

Auto Flipping Heck - Playscript

Introduction

This is the playscript version of the book **Auto Flipping Heck**. More details can be found on www.pugneyspress.co.uk including a download link for this playscript.

The story premise

Paddles the penguin wants to buy a fish but cannot because of an uncontrollable set of flippers. **Ben** who lives next door tries to help. **Ben** resolves the problem with the flippers only after **Paddles** reveals a bizarre sequence of events. **Paddles** also turns out to be a toy penguin and only wants a fish to be like a real penguin. When **Ben** discovers this, he has an idea...

Notes on role playing

So, how about having a go at role playing this story? You might even end up on stage!

This play can be performed with just 2 characters and 1 scene - Wow!

Do you want to be **Ben** and try to help **Paddles** or be **Paddles** with uncontrollable flippers or maybe the **Narrator** who chips in occasionally to help move things along if those bits are not already being acted out?

You could even dress up a bit, how about making a penguin hat (see <https://kidscraftroom.com/penguin-hat-craft>). Also, **Ben** loves his football if you have one kicking around.

Characters

The main characters are **Paddles** and **Ben**. The **Narrator** is a separate role although can be shared in the absence of one. Acting can take over some or all of the **Narrator** role at a later stage, no set rules. Other characters that could play some sort of role in a larger production could include the bus driver, the boy with the balloon, the boy's mother and the shopkeeper, you might need to expand the script to include them though. For the purpose of this script, we can just stick with the two main characters, what a relief I hear 😊.

Auto Flipping Heck

A PLAY IN THREE ACTS

CHARACTERS

Ben

Paddles

Act One

Paddles tries to buy a fish.

Act Two

Something strange happens to **Paddles** in the shop.

Act Three

Ben begins to unravel the mystery.

Scene(s)

Garden

Take a breath then, ready, steady go ...

Narrator:

Paddles needs **Ben's** help but will **Ben** be able to save **Paddles** from a set of uncontrollable flippers. **Ben** listens carefully to **Paddles'** problem and begins to unravel the mystery.

Narrator:

Ben was out in his garden kicking a ball about. He saw **Paddles**, the next-door penguin, stood on the garden fence. **Paddles** was slapping his flippers together and saying over and over again, 'I wish I wish I had a fish to put in my dish...!' **Ben** walked over to **Paddles**.

ACT ONE

Ben: What is the matter?

Paddles: I want to buy a fish, to put in my dish but I cannot.

Ben: Why not?

Paddles: Well, I set off, crossed the road, to catch a bus, to go to the shop, to buy a fish.

Ben: What happened did you forget to take your dish?

Paddles: No, silly, I did not need to take my dish to the shop.

Ben: Oh sorry, that was silly of me.

Paddles: Anyway, I got a fish, put it in my shopping basket and went to the counter to pay.

Ben: Did you lose your fish on the way home?

Paddles: No, let me finish the story.

Ben: Sorry.

Paddles: I put the fish on the counter and then I just went flip flipping away.

Ben: Flip flipping, flipping heck!

Paddles: Yes, my flippers would not stop, I went flip flipping right out of the shop, past the bus stop, down the lane and across the road, right back home.

Ben: Did you crash into the house?

ACT ONE continued...

Paddles: No, my flippers just stopped.

Ben: It seems a strange thing to happen?

Paddles: I know, I looked at my dish, still with no fish and set off back to the shop.

Ben: Wow! After what happened to your flippers?

Paddles: Yes, I know it seems silly, I crossed the road and waited for the bus.

Ben: Go on.

Paddles: Well, when the bus came, I got on the bus and tried to pay and then I just went flip flipping away.

Ben: Flip flipping again? Flipping heck!'

Paddles: Yes, my flippers would not stop, I went flipping right off the bus, past the bus stop, down the lane and across the road, right back home.

Ben: Did you crash into the house?

Paddles: No, my flippers just stopped and I dare not go again.

End of ACT ONE.

ACT TWO

Narrator: *Ben thought for a moment*

Ben: Did something happen to make your flippers go flip flipping?

Paddles: I do remember something, it happened in the shop.

Ben: What happened?

Paddles: Well, there was a boy in the shop with a birthday balloon and I remember it had a big number five on it.

Ben: I am seven, nearly eight, and my birthday balloons always burst or end up floating away.

Paddles: It was one of those balloons that would float away if you let go of the string.

Ben: What happened?

Paddles: Well, the boy asked me if I would hold the string so he could go and choose some sweets.

Ben: Did you let go of the string?

Paddles: Well, yes.

Ben: Oh no!

Paddles: I had a firm hold with one of my flippers and then a strange thing happened.

ACT TWO Continued...

Narrator: Ben's eyes grew wider.

Ben: Go on.

Paddles: Well, the boy looked under my flipper.

Ben: The flipper you were holding the string with?

Paddles: Yes, then he turned and shouted "Mum, Mum, Auto flippers Auto flippers!"

Ben: Flipping heck!

Paddles: He tickled me under my flipper and I let go of the balloon.

Ben: Was he upset about losing his balloon?

Paddles: No, he just ran off towards his Mum shouting "Auto flippers Auto flippers!" again.

Ben: That is very strange indeed, but it must be something to do with you flip flipping away.

Paddles: Do you think so?

End of ACT TWO.

ACT THREE

Ben: Let me have a look under the flipper you were holding the string with.

Narrator: Paddles lifted up the flipper so Ben could have a look.

Paddles: Can you see anything?

Ben: No, can you lift your flipper a little higher?

Paddles: As high as when I held the balloon?

Ben: Yes, please, just a bit more.

Narrator: Paddles tried to lift his flipper higher, but it seemed more difficult without the balloon.

Paddles: That is as high as I can go, please do not tickle me under my flipper like the other boy did?

Ben: I will try not to, wait! I can see something.

Paddles: What is it?

Ben: It looks like a tiny switch and it reads "AUTO" and "OFF".

Paddles: Oh, please do not switch me off.

Ben: Do not worry, I think this is making you flip flipper away.

Paddles: Oh dear, can you switch it off?

Ben: I can, but I will need to tickle you under your flipper like the other boy did.

ACT THREE Continued...

Paddles: I do not mind if you can stop me flip flipping away.

Narrator: Ben moved the switch to OFF.

Ben: There, all done, you should not have any more problems with your flippers now.

Paddles: Thank you, now I can go buy a fish, to put in my dish.

Ben: Paddles, do you know you are a toy penguin and cannot eat a fish?

Paddles: Yes, I do know, I just wanted to get a fish to be like a real penguin.

Narrator: Ben had an idea and picked up his ball... Ben threw his ball and Paddles caught it!

Ben: There, you caught my ball just like a real penguin would do.

Paddles: Wow, thank you Ben! I do feel like a real Penguin now.

Narrator: Paddles threw the ball back to Ben and forgot all about the fish.

End of ACT THREE.

~~~~~Curtain call ~~~~~

~~~~~ END OF PLAY ~~~~~

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