



PRIX EUROPA 2020 Best European Radio Fiction of the Year

I Am Kanye West
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Comments from the Jury Group:

“Rather attractive approach to the topic of mental illness. The main character is a great role, brilliantly interpreted.”

“Touching. urgent. new & fresh... May this win an award !“

“Very very good!! I have nothing to say except BRAVO“

“A funny and witty take on celebrity culture, subjectivity and the reflection on individual mental health, rendered into a well timed storyline. A great cast and good miking makes is a good listening experience.“

“Shocking beginning for an original idea. Perfect use of sound fx and credible interpretations. Original concept of scene changes. “

“Great, tragi-humorous script - both edgy and hilarious. Also great use of music and medium.“

Toby is a man from Newport who believes that he is Kanye West. After a domestic incident he finds himself in a state of the art secure psychiatric facility under the watchful eye of Dr Newman. Her mission is to help him see the truth. Is this just an extreme case of Celebrity Worship Syndrome or is there something else going on? What happened at that NATO summit? And where is the real Kanye? Toby has not slept for a VERY long time. He keeps insisting that he is Kanye West, despite Dr Newman's best efforts. He even speaks in rhyme. He firmly believes that he has been kidnapped backstage at a concert. Only one person in the institution recognises Toby for who he thinks he really is - Sadie, a fellow inmate and Kanye West fan. Together they plan to escape, and they almost break free, but the whole thing goes wrong when Kanye refuses to take a selfie with Sadie. The guards come, they are both restrained and returned to their cells. Finally, with the help of a high dose of medication, Dr Newman gets Toby to sleep. After a long sleep, he is able to come terms with who he really is - just one of the little guys from a small city nobody knows much about. He is released to go back into sheltered housing, but on the way there he learns from a taxi driver that the real Kanye has recently gone missing after a local concert and that he does in fact bear a striking resemblance to the megastar...

This is the first audio play by Darragh Mortell.

Congratulations to:

Submitting organisation:	British Broadcasting Corporation - BBC Audio Drama Wales
Contact:	Robert Ketteridge – robert.ketteridge@bbc.co.uk
Author:	Darragh Mortell
Director:	John Norton
Sound:	Nigel Lewis
Commissioning editor:	Alison Hindell
Producer:	John Norton
Production Company:	BBC Cymru Wales
Key staff:	Eleri McAuliffe (Production controller)
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