

# FAUSTO e` MEFISTO

a very short play

by

James B. Campbell

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Mefisto appears as a little black dog doing "patty cake" movements and speaking to Faust.

MEFISTO

For the love of Mike, Faust. Do you really want to be a philosophy adjunct for the rest of your life?

FAUST

Funny you should say that. Say, how did a little black dog like you learn to talk?

MEFISTO

Details, Faust. Keep your mind on the main thing. I'm asking you a question and we don't have much time.

FAUST

Well, could you stop doing that "patty cake" routine while you speak? You're confusing me.

MEFISTO

I can't. That's how it starts. First patty cake and then, eventually... Ecco! Parlo l'Italiano! ... No, no, Inglese!

FAUST

English.

MEFISTO

That's it! Thanks.

FAUST

Ok, here's a biscuit. Maybe that'll help.

MEFISTO

I don't eat.

FAUST

A doggy that doesn't eat?

MEFISTO

I'm not a doggy. I'm the Devil. One of'm anyway. The dog thing

is a *stuck*. I got others. You've heard about the smoke bit. That's actually the most popular. Then there's the swan. I've been a tree, a camel (rarely used) and believe it or not a herd of swine. I loved that one. Would prefer me as a swine?

FAUST

No, really.

MEFISTO

A bunch of swine. More than one. Let me supersize your order – Ha, ha!

FAUST

What does that mean, "supersize"?

MEFISTO

Oops, that's for later. Way in the future. Part of our plan to have the whole human race .... Oops! I'm not supposed to talk about that. I'm not cleared for that.

FAUST

Oh, so that's a metaphor, right?

MEFISTO

What's a meta --- what?

FAUST

METAPHOR!

MEFISTO

I know whatta for, what's meta for?

FAUST

Oh, never mind. As I was saying, I have a secure job. I have tenure.

MEFISTO

Faust, don't get off topic. I'm making you an offer.

FAUST

Offer away.

MEFISTO

I'm going to give you top dollar for your soul.

FAUST

Top dollar? Look at you, you're a small dog. Where do you keep your wallet? Anyway I don't want dollars. Give me liras.