

HOW TO EAT A FRESH MAINE BLOBSTER

by

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SETTING — A seafood restaurant.

CHARACTERS — FRIENDS 1, 2, and 3. Later, a surprise guest.

AT RISE — The three FRIENDS have steaming plates of lobster. Mmmm.

FRIEND 1

Okay, so once you have the bib on...

FRIEND 2

Like this?

FRIEND 2 has slipped arms through the bib's holes. Stupid FRIEND 2.

FRIEND 1

(pulling bib off and then handing it back)

You tie these around your neck.

FRIENDS 2 and 3

Ohhhhh...

They do so.

FRIEND 1

Most people start with the claws, like this—

(tears off claw, pulls out meat)

Or if you want to jump right in to the tail—that's where the most meat is—you tear off this top shell here and then kind of rip off the backside...

FRIEND 2 starts on the claws. FRIEND 3 the tail.

FRIEND 1 (cont.)

You got it. And you can push that right through.

FRIEND 2

(dipping the claw in butter)

I feel like a savage. I love it.

FRIEND 3

What's all this green stuff?

FRIEND 1

It's called tomalley? I never eat it, but some do. I think it's what the liver used to be.

FRIEND 2

Gross.

FRIEND 3

(tasting it)

Mmmmm...

FRIEND 2

So these guys were cooked alive?

FRIEND 1

Absolutely. And they weren't all guys—see that red stuff there?

FRIEND 3

(tearing open the tail meat)

Yeah...?

FRIEND 1

That's called roe. Yours was a lady lobster.

FRIEND 3

Poor lady...

FRIEND 2

It's a violent, short, but delicious life they lead.

FRIEND 1

You know they used to feed these to servants and prisoners? Now it's a delicacy. Go figure.

FRIEND 2

Boy, tough life.

FRIEND 1

Right? There used to be so many—I guess once we ate most of them the prices started going—...

GIANT LOBSTER enters, looks around,
waves to FRIENDS, and then heads over.
Clumsily takes a seat.

GIANT LOBSTER

Hey guys. Sorry I'm late.

FRIEND 1

No, uh, that's cool.

GIANT LOBSTER

So what are we having?

FRIEND 2

Lob... blobster. Blobster.

GIANT LOBSTER

Hmm. Looks tricky. Let's see...

(tries to pick it up in one claw and
tear it apart with the other)

Geez, harder than it looks!

FRIEND 3

I can... if you want me to...

GIANT LOBSTER

Thank you! I'm all thumbs here, ha ha ha.

FRIEND 3 breaks off a claw, dips it in
butter, then tentatively presents it to GIANT
LOBSTER, who leans forward and slurps it
down.

GIANT LOBSTER (cont.)

OH MY GOD THAT IS AMAZING. What is blobster made out
of, anyway? Dreams?

FRIEND 2 begins weeping, quietly. FRIEND
3 looks ill but breaks off the tail and pushes
out the meat.

GIANT LOBSTER (cont.)

This is all I'm eating from now on. It's official. Mark the
calendar, kids. Oooh. What's all that red stuff?

FRIEND 1

(weakly)

Roe.

GIANT LOBSTER

ROE?

FRIEND 1

...Yeah.

GIANT LOBSTER

What's roe? It sounds delicious.

FRIEND 2 is outright sobbing now. FRIEND
3 makes a retching motion and then runs
from the table, hand over mouth.

GIANT LOBSTER (cont.)

WHAT'S ROE?!

END OF PLAY.