

Yesterday Is History, Tomorrow Is a Mystery, and Today Is a Gift

Opening Reception, 25 August 2011, 6pm

26 August - 1 October 2011

Oogway: There are no accidents.

Oogway: My friend, the panda will never fulfill his destiny, nor you yours until you let go of the illusion of control.

Shifu: Illusion?

Oogway: Yes.

[points at peach tree]

Oogway: Look at this tree, Shifu: I cannot make it blossom when it suits me nor make it bear fruit before its time.

Shifu: But there are things we *\*can\** control: I can control when the fruit will fall, I can control where to plant the seed: that is no illusion, Master!

Oogway: Ah, yes. But no matter what you do, that seed will grow to be a peach tree. You may wish for an apple or an orange, but you will get a peach.

Shifu: But a peach cannot defeat Tai Lung!

Oogway: Maybe it can, if you are willing to guide, to nurture it, to believe in it.

Shifu: But how? How? I need your help, master.

Oogway: No, you just need to believe. Promise me, Shifu, promise me you will believe.

Oogway: [walking towards Po] Ah! I see that you have found the Sacred Peach Tree of Heavenly Wisdom!

Po: [Po turns around with a lot of peaches stuffed in his mouth] Oh! Is that what this is? I'm so sorry! I just thought it was a regular peach tree!

Shifu: But who? Who is worthy to be trusted with the secret to limitless power? To become the Dragon Warrior?

Oogway: I don't know.

Oogway: One often meets his destiny on the road he takes to avoid it.

Po: Maybe I should just quit and go back to making noodles.

Oogway: Quit, don't quit? Noodles, don't noodles? You are too concerned about what was and what will be.

There is a saying: yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, and today is a gift. That is why it is called the "present."

Shifu: Master! I have... it's very bad news!

Oogway: Ah, Shifu. There is just news. There is no good or bad.

Shifu: Master, your vision. Your vision was right! Tai-Lung has broken out of prison! He's on his way!

[pause]

Oogway: That IS bad news.

Po: What are you pointing at?

Oogway: The Dragon Warrior.

Tigress: Master, were you pointing at me?

Oogway: Him.

Po: Me?

[Moves around, Oogway's finger follows him]

Oogway: You.

Po: What?

Oogway: [Raising Po's arm with his stick] The universe has brought us the Dragon Warrior!

Po: What?

Tigress, Crane, Monkey, Mantis, Viper: What?

Shifu: What?

Mr. Ping: What?

Oogway: My time has come.

[hands his staff to Shifu]

Shifu: What? What are you...?

Oogway: You must now continue your journey without me.

Shifu: No! WAIT! You cannot leave me, Master!

Oogway: You must believe...

Shifu: MASTER!

[in a haze of peach blossoms, Oogway ascends to the heavens]

Oogway: There are no accidents.

Shifu: [sighs] Yes, I know. You've already said that twice.

Oogway: That was no accident either.

Shifu: Thrice.

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