

EXPANDED READER'S THEATER BASED ON  
***Paul Meets Bernadette***  
Written and illustrated by Rosy Lamb

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Arranged by CYRM committee members for classroom use only.

Characters:

Narrator 1

Narrator 2

Narrator 3

Paul

Bernadette

Paul: Paul...

Bernadette: Meets Bernadette!

Narrators 1 and 2: Written...

Narrator 3: and illustrated

Narrators 1 and 2: by Rosy Lamb.

Narrator 1: Paul used to go around in circles in his round, glass fishbowl.

Narrator 2: He made big circles . . .

Narrator 1: And little circles.

Narrator 3: That sounds pretty boring!

Narrator 1: (to Narrator 3) Stick to your lines. Anyway, what do you want? He's a *goldfish*!

Narrator 2: He circled from left to right . . .

Narrator 1: And from right to left.

Narrator 3: Left to right, right to left! (to Narrator 1) How can he stand it?

Narrator 2: He circled from top to bottom...

Narrator 1: And from bottom to top.

Narrator 3: Top to bottom, bottom to top, top to bottom, bottom to top ...

Narrators 1 and 2 (interrupting Narrator 3): And then one day ...

Bernadette: I dropped in!

Narrator 1: That's Bernadette.

Narrator 2: She's a goldfish, too.

Bernadette: What are you doing, Paul?

Paul: I'm going round and round. What else is there to do?

Bernadette: Haven't you ever noticed that there's a whole world out there?  
There are so many things to see. Come look over here.

Narrator 2: Paul and Bernadette see two bananas on a plate.

Bernadette: What do you think that yellow thing is?

Paul: (acting bored) Hum de dum

Bernadette: *That...*is a boat!

Narrator 3: (to Narrator 2) I thought you said it's two bananas on a plate.

Narrator 2: (to Narrator 3) It *is* two bananas on a plate.

Narrator 3: (to Narrator 2) But Bernadette says it's a boat.

Narrator 1: (frustrated) She's a *fish*!

Narrator 2: I think it's cute.

Narrator 3: Yeah, but...

Bernadette (interrupting Narrator 3): Paul, come over here.

Narrator 1: Paul and Bernadette look at a vase of colorful flowers.

Bernadette: Do you see the forest with trees of every color?

Paul: Yes, I do. How enchanting!

Narrator 3: (to Narrator 1) But it's a vase of flowers, right?

Narrator 1: (to Narrator 3) Yes! Be quiet! Just read your lines!

Bernadette: Do you see that round thing off in the distance? What do you think that is?

Paul: I just can't think.

Bernadette: *That...* is a cactus!

Narrator 3: (to Narrator 2) It's not a cactus is it?

Narrator 2: (to Narrator 3) No. (to the audience.) It's a large, green clock.

Narrator 3: A large, green clock, huh?

Narrator 2: Shhh! (whispering) I think she's very creative.

Paul: Aha! And what is that draped up there?

Bernadette: Why that is a lady's *dress*!

Narrator 3: It's a newspaper. (to Narrator 1.) *A newspaper, for crying out loud!*

Narrator 2: (whispering harshly) Quiet!

Narrator 1: (whispering harshly) Just stick to the script!

Paul: Oh, that is a dress! Of course, of course. What else could it be?

Narrator 3: Listen Paul, that is a newspa....

Narrator 1: (whispering harshly) You can't talk to Paul! You're a narrator!

Narrator 3: (whispering harshly) Sorrrr...ry!

Paul: I think that dress would look very pretty on you!

Narrator 2: Oh, how sweet.

Narrator 1: Paul spots something big and blue.

Paul: What is that?

Narrator 3: It's a teapot!

Narrator 2: (angrily to Narrator 3) Hey, that's my line!  
(to the audience) It's a teapot.

Bernadette: It's an elephant!

Narrator 2: (giggles) How charming!

Paul: Is she a dangerous elephant?

Narrator 3: No, it's a dangerous *teapot*!

Narrators 1 and 2: Hush!

Bernadette: She is not *too* dangerous. But you must not disturb her when she is feeding her babies.

Narrator 3: Or pouring tea into teacups!

(Narrators 1 and 2 glare at Narrator 3.)

Bernadette: (excitedly) Look up, over there!

Narrator 3: Now what?

Narrator 1: (matter of factly) A pair of glasses

Bernadette: (with great enthusiasm) A lunetta butterfly

Narrator 3: (sarcastically) Of course! It's so obvious!

Narrator 1: (to Narrator 3) Will you please just wait for your lines?

Paul: (to himself) Bernadette is so lovely.

Narrator 2: (looks at Paul and Bernadette, smiling) Isn't that adorable?

Bernadette: And do you see the tall buildings over there?

Narrator 1: Carton of milk and a jug of orange juice.

Bernadette: That's a city.

Narrator 3: What is it, *Milk-waukee*?

Paul: What is the name of the city?

Bernadette: Milkwaukee.

Narrator 3: Told you so.

Paul: Are those two bright-yellow circles down there fried eggs?

Narrator 3: You're right, Paul! They're fried eggs!

Bernadette: Are you crazy?

Narrator 3: I'll tell you who's crazy.

Narrator 2: (to Narrator 3) I'll tell you what I'm going to do to you if you can't be nice!

Bernadette: Of course they are not fried eggs! That is the sun and the moon!

Narrator 3: That's it. I can't take anymore. (Narrator 3 marches off-stage, disgusted.)

Paul: They are the sun and the moon. And you, Bernadette, are my star.

Narrator 2: (dreamingly) Oh, he's in love!

Narrator 1: (to Narrator 3) Hey wait! You're going to miss your line!

Bernadette: There is just one more thing in the whole world.

Paul: What is it?

Bernadette: (motioning downward) It's a....

Narrator 1: (whispering loudly offstage to Narrator 3): Hey Narrator 3! It's your line!

Narrator 3: (from offstage) It's really a spoon, folks!

Bernadette: It's a *fish*!

Narrator 2: Bernadette has shown Paul the whole world...

Narrator 1: And so Paul doesn't go around in circles anymore.

Narrator 2: He has something so much better to do.

Narrators 1 and 2: Now Paul goes around Bernadette.

Narrator 2: (to Narrator 1) How romantic!

Narrator 3: (from offstage) Well, he sure doesn't love her for her mind!

Narrators 2: (to Narrator 3 as they walk offstage) You just have no imagination!

Narrator 1: (to Narrator 3) They're just goldfish. What do you expect?