

Director: Hello, everyone! Welcome back to Early Evenings with Thoreau! Without further ado, here is—

[Thoreau interrupts director's cue and walks onto stage early]

Thoreau: What on earth? What is this green thing? And this fire? This factitious scenery is no match for the true power of nature!

Director: Um...welcome back, Henry. Don't worry, it's a green screen. We're going to add a forest in the background in post.

Thoreau: [annoyed]

Director: Today you're going to interview 4 different people, and I have a few questions for you to ask here. *[hands queue cards]*

Thoreau: [muttering] I'd much rather be in my cabin right now, but I guess we'll get through this...

[Thoreau silently sits down and stares into audience]

Director: Everybody please welcome Kim Kardashian, a celebrity known for...something!

Kim: [in a very Kim voice] hiiii!

Thoreau: [slightly confused] Hello Kim, thank you for joining.

Kim: So who are you again?

Thoreau: I am Henry David Thoreau, one of the best American writers.

Kim: [with a huge smile] I was just joking, silly! I've read your book, and it's a classic!

Thoreau: [surprised] Oh, really?! What's your favorite part?

Kim: Ummm...the part about the forest...

[they stare at each other until director interrupts]

Director: [interrupting awkward silence] let's get this interview started!!

Thoreau: [reading queue card] ok, I see our first question is what could you not live without. Kim, answer this question earnestly and without haste!

Kim: [thinking] well, one thing I can't live without is my KKW contour! It goes great with all my outfits, and speaking of which, you should really go to a mall sometime, your outfit is *hideous*.

Thoreau: [offended] Well, I never! Your audacity is incomparable, and your gewgaw doesn't help your case either. *[ranting]* You people and your materialism...your improvidence always results in superfluity and gets you further and further from living simply. Your ideals and morals are all wrong, I don't even need to talk with you further to figure that much out. Perchance if you got rid of some of your material possessions you would be happier. Your impertinent comment angers me greatly, we need to keep this moving.

Kim: Wait, I didn't...

Thoreau: [interrupting her] no - next, and probably last, question! *[reading queue card]* Wow, this question is hideous! I'll make my own...this one should show your true self! What is the thing you fear the most in modern-day society?

Kim: Well, I personally hate when women wear the wrong foundation color. It might be the worst thing on the planet when they wear their makeup too light. I'm also always afraid of losing my vacation house, the solitude is irreplaceable especially when I want to get away from my family sometimes!

Thoreau: [surprised] While I may not think your reasoning is quite the same as mine, your opinion is quite palatable. If you had read my book you would already know my views on solitude, but I'll tell you this - it's great!! An occasional break from all the trumpery is quite sublime, I'll agree with you on that.

Kim: Why thank you Henry, I...

[Thoreau starts violently coughing and stops in a few seconds]

Kim: Henry, are you ok? Do you want some water?

Thoreau: [gasping] Is the ice from Walden Pond?

Kim: Um no.

Thoreau: THEN NOOOOOOOOOOO

[Kim runs off stage]

Director: No, Kim! Um, what an exit, am I right audience? *cue audience to cheer* *start Logan music* Next, we have another extremely iconic figure of our 2010 youtube era, Logan Paul!

Logan: Yo, what's up

Thoreau: Um, pleasure to make your acquaintance

Logan: Yeah bro

Thoreau: So Logan, why don't you tell us about your new living situation

Logan: Yeah so I recently moved to Puerto Rico, got myself a dope mansion

Thoreau: Why would an individual such as yourself live excessively when you could live simply?

Logan: I don't know man I did it so I wouldn't have to pay taxes

Thoreau: You committed tax evasion?

Logan: What, are you gonna get all judgy about it?

Thoreau: No! Um.... I actually did something similar as well. I was walking home one night when this irate officer had me arrested for my refusal to pay a poll tax. I looked that man dead in the eyes and made it known I, for one, will not financially support a nation that wars and enslaves. I assume you had similar reasons.

Logan: (looking away uncomfortably) Yeah totally, something along those lines.

Look, if I can get real with you....my brother has just been a huge pain lately. You know, just always defying me, stealing my chicks. Like bro, you can't top me. Stay in your place.

Thoreau: I empathize with you. My very own brazen brother, the flesh and blood whom I started a business venture with, offers marriage to the same woman I was enamored with. His insolence will not go forgotten!

Logan: I'm totally feeling you. You know what I did? I wrote this sick song, put my little bro on blast, and got rich off that on YouTube. My diss has 287 Million views. We got loaded

Thoreau: We? I thought you were against your brother

Logan: Well, you know, in the end it's all content. He dissed me back and our popularity skyrocketed. That's all people care about, fights and conflicts, makes great entertainment.

Thoreau: I thought I found compatibility with someone, but in reality, you contribute to a mindless culture for ignorance and the uneducated. Instead of finding entertainment in what nature bequeaths, you fabricate lies that adhere to the lowest and most primitive qualities of man. We are supposed to evolve above that, but you bring us down.

Logan: Primitive huh? I am far from primitive! Let's fight this out man! LETS GO

Thoreau: (scared)

Director: Ok cut! That's enough. *escort Logan off stage* Oh my god they don't pay me enough for this.

*Logan gets escorted off

*Thoreau is left alone on the stage

Thoreau: (awkward moment) (all of the sudden) Hey look at those two ants fighting each other!

Director: Henry. Please.

Thoreau: They represent the battles of man. Just as we wage war against each other, they do it on a smaller scale, both vicious with our means-

Director: OH MY GOD HENRY WHO CARES

Director: Next, we have Elon Musk!

Elon: Where's the clapping?

Director: Ah, sorry about that Mr. Musk. *either motions or cues the audience to start clapping*

Elon: [walking onto stage, loving the attention] Thank you, thank you. So, where should I get started?

Thoreau: Well good fellow, it is a pleasure to meet here with you on this splendid day. Tell me, how have your inventions improved the daily lives of people here on Earth? This is surely a gainsaying question, as factitious technology has only such capabilities to defy the encumbrances of our vast world-

Elon: [cutting him off] Well, uh, to answer your question, the world is in really bad shape right now. The rate at which we are exhausting our natural resources is absolutely, just, absurd, so my companies, Tesla, SolarCity, SpaceX, they are all, like, working toward a future of sustainability and renewable resources.

Thoreau: The name SpaceX intrigues me. How were you able to cross out the expanses of our vast galaxy?

Elon: Is this actually one of your questions? Can I speak to the director? Is this a filler or-

Thoreau: Why, the way your people praise trumpety is causing out of hand dissipation and levity! Even nominal cavils are leading to strong outbursts!

Elon: Why are you suddenly bringing up Trump? Is this a plan to use my political views against me? Is that you, Zuckerberg?

Director: Ahem, ahem, please! It's...nothing like that. Henry, please! just stick to your queue card....

Thoreau: I utterly can not believe...!

Director: Henry.....

Elon: This is unbelievable! Have you been living under a rock? If you knew remotely about who I was, you would not be asking me these types of questions!

Thoreau: Why, I am Henry David Thoreau-

Elon: Thoreau? The *Walden* Thoreau? (whispering/yelling to his manager offstage) why didn't anybody tell me I was talking to Thoreau??? (regular conversation voice) Well, Henry, it is a pleasure to meet with you.

Thoreau: Why, I suppose I shall say the same.

Elon: Henry, you could not believe the things I've designed so far! I've made, like, *huge* spaceships that can transport hundreds of people from Earth to the Moon, and even to Mars! We've, uh, overcome the limits of our planet and have been exploring outer space to greater depths than, like, ever before and like, are making tons of new observations while measuring our surroundings *in* space!

Thoreau: That may remunerate all the terrible deeds made throughout the aging of my planet. I, as well, found mirth while going through the rigamarole of examining the depth of my dearly beloved Walden Pond. Oh, the exuberance is still lingering in his waters. Now, I must ask another portentous question, has gravity expanded to be existent in the unboundless and ineffable space?

Elon: Can someone please give this man a phone?

[Thoreau storms off after his conversation with Musk, agitated with his connection with technology. Aggressively grunts while getting up and roasts Musk under his breath]

Director: Wait, Henry, don't leave yet! We're not done yet, sir. Your contract says your hours are until 7 PM

[Re-enters stage, fuming]

Thoreau: NO! I refuse to discuss such impertinent matters! This factitious society is succumbing to such elementary levels and I for one will not have it! What has become of the times I tested? Why has man become a technology-reliant prude with no respect for mother nature? This society has been betrayed by improvidence and I will not stand another moment in its vicinity.

[Starts to leave, but is met by Greta Thunberg]

Greta: Oh, excuse me, sir! Allow me to introduce myself, I'm Greta Thunberg. My apologies. I'm not sure where I'm headed!

Thoreau: Let that be a good thing, child. This enclosure is nothing but a prudence to God's intended will for nature.

Greta: Nature?

[Greta's expression remains blunt and emotionless]

Thoreau: Yes, nature. Does this generation not understand the importance of husbandry, beans, and embracing the beauty of nature?

Greta: Yes, sir. I care tremendously...about the environment anyways.

Thoreau: It's a shame that happiness will never earnestly greet society until every man has achieved solitude in nature.

Greta: Sir, women exist in this society as well. You're Thoreau, aren't you? I read your book; you had some... interesting points.

[Greta remains emotionless]

Thoreau: Well! It's refreshing to hear that modern society admires my ideas!

Greta: [interrupting] I never took you as an extreme environmentalist. In fact, I was under the impression your only feud with society was evading men who you deemed irritating.

Thoreau: Well those men were deeply dissipated in a greed unfathomable to myself, and you, I presume? They only cared about the materialistic perspective life offered and refused to embrace the values of nature.

Greta: Ah, yes. I understand. These people always find the need to consume at such unnecessary rates without understanding the impact it has on our climate!

Greta: Have you sailed before, sir?

Thoreau: Sailing is an enthralling way to observe the beauty of birds and the world.

Greta: *[giggling]* ohh! I adore birdies!

[Thoreau scowls]

[Thoreau and Greta exit stage together]

Director: Ok, cut!