

Achilles

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2nd Draft

FADE IN:

INT. BATHROOM. DAYTIME.

A man, Achilles, stands in front of a mirror finishing the shave and shape of his beard. We track forward slowly.

MAN (V.O.)

Look at me. Am I not big and beautiful, the son of a great man, with a Goddess for my Mother?

He leans forward to wash his face, the reflection, which at first was smiling proudly, changes to a condescending smirk and then follows suit bending down a fraction later.

MAN (V.O.)

But Death and sovran Destiny are waiting for me too.

The youngish man looks at himself in the mirror, he looks tired and apathetic. Drained and aged passed his years. He stares at himself with a sense of confusion and lost.

He slowly tilts his head to the side. The reflection mirrors, but something seems off..

MAN (V.O.)

Let me not then die ingloriously and without a struggle, but let me first do some great thing that shall be told among men hereafter.

CUT TO:

An ECU of the mans face from the opposite angle. He is intently staring at the man with disdain.

CUT TO:

ECU of his mouth, the lips curling with a contemptuous grin.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY. DAYTIME.

A picture of Achilles shaking hands and receiving his diploma hangs proudly on the wall at the top of the stairs. His reflection glances at it as he walks passed. His distorted face reflecting back at him.

MAN (V.O.)

Any moment might be our last. Everything is more beautiful because we're doomed. You will never be lovelier than you are now. We will never be here again..

He shuffles down the staircase, passed the picture of his past and present. Similar to that of a low-tiered primate he looks almost shameful of his own existence.

MAN (V.O.)
I am made of memories..

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM. DAYTIME.

He walks into his living room to find a projector playing an old silent movie. The room is dark and dusty. The projectors light cuts through creating a beautiful, majestic beam, the particles dancing in the light.

CUT TO:

ECU of particles dancing in the beam of light

MAN (V.O.)
Perhaps it is the greater grief,
after all, to be left on earth
when another is gone.

Achilles turns and watches the screen transfixed.

TITLE CARD:
A TRIP TO THE ZOO

On the screen in black and white is what looks like an old silent film.
A small picket sign stands slightly askew, pointing in various direction.

The signs read:
Imposter House
Award Shop
Nocturnal Beliefs
Petting Ego
Incompetent Kingdom

The path follows Imposter House. A man is walking along a sunny path holding the hand of a child. A small boy, his head covered with a hat as he walks with his head down eating an ice cream.

Achilles is bewildered. Who is that? And who is the boy?

On screen the man is sharply dressed with slick hair and a straight back. He looks good, much better than Achilles does standing there in his living room, shirtless, with scruffy hair.

The man on the screen looks up and stares back at Achilles in his living room with disgust, it's him! For a moment they just stare at one another... He stands motionless, a stand off, not knowing what to do...

Inside an enclosure there are several animals, chained and hiding in small holes, barely big enough to lay curled. They look to be humanoid in shape, a solitary figure sits facing the wall hunched over.

The pair approach the fence, a sign on the fence reads;

Homo-Phallius (or Homo-Failurens)

Closely related to the chimpanzee, the Homo-Phallius are set aside by opposable thumbs and a fear of self doubt. When attracting a mate they require extra attention and a special substance to attract their perfect partner.

Often believed to be indestructible, they are most commonly found hiding in dark places. However, these vulnerable creatures often live a life of isolation and paranoia.

In his living room the man watches, confused, intrigued and horrified.

TITLE CARD:

"Look Johnny, do you see what that is?!"

The man and boy are in front of a hole with a dark slumped figure near the fence.

They throw tomatoes and taunt it. Tethered the figure moves forward at the pair..

Achilles in his living room is scared.

The chain tightens and with a jolt, the light shows the animal/monster is tethered by his ankle. His face emerges from the light... it's him 30 years from now. Alone and old, his frail body has been chained and made to be humiliated.

In his living room, the man is shocked and petrified. What have they done to him? How can he escape this?

The man and boy laugh excessively on screen..

TITLE CARD:

"That's right, it's a FAILURE!"

On screen, the man laughing looks up at the man in his living room again. He stares intently his smile turning again into a contemptuous smirk and grimace.

The boy turns around from looking at the cage and he too has the face of the man in the living room.

MAN (V.O.)

I am air and thought and can do nothing.

THE END.