

## THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY (1966)

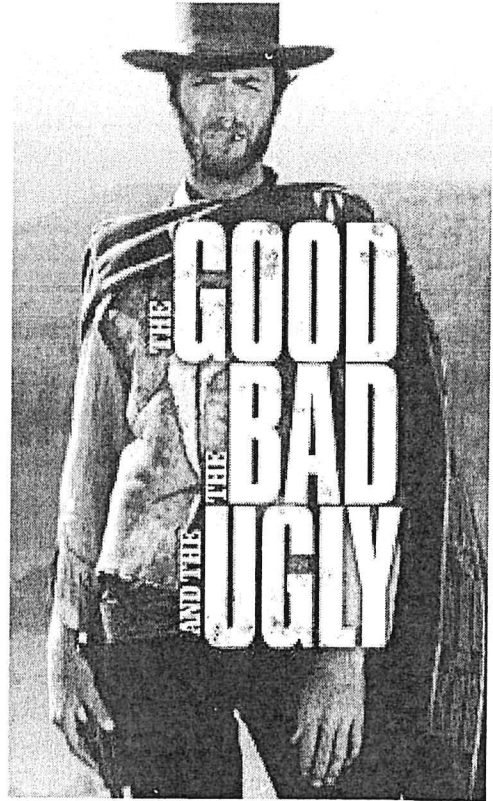
Written by Luciano Vincenzoni & Sergio Leone  
Directed by Sergio Leone

### Cast

Clint Eastwood: Blondie  
Eli Wallach: Tuco  
Lee Van Cleef: Sentenza/ Angel Eyes

**Music** - Ennio Morricone

**Genre** – Western



### Plot Synopsis

Blondie (The Good) is a professional gunslinger who is out trying to earn a few dollars. Angel Eyes (The Bad) is a hit man who always commits to a task and sees it through, as long as he is paid to do so. And Tuco (The Ugly) is a wanted outlaw trying to take care of his own hide. Tuco and Blondie share a partnership together making money off Tuco's bounty, but when Blondie unties the partnership, Tuco tries to hunt down Blondie. When Blondie and Tuco comes across a horse carriage loaded with dead bodies, they soon learn from the only survivor (Bill Carson) that he and a few other men have buried a stash of gold in a cemetery. Unfortunately Carson dies and Tuco only finds out the name of the cemetery, while Blondie finds out the name on the grave. Now the two must keep each other alive in order to find the gold. Angel Eyes (who had been looking for Bill Carson) discovers that Tuco and Blondie meet with Carson and knows they know the location of the gold. All he needs is for the two to lead him to it. Now The Good, The Bad and The Ugly must all battle it out to get their hands on \$200,000 worth of gold.

## The Good, the Bad and the Ugly (1966) Contd.

- Because Sergio Leone spoke barely any English and Eli Wallach spoke barely any Italian, the two communicated in French.
- The three principal actors are the only ones who speak actual English in the film: Clint Eastwood, Lee Van Cleef, Eli Wallach, with the exceptions of Al Mulock (the one-armed man) and John Bartha (the sheriff). Everyone else in the film is really speaking their native language, mostly Italian and Spanish, and was later dubbed into English.
- Ennio Morricone's iconic theme music was designed in places to mimic the sound of crying hyena.
- Clint Eastwood wore the same poncho through all three "Man with No Name" movies without replacement or cleaning.
- According to Eli Wallach's autobiography "The Good, the Bad and Me", Sergio Leone picked him for the role of Tuco not because of his role as Calvera in The Magnificent Seven as most people assumed but rather because of his brief role as a Tuco-like bandit in How the West Was Won.
- In the gun store, everything Eli Wallach does with the guns is completely unscripted. Eli knew little about the guns, so he was instructed to do whatever he wanted.
- The bridge that Tuco and Blondie blow was an actual bridge built by Spanish army engineers. The Spanish agreed to blow the bridge only if their captain could be the one to do it. When it came to blowing the bridge the captain didn't notify Sergio Leone and just blew the bridge up without any cameras rolling. The army was so sorry with what they did that they rebuilt the bridge only to blow it up again.
- Shot in the deserts of Spain with 1,500 Spanish soldiers as extras.
- Although Clint Eastwood is usually top-billed in this film's credits, Eli Wallach has the most screen-time.
- The skeleton found by Tuco inside the wrong coffin at Sad Hill cemetery, was a real human skeleton. A deceased Spanish actress wrote in her will she wanted to act even after her death. 'Sergio Leone', being a perfectionist, used her skeleton.
- After the scene where Blondie splashes water in Tuco's face in the infirmary, there is a fade-out to the next scene. This was where the intermission was located, but this fade-out was excised in the 179-minute extended version.
- Though no specific year or date is stated in the movie, at least part of it takes place during the New Mexico Campaign of 1862. This is confirmed when both the hotel-keeper and Tuco mentions the retreating Confederate General Sibley (the historical Henry H. Sibley) and the advancing Union Colonel Canby (another historical person, Edward Canby). This is consistent with the campaign that took place between Feb-April 1862 in New Mexico and what was then Confederate Arizona.