya: Once my partner made me lunch for work and all he made me was an empty pita bread.

Robin: [Laughs]

Priya: And when I got to work and found that my lunch was an empty pita bread [laughs] I text him and said 'What the fuck?' And he said 'I thought you could find some beans or something to put in it'.

Leila: Beans?

Robin: Beans! If you can find some beans. Like you're on fucking Comic Relief in the '90s.

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

Priya: Make your own lunch or otherwise you'll have an empty pita bread.

Leila: Oh my god.

Priya: And maybe you can find some beans to go in it.

Robin: [Laughs]

Leila: Oh my god, no, no, no, no.

Robin: Like not even like an actual filling?

Leila: Yeah give you some hummus.

Priya: I didn't ask him to make me the lunch, he offered.

Robin: I mean in fairness he didn't, he didn't make it.

Leila: Did he put a little juice carton? A little packet of crisps?

Priya: Nothing. And empty pita bread in a Tupperware container.

Robin: That is the worst meal deal [laughs].

Leila: And empty pita bread in a Tupperware container, wow.

Robin: At least its contents didn't spill anywhere because there was no contents in it.

Leila: Well that's one way to stop that problem from happening isn't it?

Robin: What did you expect to see in the pita bread?

Leila: I 100% expected to find beans because there's beans in everything he cooks.

Robin: [Laughs]

Leila: That's disgusting.

Priya: I didn't expect to have to find my own beans.

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

Robin: BYOB [laughs] What kind of beans? Like baked beans? Like Heinz beans?

Priya: Well like I said maybe a bean salad but Heinz beans is not out of the question and I imagine that's what he was suggesting when he said 'Find some beans'.

Robin: Find some beans [laughs].

Priya: Baked beans.

Robin: It's like a really romantic, you know those things where people are like 'Oh my partner has given me a romantic Valentine's Day treasure hunt'. And it's just 'Find beans for sustenance'.

Leila: Find beans. Wow. Yeah. Right back to this thing. I want to praise this man's business acumen because he's clearly a very good salesman if he can sell a gammy sandwich cooked from home. Cooked from home, made from home, he can sell anything.

Priya: Yeah. And if he's convincing her to make more than two sandwiches per day for him and passing that off as a completely normal request he's got the gift of the gab for sure.

Robin: You both sound like Sir Alan's aides in The Apprentice now. If he can sell sandwiches to co-workers then he's got the gift of the gab, it's good.

Leila: It's the sort of thing people go in and tell Alan Sugar isn't it? They go 'I've been on the streets since I was 12 selling sandwiches to all my peers. And I want to work for myself selling sandwiches to my peers.' I respect it, I really do.

Priya: Do you think he's the asshole for not wanting him to do it though?

Leila: No.

Priya: 'Cause I think she's completely in the right, no?

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

- Robin: I don't even think that was the question. I think the question is, am the asshole for not making them anymore? Like she's not annoyed that he's selling them. If he made them himself and sold them she'd be like fucking go for it. But it's because she's making it, she wants to get out of the assembly line.
- Priya: It's a dick move to sell the sandwiches and then give her none of the profit as well. The fact that he's selling it...
- Robin: Sure.
- Priya: ...so he can then afford to go out and eat fast food, I get it.
- Leila: The problem here, the prime issue here was financial right at the start?
- Priya: Yeah.
- Leila: \$20 a day on fast food. So how much is he selling these sandwiches for? Is she spending the same amount in ingredients that he'd be spending on fast food anyway? In which case she should save her time and just let him have the fast food.
- Robin: Yeah we'd need to see the spreadsheets wouldn't we?
- Priya: [Laughs] And we've also got to account for all of the labour as well, all of the labour in making the sandwiches and in selling the sandwiches.
- Robin: Sure.
- Priya: Because that's not an easy task, he's putting the work in.
- Robin: It's a tricky one. Is he the asshole for selling the food?
- Priya: Yes.
- Robin: No. But I think if he passed that profit on.

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

Leila: He said to her that she owes him an apology. So that is an asshole behaviour, he's an asshole for that.

Robin: Yes correct.

Priya: Yeah. Also asking her to increase productivity while getting none of the profit is an asshole move.

Leila: Yeah.

Priya: If a boss did that to you, it would not be OK. Also she doesn't know she's an employee of his at this point so [laughs].

Robin: That is classic Apprentice move.

Leila: Someone eating your sandwich from home that your wife made you, that feels a bit gross. Like it feels a bit like cheating.

Priya: Yeah it feels a bit...

Robin: Imagine if there were little notes in there like 'have a good day honey' and all his co-workers are just like, 'Nut!'

Leila: Yeah love and care went into that sandwich and you gave it to Martin from finance. I think yeah he's an asshole.

Priya: Yeah.

Robin: Yeah.

[Here to Judge- Interim Music]

[Promotion for I Wish I Was An Only Child- New Episodes Every Wednesday!]

[Here to Judge- Interim Music]

[Thud]

Leila: Oh my god, look what's just landed on my desk guys, it's the Here to Judge postbag and in it we've got a lovely CD

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

ROM and it says [Speaks in Welsh] on it. Should I put it on?

Robin: Pop it in the CD burner.

Priya: Yeah go on.

Leila: Yeah there you go.

Guest: 'I realise this sounds quite ridiculous (have name changed). DH my husband gave me his LG phone as he got a new upgrade. He left all the music on it because we like similar stuff. DS my son, aged 2, woke up very early this morning. So I got in his bed and I was playing music on the phone to him to let DH husband and DD, daughter, sleep until his alarm. In a folder marked 'unknown' I found these really long sound clips of disgusting, wet, loud, long farts. I have never heard farts like it. My son was laughing his head off and I did kind of giggle because they were so unbelievable. I thought that they must have been downloaded from the net or something. But at the end of one clip my son's unmistakable voice saying 'Daddy?'

Leila: [Draws breath]

Guest: 'The phone has a voice recorder on it. There's loads of them all dated, going back a year or so. There's even one from the day our baby daughter was born [cries]. When he woke up I said 'There's a lot of farts on that mobile you gave me'. He went quiet. Then mumbled that he wanted to attach them to an email to his mate or something. I said 'Oh OK' and left it. After he went out, I went back to the phone and he'd secretly deleted them all. Am I being unreasonable to think this is a bizarre hobby? To record yourself doing that? Mind you they were so extraordinary that I suppose he's quite proud of them. Have you ever discovered that your husband or partner does something secret and weird? I kind of want

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

to laugh and wind him up about it but I'm not sure if I should.'

Robin: This man is a fucking psychopath.

Priya: That's harrowing.

Leila: This man has a fetish for his own farts, that's exactly what this is. This is all this is.

Robin: Right?! Totally!

Priya: That's fine but it's the little 'Daddy?' at the end of one of them it's so harrowing and sinister.

Robin: Yeah delete that one.

Priya: Daddy?

Robin: Delete that one. Yeah because that sounds like it's one of the farts speaking to him that has escaped. [Laughs]

Priya: [Laughs]

Leila: Oh. I really hate it.

Robin: Yeah it was so thick.

Leila: Uh!

Priya: It's just so weird. She's so cool about though. The bit where they're like 'You've got a lot of farts on that phone, ha, ha, ha'. And even like the 'Am I being unreasonable?' question is just like, am I being unreasonable to think this is a bizarre hobby? Instead of being like should I be afraid?

Robin: Yeah, yeah.

Leila: And not even kink shaming because this is clearly, this is like some covert sexual activity, he's clearly ashamed and like.

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

Priya: I mean it's not harming anyone, him farting into his phone. Except for maybe his son who has questions. But it is weird to then hand the phone over without wiping it.

Robin: Yeah sure.

Priya: You know like, she probably won't find them.

Robin: And the staff at the LG store who have to like source it out every time. Well it's like it's clogged with something but we just don't know.

Priya: Oh no.

Robin: But what was the actual question? Am I being unreasonable for what?

Priya: For thinking it's a bizarre hobby.

Robin: I don't think she's being unreasonable. Equally I don't think he's being unreasonable. I think that they're both a bit timid around each other and they need to both fart in the family iPad and record it together [laughs].

Leila: I really hate this one.

Priya: I think this one's quite sweet.

Robin: [Laughs]

Leila: Ugh.

Priya: Like he's obviously nervous about his kink, but she's accepting of it and now all that needs to happen is that he needs to tell her that that's what he was doing. Emailing them is such a weird escalation.

Robin: Maybe he doesn't know how to use his phone. Maybe he's put them into Dropbox and his Dropbox is full and he just doesn't know how to do it you know?

Leila: Yeah.

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

- Robin: Maybe he doesn't know what the Cloud is.
- Priya: Are you saying that he has so many fart sounds that he cannot store them? His Dropbox doesn't have the capacity?
- Robin: I think it's the equivalent of like your iCloud storage is full, do you want to buy more? And he's like warrant £6.99 a month for farts, I just can't, I can't warrant it.
- Priya: I have a family to keep.
- Robin: Exactly I have a family to feed.
- Leila: OK well, hope we had fun.
- Robin: You hate this one so much Leila [laughs].
- Leila: I just want it to be over so badly. I want it to be over so badly. Please. Please.
- Robin: All I want to do is carry on talking about it. I've never seen you so kind of like anti one of these stories and all I want to do [laughs].
- Leila: Oh, I don't like it. I don't know what to say. I'm just really worried like oh I'm just worried about him. And his wife.
- Priya: He'll be OK his wife seems cool.
- Leila: Oh I don't like the thought of a showreel of farts.
- Robin: A showreel [laughs]
- Priya: I just realised that one of that kid's earliest memories is going to be listening to a fashion show of his dad's farts.
- Robin: A fashion show!
- Priya: If he's old enough to be laughing at it.
- Leila: No, no, no.
- Robin: Yeah that's true.

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

Priya: So he's going to remember that.

Robin: Maybe he's laughing just like, oh that was a really good one dad.

Leila: I think this should be against the law.

Robin: Farting in your phone or recording them? Do you think he edits them in Audacity?

Priya: I hope so.

Robin: [Laughs]

Leila: Oh stop! Please.

Robin: He's got a really good USB mike, he just wants to get the quality of it.

Leila: Please let this be done now.

Robin: [Laughs] OK let's move on.

Priya: Great.

Robin: [Laughs]

Priya: [Laughs]

[Here to Judge- Interim Music]

[Promotion for Welcome To Spooktown- New Episodes Every Monday]

[Here to Judge- Interim Music]

Robin: 'Am I being unreasonable to consider this excessive?' And this is from Gransnet. 'I needed new knickers, my local M&S didn't have the style and size that I wanted so I ordered it online, they've just arrived. Inside the plastic bag they travelled in were four pairs of pants, each neatly slotted onto a little plastic clothes hanger. Each hanger bore a folded card bearing details of the garment, style name, size, photograph, price and some selling points.

Each garment had a cardboard tag attached with one of those aggravating plastic toggle things bearing the barcode, product number, size and other information. Plus each garment also has an adhesive sticker attached approximately the size of a 2P coin, reading 'I'm in the knicker deal'. And just in case I was in any doubt about what I'd bought, each garment had its size, product numbers, branding and laundry instructions screen printed on it. Maybe months of lonely house arrest is getting to me and small things are looming too large in my mind, but where for goodness sake did the notion of putting knickers on hangers arrive? It's ludicrous! And why so much repeated product information? It's not necessarily, it's irritating and it's all adding to the tide of plastic detritus which is covering the planet. Am I being unreasonable?'

Priya: No but email Marks & Spencer's why are you on Gransnet? Although to be fair if you wanted to contact Marks and Spencer's that would be the place to do it.

Robin: Yeah, yeah, yeah, the admin of Gransnet is like the Chief Exec of Marks & Spencer's.

Leila: Like why are you singling out Marks & Spencer's like this?

Priya: Yeah.

Leila: I do think this is every single shop. Ever. Go after big Amazon.

Robin: Big Amazon [laughs].

Leila: Little Marks & Sparks, you know.

Robin: Little M&S! [laughs].

Leila: Little M&S...

Priya: This tiny family owned business.

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

Robin: Yeah I think this is a brag. I think this is a brag for Gransnet.

Priya: That she can afford M&S knickers.

Robin: No I'm buying new underwear. Don't ask what happened to the old ones. I'm just buying new ones you know? I'm a saucy lady.

Leila: I like M&S knickers, I'll say that right now.

Priya: They're great.

Leila: I think they're great knickers, cotton, comfy, nice.

Priya: If M&S could sponsor us, oh my god.

Leila: Yeah absolutely.

Robin: That's what I thought this was.

Leila: Although I will say I'm a bit fucking sick to death of Percy Pigs being everywhere.

Robin: Oh yeah. Right.

Priya: Yeah.

Leila: So that's really got to stop.

Robin: We got given, I don't know who by, a family member I don't know who it was. Percy Pig biscuits which were kind of like not shortbread but kind of just normal biscuits with a Percy Pig flavour filling. Imagine a...

Leila: No. No.

Robin: Like an Ice Gem.

Leila: Ugh.

Robin: It wasn't even, like I like but...

Leila: Stop!

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

- Priya: It just tasted of melted sweets.
- Robin: Yeah totally! Like sort of like it has been crushed, like it had been sort of stamped upon.
- Leila: They're going to ruin it.
- Priya: I had the Percy Pig pop, it's like the flavour of Percy Pig in a drink and it was, and I cannot stress this enough, rancid.
- Robin: It's just sugar!
- Leila: Yeah it all...
- Priya: It's so gross.
- Leila: I've gone off Percy Pigs now and they used to be the best.
- Priya: Yeah.
- Robin: I like the fizzy Percy Pigs and like the plain Percy Pigs.
- Leila: In the tails aren't they?
- Robin: Yeah the tails.
- Priya: The sweets though.
- Robin: Oh yeah totally.
- Priya: Yeah you're not talking about the drink?
- Robin: I'm not going for the Percy Pig fucking gammon roast that they've unleashed you know? [laughs]
- Leila: Yeah. A Percy Pig bouquet.
- Priya: No.
- Leila: Percy Pig toy, it's just get a grip, it's so, I'm not into it.
- Robin: There is no demand for it surely.
- Priya: No.

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

- Leila: Who is this marketing person? You're making me hate Percy Pig and you're making me hate M&S and this is really sad because I like their knickers.
- Robin: Sure, the Percy Pig knickers [laughs].
- Leila: Percy Pig knickers, I'm telling you we are one step away.
- Priya: With a little tail on the back [laughs].
- Robin: Yeah [laughs].
- Leila: Oh my god. Do you know we're one minute away from that. I bet it exists there we are, found it.
- Robin: It's so mad isn't it? Like they literally went people quite like these so let's turn it into EVERYTHING! Like they just went fucking crazy [laughs].
- Leila: Although that is like so indicative of every, I'm trying to think of other examples.
- Robin: I've got the equivalent, Percy Pig are the culinary minions.
- Leila: Yes! Oh my God!
- Priya: Yeah.
- Robin: And also Angry Birds to a point as well.
- Leila: Angry Birds!
- Robin: And Battle of the Angry Birds. I don't know if you guys like football but football teams try and sell as much space on their shirts as possible now, they're becoming sort of like F1 drivers. So Everton have sold their space there that just says the word Angry Birds. It's just like, as if people are going to go 'Oh James Rodriguez's shoulder looks really good, I'm going to download fucking Angry Birds'. It's bananas.

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

Leila: No it's ridiculous. I wanted to ask a question which is, is it ethical to feed a pig a Percy Pig?

Robin: Is it going to turn them into mad, is that how BSE started?

Priya: Hmm?

Leila: I'll tell you what I think it is ethical and I'll tell you why, it's because they make them all vegetarian. And so what I do believe is that it's probably the equivalent of feeding one of us a Jelly Baby, because it's not actually a baby.

Robin: Or a Potato Smiley.

Leila: Yeah that's true.

Priya: Oh my god.

Leila: But I'm not very happy so [laughs] I don't think...

Priya: It doesn't represent you [laughs].

Leila: Yeah, no it doesn't represent me. Is there a potato frown anywhere? A big potato...

Robin: [Laughs] You turn it upside down or something.

Priya: [Laughs]

Robin: Potato apathy.

Leila: That's the name of this podcast episode isn't it?

Priya: [Laughs]

Robin: [Laughs]

Leila: Oh god. Knickers from M&S.

Priya: Knickers.

Robin: Knickers. I don't think she's being unreasonable to consider all of the plastic packaging excessive. I'd be

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

slightly harsher I think if it wasn't on Gransnet because I think she is just trying to start a conversation.

Leila: Yeah she is the Greta Thunberg of Gransnet.

Robin: Yeah.

Priya: She is.

Leila: She's sat in the middle of Gransnet with her little bit of paper saying 'This is wrong'.

Priya: And I like the phrase 'tied a plastic detritus'.

Robin: Yeah she's good isn't she?

Priya: That's going to be the name of my punk band.

Leila: Yeah.

Robin: So you're not unreasonable, you're not unreasonable Enid.

Leila: You're not unreasonable.

Priya: But do email Marks & Spencer's if you can figure out Gransnet, you can figure out how to get in touch with Marks & Spencer.

Leila: Yeah.

Robin: No she's so deep in QAnon right now, she's a lost cause.

Priya: [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

Here to Judge- Potato Apathy

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[End of Podcast]