

KATHY. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, please welcome to the floor the one, the only, the irreplaceable, the incandescent, the irrrrritating as hell demanding this build-up every single time – I give you – RAV!

RAV enters in a sparkly jacket. He struts around believing the hype.

The CD starts to stick. KATHY stops it, takes it out of the player and gives it a wipe.

RAV. Well, that's ruined it.

KATHY. I'm amazed it works at all. It's ancient.

RAV. Your spare room's like going back in time.

That stereo.

This CD.

KATHY. These are classics, all.

RAV. If by 'classic' you mean 'old', there's certainly nothing after I was born.

KATHY returns the CD to the player.

KATHY. Do you want me to start the track again?

RAV. No. The moment's gone.

Sorry about that, everyone. Technical difficulties. It happens to the best of us.

But thank you, thank you for that warm... lukewarm... for that tepid reception.

Yes it's me, Rav, your quiz host with the most... difficult questions in town.

And tonight it's my end-of-the-world special. Never to be repeated. But there might be a little surprise at the end. We live in hope, eh.

So without further ado-do – let's get quizzical, quizzical, I wanna get quizzicaaaal...

He starts another track – it's the wrong one.

No, sorry. One sec –

How do I – ?

KATHY. Let me see. (*Takes charge of the stereo.*)

Which track do you want?

RAV. Number seven.

Elvis Costello's 'Waiting for the End of the World' plays as RAV explains the set-up.

There are answer sheets on your tables.

If you've come as a team, great.

If you want to buddy up with your table, also great. We're all friends here.

And if you're strangers, you're just friends who haven't met yet.

And if you don't get on, we'll all be dead soon so what does it matter?

There's a prize for the Best Team Name. One hundred pounds –

KATHY. What? I'm not stumping up a hundred pounds.

RAV. You probably won't have to. We'll all be dead soon.

KATHY. Yeah, I don't really want that to become tonight's catchphrase.

RAV. You know what, five hundred pounds for the Best Team Name.

KATHY. Rav!

RAV. What? We'll all be... (*Does he try to get the audience to join in?*) dead soon!

KATHY. You better hope this asteroid doesn't miss.

It better bloody land on your head.

RAV. Has everyone got everything? Hands up if you still need an answer sheet or a pen.

KATHY can hand some more answer sheets and pens around if needed.

Okay?

KATHY. I think so.

RAV. Great.

KATHY. Have you got a spare answer sheet? I've given mine away.

RAV. You hate my quizzes.

KATHY. I don't.

RAV. You say they're too hard.

KATHY. No, I say they're too obscure.

I hope this one's for everyone? We all want to be able to join in, have fun. That's the point.

RAV. Honestly, I think it's my best one ever.

KATHY. Why does that make me nervous?

RAV hands KATHY a sheet and a pen. She sits at a table of her own at the front.

RAV. Okay, everybody ready? Great.

Alright, Paul, I'm surprised to see you.

I thought he was barred?

KATHY. Like you say, we'll all be dead soon so
what does it matter.

RAV. True.

(*Re: the CD player.*) Knock that off, will you,
Kathy.

KATHY. What did your last slave die of? (*But she
does.*)

RAV. He got hit by an asteroid.

Okay, let's go. Round One – General Know-
ledge.