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Oldboy's Apples

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Abstract
This is a review of the short film, *Oldboy’s Apples* (2022), directed by Brad Hock.

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Oldboy’s Apples (2022) dir. Brad Hock

This animated short film starts by taking us down into the earth where we meet a face. The face has apples embedded in it and the apples themselves have faces. The apples laugh as a dog jumps up at them as though they are playing. Then the dog sees a creature through a window. The creature is orange, with thin pointy ears and two horns on the top of its head.

The creature, an ancient spirit, conducts a ritual over one of the small apples and the apple becomes a small creature. The creature is joined by a rat and the rat invites the dog to join them. They put the small creature in a teapot and then drink the tea. The ancient spirits sing a song to reawaken the mystery of the hidden apple.

This is a film about the power of ritual and the importance of ritual in dealing with the various mysteries of life.