

THE PATH AND THE MOON

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EXT- FOOTHILL - NIGHT

It is a full moon night and an old monk of true zen, in his mid-sixties, bald head, in robes is climbing a hill (small and huge rocks scattered, with patches of grass, with a path leading up), looking up at the big moon coming up. Sounds of insects can be heard.

LONG SHOT - THE OLD MONK IS SEEN AS A
BLACK FIGURE CLIMBING THE HILL. THE
MOON IS SEEN JUST ABOVE THE HILLTOP.

A group of young monks (10-15 aged), bald headed, all dressed in robes cross our vision, and one of the monk stands there to look at the moon and sees this old monk climbing. He hurries to the monastery.

EXT- MONASTERY GARDEN - NIGHT

A zen monastery Garden, sounds of bell ringing and chanting can be heard, the young monk from before is whispering something to his friends and they all giggle without making any noise, not to draw attention to them. One by one they leave the monastery compound.

EXT-HILLTOP

LONG SHOT - HE OLD MONK IS AT THE
HILLTOP NOW.

The Old monk looking up at the moon, his face filled with joy, his eyes reflect the moon.

EXT-FOOTHILL

The young monks have reached the foothills and are climbing up the hill.

EXT- HILLTOP-CONT'D

The monk is now looking down and all around, the cool light of moon is spread all over, long afar he can see a calm lake reflecting this beautiful moon. He seems hypnotized by this reflection and moves in that direction.

EXT-FOOTHILL-CONT'D

Young monks looking up sees the old monks figure going away from the hilltop. (POV)

EXT-HILLTOP DESCENDING

The old monk is walking as if , he is being pulled to the lake, and all is happening like a dance, he is moving in a graceful way, each step follows without his doing. (distant sounds of insects and frogs can be heard).
 He looks up at the moon and walks looking up. Suddenly he falls down, in to a pit of dirt. His feet are in the pit and his hands and torso touching the rock nearby. (distant sound of bell ringing from the Monastery is heard)He gets up laughing and again starts walking.
 The monks foot-print is seen as he walks on.

PAN TO SHOW THE YOUNG MONKS ARRIVING
 ON THE HILLTOP.

EXT- HILLTOP-CONT'D

All of them are loving the view from there, and one of them points to the monk and they all hurry down.
 They soon reach the pit and they see the old monks foot prints and starts giggling.

POV OF YOUNG MONKS - THE OLD MONK IS
 NOT IN SIGHT, THE LAKE IS SEEN,
 BEAUTIFUL IN THE MOONLIGHT. -

The group is now walking towards the lake

EXT-LAKE

(Sounds of frogs and insects are louder now)The old monk goes to the lake and tries to take the reflection of the moon in his hands, but he fails, the moon is still in the lake.
 He takes his bowl from his robe and tries to do the same, but again fails. He looks to his side and finds a fishing rod.
 The monk fixes his bowl as bait and casts the fishing rod to catch the moon.
 (The group of monks can be seen behind a tree near the lake seeing all this in the background)

The thread is passing through the center of the reflection of the moon on the lake (now disturbed).

WS - MONK FISHING

As the monk sits patiently waiting for the water to be still, the youngest of the group starts giggling and one by one the group of young monks gather around the old monk and all begin to giggle.

The old monk sits there non-moving looking at the reflection.

The moon's reflection is perfect now.

Giggling, they have surrounded the old monk and falls silent. Now everyone is waiting patiently for what the old monk is going to do next.

As they all watch so silently and patiently, The monk lifts his fishing rod, and water is splashed around, he begins to laugh out loud.

All the young monks silent.

The old monk is laughing looking at the shattered reflection of the moon. The group of young monks start laughing too.

The shattered reflection of the moon is seen.

Filled with laughter they all look up at the moon in the sky.

The moon shining bright in the sky.
(Laughter continues and goes silent)