The Land "Pilot"

Written By Max Erin James EXT. THE ESTATE, FRONT PORCH - NIGHT - 1873

RYAN TURNER (forties) knocks on the door.

The door is opened by JONES (late forties).

RYAN

Mister Jones-

JONES

Ryan. What can I do for you so late into the night? We were just about to have dinner.

RYAN

I didn't mean to bother you at this time, but my wife persisted, and...

(chuckle)

You know my wife.

JONES

I do.

Jones gives an uncomfortable smirk.

RYAN

I was wondering where I was on paying for my part.

Jones slowly nods.

RYAN

I feel-my wife and I feel we've worked a good amount of time and feel we've done good on our part-

JONES

You're still one hundred short.

RYAN

But sir, I just checked-

JONES

I'm sure I can do math better than you, don't you think?

Ryan does a hesitant nod.

JONES

Yes, we made an agreement, but you haven't satisfied what the land's worth.

Ryan nods.

JONES

In addition, I let you live on my property during this time. I've allowed your children and beautiful wife to enjoy what the land has to offer, and in return all you had to do was work.

RYAN

Sir-

JONES

Don't interrupt me boy.

Jones gets closer to Ryan.

JONES

We been of no bother to you, and now you choose to disrupt my family's dinner on a very important night for my daughter.

Jones looks out into the field and eyes a cottage in the distance.

JONES

I get spooked easily in the night. If I ain't know better I may've mistaken you for just any other nigger trespassing on my property.

Jones and Ryan lock eyes.

JONES

Get some rest, Ryan.

Jones turns and enters his house.

JONES

Let's not make this a habit.

Jones looks at Ryan and closes the door.

EXT. COTTAGE

Ryan hurries up the front steps and stops at the door.

Ryan looks out towards the woods, his breathing slowing. He looks back towards Jones's house then returns his gaze to the woods.

Ryan's shoulders slowly drop. He eyes his tulips growing in the front yard and the blue paint on his door.

Ryan swings the cottage's screen door open and enters, slamming the door behind him.

EXT. THE WOODS - DAY

Bird's eye view of land, trees, barns, dirt roads.

TITLE: The Land [Childish Gambino - first verse of "This is America" playing]

INT. MAYANLA'S CAR - MORNING - PRESENT DAY

SHAQUILLE (early 30s) nods his head to the music playing in the car, slumped into the passenger's seat.

MAYANLA (late 20s) sits stiffly in the driver's seat, her shades on.

Shaquille looks out the window and scoffs.

SHAQUILLE

Where the fuck are we?

MAYANLA

This where the phone's tellin' me to go.

SHAQUILLE

South a different kinda hood huh?

MAYANLA

You remember what to tell 'em?

SHAQUILLE

I should get my piece of the pie and sell it to Elon for more solar farms.

Shaquille chuckles and looks at Mayanla's unamused face.

SHAQUILLE

I'm kidding. I know. "Things should stay how they are, blah blah".

MAYANLA

Yeah, because he left the estate to me.

SHAQUILLE

Not according to the new will.

MAYANLA

It's not official.

SHAQUILLE

Official enough to have us all coming down here, no?

Mayanla shakes her head.

SHAQUILLE

Don't be mad at men. I didn't even want to come.

MAYANLA

Then why did you?

SHAQUILLE

I thought I legally had to.

Shaquille gazes out the window, eyeing the pedestrians and TEENS occupying the corners.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - MORNING

TELEVISION on in the background, COLTON (20s) lies on the bed, naked, biting his lower lip, eyes closed, moaning.

Colton extends his neck and tenses.

JACEY (late twenties) stands up from the bed and wipes a finger under his lips before gazing at Colton.

JACEY

I told you not my mouth.

Colton breathes heavy. Jacey walk to the bathroom.

COLTON

Sorry...

Colton sits up and looks down at his crotch. He reaches down then brings his hand up and stares at the semen on his finger for a second. He slowly brings it close to his lips, then licks it off.

Colton turns towards the bathroom to the sound of the SINK running. He turns to his vibrating PHONE resting on the nightstand by a baggy of COCAINE.

JACEY (O.C.)

What's for the rest of the day?

Colton grabs his phone and reads a text from his cousin reading: We pulling up.

COLTON

Uh, just catching up wit' family.

Colton drops the phone on the bed then does a line.

JACEY (O.C.)

(closing sink)

So you not staying? You still have some time.

COLTON

(rubbing nose)

I don't think so.

JACEY

Well...

Jacey walks out the bathroom. Colton searches the floor.

JACEY

You have my number.

Colton puts on his pants and pulls cash out from his pocket, resting it on the nightstand.

COLTON

Extra...for the accident.

Jacey grabs the cash.

JACEY

(smirking)

It's okay.

COLTON

Uh, you have...anymore?

Jacey opens a drawer and places a baggy in Colton's hand. Colton forces a grin and nods. He hurries out.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT

Shaquille stands behind the CAR, blunt in his mouth, watching the SUN crawl from behind the horizon.

His hat rests crookedly on his head, matching his sneakers that are slightly covered by ruffling jeans.

Mayanla steps out of the driver's side with more comfortable clothing, her aviator shades seeming more bronze than gold against her dark skin.

MAYANLA

Hey...make sure to finish that before we head out.

SHAQUILLE

(stubbornly)

Yeah, yeah, the smell.

Colton walks out, his heavy backpack strapped tightly over his shoulders, and duffle swinging beside him.

Colton gets to the car, tossing the bag onto the floor. He immediately hugs Mayanla. Mayanla does not return the hug.

Shaquille takes a heavy drag of his blunt before tossing it and patting his leather jacket.

COLTON

(stepping back)

You look good.

MAYANLA

Thanks.

COLTON

I've been good too.

Shaquille steps beside Mayanla.

SHAQUILLE

Look who decided to come out of their masturbation chamber.

Shaquille and Colton hug.

SHAQUILLE

How you been?

COLTON

I been...good.

SHAQUILLE

Been a minute, ain't it? What, three sum years?

COLTON

Yeah, somethin' like that.

SHAQUILLE

We didn't see you at Pops'

funeral.

MAYANLA

Or Greg's.

Colton catches Mayanla's glare.

COLTON

I couldn't make it, was pretty busy-

MAYANLA

Guess only the people that cared showed up.

Shaquille grabs Colton's duffle bag.

SHAQUILLE

Welp, we should get going, right.

Shaquille tosses the bag in the back seat.

COLTON

Preciate it.

MAYANLA

Yeah, have to get gas on the way.

Shaquille enters the backseat. Colton reaches the passenger's side and looks at Mayanla enter the driver's side. Colton enters.

EXT. GAS STATION LOT - LATER

The car pulls up to a pump. EVERYONE steps out.

MAYANLA

Can one of you pump it up?

COLTON

I got you.

Colton stares down Mayanla as she walks to the shop.

Colton walks around the car to start pumping the gas. Shaquille walks away and starts smoking another blunt.

COLTON

(jokingly)
Don't blow us up.

Shaquille turns and smiles at Colton. Colton sticks the nozzle into the car and starts pumping. Shaquille takes a long puff of his blunt.

SHAQUILLE

So, what's up wit' you two?

COLTON

What do you mean?

SHAQUILLE

That was the quietest car ride I've been on, and I've taken some alone. Ya'll used to talk nonstop at Uncle Theo's. Me and Greg couldn't get rid of ya'll.

COLTON

(laughing)

Cuz Aunt Jada made ya'll include us in everything.

Shaquille grins and nods.

COLTON

We grew up I guess. Hey, can I get some?

Shaquille smirks and raises his blunt towards Colton.

Colton walks over and takes the blunt. He sticks it in his mouth.

SHAQUILLE

My friends and I grew apart too.

Colton spots a group of men in leather jackets walking out of the shop staring him and Shaquille down. The jackets had a worn logo on them: a pileus hat.

SHAQUILLE

Granted I went to college, and they ended up in rehab, but you know...

Colton and a couple of the men don't look away from each other until the men enter a car and drive off.

COLTON

Weird.

SHAQUILLE

I suppose. Wasn't the first time someone I knew went.

(MORE)

SHAQUILLE (CONT'D)

Mom, my ex Nicole, Heather, Sabrina...damn, I date a lot of

addicts.

Colton gives Shaquille a confused look.

COLTON

What are you talking about?

Shaquille turns his head toward the gas station.

SHAQUILLE

Here she is.

Colton looks over and sees Mayanla walking towards them with a bottle of water in hand.

COLTON

Didn't get us anything?

Mayanla says nothing and gets into the car. Colton rushes over and removes the gas nozzle from the car, then enters the car.

INT. MAYANLA'S CAR - LATER

X-Ray Spex plays. Shaquille is asleep in the backseat. Colton looks back to check on Shaquille then looks to Mayanla.

COLTON

So...how's life being a farmer?

MAYANLA

It's fine.

Colton nods then looks out his window. He looks back at Mayanla.

COLTON

You made any friends out here? Started seeing anyone.

MAYANLA

No.

Shaquille does a snort and lays down on the seat.

Colton looks at the radio and turns the music up. Mayanla turns the music down.

COLTON

Why're you acting like this?

Mayanla stares straight ahead.

COLTON

What is it, Maya?

MAYANLA

You weren't at Pops's funeral. You weren't even at Greg's.

Colton rubs his brow.

MAYANLA

And when Greg... (deep inhale)
I needed you.

COLTON

I was busy.

MAYANLA

When was the last time you even visited my parents?

COLTON

I did last week.

MAYANLA

Besides just to pick up the records Pops left you.

Mayanla tightens her grip around the steering wheel.

COLTON

I flew out here to see you.

MAYANLA

You flew you out to see if you could take what Pops left to me.

COLTON

I'm just here to help get things sorted out. I don't know how to manage land.

MAYANLA

So, you're gonna take my side?

COLTON

I'm here to do the right thing.

MAYANLA

And what's that to you?

COLTON

Whatever I feel's right for the family.

MAYANLA

Yeah, alright.

COLTON

Maya, I'm here. You need me? I'm here now.

MAYANLA

Feels like you're only around when you want something.

COLTON

I'm not asking for anything now.

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE - AFTERNOON

The car pulls into the driveway, entering through a gate.

The dirt driveway curves through thin trees.

INT. MAYANLA'S CAR

Colton surveys the land, admiring the trees. He looks towards the house growing in size as it nears.

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE, FRONT YARD

The car slows in front of the house then stops.

COLTON (O.S.)

So this is your new kingdom.

Colton exits from the passenger side.

MAYANLA (O.S.)

Hey, O, we here.

SHAQUILLE (O.S.)

(groggy)

Oh, shit.

Colton looks up at the house. Mayanla and Shaquille step out of the car.

COLTON

Where's everyone else at?

Shaquille drags Colton's luggage out of the car.

MAYANLA

Don't carry his stuff for him.

Colton grabs his luggage.

COLTON

Thanks.

SHAQUILLE

My parents said they're about an hour out. Think Uncle Melvin and the other cuzzos showing up tomorrow.

Mayanla walks pass Colton and gets onto the porch.

COLTON

What about your parents?

MAYANLA

They'll get here when they get here. Don't worry about it.

COLTON

(smug)

Figured you'd know if they're coming since no one else in the family's talked to you since the funeral.

Mayanla turns to Colton and leans on a pillar.

COLTON

I'm sure you've tried.

MAYANLA

They've been pretty busy.

Shaquille looks back and forth between Colton and Mayanla.

MAYANLA

What's up with you and work? Still asking my dad for money?

COLTON

I haven't asked for money in awhile.

MAYANLA

What, like two weeks.

COLTON

Look, I'm just here to get away from things and once we figure the shit out I'm disappearing.

MAYANLA

It's what you like to do.

COLTON

What's that mean?

Shaquille walks forward.

SHAQUILLE

That breeze feels good don't it?

MAYANLA

Just weird, ya know. All of a sudden you show up after Pops leaves me the estate. You find out another piece of paper says maybe you get a slice of this, then you want to act all cordial. After us not talking for...how long's it been?

Shaquille starts scrolling through his phone.

SHAQUILLE

We should do a scary movie night.

COLTON

What do you mean?

SHAQUILLE

You know, horror films-

MAYANLA

It's been like four years since I actually saw you...

Mayanla walks down the porch steps.

MAYANLA

And now you show up.

COLTON

I was busy with school before.

MAYANLA

Then you dropped out. A year ago.

COLTON

I'm taking a break. I've had other things to manage.

MAYANLA

Couldn't visit for even a weekend?

SHAQUILLE

Ya'll know there was a sequel to the 1979 "When a Stranger Calls"?

MAYANLA

No calls. No texts.

Shaquille looks up from his phone.

COLTON

There was a lot going on.

MAYANLA

You even going to finish school?

COLTON

Least I went.

MAYANLA

So, you're better than me because you took some classes?

COLTON

I di'n't say that.

SHAQUILLE

"When a Stranger Calls Back."

Shaquille looks out into the field.

MAYANLA

It's what you think though.

SHAQUILLE

Lazy title.

Shaquille squints and shades his eyes.

COLTON

Well the family still talks to me.

SHAQUILLE

Hey, Maya.

Mayanla looks at Shaquille. Shaquille points out towards a BARN.

Mayanla and Colton turn towards the barn. They notice a PICKUP parked beside the barn.

Colton looks at Mayanla.

COLTON

Guessin' that's not yours.

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE, BARN

Mayanla, Colton and Shaquille walk through thick grass towards the barn. Mayanla and Colton eye the pickup.

Shaquille eyes the barn.

Colton peaks into the pickup.

MAYANLA

What's in the truck?

The barn door swings open. Shaquille gets into a fighting position. Mayanla cautiously steps away.

HARRY (30s) and an elderly RAYMOND exit the barn, laughing.

RAYMOND

Looks alright, to me.

Raymond and Harry's smiles leave and they stop walking, eyeing Colton, Mayanla, and Shaquille.

HARRY

And who might you three be?

MAYANLA

Could prob'ly ask you the same thing.

HARRY

My name is Harry.

Harry steps forward to Mayanla and extends his hand for a shake. Mayanla looks down at Harry's hand then glares into his eyes.

Harry smirks and looks at Colton then Shaquille.

HARRY

I'm the soon to be owner of the estate.

Harry drops his hand.

HARRY

This is Raymond, a close family friend.

MAYANLA

The land's not for sale.

Harry raises a brow at Mayanla.

HARRY

I heard the owner passed, so it'll go up for auction. Sorry, I never got your names.

COLTON

It's not going up for auction.

Raymond steps forward.

RAYMOND

You're talkin' pre'y confident.

MAYANLA

My grandfather left it to me.

Raymond scrunches his face. Harry looks at Raymond.

HARRY

You di'n't say he had kin.

RAYMOND

He doesn't.

COLTON

He does. We're right here, clearly.

Colton walks beside Mayanla.

COLTON

This is her property. Ya'll are trespassing.

RAYMOND

They're lying. We'll call the cops.

HARRY

No, no. No need.

Harry and Colton intently stare at one another.

Harry looks towards Shaquille.

COLTON

You need to go.

Harry looks back at Colton. He walks over to the pickup.

HARRY

Let's go Ray. No need to be botherin' these folk.

Raymond angrily rushes to the driver's side, eyeing Colton and Mayanla. He enters the car.

Harry gets into the passenger's seat and looks at Mayanla and Colton with a slight smirk.

The pickup drives off.

Colton turns to Mayanla.

COLTON

You good?

Mayanla nods.

Colton looks at the barn and walks to the door.

COLTON

Think they took anything?

MAYANLA

(shaking head)

No, there's nothing in there worth stealing.

INT. THE TURNER ESTATE, BARN

Colton peaks his head in and looks at the clutter of tools, boxes, two small tractors, and a large CAGE.

MAYANLA (O.C.)

Buncha junk.

Colton narrows his eyes at the cage, noticing a hole on the side and scratches along the bars. He focuses on a bear trap by the gate's door.

INT. THE HOUSE, FOYER

The front door opens. Mayanla enters, followed by Colton.

MAYANLA

Welcome...to Pop's house.

Colton grins at Mayanla and looks around.

Mayanla holds the door open for Shaquille. Shaquille enters and Mayanla stares down the field towards the barn.

COLTON

Don't think I been here since I was like ten.

Mayanla slowly closes the door and locks it.

MAYANLA

He added a third floor and a loft on the side.

COLTON

Those people out there...they been here before?

Shaquille shakes his head and looks at Mayanla.

MAYANLA

No. I've never seen 'em before.

SHAQUILLE

Granted we've only been here for, not even a month.

COLTON

Hmm.

SHAQUILLE

Alright...so, who's up for some movies?

COLTON

Maybe later. I'm just beat, and could use a nap.

MAYANLA

(pointing)

Yeah, sure. There's a room up the stairs, to the right, furthest door.

Colton carries his bags up the stairs, Mayanla watching.

SHAQUILLE

So, ya'll gonna be good, cuz I'm not trynna get caught in the crossfire.

MAYANLA

We're fine.

Shaquille nods, his face showing doubt.

SHAQUILLE

I'm gon' put a pizza in the oven. Then movies.

Shaquille walks off.

INT. THE HOUSE, SECOND FLOOR

Colton drags his bag along the hall, looking at the Naive style art hanging along the wall.

Colton passes a bedroom with its door ajar, he peaks in and sees it is an office.

Colton continues walking to another door.

INT. THE HOUSE, COLTON'S ROOM

Colton enters and surveys the room, tossing his duffle bag by the bed. He drops his backpack and sits on the bed.

Colton does a heavy sigh and looks at the night stand. He tries to pull the DRAWER open. It doesn't budge.

Colton notices the CLOSET is slightly open. He gets up and walks over.

Colton opens the door. Paintings and boxes drop at his feet. He kneels and slides a painting aside to reveal a brown leather jacket.

Colton stands, the jacket in hand. He extends his arms to analyze the jacket. He notices a symbol near the collar: a pileus hat with staffs crossing behind it.

MAYANLA (O.C.)

Pops was a bit of a hoarder.

Colton turns around and lowers the jacket.

Mayanla stands at the doorway, leaning on the wall.

COLTON

Shit, you scared me.

Mayanla walks towards Colton.

MAYANLA

Not sure what to do with it all.

COLTON

If you need any help, I got you.

MAYANLA

No, you're good. Enjoy your stay while you're here.

Mayanla pushes things on the floor towards the closet with her foot.

COLTON

You sure? I don't mind.

MAYANLA

(stern)

I'm good. Shaquille's been helping anyway.

Colton sits on the bed.

COLTON

So...Shaquille your favorite cousin now?

Mayanla paces over by the door.

MAYANLA

He hasn't lied to me.

Colton looks out the window by the bed.

COLTON

I just...needed a moment, Maya.

Colton massages his forehead and looks back to Mayanla.

COLTON

I needed to get away from everything.
You don't know how it feels-

MAYANLA

I needed you.

COLTON

And I needed a break...from everyone. It was like this weight.

Mayanla shakes her head.

MAYANLA

Why didn't you talk to me about it? You never told me anything.

COLTON

What would you have wanted to know? Want an explanation?

MAYANLA

I don't know what-

COLTON

Want to know all about the fucked up shit I was doin' over the past three years? Because a lot of it was fucked.

Colton's breathing calms. He looks out the window. Mayanla leans against the wall by the door.

MAYANLA

I want things to be like before.

COLTON

But they can't be.

Mayanla stands off the wall and shrugs.

Colton looks at his hands.

MAYANLA

Maybe we just need time. Maybe we just need to talk, when we're calmer.

COLTON

It's nice seeing you again, Maya.

Colton and Mayanla share a smile.

MAYANLA

Wanna come watch some movies and have pizza?

COLTON

Nah, I need to rest my eyes a bit.

MAYANLA

Okay. We'll be downstairs if you need anything.

Mayanla steps out and closes the door. Colton lies down and closes his eyes.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. THE HOUSE, COLTON'S ROOM - EVENING

Colton's eyes open to the sound of scurrying. He sits up confused and looks out the window, noticing trees shuffling, then...nothing

BANG BANG BANG!

Colton eyes the door to the hall.

INT. THE HOUSE, FOYER

Colton walks down the stairs.

Shaquille and Mayanla stand at the front door. They look up at Colton.

COLTON

What's going on?

Mayanla puts a finger to her lips.

COLTON

(mouthing)

What?

HARRY (O.S.)

Turner resident!

Colton reaches Mayanla and Shaquille.

Shaquille looks through the peephole.

MAYANLA

That guy's back.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Colton walks over and peaks through the half open blinds of the WINDOW and sees a pickup obscured in the shadows aiming its LIGHTS at the front of the house. Two silhouettes with objects slung over their shoulders.

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE, FRONT YARD

HARRY

Wanted to make a more formal welcome.

Scruffy Harry stands at the top of the porch steps, a bat held over his shoulder.

Raymond is in his pickup, staring intensely at the door.

The two men in front of the truck that Colton noticed walk forward.

HARRY

Forgot to say sorry for your loss by the way.

INT. THE HOUSE, FOYER

Colton walks over and looks at Mayanla.

COLTON

What's he want?

MAYANLA

I don't fucking know.

HARRY

We may have started on the wrong foot.

COLTON

Well...they have weapons.

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE, FRONT YARD

Harry turns to the front door.

HARRY

I live just a few miles from here. You should come visit some time.

SHAQUILLE (O.S.)

We'll consider it.

INT. THE HOUSE, FOYER

SHAQUILLE

But right now, we're busy. Mind coming by, maybe tomorrow.

Mayanla starts walking off.

Mayanla and Colton stare at one another for a moment.

MAYANLA

I'll be back. Keep an eye on 'em.

SHAQUILLE

Where you goin'?

MAYANLA

Getting back up.

Mayanla hurries off.

Colton turns to the door. Shaquille looks at Colton.

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE, FRONT YARD

Harry takes a small step away from the door.

The two armed men run onto the porch.

INT. THE HOUSE, FOYER

Colton peaks through the peephole.

HARRY (O.S.)

Was hoping to get ahold a displace after he passed.

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE, FRONT YARD

MAN 1 steps beside the door, his axe at the ready. MAN 2 stands on the other side, winding up a tire iron.

HARRY

I dun think ya'll understand how impor'nt this land means tuh us.

Harry nods at MAN 1.

HARRY

This was my great gran'father's.

INT. THE HOUSE, FOYER

Colton looks at Shaquille.

HARRY (O.S.)

Well, great great.

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE, FRONT YARD

HARRY

Then it was taken.

INT. THE HOUSE, FOYER

A loud noise is heard on the roof. Shaquille and Colton quickly look up.

Mayanla rushes back with a shotgun.

COLTON

(firmly)

No.

Mayanla shakes her head.

MAYANLA

You have a better idea?

SHAQUILLE

Where'd you get that?

HARRY (O.S.)

I'm sure you see the issue here.

MAYANLA

You don't think a black southern man in living in the middle of nowhere won't have one.

COLTON

You know how to use it?

MAYANLA

I hope I don't have to.

Colton leans towards the door.

SHAQUILLE

Maya...

Shaquille slowly points up.

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE, FRONT YARD

Harry wistfully leans away from the column and steps closer to the door. Dead center.

HARRY

There're things you don't know 'bout this place. Things you coul'n't understand.

INT. THE HOUSE, FOYER

More noise from above. Mayanla looks wide-eyed at Shaquille.

HARRY (O.S.)

This land was stolen!

Mayanla steps towards the door. Colton stops her.

COLTON

No, you cannot shoot anyone.

MAYANLA

I'm standing my ground. Those white boys would do the same thing.

Mayanla shoulders Colton out the way. She aims the shotgun at the door.

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE, FRONT YARD

HARRY

And you're trespassing.

Harry steps away. Man 1 takes his palce in front of the door, gripping his axe. Man 2 grips his tire iron. They raise their weapons.

INT. THE HOUSE, FOYER

The noises move from above them to the side of the house.

SHAQUILLE

It's already here.

Colton looks at Shaquille, confused. Mayanla looks up.

MAYANLA

I see that.

Colton looks at Mayanla.

COLTON

What? What's here?

Mayanla lowers the shotgun and looks through the peephole.

INT. RAYMOND'S TRUCK

Raymond leans forward, over his steering wheel, his eyes scanning around the house. His eyes widen.

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE, FRONT YARD

Raymond's car starts honking. Harry looks at Raymond's truck. Harry wrinkles his nose, both pissed and confused.

HARRY

What the hell is wrong with you?

Harry waves him off and looks at the two other men.

HARRY

Let's get this over with.

Man 1 raises his axe, then a shadowy large six-legged creature devours the top half of his body, splattering Man 2 and Harry with blood.

Harry's jaw drops. The honking stops.

Harry and Man 2 stumble off the porch, keeping their eyes on the roof.

Raymond falls out of his truck, gun in hand, and starts shooting at the roof.

INT. THE HOUSE, FOYER

Colton, Mayanla and Shaquille drop to the floor.

COLTON

They're shooting!

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE, FRONT YARD

Raymond is out of bullet. The beast, still standing looks at Harry and Man 2 reaching the pickup. Harry stares in amazement. This beast leaps and lands on the yard

HARRY

That's...

The beast yells loudly.

Man 2 starts running off.

The beast launches at Man 2. It swings and swipes Man 2's arm off. The beast swings again and tears at his chest. Man 2 drops and the beast roars.

INT. THE HOUSE, FOYER

Colton slowly stands.

MAYANLA

Cole, stay down.

Colton looks towards the door. He slowly nears to the hole in the door.

COLTON

What, the, hell.

INT. RAYMOND'S TRUCK

Raymond and Harry enter the car.

HARRY

Drive, drive!

RAYMOND

What about-

HARRY

Just go!

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE, FRONT YARD

The pickup does a u-turn.

Man 2 lies on the ground, struggling to breathe, and extends his only arm out to the truck.

The creature turns to Man 2 and rips him to literal shreds.

INT. RAYMOND'S TRUCK

Harry looks back and sees the beast sprinting to them. Raymond notices through the rearview.

HARRY

Go faster.

RAYMOND

I'm trying!

Raymond presses hard on the accelerator.

EXT. THE TURNER ESTATE, FRONT YARD

The pickup is screaming. The creature gets close then takes a sharp left into the trees. The pickup continues on.

INT. THE HOUSE, FOYER

Silence.

Mayanla and Shaquille look at each other then to Colton.

COLTON

I think it's gone.

Colton turns to Shaquille and Mayanla.

SHAQUILLE

(standing)

You sure?

Colton nods.

COLTON

Yeah, it...went into the woods.

Shaquille helps Mayanla up.

MAYANLA

It shouldn't come back.

COLTON

How do you know?

SHAQUILLE

Usually doesn't on the same night.

Shaquille looks at the hole.

SHAQUILLE

Have to buy more tulips though.

MAYANLA

I'll go to the shop tomorrow.

Colton looks at Mayanla and Shaquille.

COLTON

Can someone tell me, what the fuck is goin' on?

Everyone's breathing starts to calm.

There's a KNOCK at the door. Everyone is startled.

JADA (O.S.)

Hello, Yaya, it's us.

Colton turns to the door.

END.