

White Production Draft - 4/29/23
Blue Revisions - 4/29/23

RESERVATION DOGS

"Dig"
Episode #310

Directed by
Sterlin Harjo

Written by
Chad Charlie & Sterlin Harjo

Revised scenes: 2, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 25, 29, 32.

©2023 FX Productions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. No portion of this work may be performed, published, reproduced, quoted, sold or distributed by any means in any medium, including on any web site, without the prior written consent of FX Productions, LLC. Disposal of this work does not alter any of the restrictions set forth above.

Revision notes:

- Sc. 2: Dialog changes.
- Sc. 16: Dialog changes.
Teenie removed.
- Sc. 17: Dialog changes.
Bucky dances.
- Sc. 18: Omitted.
- Sc. 19: Omitted.
- Sc. 23: Dialog changes.
Kenny Boy passes out shovels.
- Sc. 25: Teenie removed.
- Sc. 29: Dialog changes.
Kenny Boy joins the uncles at the gravesite.
- Sc. 32: Jackie stands next to Bear.

RESERVATION DOGS

"Dig"
#310

CAST LIST

ANSEL
AUNTIE 1
AUNTIE 2
BEAR
BEV
BIG
BONE THUG DOG
BROWNIE
BUCKY
CHEESE
DANA
DANNY
ELORA DANAN
GRAM
GUARD 1
HOKTI
IRENE
JACKIE
KENNY BOY
LEON
MARC DON
MAXIMUS
MEKKO
MOSE
NATALIE
PREACHER PAUL
DJ BRUNER(VO)
RITA
SLORE WOMAN (WIFE 209)
SPIRIT
VINNY
WEEZE
WHITE STEVE
WILLIE JACK
WOTKO

RESERVATION DOGS

"Dig"
#310

SET LIST

INTERIORS

CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP HALL
JAIL

EXTERIORS

BEAR'S HOUSE
ELORA'S HOUSE
GRAVE
IHS
IRENE'S HOUSE
RURAL CHURCH
OUTSIDE ARBOR

VEHICLES

VINNY'S HEARSE

1

EXT. SERIES - MORNING

1

Drones of village.

RADIO VOICE (V.O.)

Hey everybody out there in Indian Territory, Oklahoma. Welcome back to K49 jams, I'm your humble host Chebon Bruner. We got a lotta broken hearts out there today in our communities. Seems like I've been hearing about a lot of people passing on. This goes out to all you families that may be hurting today. May your loved ones journey well to that old huntin' ground in the sky. May all their aunties and uncles be awaiting them. And what a good day it will be. MVT00000.

"Will The Circle Be Unbroken" by The Carter Family (Or George Jones, or whoever we can afford) plays.

End on exterior Shot of a hearse driving down the road. It passes by and CAMERA lands on establishing of jail.

2

INT. JAIL - DAY

2

Willie Jack sits with Hokti in the visiting area at a table. She has lined up bags of flamers, Skux cans, and candy bars on the table. She arranges them just right.

HOKTI

Wow, where should I start? Hit me with those flamers.

Willie Jack pushes the flamers towards her and a skux. She opens and begins eating. Willie Jack joins her. They wash the chips down and burp.

WILLIE JACK

Auntie, I have something to tell you.

HOKTI

Um, ok. This sounds serious.

WILLIE JACK

It is.

Hokti puts down her chips.

HOKTI
Hit me with it. Don't tell me
you're pregnant.

WILLIE JACK
What? Fawk. No.

HOKTI
What then.

Willie Jack adjusts in her seat.

WILLIE JACK
Old Man Fixico passed.

Hokti wasn't expecting this. After a pause she nods.

HOKTI
That right?

WILLIE JACK
Yeah, Yesterday.

Hokti adjusts in her chair. She thinks. Nods.

HOKTI
He was a good man.

Willie Jack nods.

HOKTI (CONT'D)
You ok?

WILLIE JACK
Um, yeah. I'm good.

Beat.

HOKTI
You sure?

WILLIE JACK
I just... I don't know. I wish I
had more time with him. Feels like
he left before I could really learn
from him. We spent a lot of time
together.

Hokti looks around the room. Gram is sitting alone at a table
eating flaming flamers.

GRAM
Say something important.

Hokti slightly annoyed --

HOKTI
Thanks smiley.

Willie Jack looks around.

WILLIE JACK
You talking to that spirit?

HOKTI
Uh, yeah. She's always just leering
at me.

Beat.

HOKTI (CONT'D)
Listen, I know it feels like
Fixico's gone. And in a way he is.
But he's also not gone at the same
time.

WILLIE JACK
What you mean?

HOKTI
Well...

Hokti looks around. She looks at the food on the table. She
takes her Skux and places it in the middle of the table.

HOKTI (CONT'D)
Let's say this is Fixico. He had
parents and Uncles, and Aunties,
grandparents, all of it. Then
there's you.

She pushes her bag of flamers next to the Skux.

HOKTI (CONT'D)
Who else was he close to?

WILLIE JACK
Um...

HOKTI
How about me?

WILLIE JACK
Yeah, you.

Hokti pushes a candy bar out next to the Skux and the chips.

HOKTI

Ok, there's me. Who else was he close to?

WILLIE JACK

Wotko.

HOKTI

Yep, Wotko...

Hokti pulls Willie Jack's bag of chips out next to the others.

WILLIE JACK

He's friends with Elora.

HOKTI

(Another candy bar)

Ok, and here's Elora. How about your dad and mom?

WILLIE JACK

Yep.

HOKTI

(Two more candy bars)

Ok, here they are. Now, this is good enough. Ok. Let's say he spent time with each of these people a good amount. Let's even say he spoke to them about things. Let's say he gave them teachings. Each one of these people carry that. And now imagine the people that are close to you. Your friends. People that are close to me.

Willie Jack looks around the room. She sees "Slore" woman from episode 209.

SLORE WOMAN

What are you looking at?

HOKTI

Betty, chill out.

SLORE WOMAN

Sorry. Triggered by eyes.

Back to Willie Jack and Hokti.

HOKTI

They carry you with them, so in turn they carry Fixico with them too. That's how community works. It's sprawling. It spreads. Why do you think they attacked our ideas of community when they tried to get rid of Indians? Because if you break the community then you break the individual. So Fixico isn't gone. He's here. He's right here between me and you.

Willie Jack nods. It's sinking in.

HOKTI (CONT'D)

What did Fixico teach you?

WILLIE JACK

He taught me about some plants. Some things that help people. Mainly we just took groceries to elders, or talked to people. Went to a lot of houses and visited. That's really mostly all we did.

HOKTI

Exactly. The thing about community is you have to take care of it. You have to play your part. He was there when people were sick, he was there when they weren't sick. He was there for people when they were dying. He was there for their loved ones when they died. Now it's your turn.

WILLIE JACK

I don't really know what to do though.

HOKTI

You're doing it. Right now. You could've called me and told me, but you didn't. You came here and you brought me chips and candy bars. Fixico taught you that. You didn't even know it. And now, it's up to you to be there for the people he left behind, and to make sure he's sent off in the right way.

(beat)

And someday you'll do it when I go.

(MORE)

*
*

HOKTI (CONT'D)

Then someday someone will do it
when you go. And they will all
carry it on. All of us. We keep
going. You up for it?

Willie Jack thinks.

Cut to Gram -

GRAM

Damn, nailed it. No notes.

Gram eats a flamer.

Back to Willie Jack and Hokti -

WILLIE JACK

Fok... of course I am.

Willie Jack gets up.

WILLIE JACK (CONT'D)

Thanks Auntie... you always know
what to say.

Hokti gets up to hug her.

HOKTI

You just have to go through a metal
detector to talk to me.

They hug.

GUARD 1

Ok. That's enough.

HOKTI

Yeah, yeah...

Hokti and Willie Jack smile at each other.

3

EXT. RURAL CHURCH - DAY

3

Rita, Bev, And Jackie are getting groceries out of Bev's car.
Jackie's hair is now brown.

Willie Jack walks up to help them.

BEV

Want these inside?

WILLIE JACK

Yeah, we got Aunties Locked and loaded in there. I think lots of people will be here for the funeral tomorrow. Got a lot to prep up.

Willie Jack heads off towards the fellowship hall. Rita and Bev are impressed by Willie Jack's initiative.

4

INT. FELLOWSHIP HALL - CONTINUOUS

4

Willie Jack heads to the kitchen. Bev, Jackie, and Rita greet the Aunties and Willie Jack's mom Dana, and other folks who mill around the fellowship hall.

DANA

Bev's here, long time no see.

BEV

Love you, Dana.
(They give side hugs)
Where do you want these?

AUNTIE 1

(chiming in)
Bring it back here.

Rita and Dana hug.

RITA

You happy to see me too?

DANA

Always.

RITA

(To Aunties)
Hi, y'all.

They hug and say hellos on their way to the kitchen.

BEV

There's a lot more. Jackie will make another trip.

Jackie smiles.

5

EXT. RURAL CHURCH - DAY

5

Leon, Bear and Cheese are unloading the grave house with the help of Marc Don and Danny. Willie Jack is guiding them.

WILLIE JACK
Right here's good.

MARC DON
Bear, use your muscles.

DANNY
I've got all the weight over
here... Cheese lift!

CHEESE
Trying!

They get it off.

WILLIE JACK
Perfect! Buncha good Uncles and lil
Uncles in training. Mvtoooo

Willie Jack heads off. The guys stand breathing. The older
guys stretch their shoulders. Bear is feeling tough.

6 EXT. OUTSIDE ARBOR - DAY

6

Willie Jack and Bear bring Maximus and Irene coffee where
they sit under the arbor.

WILLIE JACK
Two hot coffees as requested.

BEAR
Brought you donuts too.

IRENE
Thanks.

MAXIMUS
No, I don't eat that stuff.

BEAR
Oh, let me guess, star people food.

MAXIMUS
No. White people food.

IRENE
Worse.

Bear looks at the donut.

IRENE (CONT'D)

You shouldn't be eating any of those, Cvpon. You gotta fast for the dig.

Bear and Willie Jack head off.

7 EXT/INT. VINNY'S HEARSE - DAY 7

VINNY (35. Native. Funeral worker) drives in his hearse. He takes a hit off his pre-roll. He coughs it out.

VINNY

Gaddamn...

Smoke billows out his windows. A larger hearse is behind him. A number of cars follow behind that hearse.

8 EXT. RURAL CHURCH - DAY 8

Vinny's hearse rolls into the church driveway. He is followed by a hearse that contains Fixico's body (and the other cars) Vinny parks and gets out. He directs the other hearse to back up near the church entrance. His pre-roll is behind his ear. Wotko stands near him. The hearse parks.

9 EXT. RURAL CHURCH - LATER 9

Elora rolls up with White Steve, Bone Thug Dog, and Weeze in A new White Steve car. They get groceries out of the back. Weeze slams the door.

WHITE STEVE

Dude! Don't slam the door. What did I tell you?

WEEZE

Sorry man.

WHITE STEVE

Come on...

BONE THUG DOG

Stop being a bitch. This ain't about you.

Other people are parking and making their way towards the church.

Bucky and Brownie park Bucky's truck. They get out and shake hands with Leon, Danny, and Marc Don.

A man stands near the church. He blows a conch shell. He does it four times.

Willie Jack and the other women walk out of the fellowship hall and head towards the church.

Under the arbor, Bucky and Brownie greet Maximus. He gets up and gives both of them a hug. They hug Irene.

BROWNIE
Heard you were back.

MAXIMUS
Never really gone.

BUCKY
Ah, yes. Glad to have you here in the present. This dimension. How ya been?

MAXIMUS
Oh, I've been good. Just keepin my eye to the sky.

BUCKY
That's good. That's real good. I try to do the same. See anything good?

MAXIMUS
The past.

BUCKY
(shamed out)
We're, uh, sorry about that.

BROWNIE
People think I smoke too much weed.

Brownie sluffs off.

10

EXT. RURAL CHURCH - CONTINUOUS

10

Bear greets Elora, Jackie, Bone Thug Dog, Weeze, and White Steve as they head towards the gathering.

BEAR
Hey. Just in time.

They all variously greet Bear.

ELORA
(to Bear)
Hey...Whenever you get a minute,
I'd love to talk to you.

BEAR
Cool. Everything good?

ELORA
Uh, yeah, good. Everything's good.

They make their way to the hearse area.

11 EXT. RURAL CHURCH - DAY 11

Everyone gathers round. Willie Jack oversees the men, making sure they're doing a good job.

VINNY
Pallbearers grab a side.

WILLIE JACK
Better not drop him. I'm watching
you.

Vinny and another funeral worker guide the coffin out into the arms of the Pallbearers: Bear, Cheese, Bone Thug Dog, Willie Jack, White Steve, and Weeze).

Wotko and Preacher Paul begin singing a Creek hymn.

The women: Elora, Bev, Dana, Jackie, and Rita hold flower arrangements.

Everyone watches the pallbearers carry the casket into the church.

Elora, Jackie, Bev, Dana, and Irene carry the flowers behind the casket. Wotko and Paul follow, singing.

12 INT. CHURCH - CONTINUOUS 12

Vinny and the other funeral worker help set the casket and flowers up with the pallbearers and flower carriers. People sit in the pews as Wotko keeps singing.

The song ends and PREACHER PAUL speaks.

PREACHER PAUL
Glad you all gathered here today.
We're gonna send our brother on in
a good way.
(MORE)

PREACHER PAUL (CONT'D)

Thank you all for being at the wake last night. Tonight we will sit with the body and the young men will dig the grave by hand. In the morning we will eat, then get ready for the funeral.

He then prays in Mvskoke.

13

EXT. RURAL CHURCH - DAY

13

Big pulls up in his cruiser. He gets out. Full uniform. He goes to the back door and opens it. Mose and Mekko get out.

MOSE

Dang, you driving like 'Fury Road.'

MEKKO

Had us bouncing around like bingo balls.

BIG

You'd still be walking down the highway if I didn't pick you up, shitasses.

MEKKO

Let's find the kitchen.

MOSE

Where all the honeys at.

MEKKO

You know it.

They walk off. Big, carrying a large squash, cases the joint. He sees Danny and Leon standing at Leon's truck. He goes to them.

With Leon and Danny --

BIG

(Approaching)
Fellas.

LEON

Why you in uniform?

DANNY

Damn, don't you ever wear jeans?

BIG

I'm on call, fuckers.

DANNY

If I'm in trouble you're the last person I call, Big.

BIG

Keep talking shit. Next time you need me I'll say fuck that he can call someone else.

LEON

What's that?

BIG

It's a damn squash, if you ever ate vegetables you'd know.

They laugh.

BIG (CONT'D)

Say who's here?

LEON

The usual.

DANNY

Who you lookin' for?

BIG

No one, shit.

LEON

I know who he's lookin' for.

BIG

What you talking about?

LEON

This guy's been hanging out at the IHS reception desk an awful lot lately.

DANNY

Dammmnnnn, it's like that, huh? Bev be friskin' you up?

Big rolls his eyes.

BIG

Shut up... just wanting to know what the turnout is. We gotta dig this grave.

Danny and Leon laugh.

DANNY

Bev like it when you're in uniform?

BIG

Alright, that's enough.

Big walks off.

LEON

Five bucks says he doesn't swing
one shovel.

DANNY

He'll be telling us what we're
doing wrong though, guarantee you
that.

They laugh.

ZOOM IN -- Vinny and Uncle Brownie stand by the hearse
smoking a joint.

UNCLE BROWNIE

I got this old stuff that will send
you back to 1970.

Uncle Brownie hands Vinny the jar of weed. Vinny passes Uncle
Brownie the joint then opens the jar to smell the weed.

VINNY

Brownie, this smells like feet.
Like someone's feet farted.

UNCLE BROWNIE

It don't smell like feet. Or feet
fart. It smells like 1970 Acapulco
gold. It'll make your toes curl.
I'll give you the whole jar for a
bag of yours. Pound for pound.

VINNY

I don't know man, this might give
me meningitis or something.

UNCLE BROWNIE

You young bucks are just scared.

VINNY

It's called conscious.

14 INT. RURAL CHURCH - DAY

14

Old Man Fixico lies in the casket. There are pictures and flowers placed around the casket.

Willie Jack is sitting in a front pew. Dana is sitting near her. A couple other people sit in pews scattered out.

DANA

He was proud of you.

Willie Jack looks over at Dana.

WILLIE JACK

You think so?

DANA

I know. I've known him since I was younger than you. You brought joy to him. You bring Joy to all of us. I hope you know that. Cuss too much, but you still bring us joy.

Dana puts her arm around Willie jack.

Mose and Mekko are now standing at the casket.

MOSE

Old Man Fixico, a real one if there ever was.

MEKKO

The realest.

Mose takes out a CD, signs it with a BALL PEN, and puts it in the casket with Fixico.

MOSE

See you at the crossroad.

They walk off.

15 EXT. RURAL CHURCH - ARBOR - LATE EVENING

15

Maximus, Bucky, and Uncle Brownie sit and sip coffee.

From Maximus' POV we see White Steve sitting with Bone Thug Dog and Weeze. Maximus looks suspiciously at White Steve.

White Steve notices, and smiles, uncomfortable.

MAXIMUS

Why's that white man staring at me?
(beat)
He keeps smiling.

White Steve gives an awkward wave.

MAXIMUS (CONT'D)

He throwing medicine?

Maximus, Brownie and Bucky stare at White Steve.

BONE THUG DOG

(to White Steve)
Steven, quit lookin' at him.

WHITE STEVE

Wha-Why-what I'd do?

BONE THUG DOG

Acting too white. Gotta blend in.
Told you.

White Steve CLOCKS BUCKY. Then adjusts himself by slouching in his chair, and folding his hands in his lap. Just like Bucky.

Cheese is walking out of the church and past them.

BUCKY

Nephew, get us elders another cup
of coffee.

CHEESE

Wow, you elders drink a lot of
coffee.

UNCLE BROWNIE

Quit asking questions.

CHEESE

I didn't...

BUCKY

It keeps the spirits away. Ennit,
Maximus?

Bucky taps Maximus.

MAXIMUS

It's true. They don't like the
smell of coffee.

CHEESE

Bullshit.

Cheese walks off, not buying their shit.

16

INT. FELLOWSHIP HALL - DAY

16

In the kitchen, Elora, Jackie, Rita, Bev, Dana and Natalie cook chili, and make bread. Some aunties sit at a table nearby.

Bev holds court --

BEV

This is what we do, sisters. They do the work that needs to be done out there and we feed everyone.

RITA

I hate cooking.

BEV

Back five hundred years ago you mean to tell me that feeding people wasn't the most important thing in the world? Shit, that's why we're queens. People starve without us. They be eating each other like in that movie.

RITA

Alive.

BEV

That one.

Big walks in. Rita immediately gets weird.

RITA

(Under her breath)
Oooh, Bev.

BEV

Shut up.

Big makes his way to them.

BIG

Aho... Ladies.

BEV

Wassup, Big. We're just teaching these young matriarchs how to matriarch the fuck up.

BIG

Aho.

He walks up to Bev and hands her the squash.

BIG (CONT'D)

I'm gonna donate that to the kitchen.

BEV

Uh, ok.

Rita and the girls try not to laugh.

BEV (CONT'D)

That's a big ole squash.

Bev puts it in Rita's face. She laughs and pushes it away.

BEV (CONT'D)

Thank you, Big.

BIG

(Smiles at Bev)

Aho.

Bev smiles at Big. He walks out.

BEV

I don't even know how to cook one of these.

Rita takes the squash from Bev. *

RITA

Maybe you fry it?

Rita takes the squash to the sink to rinse. Elora's there. *

RITA (CONT'D) *

Hey, I checked out what you sent me earlier about the school. Your dorm looks nice. *

ELORA *

Yeah, I'm excited about it. *

(then) *

Did you decide what you're going to do? *

RITA
I'm taking the job. In Oklahoma
City.

*
*
*

ELORA
You're moving? Is Bear going with
you?

*
*
*

RITA
No, Bear's gonna stay. Elora, you
gotta be my eyes on the inside.
Make sure he's not throwing
parties.

*
*
*
*
*

ELORA
Yeah, for sure.

*
*

Something is wrong with Elora. She just left the conversation
and went internal. She gets up.

*
*

ELORA (CONT'D)
Gotta pee.

*
*

She walks off. They continue talking.

*

Bucky pushes play on an old radio. "Honky Tonk Man" by Dwight Yoakam begins playing. The elders and some older Aunties sit under the arbor visiting. *

Bucky begins dancing to the music. Everyone laughs. Bucky dances his over way to one of the Aunties. *

BUCKY *

Two step with me. *

AUNTIE 2 *

Shoot, I'm gonna burn this floor *

up, boy. You ready to go up in *

flames? *

BUCKY *

Jump on... *

She takes his hand and he begins two-stepping with her. *

They're surprisingly good. *

Elora walks up. She is taken aback for a second by the *

dancing, never mind that -- she leans down to Cheese. *

ELORA *

You seen Bear? *

CHEESE *

Yeah, he relieved Willie Jack. *

ELORA *

Thanks. *

Elora gets up and walks into the church. *

*

19 OMITTED

19 *

20 INT. CHURCH - CONTINUOUS

20

Bear is sitting in silence alone with Fixico's body. Elora approaches.

ELORA
Care if I join?

BEAR
No go ahead. Sit down.

Elora sits. They sit in silence for a moment.

BEAR (CONT'D)
It's crazy right? He was just here.
Now he's not.

ELORA
Yeah, IHS won't be the same. I
looked forward to seeing him.

BEAR
Yeah.

Beat.

ELORA
Say, Bear, I have to tell you
something.

BEAR
Oh yeah, what did you want to talk
to me about?

Bear looks at her.

ELORA
I'm leaving.

BEAR
Leaving here? Now?

ELORA
No... I mean, I'm leaving. I'm
going to school. Gonna stay at the
dorm. Leaving town. In the fall.

BEAR
Oh? Wow.

Bear puts his head down and looks away. Takes a deep breath.

ELORA
Bear...

BEAR
Gimme a sec.

ELORA
I just... I didn't know Rita's
going too. I... don't know... I
just want to make sure you're ok...

BEAR
Elora... that's awesome.

Elora is surprised.

ELORA
Really?

BEAR
Yeah. For real. I'm proud of you.

ELORA
Thanks, Bear.

BEAR
I mean I'll miss you. But you gotta
do it.

Elora is relieved.

ELORA
I'll come home on the weekends.

Bear nods.

BEAR
Yeah, no, it'll be good. Nothing
can break up the rez dogs, right?

ELORA

Right.

Silence. Elora looks at him.

ELORA (CONT'D)

Bear... I love you. I really do.

BEAR

I love you too.

Elora scoots near him to hug him. They hug. They squeeze each other tight. They hold on. Elora begins to fight tears. Bear fights tears. They pat each other. They release and compose themselves. They look at Fixico. Silence.

21

EXT. RURAL CHURCH - GRAVESIDE - EVENING

21

Willie Jack, Leon, Vinny, Danny, and Marc Don measure the spot for the grave. Big tries to tell them how to do it right.

WILLIE JACK

Is that long enough?

VINNY

Yeah, that should be good.

WILLIE JACK

Should be? Vinny, we gotta be exact. What if it doesn't fit.

VINNY

I do this every other day. I know how big it's got to be.

BIG

Looks small to me.

VINNY

Big, I don't tell you how to arrest people or direct traffic, don't tell me how to do my job.

Big gives him a short sniff.

BIG

You smell like weed.

VINNY

I have my weed card, shitass.

LEON

Mark it.

Danny and Marc don mark it with a chalk line. Leon begins edging out the grave to mark it.

22 EXT. MOON - NIGHT 22

The moon is bright. Fancy b-roll.

23 EXT. RURAL CHURCH - NIGHT 23

People are gathering near the grave. People have flashlights, head-lamps, and a couple cars have their lights pointed towards the grave.

The women stand near the men who are gathered at the grave. They gather around Wotko, who speaks to the group.

WOTKO

Good to see all of you here. Makes my heart feel good. This is what we do. We don't like saying goodbye to our loved ones. Fixico was a great friend and relative to all of us.

Wotko chokes up.

WOTKO (CONT'D)

I always thought we'd leave this earth together. We did a lot of things together. My friend went on without me. Now it's our job to send him out in a good way. The diggers have fasted and we are doing this right. What we put into digging this grave is the love we have for our brother. We use our hands, no machines, out of respect. You young ones remember that. He'd be real proud that you're here. It's a good thing. It's a real good thing. Willie Jack, he'd be real proud of you. All of you. Usually just the men dig but I think it's fitting if you break the earth first.

DANNY

Give people a break when they need it.

BEAR

Skoden.

Bear pats Maximus on the back.

Willie Jack takes the shovel. She pushes the shovel into the ground with her foot and takes a shovel full of earth. She dumps it where Vinny directs her. Men war cry. Cheese gives a big war cry.

WOTKO

Alright... get after it.

People laugh as Willie Jack passes the shovel to Bear.

Leon looks around.

LEON

Aight, pass the shovels...Where's the shovels?

VINNY

Who brought shovels?

LEON

You didn't bring shovels?

VINNY

We don't provide shovels.

LEON

You are the funeral director.

VINNY

This ain't the funeral... We don't have shovels.

Honk-honk. Kenny Boy's truck -- with RACKS OF SHOVELS attached -- pulls up, Ansel's head hangs out the window like a dog.

They park. Ansel and Kenny Boy climb out.

KENNY

Boa's here. And I brought shovels.

ANSEL

We brought shovels.

KENNY

There's enough for everyone. Ansel
will use his fingers.

*
*
*

Kenny Boy starts passing out and stacking shovels.

*

24 EXT. GRAVE - NIGHT

24

Montage digging. People pass the shovels. They dig. Maximus,
Bucky, Willie Jack and Uncle Brownie watch from chairs near
the grave. Drinking coffee.

Cheese is getting after it.

White Steve gets hit with the shovel.

WHITE STEVE

Cheese! Watch the shovel.

Maximus laughs.

They dig. Different people dig.

25 INT. FELLOWSHIP HALL. CONTINUED MONTAGE - NIGHT

25

Rita, Bev, Natalie, Elora, and Jackie are cutting up.

*

Aunties are making biscuits. Some drink coffee. Etc.

26 EXT. GRAVE - NIGHT

26

The hole is halfway dug. Cheese gets help out of the hole. He
is dirty. Danny and Leon help him out.

DANNY

Damn, Cheese.

LEON

Making us look bad, slow down.

Cheese clocks Bucky, Brownie, and Maximus sitting in their
chairs, judging.

CHEESE

I can't wait to be an elder.

Bear gets out of the hole. He heads past Maximus, Bucky, and
Uncle Brownie.

MAXIMUS

Where you going?

BEAR

Piss.

MAXIMUS

Shake it more than twice you're
playing with yourself.

Bear laughs it off and keeps going.

BROWNIE
Watch out for spirits.

BUCKY
Don't be whistling, you'll call
'em.

The men laugh.

27 EXT. RURAL CHURCH - NIGHT

27

Bear is looking for a place to piss. He runs into Big and Bev who are talking near Big's cruiser.

BEAR
Oh, sorry.

BEV
Where you going?

BEAR
Piss.

BIG
Watch out for spirits.

BEAR
I will.

Bear continues on.

BIG
What were you saying?

BEV
I like when you wear your uniform.

BIG
I'll arrest you.

BEV
Cuff me up.

28 EXT. RURAL CHURCH - LATER

28

Bear finishes peeing in the woods. Shakes. Zips up.

He takes a beat.

He gives a whistle, looks around. Waits. Nothing.

He turns to leave -

SPIRIT (O.S.)

Aho...

Bear stops. He turns around. Bear sees nothing.

SPIRIT (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Bear cub?

Spirit's voice comes from a different direction this time. Bear tries to find him.

BEAR

Knifeman? That you?

Spirit is now standing behind Bear.

SPIRIT

I knew you'd come here...

Bear jumps and turns around.

SPIRIT (CONT'D)

Sorry, always wanted to do that.

BEAR

I can't believe that worked.

SPIRIT

Only cause I was nearby. I'm here to help Fixico get the first train smoking out of here... but I'm also here for you.

BEAR

So, you have more teachings or what? I haven't seen you in forever.

SPIRIT

Well, I mean, you kinda told me to fuck off.

BEAR

Sorry about that... a lot of things have happened since...

SPIRIT

Oh, yeah... I've been keeping up with you on your Insta, and your tiktoks. Don't try to find me, it's a burner account. Doing real good out there, Bear.

BEAR

Got anything for me today? You know, to help me further myself...

SPIRIT

No... not today, Bear.

BEAR

Ok... Uh, what then? Nothing?

SPIRIT

I guess I'm here to say, goodbye... though I can't say goodbye because that's a colonial way of talking, our people say see you later. Or Fuck off. Or holla. We don't have a word for goodbye.

BEAR

SO, you're leaving? Like for real?

SPIRIT

Spirit guild's on strike. I'm monologued out. So, I'm gonna keep this short. You did good, Bear. You led with your heart, and the people around you know you love them. And that's what's important.

BEAR

Ok... well. Um, thank you for --

Spirit holds up his finger to Bear's lips.

SPIRIT

Shhhhhhh.

(beat)

Now, I wish I could do something cool and vanish into thin air, but it's not as easy at night... so I'm gonna walk off. Aho bear cub. Aho.

BEAR

Aho, William Knifeman.

Spirit war cries twice.

They both hear Uncle Brownie walking near them. He goes to a tree and begins to pee.

Bear watches him go to Uncle Brownie. Spirit stands right in front of him and looks down at Uncle Brownie peeing. Brownie sees him.

UNCLE BROWNIE
Fuck are you doing here?

SPIRIT
Dang, Old warrior! Still nippy out,
ennit.

UNCLE BROWNIE
Fuck off.

29 EXT. RURAL CHURCH - MORNING 29

The sun is coming up over the church.

Grave - Kenny Boy kneels next to Uncle Brownie, Bucky, and
Maximus. *

KENNY *

Yeah, it's great watching these *

young ones, isn't it. I just... *

makes me teary-eyed. They carry it *

on. They carry it on. *

The guys just look at Kenny Boy. *

KENNY (CONT'D) *

They call me Uncle. Uncle Kenny. *

Silence. Kenny Boy looks out at the grave. *

KENNY (CONT'D) *

Goodbye brother. And flights of *

angels sing thee to thy death. Aho. *

He looks at the guys. *

KENNY (CONT'D) *

It is done... it is done. *

Kenny Boy gets up awkwardly and walks away. They watch him
go. *

30 INT. FELLOWSHIP HALL - DAY 30

Some of the women set out a spread of breakfast. Country
breakfast.

31 EXT. GRAVE - MORNING 31

Men help Cheese and Bear out of the grave.

People gather at the grave. They all stand looking at the open grave. The spirit house. Not far from it.

Vinny stands near the grave.

VINNY

Good job, fellas.

WOTKO

Real good. The family wants to thank you for all the hard work. In a minute we will eat breakfast that the women made for us. If anyone wants to speak go right ahead.

Wotko turns to Willie Jack.

WOTKO (CONT'D)

You want to say something?

Willie Jack steps up.

WILLIE JACK

Um, I usually don't speak in public but I think it's important to say something for Fixico right now. He was my good friend.

(MORE)

WILLIE JACK (CONT'D)

We were really just getting to know each other, really. But I'm happy for my time with him.

Some of the men make audible noises of affirmation.

WILLIE JACK (CONT'D)

If I can say he taught me anything it's that he taught me how to take care of people. Our community. That's what he cared about. Whether you had a headache, needed food, or were just lonely, Fixico was there to help. I hope to be that for people too. Fixico helped me find my purpose.

Beat. People are taking in her words.

WILLIE JACK (CONT'D)

We all have our own lives and our own problems, but I think it's beautiful that we can come together like this. For our Uncle. I know you'll be there for me, just like I'll be there for you.

32

EXT. BEAR'S HOUSE - DAY

32

Bear is seeing Rita off. Jackie sets down stompdance shells. Bear has hickies on his neck.

Rita is crying. Bear is trying not to cry.

BEAR

Don't worry mom.

Rita hugs him. She gets in her car and pulls out. Jackie and Bear stand next to each other and watch her go.

*

WILLIE JACK (V.O.)

We don't know what we'll be doing in a week, or a month, or a year.

33

EXT. IRENE'S HOUSE - DAY

33

Irene and Cheese drink coffee on her porch.

WILLIE JACK (V.O.)

But I know one thing. When we need to come back together we will.

34 EXT. IHS - DAY 34

Willie Jack sits behind Fixico's booth. She also sells Meatpies.

35 EXT. ELORA'S HOUSE - DAY 35

Elora is putting a box of blue willow dishes into her already full car. She looks back at her grandma's house. There is a "sold" sign in the front yard. She smiles and turns towards Cheese, Bear, Willie Jack, and Jackie give her hugs. She gets in the car and drives away.

WILLIE JACK (V.O.)

Some of us will go and some of us will stay, but this place and all of you people are in each one of us. Forever... and it goes on and on like that.

36 EXT. GRAVE - MORNING 36

Willie Jack finishes.

WILLIE JACK

Let's go eat.

WOTKO

Humpuks!

Lots of "Humpukce's" around the group. They all begin heading towards the fellowship hall.

Willie Jack wipes a tear as people pat her as they walk by. She stares at the grave. Bear comes up to Willie Jack and puts his arm around her. Elora follows. Cheese joins. They embrace. Happy.

CHEESE

I love all of you.

BEAR

I love you too. All of you.

ELORA

I love you all.

WILLIE JACK

Fucking love you bitches.

TAG

37

EXT. RURAL CHURCH - DAY

37

Big's cruiser sits parked. Big and Bev climb out of it. Bev buttons her blouse. Big zips his fly up and wiggles his foot back into his boot.

The ELDERS: Irene, Brownie, Bucky and Maximus watch from the arbor while the sip their coffee.

BUCKY

Well, we did good.

BROWNIE

We did.

IRENE

Sure did.

BROWNIE

Sent our brother on in that good way.

BUCKY

Aho...

Beat.

MAXIMUS

(Lifts his coffee)

Till the next one.

They all look at Maximus and lift their cups.

ALL

Till the next one.

They drink.

TITLE CARD: "LOVE YOU, BITCH."