

The REAL Force Be With You

-a play in one act-
written for St. Luke's Camp

by

Bishop Marsh

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CAST

Narrator
Campers
Camper 1
Camper 2
Dart Bader
Camper 3
Buddy
Camper 4
Daisy
Minions
Dolphin Minion
St. Paul

SETTING

A Summer Camp

TIME

Movie Night

The stage is set with a series of boxes representing movie theatre seating. A lectern is stage right.

A banner reading “Camp Force be with You” hangs center stage

The Narrator enters and crosses to the lectern.

NARRATOR

Hello, everybody. And welcome to Camp “Force be with You.” Today, we are offering you a program of meditation, where seeks to present to you an example of our full camp experience. This presentation will give you a picture of the peaceful and meditative time we spend at camp. All the time. We all know that camp is a time of quiet, calm and joyful silence. Can't you just hear it? Listen. Ahhh...Peace and quiet. Now, sit back, close your eyes and just meditate.

The Narrator sighs.

Then, suddenly, there is a loud blast of music.

SOUND CUE: “Star Wars” theme.

Oh, I forgot There are times when it is not so calm and peaceful. And tonight, it's movie night.

Campers enter.

Here they come. The campers. They are very excited, as you can see. They love movie night.

CAMPERS

We love movie night! Yay!

NARRATOR

The campers took their seats and got ready for the movie. This one was a special movie. It was a space movie. And it was in 3-D. So everybody put on their 3-D glasses.

They do.

The campers watched the movie very intently. It was one of their favorites. It could be scary at times. During the scary parts, they would sometimes shiver.

They do.

During the real scary parts, they would scream.

They do.

They watched as the hero made his entrance. They all said “Yay. He's our hero.”

CAMPERS

Yay! He's our hero!

NARRATOR

They watched the love scene.

GIRL CAMPERS (sighing)

Aaaaah!

BOY CAMPERS (hiding their eyes)

Ewe!

NARRATOR

But they really got scared when the villain appeared. His name was DART BADER. They all screamed very loudly.

Campers scream loudly.

NARRATOR

Some of them even shivered.

CAMPER 1 (shivering)

It's Dart Bader!

CAMPER 2 (shivering)

The meanest villain ever!

NARRATOR

But, in the end, good triumphed over evil. And everybody was very relieved about that.

Campers all say “whew”.

But Dart Bader vowed to return.

We hear Dart Bader's voice on the microphone.

DART BADER (miked)

I'll be back.

NARRATOR

The campers were scared to hear this.

CAMPER 3

That's pretty scary.

NARRATOR

But one camper, a very brave camper named Buddy, was not afraid of Dart Bader.

BUDDY

You don't scare me, Dart Bader. I know just how to deal with you!

NARRATOR

So Buddy showed the other campers how he would deal with Dart Bader.

BUDDY

I'll take him out. I'll clean his clock. I'll send him to the outermost galaxy.

NARRATOR

Buddy showed how he would punch Dart Bader.

Buddy demonstrates his exceptional punches.

Buddy showed how he would kick Dart Bader.

Buddy demonstrates his "kick" moves.

And, finally, Buddy demonstrated his signature verbal strategy.

BUDDY

Dart Bader, you're finished. You are exiled to the farthest galaxy in the universe!

NARRATOR

Not bad, Buddy! Take a bow.

BUDDY

Thanks. I will.

Buddy bows.

NARRATOR

The campers were all impressed by Buddy's performance. They cheered for him.

CAMPERS

Yay Buddy!

CAMPER 4

Buddy, you're our hero.

BUDDY (modestly)

Yeah, I know.

NARRATOR

But Dart Bader is a very mean character. The campers thought Buddy should have back up. They all thought very hard. They murmured amongst themselves.

Much camp murmuring.

Finally, Daisy came up with an idea.

DAISY

I've got it!

NARRATOR

Daisy had the perfect solution.

DAISY

It's the perfect solution. The Lazer Force Mega Buster. Here it is.

Daisy produces the Lazer Force Mega Buster. (it is truly awesome).

DAISY (cont'd)

Made it myself.

NARRATOR

Everybody was very impressed by the Lazer Force Mega Buster. They applauded.

They do.

CAMPER 1

Way to go, Daisy.

DAISY

Thanks.

BUDDY

We won't have any problem with Dart Bader now.

NARRATOR

The campers were very sure that Dart Bader, if he ever dared to attack “Camp Force be with You”, they would take care of him. They decided to watch another of their favorite movies. They put on their 3-D glasses once again and watched as the movie began. This one was called: “Dart Bader attacks Jupiter.” This time, the campers didn't think Dart Bader looked very scary at all.

CAMPER 2

He looks kind of silly.

They laugh.

CAMPER 3

Look at his silly costume.

They laugh.

NARRATOR

And all the campers began to make faces at the movie screen and throw razzberries at Dart Bader.

They do.

NARRATOR (cont'd)

Finally, Buddy issues a challenge to Dart Bader.

BUDDY

I'll take care of you, Dart Bader. You're a bully. I dare you to come to our camp. I double-dare you. I TRIPLE dare you.

NARRATOR

Everybody applauded Buddy. Then Daisy pointed her Lazer Force Mega Buster at the movie screen. She said: "Take that, Dart Bader." And everyone applauded Daisy.

They do.

NARRATOR

But, then...suddenly, it got very dark.

Lights change.

There was the sound of thunder.

Thunder sound.

And the voice of Dart Bader was heard.

DART BADER (miked)

I hear that someone – in a galaxy very near - is making fun of Dart BAD-er. I am going to find out WHO IS MAKING FUN OF ME.

NARRATOR

Everyone was very scared. Some of the campers screamed.

Some screams.

Some of the campers shivered.

Shivering.

Then they all screamed and shivered.

They do.

Dart Bader enters. He is followed by his minions, one of which is a dolphin.

NARRATOR

Dart Bader was not pleased, That is when stepped out of the movie and confronted the campers.

DART BADER

I am not pleased. By the way, Narrator, I prefer my name to be pronounced BAD-er. Dart BAD-er. Got it?

NARRATOR

Dart BAD-er...

Dart Bader gives a thumbs up to the Narrator.

...pointed to the campers and said in his evil voice.

DART BADER

Tremble all you campers.

They do.

NARRATOR

Dart BAD-er enjoyed seeing the campers tremble. He laughed his wicked wicked laugh.

He does laugh a wicked wicked laugh. Then he stops laughing.

DART BADER

Someone here has been making fun of Dart BAD-er. And that's not funny. Who has been making fun of Dart BAD-er?

NARRATOR

The campers were scared. Finally, one of the campers asked about Buddy.

CAMPER 3

Where's Buddy? He's our hero. He promised to...you know.

Camper 3 demonstrates punches and kicks.

NARRATOR

The campers looked for Buddy. They found him hiding on the floor, covering his eyes.

NARRATOR (cont')

The campers pointed to him and said “Buddy.”

They point.

CAMPERS

Buddy!

BUDDY (scared voice)

Buddy's not here. Buddy's gone. He's far, far away.

NARRATOR

Dart BAD-er thought this was very interesting. He approached the stage. As he did, the campers moved away from his fearsome presence.

DART BADER

Well, well, well. I see somebody who looks a lot like BUDDY.

BUDDY

No. I'm not Buddy. Buddy's gone. My name is Bu...Bu...Buttonweiser.

DART BADER

Bu...Bu...Buttonweiser? Bu...Bu...Buttonweiser? That's the funniest thing I ever heard.

Dart Bader laughs his evil laugh. His minions join in.

I think I'll call you Bubba.

Dart Bader laughs his evil laugh.

DART BADER

Now, who was making fun of me? Was it you, Bubba.

NARRATOR

But Bubba...er, Buddy denied it.

BUDDY

No. It wasn't me. I would never make fun of Dart Ba...Ba...BAD-er.

NARRATOR

Now that Buddy had apparently vanished, the campers turned to Daisy to save them. They begged Daisy for her help.

CAMPERS

Daisy, you have to help us.

NARRATOR

So Daisy bravely confronted Dart Bad-er with her...What do you call that thing?

DAISY

It's my Lazer Force Mega Buster.

NARRATOR

Thank you, Daisy. Daisy pointed the Lazer Force Mega Buster at Dart BAD-er and told him to get out of their camp or she would blast him.

DAISY

And I will, too.

DART BADER (mock fear)

Oh, dear. I am so so scared. Look at me, I am trembling.

Dart Bader holds up his pinky and it is indeed trembling.

NARRATOR

Daisy warned him.

DAISY

I'm warning you.

DART BADER

Warning me? Oh, dear. Are you really going to fire that thing.

NARRATOR

Daisy told Dart BAD-er that she was going to shoot him if he didn't leave their camp

DART BADER

Give me that pea shooter.

NARRATOR

Daisy reluctantly gave her Lazer Force Mega Buster to Dart Bader. Dart Bader handed the Lazer Force Mega Buster to his dolphin minion.

DART BADER

Here. Hold this. But be careful. It looks dangerous.

He laughs his wicked laugh.

NARRATOR

Then, Dart Bader told the campers that there would be lots of changes at the camp. For one thing, “Camp Force be with You” would now be called...

DART BADER

“Camp Evil Empire.”

NARRATOR

Dart BAD-er's minions cheered. They wanted to name the camp after Dart BAD-er himself, but Dart BAD-er refused...

DART BADER (to the audience)

I'm too humble.

NARRATOR

Dart BAD-er's minions pulled down the sign saying “Camp Force be with You” and hung up a new sign saying “Camp Evil Empire.” Dart BAD-er admired the sign.

DART BADER

That looks beautiful!

Again, the wicked laugh.

NARRATOR

And who do you suppose was the evil emperor?

DART BADER

Why that's...ME.

NARRATOR

His minions loved the idea of “Camp Evil Empire.” They even brought Dart BAD-er a crown. But, because of his, er, clothing, he had no place to put it. So he just put it in his pocket.

DART BADER

For future reference.

NARRATOR

Then, Dart BAD-er sat down in a throne. He was very pleased with himself.

DART BADER

Very.

NARRATOR

He sighed a very satisfied sigh.

He does.

And felt pretty good about the fact that he had destroyed “Camp Force be with You” and replaced it with “Camp Evil Empire.” And he was the emperor. He loved that role.

DART BADER

It's the best.

NARRATOR

Being an emperor meant that he had lots of power over other people. He began to order the campers of “Camp Evil Empire” to call him emperor. They were reluctant, but they did.

CAMPER (dully)

Emperor.

NARRATOR

Dart BAD-er liked the sound of that.

DART BADER

Music to my ears.

NARRATOR

But something didn't seem quite right. He wondered what it was. He thought for a moment, then he had it.

DART BADER

They don't seem very...enthusiastic.

NARRATOR

He asked them to say emperor again, with enthusiasm. The campers just couldn't seem to express much enthusiasm for the emperor, but they tried to say "emperor" with a little more enthusiasm.

CAMPERS (a little more enthusiasm)

Emperor.

NARRATOR

Dart BAD-er was still not pleased, but he decided to accept it.

DART BADER

I can live with it.

NARRATOR

But Dart BAD-er loved the power of being an emperor. Many times, he said the word power many times each day. Here is an example...

DART BADER

POW AH.

NARRATOR

Yes, Dart Bader had the power and he was not afraid of using it. He told his minions to gather the campers together.

Dart Bader gestures to the minions to gather the campers together.

He placed the Dolphin minion in charge. The dolphin minion was very pleased.

DOLPHIN MINION

I'm the boss. And don't you forget it.

NARRATOR

Dart BAD-er ordered the Dolphin Minion to order the campers to bring him food and drink.

Dolphin orders. Campers do as directed.

And Dart BAD-er ate his fill.

He burps.

Then, Dart BAD-er ordered the Dolphin Minion to order the campers to bring him all their money.

They do.

But Dart BAD-er was not pleased with the money they brought him.

Dart BADER

That's all?

NARRATOR

The campers explained that they were just campers and they didn't have much money. But Dart BAD-er was still not pleased. He became angry...

DART BADER

I am very angry at you campers!

NARRATOR

So he decided he would order the campers to do nefarious things.

DART BADER

As in BAD things. You know, like Dart BAD-er. (he laughs at his little joke) And I am putting the dolphin in charge.

DOLPHIN MINION

I'm in charge. And don't you forget it.

-15-

NARRATOR

The campers were very distressed at this turn of events. The things that Dart BAD-er was teaching them at Camp Evil Empire were very different from the things they had learned at Camp Force be with You. They wondered what to do. Finally, Daisy had an idea.

DAISY

I think we should pray.

NARRATOR

The campers all agreed. So they knelt down and began to pray. This troubled Dart BAD-er no end.

DART BADER

I'm troubled no end.

NARRATOR

He ordered the Dolphin Minion to find out what was going on. So the Dolphin Minion asked the campers what was going on. They engaged in murmured conversation that lasted exactly five seconds.

Five seconds transpire.

And then the Dolphin Minion reported back to Dart BAD-er. Dart BAD-er asked what was going on?

DART BADER

So?

NARRATOR

And the Dolphin Minion told Dart BAD-er the campers were praying.

DART BADER

Praying? What are they praying for?

DOLPHIN MINION

They are praying for deliverance.

DART BADER

Deliverance. Deliverance from what?

DOLPHIN MINION

From you. And that's a good idea. I think I will join them.

OTHER MINIONS

We will, too.

NARRATOR

Dart BAD-er was furious at this development. He decided to do something very destructive.

DART BADER

We'll start with a thunderstorm.

There is a thunder clap.

I'll get rid of this deliverance prayer business.

NARRATOR

But instead of getting rid of the deliverance prayer business, a very strange form appeared. The form was dressed just like Dart BAD-er. If Dart BAD-er had looked in the mirror, he would have seen...St. Paul.

St. Paul enters, dressed like Dart Bader.

DART BADER

St. Paul?!!!

ST. PAUL

Yes. Dart Bader (he doesn't say BAD-er). St. Paul. I was just like you. Before...

NARRATOR

Dart BAD-er corrected St. Paul.

DART BADER

You need to know...I prefer Dart BAD-er...

ST. PAUL

Well it's going to be Dart Bader from now on. Dart BAD-er doesn't make sense. And it's pretty bad grammar.

NARRATOR

St. Paul approached Dart Bader's throne. He didn't bow to Dart Bader. Or bring him food and drink. And he didn't bring him money. He did something that shocked the campers and the minions. He sat down right next to Dart Bader. The campers and the minions were shocked. They all gasped.

They do.

St. Paul asked Dart Bader to imagine that he was a very evil superhero on his way to oppress people.

DART BADER

That's easy.

NARRATOR

St. Paul asked the campers to act out his story. The campers knew St. Paul's story very well. They heard about it at Camp Force be with You. A camper volunteered to be St. Paul. Another camper handed St. Paul a sword and a helmet. St. Paul described how he had oppressed Christians.

Camper St. Paul wields his sword. Other campers fall down.

St. Paul said that, years before, he enjoyed being mean.

DART BADER

Yeah. Way to go!

NARRATOR

But St. Paul explained there is a better way. He described his journey on the road to Emmaus. He saw a blinding light. He heard the word of God. And it changed his life. Forever. He took off his armor. He threw away his sword. He learned the ways of God.

ST. PAUL

And I have never been happier.

St. Paul takes off his Dart Bader costume.

The way God created me.

NARRATOR

St. Paul asked Dart Bader how God created *him*. Dart Bader said God had created him mean and nasty.

DART BADER

Very mean and nasty!

NARRATOR

But St. Paul explained that God doesn't create anyone to be evil, mean and nasty.

DART BADER

He doesn't?

NARRATOR

St. Paul explained that everybody has gifts; God-given gifts that can be used to the greater glory of God. For some reason, this caused a change in Dart Bader.

DART BADER

Suddenly, I feel very strange.

NARRATOR

He took off his costume. He took off his helmet. He felt a warm glow. He decided he would use his gifts to build up the kingdom of God.

DART BADER

I think I like this new me. But I'm not sure how it happened.

NARRATOR

St. Paul explained how with God everything is possible.

ST. PAUL

He can even change you.

DART BADER

Yeah. That's funny. You know, I've got an idea for a new movie.

-19-

NARRATOR

Dart Bader was all excited. But before he ran off to the film studio, he apologized to the campers and the minions for his past behavior.

DART BADER

Sorry, everybody. I apologize. I hope you can forgive me. Just wait till you see my next movie!

He starts to leave, then turns back.

Would someone take down that terrible sign? Evil Empire Camp. Yuck!

NARRATOR

The campers forgave Dart Bader, who had turned over a new leaf. He became a committed Christian and made very different movies from then on. The campers and the minions gathered together to watch the latest Dart Bader movie. They put on their 3-D glasses. The movie was called "May the Real Force be with You." And it told the story of how Dart Bader's life had been changed. At the end of the movie, all the campers and minions applauded.

They do.

And for one last time, Dart Bader stepped out of the movie to thank St. Paul, the campers and the minions for helping hiM to see the true light behind the Real Force.

Dart Bader enters.

DART BADER

Thanks guys. May the REAL Force be with you!

CURTAIN

The REAL Force Be With You

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