

# *Thoreau and the Trillionaires*

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***Fourth of July Barbecue, Elon Musk's Estate (Scene 1)***

Musk

Welcome. So glad you could make it to my BBQ for the fourth!

Zucky

Thanks for having us.

Mr Beast

HEY GUYS! WHATS UP! I'VE JUST FOUND ELON MUSK! ELON SAY HELLO!

Musk

Hey!

Mr. Beast

FOR THE NEXT 100 PEOPLE WHO LIKE AND SUBSCRIBE TO THE VIDEO, ELON MUSK WILL BRING YOU ON HIS TIME MACHINE!

Musk

No, I will not. How do you even know about that? I haven't even told you yet?!

Mr. Beast

AND NOW WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A BBQ CONTEST WITH MARK ZUCKERBERG, OUR NEWEST SPONSOR!

Zucky

Oh, erm, no thank you. And... Facebook does not sponsor you? You don't match the business model, we actively compete against Youtube.

Mr. Beast

Um... okay [whispering], Ethan, my editor, take this part out.

Musk

The reason I have invited you here is because I have a proposal. I, along with my company, SpaceX, have discovered a new technology that would allow for time travel. Tickets start at 4 million dollars. We leave tonight.

Zucky

Yeah, erm, I have my testimony in the morning about the ethics of my business ventures. Thank you for the offer anyways.

Musk

That's *exactly* why you should come! Don't let those *idiots* take away your company... *or in my case, companies.*

Mr. Beast

[Mr Beast cuts in with] AND NOW YOU GUYS CAN SEE THE BEEF GOING DOWN BETWEEN MY BOYS ZUCKY AND MUSK. GET OUT YOUR POPCORN BECAUSE ITS GOING DOWN.[Spills some water on time machine and tries to hide it]

Zucky

Oh cut it. Who even invited you?

Musk

I did.

Mr Beast

[gives a look as if to say, "see, I told you so"]

Zucky

Why invite this youtuber who appeals to tween boys?!

Musk

Because if this is to go down in history, if this is to make me a standard in the eyes of the future generations, I need someone to appeal to the younger audience. Mr. Beast makes the cut.

Zucky

I guess. But I'm taking no part in this.

Musk

You took part in this the second you stepped through the door.

Zucky

What do you mean?!

Musk

I mean that you are already initiated and we take off in 3... 2... 1...

[Suddenly they are all in the time machine together and jump up. They fall to find themselves in a place they've never been before: Walden Pond.]

### ***Thoreau's Cabin (Scene 2)***

[Flash to Thoreau, farming beans, and not eating them.]

Thoreau

Ahhh... the joys of farming...

Let me tuck these beans away to provide for my sustenance. These beans are magnificent, supple, weeds for thinking... look at all these beans...

What are these curious noises I hear that interrupt my monologue of enlightenment?

[grabs ear and tries to listen in]

[BIG CRASH NOISE] [Thoreau Jumps in surprise and falls over]

Mr Beast

WHATS UP GUYS, WE MADE IT TO... WAIT WHERE ARE WE?!

Thoreau

[Gets up while dusting himself]

Greetings strangers. I am Henry Thoreau. I find it curious that the trees did not warn me of your coming. What brings you to the eternally beautiful Walden Pond?

Zucky

By any chance, is your middle name David?

Thoreau

Why yes, how did you know that?

Musk

You should totally write a book someday. Call it Walden, and make sure not to edit it. Ok, let's go back. [Starts poking at the time machine and his expression becomes increasingly more concerned.]

Mr Beast

Come on, we need some content for my video. I didn't pay you 4 million dollars for nothing! I've got bills that need to be paid. I could have been filming a different challenge video!

Zucky

Elon is right. As much as I would love to get Thoreau on Facebook, we've done what we came here to do. We should be getting back to the present.

Mr Beast

[Mr. Beast sighs and looks angry.]

Musk

Come over here. We have a problem.

[Zucky and Mr. Beast walk over.]

Thoreau

WHAT IS THAT???

Musk

[Looks angrily at Mr.Beast] It seems like someone spilled water on the time machine and destroyed it.

Zucky

[Sarcastically] Staying here will be like a dysfunctional camping trip. Or like spending time with your parents in their cave. All they do is hiss at you! Hissssss!

[everyone stares confusedly]

[in a defeated tone] Oh, just me?

Thoreau

You're welcome to stay in my cabin. You can see it over there [points to box]

Mr Beast

THERE IS NO WAY YOU LIVE IN THERE. I THINK I WOULD RATHER SLEEP ON THE GROUND. UNLESS WE'RE DOING A CHALLENGE FOR MONEY.

Thoreau

Suit yourself.

[Thoreau saddles himself into his cabin as night falls. The rest of the group begins setting up on the ground of the forest]

Mr. Beast

This honestly isn't that bad. I've dealt with worse. I mean, remember that time when I survived on that island for 24 hours.

Musk

I actually watched that video. You had medical teams and people there in place to save you! You had every advantage. We are here with nothing. Nothing. How can you say that this will be a piece of cake!??

Zucky

Musk, you are gonna hear from my lawyers. This is unacceptable. If I'm stuck here... help me...

Thoreau

[comes out of his cabin stomping] You disturbers of peace! Subscribers to a society of neediness and wanting. Can't you see! You have everything by being here, by experiencing this. Isn't that enough!

Musk

Just wait, he's about to go on a rant. A long tangent!

Thoreau

Oh you sad souls. Can't you stop this discord and get along like civil beings who exist in harmony!

Zucky

I guess we could try and make the most of it.

[Thoreau wakes up bright and early. He farms beans, pulls weeds, reads, ponders, and then stares at his new visitors.]

**(Scene 3):**

[Musk, Mr. Beast, and Zucky are awoken by Thoreau's loud footsteps, and jolt up.]

Thoreau

Ah, finally! You all have wasted half the day with this slumber! Hark, see the light! Hark to discover the joys of solitude and isolation.

Musk

One of my robots would have made me breakfast and had my house cleaned by now. But I find it so admirable that you do everything by yourself Thoreau!

[Begins typing on a large phone. Then, flips the phone to reveal a tweet.]

Zucky

Yeah this is true, I can't believe this is how people lived, I could not survive with my butlers and trillions of dollars.

Thoreau

The more I hear your words, the more I lose hope in the future of humanity. I envisioned a future in which humanity embraces simplicity and harmony with nature. Your frivolous behavior and superficial lifestyle dishearten me.

Mr. Beast

WOW. This is crazy. I need to get this on camera! I am MR BEAST, the richest and most philanthropic Youtuber ever. Not to flex or anything.

Thoreau

What is a You-tube? And who are the rest of you? Why are you all so rich? What is going on here? Why are you here?

Musk

Slow down with the questions buddy, you should value my time. I am Elon Musk, owner of Tesla, SpaceX, and many other ventures. I create electric cars and vessels that transport the affluent to space.

Zucky

No wonder no one likes you Musk, you're volatile. I am Mark Zuckerberg, and Thoreau we share the same Alma Mater, I also went to Harvard. I own Meta and other companies encompassed in that. But, I don't brag or follow normal beliefs. I mean, I dropped out of Harvard!

Thoreau

Wow, so you all own many companies and are rich, with the exception of you... Mr. Animal was it? Is this what the future beholds. You all need to understand that materialism and this wealth is not the solution to your internal conflicts. I truly have achieved inner peace with my own monologue and narrative after living in this remote location. You all must learn about me and my humble abode, and bean farming lifestyle.

[they walk towards Thoreau's shack.]

Mr. Beast

My fans are not going to like this guy. I mean, my fan base is into craziness and fun, not philosophy and farming!

Musk

Oh would you shut up! You're so superficial, you're an entertainer of sorts, not anyone THAT important to society. Get over it. I advance humanity with my wealth, while you fool around.

Zukcy

Cut. it. out. We need to be objective here.

Thoreau

Why don't you come take a closer look at my cabin. I never do this, but I would allow you to stay in my cabin just as long as you build your own somewhere on this pond.

Zucky

We'd love to.

**Thoreau's Cabin (Scene 4)**

Thoreau

As you can see, this is my cabin. Here's the water jug, my cot, and here are my books.

Mr. Beast

[under his breath in an effort to make sure Thoreau doesn't hear] You guys cannot seriously think we're going to stay here forever? Right? We have to fix this time machine! I have content planned for months!

Elon

I mean, what other options do we have?

Mr. Beast

I am sure there is an amazon distribution center somewhere near here. I mean Jeff has them absolutely everywhere.

Elon

Don't you get it?! We are in a different time!

Mr. Beast

No! I think you just tried to trick us. This guy is probably a paid actor!

Elon

WE ARE IN THE EIGHTEEN HUNDREDS! HOW MANY TIMES DO I NEED TO EXPLAIN IT!

Thoreau

[in a slightly scared tone] Why do you argue with such vigor!

Elon

Oh, be quiet!

Thoreau

I must bid you all adieu should this continue. However, for now, would you like to use my restroom? It seems you haven't defecated in a day.

Mr. Beast

Okay, I believe you, Elon. You couldn't pay anyone to say that.

Elon

See! We have time traveled!



**Thoreau's Cabin (Scene 5)**

[Thoreau takes a walk around the pond.]

Musk

I'm the owner of some of the biggest companies in the world, I don't want to be the owner of a big bag of beans. Get me out of here!

Mr Beast

I think if we pay this Henry kid some money, he can take us back. I have to keep my image so maybe I say to Henry, "Henry, wanna stay in a circle for 24 hours? Or maybe be one of my players in Squid Game? Oh, or maybe buy whatever you can carry in a store?"

Zucky

Yes, but before that, let's get him added to Facebook if you don't mind. It's going to get good media attention. Maybe it'll even up our clientele to have a few more pretentious people, driving some controversy. Ah, this is going great.

Thoreau

[Walks back over after hearing his name.] I would not be pleased with money. A loan will only lead a man into dependency, and cause him to seek luxuries.

Mr. Beast

Oh, no, not a loan. I just GIVE you the money. No questions asked.

Thoreau

I think you misunderstand my meaning young man.

Musk

Yeah, I agree

Zucky

Oh don't you even. As if.

Thoreau

Why don't you guys stay back, the addiction to luxuries will only keep a person behind.

Musk

Dang, this guy thinks the same way I do. Unfortunately, I gotta get to mars.

Zucky

[Scoffs]

Mr Beast

No we are not staying back, how's my content gonna go out. I need Ethan to edit and upload. I've got a new brand release next week and we are doing a Squid Games part two!

Thoreau

It is not necessary for a man to venture out to mars, extend the metaverse, or get these "views" from random people. Rest here with me, and take in the spiritual greatness of nature.

Zucky

Ok Elon, please proceed to fix the machine. Get me away from this man.

Musk

Its not working.

Thoreau

All you need to do is tackle the problem with patience and clarity.

Mr. Beast

Be quiet, you're annoying me now, here's some money.

Thoreau

Arrogance will only hinder you in your goals.

Musk

Nothing is working... maybe we start to find merit in Thoreau's ways.

Zucky

It's worth a try.

[They keep working in harmony.]

Mr. Beast

*Woodchuck fixes it somehow*

Musk

Everyone get in!

[Thoreau steps into the machine.]

Musk

Get out Thoreau! Not you bud!!

Thoreau

[sad and disappointed] oh okay.

[suddenly they are transported back to their time]

Musk

[Freezes and holds up a poster that says: Musk turned into a survivalist. He took his spaceX rocket to mars and decided to live off of the land in Mars. He became a father to the new population on mars, causing all of them to be super geniuses.]

Zucky

[Freezes and holds up a poster that says: Zucky burned all of his money and moved into the woods of Los Angeles. Today you can find him rocking his signature outfit around the "nature" of Los Angeles. Sometimes you can even find him "camping" outside of the Apple headquarters in Cupertino, California, which doesn't make sense given he has no affiliation to Apple...]

Mr. Beast

[Mr. Beast, better known as Jimmy Donaldson, has been charged with evading taxes to fund his Youtube videos in an effort to display civil disobedience against capitalism. He spent a total of 24 hours in jail, framing it as a challenge on his Youtube channel.]