The Reinstatement

Peter: Hiya luv. Hey - its fish 'n' chips tonight!

Elizabeth: Ee grand! It was a good catch then?

Peter: Not half. 153 whoppers in all. We've even got enough for …

Both: … that Martha next door.

Peter: Aye.

Elizabeth: How did you catch so many?

Peter: I'll give you one guess.

Elizabeth: that Jesus again [Peter nods] Oo - he is full of surprises that Jesus.

Peter: Aye.

Elizabeth: So what happened then?

Peter: We were out fishing, as you do, and we'd caught nothing...

Elizabeth: As you do!

Peter: [ignoring her] ... when this voice comes from the shore

"Throw your nets over the right side t' boat". So we thought, aye aye, a landlubber who thinks he's an expert. But we thought what the heck. So we did - and by eck! - There were that many fish, that we could hardly haul 'em in. Nearly broke the nets. Then I thought, “hang on. This is like that “Dodgy View”…

Elizabeth: No love, I think you mean, "Deja vu".

Peter: Well anyway, it were that feeling of having been there before. But of course - it had happened before - with Jesus! Then I realised that the bloke on the shore must be Jesus. "It’s Jesus", I said to the others and I jumped over side t'boat and waded in like. And there was Jesus with a fire going with fish already on it n'all. So, anyway we had a grand barbeque breakfast like.

Elizabeth: Ooo - then what did he do next?
Peter: Er. Well … er nothin’ much … er … I don’t think its very interesting.

Elizabeth: Peter! Go on what happened?

Peter: I don’t really want to say. It’s embarrassing.

Elizabeth: Peter - what - happened?

Peter: Well, do you remember when I were telling you about the night that I betrayed him. When I said I never knew him? Do you remember?

Elizabeth: Ye-es, what of it?

Peter: Well, what I didn’t tell you is that as I denied him that last time he was being taken across the other end of the courtyard into another part of building, anyway, he looked straight at me, and I knew that he knew what I’d said, And I knew that he knew that I knew that he knew what I said. That’s when I broke down and ran outside.

Elizabeth: Well that was weeks ago Peter, I’m sure it doesn’t matter.

Peter: Of course it mattered - how could he trust me anymore? Least that’s what I thought. But a strange thing happened today.

Elizabeth: What?

Peter: Well, after breakfast he said, "Peter, do you love me more than these". And I said, "Don't be daft Lord, 'course I love you". Then he said it again, "Peter, do you love me?" "Yes Lord, course I love you". Then he said it a third time, "Peter do you really love me". And I were right hurt that he’d asked me three times so I said, "Look Lord you know everything - you know that I love you". Then he said, "Follow me" exactly the way he’d said it to me when we first met.

Then I twigged you see. I’d denied him three times. Then he’d just made me tell ’im how much I loved him three times. He’d forgiven me and made things right again, y’see. Everything’s OK again. That’s what Jesus does you see - he doesn’t leave stuff in a mess - he makes things right again.

Elizabeth: Oh that calls for a celebration! Fancy a cuppa love?

END