

Satan on the Beach

By Jack Hall

www.sundayschooldropouts.com

CHARACTERS

Jim- A TV journalist

Satan

JIM: This is Jim Tucker coming to you today with an exclusive interview with a figure who has roamed and ruled the Earth for thousands of years. His name is Satan, and he's the guy behind every war and man-made atrocity in the history of the world. You may look at the headlines in the papers and think that he's busier than ever, but the strange truth is, the devil's been off the grid for quite a while. In fact I found him right here on this beach, drinking pina coladas and reading the latest dime store romance novels.

Satan enters, the typical devil in red with a tail and horns, holding a tropical drink.

JIM: Most of the time, the prince of darkness likes to keep to himself, but today, for the small price of my soul, he's agreed to sit down for an interview with us. Satan, I'm delighted to meet you.

SATAN: Ha. You say that now.

JIM: So, Satan, for a guy who rules the Underworld and is essentially the root of all evil, you look remarkably relaxed.

SATAN: Of course I'm relaxed, you idiot, I'm on vacation.

JIM: Vacation?

SATAN: That's right, dirt bag. I've been kicking it on this beach for the last several years. Can't you tell?

JIM: You certainly look like you've had some sun.

SATAN: That's just my natural red glow.

JIM: Forgive my surprise, but seeing how there's so much evil in the world, I expected you to be working hard.

SATAN: Work? You never heard of the sin of sloth?

JIM: Of course I have. I guess I just didn't expect it to be high on your list.

SATAN: Listen, dumb, I've been waiting a long, long time to slack off, and now that I have the chance, I'm going to enjoy it!

JIM: Why do you keep calling me names?

SATAN: Because I hate you.

JIM: You do?

SATAN: I hate all humans. It's my thing.

JIM: Fair enough. So how did you end up on this extended vacation?

SATAN: Well, stupid, I spent a lot of years working my red tail off trying to destroy

humanity directly. It was very rewarding to take down a clergy member or destroy a family one on one, but it was hard work.

JIM: Sounds exhausting.

SATAN: Then one day it hit me: why am I taking these people on head to head? So long as they know they're going up against me, all they gotta do is fall back on the Big Nasty and I'm toast.

JIM: You mean God?

SATAN: Say his name again, and I will punch you right in the kidneys.

JIM: I'm sorry.

SATAN: I was fighting an up hill battle, Satan versus the people. I won as much as I lost, but I was getting tired of losing. So one day I took a time out to step back and figure a few things out. And you know what I realized?

JIM: Tell me.

SATAN: The one thing Goody Two Shoes loves more than anything are you filthy humans. And the one thing he wants more than anything is for you mud bags to love each other. That's how He's able to spread his influence, by people loving their neighbors.

JIM: I see.

SATAN: And that, jerk face, is how I came up with the plan that landed me here on this beach.

JIM: Can I ask how it works?

SATAN: I turned His people against everyone else.

JIM: You did?

SATAN: It was so obvious! The moment I got people to turn on each other, I didn't even have to show up for work! The saved and redeemed began running and hiding in their churches. They turned their hatred for me toward their fellow man, and that, in turn, made the would-be redeemed turn against the church.

JIM: Very clever.

SATAN: Thank you, cream puff.

JIM: Cream puff?

SATAN: Yeah, buddy, I got it made these days. Those filthy believers are so hell-bent on fighting about abortion and gay rights and evolution and a hundred other causes, they've completely lost sight of the fact that their Heavenly Father loves their enemies as much as he loves them. They're so fired up fighting the good fight, they have no clue they're driving people out of Heaven!

JIM: That's terrible!

SATAN: I know! And not only are they driving people away from the Big Guy, all the time they spend on petitions and smear campaigns against their enemies is taking away from serving the poor and needy and destitute. It's a win-win all around.

JIM: Well, you certainly seem to have it made. But aren't you worried that by telling me these things, they might wake up and change course? I mean, what if they remember G-- I mean, you know who, loves their enemies and that you're the one true big bad?

SATAN: Look at me. I'm the devil. I have red skin, horns, and a tail. Nobody believes in me any more. Not even the people who condemn me every week in the pulpit. It's them

against them.

JIM: Still, there is a danger to your plan. If people realize what you've done, there could be a backlash.

SATAN: Who cares? One of these days, it's gonna be game over anyway. The only thing that matters is keeping you scum bag humans out of Heaven. By the time they finally come around, it will be too late for millions of souls.

JIM: I'm sure it will. But you can't get them all.

SATAN: No. But I got yours.