

Russell T Davies enjoys a taste of home with our smoky seafood paella



[theme music plays]

ANGELA HARTNETT: Coming up on Dish

NICK GRIMSHAW: with Russell T Davies.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Call me the Masher.

ANGELA HARTNETT: The Masher. *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: The Masher.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Or don't.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No.

[everyone laughs]

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That would be a crime. I'd report you. I'd like go to Jay Rayner and report you to the—

NICK GRIMSHAW: Jay Rayner.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh my God.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Food police. He's the food police.

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]* Straight on to Jay Rayner.

ANGELA HARTNETT: God, that's a threat if ever there was one. Jeepers.

[crew laughs]

NICK GRIMSHAW: And then when you went to other people's houses when you were a kid—

RUSSELL T DAVIS: There they were having fish fingers.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You were like, “What’s this.”

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I was like, “What the hell?”

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]* “What is that?”

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I was like, I was like Little Lord Fauntleroy going, “Where's my coquille Saint-Jacques?”

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: Dish from Waitrose is a Cold Glass production. This podcast may contain some strong language and adult themes.

[theme music ends]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Hello, uh, welcome to Dish from Waitrose. I'm Nick Grimshaw.

ANGELA HARTNETT: And I'm Angela Hartnett.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Hello, Angela Hartnett.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Hello, Nicholas Grimshaw.

NICK GRIMSHAW: How are you?

ANGELA HARTNETT: I'm good, thank you.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Get in that microphone.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I'm there.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You're microphone averse.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I know. It's not natural.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You're very like that, playing it cools with the mic.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, I don't want to drop it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: How are you? You alright?

ANGELA HARTNETT: I'm good, thank you. And you?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, good, thank you. I'm excited about our guest today, we have Russell.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Have you met him before?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Russell T Davies? Never met.

ANGELA HARTNETT: That's quite incredible, really.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Never met Russell T Davies-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -who'll be our guest, of course, on Dish in a second.

ANGELA HARTNETT: He's written everything and anything that's out there.

NICK GRIMSHAW: He has, yeah. So, we'll know him, of course-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -from Queer as Folk, It's a Sin, uh, with Doctor Who, of course-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Of course.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -which was his favourite TV show when he was a kid-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -and then he ended up running the show. But he'll be here as well to talk about his new memoir, uh, which is called *The Queerest of Folk: A Life in Television*.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So, we'll be talking to, uh, Russell T Davies about that in a little a while. You know, he also, uh, wrote for the, I believe, BAFTA-winning show *Chuckle Vision*.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, did he?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I did not know that.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah. Did you ever get into that?

ANGELA HARTNETT: No.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, fantastic series.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Aw.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Absolutely fantastic.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Love it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: *Chuckle*, *Chuckle Vision*. *Chuckle Vision*.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: I met the Chuckle Brothers.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Of course.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No doubt.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Had them on the radio once.

ANGELA HARTNETT: And fun.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I got them to do a session with Tinchy Strider.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: Anyway, hey, Dish Live is coming up.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Very soon.

NICK GRIMSHAW: We're gonna be back-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -at the Royal Opera House.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: When we announced the tickets-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -they, you know, they went crazy-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Sold.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -like, in like an hour and a half.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I thought it was 30 minutes. 30 minutes I was told.

NICK GRIMSHAW: 30 minutes?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Something crazy.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No, I do want to, I do want to know though, who has tapped you up for guest list? Because did you get a lot of messages from people being like, "I want to come to Dish Live!"

ANGELA HARTNETT: Uh, my friends did, because apparently, I said at one moment I'd get them tickets-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -so they're sorted.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah. So, who's coming?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Ema, Sears, Lorraine, Lara, and Nicola.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Okay.

ANGELA HARTNETT: And then I don't know if I've even got Neil a ticket, to be honest.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, okay great.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I'm not sure Neil's that fussed about it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No, I don't think Neil's heard it. Neil does not need this.

ANGELA HARTNETT: He doesn't need to come.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Neil doesn't.

ANGELA HARTNETT: And I think Anne and Salvatore are coming.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, I've got, um, confirmed attending, Eileen Grimshaw.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, excellent.

NICK GRIMSHAW: The, the 2 aunties.

ANGELA HARTNETT: 'Cause Eileen didn't come last one, did she?

NICK GRIMSHAW: She didn't come last time. She's away.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah, she's away.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: She's got better things to do.

NICK GRIMSHAW: She's got better things to do. She's on her holidays.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Auntie Sheila, Auntie Angela.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Lovely.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Locked in.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Love Auntie Angela.

NICK GRIMSHAW: They'll be down there.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Excellent.

NICK GRIMSHAW: The rest, TBC.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: We should try and get Eileen on the stage.

ANGELA HARTNETT: We should do.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: She's got a fan base.

NICK GRIMSHAW: She's got some great recipes from my childhood.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It was amazing. She'd like peel the lid off, put it in the oven.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Put it in the microwave.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, amazing.

ANGELA HARTNETT: She could show me.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: She could show me. Show me how to use a microwave.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right, should we get Russell T Davies

ANGELA HARTNETT: Let's get him in.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Let's get him in.

[theme music plays]

[cheering and applause]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Come on!

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Hello, how are you?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Hi, Russell! Welcome.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'm gorgeous! Hello.

ANGELA HARTNETT: How are you?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh lovely. Hello, you.

NICK GRIMSHAW: How are you doing?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Very well, I'm very excited to be here.

ANGELA HARTNETT: We're excited to have you in here.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Aw, thank you for coming.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I think it's the first time we're meeting. How come we've never met?

NICK GRIMSHAW: I don't know.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I'm amazed you two have never met.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I don't know.

ANGELA HARTNETT: He's met everyone.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You once cooked downstairs. I once did Jay Rayner's podcast at Murano.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, right.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, I had your food, but you weren't there.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, that's right. Yeah, of course.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Come on in. I'm gonna get you sat down.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Thank you.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Come through.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And then I'm gonna get you something to eat, something to drink.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I can't believe how cool it is. I'm never gonna leave this chair.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No, it's so nice.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Like, get your next guest in, I'll just be sitting here.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, just gonna be- *[laughs]*

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Lovely.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Imagine.

[theme music plays]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Well, Angela, I feel like we should welcome our guest.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: To Dish. Uh, we have the pleasure of a TV writer, producer, and show creator-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -who is always looking for fresh plots-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Crikey.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -a gripping storyline, central characters. This is our big audition.

ANGELA HARTNETT: This is our audition.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Please welcome the wonderful Russell T Davies, everybody!

[cheering and applause]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Hi, Russell.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Hello.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Hey, how are you?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Can I say, sitting here, the most beautiful pairs of eyelashes in the world-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Aw.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Aw.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -both of you.

ANGELA HARTNETT: That's very kind.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You're fully eyelashed up. I expected it, of Angela.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yours are sensational.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Thank you so much.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Fran is gonna be so pleased to hear this.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: *[laughs]*

ANGELA HARTNETT: 'Cause I'm always saying, too much, too much.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Too much.

ANGELA HARTNETT: She's going, “No, babes, not enough!”

NICK GRIMSHAW: I'm like not enough.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's not working. I don't know who to flirt with.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah. *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: Not enough. Keep 'em coming.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Flirt with us both. Flirt with us both.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Keep 'em coming.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'm so pleased to be here.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh my God.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Thank you, thank you.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Thank you for coming to see us. And how are you? How is life at the moment?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'm good, I'm good-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -I'm good. I'm here-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -I'm on The Dish. Literally, you do these things, every single friend of mine's going, "Oh my God, you're on the Dish."

ANGELA HARTNETT: Really?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'm not saying that so that you cook nicely.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's like, honestly, you're big, you're big. You're huge. Big success.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh well, thank you.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Thank you, oh, that's really.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, this is a good one.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Good booking, I feel, Ange. Good booking.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: We're starting with a cup of tea.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: That was your request.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: My, I know. Is that boring?

NICK GRIMSHAW: No.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: No, Tetley. Oh, you're very, very good. Always in this mug, a yellow Pantone mug.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Is that your favourite?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Is it specifically yellow?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It is. So much so that I've kind of bought up the supplies. I've got spares galore, 'cause you drop them over the years.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, right, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And I'm so boring that I've planned ahead to those years when they break, and I will never run out.

ANGELA HARTNETT: What star sign are you?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, don't do those bollocks.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, no, I wanna know.

[everyone laughs]

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, Russell, you need to tell me, 'cause I've got a friend who's obsessive like you with things like that, and we're the same star sign, and I said, "You're a nutter." And I'm just hoping you're a nutter as well.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, good, great, great, great. Well, I am a Taurus.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, no, means nothing to me.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You, see?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, okay.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I mean, it's nothing.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Proof that it's like—

NICK GRIMSHAW: Good start calling the guest a nutter.

[everyone laughs]

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, no, no. She's only—

NICK GRIMSHAW: Why, what are you?

ANGELA HARTNETT: I'm Virgo, and we're supposed to be like that, wanting everything-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right, right, right.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -in its place, and that is not me at all.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh tight, right, right. You really? You mean 1/12 of the population doesn't share the same characteristics? I'm amazed.

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: What a load of rubbish.

ANGELA HARTNETT: So wrong. So wrong.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Ange, very off brand for you to go star sign.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I never, I don't believe in it.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'm alarmed.

ANGELA HARTNETT: That's why I was curious.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, I'm alarmed, Russell wants to leave now.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You are dodging the issue. Do you believe in them?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Um-

ANGELA HARTNETT: He does, yeah!

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Ah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Ah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -no, I don't. I don't. I just—

ANGELA HARTNETT: More than I do. Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That's a yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No, I don't read them.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Right.

NICK GRIMSHAW: But if someone tells me something about my star sign that's complimentary, I'm like, right-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh fine.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -yeah, that's very us.

[everyone laughs]

NICK GRIMSHAW: That's very us, actually. Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: That's yeah, we're like that, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: That's very us.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Does that happen?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Um, not really.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Never, never.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I'm a Leo, so no, not really.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: People tend not to like us. Um, hey, the T— because the T in Russell T Davies, I never knew this until very recently.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: T.

ANGELA HARTNETT: T.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's, It's-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's made up.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's a made-up T.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Do you know that another Russell Davies? He does things on Radio 4?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes, yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Once I got £250 for a play he'd written.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I never gave it back.

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I kept that.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Good on you.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, um, so you had, like actors, I kind of had to put another initial in.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, right.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And then I remember my first ever credit, I was sitting in the office going, Russell S. Davies or Russell B. Davies? And I went, Russell T Davies, that'll do.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And the next day someone said to me, oh, like James T. Kirk.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I was like, oh-

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh right. Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: As a Doctor Who fan, that hurts.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's like a Star Trek thing.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes, yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: But Russell T Davies, it does work. The T's great.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Do you know-

NICK GRIMSHAW: -yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -I can't bear it. It's like, it's so, and I get really snotty about it. There's never a dot after it. 'Cause I sit there going, it's not short for anything. It's just a T.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's just a T.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's like that. And I go mad if someone puts a dot in.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No dot.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No dot anyone.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, so please no dot.

ANGELA HARTNETT: He notices.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Please. Okay, no dot. Thank you.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's weird. It's kind of a bit false to me.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's like-

NICK GRIMSHAW: I quite like it.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Okay.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, I quite like it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, but you've been honest about it. You've told everyone why you've done it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: How do you take your tea, Russell T Davies?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'll tell you how I take my tea. Yes. You put it in 7 minutes, but you don't stir it, you don't mash it. You put milk in first, obviously.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Right.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And you don't stir it; you don't mash it. You leave it for 7 minutes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: All those murmurs from the audience.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You're all wrong.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Just an ordinary old Tetley tea bag, and then you lift it out, no mashing, no stewing.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Perfect.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Okay.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, I agree, don't smush it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, but why milk them first? Because there's murmurings here.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Because I'll tell you what, it tastes better. And my boyfriend never did that. I've got a lovely boyfriend, called Oliver, who used to say I was mad. I've started teaching him and indoctrinating him, and he's finally turned around and go, that's better.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Wow.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That's a scientific test.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Scientific test.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Proved.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Proved there.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, right proven.

NICK GRIMSHAW: How do you do your tea, Ange?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Well, I do green tea, so I don't even do any of that-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -nonsense.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, green tea? Horoscopes?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

[crew laughs]

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You must have done—

NICK GRIMSHAW: Who is this?

ANGELA HARTNETT: What a new person!

NICK GRIMSHAW: Who are you?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: She's made of hemp.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: Now, um, we're going to talk about your book today.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Hooray!

NICK GRIMSHAW: And the reason we're gonna start talking about tea is, well, we're tea fans.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: But also, there's a great story about you and a cup of tea and Kate Bush.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Could you fill us in on this story?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Well, it's mortifying because Kate Bush's son-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -she'd probably hate the fact I'm making an industry out of her name, but here I am telling the story.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: But here I am telling the story.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Um, was a big Doctor Who fan-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and we used to send them gifts and things like that. So, one day she wrote to me personally, handwritten on a card, saying, thank you so much, and please come for tea with Kate Bush. And I was so scared.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Like, what? How? She's a recluse.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You've been invited round? And I was so scared, I kind of left it for 6 months.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And then with every passing month, it got worse. Oh, it'd be rude if I reply now. And then one day I got home, and my friend Tracy was there, used to be a friend. And, um, she said, oh, I've had a good tidy up. I've cleared away all that stuff. Kate Bush's telephone number had been swept away-

NICK GRIMSHAW: No!

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -into the rubbish.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Is that like, I mean, you just don't do it. She's royalty.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: She's beyond royalty. She's godlike.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's like, you don't do that to Kate Bush.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, my I once told that story, and then she got in touch saying, I'd still like to be have a cup of tea with you. Leave me alone, woman, for God's sake!

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: She's obsessed!

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And then COVID came along.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So that vanished, and I'm not sure that number works anymore.

NICK GRIMSHAW: But it sounds like she's got, you know, still keeping—

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You never hear—

ANGELA HARTNETT: She's listening to stuff you do.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Hey, leave me alone, Katy.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, leave you alone.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Would you go round? Would you do it?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Now I would.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Cool.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Now. It's like, literally, when she gave those concerts, those recent concerts—

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -I booked a ticket. And I thought then that my husband was ill that day.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, I just, I like to think there was an empty seat sitting there—

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -with a spotlight on it for-

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -where I should have been.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And we've got to talk about the food connection-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -with you and Dish, because a trilogy of food shows, of course.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, yes, I did, of course.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Cucumber, Banana, and Tofu.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And Tofu.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes, yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Talk to us about those food groups, please.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Well, those food groups are scientifically-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -a measurement gauge for erections.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Scientifically?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I don't know which one of you to look in the eye.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: Scientifically?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Scientifically.

NICK GRIMSHAW: What, a scientist is saying banana?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Well, a scientist in Switzerland.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Which is kind of cheating. We could all say we're scientists in Switzerland, really. But, no, genuinely, the hardest, cucumber.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: In the middle, banana.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Soft, tofu.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Soft tofu?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Soft tofu, oh.

[crew laughs]

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes, apparently.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Wow.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Apparently, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Wow, okay.

[everyone laughs]

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Tofu, obviously. I know that's like no, genuinely-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -in research, that was like a gauge of-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -of measuring men-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and erectile problems they may have-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -or erectile triumphs they may have.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes. So, I thought that's a good title for a television show.

[theme music plays]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Now, not a huge surprise. We always ask our guests to give us their food likes and dislikes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yours was written beautifully.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, thank you.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: My job.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I mean, it's what you'd expect. Your job.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah. Your great love that we took from this list is ice cream.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, yes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: We heard you never will refuse an ice cream.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Never, never. You know, you go through a meal, and you go to a restaurant, and you don't really want a dessert-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and everyone's like, "Oh, no thanks."

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Like that. And I'm thinking, and I order the ice cream.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, go for it.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I just won't ever turn down an opportunity. Yeah. And you never, you never really have a bad ice cream, do you?

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, no you don't.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: There's no such thing. Even if you buy like a tub of the cheapest-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -tackiest vanilla. It's tasty.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's cold and tasty.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, no. We have a theory, my friend Luke and I, that every dessert is trying to be ice cream.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Because it is the best dessert.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You, see?

ANGELA HARTNETT: It's true.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And that's what— in Swansea-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -we have old-fashioned ice cream parlours.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Of course, you've got all the Italians.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And there's a place called Joe's-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -which kind of runs through my family. Many of in the '20s, my grandmother was engaged to Joe Cascarini.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I could have been an ice cream empire.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Wow.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You could have been yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Why did she finish with him? Why? It's like, I would have that. I wouldn't be writing at all.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes, you wouldn't.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'd be running the ice cream shop.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You'd be running the ice cream.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: But it's still there. And they only really do vanilla.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And it's gorgeous. You see, the other day, The Guardian did like the best ice cream makers.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And I sat there thinking, shall I buy myself an ice cream maker?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'd just disappear.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'd never go out again.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: Never write anything ever again.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Why would I ever do anything apart from eat ice cream.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Just write ice cream recipes?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Just do that, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And get normal, be like Mr. Curiouso.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, it's like, it's like fighting it off.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: My neighbour, Joe next door-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -he got an ice cream machine one Christmas-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -and he made ice cream for us. And he made us and dropped it round. We had like a party.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You may well have been there.

ANGELA HARTNETT: May well have been.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And then he came round the next day with a thank you and it was, he made a kilo of panettone ice cream.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, that would've been good.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh wow.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And I ate it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: A kilo?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, I ate a kilo of it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You must have been hanging the next day.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I was.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: I ate it all and it was so good.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Excuse me a moment while I go to the food. Need to do something.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh yes, please.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Need to check it on.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Thank you.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, okay, bye. Bye, yeah. Well, how do you feel about frozen yoghurt? 'Cause I know it's sort of ice cream's sort of—

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I've never really been there.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: 'Cause if that's there, there's probably ice cream next to it. So, I just go for the ice cream.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So, you just go for the- Yeah, yeah. Don't like frozen yogurt.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'd try it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, I'm a big fan, big fan. Now, you come from a great family of food lovers.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Well, I do, yes, yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And, and, and your mum was a great cook, right?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: She was astonishing.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's like, I mean, she was from ordinary Swansea stock.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: They were poor as church mice, and they lived out in the Gower. When she was young, her father used to hang her over the cliff tops of Gower by her legs to get plovers' eggs from the nests.

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]* God.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: What? And she'd come up with them.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Wow.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: But then they moved to, so somehow outta that, she grew up to being a huge food lover.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And she became a teacher, but like in the '60s and '70s, in a completely ordinary little Swansea house, she'd cook us osso buco.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Wow.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: She'd cook like coquilles Saint-Jacques. She got and actually, she cooked spaghetti bolognese, which then was not cooked everywhere by everyone.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: When it did come along, I was like, “Oh yeah, that old thing,” like that.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, we've had that.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, she was just amazing. And I absolutely swear to God, this is true, the day she died, the day of her funeral, the oven broke.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Wow.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Which is really weird and symbolic and strange.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Wow. So, did you look forward to her cooking?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Was it just normal

NICK GRIMSHAW: Was it something you enjoyed?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah, she was fantastic. And give her a roast to make, fantastic, everything.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: She was making lasagna before people made lasagnas.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's like she had this incredible, she lived in that kitchen.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: She was just there full-time.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Aw.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And she had a, she was a job; she was a teacher. But whenever she was home, you just wouldn't see her. She'd just be cooking, cooking, cooking.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, she loved it, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, wow. And then when you went to other people's houses when you were a kid—

RUSSELL T DAVIS: There they were having fish fingers.

NICK GRIMSHAW: We're you like “What's this?”

RUSSELL T DAVIS: “What the hell?”

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]* “What is that?”

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I was like little Lord Fauntleroy, “Where's my coquille Saint-Jacques?” *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Can you imagine?

NICK GRIMSHAW: As a kid, like, “I don't want this.”

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I was Lord Snoop. *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: And then did that sort of inspire you to cook yourself? Do you like to cook now?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: No, 'cause I was like that-

NICK GRIMSHAW: No.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -stupid little, once mother done it all, I didn't bother.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, and then the rest of my life regretted it. My sister's a great cook-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -so they picked it up. I was that boy, wasn't I? I was that boy-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -thank you, Mum, at the kitchen, off I went. So, I'm not a terrible cook, but I'm not great.

NICK GRIMSHAW: What was the one thing that you think was the dish that your mum did that takes you back to childhood?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, to child, oh, actually it would be the Sunday roast.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: 'Cause that was always, I mean-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -everyone will say that, but it was. And we'd all sit around in those days. There were no, no one was on their phones in those days. No one was watching the telly. And a Christmas dinner, oh my God, she did the most spectacular Christmas dinner, which my sisters have continued the tradition-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -of pork and turkey.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, wow.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Not just one. It's like you can't have one meat-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -you have them all. Amazing. Really amazing.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Fantastic.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Delish.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I love that.

NICK GRIMSHAW: The dislikes was a shortlist.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: One item really, liver.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Liver. The only other thing really is spices.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So now that, what's happened to the world? There's chilli f***** flake in everything.

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]*

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I mean, gee, have a cup of tea with chilli flakes on it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I do tend to agree with you. Everyone's gone mad.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Everything has to have a weird chilli flake and it just obliterates all flavour, doesn't it?

ANGELA HARTNETT: You can't taste anything when you over-spice it.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Why don't you come and burn your mouth in front of me?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Why?

NICK GRIMSHAW: But certain things, there's sort of waves of stuff happening.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Where everything's like chilli flavoured. Yeah. And then everything's like truffle flavoured.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I think chilli's permanent.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I think it's locked in.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You think it's locked in?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's like salt, pepper, and chilli now.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That's part of the whole—

ANGELA HARTNETT: It's like hot honey now. You have this spicy hot honey.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, don't even start.

[everyone laughs]

RUSSELL T DAVIS: What a load of rubbish, honestly. The amount of times you have to sit there going, no, and people always then think you're allergic.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: They go, oh, I'm sorry about your allergy. I don't believe in them either.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah.

[crew laughs]

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]*

ANGELA HARTNETT: I'm with you there. Got a gluten here. *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: We're in trouble now.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: But people then think you're allergic and there's a big one, oh, get all the chillies out the room. No, I just hate them. That's all.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Is there chillies today?

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, no chilli.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: In paella?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That would be a crime.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'd report you.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: To, to-

[crew laughs]

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'd like go to Jay Rayner and report you to the—

NICK GRIMSHAW: Jay Rayner.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh my God.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Food police.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Straight on to Jay Rayner. *[laughs]*

ANGELA HARTNETT: That's a threat if ever there was one. Jeepers.

[crew laughs]

NICK GRIMSHAW: I want to talk to you as well about your cutlery and crockery situation.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: This is interesting.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm. *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: This is interesting.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You've made me sound really attractive.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No, it actually is. Because you have a house in Swansea.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I do.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And you have a house in Manchester.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'm very lucky.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And you have the same cutlery.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's kind of first world problems because not many people have 2 houses and I'm very lucky. But I have exactly the same crockery-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and cutlery and the Pantone mugs-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -in both houses-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -because that's what, then you know, then you feel at home.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You're at home.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Right okay.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's the fork.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It just, you're not like, oh, where's the plate?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Every meal feels the same.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Okay.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So, do you have a specific fork, either of you actually? Is there one?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Because Me- Mesh will, ours is all like, random-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -bits of like all different forks. And he was always like, "Not that one."

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I can't think, mine were just from Debenhams, but they're very un- un-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -uncluttered. They're not fancy.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: They're simple like that actually.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That's what I was thinking.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah. Do you have one, Ange?

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, mine are simple. Like, you know, just something that feels good in your hand, isn't it?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Nothing, yeah, no, simple, easy.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: No curls.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, nothing.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: No candles.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No, no, no nonsense.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Exactly, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah, yeah, these are good.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, thank you.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'm having those.

ANGELA HARTNETT: John Lewis.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I made those myself, yeah.

[crew laughs]

NICK GRIMSHAW: I made those myself.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: *[laughs]*

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So, if we were to come round—

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Is that the most fascinating fact you could dig up about me?

NICK GRIMSHAW: I actually did like it.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I was gonna say.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Done quite a lot of work. Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I like a specific thing. I like that you have the same ones.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I did like that. If we were to come around for tea, I heard you do a thing of cooking 8 vegetables a night.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'm not a good cook because what I really do is heat things up.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Right.

NICK GRIMSHAW: That's cooking.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That's cooking. But I think that magic— I think cooking happens when something goes with something and then it tastes of something else.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's like a third thing. I think that's what cooking is to me. And that's why I love restaurants. I love going to restaurants. But I really didn't ever cook. I managed; I was fine.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Then my husband fell ill-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -so I kind of thought, oh, I better take over the cooking because he used-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -to cook really. And so, he had brain cancer. And you know what? So, he didn't have long to live, bless him. He was given about 18 months to live. He actually ended up living for 8 years. But when he was ill, I kind of said, well, I take over the cooking. And also, you know what it's like? Friends were queuing up to say, go on a macro diet, go on a micro diet-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh right, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -eat flaxseeds for the rest of your life.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And I sat there going, do you know what? You're dying-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and I'm not gonna make you sit and eat flaxseeds.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You're gonna have a really nice time-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, of course.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and eat. But I said, what we can do is be as healthy as you possibly can.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah, sure.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Which we kind of loved. And so, I do no sauces, no, I tried doing gravies for a little bit and I went, that's it. You are now, it's definitely the cure to cancer is no gravy.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I told him that, he believed me.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And he swallowed that one. And so, you might have a bit of fish, or you might have a bit of chicken-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -or you might have a pork steak or something. But I would do 8 or 9 vegetables.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Wow.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It kind of grew.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I started out with 5 vegetables and that was kind of fun. And I got into the cooking; I got into the timing of it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I kind of loved all that.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Nice.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And now it got up to about 9. And well, I'm kind of proof that fruit and vegetables aren't healthy.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: 'Cause look at me, I should be-

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -the healthiest person in the world. 9 vegetables every night.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Every night.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Wow.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I know.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Well, I'm gonna get you some rice and, you know, fish and meat-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -not vegetables.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No vegetables.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I'm not getting you no vegetables.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I know. The dish I've chosen has no veg.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No, no veg whatsoever.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's an escape for me.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, so take the day off.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You've had enough. You've had enough this week.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: Well, we're gonna have a paella in a second,

RUSSELL T DAVIS: which I love.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, so this is something that you—

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I do cook this.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -that you like, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Although I do it with like a paella mix.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Sorry, there's no actual saffron in my hand.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I've never made a paella—

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -but I always feel like— Maybe I could, Ange.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, it's kind of simple. I mean, look-

NICK GRIMSHAW: I love a paella

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -Angela isn't even breaking a sweat, let's be honest.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No, exactly, come on. She's doing this.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: She's doing this.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: She's actually-

ANGELA HARTNETT: It's my first paella I have, you know?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh!

NICK GRIMSHAW: Is it really?

ANGELA HARTNETT: So, I don't know what— yeah, I have no idea.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh my God, it might be awful.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, it might be yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Imagine.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I mean, it really could be awful.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Wouldn't that be brilliant.

NICK GRIMSHAW: That's quite rare on Dish that we have a first.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Why have you never done this before?

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, we do risotto. I do all the Italian things, you see.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, that's true.

ANGELA HARTNETT: So, it's, it's really hard not to stir it, 'cause that's what you naturally do.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: So, I think I can understand why you like it. You just leave it-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Just leave it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -and it does its thing.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It just absorbs it all.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You just leave it.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah, yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, it does it all.

[theme music plays]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh my God. Right, Angela.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: This is very nice.

NICK GRIMSHAW: The first Paella on a dish.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Wow.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That's gorgeous.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I love paella.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I was really happy that you wanted to have this, Russell. Ange, tell us how this smoky seafood paella-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Okay.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -began.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Okay. So, you start off with a pan, a little bit of olive oil.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Then add your sliced chorizo, and you basically sauté that off for a tiny amount.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm, it's good.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Then you add your onion and garlic, sweat that down for about 2 to 3 minutes. Then add your roasted peppers that you've cut into big slices.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: And then add your smoked paprika and tomato puree.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Just roast that for a minute or 2, then add your rice. And then once you add your rice, you add your stock in, and you basically cook it for about 10 minutes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You don't do anything.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And it's paella rice?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, paella rice.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: So, you just leave it to stand. Then after about 10 minutes, I added the seafood.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: So, we've got mussels here, we've got some clams here, some prawns. And then I've also added a little bit of chicken in there as well, which I cooked beforehand.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: So, I added that in. And then cook it for about another 5 minutes and then you let it rest. And then, you know, the idea apparently when you rest it, then you can either turn it up. I mean, you know how to get that crispy bit underneath.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You have to turn it up.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Gorgeous.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: But that I haven't quite mastered without, I mean, Russell said it's fine, but I think I'm burning it at the bottom. I need to speak to him.

NICK GRIMSHAW: But I like those bits.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, no, that's all right. It's not too-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -and then finish it with a touch of lemon and parsley and there you go.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: That's it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's really good.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Well, I'm glad you guys like it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Really tasty.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Lovely.

ANGELA HARTNETT: 'Cause you're paella fans.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Fantastic.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And I haven't had a paella in ages, so.

ANGELA HARTNETT: There you go.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Me neither.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Lovely. Cheers, Russell.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Cheers.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Cheers, Russell.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's nice to be here.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Thank you so much for coming. Cheers, cheers, cheers. And we're having it with a white wine pairing.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: What is the pairing, Ange?

ANGELA HARTNETT: We've got a lovely Spanish dry white. The Waitrose Blueprint Verdejo.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Right.

ANGELA HARTNETT: There we go. Beautiful.

NICK GRIMSHAW: We were talking about this before. Do you normally do like a meat paella and a fish paella?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Apparently. Well, no, normally, isn't it, you have rabbit or chicken-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -in with fish.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: But you don't, you're right, you don't have chorizo in it.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: No.

ANGELA HARTNETT: That's a real bad Spanish no-no.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: But you put chorizo in every meal, wouldn't you?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Why not?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Lovely.

ANGELA HARTNETT: But I think it's probably something that every mother or grandmother has their own way of doing it-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -and then everyone follows that way-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -I imagine.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Exactly.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's really tasty and sounds like quite a simple thing to make.
Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I think you can do it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That's why I made it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah. It's actually quite simple.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Quite simple and actually really tasty.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I also feel like if you went to someone's house on a Friday night for tea and they've made paella.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I'd be like, oh, they know what they're doing.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I know, you'd be quite impressed by that.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, there you go, you see.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Perfect.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Really good. Thank you, Ange.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Pleasure.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Glad you both enjoyed it.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Thank you so much.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, thank you. Phew.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I can't believe it's your first paella. That's like—

ANGELA HARTNETT: Phew. I was worried.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Historic.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I know.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It is.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: *[laughs]*

ANGELA HARTNETT: Well, of all the people to make one-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Aw.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -very privileged, Russell.

NICK GRIMSHAW: If you wanna try this recipe-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -or any of the recipes we do-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -[waitrose.com/dishrecipes](https://www.waitrose.com/dishrecipes).

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: All the ingredients, the how-to are on there.

[theme music plays]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Should we talk about Russell's book?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Please.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Ba-ba-ba!

ANGELA HARTNETT: Ba-ba-ba!

NICK GRIMSHAW: Ba-ba-ba!

RUSSELL T DAVIS: There should be a little fanfare. It does look pretty.
Ba-ba-ba!

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, it comes with a free fanfare.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: All right.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: The Queerest of Folk: A Life in Television.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: *[in a French accent]* 'A life in television.'

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[in a French accent]* 'A life in television.'

RUSSELL T DAVIS: *[laughs]*

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: We shouldn't judge a book by its cover, but I will.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, but there I am.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's good. It's good.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's good. Talk to us about writing this, because obviously you write for a living, but it's not necessarily about yourself.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: How was it to sit down and reflect on your life and to create this?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I mean, the funny thing is, you set out to write about the television programme, and it does become about myself.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Because you know that your work and your life is kind of indivisible, really, especially when you're enjoying yourself-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and having a good time. And so, I set out to write about all the shows I'd ever done. But then that becomes the story of who I am and where I'm living. Like, I went to live in LA. And my husband, who I mentioned, I mean, it very much and it's an honour to write about him very much follows the course of how we met. We met just before Queer as Folk came out. So, he kind of met me in normal days.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And then my life went mad, and he was there. And he was a civil servant. He paid all that television stuff no attention whatsoever.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Where did you're like first sort of fascination with TV begin? What were the shows that you were—

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Well, it was Doctor Who.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Right okay.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's my first memory when I was about 3 years old. Genuinely. I remember that. I remember episodes that are missing from the archives. They are there in my head.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, it's strange, isn't it? I ended up writing it. I find that so lucky. I've been very, very luck-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -in life really.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And when then was telly sort of encouraged in your house? 'Cause you often find a lot of-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -people that, you know, or great directors as well, they watched-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -so much TV.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Everything. And the amazing thing about Mum and Dad was, who were quite bookish people, they were both teachers, so with a house full of books, but it's like they thought you couldn't turn off the telly.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Right.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's like they had an enormous respect for it. And even if people called around, they'd leave it on.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And also, I was allowed to stay up and watch, in the '70s, when I was about 10 years old, I was allowed to stay up and watch 9 o'clock dramas.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Did you watch The Sweeney?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Which is the swe- I was watching things like I, Claudius-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh wow.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -which was, I mean-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, of course. yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -I must have been about 13 then. That had orgies in it and sex and violence. And no one ever said, oh, turn that off 'cause Russell's young, or anything. They just kind of. it was as respected as a book.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: They'd never take a book out your hand, and they never took television out my hands either, which I'm immensely grateful for. It turns out that that was the best education I could have.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah. Absolutely, of course.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, I just loved it. I soaked it all up.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I loved it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: But you're exactly right, 'cause I think obviously our parents' generation, and your mum and dad, you know, TV was the thing for them. You know, they either were the kids of the-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -war generation, you know, it was a huge thing to have a television. So, it was respected. And also, I think back then, they got all their

information. Unlike now where there's so many channels, when you watch the news-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -that's where you got all your information.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh my God.

ANGELA HARTNETT: 'Cause you've gone from the radio now-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -was there.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And everyone-

ANGELA HARTNETT: It was. Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -would sit down and watch like the-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -Generation Game on a Saturday.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, of course. yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It was literally-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -a shared memory.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -that's it. No, I loved it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I love those shows that do, I mean, there's maybe less and less of them now-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -where people all sit and watch the same thing at the same time.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm, mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's just the Celebrity Traitors now.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That's the only one we've got left.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: All we've got is Traitors.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: That's all we've got. That's all we've got.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: But I love that we all, and we all love talking about it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: The next day, it's funny how that's gone. Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: When was the first time you saw your name on screen? Like when you first saw like a—

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, it was—

NICK GRIMSHAW: By Russell T Davies.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah, it was a thing called Dark Season—

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -which is a children's thriller in 1991—

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -starring Kate Winslet-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -when she was just 15 years old.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, I love Kate Winslet.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah, yeah, yeah. And it was the first time I saw by Russell T Davies on screen.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And it just and up till that point, I'd been working in production. I'd done some directing, I'd done some producing. I'd been a researcher and all those jobs. And I'd been a storyliner on the soaps, which I loved.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, I was doing all sorts of things. I presented an episode of Blazer. I was a presenter at one point, and I was working out what I liked doing. And when I saw written by Russell T Davies, literally, it was like something closed inside me-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -like a lock just went–

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That's it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: That's where you go, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Stop letting everything else in. That's it. I just knew. Absolutely, yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: 'Cause when you were in Wales and you were in, was a stage theatre you were at, was it?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: No, I worked at a theatre in, there's a Sherman Theatre in Cardiff.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: But was that when you started writing, or you just thought you were gonna go into the arts in a way?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: But I was writing in my spare time on an electric typewriter.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Remember such a thing, an electric typewriter?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh my God, I do.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, that was fancy. *[laughs]*

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That was so modern.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Before the word processor, this is.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Before all that.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And so, I had that. So, I was writing in my spare time, but I never thought it was possible because—

ANGELA HARTNETT: Didn't think, didn't see it as a career. Yeah

RUSSELL T DAVIS: The whole industry felt closed.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And to be a writer felt and I mean, these days, what I like about these days is there's a tremendous amount of behind-the-scenes stuff.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You can see what it means to be a writer. You can see producers and directors on set. There was none of that in those days.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, it was just completely unknown. So, I never imagined it was possible.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And then the first thing I ever did was the producer of Crossroads, which is—

ANGELA HARTNETT: Right, yeah, yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Before your time, I think. But you remember—

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -it's like an old soap opera.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: He did an interview in The Guardian. He said, we're looking for writers 'cause everyone thinks we're rubbish. *[laughs]*

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, no one wants to write for us. And I thought, I can do that. Bashed out a script, sent it off to them, got invited up. And they said, oh, we like this, come and see us.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[gasps]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And I went and saw them, and they commissioned a script off me, and I went home and I was like, oh my God, I'm gonna be working-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -in television, a soap opera. And then about 3 days later I walked into the newsagents, and every single newspaper said Crossroads axed, Crossroads axed-

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]*

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh no.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -Crossroads axed.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And it was axed before they even got to my episode.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, but I, but I'd had a glimpse.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It was possible. The first time I went, oh, I can actually-

NICK GRIMSHAW: It could happen.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -do this.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And they listened to a complete stranger. I didn't have an agent or anything, but I thought, oh, they listened to a complete stranger.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And take a chance on me.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, bless that team. Hooray.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I love in the book about how you wrote about The Very English Scandal and that note you got from the producer.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes. The script was all finished and all done.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And I thought it was absolutely perfect. And then this executive at Netflix, Amazon, they were Amazon.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Amazon, right. Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Um, who invested in it-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -gave like the most cynical note in the world. She said, "There's no point in this in which Ben Whishaw wins a BAFTA." And I thought, "Oh, that's so cynical-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and monstrous and terrible and brilliant."

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: 'Cause she was right.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: She was literally, I went, God, there isn't.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: There's no moment where that character has that grandstanding moment. So, I went home-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and wrote that and put it into the script, and he won the BAFTA and the Golden Globe-

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]*

ANGELA HARTNETT: That's brilliant yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I think it's so good.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and the Emmy.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I love that.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So good.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: He won everything.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I love that.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I mean, not just because of that scene-

ANGELA HARTNETT: No.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -except that scene is the one they always play in clips.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh, uh-huh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah. Of course, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: The way he stands up in court-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and does all this. You should even listen to the cynical notes. They've got something in them.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Something in them.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Something in them, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, and can you— could you always take a note when you're getting feedback? Because it must be quite hard.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You need to work out if the note is rubbish or not.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Sometimes they're rubbish.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Sometimes they, I remember recently there was like, “Why is this woman being so sad? We thought she was a strong, we thought she was super strong. We thought she was a good woman.” And you sit there going, “Her lover's just been shot-

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and he died in her arms.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And you're saying, why is she so sad?”

ANGELA HARTNETT: She's right to be sad.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And you're like that.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You're genuinely going-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: - you do get notes like that sometimes. But what I would say to writers is that normally, if the note might be badly expressed, but I bet there's something wrong there.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Because they don't know, they don't know the script as well as you.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: They don't know what you're trying to say. They don't know where it's heading. They don't know the mood you were in when you did it or what your intent is. So literally, if there's a note on page 11, go to page 11.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Somethings not, yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And the solution might be on page 1.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: But there's something there.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: If someone's paused and made a little note and said-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -Russell, I think this-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -listen to that.

ANGELA HARTNETT: The thing about when you look at, look at your work and, you know, you become invested in it, you know, when you watch Queer as Folk or-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -It's a Sin, you invest in characters because they absolutely seem real-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -which I know sounds stupid, but it's because they are absolutely those people. You've met them yourself.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Wow.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You recognise traits.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That's the greatest compliment you can give me.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, thank you- No, but and also, it's why you're invested in it and you're crying at the end or you're laughing at the end.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: And, you know, and I think when you wrote about the scene of the end of It's a Sin, how you manage that-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -I thought was just, you know, the death of him. You know-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes. Those two women.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -it was, you know, even now I'm well up, you know-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Aw.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -you think about it. It was, it was brilliant.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: What a cast. Yeah, it was amazing.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, but you had a cast. But because you say yourself in the book that you don't pretend to be, not a politician, but you're not there to write about what's going on in the world. You're just about those characters, their relationships.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And their moments. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Which comes across. And that's why they're brilliant.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Gorgeous. Thank you.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I know.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Were you a young lad watching Queer as Folk?

NICK GRIMSHAW: I was, yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You must have, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I was-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: 1999.

NICK GRIMSHAW: What year? 1999. So, I would've been like 14.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, right.

NICK GRIMSHAW: 14, 15.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: 15.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And yeah, I remember it coming out 'cause I'm from Manchester.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Right, of course.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So, I always knew of like the Gay Village.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Posters everywhere

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And then the posters everywhere-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -of Queer as Folk. And Gay Village was always somewhere which was really sort of loved and celebrated-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -in Manchester. So, like my mum might go for like drinks with people from work there one night.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Or like my brother would go-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -like, you know, my brother and sister would go to afters there.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It'd always be open a lot later.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: So, they'd always go there like raving after. So, there was always like a fondness-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -of the gay village.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah, there was. And there still is.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Of course. Yeah, but then there was not really gay stuff on TV.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No, at all, really.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And obviously I came from, I mean, there might have been the internet then, but we didn't have it.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: No.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So, I remember like, yeah, like that being sort of like a real landmark piece-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -of TV for me and like staying up late to watch it-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -and being like, shocked to my-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: -core.

ANGELA HARTNETT: But it must have been so influential for so many young—

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh my God, yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -men to suddenly actually say, God, there is a life out there.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I've got these feelings.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Almost every week in Manchester,

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, I bet.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Someone will come up to me and say-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -I moved to Manchester-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -because of that.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And he'll say, I've now got a husband and we've got kids.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Every week.

ANGELA HARTNETT: It gave people a licence in a way.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah, it's a great— in fact, a friend of mine, lovely man, lovely friend Jay died. He was only 41 and he was gorgeous.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, very young.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And at his funeral, his brother stood up and gave the eulogy and said he moved to Manchester because of Queer as Folk. I never knew that. He'd never even said that to me. And it was like, wow, what an honour that is. It's amazing.

[theme music plays]

NICK GRIMSHAW: We've got to talk about Doctor Who.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Obviously. Correct. Ever watched it? No.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: And you were saying— Ever heard of it? And you were saying it was like the first thing that you watched.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And that is so mad. And I love hearing those stories when people have-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -like, you know, fulfilled their destiny.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: How lucky. Exactly.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No, it's so crazy.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I loved it. I remember as a child, I loved it all my life.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And I think I crucially loved it when I was like 11 and 12, which is when all the other boys go off and start liking girls-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and football-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and cigarettes and things like that. And I just and I think I do think because you're gay, you don't join in with that. So, you stick with the telly.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That's what I did and loved it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Aw.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah. It's pivotal.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And then when did you start thinking about maybe this is what I want to do? Maybe this, this is where I could go. I could be making this.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes, I'd started writing it. Well, it's funny because I put it into Queer as Folk as Vincent, who was a Doctor Who fan.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh!

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Do you remember? And-

NICK GRIMSHAW: He did.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -you even get K-9, the robot dog, appears in one episode of-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -Queer as Folk. Because I was kind of, and I was just doing that because I wanted to show that Doctor Who fans could be cool and sexy-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -as we are, rather than just geeky old nerds, as we're mistakenly assumed to be. But that kind of-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Thank you, Ange.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Thank you, Ange. That kind of accidentally, or was it on purpose, associated my name with Doctor Who in the industry.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So, you were sort of planting the seeds even back then.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yes. So, it did link. the programme to my name. And so, it wasn't me that decided to bring it back, it was the BBC.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Right yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It was a woman called Jane Tranter-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -who decided to bring it back. And then she automatically went, oh, well, what about Russell.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh my God.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So, I was so lucky.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Did you feel like a grave sort of responsibility?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You do, except that would weigh you down-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, you had to go in and be like yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -if you worried about that too much. You know, I knew there's a great big fandom sitting out there.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah. You're not gonna do anything—

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Particularly, I was that fan.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, of course.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So, if anyone knows—

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Thinking wasn't a mystery to me.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It was like, yeah, I get it. I know what to worry about.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And also, they'll never be happy.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]*

RUSSELL T DAVIS: So that's part of it, isn't it? So why not?

NICK GRIMSHAW: And then-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Love that.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -that's who you want to make something, isn't it?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: That's a fan of it, you know.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: What is this? This raspberry ripple?

ANGELA HARTNETT: We have blackcurrant ripple and vanilla ice cream.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, that's gorgeous.

NICK GRIMSHAW: One thing I wanted to ask you about was the Dalek in your garden.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I love that you have a Dalek in your garden.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: There's one in the BBC reception that I see every morning.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: There is.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, I always see that one.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That was like, it was the only time in the whole show I had to really dig in, because it's 2005.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's an old show.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And so, everyone's queuing up to say, well, how are you going to redesign the Daleks?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Right, okay.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And I had artists and comic book artists, famous comic book artists, coming with their sketches where they were flying droids-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and they had attachments and stuff like that. And I had to take a really, really big breath and sit there and go, that's just not a Dalek. It has to look like it looked.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Otherwise, you wouldn't recognise it. Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Exactly. But everyone's like, no, they're gonna do this. I was like, it's the one time, it's the one thing I'm most proud of.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: In the whole thing, I just sat there and I just dug my heels and said, no, it's got to look like.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Good.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: And then the producer was coming to me saying, the mould from the 1960s is no longer owned by the BBC, it's owned by a private family, he's charging us money to use it, we haven't got the money. I said, you've got to get the money.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You've got to, you can't fake this, it's got to be the old '60s mould. So, they did, and frankly, I was right. And then I had the great satisfaction, like, it must have been the next or was it that Christmas? But it was number one toy of the year.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Right. Oh, fantastic.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It was on Christmas TV adverts, little Daleks-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -trundling across the screen. That was a great moment. Wow-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: - I did it, I did it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You did, you instinctively right.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, you wanted it to look like that.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I feel like if you'd have remixed it-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Exactly.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -people would've gone crazy.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah. Of course they would.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, they would've. I think people would've been like, what is this?

ANGELA HARTNETT: But as you say, you know, huge fan, why would you? If you'd watched someone else, do it-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: -you'd have gone, why have you changed it?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: So don't do it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So, it's just in your garden? Love that.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, yes, it is.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I love that.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah, sorry, I thought, man. Yes, it's true.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You're like what?

[crew laughs]

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's really kind of rotted.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I kind of like the fact it's like-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -covered in moss-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -and bits of bark.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's kind of like a work of art.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, fabulous.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's like an old Roman ruin.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: It's like a relic of an empire.

NICK GRIMSHAW: *[laughs]* Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I love that.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I love it. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

[theme music plays]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Russell T Davies, it is time for your fast food quiz.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Are you ready?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I am.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: Tell us your favourite way to eat eggs.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: A cold soft-boiled egg.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, nice.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: In one mouthful.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh.

[crew laughs]

ANGELA HARTNETT: Very good.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That is like a little pocket of silk.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, wow.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes, I can understand that.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That is gorgeous. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: What's your favourite sandwich filling?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Um, er- Just, do you know what, ham and tomato.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh okay, nice.

NICK GRIMSHAW: What is your favourite form of potato?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Mash.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mash, mash.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'd make a good mash.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah. What's your favourite herb?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Tarragon.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Tarragon. Oh, nice choice.

NICK GRIMSHAW: What is the best crisp on the market?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I don't really eat crisps. I'd just go for salted.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah. Chef's choice.

ANGELA HARTNETT: That's my choice.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I don't eat a lot of crisps.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I don't.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I like it. Favourite fruit?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Banana.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Banana, nice choice.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: No, cherry. I'm lying. Cherry.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, cherry.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I love cherry.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Okay, good.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Personal question, but do you have a favourite kitchen utensil?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: The Masher.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: The Masher.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'm doing my mashing.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Used for mashing.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I'm loving the mash.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Used for mashing.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Call me the Masher.

NICK GRIMSHAW: The Masher.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

[crew laughs]

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Or don't.

[everyone laughs]

ANGELA HARTNETT: What's your favourite Sunday roast?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Ooh, chicken or pork? Both.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Both?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: My family has both.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You're allowed both.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah. You're allowed both.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah. exactly

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah. It's not very strict, this, is it?

ANGELA HARTNETT: No.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Um, what is the best ice cream flavour?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Vanilla.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, very nice.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: And go on, a dish from your childhood your mum made that's your favourite.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Oh, that would actually be my mum's paella.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Really?

RUSSELL T DAVIS: That's why we had that today.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Yeah, it's also remembering her. I love her. Yes, yes, yes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Aw, Isn't that lovely?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Aw, well, you passed.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Well, done.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Hooray!

ANGELA HARTNETT: Fabulous.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: What would happen if I failed?

ANGELA HARTNETT: You'd never fail.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Evicted.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'd have to pay for dinner.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Evicted.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Wait, but actually, yes.

[theme music plays]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Russell T Davies, we come to the end of the show question.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: For your chance to win the Waitrose goodie bag, all you've got to do is answer this question.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Pam pa pa pam ma ba baa!

NICK GRIMSHAW: Should you answer it, the goodie bag is yours.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Thank you for coming on Dish. To win the Waitrose goodie bag, please tell us who out of Nick and Angela would make the best Doctor Who?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, so it's a serious one.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, wow!

[everyone laughs]

NICK GRIMSHAW: You know what-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I just don't trust-

NICK GRIMSHAW: -I would love.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: -you to turn up every day.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No.

ANGELA HARTNETT: *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: Angela, in the role-

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I'm really sorry.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -of Doctor Who.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I think-

NICK GRIMSHAW: I would watch that.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: I think she's a good—

[everyone laughs]

NICK GRIMSHAW: I'd love it.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You've got a chef discipline.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yes.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: You'd be there. You'd be all perfect in there.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, I would like that.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Where's them Daleks?

NICK GRIMSHAW: What are my lines.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Okay, there you go. Who would suit the TARDIS best and handle the Daleks with ease? Thank you, Team Dish. There we go.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, thank you, Russell. Thank you.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Could, you could be K-9. *[laughs]*

NICK GRIMSHAW: I could be K-9, the dog.

[everyone laughs]

NICK GRIMSHAW: I would be your K-9, Ange.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You could write the script for us.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I would.

[theme music plays]

NICK GRIMSHAW: I wanna read that, please.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Well, it is, um, well, the new Doctor Who, Angela Hartnett.

RUSSELL T DAVIS: Horary!

ANGELA HARTNETT: Hey!

NICK GRIMSHAW: And Russell T. Davies, everybody! If that episode has left you wanting more, find us on Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube. Just search Dish.

ANGELA HARTNETT: If you wanna make any of the meals I cook on Dish, head to [waitrose.com/dishrecipes](https://www.waitrose.com/dishrecipes) for all the ingredients and the recipes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Email your questions, thoughts, and suggestions to dish@waitrose.co.uk.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Dish from Waitrose is a Cold Glass production.

VOICEOVER: Waitrose, the home of food lovers.

