

## Ripe for Retribution

A screenplay by Ben Deal

EXT. MIDDLE OF THE DAY, CROWDED STREET

A suspicious looking figure wearing a trench coat stands on the corner of a street peering at passing walkers

He occasionally leans in and asks them a question before checking his surroundings in a paranoid manner

A group of girls sipping from Starbucks cups walks by

TRENCH COAT DEALER

Hey ladies, want to buy some green?  
(their voice is disguised,  
unclear whether a girl or guy)

The girls slow down to a stop then proceed to back track and pause a few feet away from the stranger, never directly looking in his direction

LEAD GIRL

Hows the product?

TRENCH COAT DEALER

Some of the best I've ever had.  
Fresh from the farm. Ready to go or  
ripening in a few days, you've  
never had better.

LEAD GIRL

We're interested. How do you want  
to do this?

The dealer scans the scene and notices a pair of police officers strolling on the other side of the street, hands on their nightsticks. they mean business

TRENCH COAT DEALER

Back side of this building in 10  
minutes. Make sure you aren't being  
followed.

Policemen look over as girls walk away from the man, suspicious looks on their face but they continue their patrol of the area

EXT. BACK ALLEY, NOTICEABLY LESS LIT

Trench coat man pulls a bag of avocados from under his coat with girls noticeably paranoid and ready to leave

The lead girl counts out \$80 and slips it to the man. he nods his head

TRENCH COAT DEALER  
I'll be seeing you.

INT. KITCHEN OF SMALL FARM HOUSE

The camera pans slowly past a wall of pictures and awards including largest avocado in the local fair with a picture of Eustace and his 3 pound avocado. family pictures show a man, his wife, and 2 boys in various settings: in the avocado orchard; each carrying buckets of avocados; the boys with two smaller avocado trees among rows of others. Only wide smiles fill the faces of the family in the photos.

Pan continues to reveal the dining room table where the same family is visible. Morning light comes in through the window, breakfast is being eaten. Smiles are noticeably absent from faces.

EUSTACE  
Where is that damn officer? We reported the theft hours ago and still no one has shown up. If they took our avocados half as seriously as they did their morning donuts and coffee I'd have a whole damn task force dotting on me right now.

FARMER'S WIFE  
I'm sure they're on their way.

EUSTACE  
(more excited now)  
Oh great. They're on their way! They shouldn't have even had to come in the first place if they'd been doing their job from the beginning.

FARMER'S WIFE  
There you go again, always blaming other people for your problems. I didn't hear Nathan Campbell whining when magpies ate nearly his whole kiwi crop last year. He moved on and dealt with it like any self respecting farmer would.

(CONTINUED)

EUSTACE

You watched the news last night. They were making light of the recent thefts, just like every other person in town. Whats the point of self respect if others aren't going to give me any regardless.

(beat)

Then again, maybe you're right. Maybe I should take matter into my own hands.

FARMER'S WIFE

Ha! I'll believe that when I see it. Only thing you've ever taken into your own hands is-

-Eustace's head snaps up from its previously downtrodden position and glares at her. She stops mid sentence, but the point has been made. Both kids at the table, previously following the conversation between dad and mom now look down at their plates.

There is a clear sense that this conversation has been had before. He stands up and leaves the table as his wife clears a few dishes and exits the scene into the adjacent kitchen. After she leaves, Eustace leans down to his boys and pulls two avocados out of the jacket.

In a softer voice, so as not to alert his wife

EUSTACE

William, Jack, here you go boys.

Handing them each one of the fruits

EUSTACE

I'm sorry I've been keeping everything to sell recently but this morning I figured why the hell not? Enjoy your lunch!

The boys' faces light up, they softly hug their dad then proceed to slip the avocados in their backpack.

His wife reenters the kitchen and Eustace heads towards the door, more audibly now stating

EUSTACE

Ill be out in the orchard. Send the officer my direction if he ever shows up.

The kids stand up also, leaving a significant amount of uneaten food on their plate. They grab their backpacks from the floor and walk out the door, leaving their mother in the dining room alone.

EXT. AVOCADO ORCHARD. MIDDLE OF DAY

close up of a tree bud where an avocado should be. shot zooms out to reveal an entire tree with no avocados on it. Zoom out and pans to reveal a whole row of trees that have been noticeably stripped of all their fruit.

Eustace is looking at a barren tree with a sad look on his face. He ambles through the rows of trees seemingly without purpose. He kicks a half smushed avocado on the ground next to him. It splatters over his boot, turning his anger into embarrassment.

A police officer comes around the bend. He has a coffee in one hand and a donut in the others.

POLICE OFFICER  
Good morning Eustace!

EUSTACE  
(indecipherable grumble and  
half assed hand wave)

POLICE OFFICER  
Sorry to hear about your crop last night. Hate to see it happen. Unfortunately thats becoming increasingly common now adays! Avocados are just so damn good!

EUSTACE  
(sarcastically)  
Indeed! It would be a shame if there weren't enough to go around. Even worse if that fueled a number of thefts in the area! But hey! That's not anyone elses problem right? I'm sure your wife loves paying 6 quid each at the market for them.

POLICE OFFICER  
(getting the point)  
Ah, I see.

(CONTINUED)

They both stand there for a few seconds but it feels like much longer. The officer takes a bit from his donut, followed by a large swig of coffee before the donut has even been fully chewed. With his mouth still full, he begins to walk away.

POLICE OFFICER

Well, have a nice day Eustace.

Eustace yells after him but either the officer doesn't hear or ignores him.

EUSTACE

Officer what about the--!?

He disappears behind a row of trees leaving behind an even more disgruntled Eustace. Eustace shakes his head.

EUSTACE

Classic.

Eustace slumps down against the trunk of the tree he was standing next to. He covers his face with his hands, sighing deeply.

Begin a series of flashbacks, black and white or some type of muted color palette:

DISSOLVE TO

INT. ONE ROOM SCHOOL HOUSE

Grade school aged Eustace sitting in class, 4 rows of 4 desks each. He is sitting in the front corner but there is noticeably more space between his desk and the others adjacent to his. The teacher, a younger woman turns to him,

TEACHER

And what do you want to be when you grow up Eustace?

YOUNG EUSTACE

(excitedly)

I'm going to be the greatest avocado farmer in the southern hemisphere!

A chorus of laughter erupts from the other children. The teacher holds back a chuckle.

TEACHER

(patronizingly)

I'm sure you will Eustace.

(CONTINUED)

A spitball from the back of the class makes contact with Young Eustace's cheek. It sticks there and he bows his head in shame, not even bothering to wipe it off.

DISSOLVE TO

EXT. RUGBY FIELD

Late high school/college aged Eustace running down field in the middle of a play. He is on the side of the field with an open path to the try zone (end zone). His teammate passes the ball his way from mid field. It's a perfect pass but he fumbles it, the ball bounces behind him on the ground and the opposing team dives on it. The whistle blows, the game is over.

He stands there, still, as his teammates walk past him.

TEAMMATE

You're worthless Eustace. If that had been an avocado I bet you would have caught it...

He bows his head in shame.

DISSOLVE TO

EXT. CROWDED MARKET, FOOD VENDORS YELLING

Eustace's stand is significantly less built up than the other stands. There are groups of people outside the adjacent kiwi and apple stands. We see an eager farmer standing behind his stand, younger than present day but only by 10 or so years.

Time lapse of the market, only a few people visit his stand throughout the course of the day. End time lapse when everyone but the farmers are gone. Eustace is now sitting behind his stand, head bowed in shame, most of his avocados are still there. The kiwi and apple farmer look down at Farmer, then to each other and chuckle.

DISSOLVE TO

EXT. AVOCADO ORCHARD. MIDDLE OF DAY

Back to present time. Eustace is still slumped against the tree. His hands still cover his face.

CUT TO

CAMERA BEHIND HANDS FROM POINT OF VIEW OF EUSTACE'S EYES

(CONTINUED)

Eustace spreads his fingers and peers through his hands. The background behind his hands is blurry. Focus shifts slowly from hands and foreground to background. Two small trees come into focus. One has been partially uprooted and is leaning over at a 45 degree angle. The other has been completely broken in half. Camera holds there for a little while.

## EXIT POINT OF VIEW

Eustace slowly stands up. He walks to the trees and kneels in front of them. They are the trees from the picture on the wall. There is a plaque placed in the ground in front of them. It reads,

"Here stand the first avocado trees planted by William and Jack. May they grow tall and strong, just like those who planted them.

Love, Dad."

Eustace takes a second to take this in. A solitary tear falls from his eye. It gets halfway down his cheek before his face turns from sadness to a look of solid determination. He wipes the tear from his cheek and raises his head.

## EUSTACE

Too long have I been the pit of every joke. Too long have I brought shame to myself and my family. I started this orchard from nothing, and I will not let it return to nothing again.

HARD CUT TO BLACK

## INT. HOUSE

Eustace strides back in to his house. His gait is different than before, he walks confidently now. The kids have just returned from school and are snacking at the kitchen table.

## EUSTACE

Honey, I need you to take the kids out of town for a few days. It may not be safe here.

The boys look up from their snacks in confusion.

## FARMER'S WIFE

Eustace what are you talking about?

Eustace's face is stern, unwavering.

(CONTINUED)

EUSTACE

You were right. I was waiting around for someone else to fix my problems. Don't worry though. My days of self loathing are done.

FARMER'S WIFE

Who do you think you are, Scooby Doo and crew? You're not going to magically catch a bunch of thieves on your own.

EUSTACE

You're right. I probably wont. But I'd sleep a lot better knowing I at least tried.

FARMER'S WIFE

You'll sleep a lot better if you get yourself killed doing something stupid also.

Eustace looks at her, emotionless.

FARMER'S WIFE

Fine. But I won't be waiting up for you if something goes wrong. Lets go boys.

Much to his wife's surprise, the boys have moved over to eustace and stand next to him on either side. Their body position mimics that of Eustace.

WILLIAM AND JACK

We're staying with dad.

His wife scoffs.

FARMER'S WIFE

You're most certainly not.

EUSTACE

I'm going to have to agree with mom on this one. It wont be safe here for you two.

WILLIAM

I know how important this farm is to you dad.

JACK

I know how important avocados are to you.

(CONTINUED)



## WILLIAM AND JACK

And we know how important this family is.

(beat)

We want to be here to help, in any way we can.

Eustace kneels down and puts a hand on each of their shoulders.

## EUSTACE

If that's what you truly want, I would be honored to have you by my side.

The boys faces light up as they both hug their dad.

## FARMER'S WIFE

Unbelievable. Good luck. You're going to need it.

She grabs her keys of the counter and walks out the door, not even looking back. Eustace and the boys watch her leave and then Eustace turns to the boys.

## EUSTACE

You boys ready for this?

Jack runs over to the table, smashes up half an avocado that was sitting in a bowl, puts his fingers in it, and smears two streaks of "war paint" on his cheeks.

Both Eustace and William laugh.

## EUSTACE

I'll take that as a yes. Lets mash out a plan.

## VARIOUS SETTINGS

MUSIC BEGINS TO PLAY THAT WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT.

MONTAGE-ESQUE SERIES OF SCENES WITH NO DIALOGUE.

In dramatic fashion Eustace swipes everything off the kitchen table and slaps down a poorly drawn map of his land. He makes a couple circles and x's on the map, pointing to William and Jack as he talks and writes. They nod in understanding. After the map is more or less covered in marks, Eustace puts one of his hands to the center. Both boys put a hand in as well and they raise them up, breaking the huddle.

(CONTINUED)

Eustace is outside in the orchard. He has rope and is tying it to a large branch in one of the avocado trees. after tying it he cuts the branch at the base by the tree, then rests the branch among others.

Jack is in the kitchen, a huge stack of avocados next to him. He is pitting them, and putting the avocados into a large cauldron on the stove. Short series of shots shows the pile of avocados getting smaller and pits getting bigger. He mashes up the fruit in the cauldron and turns the burner to high.

William carries a bucket of clearly over ripened avocados. He holds his nose away due to the stench. Arrives on Eustace who is finishing digging a large pit. William dumps the avocados into the pit. They both proceed to cover the pit with small branches. They high five.

Jack is still in the kitchen, a cauldron of boiling avocados behind him. Two slingshots sit in front of him. William enters. He hands one to William along with a fanny pack filled with avocado pits. They nod to eachother.

Eustace and the boys have climbing a tree and their heads are peaking out over the orchard. All of their faces are now smeared with avocado war paint. The last bit of sun disappears over the horizon.

EXT. ORCHARD, NIGHT

Eustace sits in a tree alert. Jack is slumped against a tree snoozing. William is nodding in and out in a separate but close tree. There is a peaceful silence in the orchard.

Suddenly, talking can be heard. The boys wake up, now alert as ever. Eustace gives them the nod and they scramble to positions.

CUT TO

Two men wearing black and ski masks are walking through the orchard, not even bothering to walk quietly or whisper. They both are carrying large sacks with them. One carries an oil lamp, illuminating them and their surroundings.

ROBBER 1

If stealing Eustace's fruit were any easier we'd have to call it his wife.

ROBBER 2

Ouch. That's a low blow even for you Nathan.

(CONTINUED)

ROBBER 1  
Shh. I told you not to use my name  
when were out here.

ROBBER 2  
Please. We've been out here a  
million times.

Robber 2 reaches up for an avocado hanging from a tree. He plucks it and places it into his bag.

ROBBER 2  
Like taking candy from a baby.

Robber 1 also now reaches for an avocado but it is a bit further and takes standing on his tip toes and stretching.

ROBBER 1  
More like taking an avocada berry  
breakfast smoothie from a girl in  
yoga pants and a baggy shirt who  
just finished her morning soul  
cycle class.

He finally reaches the avocado and plucks it. Admiring it. Robber 2 turns to him with a smile on his face.

ROBBER 2  
Isn't that what I said?

Both laugh.

A whizzing sound is heard and then a loud clunk as Robber 1 reaches up and grabs his head.

ROBBER 1  
BLOODY HELL! What was that?

ROBBER 2  
Something probably just fell of a  
tree.

Another whiz goes by Robber 2's head this time but misses.

ROBBER 2  
Hmm. Or maybe not.

They are both more aware now. Scanning the area around them.

Another object misses Robber 2.

ROBBER 2

I think someones shooting something  
at us! Good thing they've got awful  
aim!

Just as he finishes the sentence, a whiz is heard and Robber  
2 buckles over, holding his hands to his crotch. Moaning in  
pain.

ROBBER 1

Good thing indeed.

(beat)

Come on, lets fill our bags and get  
out of here.

The music starts again as the robbers run in opposite  
directions. Grabbing avocados off trees as they go.

A robber is creeping through a row of trees. William is  
shown up in the tree. He waits until the right moment then  
pushes the large branch attached to the rope out. It swings  
down and narrowly misses the robber. He breathes a sigh of  
relief and keeps walking. The branch swings back and knocks  
him over, he falls muttering random curse words. William  
fist pumps.

A robber is at the base of a tree, shaking it so avocados  
fall off and putting them in his bag. When no more fall off  
he looks up in the tree, sees something, and squints his  
eyes to try to see what is up there. Jack is shown with the  
cauldron and pours in down onto the robber. He holds his  
eyes and runs around in a few circles until he smacks into  
the tree, falling over. Jack fist pumps.

Eustace is walking along the orchard and suddenly stops,  
looking down at the fake ground covering the pit. He looks  
around as if he hears voices and scurries off, hiding behind  
a tree. A robber is running, carrying his sack over his  
shoulder as he suddenly disappears into the ground, falling  
into the pit. Camera holds for a bit as he crawls out,  
holding his nose the whole time.

A robber walks up a short but steep hill, more avocado trees  
are at the top. William and Jack peer over the edge from the  
top, the robber sees them and gains a burst of energy,  
sprinting up to catch them. William and Jack release a tarp  
full of avocado pits down the hill, causing the robber to  
first slip on top of them, then be consumed by the avalanche  
of pits.

(CONTINUED)

The robbers are both walking backwards in a paranoid manner when they bump into each other, startling the other. They make signals that it's time to leave and nod in agreement. Using the lamp to light the way in front of them they slowly try to creep out of the orchard.

They are still creeping around not finding their way when another avocado pit flies past them. Then another. Soon many pits are flying past and hitting them. They place the lamp on the ground, then hug for protection. Eustace is shown throwing pits at them. Jack and William are shooting them from their slingshots.

A pit hits the oil lamp on the ground and it explodes. Instantly catching the ground near it as well as an entire tree on fire. The robbers run but are followed by Eustace, William, and Jack. The camera pulls out and way above the orchard into a birds eye view, the orchard is large, implying the robbers will not find their way out. Time speeds up and the fire spreads. Light begins to return to the sky. A significant part of the orchard is burning now. Large plumes of smoke rise from the orchard into the sky.

FADE TO

EXT/INT TOWN

Various shots of people in the town. Some are waking up in their beds and looking outside their windows to see smoke rising in the distance. One is in a bakery and notices the smoke, walking outside to see where it is coming from. A small contingent of people are now outside on the street. A woman runs out into the middle of the street.

WOMAN

It's coming from Farmer Eustace's  
orchard!

EXT. ENTRANCE TO ORCHARD

MEDIUM LONG SHOT

Smoke obscures most of the orchard in front of us. There is a single dirt road leading in and out of the rows of trees. A thick layer of smoke sits underneath the canopy of the trees, concealing all about 5 feet of the road into the orchard.

Sirens sound in the background. They quickly get closer until we see 2 firetrucks, an ambulance, and half a dozen police cars pull up and form a small perimeter around the edge of the orchard. The sirens stop but lights are still going. The firemen and officers get out of their vehicles, struggling to see into the orchard past the smoke.

(CONTINUED)

Just as the firefighters are about to charge in, a silhouetted figure slowly appears in the center of the road. He is carrying another full sized human over his shoulder. A second later 2 smaller figured walk out of the smoke as well, dragging another body by the arms.

FIREFIGHTER

We need the EMTs up here asap!

A group of police officers and a few regular people form a circle around the figure who just emerged from the smoke. The sounds of other cars driving up, as well as doors being shut, and murmurs of bystanders increases. More random people join the outside edge of the circle, standing up on their tiptoes in an attempt to see the scene taking place in the middle. Firefighters are scrambling in the background and we see a team running into the orchard with their hose.

The camera moves forward through the crowd of people. Finding a path despite the jostling. As it finally breaks through the inside circle, Eustace and his two sons, William and Jack are revealed.

They are standing but are noticeably tired. Their faces are almost completely covered in soot, as are their clothes. The EMTs are caring for them but there is little to nothing for them to do.

EMT ONE

Eustace?

(beat)

Eustace?!

Are you okay? What the hell happened last night?

Another EMT is kneeling next to William and Jack.

EMT TWO

Hey boys. What happened? Anything hurting?

WILLIAM

Honestly, were fine. Just a little mix up in the orchard last night right Jack?

William looks to Jack with a grin on his face. Jack turns to the EMT.

JACK

Yeah mister, don't worry about us. We can handle ourselves.

(CONTINUED)

(beat)  
 Might want to give some attention  
 to these two jokers though.

Jack motions to the two men lying on the ground next to them. They both are still wearing black ski masks. There are traces of avocado smeared on their clothes. They have been occasionally coughing, grunting, and attempting to sit up but are unable to.

Eustace walks over to William and Jack and joins them looking down at the thieves. The EMTs pull both into and upright sitting position and step back.

EMT ONE  
 Eustace, would you like the to do  
 the honors?

EUSTACE  
 It would be my pleasure.

Eustace steps up to the two thieves, gets down on one knee, and pulls their ski masks off. An audible gasp is heard from the watching crowd.

Soot covers their faces only where the ski masks allowed, giving both robbers goofy raccoon eyes and a sooty mouth. Their hair is disheveled, a bit singed even in places. The looks on their faces is a mixture of contempt and regret.

EUSTACE  
 Nathan Campbell and Pete Collins. I  
 suspected you two might have  
 something to do with this but I had  
 given you the benefit of the doubt.

NATHAN & PETE  
 (together)  
 Hmmmph.

EUSTACE  
 (snidely)  
 Nathan, get a little jealous of the  
 natural "good fat" people were  
 craving from my avocados? Or maybe  
 you were just jealous because my  
 fruit are so much bigger and  
 smoother than yours?

He holds out his hands in a cupping motion and raises his eyebrows.

EUSTACE

Hey, maybe kiwis will have their day.

(beat)

Though I'm not really sure if they serve them in jail.

And Pete... Did people finally realize your red delicious apples are anything but? I mean seriously, have you even tasted one? Its like eating a ball of wax. What a waste of perfectly good soil.

NATHAN

You may have the more popular fruit right now Eustace, but this isn't over. It won't be long before some sorority girl writes an odyssey online article about how maybe the fat in your stupid avocados isn't actually "good fat" and scares off an entire generation.

Nathan continues to talk but Eustace turns away and faces William and Jack. He puts his hands on their shoulders but then looks up as if hes forgetting something. Or someone. He scans the crowd, does not see his wife, briefly looks confused and disappointed, then perks back up and begins walking away from the thieves.

POLICE OFFICER

Eustace! What about your orchard!?  
What about these guys?

Eustace stops briefly and without looking back responds.

EUSTACE

Do with them what we do with all the spoiled fruit... Feed em to the pigs.

Multiple police officers gather around both Nathan and Pete and pick them up under the armpits, dragging them into their cars. Barely audibly, but clearly, Pete says to himself,

PETE

And I would have gotten away with it too, if it wasn't for those meddling kids.

(CONTINUED)



Eustace and the boys continue to walk, breaking into the crowd as it parts in front of them. Looks of admiration are on the faces of everyone there. Wives whisper to their husbands, kids admire William and Jack as they proudly walk. A young boy runs up to Eustace with an avocado in his hand.

YOUNG BOY

Mr. Eustace, will you please sign  
my avocado? I want to be just like  
you someday.

He holds an avocado and a sharpie up Eustace, who takes it and signs it. He hands it back to the kid who runs back to his mom.

YOUNG BOY

I'm going to be just like him when  
I grow up!

As they exit the back edge of the crowd, another vehicle pulls up to the scene. Eustace's wife is driving. She gets out of the car and stands about 15 feet from Eustace and the boys.

EUSTACE

You missed all the fun.

FARMER'S WIFE

I always do. Hop in.

She gestures to the car and the boys hop in the back seat with Eustace in the front. The short drive back to the house is in silence. Eustace and the boys are exhausted from the long night.

The car pulls up to the house and stops. Eustace looks down to his feet with a curious look on his face and then looks back up as his wife and the boys are getting out of the car.

FARMER'S WIFE

How about grilled cheese for lunch?  
Your favorites!

WILLIAM AND JACK

Hooray!

Eustace remains in the car. He reaches down between his legs and in his fist, hidden from the camera, brings up an object. He slowly turns and opens his hand, revealing a kiwi that had rolled out from under the seat. He turns his head to the house with a look of suspicion and confusion. He places the kiwi back under the seat and hops out, shaking his head as if to put it out of his mind and walks up to the house.

INT. HOUSE A BIT BEFORE SUNSET

Eustace eats dinner with his family. He sits across from his wife with William and Jack on either side. Eustace smiles endearingly at her and she returns the smile but there is a twinge of fakeness behind it.

EUSTACE

Boys, I can't tell you how proud I am of both of you. I'm a happy man knowing this orchard will be in good hands when I'm too old to plant and prune.

WILLIAM

We learned from the best, Dad!

JACK

I think you still have lots of years ahead of you though, Dad!

Eustace chuckles.

EUSTACE

I would like to think so too.

(beat)

William! The way you stopped those thieves last night with the Ewok tree branches! That was awesome! And Jack, that shot that stopped the one from running away at the end? Unreal!

Eustace and the boys go on exchanging stories from the previous night. Tales of bravery and silliness are shared and appreciated. His Wife gets up and starts to clear dishes. Eustace glances in her direction often, revealing a forced smile once again.

CUT TO

EXT. FRONT PORCH

The family has finished eating dinner and are hanging out on the porch.

EUSTACE

Boys. Mom and I are going for a little drive, we've got some avocados that I'm sure are anxious to return home.

(beat)

Can I trust you to take care of the property while we're gone?

(CONTINUED)

Eustace winks at them and they all share a laugh.

Eustace and his wife stand up and walk over to the truck. Eustace's arm around her lower back. They hop in the truck and depart the house out the dirt driveway, a cloud of dust following behind them. The sun is low in the sky as dusk approaches.

INT. FRONT SEAT OF TRUCK

Eustace and his wife drive for a bit, in silence first before Eustace breaks the tension.

EUSTACE

Honey, I want you to know that everything I did and will do, both before last night and on was done with the family in mind first.

(beat)

I know we've had some rough times but I think were back now and I want you to stay by my side.

FARMER'S WIFE

I know dear, there's just been a lot happening and it's been a hard couple of years.

She places her hand on his leg as he continues to drive.

FARMER'S WIFE

I'm ready to start new if you are.

Eustace turns to her and smiles.

EUSTACE

Indeed.

(long beat)

FARMER'S WIFE

Stop at this gas station real quick, I'd like to grab us a celebration drink.

Eustace turns off the road and pulls into a parking spot in the gas station. His wife smiles, still with a twinge of insincerity and heads into the gas station.

(to himself)

EUSTACE

Now how do I get to this stash house?

(CONTINUED)

He pulls out a slip of paper with an address on it, presumably the stash house. The audience gets a good look at it before he pulls up his own phone to plug it into google maps for directions. His phone is dead so he grabs his wifes phone, still sitting in the cupholder. He pulls up google maps and prepares to type the address in but notices something weird.

The recent destination window is displayed under the search bar. Two slots down is a familiar address, the stash house address Eustace has on the slip of paper. He holds the piece of paper next to the phone, the camera lets us compare the two addresses as well. Exact match.

Eustace closes the app and places the phone back exactly where it was.

His wife returns from the gas station with a bottle of wine in hand. They smile at each other as she gets back in the truck, the same insincere look now on both of their faces.

EUSTACE

Can you plug the address of this place into your phone honey? I know we're close but I wouldn't want to get lost out here!

He hands her the piece of paper with the address. As she picks up her phone and begins to type the address in, she barely even glances at he piece of paper in her hand.

GPS VOICE

Navigating to 42 Wallaby Way. You will reach your destination in 4 minutes.

Eustace's face fills the entire camera. His expression is blank. It switches to sadness. The sadness becomes anger. The anger transforms back to blankness, but with a hint of determination.

External shot of the truck as it pulls out of the gas station and continues down the highway. The sun begins to disappear behind the trees.

EXT. SHODDY WAREHOUSE/BARN

There are tire tracks already outside of the barn as they pull up to it but no cars. Both Eustace and his wife hop out of the truck and head towards the large barn doors. Eustace grabs a pry bar from his truck and pops the lock off. The doors slowly creak open and he pushes one all the way open. The last bit of sunlight creeps into the barn to reveal boxes and boxes of what are presumed to be avocados.

(CONTINUED)

Eustace takes this scene in before nodding to himself.

EUSTACE

Lets get these boxes in the truck  
then I want to get back to the  
boys.

Both Eustace and his wife start loading the boxes of avocados into the bed of the truck. After the bed fills they move onto the back seat. On her last trip to the truck his wife grabs the bottle of wine and brings it to Eustace who is grabbing the last two boxes of avocados.

FARMER'S WIFE

I'm not sure there's any room for  
that in the car Eustace.

EUSTACE

Don't worry, I'll find a spot!

FARMER'S WIFE

Whatever you say dear. I'm going to  
open this bottle of wine at the  
table over here.

Eustace nods and continues to walk towards the truck. He places the boxes in the front passenger seat, completely filling the space his wife had ridden over in.

He closes the door then walks around to the drivers side. He opens the door and hops in the truck. He buckles the passenger seatbelt over the two boxes of avocados sitting next to him. With the key in the ignition he leans his head out the window and yells.

EUSTACE

Oh, dear!? The boys and I won't be  
waiting up for you!

He turns on the car and peels out of the driveway, leaving a large cloud of dust behind him. His wife runs out of the barn and through the cloud of dust, still holding the bottle of wine in one hand. She tries to yell after him,

FARMER'S WIFE

Eustace! Eustace! I'm sorry! It  
won't happen again!

but Eustace is long gone at that point. She sits down in the dirt outside the barn and takes a large swill of her wine. Her facial expression is not one that garners sympathy, but rather is a mixture of self pity and a complete self awareness that she brought this upon herself.

CUT TO

INT/EXT TRUCK FRONT SEAT AND OUT

CAMERA IS POSITIONED BEHIND EUSTACE'S HEAD IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TRUCK. FOLLOWING SCENE IS VISIBLE IN THE REAR VIEW MIRROR

Eustace has a huge grin on his face as he barrels down the country road. He grabs an avocado from one of the boxes next to him and with his knee on the wheel, quickly cuts it open with his pocket knife and begins to munch on it.

The camera begins to slowly pull back through the truck. Pulling back through the rear glass and over the bed, filled completely with avocados. The boxes and avocados bounce as the dirt road underneath the truck zooms by them. Eustace's silhouette is just visible through the back glass of the truck. The camera continues to pull back.

The truck is now the middle third of a medium shot, the camera flying well above the road level. A bright orange and pink sky has been revealed over the country scene. The truck continues to put distance between the camera and itself before eventually disappearing into the horizon.

SLOW FADE TO BLACK

FIN