

"Oh, I wish I were a fish. They have such a happy life. I bet it is quiet under the water. I bet no one tells them what to do," said Earl. He was talking to himself. He had had a bad day. His boss had yelled at him. Earl had not done a good job on a report, his boss had said.

Earl walked home from work. On the way he stopped at the pet store. He needed to buy some food for his fish. Earl had many fish at home. He paid the pet store man for three boxes of fish food.

Earl fed his fish when he got home. He looked into the fish tank and watched his little friends. They looked so happy swimming around in the water.

"Earl, leave those yucky fish alone and come in here and help me!" said his wife. She was a mean woman and did not like little fish. She yelled at Earl

every day. Earl did not know why she did not like his fish. They did not smell bad and they did not make any noise. They never ever made a mess. "I will be there in a minute, dear," said Earl.

"Earl, I want you to get rid of those fish. If you do not, I will!" said his wife. "I will just pour them out and they will die."

Earl said that he would take the fish to the pet shop. He would give them back to the pet shop man. "Please do not hurt them," said Earl. "I promise I will get rid of them."

That night Earl was very sad. His wife was happy that he had given away his fish. She made Earl a nice dinner. After dinner, Earl and his wife went for a walk. They walked on the dock and looked at the sea. Earl just looked at the water and wished he were a fish.

Then the dock caved in and Earl fell into the water. His wife screamed for help. "My husband cannot swim! Someone help me, please!" A man jumped into the water but he could not find Earl. His wife said, "It serves him right. He was stupid for not learning to swim."

At the bottom of the sea, Earl had turned into a fish. His dream came true! He was the happiest fish in the world. He swam off into the sea looking for new friends.

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