



DEEP SHIT

by Sara Bodinar & Dan McGarry

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Deep Shit

By

Sara Bodinar & Dan McGarry

Version 2.2

Cast of Characters

<u>KERRIE</u> :	New Board Member
<u>HUGH</u> :	Ex Leader of The Board
<u>MIKE</u> :	Deputy Leader
<u>DORINDA</u> :	Experienced Board Member
<u>SUSAN</u> :	Assistant to the Leader of the Board
<u>ERNEST</u> :	Leader of the Board

Scene

New (empty) tank of The Deep Aquarium, Hull, 2018

ACT I

Scene A

A room with tall shiny sides, disappearing to the gods. HUGH, DORINDA and MIKE are gathered together, with ERNEST slightly detached, being tended to by SUSAN.

Radio with JOURNO 1 and 2 plus assorted CALLERS.

JOURNO 1

Well today is the the day.

JOURNO 2

It is indeed. Big news.

JOURNO 1

BIG news.

JOURNO 2

Today is the day that we find out what's going in the tank.

DORINDA

It's on!

MIKE

Marketing has improved.

DORINDA

I certainly hope so.

MIKE

Journalist is on the way.

HUGH

We'll see about that.

JOURNO 1

Oh yes, the polls are closing soon but you still have your chance to vote and we'd like to hear from you.

HUGH

Just what we need, more public opinion.

SUSAN

We have to respect the public's opinion.

JOURNO 1

And I think we have our first caller.

SUAN
Isn't that right Ernest?

ERNEST
Eh?

JOURNO 2
You're through to Viking FM, what did you vote for?

CALLER 1
I voted for the clown fish!

HUGH
Get in!

MIKE
Thought you didn't care about the public vote?

HUGH
I don't.

CALLER 1
Yeah, whoever came up with that was a genius -

MIKE
Is that your mum?

HUGH
The lady has taste.

JOURNO 2
And we have another caller.

HUGH
Just because that person agreed with me.

CALLER 2
Clown fish all the way!

HUGH
And that one!

CALLER 2
I love finding nemo!

HUGH
Doesn't mean I agree with putting this decision to a public vote.

SUSAN
Just because it wasn't your idea!

HUGH

Not at all Susan, and you don't have to agree with everything our fearless leader, Old Ernie puts out there.

ERNEST

Thank you.

HUGH

It wasn't, never mind - What was the point of bringing us all together? Why create a task force for the new tank at the deep, if the decision goes down to a public vote.

JOURNO 2

The switchboard is lighting up.

DORINDA

At least we got to suggest what went on the ticket.

JOURNO 1

You're live.

HUGH

Some good that's going to do us.

SUSAN

You're just jealous because Ernest's suggestion is going to win.

HUGH

The word is not jealous.

CALLER 3

I voted for the beast.

HUGH

The word is concerned.

MIKE

It won't come to that.

CALLER 3

Everyone I know is voting the same. Beast, beast beaat!

JOURNO 1

You really think that's the best use of this new tank?

CALLER 3

No mate, it's just really funny!

DORINDA

They're not serious.

HUGH

No they're not, and that's the problem.

CALLER 3

Yeah, we've been looking it up online.

HUGH

More than he did.

CALLER 3

And I mean, I can't wait for them to have to try and get that in the tank.

JOURNO 1

Yes we have seen a lot of support for the beast and it has been leading the way in the recent tracking polls.

CALLER 3

Everyone is voting for it.

MIKE

Shit.

DORINDA

No one seems to be voting for mine.

MIKE

It was a bit -

DORINDA

What?

MIKE

Exotic -

DORINDA

It's an aquarium.

CALLER 4

I've voted for the beast. And not because I think it's funny. I've voted it in to stop any more of those bloody foreign fish from filling our tanks.

MIKE

There you go.

JOURNO 1

You do know that most of the fish at the deep are from far flung parts of the world?

CALLER 4

Look, we can't do anything about the ones that are already here -

JOURNO 2

- I think -

CALLER 4

But I thought this new tank was supposed to be for our fish -

JOURNO 2

Our fish?

CALLER 4

British Fish. What is the point in building a whole new tank if we're just going to fill it with foreign fish.

JOURNO 2

Thanks for your call.

CALLER 4

I mean who won the bloody war anyway?

DORINDA

Your idea wasn't much better?

MIKE

Mine?

DORINDA

Yes Mike.

CALLER 5

I voted for the Cod.

MIKE

He seems to think so.

CALLER 5

Yeah, we'll show them Icelandics.

HUGH

He seems a perfectly reasonable chap.

MIKE

Hear the man out.

CALLER 5

What gives them the right to tell us where we can and can't take our cod from?

JOURNO 1

Well I think you'll find -

CALLER 5

- and not only that. They're so bloody smug.

JOURNO 1

Who?

CALLER 5

The Icelandics.

DORINDA

Sounds a real catch Mike.

CALLER 5

Oh look at us, we have the northern lights, SMUG, we jailed the bankers, SMUG, we all have underfloor heating, SMUG, we have the oldest know parliament in Europe SMUG. Well, Hull's population is bigger than Iceland, we are the city of culture, so you can take your Bjork, you blue lagoon, your beautiful people and your geothermal energy and you can leave the cod for us!

JOURNO 2

You seem to have lots of knowledge about Iceland.

CALLER 5

Know your enemy.

MIKE

Turn it off.

DORINDA

Wait, we've not heard anyone vote for Susan's suggestion.

SUSAN

Well I didn't put a suggestion forward.

MIKE

I thought your's was the coral reef.

SUSAN

No, I was so inspired by Ernest's choice, that I put my full backing behind that.

HUGH

The Beast.

ERNEST
The British Beast.

MIKE
So, who's idea was the coral?

Scene 1

KERRIE enters.

KERRIE
Is this the right place?

MIKE
Finally!

SUSAN
Where's your camera?

KERRIE
Camera?

HUGH
He must be coming soon.

DORINDA
Or she.

HUGH
What?

DORINDA
Doesn't have to be a he.

HUGH
What, a man doesn't have to be a he?

DORINDA
No-

SUSAN
You can't discriminate.

HUGH
What, I can't refer to a man as 'he'?

SUSAN
They might define themselves differently.

DORINDA
That's not what I meant.