

THE BEST SCENES FROM THE MOVIE
THE GENTLEMAN WEBBSTER

SCENE 2. INT. HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE LAB - DAY

GLORM PAPSFER, a lonely science student, is bitten by a radioactive spider. Instead of killing him the bite gives him the actual strength, speed, and agility of a spider. Glorm Papsfer immediately collapses to the floor. His legs can't hold up his body any longer. His tongue lolls out of his mouth. He can't even carry the weight of his own tongue.

"Aggglaa," he slurs, getting slur juice all over the side of his face.

His arms, once his slaves, hang dead at his side. His neck, also his former slave, can't support his head. It flops and rolls.

"Oh no" he thinks.

"Ehhhm oh," he says out loud.

He yells for help, he yells and yells.

SCENE 4. INT. GLORM'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Glorm Papsfer sitting in his wheelchair. In his hands are the test results his doctor sent over. In a Britishy voice-over they say:

DIAGNOSIS: Glorm Papsfer (17) is normal on inside but very Spider-like on the outside except he doesn't have 8 legs and doesn't have 4 eyes. But he's very crumpled over, extremely physically weak, and pretty much looks exactly like what I picture when I picture a spider.

Body cannot support weight, though that might change with practice? Patient reports that long bristly protuberance growing out of his lower back is new thing, also.

Further examination shows that these protrusions are silk spinning organs. From this appendage he can pull a filament of silken thread. Patient can bind these strands together and thus form what we recognize as a spider's 'web.'

But it is doubtful that patient will able to derive any benefit from this ability. In fact it will probably only serve as a physical reminder of the gulf that separates him from other men.

He can also stick to walls, another useless ability.

Have decided to call the boy's condition Papsfer's Nightmare.

PATIENT OVERVIEW: Patient is extremely depressed about getting Papsfer's Nightmare.

RECOMMENDED TREATMENT: Much like the arachnid that Patient so closely resembles, I recommend that Mr. Papsfer sit around all day doing nothing. Alternatively, some sort of new goal or project might alleviate his sense of purposelessness."

Glorm's worst fears are realized, plus extra fears he didn't even know he had, but are in fact extremely terrifying to him. The room spins. He tries to faint but can't, because it's very hard to faint in real life.

SCENE 7. INT. GLORM'S APARTMENT - DAY

Glorm's dear mother CHARLOTTE is trying to feed him. She tries different kinds of foods: steaks, Thanksgiving dinners, macaroni and cheese pizza, pulled pork sandwich soup. But everything she feeds him almost crushes his head in. Finally out of desperation she tries a smoothie of fly and worm and toast and ham and bat and cookie. This works. She dribbles the stuff down a funnel into her boy's gaping mouth. She tries not to look in his eyes. They are haunting.

Luckily Glorm Papsfer has the appetite of a spider too, and only needs to be fed like this once a week. He goes to the restroom like a spider too; he emits teeny tiny dust pellets every once and a while.

SCENE 9. INT. GLORM'S APARTMENT - DAY

After trying to care for her son on her own for a few scenes, Charlotte Papsfer gives up and puts him in a nursing home. This seems harsh, but the audience is still on her side, as she is being played by an actor we feel we can relate to, like Salma Hayek.

SCENE 13. INT. SAMSUNG GALAXY NURSING HOME - NIGHT

"Ok Mr. Papsfer, just lie still while I put this lubed catheter in you. Now it's just little pinch and...there we go! You can start draining now...excellent...excellent. Well, somebody had a lot to drink today! That's a fine stream. Nothing like a good stream of man-made urine, that's what I always say. Most natural thing in the world. You know, they're doing things with artificial intelligence you wouldn't believe, but they can't replicate this simple bodily function. Not to my taste anyway. Ok looks like you're wrapping up and - done! Good job buddy! You can peek now."

Glorm opens his eyes. A JANITOR is holding a dripping catheter in one hand and the bag of pee he just extracted from Glorm in the other. He tilts bag to the light, examining it as if it were a precious jewel.

"A little pale actually," he mutters, "But it'll do!"

He slides the hefty bag in the pocket of his overalls and picks up his mop and bucket.

"See you tomorrow," he whispers, and stopping to tip his hat, wink and make the "jerk off" motion, he leaves the room.

Glorm stares at the ceiling. "Wha uh globble hm," he groans. Which of course means, "Oh my god what a terrible nursing home."

SCENE 16. INT. SAMSUNG GALAXY NURSING HOME - NIGHT

In the grey, diffused light of the nursing home Glorm Papsfer is looking out the window, eating flies. He opens the window and climbs out onto the ledge. The night air is cool and hot. The city miles below. People on the streets look like insects. He thumps his chest and howls like a man with the strength of a spider pretending to be a wolf. Far in the distance, a return call is heard:

"ooooo."

It is a spider—with the vocal cords of a man, pretending to be a man with the strength of a spider pretending to be a wolf. Glorm knows that he must find that spider and swallow it, only then can he get his voice back and with it, his dignity. Glorm springs from the ledge and—but wait, isn't Glorm disabled? How is he doing this?

Glorm falls down the side of the building and lands in a perfect judo pose. It is then we realize that he is having a dream, and we relax and enjoy an action-packed dream sequence that foreshadows many things.

SCENE 18. INT. SAMSUNG GALAXY NURSING HOME - MORNING

Glorm awakes. The nursing home is quiet except for his television, which is playing an old Fred Astaire movie. He lays there, savoring the sense of freedom and power the dream left him with. He was jumping from roof to roof; he was crouched in the center of a web, talking to a pig; he was strangling someone with his own fucking mop handle.

And who was that MASKED MAN who appeared towards the end, who told him that to find his true self he must something-something? What was that?

Glorm tries to lift his arm. He strains but nothing happens. He wants to give up, but the Masked Man in his head urges him on. He focuses all his concentration on his pinkie finger.

"Lift!" he thinks, "I am your master!"

The finger twitches. Glorm smiles as much as someone with Papsfer's Nightmare can smile—which is to say, not at all—but we can still tell he's pretty psyched.

And on television Fred Astaire dances on, arms and legs moving in perfect unison. White tux glowing, tails flapping behind him like two streams of gorgeous toilet paper.

SCENE 21. INT. SAMSUNG GALAXY NURSING HOME DAY ROOM - AFTERNOON

Charlotte watches her son exercise. He lifts a baby carrot ten times with each arm. He has a pea taped to each foot. He walks across the day room at speeds exceeding zero miles per hour.

"Good job Glorm!" she says, non-sarcastically, "I am so proud of you sort of."

"Well, look who's up and about!"

Glorm and Charlotte turn. The NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR is walking down the hall towards them.

"This fucking guy," mutters Charlotte.

The Administrator is a short but rough looking man, his face peppered with scars and piercings. His hair is slicked back and he has a toothpick in his mouth. He is constantly flipping a coin in the air. He has a tattoo across the knuckles of his left and right hand. The right says "NURSING HOME" the left, "ADMINISTRATOR." The letters are really squished together. His doctor scrubs are made of expensive fur.

"Mr. Papsfer. Walking around like real boy....I hope you're not planning on leaving us, I have some friends coming by to gawk-I mean examine you next week."

"Glorm is going to be leaving, just as soon as he gets stronger," Charlotte snaps, "And that would be a lot sooner if you'd assign him an actual occupational therapist." She points to the FAKE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST pumping iron in the corner.

The Administrator puts his coin down and starts brushing his greasy hair with a switchblade brush.

"Mrs. Papsfer, our budget is stretched to the breaking point as it is," he sneers. "I'm afraid Gravy Face over there is the best we can afford."

He gives Glorm an icy look.

"Anyway who cares? Glorm is never gonna make a full recovery."

He sucks his ratty teeth scornfully.

"He couldn't make a fingerpaint turkey," he adds, doing cocaine. Glorm, trying to curl 2 baby carrots in one hand, is pulled to the ground. The Administrator laughs and walks away.

"Don't listen to him Glorm, he's just jealous," his mother lies.

SCENE 58. EXT. OUTSIDE A RESTAURANT - NIGHT

A lovely WHITE WOMAN is locking up her restaurant.

"See ya tomorrow Murt," she says to the cook.

She hops on the electric side walk¹ and rides it down the block to where her car is parked. But in the middle of a particularly dark area, the sidewalk makes an angry grinding noise and stops.

"Goddammit!" she shouts, "It's whatever-year-this-is, can't we get a moving sidewalk that actually works?!"

But even in the future, sidewalks don't respond to questions.

"Guess I'll have to walk the old fashioned way," she huffs.

She gets on the trampoline sidewalk that runs parallel to the electrical one and bounces wearily down the street.

"Boing boing boing," goes the sidewalk

"What. The. Hell." goes the woman

"Heh heh heh," go a couple mouths in the darkness. The mouths are attached to eyes. The eyes are attached to scumbags. TWO SCUMBAGS step out of an alley and bounce sinisterly after her.

SCENE 59. EXT. A ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Glorm is sitting on the edge of a building. Instead of his usual bug-gut coated pajamas, his father's old tuxedo hangs on his thin frame. On his feet are a pair of gleaming spats. His face is hidden by a mask that's actually just a piece of construction paper with the words "MASK TBD" written on it.

"This is crazy," he thinks, "Why am I a superhero all of a sudden?"

But there's no time revisit the many scenes that led to this moment because down in the ally a woman is screaming for help. She's in trouble!

"Well, that's my cue," he thinks.

He gets to his feet and slowly, really really slowly, springs into action.

SCENE 61 EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

"Hey Mister are you ok? Mister?"

Glorm wakes to find himself being cradled by someone. A woman. She is so white.

"You saved my life," she whispers, "Those creeps were going to kill me. One of them thought you were like, contagious, so he ran when he saw you."

Glorm can't answer. His face feels like it's on fire.

"The other one hit you with a newspaper," the woman says.

¹ Should have established this earlier. This movie is set in the distant future. From now on please imagine the action taking place in a futuristic city with flying cars, and everyone has tubes on their clothing.

She nods towards a pile of ash. A pair of sunglasses sits on top of it.

"Luckily I had my laser purse on me."

"Tha Footure," Glorm moans

"That's right, it's the future," the woman replies soothingly, "But who are you? I have to know."

With a trembling hand Glorm reaches in his waistcoat pocket and pulls out a card. He hands it to her. It reads: *"My name is The Gentleman Webber. I am a crime fighter. Please take me to the hospital."*

SCENE 63. INT. SAMSUNG GALAXY NURSING HOME - NIGHT

Glorm is depressed. What made him think he could be a superhero? He looks at his filthy tux hanging in the corner, at the dumbbell made of 2 peas and a coffee straw he had been so proud to lift. How could he have been so stupid?

A moth flies in the room and flaps around his head.

"That moth doesn't try to stop potential rapists," he thinks, "why should I."

"Eee uh amme othh!" he bellows. Basically, "We're the same, moth."

Like a moth to a flame, the moth flies into a light bulb and is burned up.

"Definitely the same," Glorm thinks.

A noise out in the hallway startles him out of his brooding.

"You tell them if they want the stuff they're gonna get it on my terms!"

It's the Nursing Home Administer; he's on the phone with someone. He sees Glorm but doesn't stop his conversation.

"If the black market wants my primo² medical supplies they'd better be at the warehouse next to the nursing home tomorrow night, ok?...Primo. It's street slang for 'best!'"

He hangs up. "These guys don't know the cool words," he says glumly. He sees the look Glorm is giving him and chuckles.

"Oh you don't like that I'm secretly a criminal huh? Well what are you going to do about it huh, you Spider Baby? Baby Spider? Baby who's a Spider-who's born a Baby then becomes a Spider? After? Huh?!"

He gives Glorm a not very friendly punch in the face and leaves.

Glorm's eyes flash in anger. He feels something mushy in his hand. He looks down. The pea he had been holding is smeared all over his fingers. With just the power of his hand, he crushed it. The spider's howl rings in his ears.

² Primo; adj; informal: Of top quality or importance.

SCENE 66. INT. SAMSUNG GALAXY NURSING HOME WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Birds-eye shot of the whole Nursing Home Gang in the warehouse. The Nursing Home Administrator, The Janitor, Gravy Face, and some other guys we haven't met yet. They're loading boxes labeled "BUXES" onto a truck. Everyone's having a good time, everyone's wearing white leather trench coats.

The weird thing is we're seeing all this from above. I wonder why that is. Oh wait, I know.

"Hewoah Oys.³"

The Criminals look up. The Gentleman Webster is dangling by a web of his own making. Above him on a cross beam Charlotte is holding the web, controlling his decent. She's wearing a housecoat and a plastic pig mask. She lowers her son until he is eye level with the gang. They gather around, puzzled. One guy pokes him with the muzzle of his pistol. The Webster sways gently. The Nursing Home Administrator leans in.

"What the heck—"

Charlotte yanks the web and sends the Gentleman spinning into the Administrator, knocking his cigarette out of his mouth. The man howls in pain. The Webster swings back, banging into an oil drum; it echoes and the shock wave forces the guns from the gang member's hands. "That kinda stings!" they yowl.

"'Oi wh tha fen well⁴," jokes The Gentleman Webster

He spins a glob of web and starts weaving a giant net to snare them.

"Ugh gross!" says the Janitor, "Where did that stuff come from?!"

"Uh genmen neber ells⁵," says the witty Webster, winking.

The gang can't see the wink because of his mask. Also, they haven't understood anything The Gentleman Webster has said.

"I ink iz ebbing ill resss ia "deeb" oss fa ou⁶," he slobbers.

The Webster spins and spins; the gang waits anxiously. Some hold hands for comfort. Others kick at the dust, looking unhappy. Soon the only sound in the room is the Webster quietly cursing as he tries to shape his web into something like a net.

"Do you need help, Gentleman Webster?" his mother calls out.

"O ank ou⁷!"

But one of his opera gloves gets stuck, and he has to take it off to free his hand. Then his arm gets stuck, then his cummerbund, which detaches and hangs in the web like a paisley horsefly. Then the whole mess gets attached to his chest somehow, and the Gentleman Webster has a minor temper tantrum. He waggles in the air in frustration. Loose stands of goo get caught in his kicking limbs.

³ Hello boys.

⁴ Oils well that ends well.

⁵ A gentleman never tells.

⁶ Unclear.

⁷ No, thank you.

"Should we just run boss?" Gravy Face whispers to the Administrator.

"We better not for some reason," the Admin hisses back.

Up in the rafters poor Charlotte can't hold the Webster up anymore. She's going to have to let him drop. Suddenly she gets an idea -

"Hold on Glorm!-I mean Gentleman Webster!"

She gathers her strength, aims, and swings him into the cluster of criminals. There is a moment of confusion; when the dust settles the entire gang is somehow stuck to the Webster's body, with him in the middle, like a sick hubcap. He's trapped them all.

Charlotte slides down the web

"Gentleman Webster, I'll get help!" she shouts, and runs out of the warehouse.

"No! Don't leave us with this weirdo! The Administrator cries.

In the bowels of his man-made cave of men, Glorm laughs. "Who's laughing now?" he thinks, "It's literally me."

SCENE 70. EXT. CITY HALL - MORNING

"And so for his valiant actions in capturing the notorious Nursing Home Gang we present The Gentleman Webster with the key to the city, and to better defend it, this very special ultra-light machine gun!"

The MAYOR is addressing a crowd. The Gentleman Webster stands next to her, in a brand new three piece suit. The mayor continues.

"And if we should ever need him again, he gave us a signal."

The Mayor flips a switch and spotlight turns on. It projects a tiny arachnid silhouette onto the clouds. Everyone squints up trying to see it. The Mayor turns to her AIDE.

"We definitely need to make that bigger. I didn't know that was going to be that small. Also we should have done this ceremony at night. No matter - thank you Gentleman Webster and congratulations!"

The crowd cheers wildly, no one louder than Charlotte, who's crying with joy and married to A MAN⁸.

The camera zooms in on Glorm, on the piece of construction paper covering his face, then through the paper to the triumphant eyes, then through the face and into the brain. We travel rapidly across firing synapses to the Center Core. There, in the best part of the brain, is a spider. It is doing judo.

The end

⁸ Charlotte's love interest in movie. Not referenced in summary as his scenes were bad.