

# Older – resolutions (4:45)

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Older the Elder (sitting in chair)

Announcer:

Now it is my pleasure to introduce Older the Elder, world's oldest man still partly alive.

(Older stands)

Well now, Older – how does it feel to be alive at your age?

Older:

Very good, when you consider the alternative.

A.

I guess you've seen many years in your time.

O.

Yep. All good.

A.

Really? All good years?

O.

At my age, sonny, any year that you see is a good year.

A.

I understand you are here today as a stand-in for Father Time. Why didn't he come himself?

O.

Didn't have time.

A. (Astonished)

What? Why not?

O.

He's gone into management. You've seen all these time management systems. Who do you think is running them?

A.

But an expert in time management should have plenty of time.

O.

You don't know management. Takes lots of time. By the time you finish your time management, you have managed to use up all the time you were going to manage.

A.

But then what is the benefit of time management?

O.

Gives you the answer.

A.

How does time management give you the answer if it doesn't save you time?

O.

Pay attention to the question, sonny. The question is, "What are you doing about getting time to do what you need to do?"

And the answer is, "I'm reading a book on time management."

A.

But what good does a book on time management do if it doesn't get you the time you need?

O.

Like I say, what people want is to have an answer to the question. If they really wanted to get somethin' done, they'd start doin' it.

Just like you. You were gonna ask me about resolutions. But instead, you're askin' me about time management.

A. (Flustered.)

Well – resolutions – oh yes. Have you made any New Year's resolutions?

O.

Sonny you been listenin' to too much news. People don't make New Year's Resolutions. They just talk about 'em. Even talkin' about 'em is a triumph of hype over experience.

Just like fruit cakes. Nobody opens those tin boxes. Some of those cakes are fossilized by now, but nobody knows it. Because they just look at 'em.

They just look at resolutions, too. Look at 'em on TeeVee. Talk about 'em at parties. Resolutions look good when you're drunk. You can forget 'em when you're sober. Just like that girl you met at the office party.

A.

What do you suggest we do about New Year's resolutions?

O.

Well, I favor switching to Old Year's resolutions.

A.

How could you make resolutions for the year that just went by?

O.

Easy sonny. You figure out what you did this past year and resolve to do it. That way, you always get it right.

A. (outraged)

But – but that's not fair.

O.

Boy, you are young. Even Jimmy Carter noticed that life is not fair. You gonna deal with life, you need all the advantages you can get. But if you just gotta make resolutions for the New Year, you can use the ones you just used for the past year.

A.

But that would be wrong. You're supposed to make new resolutions for the new year.

O.

That's the trouble with you kids. You know too much about what's wrong. You know too much about what people are supposed to do. Now me, I been usin' one resolution about that for years. Works fine.

A.

So what is it?

O.

Never let people tell me what I'm supposed to do unless they've got a suppository.

A.

Suppository? That's a something for rectal insertion.

O.

Yep. But that's the fanciest language I ever heard fer it.

(Older sits)

A.

Well, there you have it. Old year's message from the oldest comedian on second life.

Let's have a big hand for Older the Elder.

A. (walks away, muttering.)

Can you believe he wrote that applause line into the script?

