

Free – The Fisherman and his Wife (1m, 1 either)

JONNER (m): All-around-nice-guy-fisherman

SCAT (male or female): a magical fish

(JONNER is baiting his hook with a lure. SCAT is spied upstream.)

JONNER

Yes, I do believe this is the perfect one. Not I must stay very quiet and not scare the fish. What a beautiful day for fishing.

SCAT

What a life! Catch a wave in the a.m. and ride the tide into the night! Need to get the fins moving – get a good beat, breathe in – out – what? I spy some tasty eating. Maybe funky food. Good for the soul but not for the tummy, know what I mean? But still – it dangles there so tastily – do I split? Or eat? I am a sucker for a snack!

(SCAT goes for the bait and is caught.)

Uh oh! That ain't cool.

JONNER

Oh! You are a big one! Food for a week!

SCAT

Whoa, Joe!

JONNER

A tasty grill...

SCAT

Let me off the hook, Crook!

JONNER

Fried fish in the pan...

SCAT

Better be cool, Jules...

JONNER

Pickled fish for the year!

SCAT

I ain't going down, Clown!

JONNER

What did you say?

SCAT

I said – *please* do not pickle me!

JONNER

Did you talk?

SCAT

I always talk when someone wants to pickle me!

JONNER

And you said “please.”

SCAT

I did!

JONNER

You are a well-brought up fish.

SCAT

Thank-you. (Aside) Whew! Close one!

JONNER

“Please and “thank-you.” I am most impressed.

SCAT

So ... you won't put me in a pickle jar? 'Cause that ain't my aim in life, dig?

JONNER

I never had a fish speak to me before. You must be very special.

SCAT

I am exceedingly special! Please don't eat me!

JONNER

I've always wanted to meet an enchanted creature.

SCAT

And now you have.

JONNER

Yes, now I have. You may have your freedom, Fish –

SCAT

It's "Scatfish L'Adore" actually. But my friends call me Scat. Skin to fin?

JONNER

I am most happy to meet you, Scat! I am Jonner. My friends call me ... Jonner.

SCAT

Pleasure's all mine. I appreciate the freedom, Jonner. And if I can ever do anything to show my gratitude, let out a shout.

JONNER

I will. Thank-you.

SCAT

Gotta split. Still looking for that snack!

JONNER

Good-bye.

(SCAT swims away.)

Nice fish. I hope we meet up again. Well, it won't do to fish here anymore. I don't want to catch one of Scat's friends. I'll just pack up and further upstream. Wait till I tell Maura about Scat. She will be most impressed. (Beat) I wonder if she will believe me. See you later. I have to catch dinner.