

I saw it on the box

By Jonny White

Three characters having a conversation, each trying to have the last word.

- 1 Did you watch the telly last night. I crashed out when I got in from work and watched loads of stuff right through to closedown.
- 2 But they don't close down TV any more.
- 1 They do on one. Did you see that programme on David Bowie. I love Bowie. He's so brilliant. I worship the ground he walks on.
- 2 For me, it's Madonna. I'd do anything for her. She was on the box last night as well.
- 1 When?
- 2 About ten-ish. On four.
- 3 [Standing off to one side and has been listening to the conversation] I was reading the bible last night. God says that we should have no other gods before Him.
- 1 [Totally ignoring 3] And did you see that thing about the different religions of the world.
- 2 Yeah, where they were praying to those statues. Fancy spending all that time worshipping something made by man.
- 1 Yeah, it's incredible isn't it. That's the good thing about telly, isn't it. You get to find out about all these different things.
- 2 I can't get over how long those people spent in front of those statues. You wouldn't catch me spending that long doing nothing.
- 3 I spent time last night praying as well as reading the bible. God says that we mustn't make idols or bow down and worship them. I wonder if the television could be an idol?
- 2 [Turns back on 3] It's amazing isn't it that the TV companies cut out the swearing from films, but they leave in the blasphemy.
- 1 That's because it doesn't offend any one.
- 3 It offends God. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.
- 1 [Edging away from 3 and pulling 2 with him/her] You know I rent my TV?
- 2 Yes
- 1 Well they do a 24 hour, 365 day a year service. If it breaks down, they'll be out within the hour.
- 2 That's amazing.
- 1 There's only three of them as well.
- 3 Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall work but on the seventh you should rest and devote it to the Lord your God. Why is your TV more important than their rest day?
- 2 Are you going to your mum's for her birthday this year?
- 1 No, there's a grand prix on and it's the last episode of that documentary about families through the ages.
- 3 Did you know the bible tells us to honour our father and mother.
- 2 Hey, did you see that real life programme on the New York cops.
- 1 What, the one where they showed that bloke shooting that old bloke just as the cops arrived.
- 2 Yeah. Now that's what I call real excitement. Live killing on TV.
- 3 You shall not commit murder.
- 1 Do you like those sleaze documentaries?

- 2 I don't think I've seen any of those. What're they about?
- 1 This week's was all about government ministers and who's sleeping with who. I think it's really funny when they're caught in compromising situations.
- 3 You shall not commit adultery says the Lord.
- 1 Crimewatch was on last night. There was a good bit about a lad who stuffed a tray of jewelry up his jumper while his friends distracted the assistant.
- 3 You shall not steal.
- 2 I love those programmes where people set their neighbours up. You can tell they're lying straight off. It really cracks me up.
- 3 You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour.
- 1 Have you seen Charlie's telly in number seven?
- 2 No.
- 1 It's brilliant. 40 inch screen. Dolby, surround sound, it's the real business. I'm so jealous.
- 3 You shall not covet your neighbour's house, wife or anything that belongs to your neighbour.
- 1 [Rounds on 3] Will you just shut up, you're so depressing. It's only TV we're talking about. Not real life.
- 3 Exits
- 2 Who was that
- 1 Someone I know from church.
- 2 I didn't know you went to church.
- 1 I don't very much these days. I never seem to have the time. [Start to Exit] Did you see that programme on Sunday about the

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