

"Operation Easter Egg Retrieval"

by Jennifer Graham Jolly

What In a script that is appropriate for all ages, Mission Control is overseeing a hunt

for Easter eggs. The unexpected happens when the coveted golden egg is

found—and it's empty. **Themes**: Easter, Resurrection, Empty Tomb

Who Mission Control 1(MC2)

Mission Control 2 (MC2)

When Present

Wear Casual office attire (khakis, rolled up sleeves, loosened tie) or suited up in spy

(**Props**) gear or matching agency jackets

Two Headsets with mics attached (don't need to actually function)

iPads/tablets

Could include a table with laptops, monitors, file folders, cup of pens, coffee

mug, office phone, etc.

Why Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

How This script could be used as an opener for a talk or lesson on the power of the

empty tomb for any age group, or it could be used in companionship with Resurrection Eggs for children. It can also be used a "stand-alone" with the optional ending. If using this script with kids, consider sending home an empty

golden egg as a reminder!

Time Approximately 4 minutes

Actors can be in place before lights up or can walk on stage while already in character and settle in as they deliver their first lines.

MC1 remains serious, or "all business", throughout the script and is obviously in charge. His hands are free except possibly a coffee mug. MC2 has a little lighter feel but still keeps a somewhat serious cadence. While MC2 uses his tablet frequently throughout, he still delivers his lines to the audience. He stays glued to the imaginary action. If using a table, be creative with your blocking—get up whenever you can; walk around the table, lean over the table in intense moments, sit on the edge of the table when appropriate, knock over the cup of pencils in your excitement, etc. Don't stay seated the entire time.

Lights up

MC1: (taps mic) Coms check?

MC2: Yes, sir. Coms are up and running.

MC1: Agents, this is Mission Control. We have visual (looking out in the audience as if screens are in place on the back wall). I repeat—we have

visual.

MC2: Agent Peeps, quit picking your nose. "We have visual" means that we

can see you.

MC1: Team, your mission remains the same—secure the coveted golden egg

while acquiring as many other Easter eggs as possible.

MC2: And let's keep the damage to a minimum. There's no need for a repeat

of what happened in Village Park.

MC1: T-minus 20 seconds. Proceed with checks.

MC2: Ready.

MC1: Baskets?

MC2: Check.

MC1: Easter garb?

MC2: Check.

MC1: Decoy eggs?

MC2: Check.

MC1: Metal detector?

MC2: Check.

MC1: Pepper spray?

MC2: Check. Good to go.

MC1: Agents, thumbs up if the Easter bunny is in sight.

MC2: Affirmative from Agent Hops, Agent J-Beans, and Agent Chicks.

MC1: Agent Peeps?

MC2: Waiting, sir...

MC1: Agent Peeps!

MC2: Again, with the nose...Agent Peeps is ready, sir.

MC1: Team, give it your best. It's all up to you now.

MC2: 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

MC1: Mission is a go. I repeat—mission is a go. Now get that golden egg.

MC2: Be advised, Agent Chicks. You have a group of female preschoolers on your six. Next time, let's use a little less glitter on that basket. (Almost

under his breath) Sparkles are like a magnet.

MC1: Agent Hops, be alert. There's a cache of purple eggs on your right. I see

4, maybe 5 in one spot. It could be a trap. Grab what you can but keep

focused on the golden egg.

MC2: Nice maneuver, Agent J-Bean! That was close. We lost a good agent last

year to a group of grandmothers with cameras.

MC1: We need eyes on Agent Peeps. Location, please?

MC2: Employing additional drone presently.

MC1: Still no visual?

MC2: Locating him now. Zooming in... It appears he's hiding behind the

candy counter. He's motioning something. (Leans in to try to see)

MC1: Has he secured the golden egg?

MC2: No sir? (Struggling to see and understand the hand signs) I believe...he

...he was frightened by the Easter bunny.

MC1: And he's just cowering?
MC2: Yes, sir. Cowering.

MC1: Is the basket safe?

MC2: Afraid not, sir. The pastel eggs are open, and Agent Peeps is... burned.

Chocolate is everywhere, sir—hands, face. He's done.

MC1: Deploy the extraction team right away.

MC2: Extraction team is on its way, sir.

MC1: Status update on the rest of the team, please.

MC2: Agent Hops has a wooden spoon and crazy look in her eye.

MC1: Why?

MC2: She's in line for the egg roll race. It's not good.

MC1: ____ This has happened before hasn't it?

MC2: (a little sheepishly) Yes, sir. She still has nightmares of losing last year.

MC1: She'll recover.

MC2: Respectfully, I disagree. She didn't just lose. She fell, rolled over her own

egg, and kept rolling down the hill. I'm not going to lie; it was not pretty.

We can't pull her out now.

MC1: (reacting suddenly) Son, are you seeing what I'm seeing?

MC2: Agent Chicks! Watch out!

MC1: Abort, Agent Chicks! Abort, now!

MC2: There's a dog in the field! There_is_a_dog in the field!

MC1: Acknowledge, please. There is a dog in the field and its owner does not

appear to have a baggie. (Looks away)

MC2: You're headed right for....

MC1: He stepped in it, didn't he?

MC2: Yes, sir.

MC1: He's crying, isn't he?

MC2: Um, yes sir... And people are beginning to laugh and point.

MC1: His cover's blown. We'll go back for him.

MC2: Yes, sir.

MC1: Okay. We still have 1 agent left. We can still find that egg.

MC2: Sir, it seems the target is in sight.

MC1: It's about time.

MC2: Agent J-Bean wants to know how to proceed.

MC1: Acquire the target. Acquire it now. Let's end this thing.

MC2: Proceed Agent J-Bean.

MC1: Do we have it? Do we have the golden egg?

MC2: Affirmative. The target is acquired.

MC1: Nice work, Agent J-Bean.

MC2: Permission to access?

Build intensity.

MC1: Permission granted. Proceed with great caution. We have no intelligence on what could possibly be inside.

MC2: Agent J-Bean is now opening the golden egg... The egg is open...

MC1: The contents! What are the contents?

MC2: The egg is...empty?

MC1: Please, confirm Agent J-Bean.

MC2: Confirmed sir. The egg is empty. I repeat, the golden egg is most

definitely empty.

MC1: This is not at all what we expected.

Stop here if using as an intro to a talk or lesson on the surprising power of the empty tomb. If continuing, either have a third person step out to deliver these lines or have

MC2 break character by laying down the headset and tablet or handing it to MC1 and then stepping out to conversationally share the following lines with the audience.

BRIDGE:

Surprised? Maybe, a little confused? You were sure something amazing was in that golden egg, weren't you? Mary may have known exactly how you're feeling right now. Imagine how she must have felt the day she came to mourn at Jesus' tomb just 3 days after she watched him die on a cross. She hadn't just heard that he died; she witnessed it with her own eyes. She knew exactly where he was buried. She loved him. She believed him to be her Lord and Savior. He was a great treasure to her!

But when she sought him in the grave—fully expecting him to be there—the tomb was...empty. Just like with our golden egg, her treasure wasn't found inside. But don't worry. Her disappointment didn't last long. Guess who greeted her while she was crying and bewildered? An angel. An actual angel! He even spoke to her and reminded her that Jesus was risen from the dead, just like he said he would do.

So, an empty tomb was not a bad thing at all. An empty tomb meant that Jesus Christ had defeated death, Satan, sin, and hell! An empty tomb means that we can have a real, living relationship with God because Jesus took care of our sin problem. And that's the very reason we celebrate Easter at all.

So, why was an empty golden egg worth finding? Because that empty egg reminds us of an empty tomb and there is no greater treasure than that. Happy Resurrection Day!

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