

There's Nothing To It

A **CUSTOMER**, impatient with the **WAITER** at a restaurant, suggests that they try switching places.

WAITER: Are you ready to order?

CUSTOMER: What's the soup of the day?

WAITER: It's water chestnut. It's the chef's speciality.

CUSTOMER: Water chestnut soup? What are the ingredients?

WAITER: I'm not sure really. Shall I ask?

CUSTOMER: No, never mind. Do you have any veal?

WAITER: Have you looked in the vegetarian section of the menu?

CUSTOMER: Veal is a kind of meat. Anyway, I haven't got a menu. You didn't bring me one.

WAITER: I'm sorry. You see I'm new to the job.

CUSTOMER: I never would have guessed.

WAITER: Yes. I only started this afternoon.

CUSTOMER: Well, you bring me the menu and I'll point to the things I want to order for my lunch.

WAITER: Great! Thanks. I'll just go and get one.

(WAITER exits and returns with a menu) Here you are. Enjoy your meal.

CUSTOMER: Thank you but you're meant to say that when you've brought the food.

WAITER: But you haven't ordered any.

CUSTOMER: That's because you've only just brought me the menu.

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WAITER: I haven't really got the hang of it yet. Sorry.

CUSTOMER: Look. You sit here and I'll be the waiter. You order something and I'll demonstrate what you are meant to do. There's nothing to it.

(They swap places)

WAITER: *(Looking at menu)* Waiter! Can you bring me a menu please?

CUSTOMER: You are holding a menu in your hands.

WAITER: This *(waving it in the air)* is a wine list. I cannot order food from a wine list can I?

(CUSTOMER exits then returns with a menu.)

CUSTOMER: Here we are. May I recommend the chef's Special Mixed Grill.

WAITER: No you may not. *(Gives the menu straight back)* I want egg and chips.

CUSTOMER: What?

WAITER: I said I want egg and chips. Are you deaf or stupid?

CUSTOMER: You can't speak to me like that. I'm a customer.

WAITER: No! I'm the customer and the customer is always right.

CUSTOMER: Look, we're only pretending. You're meant to look at the menu and choose something to eat. Then I take your order.

WAITER: *(Angry)* Do you want me to get the manager in here?

CUSTOMER: No, of course not.

WAITER: Then just get me the food I ordered.

CUSTOMER: But...

WAITER: GET ME MY MEAL NOW!

CUSTOMER: Sorry... yes. I'm going.

(CUSTOMER exits)

WAITER: She's right you know. There's nothing to it.

by Phil Jamieson