

A Wise Man Once Said

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BLACK SCREEN

A sentence appears in small white letters.

A wise man once said

"All great films begin with a cheesy quote."

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. WISE MAN'S ROOM - NIGHT

In a dark room a WOMAN'S hand closes a door in front of us. We hear her high HEELS as she walks toward the center of the room.

PAN UP on door to reveal the words:

The Wise Man

INT. WISE MAN'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

CLOSE UP on long white beard of the WISE MAN. We see his hand stroking his beard slowly and monotonously. He sits on a small round table with an empty chair facing him.

ANGLE on empty chair facing wise man. The woman enters our view and takes a seat in the chair.

MEDIUM SHOT on wise man. His face is expressionless with a slight bob in his head. He continues stroking his beard with ease, awaiting the woman's question.

MEDIUM SHOT on woman. She puts both hands on the table, frustrated with life.

WOMAN

Oh tell me wise man, why can't I seem to find the right man... one who'll treat me right and with respect?

Wise man strokes his beard for a moment to ponder,
carefully examining the woman as if he could read her.

WISE MAN

Look at my face young girl!
(pauses for her look)
Do I Look like a woman to you? I do not
deal in such womanly matters. Go ask the
wise lady on E street.
(a beat)

CLOSE UP on woman's look.

INT. WISE LADY'S ROOM - LATER

Still on woman's look. The room is exactly as before. Now
there is a wise lady facing the woman.

MEDIUM SHOT on WISE LADY. She is stroking her long braided
hair the same way the wise man was stroking his beard.

WOMAN

(tries again)
Tell me oh wise lady, why can't I seem
to find the right man... one who'll
treat me right and with respect?

Wise lady strokes her braids to ponder.

WISE LADY

(head tilts slowly to the right and
leans toward woman) Dat's because all
men are morons! Just take the wise man
down the street. He sent all his clients
over here to me—the wise lady. He
doesn't know jack! Ha ha ha ha ha...

WOMAN

(disappointed)
Oh wise lady, tell me something I don't
know.

WISE LADY

Sweetie, look at my hand. Do you see a

ring on this finger? If I knew the answer to your question, I would have snagged myself a man a long time ago. Go ask the wise couple on L street.

Woman, frustrated and losing patience, grunts and leaves for L street.

INT. WISE COUPLE'S ROOM - NIGHT

MEDIUM SHOT on woman's chair again. Woman enters view and sits down heavily.

WOMAN

OK! (slams hands down on table)
(looks down at something in front of her)

CLOSE UP on the WIFE's hand on table top. She gently strokes her RING in the same manor as the wise man.

WIDE SHOT of the scene. Woman is on the left of the table staring on the hands of the Wise couple. The couple is seated on the right of the table. The wife is behind her HUSBAND. Both their hands are rested on the table stroking their wedding rings.

MEDIUM SHOT on woman.

WOMAN

(raises her voice in frustration)
OK wise couple! Please explain to me.
Why I can't seem to find the RIGHT man,
one who'll treat me with respect?

Wise couple stroke their rings in reflection. After a beat, they look at each other for agreement.

HUSBAND

Dat's because all women are idiots.
Until they find the right man, then
they become smart, like my wife here.

WIFE

Did you think I was able to find my
husband on my own? No. I had the advice

of the wise man on M street.

WOMAN

(pissed off)

Arrrrggg! But I was just at the wise man, and he sent me to the wise lady and she sent me to you!

WIFE

Ahh. You have to first prove to the wise man that you are worthy of his advice by admitting that you and all women are idiots.

WOMAN

(taken aback)

Come on wifey, who do you take me for?

WIFE

Hey. (grabs husband in her arms) Are you gonna argue with results?

WOMAN

(throws up arms in surrender) OK, he better have an answer for me this time!

INT. WISE MAN'S ROOM - LATER

Wise man is stroking his beard more peculiar than before as if he had been waiting for the woman to say the words.

WOMAN

(defeated)

OK, wise man, you win. I am an idiot. All the women on this God forsaken planet are idiots! Now. Please enlighten me with all of your unsurpassed, manly wisdom. Why can't I seem to find the right man? Where have all the good men gone?

Wise man continues stroking his beard as if he had been waiting to hear these words for all his life. After a beat.

WISE MAN

(with great satisfaction)

Dat's because you're an IDIOT!!! Ha ha
ha ha ha.

Laughing intensifies. Woman, shamefully embarrassed, is about to cry, when suddenly...

(off camera) the voices of the wise lady and wise couple join in the wise man's laughing.

WIDE SHOT on all them laughing at the woman.

CLOSE UP on woman. She is confused and disoriented (like in a dream) as to why these other wise guys have appeared.

Laughing continues.

FADE TO BLACK.