

## 29. The Pesky Fly

CAST: (3M, 2F) JERRY, JIM BOB, JAKE, CORRINA, LEANN

SETTING: School cafeteria.

PROPS: Food trays or lunch sacks.

1       *(At rise JERRY and JIM BOB are eating lunch. JERRY notices*  
 2       *a fly and starts following it with his eyes as it moves in front*  
 3       *of him. After a minute, he begins waving his hand in the air*  
 4       *to shoo the fly away.)*  
 5   JERRY: *(Waving his arm in the air)* Go away!  
 6   JIM BOB: What?  
 7   JERRY: Get out of here!  
 8   JIM BOB: You want me to sit somewhere else?  
 9   JERRY: *(Slams his hand on the table.)* Darn! I missed! But I'll get  
 10       you next time!  
 11   JIM BOB: Are you talking to that fly?  
 12   JERRY: Who thinks he can share my lunch!  
 13   JIM BOB: Look, Jerry! He landed on my ... *(Points to his face.)*  
 14   JERRY: Don't move! *(Reeling his arm back)*  
 15   JIM BOB: *(Quickly moves.)* Whoa! You're not going to hit me in  
 16       the face!  
 17   JERRY: Hey, you moved!  
 18   JIM BOB: And if I hadn't, you would've hit me in the face?  
 19   JERRY: You would have been OK. And I wanted to kill that  
 20       pesky fly!  
 21   JIM BOB: *(Pointing)* There he is! *(They jump up, reach across the*  
 22       *table, and slam their hands down.)*  
 23   JERRY: Missed him again! Darn it!  
 24   JIM BOB: Maybe we scared him away.  
 25   JERRY: Maybe. *(Eating lunch)* He can just fly away and bother  
 26       someone else.

1   JIM BOB: Yeah, like Corrina or Leann. 'Cause in English class,  
 2       they're always picking on me.  
 3   JERRY: Picking on you? Isn't that like elementary?  
 4   JIM BOB: Well, they act like they're in elementary! They're  
 5       always like, "Jim Bob, what's up with the shirt you're  
 6       wearing today? Jim Bob, have you ever heard of dressing  
 7       to impress?" Do you know what that means?  
 8   JERRY: *(Jumps across the table and slams his hand down.)* Missed  
 9       again!  
 10   JIM BOB: Do you dress to impress?  
 11   JERRY: Nah. I just wake up and throw on whatever.  
 12   JIM BOB: Me too! So what's wrong with what I'm wearing?  
 13   JERRY: *(Looks at him.)* Something's not right.  
 14   JIM BOB: *(Looking at him)* Are you serious?  
 15   JERRY: *(Slams hand on table.)* Serious.  
 16   JIM BOB: Well, can you narrow it down a bit for me?  
 17   JERRY: Look, Jim Bob, I'm no fashion guru.  
 18   JIM BOB: Maybe not, but you said I don't look right. So what  
 19       doesn't look right?  
 20   JERRY: *(Slams hand on table.)* Don't know. Ask Corrina or Leann.  
 21   JIM BOB: No! I'd never ask them!  
 22   JERRY: I'm sure they'd tell you what you're doing wrong.  
 23   JIM BOB: Oh, sure they would! They do that everyday! "Jim  
 24       Bob, why don't you let your hair grow out? Why don't you  
 25       brush it this way or that way? Have you ever considered  
 26       streaks?" Like, no! I'm not putting streaks in my hair!  
 27   JERRY: I don't think it's your hair. *(Slams hand on table.)*  
 28   JIM BOB: So what is it? My clothes? My hair? What? *(Stands.)*  
 29       Seriously, what is wrong with me?  
 30   JERRY: *(Stares at him.)* Don't move. *(Draws his arm back,*  
 31       *speaking slowly.)* Stand completely still.  
 32   JIM BOB: *(Quickly moves.)* Whoa! You're not hitting me!  
 33   JERRY: You moved! Look! There he goes! I could've got him!  
 34   JIM BOB: Hey, I know! Let's wait until he lands on *your*  
 35       forehead!

1 JERRY: Oh, he's not going to do that. He just wants to taunt me.  
 2 JIM BOB: Yeah, like Corrina and Leann taunt me! So seriously,  
 3 what's wrong with me?  
 4 JERRY: I told you, Jim Bob, I'm no fashion expert.  
 5 JIM BOB: But you said I didn't look right. Why?  
 6 JERRY: *(Stares at him for a moment, then starts looking above his*  
 7 *head, watching the fly. After a moment, he jumps onto the*  
 8 *chair and swats his hand in the air.)* Leave, you pesky fly!  
 9 *(Waving his arms in the air)* Leave! Leave! Leave!  
 10 JIM BOB: Is it my shirt?  
 11 JERRY: *(Looks at him.)* Shirt looks OK.  
 12 JIM BOB: My pants?  
 13 JERRY: They're just pants. How can you go wrong with a pair of  
 14 pants?  
 15 JIM BOB: I don't know, but obviously I got something wrong.  
 16 My shoes?  
 17 JERRY: Who cares what shoes you wear?  
 18 JIM BOB: Then what's wrong with me?!  
 19 JERRY: *(Throws his body across the table.)* I got him!  
 20 JIM BOB: Where?  
 21 JERRY: I'm on him!  
 22 JIM BOB: Are you sure?  
 23 JERRY: I think so.  
 24 JIM BOB: Maybe you squished him.  
 25 JERRY: Or he's trapped.  
 26 JIM BOB: What are you going to do?  
 27 JERRY: Lay here until he suffocates!  
 28 JIM BOB: Oh. Good idea. So, back to me ... *(CORRINA and*  
 29 *LEANN enter.)*  
 30 CORRINA: Jerry, what are you doing?  
 31 LEANN: Are you sick?  
 32 CORRINA: Or just acting stupid?  
 33 JIM BOB: He's killing a fly!  
 34 CORRINA: What?  
 35 LEANN: A fly? How are you killing a fly by lying on the table?

1 JIM BOB: He's suffocating him! *(Grabs his throat.)* He can't  
 2 breathe! He's gasping for air! He's dying ... dying ...  
 3 CORRINA: That's stupid.  
 4 JERRY: Hey, Jim Bob, don't you want to ask Corrina and Leann  
 5 a question?  
 6 JIM BOB: No!  
 7 JERRY: Yes, you do! Hey, Jim Bob wants to know what's wrong  
 8 with the way he looks.  
 9 LEANN: Jerry, why don't you tell him?  
 10 CORRINA: Since it's so obvious.  
 11 JERRY: Because I don't know what to tell him.  
 12 LEANN: Jim Bob, you just look ...  
 13 JIM BOB: What? What?  
 14 CORRINA: Weird.  
 15 JIM BOB: Weird? How do I look weird?  
 16 LEANN: You know, maybe it's not his clothes.  
 17 CORRINA: That's true.  
 18 JIM BOB: So my clothes are OK?  
 19 LEANN: Maybe we just thought it was your clothes.  
 20 CORRINA: And your hair.  
 21 LEANN: But maybe it's something else.  
 22 JIM BOB: What? What?  
 23 LEANN: It's just the whole ... you know ...  
 24 CORRINA: The whole person thing going on here.  
 25 JIM BOB: The whole person thing going on here? The whole  
 26 person thing going on here is me! So what's wrong with  
 27 me? Huh? Huh?  
 28 LEANN: Never mind.  
 29 JIM BOB: Never mind? You can't do that!  
 30 CORRINA: Jim Bob, you can't help what you look like.  
 31 LEANN: And maybe you'll grow out of it.  
 32 CORRINA: Like in ten or twenty years from now you'll be more  
 33 ... you know ...  
 34 JIM BOB: More what?  
 35 LEANN: Taller.



1 CORRINA: And you'll have a different hairstyle. If you're not  
 2 bald by then.  
 3 JIM BOB: Bald? I'm not going to be bald!  
 4 LEANN: You never know. My uncle Chester went bald in his  
 5 twenties.  
 6 CORRINA: Really?  
 7 LEANN: Really.  
 8 CORRINA: That's gross!  
 9 LEANN: I know.  
 10 CORRINA: I'd never date a bald guy. Unless he was shaving his  
 11 head to be cool. Then that'd be different.  
 12 LEANN: (To JIM BOB) Maybe you should shave your head.  
 13 CORRINA: Yeah!  
 14 JIM BOB: I'm not shaving my head!  
 15 CORRINA: And get a diamond stud in your ear. That'd be cute!  
 16 JIM BOB: It would?  
 17 LEANN: Yeah! (Pointing) Hey, Jerry, there's your fly.  
 18 JERRY: What?  
 19 LEANN: Right there on the table.  
 20 JERRY: (Jumps up and leaps toward the fly.) Come here you  
 21 pesky fly! I want you to die! Die, die, die!  
 22 CORRINA: (Pointing) There he goes.  
 23 JIM BOB: Shave my head and get a diamond stud? I don't think  
 24 my mom would let me do that.  
 25 JERRY: (Jumps off the table and chases the fly around the room.)  
 26 Come back! Come back here so I can smash your guts to  
 27 smithereens!  
 28 JIM BOB: You really think I'd look good if I shaved my head?  
 29 LEANN: Maybe.  
 30 CORRINA: You could always try it and see.  
 31 LEANN: And if not, well, it'll grow back. (The GIRLS exit.)  
 32 JIM BOB: (Sits down at the table.) Shave my head? I wonder ...  
 33 JERRY: (Sits down at the table.) I give up!  
 34 JIM BOB: Maybe you chased him away.  
 35 JERRY: Maybe. (Pause as they continue to eat. After a moment)

1 (JAKE enters with his lunch and sits down beside them.)  
 2 JAKE: Hey.  
 3 JIM BOB: Hey.  
 4 JERRY: Hey.  
 5 JAKE: (Looks over, then quickly slams his hand on the table.) Got  
 6 'em!  
 7 JIM BOB: You got him?  
 8 JAKE: Yep.  
 9 JERRY: But ... but ... That was my fly!  
 10 JIM BOB: (To JAKE) Not like his pet fly, but just the fly he was  
 11 trying to kill.  
 12 JAKE: He's dead now.  
 13 JERRY: (Slams his hand on the table.) But I wanted to kill him!  
 14 JAKE: Sorry.  
 15 JIM BOB: At least he's dead. (After a pause) I'm going to shave  
 16 my head!  
 17 JAKE: Cool.  
 18 JERRY: (Slams his hand down on the table.) Stupid fly!