

EVERYMAN

1 - PROLOGUE

The scene appears. We see some tables set in groups. In the front there is a desk with a sign hanging down, reading "closed". Above (or beside the desk) we see a sign reading "God's Inn". There is a person, appearing to be a waiter/waitress. He is cleaning some tables, then starts writing down today's menu (either on the board - if the screen for the beamer is up again - or on a flip chart). He goes to the desk and opens a book, the guestbook. Then he turns the sign from "closed" to "open". He turns around and addresses the audience.

WAITER

Hear, hear, audience dear...

Interruption to welcome guests (1st group of friends).

WAITER (CONT'D)

...the summoning of Everyman
you'll see today,
a 15th century morality play,
adapted to a modern scene,
vices and virtues still present
and seen.

Interruption to welcome guests (2nd group of friends).

WAITER (CONT'D)

A journey and a story,
showing how transitory
our earthly goods and whole life
will be in the end.

Interruption to welcome guests (Everyman).

WAITER (CONT'D)

A messenger and death by God are
sent to guide Everyman to
reckoning, listen well and let
the story begin.

Everyman is sitting at a table with his friends and boasts loudly. His cup and his plate are never empty, he is always ordering more drinks and food.

EVERYMAN

My friends, never let our cups be
empty and never let our throats
be dry, nor our stomach empty.
Just order some more. Have I told
you about my last trip with my
yacht? It was wonderful.

(MORE)

EVERYMAN (CONT'D)

The champagne was as cold as ice
and the food was not comparable
to the rubbish they are serving
in the so called five star
restaurants. Also the girls were
pretty... .

Waitress appears to pour some more alcohol into Everyman's
cup. He takes her by the belt and forces her to sit on his
lap.

EVERYMAN (CONT'D)

Such as this pretty girl right
here, but those girls I didn't
have to force to sit on my lap,
they were doing it for money and
luxury.

(winks)

The waitress frees herself and as she walks away. Everyman
slaps her on the butt. He drinks and eats and laughs with
his friends. The talking about superficial things becomes
just a murmuring. We can hear glasses cheering and crockery
and cutlery are clattering. Death enters disguised in a
frock.

WAITER

Good evening, hope you are fine,
with whom today are you going to
dine?

DEATH

First it's the chef himself I
have to meet,
who's guiding me through every
street.

WAITER

He's awaiting you right over
there,
to tell you which mission is to
bear.

Waiter leads Death to the kitchen and then Waiter gets off
stage. Death walks over to the right door and knocks. The
door opens and a white light is appearing. (sound effects?)

GOD

Good evening, I sent for you,
let's get today's target through.
People have forgotten about me,
over there it's Everyman, you
see?

DEATH

Well, yes I see him right there
sitting ready for a moral
fitting.

GOD

For seeing virtues he is all too
blind,
in worldly riches is all his
mind,
for his God he doesn't see me,
forsaken and forgotten is what I
be.
On a journey he will have to go,
your mission is to show this news
to him, a reckoning he will have
to bring, avoiding the deadly
seven,
to not be departed from heaven.

DEATH

Your commandment to fulfill,
I am standing here and always
will.

Death discards the disguise, revealing a femme fatale. He
walks over to Everyman and stops behind his back.

DEATH (CONT'D)

Excuse me for my behaving, tell
me, am I interrupting?

EVERYMAN

(shocked, then angry)
Who the hell are you?

DEATH

Just call me D., that's all to
say, I'm here to bring news to
you without delay.

EVERYMAN

(Flirting and attempting
to get closer to "her".)
Well, which kind of news can such
a pretty lady bring? I hope this
news include a chance for me to
invite her to dinner or show her
my new apartment. We can drive
there with my new Mercedes. But
first of all I'll get us a bottle
of the best champagne, what'ya
think about that, lady?

DEATH

(leaning over to him and
whispering in his ear)
In sins and sinful actions you
have your soul embarked,
forgotten about virtues and the
Holy Lord, therefore you have to
be marked.

(MORE)

DEATH (CONT'D)

(gives him a kiss on the
brow)

For you a journey will begin,
to give you a chance for
reckoning,
on this journey you must go,
so find someone to follow
you and hold your hands.
Search among your dearest friends
with whom you loved to share your
earthly life, and ask them to
guide your back and guard your
side, none of your virtues they
shall hide but speak for you and
tell them all, to keep you from
the deepest fall. This is your
only chance to end up pleasant,
and to not be departed from
heaven.

Everyman looks shocked and gets up from his seat. He seems to be confused, his friends watch him, frowning. Everyman leaves the café and runs to the left door and leaves the stage.

2 - FELLOWSHIP

Everyman walks around, thinking.

EVERYMAN

What should I do? What? What?
What would the guys do?
Oh! There they are!

FRIEND 1 and FRIEND 2 enter.

EVERYMAN (CONT'D)

What's up, guys?

FRIEND 1

You know. Just hanging around.

FRIEND 2

Yo!! You look horrible, dude!!
What's wrong? Trouble with your
girl!

EVERYMAN

Nah...man. Nothing like that.
It's just...

FRIEND 1

What?

FRIEND 2
You're making me nervous.

FRIEND 1
Yeah! Me too...

FRIEND 2
So what's wrong? You know you can
tell me anything.

EVERYMAN
(looks at his feet,
can't stand still)
I an in great trouble, I don't
know how to explain it.

FRIEND 1
Then don't. We're late for the
movie anyway.

Friend 2 slaps Friend on 1 on the back of his head.

FRIEND 1 (CONT'D)
Ouch!

Friend 2 puts his arm around Everyman's shoulder and walks
with him for a bit.

FRIEND 2
Seriously...I have known you
Since kindergarten. You can trust
me.

EVERYMAN
It's a matter of life and death.

FRIEND 2
Well I can't talk for the genius
back there...

He points to Friend 1.

FRIEND 1
(from the back)
I heard that.

FRIEND 2
...but you know I would do
anything for you. I'd even die
for you!!

EVERYMAN
For real? Nice!

FRIEND 1
Hey!

Friend 1 runs towards them. He puts his arm around Everyman's shoulder.

FRIEND 1 (CONT'D)
Come on, I'd do a lot for you,
too! You know that.

EVERYMAN
That's great. That's exactly what
I need you to do.

FRIEND 2
(looking confused)
What is it you need us to do?

EVERYMAN
I need you to die for me.

FRIEND 2
Say what?

EVERYMAN
Believe it or not but Death came
to me in person and wanted to
take me to God for
reckoning.

FRIEND 2
You're kidding!... Aren't
you?.....say something!!!

EVERYMAN
Well no, I am not kidding.

FRIEND 1
Well that's it. I am out! You
know I like you, but you seem to
have gone crazy. Talking about
seeing death and stuff. See ya.
(starts leaving,
whispers)
Or not.

Friend 1 leaves.

FRIEND 2
Wait a second. Exactly what kind
of help are we talking about?

EVERYMAN
God is gonna judge me and I need
someone who is on my side. I
need... well... I kinda need a
lawyer or something.

FRIEND 2

Aha...

EVERYMAN

I es hoping that, since you are my best friend, you will help me.

FRIEND 2

In other words you want me to die for you?

EVERYMAN

Kinda...

FRIEND 2

Dude! You know I love you and you're my bro'... but come on! You can't want me to die!

EVERYMAN

But you said you would do anything for me...even die!

FRIEND 2

It's an expression! Man, I am sorry bro' but I can't die for you... I... I just can't... I mean... come on... how can you even ask me that.

Friend 2 leaves.

EVERYMAN

(to himself)

Well, that sucked.

3 - KINSHIP

Everyman enters a living-room. His father is sitting in a comfortable way on the sofa and is watching a football match on TV, oddly commenting the game. The mother is reading a newspaper and the sister is occupied with her mobile phone. Everyman approaches the father and tries to get his attention.

EVERYMAN

Dad...?

FATHER

No... yes! Nooo! You have to pass the ball, idiot!

EVERYMAN

Dad!!

FATHER

(puzzled)

W-what...? Oh, it's you. What do you want? Money?

EVERYMAN

No, I wish it was just the money... .

MOTHER

What's wrong, my dear?

EVERYMAN

Umm... I'm in huge trouble. A messenger came to talk to me.

FATHER

A messenger?! Are you involved in a dirty deal, son?!

MOTHER

You know, darling, we love you. You can tell us everything.

EVERYMAN

Well... it's a matter of life and death.

SISTER

You really have a tendency for dramatic things, haven't you?

MOTHER

(hesitating)

Honey, if you are in trouble, we are in trouble, too. If it's really that dramatic, we can see what we can do for you.

EVERYMAN

I have to take a journey but beforehand I have to clean my vicious life from all the bad things I have done. I cannot do all this alone.

FATHER

A journey? Don't count me in, I have the cramp in my toe. You know that.

EVERYMAN

But... but... death came to take me with him and I need some good companions who can assure my good character before God!

Silence.

EVERYMAN (CONT'D)

(desperately)

Come on, I'm serious! I'm about to die! And I need you to be my witnesses so that I don't have to go to hell.

FATHER

That's your problem, son. I have my own business to take care of. Ask your mother.

MOTHER

Look, you are old enough to take responsibility for your own things. We can't help you with this issue.

SISTER

You can't expect me to join you, brother. I have to go to school and I have my friends here. We are family and we're there for you but we all have to live our own lives, too.

4 - GOODS

Everyman is walking along the street.

EVERYMAN

Damn it! Neither friends nor family wanna help me...damn! What now?

He sees the sign of a bank. He goes to the bank. People are standing in front of the counter.

EVERYMAN (CONT'D)

(as he is walking)

I know! I'm gonna go to the bank!

He enters the bank and stands in the queue in front of the counter.

EVERYMAN (CONT'D)

I'm gonna take all my money, all I've got and give it to God. Maybe he likes this sacrifice. I mean if you think about it... it's my life savings... . It's all I've earned in my life.

(MORE)

EVERYMAN (CONT'D)

It has to give me at least a little advantage. Yes! It will show God that I'm a hard-working man and not so bad at all.

BANKER

(aside)

Taking Money to God?! HA! Not one of THOSE idiots again!

The queue dissolves.

EVERYMAN

Hello. I want to draw out all my money from my account.

BANKER

Name, please.

EVERYMAN

Everyman.

BANKER

Bank card, please.

EVERYMAN

Here you go.

He gives the bank card to the banker.

BANKER

All of it?

EVERYMAN

Yes, please.

BANKER

Cash?

EVERYMAN

Yes, please.

BANKER

Sign here...

Everyman signs.

BANKER (CONT'D)

... and here.

He signs.

BANKER (CONT'D)

Please wait a second. I'm going to bring your money.

The banker leaves and comes back with a sack full of money.

BANKER (CONT'D)
Here it is.

EVERYMAN
And it is all in there?

BANKER
Of course. All of it, to the very last coin.

EVERYMAN
Thank you.

Everyman sighs in relief, walks happily towards the money and tries to lift it. He fails and tries again. He fails again.

EVERYMAN (CONT'D)
(a little nervous)
Wow! Seems I've earned quite a lot of money.

He tries again and fails.

EVERYMAN (CONT'D)
Come on!

He tries again and fails. He looks nervously at the banker.

EVERYMAN (CONT'D)
Could you... maybe give me a hand? I don't seem to be in my best shape.

BANKER
No, I'm sorry Mr. Everyman, I am not allowed to leave the counter. You have to figure out something else because apparently this isn't working. Money is for us on earth and not for those in heaven. They are not interested in material belongings. You won't be able to take it with you, let alone change God's mind with it. You think God, the one who made everything, the one who is almighty, the one who is the eternal ruler, would be happy about money? And you think you could change his mind with something that he himself doesn't even need?

EVERYMAN

Fine. Then don't help, I'll do it myself.

Everyman tries to drag it out of the bank. Pulls and pushes but fails. He sits down next to the sack of money.

EVERYMAN (CONT'D)

(exhausted)

Impossible...

(shakes his head)

No! There's got to be a way.

He looks desperately at the banker.

EVERYMAN (CONT'D)

Please, help me!

The banker looks at him with disdain.

BANKER

Are you seriously thinking about bribing God?

EVERYMAN

NO! Nononononono, no, of course not, never. I just hoped... he would... maybe... like it...

BANKER

You can't lift the sack of cash, and you can't transfer it either - God does not have an account.

EVERYMAN

(thinks for a moment)

Maybe you're right. It was not my brightest idea... what should I do now...?

Everyman walks away.

BANKER

(shakes his head)

Poor idiot... .

5 - DYING SCENE / EPILOGUE

Everyman is carried in on a barrow and is then placed on a hospital bed (sound of an electrocardiogram). The Doctor tries to reanimate him but doesn't succeed (sound of the heartrate gets weaker then turns into a beep-tone).

Everyman dies. After that the Angel appears on stage (bells ringing).

ANGEL

I'll take him with me, don't
worry!

The Angel touches Everymans hand. Miraculously Everyman gets up and leaves the stage, hand in hand with the Angel. The Doctor turns around and wants to light a cigarette but realizes that the audience is still there. he addresses them.

DOCTOR

Dear audience, thank you for your
attention!
We're at the end of our play
but before you leave I need
something to mention
some words I have to say:
As you have seen and heard
in our tiny little play
everything must end one day.
This day will come
so keep in mind
that he is certainly not blind
and at the end of our journey
when we'll be standing before God
he'll decide whether we're let in
or not.
There won't be any help at all
no one and nothing you used to
know
'cause this is just a one-man
show.
So here is my last advice to you:
Try to avoid the deadly seven
'cause only pure hearts are
allowed to enter heaven.

The doctor exists / The curtain falls.

The actors and crew gather on stage.