

THE CANADIAN HORSE DEFENSE COALITION P.S.A

by

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Second Draft

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FADE IN:

**EXT. FARMLAND - MORNING**

The sun rises over a stable; sunlight beams across the ground, and birds chirp in the distance. Then, the sounds of horses in a stable fill in...

A car drives into the parking area.

**INT. STABLE - MORNING**

A GIRL (20s) stands in a narrow stable, she brushes the head of a horse. She smiles at the horses as she continues to care for them, brushing, petting, and feeding them.

**INT. STABLE - LATER**

The Girl approaches one horse in particular, her face lights up as she gets closer. She feeds the horse and lays her hand on his head. The horse bows to her, which gets a smile.

**EXT. ARENA - DAY**

The Girl climbs onto a saddle and sits on the horse, she smiles as she rides the horse, not a care in the world.

**INT. STABLE - NIGHT**

The girl sits in the stable again with the horse, illuminated by a series of fairy lights. The girl does some work around the stable as the horse watches. She turns and smiles at the horse.

Her phone buzzes, she looks at the phone and grabs it. She makes her way towards the door of the barn, she turns to the horse and sticks her tongue out for a moment, and the horse does the same. The girl laughs and then makes her way out the door, answering the phone.

Through the open stable doors, the girl is clearly devastated and furious over the phone call. Holding back tears but yelling over the line. The horse watches.

**EXT. FARMLAND - MORNING**

The sun shines down on the stable. Birds chirp. A car pulls into the parking lot. The girl emerges, wiping tears from her eyes and entering the stable.

**INT. STABLE - MORNING**

As the doors open, the light from the sun illuminates the horse, peeking its head over its gate. The girl enters, she holds a series of horse care bills, she looks down at it, the word "OVERDUE" printed across the top. She throws it to the ground and then turns her attention to the horse. Her boots were across the letters, stamping over the letters with a muddy boot-print.

GIRL  
(inaudible)  
I'm so sorry. I can't do it  
anymore. I can't.

**EXT. ARENA - STABLE - DAY**

The girl stands outside the arena, the horse peaks its head over the gate. The girl reaches into a bag and pulls out an apple. She feeds it to the horse, a tear rolls down her face. Her attention turns when a car parks.

Out of the car is a SUITED MAN (40s). He approaches with a smile, like a snake in the grass. The girl approaches the gate, climbs off of the horse and makes her way toward the man. The man and the girl shake hands and begin talking.

**EXT. ARENA - STABLE - LATER**

The girl approaches the horse and embraces it. She smiles. She lets go and makes her way towards the parking lot, she turns back to the horse, she sticks her tongue out and the horse does the same.

The girl wipes tears and makes her way towards her car.

HORSE'S P.O.V:

Two men approach the horse and put a lead around its neck. The two men lead it towards a trailer hitched to the back of the truck.

**INT. TRAILER - CONTINUOUS**

We are in a dark space, the trailer. The sounds of the trailer bumping along the dirt BOOM out. The area is tight, dark and cold. The space gets darker and darker as the sounds get louder and louder.

As the door to the trailer shuts, we are in total...

BLACK.

The sound of the trailer door opening rings out. Then, the sound of a horse being led somewhere.

We hear the sounds of several horses, followed by the loading of a bolt gun. A loud, heavy BANG and one of the horses goes silent. Another, and then another, each one getting closer and closer.

Then, the sound of a bolt being loaded is the loudest it's been so far.

MAN (V.O.)  
Close your eyes. It's all going to  
be over soon.

**BANG.**

Silence.

**INT. STABLE - DAY**

Horses are in their stables, apart from one. We stay at the empty stable, the same one the girl spent so many hours at.

TEXT APPEARS:

"In 2023, 2,513 horses were exported for slaughter."

"Most were someone's pet. Loved, cared for, and cherished."

"This number only rises."

Then, the logo of the Canadian Horse Defense Coalition.

"Donate today."