

Earpeace

Written by  
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Scripted Portion

1st Draft

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1. INTRO

INT. DINER- NIGHT

24 hour style diner, late. Few patrons.

Digger, 40s, is seated at booth with a slice of apple pie and coffee cup before him; the person speaking is not seen but seems to be seated across from Digger.

VOICE (O.S.)

You must have felt it, right? Change in the season... There was just never a chance, I wasn't coming back. We got unsettled business, you and I...

Digger eyeballs his dinner companion then picks up his fork and cuts into the slice.

VOICE (O.S.) (cont'd)

What? You think that hurts me? What are the odds that any of my children were in those apples, huh?

Digger puts the cut onto his fork and lifts it into his mouth.

VOICE (O.S.) (cont'd)

How's it taste? I know you think you're offending me, you think eating my babies makes you tough... You think I haven't eaten your babies, shit... I've eaten the ones that haven't even come out yet... I eat the old, I eat the new, I eat the middle, I eat the ones that are still moving... Like you.

DIGGER

(Instant)

Fuck you!

Patron glances over at Digger's outburst; Waitress looks up and picks up coffee pot to head over.

VOICE (O.S.)

...Oh, touch a nerve, Digger?

Digger extends fork and leans forward to reply.

DIGGER

You ain't...

WAITRESS  
 (Interrupts)  
 ...Top you off?

Digger looks to Waitress as she pours coffee and then around the diner, seems to shrink in her presence.

DIGGER  
 (Sheepish)  
 ...Yeah...sorry...

WAITRESS  
 S'fine, everything is okay...

VOICE (O.S.)  
 No, it's really not...

Waitress wanders off feeling the situation is deescalated, as Digger looks across the table.

VOICE (O.S.) (cont'd)  
 ...Cause I'm coming for you.

DIGGER  
 (Hardens)  
 Get on with it then, chop-chop  
 motherfucker.

Waitress walking toward patron table and looks to refill; Patron leans forward cautiously.

PATRON  
 Is that guy being... weird?

WAITRESS  
 He's fine, he's a regular, just talks  
 to himself here and again.

PATRON  
 So you're sure you're safe? We don't  
 need to call anybody?

WAITRESS  
 Man just eats his pie and leaves.  
 We're all okay?  
 (subject change)  
 ...Get you anything else?

Patron looks at table.

PATRON  
 ...some more water.

WAITRESS  
Coming right up.

Waitress walks to the kitchen and starts filling a new water glass, she looks over at Digger with a look of concern.

## 2. OFFICER SEQUENCE

INT. SQUAD CAR- DAWN

Officer is driving. A beat goes by before officer squints and then sighs annoyed. A vehicle parked on the side of the road is seen in the background. Officer pulls over a beat later.

EXT. RURAL HIGHWAY- DAWN

Digger is walking with shovel in his hand along the highway shoulder, his car is parked behind him in the distance. Squad car pulls over in front of Digger's vehicle, Digger continues walking.

Officer exits vehicle.

OFFICER  
Hey!

Digger stops.

OFFICER (cont'd)  
Turn to me.

Digger does so.

OFFICER (cont'd)  
Car break down?

Digger shakes his head no.

OFFICER (cont'd)  
Whatcha doing walking the highway  
with a shovel?

Digger looks up and down the highway; Officer takes notice of this behavior.

DIGGER  
Just taking a walk... with my shovel.

Officer looks up and down the highway.

OFFICER  
 Maybe...you walk somewhere else... with  
 your shovel.

Digger eyes the Officer for a beat.

DIGGER  
 ...okay.

Digger starts walking toward the Officer, Officer watches Digger intently as he gets nearer. Digger passes the Officer without incident and gets to his vehicle.

OFFICER  
 Hey buddy?

Digger stops.

OFFICER (cont'd)  
 ...Why the shovel?

Digger turns to Officer

DIGGER  
 I was looking for worms.

Officer's demeanor changes toward the situation.

OFFICER  
 (Mumbles)  
 ...for fucks' sake...  
 (Instruction)  
 ...Lead with that next time, huh?

Officer gets into squad car as Digger walks to the back of his vehicle and opens the back gate, revealing an unzipped duffel bag with loose high denomination cash and a shotgun sticking out of it. Digger shoves the shovel into the back and closes the gate.

INT. SQUAD CAR- DAWN

Officer drives off from shoulder; Digger in background putting shovel in back of vehicle, then walking to driver's side and entering; gets in and drives a u-turn to go in opposite direction. Officer glances for a beat before returning to driving like normal.

A long beat of driving before-

OFFICER  
 (Themselves)  
 ...he didn't have a bucket?

Officer drives for a beat longer with that thought.

OFFICER (cont'd)  
He didn't have a bucket.

Officer pulls over and performs a u-turn to go after Digger. Officer drives for equal length beat before squinting and pulling over to the shoulder. Looks out driver side window for several inquisitive glances, with forward glances as well, before exiting the vehicle.

EXT. RURAL HIGHWAY- DAWN

Officer exits squad car and walks across highway to the opposite shoulder where a silver bucket is sitting full of dirt, in pink chalk the words "Early Bird" is written. Officer eyes the bucket and then toward where Digger drove off.

OFFICER  
(Themselves)  
...I don't know what to do with this...

Officer stares off into distance.

3. HARDWARE SEQUENCE

INT. HARDWARE STORE- DAY

Manager is standing behind register, he looks outside and recognition appears on his face.

MANAGER  
(Calls out)  
Bonnie.

Manager stares outside while he waits; a long beat before Bonnie walks up.

BONNIE  
Yeah?

MANAGER  
That thing we discussed...

BONNIE  
With the...

MANAGER  
(Cuts off)  
...Yep.

BONNIE

Alright...

Bonnie steps behind Manager. A beat passes before Digger enters the store and walks to the register carrying his shovel.

MANAGER

Not the right one?

DIGGER

No... Still not right.

Digger hands the shovel over to the Manager; Manager looks it over, then to Digger holding a ten dollar bill. Manager hands Bonnie shovel, she walks away.

MANAGER

Looks a bit used, going to have to ask for a restocking fee.

DIGGER

...still ten?

MANAGER

Yep.

Digger hands the ten dollar bill over to Manager.

MANAGER (cont'd)

Bonnie'll bring up a new one.

Digger reaches up his hand, Manager is surprised by this but can't do anything.

DIGGER

It's fine, I'll go.

Digger walks toward the back of the store just as Bonnie rounds the corner walking back up with the shovel, she is sticking a new price tag on it. She sees him and stops.

BONNIE

Oh? Hi.

DIGGER

Hi.

Bonnie hands Digger the shovel, he takes it. Bonnie eyes him as he looks at it.

BONNIE

Did you know? You were buying the same shovel back...

DIGGER  
It's the same shovel.

BONNIE  
Manager got away with it the first time, so he keeps handing you back the same shovel you originally bought so we don't have to dirty up the new ones... you know, if we don't need to...

Digger looks from Bonnie to the shovel.

DIGGER  
So this is the original one?

BONNIE  
I... think so.

Digger reaches into his pocket and pulls out several random value dollar bills and hands them to Bonnie, he holds her hand for a beat to get to her attention.

DIGGER  
Wash no ones dishes you didn't eat with.

Digger lets go and turns away; Bonnie is confused. He walks up to the register, he doesn't look at the Manager.

MANAGER  
Find...?

DIGGER  
(Cuts off)  
...Found the one.

Digger exits the store.

INT. DIGGER'S VEHICLE- DAY

Digger puts shovel in passenger seat and looks at it.

DIGGER  
So... You're the one...

Digger starts the vehicle and drives away.



## 4. WORM SEQUENCE

INT. RURAL NEIGHBORHOOD- NIGHT

Long winding road with sparsely placed homes. Digger's vehicle turns onto neighborhood road, drives very slow.

INT. DIGGER'S VEHICLE- NIGHT

Digger is driving slowly through the neighborhood; he stares longingly out the window as he drives. His eyes narrow as he slows to a stop before a house.

EXT. HOUSE- NIGHT

Driveway to house has several newspapers dropped on the driveway.

INT. DIGGER'S VEHICLE- NIGHT

Digger puts the vehicle in park.

EXT. HOUSE- NIGHT

Digger exits vehicle, he walks to back of vehicle and opens it. He pulls out his shovel and begins walking up the driveway past the newspaper piles.

EXT. BACKYARD- NIGHT

Digger rounds the garage corner and is blinded when the motion sensor floodlights turn on; he peers through squinted eyes. The vague shape beginning to submerge into the ground can be seen.

VOICE (O.S.)

...No.

Digger runs suddenly.

VOICE (O.S.) (cont'd)

No!

Digger stops and begins madly shoveling at the ground. He drops to his knees suddenly, drops his shovel to the side, and lunges his arms into the dirt. He wraps his arms around something big and tries to pull it up twice before he succeeds revealing the Worm in his grasp.

The Worm wriggles in his clutches, when it can't escape, it opens it's mouth and lets loose a piercing scream. Digger loosens his grip to reach into the worm's mouth with one hand, the Worm bites his hand. Digger grimaces at the immediate pain, he struggles with what to do before he looks to the discarded shovel.

He releases the Worm to reach down for the shovel, the Worm is the only thing holding on now, he grabs the shovel and lifts it away so that he can swing it like an ax against the Worm. He makes a small cut, then splits it nearly in half, before he stands up using the Worm's biting him as the leverage to fully decapitate the Worm.

Triumphant, Digger discards the Worm and looks to his bitten hand. He looks past his hand and sees the garage door is open. He advances toward the garage door and enters.

INT. GARAGE- NIGHT

Digger enters garage cautiously, he lowers his caution as he sees he's in no danger. A partially devoured corpse is lying on the floor near an open car door.

Digger backs out of the garage.

5. END SEQUENCE

INT. DINER- NIGHT

24 hour style diner, slow night.

Digger enters the diner, he is the only customer; Hostess smiles.

HOSTESS

Anywhere you'd like, we'll find you.

Digger returns the smile and walks to a usual booth and sits. He zones out looking to the bandage on his hand. Waitress walks up and sets a Blu-tooth style earpiece on the table.

WAITRESS

None of my business, not meaning to offend, this is my kid's old blu-tooth thingy, it doesn't work and I cleaned it with alcohol, it's clean...

(MORE)

WAITRESS (cont'd)

(Leans forward)

You'll get less looks if you wear this while you're talking... Just a thought.

(Leans back)

The usual... Apple pie and coffee?

DIGGER

...Yes, please.

Digger watches Waitress walk away; he stares at the earpiece. He looks around the room suspiciously while his hand reaches over and covers the earpiece. He lifts it up and looks at it, then lowers it to inspect it nonchalantly. Finally, he puts it in his ear.

VOICE (O.S.)

Gotcha!

-Cut to black-

-End