

Owl Man

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2018

1

EXT. WOODLAND - DAY

1

Monty walks in woods, sees man in tree dressed as owl.

OWL MAN

You can't get to the top if you
stand at the bottom.

MONTY

What?

OWL MAN

Nevermind, just leave me in
peace.

CUT TO:

2

INT. CABIN - EVENING

2

Monty arrives at cabin. Sits down with Fitz with tea.

MONTY

Walking through the woods I saw a
man in a tree, dressed as an owl
of all things. He called down to
me saying, You cant get to the
top if you stand at the bottom. I
wasn't going to climb up, what do
you make of that?

FITZ

Well, I say, that's most unusual.
Dressed as an owl you say, well
I'm blown.

MONTY

Highly unusual, I don't know what
to make of it.

FITZ

Do you think he's been sat up
there long?

MONTY

Well, it seemed he may have
indeed. Not to be funny but his
feathers seemed rather ruffled.
Quite a shabby appearance.

FITZ

These words he said, perhaps
there was something more to them.
You hear that clever chaps
sometimes 'crack' as it were.

(CONTINUED)

MONTY

Perhaps cracked, yes. But something more to his words, what are you getting at there?

FITZ

Well, it could have been a proverb. If you don't climb you don't get anywhere. He may see himself as above others sat in that tree there.

MONTY

What a fascinating thought, a clever chap living in a tree, insulting passers-by. Haha. You have quite an imagination there, old sport.

FITZ

A little far fetched I know, but that would be quite something.

They sat next to the fire smoking their pipes, drifting off as the night grew darker.

CUT TO:

3

EXT. WOODLAND - DAY

3

Monty and Fitz go back to see Owl Man.

MONTY

Well hello there, old sport, about what you said yesterday. Seem to me it was a proverb, sir.

OWL MAN

Mate, I wouldn't think much about it. I'm just enjoying the peace. It's lovely here, I am meditating and getting closer to peace, perfect peace.

MONTY

Oh, I see there old chap. Well, I am awfully sorry to have disturbed you. I will be on my way, cheerio!

OWL MAN

Fair well, man. May peace be with you.

Monty and Fitz walk away, and Owl Man watches them leave.

(CONTINUED)

OWL MAN
(Too quiet for the two
people to hear)
If those two could learn to
meditate rather than come out to
the woods hunting... they would
feel much more relaxed.

Owl man closes his eyes and has a flashback.

CUT TO:

4

INT. CHILDHOOD HOME KITCHEN- DAY

4

Owl man as a young boy. His Mother is sat at the table.

MOTHER
Why, oh why? I wish I didn't have
to go!

OWL MAN
But, mother, you don't have to.
Nobody is forcing you to go to
Church.

MOTHER
But Darling, I must go. God would
know if I didn't go. I am just so
tired, I don't feel well, and I
don't like the people that go
there with me. It isn't fair. I
just want to feel close to him
but I can't anymore.

OWL MAN
But you could pray at home with
me, God will know you haven't
forgotten him.

MOTHER
But it's just not the same. I will
go next week, I promise.

CUT TO:

5

INT. CHILDHOOD HOME BEDROOM -DAY

5

Owl man is sat on his bed reading a book.

OWL MAN
(Reading aloud from a book)
"Buddhists can reach
enlightenment through meditation,
fasting and praying."
Enlightenment, that must be like
being closer to God. I'd hate to
end up like Mum, she's so sad.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

OWL MAN (cont'd)
This seems like a much better idea. "Some Buddhists sit under trees for years with evidence they never ate or drank the whole time". What a bonus, as well as being enlightened, close to God. I could also live my passion for Owls, by actually dressing as an owl and living in a tree. This idea is genius.

CUT TO:

6 EXT. WOODLAND - DAY

6

Owl man walks in woods, stops at the base of a tree and looks up. He puts on an owl costume and climbs.

OWL MAN
Well then, this is great. Peace.
Ready to feel close to God! If
Buddha can do it then so can I.

CUT TO:

7 INT. CABIN - EVENING

7

Monty and Fitz are sat in the cabin.

MONTY
Well old chap, it would seem I was wrong about old owl man in that tree. Not cracked at all. Just being peaceful.

FITZ
Yes, Old sport. I do feel quite the same. But there is a mystery. I was thinking about it and he indeed has been up there some time. What is he eating? Or drinking? Most unusual.

MONTY
Rather a mystery, I don't know. Meditation though, that is a great idea. You know I've never tired I suppose coming out to this cabin is a sort of meditation in a way, it is terribly relaxing.

FITZ
I doubt the hunting really does us very well for being peaceful, I mean its quite enjoyable but

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FITZ (cont'd)
really, it's not exactly good for
the soul as it were.

MONTY
You are on to something there,
old chap. I say, well, tomorrow,
perhaps we should give this old
meditative stuff a whirl. See how
it goes, God knows I need to
relax a bit more.

CUT TO:

8 EXT. WOODLAND - DAY

8

Monty and Fitz come to a clearing in the woods.

MONTY
Well, this seems a good a spot as
any.

FITZ
Right you are, old boy.

They sit and close their eyes. Through the tree canopy,
Owl Man can see them and laughs to himself.

OWL MAN
Fair play to those two, what a
funny pair of old boys.

9 EXT. WOODLAND - NIGHT

9

Monty and Fitz wake up exactly where they had meditated.

MONTY
Well, were we meant to fall
asleep?

FITZ
Not as far as I know, oh well. It
was a jolly good nap. The
question is now... Where on earth
are we?

MONTY
Well, I say. I'm not quite sure.
Perhaps we could ask that Owl Man
chap, for a point in the right
direction.

FITZ
Yes, I bet he would know.

They walk and come across Owl Man's tree.

(CONTINUED)

OWL MAN

Hello there! Well, it's a little late for a walk isn't it boys?

MONTY

Well, you're quite right. We had a go at this old meditation but in honesty, it didn't go quite right.. we both fell asleep!

OWL MAN

I know

FITZ

How on earth do you know?

OWL MAN

Well, I had a perfect view of you both from here.

MONTY

Well old chap, the problem we have is, we aren't quite sure where we are! Could you by chance guide us back to our cabin?

OWL MAN

Umm.. Yes, yes, that would be fine.

He climbs down to the ground.

OWL MAN

Well, it's been ages since I was last down here. I think it's been around 2 years, but I couldn't be sure. I feel quite well.

MONTY

How on earth?... well, thank you very much old chap.

Owl Man walks them back to their cabin.

MONTY

Don't suppose you would like to come in for a tipple old chap, or perhaps just a jolly good old chat?

OWL MAN

Uhh.. yes. That would be lovely actually. Yes.

CUT TO:

All three characters sit down around the fire.

MONTY

Thank you very much for getting us back here.

OWL MAN

No worries, glad to help you.

OWL MAN

By the way, my name is Clark.

MONTY

Same to you! Well, Clark. Do you truly live in that tree? And two years you said, surely you couldn't have been up there that long?

OWL MAN

Well, I have indeed. I'll explain. Just over two years ago, my Mother died. After the funeral, I couldn't understand why God would have taken her away from me. You see, when I was a child, my mother, she had trouble with her faith. At the time I found out about Buddhism and researched that a fair bit. Although a totally different religion, I believed there was something to it. When my Mother died, I thought back and decided to come here. To meditate, fast and pray to feel closer to him.

FITZ

Did you fast for two years?

OWL MAN

Yes, I did. God can do great things.

MONTY

Good lord!

OWL MAN

Exactly right, he is. So that's my story and that's why I'm here.

MONTY

I do feel somewhat bad for bringing you down from your tree now.

(CONTINUED)

OWL MAN

No, not at all! I think I was waiting, or rather, God had a plan that this was the right time and that you two would come along and need my help.

FITZ

I don't know what to say. I am quite astonished. What a chap you are to meet.

OWL MAN

Today you tried meditating. It really can be a great source of relaxation. Perhaps try again and not fall asleep?

MONTY

I think I will old chap.

FITZ

Yes, we both come out here to escape but in honesty, all we do is drink, smoke and hunt. Truly it doesn't make us feel better.

OWL MAN

This could help you both out. When you head back to the world, could I come with you? I feel ready now.

MONTY

Of course, old boy, of course.

CUT TO:

11 INT. CAR - DAY

11

All three characters are in the car driving away.

MONTY

Great holiday, eh, Boys?

FITZ/OWL MAN

Rather!

THE END