

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - EVENING

Three empty beer cans stand helpless on a weathered wooden fence. WE HEAR five piercing pistol blasts within killing range. The cans remain intact.

WE HEAR a mocking laugh that is faintly familiar.

Josh, wearing ear and eye protection, stands with the smoking gun in front of the lowered tailgate of Perry's truck. Perry, wearing matching protection, sits on the tailgate next to neatly arranged shell boxes extra clips and a pistol case.

Josh lowers a black automatic Colt .45, as Perry flashes a mocking smile.

Perry takes the gun, ejects the clip and loads a new magazine all in a methodical military manner.

He glances at Josh, blows a slight disappointing laugh through his nose, cocks the gun and takes aim at the cans.

POP! POP! POP! POP!

The innocent beer cans are shredded by the piercing lead.

POP! POP! POP! POP!

Perry empties the clip and his frustration on the targets.

Perry ejects the clip, places the weapon on the pickup tailgate and cleans up the spent shells.

PERRY

Don't worry. They'll teach you how to shoot.

JOSH

Coach said I have a shot at a scholarship.

Perry rises from the ground intrigued by this news

PERRY

You get the scholarship and we can talk about it. Until then, plan to serve.

JOSH

I don't think it's for me.

PERRY

It will take a damn good reason to break tradition in our family.

JOSH
Look what that tradition did to
Jason.

SLAP! Without warning, Perry backhands his son, sending a sick feeling straight to Josh's stomach.

PERRY
Enough.

Josh stares at his father in disbelief while fighting tears.

PERRY (CONT'D)
Do you understand me?

Josh weighs the consequences of standing up to his father.

JOSH
Yes sir.

Perry holds for another moment making sure Josh is in line.

PERRY
Get the cans.

Josh walks earnestly towards the fence to hide his swelling emotions. After a safe, five-step distance, repressed tears digress down the sides of his cheeks.

In the distance, his purposeful walk turns aimless as his silhouette heads towards the fence and the setting sun.

EXT. SIDE OF THE ROAD - GOLDEN HOUR

The remnants of the setting sun highlight bits of a dark rural road. A handful of cars pass in opposite directions shinning bright white circles and red squares. Sam, the dog, walks aimlessly on the side of the road near a fence.