Descent Into Shadow

by

Brutal Enigma

Based on the story, Seduced by the Dark Side!, from the Wikiversity Film School

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Brutal Enigma
Wikiversity.com
vegas33k@hotmail.com
EXT. MOVIE THEATER - DOWNTOWN - NIGHT

It is a hot summer night, it has been raining. The lights on the cinema marquee flicker.

The old theater seems to be closing; the downtown streets and sidewalks are empty and silent, save for the far-off din of a woman having an argument on a cellphone.

A jaded OLD PERSON and a naive YOUNG PERSON converse as they exit a theater, having just seen the film Star Wars.

YOUNG PERSON
That was a great movie...

An exiting moviegoer, not looking ahead as they are walking, bumps into the YOUNG PERSON. The moviegoer walks on without remark. The YOUNG PERSON strikes an unnecessarily offended pose.

The YOUNG PERSON sighs, shakes their head and regains composure.

YOUNG PERSON (CONT’D)
(Pensive)
Okay. But I don’t understand one thing.

OLD PERSON
Hum, what’s that?

YOUNG PERSON
I don’t understand how anyone can be ‘seduced by the dark side?’

A noisy old jalopy drives by, and its brakes creak.

OLD PERSON
(Peeved)
Ugh. What computer do you use at home?

An uncomfortable silence briefly envelopes them. The YOUNG PERSON shakes their head and looks at the ground as they speak.

YOUNG PERSON
(Apprehensively)
I use a Macintosh.

OLD PERSON
And what computer does your father use at work?
YOUNG PERSON  
(Agitated)  
My dad doesn’t use a computer. My dad,  
he’s a stone mason. I don’t get it. What  
does my computer have to do with this  
movie? I don’t get it.

The OLD PERSON and the YOUNG PERSON exchange glares of  
frustration and resignation, respectively. The YOUNG  
PERSON throws their hands up in a gesture of frustration,  
then walks off briskly into the night. The OLD PERSON  
lingers for a moment, rubs their brow in contemplation,  
then follows several paces behind.

FADE OUT.