

FADE IN:

EXT. FIELD - MORNING

A goat is dead on the ground. It has been slashed at and blood is splattered around the corpse.

Stood over the corpse, looking down at it, is the farmer (JACK). He seems emotionless.

The farmer's daughter (DANI) rushes over and looks down at the dead goat, she is more disturbed by it.

Dani looks to Jack for a reaction but nothing is said. Dani returns to the herd.

Jack kneels next to the dead animal and removes the collar.

Jack stares for a while longer before looking away and around the field.

INT. DINING ROOM - JACK'S HOUSE - MORNING

Jack and Dani are sat at the table having some food and coffee. They are very quiet while eating.

JACK
What time is it?

Dani checks her watch.

DANI
It's just past nine.

JACK
Well then...

Jack finishes his coffee and leaves the table.

DANI
Where are you going?

Jack doesn't reply. Dani continues eating.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Jack is now walking across his field carrying a staff. He jabs at things on the ground that he thinks are suspicious as he walks along.

Jack investigates any gaps in the fencing and hedging. He walks to the wooden fencing and finds a few PEGS lying on the ground. He picks them up and is deep in curiosity as he rolls them around in his grip.

INT. BARN - INCINERATOR - DAY

Jack is inside a barn where there is an incinerator he has heated up. He opens the hatch and it is ready to use.

Jack then picks up a large plastic bag that contains the bloody remains of his goat. After a deep breath, he throws it into the incinerator and closes the hatch.

Jack stands watching the hatch, listening to the flames burning inside.

INT. PUB - DAY

Jack comes into the pub and sits at the bar. The barman pours him his usual and hands it to him.

BARMAN

How's it going, Jack?

JACK

I'm okay. Dead goat though.

BARMAN

Really? I'm sorry to hear that,
Jack. How'd it happen?

Jack takes a deep breath, he's unsure.

JACK

Well, it didn't look too good,
maybe a fox, dogs... not sure yet.

BARMAN

Taking it to the vet? Or the

police?

JACK

No. Already burned him. Have to wait, see what happens.

Another man at the bar, LARRY, slides closer to join the conversation.

LARRY

The crooks always return to the scene of a crime, right?

BARMAN

What... foxes? Wild mutts? I don't know. Maybe just lay some traps. Some barbed wire?

LARRY

I'm telling you, even those foxes, any kind of animal, gonna come back. No breed of anything will ever pass up a free meal. Am I right?

BARMAN

Yeah, like those bums up stairs.

JACK

Who's up stairs?

BARMAN

I got these three men staying in the rooms, a wedding in town. They were hitting it pretty hard last night. Surprised you didn't hear it. From what I've heard, he's marrying into some big money, so naturally he's making the most of it. I'll be glad when they're gone, Jack.

Jack reaches into his pocket and takes out the pegs, he places them on the bar.

BARMAN

What's with the pegs?

JACK

I'm not sure. Just... pegs.

LARRY

I could do with some pegs. Mine are always going missing. God only knows where they get to. It's like the sock that always goes missing... am I right?

BARMAN

Not often.

Larry scoffs and keeps drinking. Jack stares at the pegs.

LATER:

Larry is now passed out on the bar and the Barman is cleaning some glasses.

Jack is now sat at a table facing the bar. He sits patiently with his beer.

The door opens and TREE MEN walk in (DELBERT, STUART & DICK). They are laughing and cursing as they get to the bar.

BARMAN

What'll it be lads?

DELBERT

Barkeep! Three of your finest piss-lagger!

The Barman is confused, and a little disgusted.

BARMAN

Three Fosters then? On the tab?

DELBERT

That'd be just swell, Lloyd!

The Three Men laugh at the Barman's expense.

Jack lets off a deep cough behind. The men stop laughing and turn to look. Jack is sat at his table staring at them.

The men are confused. Stuart and Dick look at Delbert. Delbert

signals with a nod to the table. They look; the pegs are next to Jack's pint.

The Barman hands the men their three pints of beer.

DELBERT
Who's that fella?

BARMAN
He owns the goat farm yonder. Lost one of them last night. Did you boys see anything suspicious last night?

Delbert just shakes his head. They pick up their pints and walk over to Jack.

DELBERT
Mind if we join you, fella?

Jack opens his arms slightly to allow them. They sit at the table with Jack.

There is an awkward silence for a few moments.

DELBERT
My name is Delbert, I'm getting married tomorrow. These are my two best men; Dick and Stuart.

DICK
Hi.

STUART
Hi, mate.

DELBERT
What's your name?

Jack looks at Delbert, and then his friends too. He doesn't say anything.

DELBERT
I hear you own the farm over there. That's pretty cool. Um... How's that going?

Jack shrugs a little.

JACK

Alright.

STUART

Lloyd said you had a goat die recently, is that right?

JACK

That's true. Last night.

DICK

Was it foxes?

JACK

Could have been...

The three men nod slightly, seemingly relieved.

JACK (cont'd)

But I don't think so.

The three men suddenly look at each other, paranoid.

DELBERT

What do you mean?

Jack leans forward, reaches down to the feet of Dick, the three men watch him, confused.

Jack takes hold of a PEG attached to Dick's trouser leg. Jack sits up with it and places it on the table.

JACK

That's weird.

The three men look at each other, a lot more concerned now.

DICK

I'm sorry Delbert.

DELBERT

Shut it!

STUART

We should probably go.

DELBERT

Listen, we played the Peg Game last night while drinking, but

that's all. You know, secretly
putting pegs on people... for
laughs.

Jack stares at them. The men are sweating.

STUART
Just tell him.

Delbert sighs.

DELBERT
I'm really sorry. It was part of
the stag weekend, we thought it
would be funny to, you know... bang
a goat! But, we lost our footing...

DICK
We think it got crushed under our
weight.

STUART
Seriously sorry, mate.

JACK
Okay...

The men are a confused by Jack's reaction.

DELBERT
So, we're cool?

JACK
Cool? You fell on a goat.

Jack stares at them. He then goes back to drinking his beer.

Delbert signals to the others to leave with him. As they are
going, Delbert takes out some cash and drops in onto the table.

DELBERT
Seriously, fella... we're sorry.
The three men leave.

Jack then goes to the bar and hands over the cash left by Delbert
in exchange for a bottle of Whiskey. He takes the bottle and
leaves.

EXT. PUB - NIGHT

Jack heads into the pub.

INT. PUB - THE STAIRS - NIGHT

Jack sneaks down the hall, through the doors and stops at one of the guest rooms, he obviously knows who is inside. He takes hold of the door handle and begins to turn it.

EXT. FIELD - NIGHT

A horse is stood in a segregated part of the field. It is fixated on something;

Delbert is asleep and positioned over a steel gate with his trousers pulled down around his ankles. His hands chained to keep him in position.

Jack watches from outside the fencing.

The horse huffs and kicks and makes his way towards Delbert.

Jack remains emotionless.

The horse gets closer to Delbert. As Delbert begins to awaken, he realises he is chained. He panics. The horse makes his final approach towards the helpless Delbert, running faster and faster.

Delbert screams with helpless agony. The horse huffs and neighs.

Jack watches on, emotionless to the distant & awful sounds of Horse-on-Man, before finally walking away.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - STUDY - DAWN

Jack is sat alone in the room. He is keeping himself company with a glass of the whiskey bought at the pub.

After a few sips, he takes the goat's engraved collar from his pocket. He is moving his thumb over the name.

He takes a large gulp of the whiskey then places his glass down,
focussing his hands to the collar.

Jack becomes emotional as he lowers his head onto his hands. After
a while, he begins to cry.

The end.