

Twitter Thread by [wikipedia “seasonal halloween name” brown](#)



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@eveewing



Imagine a bunch of people are in a tent. It’s an awful tent. Call it the Awful Tent. why is it awful? I dunno. Uhhhh there are bears outside and maybe a bunch of mosquitoes inside. It just sucks. It’s an awful, sucky tent for everybody.

Periodically people in the Awful Tent have discussions about their circumstances. “How are we gonna get out of the Awful Tent?” “I’m sick of being bitten by mosquitoes.” “Omg the constant growling of the scary bears outside gives me anxiety.” Everyone commiserates.

But the thing is, not everyone’s position in the tent is the same. Some people have staked out a spot in the center where they can’t hear the bears. Some people are more or less prone to getting bitten by mosquitoes. Some people are allergic to the damp, mildewy, Awful Tent.

The Awful Tent has holes and some people have been stuck for a long time under the holes. Every time it rains they get wet. They’re perpetually sick and soggy as a result.

To make matters worse, some people in the tent have actually caused harm to others. Some people have pushed and shoved to make sure the people getting rained on keep getting rained on. Some people have stolen and hoarded bug spray. Some people have shoved others out to be bears.

And it’s the same people. After a while a pattern emerges. Sure, everyone in the tent has it bad. Real bad. But some people have it less bad, and they’ve actually consistently either ignored the other people altogether or made it worse for them.

Eventually, in the discussions, the people getting rained on and getting their bug spray stolen get fed up. During one of the regular discussions they decide to air their grievances. But the other people won’t listen to them.

Every time one of the rained-on people tries to speak, one of the bug spray thieves says something like:

Why are you trying to divide us? We’re ALL in the Awful Tent.

or

why are you blaming me? This is the bears' fault

or they say they're being picked on, and they cry

some of them say "why are you complaining to me? *i* have never stolen bug spray" even though they sit by watching quietly every night as others steal the bug spray. and sometimes, without even noticing, they've bumped someone into one of the rainy holey parts of the tent

Things go on like this for a long time. The people getting rained on and bitten up keep trying to state their case. The other people keep ignoring them, denying fault, or changing the subject. Eventually the rained on & bitten up & allergic people stop trusting the other people.

and maybe after a while, after the endless arguing, some of the bug spray thieves finally listen. They apologize. They change their ways. They admit their role in worsening conditions for the others.

or, you know, maybe the bears finally get the whole lot of them ■■■■■

"Some people have shoved others out to be bears"

should have said "to THE bears"

although this concept is also interesting