



## JAMES SMALES & DANIEL PAYNE



Daniel Payne and James Smales are failed shoe shop salesmen turned comedic writers and double act. They have been described by Comedy Central as "one of the funniest online duos we've seen" and were asked by the channel to write exclusive content for their 'hand-picked' feature. They have half a million views on YouTube already.

Dan and James both met working in TV. Having worked as an Assistant Producer on comedy and entertainment shows, James has gained firsthand experience with the fast paced nature and challenges of the television industry. They both feel that their joint experience of working in production gives them a good understanding of the industry and helps them when writing to specific briefs.

Together they have written for TV shows such as *Would I Lie To You*, *8 Out of 10 Cats*, *Russell Howard's Good News*, stage show *News Revue* and BBC Radio 4's *News Quiz*. As a double act they reached the semi final of the Laughing Horse New Act Competition, twice.

Their most viewed sketch on YouTube is *Rebecca Black the Gameboy Game*, a spoof video game of the viral song *Friday*. It has over 387,000 views and their YouTube channel as a whole has had over half a million. James and Dan often encounter some of life's most taxing dilemmas so they decided to devise a sketch involving the only man they thought could help answer those questions....Stephen Fry.

The Rebecca Black sketch was actually made using Microsoft Paint, but the boys have since upgraded to Photoshop and now utilise the program for their animations as well as irreverent pictures they post on Twitter. James has a degree in Media Production, from the mighty Sunderland University and the boys know their way around most modern day filming and editing equipment.

On top of writing the boys take great care of their hair, Dan loves growing it and James is making the most of his until it eventually departs his head for good.

James and Dan are currently developing sitcom scripts and writing new sketches and jokes for TV and online.