

The following is excerpted from

“FRESH CATCH OF THE DAY”

A Two Character Comedy

By Ken Levine

A presidential advisor is not welcome in a restaurant.

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# **FRESH CATCH OF THE DAY**

A Cafe Play

by

Ken Levine

SYNOPSIS – A presidential advisor is not welcome in a restaurant.

CHARACTERS:

ALEX – Presidential advisor.  
JOAN – Waitress in a restaurant.

SETTING:

A small café.

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DINER -- DAY

ALEX ENTERS carrying an antique (a lamp, vase, clock). He crosses to the table. He's the only customer. SAM approaches with an order pad.

ALEX  
(relieved) Ahhhhhh! Air conditioning.

SAM  
Yeah. It's hotter than a hooker's doorknob on nickel night.

ALEX  
115 in the shade.

SAM  
Not to mention the fire in the hills it caused.

ALEX  
I know. My house is maybe a mile away. I had to just evacuate.

SAM  
Yikes. Well, as of now this is an emergency evacuation center. Stay as long as you want.

ALEX  
Really? That's very nice of you.

SAM  
I saw that musical -- "Come From Away." During 9-11 all these planes were forced to land in some tiny Canadian town where everyone can sing. It was very moving and hum-able.

ALEX  
We should all get our life lessons from Broadway. But thank you so much. You're a life saver.

SAM  
Don't mention it. That's what theatergoers do. (re antique) So is this all you brought from your house?

ALEX  
Everything else can be replaced. But this heirloom has been in our family for over a hundred years. It represents my heritage, my pride, my very identity. Do you have any idea how much that is worth?

SAM  
Well, just guessing but four dollars at a yard sale.

ALEX  
Priceless!

SAM  
That's what I meant.

ALEX  
Can I see a menu?

SAM  
No menus today. Not for you. It's all on the house. This is an evacuation center.

ALEX  
Wow. I'm so glad you saw "Come From Away" instead of "Miss Saigon."

SAM  
Just doing my civic duty.

ALEX  
What's your "fresh catch of the day?"

SAM  
(really selling it) Barramundi.

ALEX  
Oooh, Barramundi. That sounds wonderful.

SAM  
Perfect. (beat) Excuse me, but you look somewhat familiar. Have I seen you on TV? Maybe CNN?

ALEX  
Yes, I've been interviewed several times. I'm one of the president's chief advisors.

SAM  
Yeah! That's where I saw you.

ALEX  
Thank you.

SAM  
You looked great.

ALEX  
Really?

SAM  
Very spiffy.