

The Price of Porpoise

Evan was a hunter. But he did not hunt big game. He hunted sea creatures. And of course he did not use a gun. He used a camera. Every so often, he chose a theme and went from beach to beach taking photographs that fit into the theme. The current theme was “Porpoises Lolling on the Beach”. By chance, he found a sandy beach with maybe a hundred porpoises in every conceivable state of lolling. Excited, he took out his camera and started snapping photographs, but he was interrupted by a grizzled old beach dweller. “You know, this is my beach”. Evan continued to line up his next shot. “Yeah, nice beach. Great lolling porpoises”. The beach dweller continued. “They’re sea lions, but never mind. Each picture is gonna cost you -- ten cents per porpoise.” Evan didn’t look at him. “That’s ridiculous. These are all God’s creatures.” The beach dweller turned away and called 9-1-1. Moments later, the police were on the scene. They grabbed Evan and seized his camera. Evan struggled “What are you doing!?!?” But the cops had prior run-ins with Evan and frankly were tired of his antics. One of them replied wearily, “For every theme there is a seizing, and a dime for every porpoise, hunter Evan.”

