

## **BAIT & TACKLE**

EMPLOYEE

Hello, Bob's Bait & Tackle!

CALLER (QUIET, TENTATIVE)

Psstt... how much?

EMPLOYEE

Sorry, I can hardly hear you.

CALLER (BARELY AUDIBLE)

How much for the thing?

EMPLOYEE

Sir, you're gonna have to speak up. I have a store full of customers. Did

you ask how much?

CALLER (LOUDER)

Yes.

EMPLOYEE

Well, we have hundreds of options. What specifically are you

looking for?

CALLER (EMBARRASED)

I can't... do people actually discuss this on the phone?

(Cont.)

EMPLOYEE

Well, in order for us to match you with the right equipment, it's best for  
you to describe your needs.

CALLER

I'm 43.

EMPLOYEE (QUIZICAL)

Excellent... that's a fine start. Now tell me something else about  
yourself.

CALLER

I... uh, I'm so sorry, this is my first time.

EMPLOYEE

Oh it's fine, sir. Just take a deep breath and describe your dream catch.

CALLER

You have more than one?

EMPLOYEE

Of course! You know what they say, there's plenty of fish in the sea!

CALLER

Gosh... uh... okay. 5'5"... 125 lbs... hazel eyes...

EMPLOYEE

Ha! Sounds like my wife!

CALLER (KNOWINGLY)

Um... yeah. No kidding.

EMPLOYEE

That's funny! You wanna catch something that looks like

(Cont.)

my wife. Well, I gotta tell you, buddy, you wouldn't be the first guy to  
try and throw a net around that mermaid!

CALLER (CONFUSED, HESITANT)

Yeah... I'll bet. (Pause) So, how much?

EMPLOYEE

We have all kinds of bait and...

CALLER

No, no, no... stop messin' around! How much for the... you know?

EMPLOYEE

No, I don't know.

CALLER

Oh come on, don't make me say it.

EMPLOYEE (WEARILY)

Yes, you're gonna have to say it. I have no idea what you're talking about  
at this point.

CALLER

The... tackle.

EMPLOYEE

Tackle? What kind?

CALLER

Well, this is my first time and I don't want to get hurt. What do you  
recommend?

EMPLOYEE

You never been fishing? Oh okay, I hear you, buddy.

(Cont.)

CALLER

Who said anything about fishing? Or is that code?

EMPLOYEE

Code for what?

CALLER

Tackle! Geez, you're sure not making this easy!

EMPLOYEE (THROUGH HIS TEETH)

Sir, I can sell you all the "tackle" you want. Just tell me your budget.

CALLER

Um... \$500.

EMPLOYEE

Okay then! A man who means business! I like that!

CALLER

Yeah, bro, I've been trying to tell you for the past ten minutes!

EMPLOYEE

Tell me what, exactly?

CALLER

Bro, did your momma drop you on your head and tell you it was Easter?!

It's real simple. It's my first time doing this sort of thing. All I want is to  
pay your wife \$500 to come over to my house and tackle me.

EMPLOYEE

Beg pardon?

CALLER

That too!

(FX: CLICK!)

