



FISH AND CHIPS

READING THEATRE

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Fish and Chips

Characters

Narrator

Chips

Slim

Bubbles

Jerry

Buddy

- Narrator :** It was that time of year when the salmon would head upstream on their journey to the Atlantic sea. Slim was three years old now and it was time to take the journey.
- Slim :** Hey what's the hold up? *(He turns to Jerry, another young salmon he has grown up with)*
- Jerry :** Some stupid beaver has blocked up the river? We can't get through.
- Slim :** Someone needs to tell him to move his house.
- Bubbles :** We tried and he just ignored us. Have you seen his dam? It's bigger than your head Slim *(she laughs)*. Go have a look. We are not getting past that.
- (Slim swims up to the edge of the dam)*
- Slim :** Hey rodent come out of your wood pile. We need to talk.
- (There is no reply)*
- Slim :** Hey you over grown vermin! Get out here so we can talk fish to rat.
- Chips :** Why don't you keep it down out there. My little one is sleeping. And the name is Chips.
- Slim :** I'll be quiet if you move your junk yard out of the way.
- Chips :** It's called a lodge you uneducated small fry.
- Slim :** Well I'll let you know, we are actually super intelligent and we need to get through this part of the river.
- Chips :** If you are so intelligent you could grow legs and walk around. Now if you will excuse me and let me go back to bed.
- Jerry :** Come on Slim we'll find another way.
- Slim :** This is the only way.
- (Slim starts yelling again)*
- Slim :** I said we need you to move your house!
- (Chips comes out again)*
- Chips :** Look I feel for you I do but do you know how long it took me to build this? Four whole days. So, go back the way you came. I am sure there's another way to get out.

Slim : You have done a good job but we have to travel two years to get to the sea. Your lodge is stopping thousands of salmon getting to sea water. These rivers rely on us getting there and we are relying on you to get us there.

Chips : Sad story but no thanks. Tell your friends to leave me alone.

Narrator : Chip makes his way back into the house as Slim goes to rally the troops.

Slim : Okay everyone we need to swim up to the edge of his wood pile and with our heads, keep knocking on the side.

Bubbles : We can't move those logs.

Slim : No we can't but it may annoy him enough to move it for us.

Narrator : With that thousands of salmon take turns in knocking on the sides of its wall.

Chips : Oh come on seriously. You are annoying little fish, aren't you?

Slim : We need you to let us through.

(Out comes a young beaver)

Buddy : What's all the noise Daddy?

Chips : Go back in the house.

Buddy : Hello what are you?

Slim : I'm a salmon and your dad is going to help us get through this river.

Buddy : Cool. Can I help? That sounds fun Dad.

Chips : Oh for crying out loud. Alright come on Buddy help me remove some of these sticks and once high tide comes you can swim straight over the top.

Narrator : The two Beavers swim through the water with ease, their tails like a rudder and giant teeth, making short work of the job.

Chips : Okay so as soon as high tide hits, swim over to my house and leave me alone. Let's go back to bed son.

Slim : Thank you Chips.

Chips : Yeh whatever.

Buddy : Good bye salmon, good luck.

Narrator : At high tide the salmon swim over the top of the lodge and on their way to the sea. Chips looks out of his lodge window, as Slim turns back.

Slim : What a pair we make *(he yells)*. Fish and Chips. *(He waves goodbye)*

Narrator : And from that day on Beavers never build their lodges higher than the water level at high tide. Salmon then just swim right on by.