

God Works

Written By

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EXT. JOGGING TRAIL - DAY

An overweight girl jogs down the winding trail. An unattended dog approaches her and is running beside her. She begins talking to the dog as she runs.

JOGGER

Hey boy, are you lost? Where did you come from?

Focusing on the dog, she does not see a MAN crossing the trail, and runs into him, knocking him to the ground.

MAN

What the hell!

JOGGER

I'm so sorry, I didn't see you. Let me help you up.

MAN

(Looking up and taking her in.)

Whoa chubbles, you gotta watch where you're going.

JOGGER

I'm really sorry.

MAN

(Standing and dusting himself off.)

Listen chubbles, when you're carrying around a wide load like that, you really have to be aware of your surroundings. I mean, that much mass in motion is dangerous. I appreciate you wanting to exercise, but you also need to exercise a little good judgement too. I mean, I'm a big strapping guy chubbles, but what if you fell on one of the children playing around here? You'd squash 'em like a bug.

Mortified and shamed, almost to the point of tears, she runs off.

The man, takes out a small notebook and scribbles a quick note. He looks at his watch and starts to wander off. This

whole scene has been witnessed by another WOMAN who was taking a break on a nearby bench. She shouts out to the man.

WOMAN

Hey you! Asshole, I'm talking to you!

He glances back, and keeps on walking. She sprints over and gets in his face.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

What the fuck is wrong with you? I saw the whole thing, it was clearly an accident, and she apologized. Why the hell did you go off on her like that? She was in tears when she left. Does that make you feel like a big man? Making a woman cry like that. What, are you having a bad day? The world is treating you like shit so you're justified in being a prick.

MAN

No, today's been pretty good so far.

WOMAN

What, then you're just a bully?

A little distracted, the man checks his watch again and speaks to her as he walks around her and continues down the trail.

MAN

Don't you think that it's possible that you completely misread the situation?

WOMAN

What? No.

She steps to catch up with him.

WOMAN

No, I didn't misread the situation... What does that even mean? I saw the whole thing, there was nothing to misread. Do you know that girl?

MAN

Nope.

WOMAN

Then what am I missing? Please enlighten me. What could there possibly be that would justify you acting like a complete dick, and possibly scarring that woman for life.

MAN

Oh I don't know, maybe that woman, let's call her Lindsey, maybe Lindsey goes home today in tears. Maybe she cries herself to sleep. and when she sleeps, she dreams of a hideous beast that terrorizes her and calls her a name. A name that you or I might find funny.

WOMAN

Shut up asshole, it's not funny.

MAN

He calls her 'chubbles'. A lot of girls would wake up from a dream like that and fall into a depression or destructive behaviors, but not Lindsey. Lindsey is a special girl. You see when Lindsey wakes up tomorrow morning, she's going to be angry, and that anger is going to fuel her. Over the next few years, Lindsey is going to create a world wide brand that inspires and empowers overweight girls, and she will call that brand.

WOMAN

Don't say it.

MAN

Chubbles.

WOMAN

Ok, that was oddly specific. please tell me that you're fucking with me, or that you forgot your meds this morning.

MAN

Nope.

WOMAN

Then you really should seek medical help.

MAN

Is it really that hard to believe?

WOMAN

Yes!

MAN

-that Lindsey, that beautiful, talented woman could go on to inspire millions of young girls.

WOMAN

No. The part that's impossible to believe is that you could know that it was going to happ- wait a minute, Do you think you're from the future?

MAN

No.

WOMAN

Then what, you're psychic?

MAN

No. Why are you following me?

WOMAN

I'm not, I'm just, I wanted to tell you, that you can't treat people like shit.

MAN

Ok, got it.

He checks his watch.

WOMAN

Asshole.

She storms off. We see him receding in the background and he turns to talk to an older woman on the side of the trail.

As she's walking away, her face changes, she's looking around. She realizes that she's stormed off in the wrong direction, and needs to turn around and walk past him again.

She debates for a split second and then forges back determined to not make eye contact.

As she walks past him, she can't help but overhear the old lady say,

OLD WOMAN

Why thank you sir. What a nice man you are.

She turns on her heels.

WOMAN

Excuse me, what did you say?

OLD WOMAN

I'm sorry, what dear?

WOMAN

Did you just call him a nice man?

OLD WOMAN

Yes I did because-

WOMAN

Really? Let me tell you what this fucker did less than 5 minutes ago.

MAN

Whoa, language there potty mouth.

WOMAN

He made a young woman cry by calling her names.

OLD WOMAN

Really? What names?

WOMAN

Chubbles! (no reaction) It wasn't so much what he said as how he said it. It was mean.

OLD WOMAN

(To MAN)

Do you know this woman?

MAN

I can honestly say that I don't

OLD WOMAN

Ok, well I have to go. It was very nice meeting you, and dear, you

(MORE)

OLD WOMAN (CONT'D)

really should hydrate, I think the heat is getting to you.

The old lady shuffles off.

WOMAN

He really is a dick!

She looks up to find him grinning. Exasperated, she turns and walks away.

MAN

Hey, I need a quarter!

WOMAN

I don't have any change!

MAN

Yes you do!

WOMAN

No, I-

She reflexively pats herself down, and stops dead. She pulls a shiny quarter out of her pocket.

With a "WTF?" look on her face, she turns to face him..

She steps quickly to him.

WOMAN

How did you know I had a quarter on me?

He takes it from her.

MAN

Thank you. It's what I do.

WOMAN

Do? What do you do? Are you some kind of street hustler? Con man?

MAN

Nope, I'm an Angel.

WOMAN

An angel? A sent from heaven angel?

MAN

Yep.

WOMAN

An angel that makes fun of heavy girls.

He walks over and sets the quarter on a rock.

MAN

When I have to.

WOMAN

What are you doing with my quarter?

MAN

If you must know, I'm setting it on the ground here because in about (checks his watch) 15 minutes, a homeless fellow named Mitch is going to come along and find that quarter. With the other change in his pocket he won't have enough to get the beer he wants but instead he's going to buy a lotto scratch-off ticket. That ticket will win him \$382, not enough to turn his life around, but he will see it as some sort of sign. Which it is.

WOMAN

No, no it's not, and I'm taking my quarter back.

She grabs the quarter.

MAN

Right, you're going to deny a homeless man a shot at rebound and redemption.

WOMAN

What? You're not going use some magic to make the coin vanish from my hand and pop up back on that rock?

MAN

Nope, I have a feeling the it'll find it's way back there.

WOMAN

Fat chance. You know, I took psych 101 in college, and I don't

(MORE)

WOMAN (CONT'D)

recognize your diagnosis, but there's one out there with your name on it. I mean, to think that every action you take, positive or negative will have some miraculous and life altering consequences. Amazing.

MAN

It is really.

WOMAN

I bet. So how does this thing work?

MAN

You know how people say 'God works in mysterious ways?

WOMAN

Yes

MAN

He doesn't really do the work.

WOMAN

Angels. Like you do?

MAN

That's right

WOMAN

So, when some dumbass says, 'If I hadn't lost that lighter and went into that 7-11, I never would have met my baby mama, but the lord works in mysterious ways'. One of you guys took his lighter?

MAN

It's possible. Or when some guy stands up in a narcotics anonymous meeting and says that his lowest point was when he stayed up 3 days doing meth with a male prostitute and the whole time the male whore sang songs from Jesus Christ Superstar... and that's how he came to know the lord. Not one of my favorite assignments.

WOMAN

Wow, you've created this whole back-story and everything. So, how does it work? Do you get your marching orders from a burning bush? or does God send you a text?

MAN

No, I just wake up in the morning and I know what I need to do. Go to this place, at this time, and do this thing.

WOMAN

So, you woke up this morning and thought I need to go to the park and be mean to a fat girl.

MAN

Fat girl? Really? It's my job to be mean, what's your excuse?

WOMAN

I didn't mean it like that.

MAN

Right, you've got a lot of anger in you.

WOMAN

Yeah, and you've got a lot of crazy in you. So tell me, if this were true, if you were an agent of God sent here to wreak havoc for the greater good, why would you tell me? That would have to be against the rules.

MAN

Yes, yes it would.

WOMAN

Then why? tell me?

MAN

Two reasons. One, I feel fairly confident that you don't believe me.

WOMAN

You got that right.

MAN

And number two, I think you need
something to believe in.

The camera swings around her to reveal him missing. She notices, and looks around for him. The camera swinging 360 degrees around her to reveal him no where in sight. She stops, and the camera settles on a medium shot directly in front of her. She's confused, trying to make sense of it, then her face changes, she's remembered something. She reaches into her pocket and pulls out the quarter.

She stares at it.

WOMAN

Fuck me.

The End.