

FISH-EYES

By Ted Swartz and Lee Eshleman

Scene: BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH

Scripture: John 21

Props: 2 chairs

Time: 7-8 minutes

(PETER and ANDREW row an imaginary boat.)

PETER: Yeah, this is a good spot. C'mon.

ANDREW: Look, instead of fishing, couldn't we just sit here for awhile? Collect our thoughts? Look at the water. It's so still. Not a ripple. And the sky, not a cloud. It's just this beautiful shade of azure blue. *(PETER mouths "azure blue?")* And off to starboard a little sparrow is warbling an oratorio just for us. It's been a rough week.

PETER: I know it's been a rough week. That's why I wanna be fishing. Fishing is something I think I still know. What happened to us this week, I don't know. C'mon. *(They cast; ANDREW grabs his back in pain.)* There now, didn't that feel good.

ANDREW: Oh, yeah. That felt terrific.

PETER: What's the matter?

ANDREW: I've got a kink in my back.

PETER: Well, you've gotta help me pull.

(They pull the nets three or four times, then lift to look.)

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BOTH: Nothing.

PETER: Okay, Andrew, this time let's really try and get this one out there.

ANDREW: What are you saying? That I'm not doing my part?

PETER: No. I just said "Let's really try and get this one out there." That's all I said.

ANDREW: I know it's all you said. It's just that it seems so obvious, it seems like it doesn't really need to be stated out loud that we should really try and get it out there. Because I don't think we'll catch any fish at all if we really keep it IN HERE. All of the fish are out there. There's an "out-there-ness" about fish. That's one of their qualities...

PETER: Just pick up the net and throw it!

ANDREW: Out there? *(Pause)* Just clarifying.

(They cast again, pull the nets three or four times, then lift to look.)

BOTH: Nothing.

PETER: All right, Andy. It's rhythm. We need a good rhythm to get a good cast that floats out there. Life's about rhythm ... *(Noticing ANDREW staring at him, amused)* Come on, I know what I'm talking about.

ANDREW: I know you do. I just like hearing you talk.

PETER: Okay, c'mon. Rhythm. Ready?

(They get in sync and cast again, pull the nets three or four times, then lift to look.)

BOTH: Nothin'.

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PETER: Man, whose bonehead idea was it to come fishing?

ANDREW: Oh, if I could only remember. Who could it have been? Probably someone IN THIS BOAT. Ooooooh, I need more clues.

PETER: Funny.

ANDREW: *(Sits)* I've narrowed it down to two.

(PETER notices someone on the shore.)

PETER: Andy, who's that on the shore?

ANDREW: I don't know. But he's hollering at us.

BOTH: WHAAAAAAAAAAAAAT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!?????????

PETER: Have we caught anything?

ANDREW: Oh, ha ha ha. Aren't you the funny one, you halibut heckler.

BOTH: NOOOOOOO!

(They turn away, then hear the call again.)

BOTH: WHAAAAAAAAAAATTTT?

ANDREW: Caaaaa...Caaa... Cashew. Nuts. Cashew nuts. Cashew nuts on the other side. Cashew nuts?

PETER: Cashew nuts?

ANDREW: Did you bring a snack?

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PETER: No, I didn't bring one.

BOTH: WHAAAAAAAAAAAAAT?!

ANDREW: Caaaa...caaaa...

PETER: Here he goes again...

ANDREW: CAST! Okay, second word. *(Gives a charades symbol)* You ... you ... your...

PETER: He's talking about us.

ANDREW: Cast your...

PETER: What do you cast?

ANDREW: Nets! Cast your nets! Cast your nets on the other side. That makes a lot more sense than cashew nuts.

BOTH: *(Pause)* WHHHHYYYYY?! *(Can't hear the answer)*
WHAAAAAAAAAT?

PETER: Andy, he's not projecting at all.

ANDREW: There is no diaphragm support. Cast your nets on the other side. Thank you! Thanks for that great advice.

(ANDREW turns away, while PETER watches for a short time.)

PETER: Hey Andy, why don't we just do what he says?

ANDREW: *(Laughing)* Give me one good reason.

PETER: I don't think he's gonna shut up until we do.

ANDREW: *(Looks out at the figure on shore, considers)* Okay. But Pete, let's really try and get this one out there. *(They gather the net and cast in rhythm, on the other side.)* Well I hope he's happy... *(PETER looks at Jesus as if to say "how's that?" Suddenly, they are pulled rapidly to side; hanging off the edge of the stage/boat.)* I think we've got something.

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PETER: Oh, do you think so? *(They pull in, three times, then see a huge catch.)*
WHOOOOOOO! Would you look at all the fish!

ANDREW: Holy mackerel!

PETER: I have never seen so many fish in one catch, there must be a hundred and...

ANDREW: ...fifty three. One hundred and fifty-three in a single cast. Man we've still got it!

PETER: It is a good thing that we decided to cast on this side of the...

ANDREW: 'Cause we said, it's not happening over here, so we said we would cast...

(They stop, then look to the shore.)

PETER: Who IS that?

ANDREW: I don't know, but he's cooking something.

PETER: What's he making?

(They sniff.)

ANDREW: Fish.

PETER: And bread.

ANDREW: Huh. Fish and... *(They suddenly realize who it is on the shore; laughing)*
Bread and fish. Peter, do you think there will be enough?

(They both laugh, then embrace.)

END

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***** SCRIPT PREVIEW *****

****PURCHASE REQUIRED FOR PERFORMANCE AND DUPLICATION****

SCRIPT PREVIEW

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