

(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

ALWAYS SAY GOODBYE

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INT. RAY'S HOUSE FOYER - DAY

The doorbell rings, and RAY (17) opens it. TRISTAN (17) is on the other side, and gives a half smile to his friend who responds with a big smile and open arms.

RAY  
Today's the day! Road trip time!

TRISTAN  
Yup. Exciting.

Tristan steps in, side-stepping Ray's hug.

TRISTAN (cont'd)  
Where's your stuff?

RAY  
Upstairs. I'll go grab it.

TRISTAN  
Cool. You need a hand?

RAY  
Nah, I got it.

TRISTAN  
Cool cool.

Tristan stands around awkwardly in the foyer until ARTHUR (44) comes in dressed for work.

ARTHUR  
Hey! Tristan. Good to see you buddy.

Arthur goes in for a handshake to which Tristan hesitantly complies. Arthur checks his phone as he talks.

ARTHUR (cont'd)  
So, what are you up to next year then, Tristan?

TRISTAN  
Oh, I don't know. Nothing much yet. Taking some time off.

ARTHUR  
Oh, good. Good. Time off is good. You gonna work this summer?

TRISTAN  
Yeah, the... same place as last year, probably. I might continue into the fall I'll see how I feel.

ARTHUR

Ah, good. Working is important.

Ray comes back down with a duffel bag slung over his shoulder.

TRISTAN

Is that it?

RAY

Yeah, that's it.

ARTHUR

Alright. Thank you, Tristan, for taking him up to school. Means the world to Sarah and me.

Arthur shakes his hand again and pats Ray on the back.

ARTHUR (cont'd)

Look at you two. All grown up. Not those 12-year-old boys anymore, are you...? You sad the boy's leaving you, Trist?

TRISTAN

No, I'm... no. He's not leaving me, he's just... going to college. No big deal.

RAY

Yeah. No hard feelings, we're just doing different things now.

ARTHUR

Yeah. Well... you're gonna do great, son. Have a good year, focus on your studies. And, uh... use protection, huh?

Ray laughs at his own joke and the boys smile and chuckle awkwardly.

ARTHUR (cont'd)

Alright, I'm off! Text your mother when you get there. Maybe I'll see you, Tristan!

RAY

See you, dad.

TRISTAN

Bye, Mister Benson.

Arthur leaves and the boys look at each other.

RAY  
You ready bud? This is gonna be fun.

TRISTAN  
Yeah, I'm ready. You ready?

RAY  
Think so.

TRISTAN  
Did you say bye to your mom?

RAY  
Oh, she already left to drop off my  
sister and then head to work, so....

TRISTAN  
Oh. Okay. Let's go then.

RAY  
Alright.

INT. TRISTAN'S CAR - DAY

TRISTAN gets in the driver's seat and looks at his phone.  
RAY gets in the passenger's side after throwing his duffel  
in the trunk.

GPS (V.O.)  
Ready to go to UNIVERSITY OF MAINE?

RAY  
Wait, what are you doing?

TRISTAN  
Setting the directions?

RAY  
Well come on, man, we're not just  
going up early to stay in a hotel for  
two nights. Let's make some stops.

TRISTAN  
Alright, like where?

RAY  
We could cut through Boston, we can  
stop at some trails in Massachusetts  
or Vermont.

TRISTAN  
Vermont is West of where we're going.

RAY  
New Hampshire. Whatever.

Tristan looks at the directions.

TRISTAN  
We're barely gonna be in New  
Hampshire.

RAY  
Okay, forget the specific directions.  
Only thing that matters is that we  
make it to Maine on Wednesday. But  
we've got today and tomorrow to  
ourselves. Let's have fun!

TRISTAN  
Where are we gonna stay then?

RAY  
Don't worry, I've got it sorted out.

TRISTAN  
Alright, yeah. Let's have fun. I just  
don't know why it's so important to  
have fun on this road trip. We take  
trips like three times every break.

RAY  
I know, but... we're growing up  
and... things change. We should enjoy  
this now!

Tristan looks at him quietly for a moment. Ray grabs the  
phone from the dash.

RAY (cont'd)  
Come on, I made some playlists. It'll  
be fun.

TRISTAN  
Alright.

Tristan starts the car. The beginning of "Bonfire" by  
Childish Gambino starts to play, and Tristan looks over at  
Ray smiling.

RAY  
Yeah?

TRISTAN

Yeah.

INT./EXT. CAR, GAS STATION - NIGHT

TRISTAN gets back in the car at the gas pump. RAY is on the phone.

RAY

Alright thanks, man. Yeah, we'll see you tonight... yeah, we will. Take care.

Ray hangs up.

TRISTAN

See who tonight?

RAY

Okay, so. You remember the camp we used to go to in middle school?

TRISTAN

Yeah, Rowe? In like central Mass?

RAY

Guess who's director now?

TRISTAN

Uh... Lisa Bakewell?

RAY

Nope.

TRISTAN

Jesse Gonnerman?

RAY

No sir.

TRISTAN

Who?

RAY

Luke Longley.

TRISTAN

Excuse me?

RAY

Yeah.

TRISTAN

Luke Longley, who let us put all of Cabin 3's stuff on the floating dock and push it off into the lake?

RAY

That's the one.

TRISTAN

The counselor who took us on a field trip to Beaver Camp and let us TP the entire thing?

RAY

Mhm.

TRISTAN

Who slept with every counselor the last summer we were there and was caught three times?

RAY

That's him.

TRISTAN

Who the hell made him Director?

RAY

I have no clue. The board are all idiots and he's charming. But, I gave him a call, and they're in closing season. He said we were welcome to come up and spend the night if we wanted.

TRISTAN

Seriously?

RAY

Yep! And it won't add any time to our end goal. You in?

TRISTAN

Eh, I don't know... it's been a few years, everyone we knew there is probably moved on or graduated.

RAY

Yeah but it's not about them it's about us. And hanging out with Luke will be fun.

TRISTAN

That would be cool. Hang out with our camp counselor as sort of adults now.

RAY

Right?

TRISTAN

Alright. So, plan is, tonight at Rowe, tomorrow in Boston, stay in a hotel in Maine, and then off to the campus the next day, right?

RAY

Yes. That's the plan. See? I told you it was all good.

TRISTAN

Yeah. Sure.

INT./EXT. CAMP ROAD - EVENING

The sun is setting as TRISTAN and RAY drive up the road to camp, looking out at the buildings as they pass by.

RAY

God, it's barely changed.

TRISTAN

I know, it's crazy isn't it?

RAY

You remember the first time we came up this road?

TRISTAN

Yeah, your dad wouldn't stop flirting with Haley Dansen.

RAY

Okay, he was not flirting with her.

TRISTAN

You are absolutely blind if you don't think that was flirting.

RAY

My mom was in the passenger's seat!

TRISTAN

(Laughing)

When has that ever stopped him?



RAY

Fair enough.

The boys keep driving up the road until LUKE (26) leaps off in front of the car.

TRISTAN

Jesus Christ!

RAY

Luuuke!

Ray gets out and runs to Luke, who embraces him in a big hug.

LUKE

It's good to see you, man! Look how fucking big you are!

RAY

I know! Look at you! Your hair's so long.

Tristan slowly gets out and Luke excitedly points at him.

LUKE

Tristan! You haven't changed a bit.

TRISTAN

Yeah, hey, Luke. It's good to see you.

LUKE

I know you're not really a hugger, but can I give you a hug this one time?

TRISTAN

Yeah, sure.

Luke gives him a light hug and smiles at him.

LUKE

Well, go ahead and park. There's free space over in the Woodsquad in Cabin 2. And then I was thinking maybe we could hop in my car and go get food in town with some of the other counselors?

RAY

Yeah, that sounds great. Tristan?

TRISTAN

Sure. I might wanna take a look around first, y'know.

LUKE

Totally understand. Place is just how you left it, I promise.

Luke laughs, pats Ray on the arm and runs off.

RAY

You didn't leave the keys in the car, did you?

TRISTAN

I did, why?

Ray goes wide-eyed for a moment before Tristan smirks and shows him the keys in his hand.

RAY

Asshole.

INT. RESTAURANT - EVENING

LUKE, SLAPPY, JENNA, RAY and TRISTAN are sitting at a booth.

RAY

So, how long have you two known Luke?

SLAPPY

God, I don't even know how long.

LUKE

Slappy and Jenna are friends from home. I recommended them while I was a counselor and now they're both still here with me.

JENNA

We've heard a lot about you guys. You were Luke's favorite campers when you were here.

RAY AND TRISTAN

Really?

SLAPPY

Oh, yeah. You guys were always pulling pranks with him and getting up to trouble.

TRISTAN

I guess we did a couple times.

LUKE

And they were great times. Your last summer was probably my favorite. Might even be why I decided to stick around and take on the director job.

RAY

I was gonna ask, what happened to Dan?

LUKE

Died.

TRISTAN

What?

LUKE

Nah, I'm just fucking around. Dan took a job at some big league rich kid camp.

TRISTAN

Really? I wouldn't have expected that from him.

LUKE

Me neither, but, he's got a family and money's money.

RAY

Fair enough.

TRISTAN

I don't know. I don't see the point in summer camps that are basically amusement parks.

LUKE

That's exactly how I feel.

RAY

Well, some people enjoy it. And if it pays the bills, y'know?

TRISTAN

I guess so. I just don't see how you can forge a real relationship there.

LUKE  
Those rich kids are never gonna have campers like you who come back to say hi, are they?

Luke reaches by to give a high five which Ray gives. The booth is quiet for a moment.

LUKE (cont'd)  
So, Ray, you excited for school?

RAY  
Yeah, I am. It's nerve racking, but, exciting too.

JENNA  
Oh, it always is. I was so nervous my first year.

SLAPPY  
I remember that. Your parents dragged you out of the house like a 5-year-old going to her first day of kindergarten.

JENNA  
Yeah, but I loved it in the end.

TRISTAN  
And you guys said you're friends from home?

LUKE  
Yep. Since the seventh grade.

Tristan nods as Ray smiles watching him.

INT. LOWER LODGE - NIGHT

LUKE and RAY go back and forth on a pinball table. Tristan sits off to the side. After a few rounds Luke spikes it on Ray.

LUKE  
Still got it.

RAY  
Has anyone ever beaten you?

LUKE  
Not as long as I've been a counselor. Well, one camper.

(MORE)

LUKE (cont'd)  
But I bought him a soda at the camp store and told him not to bring it up again.

RAY  
Nice.

LUKE  
So, Tristan. What's your plan, man?

TRISTAN  
What do you mean?

LUKE  
Well, high school's done, you're movin' on with your life. What's the plan?

TRISTAN  
I don't know. I'm working the same job I used to work over the summer and then, I don't know, maybe stick there in the fall, make some money.

LUKE  
You like the job?

TRISTAN  
Yeah. It's good enough.

LUKE  
What do you do?

TRISTAN  
Just serve drinks at a country club nearby.

LUKE  
Huh. Nice people there?

RAY  
Ha. At a Country Club on Long Island?

TRISTAN  
Yeah, not always. But they tip well sometimes.

LUKE  
Well, what do you want to do?

TRISTAN  
I don't know.

LUKE

Is that your favorite phrase?

TRISTAN

What, I don't know?

LUKE

Yeah.

TRISTAN

Guess so.

LUKE

Well, you don't have to know right now. Ray, what are you majoring in?

RAY

I'm undecided.

LUKE

See?

TRISTAN

Well, he's going to get an education.

Luke shrugs and smacks his lips.

LUKE

Education's always happening. I think I learned more working here all these years than at school.

RAY

Didn't you go to Harvard?

LUKE

Yeah.

TRISTAN

And you feel like you learned more here?

LUKE

Well, it's more about the people you're around than the classes you take.

RAY

Interesting.

LUKE

Not to say you shouldn't focus on classes. But you can only learn so much from them.

TRISTAN

I get what you're saying, I just... I don't know. I see someone like you who found what he wanted to do when he was eighteen and I think... what did I do wrong?

LUKE

I didn't find what I wanted to do when I was eighteen.

TRISTAN

Okay, nineteen.

LUKE

Nope. It wasn't really until I was twenty-seven or eight.

TRISTAN

Really?

LUKE

After college I worked at private businesses in Boston for a couple years. And, I realized three years in that I hated it. And I hated myself for doing it. So, I called Dan and asked if I could come back and he said yes. Then he decided to move on and asked me to interview for director and I said yes.

RAY

So life is just a series of saying yes to things?

LUKE

I know you're being sarcastic, but... yes. Take opportunities where you find them, and most importantly... know who your real friends are, because they'll tell you when you're doing the wrong thing.

Luke serves the ball to Ray who hits it back only for Luke to spike it. He shrugs confidently as Ray throws down the paddle

EXT. CAMP PARKING LOT - DAY

LUKE, TRISTAN, and RAY stand by the car.

LUKE

Thank you guys so much for coming by.  
It's always great to see how much  
you've all grown.

TRISTAN

Yeah, thanks for having us.

LUKE

You two look after each other,  
alright? We all need friends like  
that.

RAY

We will, Luke. Thanks.

LUKE

Hey, I got a gift for you two.

RAY

Really?

Luke dips into the cabin next to them and comes out with a  
pack of beer and a big smile.

LUKE

Have a fun night tonight and a great  
time at college.

TRISTAN

(Quietly)

That is wildly irresponsible.

RAY

Relax, my dad buys us beer all the  
time.

TRISTAN

Your dad is wildly irresponsible.

LUKE

If you guys don't want it, no big  
deal. I'll have it.

TRISTAN

Isn't it not allowed on camp-

RAY

We appreciate it a lot, Luke. Thanks.

Ray takes the beer and gives Luke a big hug. Luke turns to  
Tristan.



LUKE

I know you're not a hugger, so I'll just see you next time.

TRISTAN

Thanks, man. See you next time.

LUKE

And hey, if you decide you hate bartending for Long Island snobs, give me a call. We'd love to have you come to camp.

TRISTAN

Yeah, I'll keep it in mind.

LUKE

Alright. Back to it.

Luke jogs off seemingly without a destination.

RAY

Alright. Let's hit the road. Boston awaits!

TRISTAN

Put that in the trunk.

RAY

It's gonna get too hot, I'm gonna put it in the backseat.

TRISTAN

We could get pulled over. I'm serious.

RAY

Alright, you're right.

Tristan gets in the car as Ray opens up the trunk.

RAY (cont'd)

Boston awaits!

#### MONTAGE OF THE BOYS IN BOSTON

*Writer's Note: I'm really just listing things I remember doing on trips to Boston. Most of this will be improv when we do the actual trip.*

TRISTAN and RAY drive through the city, pointing out places along the way.

TRISTAN throws RAY the keys in the parking garage. Ray drops them and Tristan laughs.

TRISTAN and RAY walk through the Boston Commons together.

TRISTAN and RAY march along the freedom trail together.

TRISTAN and RAY go into the first Newbury Comics.

RAY looks excitedly at a restaurant as they're served lobster. TRISTAN makes a face.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

RAY and TRISTAN walk into the hotel room. Tristan immediately collapses onto the closer bed and lets his bag fall to the ground.

RAY  
(Sitting down)  
That was fun.

TRISTAN  
(Flipping to his back)  
Yeah, it was.

RAY  
You ready to turn in?

TRISTAN  
Maybe.

Tristan flips back to his stomach and kicks his feet in the air.

TRISTAN (cont'd)  
We could also set up my Switch, open those beers Luke gave us, and I could kick your ass in Mario Kart.

RAY  
Oh, that's a challenge if I've ever heard one.

TRISTAN  
No, it's not a challenge. It's a fact. It's a true fact.

INT. HOTEL BATHROOM - NIGHT

RAY and TRISTAN are in the shower together with the beers. Both of them cut open the bottoms with their keys.

RAY AND TRISTAN

One, two, three.

They pop open the cans and shotgun the beer. They throw down the can and both release burps before high fiving.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

RAY and TRISTAN lie on the left bed together with the game. They play a round and Tristan wins.

RAY

Damn, dude. How are you better drunk?

TRISTAN

The game is just like real life. I get better at driving when I'm drunk.

Ray laughs and Tristan snickers at his own joke.

RAY

That's a responsible way to think.

TRISTAN

Alright, let's go again.

RAY

You got it. Let me change my cart, I'm gonna leave you in the dust this time.

Tristan takes a long swig of his beer and opens another one by the bed. The sound of the game begins, but Tristan is unfocused. The game fades into the back of his mind as he mindlessly plays with his friend.

RAY (cont'd)

Tristan? You alright?

TRISTAN

Yeah. I'm fine.

RAY

You sure? You seem upset.

Tristan pauses the game and gets up, grabbing a sweater from next to the bed.

TRISTAN

I think I'm gonna go for a walk.

RAY

Come on, man. Talk to me. What's wrong?

Tristan stops walking out and turns back to him.

TRISTAN

It's fine. You're just leaving me in the dust.

RAY

What? I was just talking about the game.

TRISTAN

Yeah, but that's what you're doing, isn't it? You're just leaving me in the dust.

RAY

Where is this coming from?

TRISTAN

This whole trip! All of it.

RAY

I'm trying to give us time to spend together, Tristan.

TRISTAN

Exactly. Exactly, it's a goodbye.

RAY

No! It's not a goodbye. It's just... I don't know. We won't see each other a lot, and I wanted us to spend time together before that... break.

Tristan pauses for a moment.

TRISTAN

Do you plan on coming back?

RAY

What?

TRISTAN

Do you plan on coming back to the city? During breaks and over the summer and stuff?

RAY

Why?

TRISTAN

Because I heard you told Kelsey you might not. Is that true?

RAY

...Yeah, maybe. I don't know. I've been thinking about it.

TRISTAN

Why wouldn't you tell me that?

RAY

Why would I have to? It's not your life, it's mine!

TRISTAN

So what happened to us being brothers then? It's always about how close we are, how long we've known each other, how we're basically siblings. Then I hear shit like this. So which is it, Ray? Am I essential to your life or am I just "one of your friends?"

RAY

You know how important you are to me, come on man.

TRISTAN

Don't tell me what I fucking know! I don't know!

Tristan turns and storms out of the room, and Ray sits quietly on the bed.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

RAY wakes up to TRISTAN packing his bag.

RAY

Hey. When did you come back?

TRISTAN

I was only out for like an hour.

RAY

Oh man I was deep asleep.

TRISTAN

Always the lightweight.

Ray laughs a little bit, Tristan doesn't. Ray sits up in the bed.

RAY

Listen, about last night....

TRISTAN

Ray, it's... it's fine. We were drunk, I was in my head. It's fine.

RAY

I know, but... you're right. I should've told you, and... I keep thinking about what Luke said about finding what you love, and... who knows, I might hate college. Or just hate this college. But, like he said... I know who my real friends are.

Tristan drops his head avoiding eye contact.

RAY (cont'd)

I'll be back occasionally, I promise. And you can come visit any time.

TRISTAN

Thank you. But, you don't have to do it because of how I feel.

RAY

No, I want to. I do.

TRISTAN

Good.

The two smile sadly at each other for a moment.

TRISTAN (cont'd)

All that stuff Luke said, I'm surprised you still want to go to school.

Tristan ducks into the bathroom leaving Ray sitting on the couch contemplating that very notion.

INT./EXT. CAR, "WELCOME TO MAINE," SIGN - DAY

RAY has the car pulled over just outside the "Welcome to Maine," sign. TRISTAN is asleep in the passengers seat as RAY fiddles nervously in silence. Tristan wakes up and looks at him.

TRISTAN

Where are we?

Ray doesn't answer, but Tristan sees the sign.

TRISTAN (cont'd)  
Oh. Alright. How far out are we?

He looks to Ray who takes a moment to respond, before grabbing his phone to check the directions.

RAY  
Oh, uh... about an hour.

TRISTAN  
What time do we need to be there?

RAY  
Uh... about a half hour.

TRISTAN smirks as Ray continues to stare out of the car.

TRISTAN  
How long we been sitting here for?

RAY  
About... ten minutes?

TRISTAN  
That's not so bad.

RAY  
No, could be worse....

TRISTAN  
What's the matter?

RAY  
Nothing. Nothing, I'm fine. I just...

Ray trails off. Tristan analyzes his face, and then Ray turns the car on.

RAY (cont'd)  
It's stupid. Let's just go.

Ray grabs the gear shift and shifts it, then Tristan shifts it back.

RAY (cont'd)  
What are you doing?

TRISTAN  
Talk to me.

RAY  
I'm fine, we're gonna be late.

Ray shifts the car and Tristan shifts it back again. The car inches slightly forward.

TRISTAN  
Stop avoiding it bro, talk to me.

RAY  
Tristan, this is not safe. Let's go.

Ray shifts it again and Tristan stops him, the car inching forward again. He does it two more times.

RAY (cont'd)  
Tristan!

TRISTAN  
Just talk to me! What's going on?

RAY  
It's nothing, I just-

A truck wooshes by the window and honks. They both scream and duck.

RAY (cont'd)  
What the fuck?!

TRISTAN  
Yeah this isn't safe. Let's just talk and drive.

RAY  
You motherfucker.

INT./EXT. CAR OUTSIDE CAMPUS - DAY

RAY and TRISTAN sit in the car pulling up to the school.

TRISTAN  
It's fine to be nervous, man.

RAY  
I know it's fine to be nervous. I just don't want to be.

TRISTAN  
Yeah, but, sometimes you can't control it. You just have to give it time.

RAY  
Yeah... you're right.



They pull up to a check-in table and RA 1 walks up to their window.

RA 1

Hi! Welcome to UMaine! Can I get your name?

RAY

Uh, Ray Pacheco.

RA 1

Alright, Ray. You're gonna pull up and park outside Androscoggin Hall.

RAY

Alright, thank you.

RA 1

Not a problem. Glad you're here!

TRISTAN

Hey, real quick question.

RA 1

Yeah?

TRISTAN

When you were a Freshman were you nervous?

RA 1

Oh, super nervous. Yeah. But it all goes away in time.

TRISTAN

See? That's what I told you. I told him that but he doesn't listen to me.

RA 1

Well, you're gonna be super comfortable by the end of the semester, and you're gonna make lots of new friends.

RAY

Yeah, thank you. Thanks, that helps a lot.

RA 1

Of course.

TRISTAN

You still get homesick sometimes?

RA 1

Sometimes. It goes away too eventually. You just end up so busy here with school and social life you forget about it. Freshman year though, ugh, I missed my dog all the time. He was, like, my best friend.

TRISTAN

That's sweet. You keep in contact with him?

RA 1

With my dog?

TRISTAN

Yeah.

RA 1

Yeah, I mean... yeah. I did.

TRISTAN

You still do?

RA 1

Well, he passed away last year.

TRISTAN

Oh. Sorry to hear that.

RA 1

Yeah. Things are good now, though. My parents got a new dog and she's very sweet.

TRISTAN

Cool. Alright, well, thanks. What was the hall again?

RA 1

Androscoggin.

TRISTAN

Awesome, thanks.

Tristan rolls up the window and the two take off.

RAY

Androscoggin's definitely an indigenous name.

TRISTAN

Oh, definitely people we killed.

RAY

Yeah.

TRISTAN

Dead dog was a downer, too.

The two laugh.

EXT. ANDROSCOGGIN HALL - DAY

TRISTAN brings out a trunk for RAY as he comes out of the building.

TRISTAN

Alright. You good? You want me to bring this up for you?

RAY

No, no I got it. No worries.

TRISTAN

Alright. Well, then... I guess this is it.

RAY

Yeah... yeah I guess so.

They both hesitate for a moment.

TRISTAN

Come here, bud.

The two embrace in a tight hug as they speak.

TRISTAN (cont'd)

I'm gonna miss you.

RAY

I'm gonna miss you too.

TRISTAN

Don't let that Paul motherfucker become your new best friend.

Ray laughs.

RAY

Never. Never.

They release and pat each other on the shoulders lovingly, as men do.

TRISTAN

What are you gonna do?

RAY

Well, I got a hall meeting tonight.  
But, might just... sit in silence for  
awhile as I get adjusted.

TRISTAN

Yeah, alright. Silence is good. Very  
good.

The two stand for a moment too long before either move.

TRISTAN (cont'd)

Alright. Well, I'm gonna get back  
dumb late either way, so. See ya'...  
see ya.

RAY

Yeah.

Tristan begins to walk away.

RAY (cont'd)

Tristan.

Tristan turns back to him.

TRISTAN

Yeah?

RAY

Love you, buddy.

TRISTAN

...I love you too, man.

Both smile.

TRISTAN (cont'd)

Call me any time.

RAY

Of course. Text me when you're home.

TRISTAN

Will do. Love you!

RAY

Love you.

Tristan gets in his car, and Ray grabs the trunk and goes  
back into the building.