



#6 The Feuding Farmers - Kramer (Unskilled)

Information Known to Both

Kramer and Olson are feuding over paying upkeep of their common lane, among other issues. Both farms originally belonged to Kramer's dad. Kramer bought his farm from his father 15 years ago. Kramer's brother farmed Olson's farm until recently. When the brother died of a heart attack two years ago, Olson bought the farm. Kramer and Olson both have teenage children who play on the same baseball team.

Kramer (Unskilled)

Since Olson moved to his farm two years ago he seems to have had a chip on his shoulder. The day he arrived you dropped in to visit and offered some helpful suggestions from your brother's experience on the same land. Olson reacted defensively, and seems to think you are out to get him. After that experience you decided to stay out of his way as much as possible.

You believe that Olson is a careless farmer, who among other things neglects his fences. As a result his cows have gotten out twice in the last year and damaged your crops. The second time it happened you got angry and sent him a bill for \$100 with a suggestion to mend his fences. He tore up the letter and put it back in your mailbox.

Six months ago, Olson installed speed bumps on his section of the lane. They are so high that the bottom of your VW Rabbit scrapes when you drive over them. Never once has he spoken to you about this, and to you it appears to be purely harassment. When you called to complain, he retorted, "That's what you get for driving so fast!" and hung up the phone.

Two weeks after that Olson has gravel spread on his section of the lane, and then sent you a bill for \$125, half the cost! You wrote on the bill, "this is your lane and your gravel, not mine!" and sent it back. Olson should have known that lane maintenance comes with the farm. You are quite irritated with Olson and are sceptical of reaching any agreement with him, however have agreed to meet with him to discuss.