

## The Reinstatement

**Peter:** Hiya luv. Hey - its fish 'n' chips tonight!

**Elizabeth:** Ee grand! It was a good catch then?

**Peter:** Not half. 153 whoppers in all. We've even got enough for ...

**Both:** ... that Martha next door.

**Peter:** Aye.

**Elizabeth:** How did you catch so many?

**Peter:** I'll give you one guess.

**Elizabeth:** that Jesus again [*Peter nods*] Oo - he is full of surprises that Jesus.

**Peter:** Aye.

**Elizabeth:** So what happened then?

**Peter:** We were out fishing, as you do, and we'd caught nothing...

**Elizabeth:** As you do!

**Peter:** [*ignoring her*] ... when this voice comes from the shore

"Throw your nets over the right side t' boat". So we thought, aye aye, a landlubber who thinks he's an expert. But we thought what the heck. So we did - and by eck! - There were that many fish, that we could hardly haul 'em in. Nearly broke the nets. Then I thought, "hang on. This is like that *"Dodgy View"* ...

**Elizabeth:** No love, I think you mean, "Deja vu".

**Peter:** Well anyway, it were that feeling of having been there before. But of course - it *had* happened before - with Jesus! Then I realised that the bloke on the shore must be Jesus. "It's Jesus", I said to the others and I jumped over side t'boat and waded in like. And there was Jesus with a fire going with fish already on it n'all. So, anyway we had a grand barbeque breakfast like.

**Elizabeth:** Ooo - then what did he do next?

**Peter:** Er. Well ... er nothin' much ... er ... I don't think its very interesting.

**Elizabeth:** Peter! Go on what happened?

**Peter:** I don't really want to say. It's embarrassing.

**Elizabeth:** Peter - what - happened?

**Peter:** Well, do you remember when I were telling you about the night that I betrayed him. When I said I never knew him? Do you remember?

**Elizabeth:** Ye-es, what of it?

**Peter:** Well, what I didn't tell you is that as I denied him that last time he was being taken across the other end of the courtyard into another part of building, anyway, he looked straight at me, and I knew that he knew what I'd said, And I knew that he knew that I knew that he knew what I said. That's when I broke down and ran outside.

**Elizabeth:** Well that was weeks ago Peter, I'm sure it doesn't matter.

**Peter:** Of course it mattered - how could he trust me anymore? Least that's what I thought. But a strange thing happened today.

**Elizabeth:** What?

**Peter:** Well, after breakfast he said, "Peter, do you love me more than these". And I said, "Don't be daft Lord, 'course I love you". Then he said it again, "Peter, do you love me?" "Yes Lord, course I love you". Then he said it a third time,

"Peter do you really love me". And I were right hurt that he'd asked me three times so I said. "Look Lord you know everything - you know that I love you". Then he said, "Follow me" exactly the way he'd said it to me when we first met.

Then I twigged you see. I'd denied him three times. Then he'd just made me tell 'im how much I loved him three times. He'd forgiven me and made things right again, y'see. Everything's OK again. That's what Jesus does you see - he doesn't leave stuff in a mess - he makes things right again.

**Elizabeth:** Oh that calls for a celebration! Fancy a cuppa love?

END

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