

**THE DIG**

Written By

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**FADE IN:**

**1. EXT. LAKEFRONT - NIGHT**

TODD is using a shovel to dig a hole in an empty field next to a lake. ED's body, covered in shadow, is lying next to the hole he's digging. TODD is illuminated by the headlights of a nearby truck.

TODD stops digging, reaches down in the hole, and pulls out a bag. We see him open the bag but we cannot see what's inside of it.

**CUT TO:**

**2. EXT. LAKEFRONT - A FEW MINUTES LATER**

TODD places the shovel into the trunk of the truck and then drives away. He stares deadpan at the road ahead of him.

**3. INT. MAUREEN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

The camera pans from underneath a bed to MAUREEN lying in her bed. Her hair is wet and her eyes are open.

A silhouetted figure enters the room. The figure stands, almost unsure, at the door's entrance and then slowly walks in.

MAUREEN hears the noise of someone walking towards her and appears nervous.

**TODD**

(whispering softly)

Mom. Mom, are you up?

**MAUREEN**

(relieved and turning to face her son)

Todd... where were you?

TODD turns on the lamp next to her bed. We can now see his body is covered in dry mud.

**TODD**

(anxiously)

I can't explain now. We need to leave.

TODD, while standing, takes MAUREEN's arm but she does not let him pull her out of the bed.

**MAUREEN**

(concerned)

Why? Why do we need to leave?

**TODD**

(frantically)

Because... (TODD pauses and then pulls out a large amount of money from his sweater pockets) Look. We have enough to finally get away.

**MAUREEN**

(afraid, in a whisper)

Todd, where did you get that from?

TODD doesn't answer.

**MAUREEN**

(horrified)

Tell me you weren't following your father.

**TODD**

(surprised)

You knew about the money?

MAUREEN doesn't answer and appears shocked.

**TODD**

(visibly upset and speaking quickly)

I just wanted to confront him. Make sure he wouldn't do anything to you again. I didn't know he had all this cash up there. Where'd it come from?

**MAUREEN**

(panicking)

Oh God. I can't believe this. I can't believe it. Todd, tell me what happened.

TODD doesn't answer.

**MAUREEN**

It's not your father's money. Oh God. I can't believe you have it.

**TODD**

(confused and angry)

What're you talking about? We need this to leave. We need to take this and -

**MAUREEN**

(frightened)

Todd, what did you do? (Pauses) I need you to tell me exactly what happened.

#### **4. INT. LIVING ROOM - DUSK**

Flashback to earlier that night. ED is yelling at MAUREEN. He is clearly aggressive and drunk. MAUREEN is standing in front of a drawer and not facing ED as he speaks.

**ED**

(aggressively)

Maureen!

MAUREEN does not answer him and she appears lost in her thoughts.

**ED**

(aggressively)

Maureen, do you hear me?

MAUREEN pauses for a moment.

**MAUREEN**

(cautiously yet adamant)  
I'm not leaving with you, Ed.

**ED**

(angry)  
We have to leave! I can't let that greedy piece of shit screw me over again! He's digging me a grave without even fucking touching me!

MAUREEN breathes in heavily and turns her head towards ED.

**MAUREEN**

(remaining calm)  
Ed, it's not fair. I never said it was. But we made a mistake and now we're paying the consequences. And I'll keep paying those consequences until I'm old and gray if it means Del Foro keeps his mouth shut.

**ED**

(agitated)  
He's got me by my balls, Maureen! We're leaving whether you like it or not. Some things are a hell of a lot worse than death!

**MAUREEN**

You're not thinking! What about Todd? Is he supposed to just drop out of school and run away with us?

**ED**

Would you rather he wakes up with a bullet between his eyes?

**MAUREEN**

(becoming angrier)

You jackass! You have the money.

**ED**

(very angry)

You got out of the business, you don't understand!  
It's going to shit! We have to get out while I still  
have money.

**MAUREEN**

(sternly)

Ed, use your head! If we run, you don't think Del  
Foro will talk?

ED throws a coffee mug against the wall in anger.

**ED**

You dumb shit! He'll just talk next year when I can't  
afford to pay him!

**MAUREEN**

(cautiously)

Ed, calm down. (Pauses) Todd's going to be home any  
second. You need to leave.

**ED**

Shut the hell up! I'll go when I'm ready. I'm trying  
to save our lives here and you're too stupid to  
understand!

**MAUREEN**

(aggressively)

Ed! (Slams the drawer closed behind her) You don't  
live here anymore. Get out.

**ED**

I'm trying to save your life!

MAUREEN reaches back for the phone on the counter.

**MAUREEN**

Ed, I swear to God. Get out or I will call the police on you.

**CUT TO:**

**5. EXT. TODD'S HOME - DUSK**

TODD pulls up on his bike in front of his home. He hears shouting from inside the home and notices his father's truck in the driveway. He runs to the window and sees his parents arguing. He makes his way to the front door but it's locked. He tries to bang on the door but no one answers.

**TODD**

(under his breath)

Shit!

TODD runs back to the window and looks through.

**MAUREEN**

(holding the phone)

I'm asking you one last time.

**ED**

(very angry)

You're really getting on my nerves, Maureen.

**MAUREEN**

(cautiously)

Calm down and leave before you do something you regret.

**ED**

I am calm! But clearly you can't make your own fucking decisions so I'm going to make them for you!

ED approaches MAUREEN and grabs her arm. He begins to pull at her and she tries to pull away. Suddenly, ED slaps MAUREEN and she falls to the floor.

ED stares silently at MAUREEN for a moment.

**ED**

(to MAUREEN on the floor)

I'll be at Pete's when you come to your senses.

ED starts walking towards the front door. TODD stops looking through the window and moves aside as the front door opens. TODD stares intensely at ED, almost blocking the path towards his truck.

**TODD**

What'd you do -

**ED**

(gently shoving his son out of the way as he walks past)

Your mother doesn't understand shit.

ED walks towards his truck as TODD goes to check on his mother inside the home.

**TODD**

(concerned)

Did he hurt you?

**MAUREEN**

I'm fine, Todd. (Pauses) It's going to be fine.

As TODD sits next to his mother, we see through the open front door, ED's truck driving off in the distance.

#### **6. EXT. PETE'S BAR - A COUPLE HOURS LATER**

The camera pans from ED's truck in the bar's parking lot to TODD, a few feet behind, waiting in the dark beside his bike.

TODD appears tired and it should be evident he has been waiting several hours for his father to leave the bar.



ED finally exits the bar, stumbling and intoxicated. He turns to face the bar and stares at it with admiration.

**ED**

(slurring while shouting at the bar)  
Goodbye... goodbye you fuckers!

He turns back and walks towards his truck, stumbling. He enters his truck and drives off.

TODD gets on his bike and, keeping his distance, follows his father.

**7. EXT. TODD'S HOME - NIGHT**

Cut back to present time. TODD is sitting on the front porch of his home next to MAUREEN. She is on the phone and there is a bag on her lap.

**MAUREEN**

(on the phone)  
Okay. Okay, we'll be waiting outside with the money.

MAUREEN hangs up the phone.

**MAUREEN**

(to TODD)  
He'll be here any minute.

TODD is staring ahead in shock.

**TODD**

(frightened)  
You don't have to give it to him. We can just take it and leave.

**MAUREEN**

And go where?

**TODD**

It doesn't matter! Somewhere they won't find us.

**MAUREEN**

(looking at ED's truck parked next to the home)  
Todd, you left evidence everywhere. If they don't find us, the police will.

**TODD**

(frantically)  
We'll bring back the truck. It'll be fine. We can start a new life somewhere!

**MAUREEN**

There's fingerprints all over his body! (Pauses)  
Todd, it's too late for running. I have to tell the police.

**TODD**

(upset)  
I'll bury him! I'll dig a hole deep enough and -

**MAUREEN**

Todd...

**TODD**

(upset)  
It's not fair, he was a criminal!

TODD stares at his mother with defeat.

**MAUREEN**

(comfortingly)  
It'll be okay.

**TODD**

(apologetically)  
I'm sorry.

**MAUREEN**

(sighing)

It's not your fault.

A car pulls up in front of the home. TODD and his mother stare at each other and then stand up and walk towards the car with the bag.

**8. EXT. LAKEFRONT - NIGHT**

Flashback to earlier that night. TODD continues biking down the road. He looks lost but then sees ED's truck in the distance, parked on a field next to the lake, and appears relieved to have found his father.

A car zooms past TODD on the other side of the road. He bikes up to the truck and finds ED unconscious on the field with a liquor bottle next to his hand. TODD sighs at his father's unconscious body. There is a small hole, partially dug, with a shovel on the ground next to ED.

TODD walks up to his father, kicks him to make sure he's unconscious, and then takes the shovel and begins to dig until he finds a bag. Carefully, he kneels down, picks up the bag, and opens it.

**TODD**

(under his breath in shock)

Shit.

He is startled to find a large amount of cash, pill bottles, and a couple of cell phones in the bag.

TODD stares at the items for several seconds, shoves the money in his pockets, and then looks at his father, unconscious on the ground. He reaches down and takes his father's truck keys, wallet, and cell phone out of his pocket.

TODD throws the wallet and cell phone in the hole and then refills the hole. He walks away with the shovel and glances

back at his father and his bike acknowledging that his father will have to bike his way home.

TODD places the shovel into the trunk of the truck and then drives away. He stares deadpan at the road ahead of him. We cut to black.

**CUT TO:**

**9. EXT. LAKEFRONT - 10 MINUTES EARLIER**

ED is driving his truck staring deadpan at the road ahead of him. ED's truck pulls up into the field next to the lake. He gets out of the truck stumbling and holding a liquor bottle. He gets a shovel from the trunk and sticks it into the ground. He puts his liquor bottle down, shovels a bit of dirt, and then turns to his side and looks startled. He drops the shovel.

**ED**

(slurring to someone off-camera)

What... what the hell are you doing here?

MAUREEN is suddenly visible. She is holding a shovel and has dirt along her pants. A few holes can be seen dug in the background. Her car, which is also parked on the field, can be seen a bit in the distance.

**MAUREEN**

I could ask you the same thing.

**ED**

(slurring)

Getting my money. I was gonna' get you and Todd and go but you... how'd you know it was here?

**MAUREEN**

You used this spot when we were married. It wasn't rocket science.

**ED**

(trying to straighten himself from stumbling as  
he walks towards her)  
It's not just any spot.

MAUREEN looks at ED.

**ED**  
(sincerely)  
I proposed here.

ED and MAUREEN stare at each other almost affectionately for a moment then MAUREEN cuts her gaze.

**MAUREEN**  
(looking where ED had begun to dig a hole)  
You changed the hole. It's in there?

**ED**  
(grabbing her arm angrily)  
That's none of your fucking business!

**MAUREEN**  
Ed. (Gently pulling her arm away and trying to calm him down) You have to give Del Foro the money. We can't run. It doesn't make sense.

**ED**  
You don't fucking get it, do you? We have to run!  
This won't end well any other way.

**MAUREEN**  
(sternly)  
Ed, I'm leaving here with the money.

**ED**  
Give me your shovel.

ED raises his arms to grab her shovel and MAUREEN takes a step back. ED begins to approach MAUREEN.

**MAUREEN**

(raises her shovel up defensively)  
Ed, back off!

**ED**

(aggressively)  
Give me the fucking shovel!

ED tries to grab MAUREEN but she shoves him and pulls free.

**ED**

Shit!

He tries to strike at her but she swings the shovel at his face in self-defense. He falls to the ground next to the hole.

**MAUREEN**

(under her breath)  
Oh God.

MAUREEN bends down and closely examines ED's face. She sees his smashed in face and then checks his pulse and realizes that he is clearly dead from the hit to the head. In a state of shock, she gets up, takes a few steps from the body, slowly walks to her car, tosses the shovel in the car, and quickly drives off.

As MAUREEN drives off in shock, she does not see TODD bike past her car as she drives down the road.

TODD bikes up to the field and finds ED next to the hole. TODD sees the liquor bottle next to ED and, assuming he's unconscious, takes his shovel. From the audience's perspective, we can see ED is clearly dead.

TODD walks over to the half-dug hole and thrusts the shovel at it. Then we cut to black.

**FADE OUT.**

**THE END**