

CRATER LAKE

Written by

Treaty

Los Angeles  
ntreaty@outlook.com

FADE IN:

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DAY**

Light snow falls on the forest trees.

A woman's anguished breath pounds the cold air as she runs through, unseen. The crunch of her feet pattering the recently fallen snow.

Closer and closer we move toward the rustling trees some thirty yards away.

Approaching a small creek, and before we catch sight of her, suddenly everything stops. The footsteps, the breath, the movement, everything.

ZOEY (V.O.)

There's only one reality, Kevin.  
The one we're sitting in right now.

The running creek water calmly moves through.

**INT. ZOEY'S PSYCHOLOGY OFFICE - DAY**

Professional and dark. Mahogany shelves lined with clinical psychology books. A desk flanked by degrees framed on the wall. All impeccably organized.

KEVIN (20s), shaved head and prescription drug fidgety, soft spoken, paces in front of the couch.

KEVIN

It's just...

ZOEY HAYES (30s), dark, piercing eyes with a keen intellect, genuine curiosity and a professional demeanor, sits in a chair off to the side, legs crossed, staring at Kevin.

ZOEY

Kevin, have a seat.

KEVIN

I just see things--

ZOEY

Kevin, this is why I gave you the coin. Do you have it with you?

Kevin removes a dollar coin from his pocket.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Any time you're unsure you look at both sides of the coin. If they're the same, which they shouldn't be, that's when you call me. Have a seat.

Kevin nods, sits.

KEVIN

You believe me, right?

ZOEY

Of course I do. I believe you see other worlds around us. It's what we're working through.

KEVIN

But, you're leaving.

ZOEY

I'm not leaving, Kevin. I'm taking a vacation. You know that.

Kevin nervously looks around the room.

KEVIN

You're coming back?

ZOEY

I promised I'd help you and we're making progress.

(beat)

Make sure you're taking your medication. Do what we talked about for the next week and we'll discuss when I get back, okay? You're doing great. You can do this.

Kevin nods.

**EXT. ZOEY'S HOME - DAY**

Two-story craftsman in a quaint Portland neighborhood surrounded by lush green trees.

Jeep parked in the driveway with the trunk open.

**EXT. ZOEY'S JEEP - SAME**

Zoey stands next to the open trunk of the Jeep staring inside, now in jeans and a flannel shirt.

ZOEY  
Okay, sleeping bags.

SAM (O.S.)  
Colors please?

Zoey turns and incredulously grins at her son SAM HAYES (7), autistic, glasses, meticulously organized and blunt.

He's holding a checklist that he's marking off as they go through the contents of the trunk. A 35mm camera around his neck, a backpack on his back.

ZOEY  
Red and blue.

SAM  
Check and check.

ZOEY  
Tent.

SAM  
Orange?

Zoey smiles and nods. Sam is dead serious.

SAM (CONT'D)  
Check.

ZOEY  
Stove... black.

SAM  
Check.

ZOEY  
Bag of clothing.

SAM  
Yours or mine?

ZOEY  
Yours. Mine is still in progress.

SAM  
No, no, no. That's not how this works, mom. We do the final checklist when everything is in the jeep. We have to stop.

ZOEY

Can't we just do everything that's  
in there now, then mark off things  
we put in later?

SAM

No. That's how things get left  
behind. We have to pay close  
attention, mom or it could be a  
disaster. We could forget the  
marshmallows.

He clips the checklist to his belt, dead serious.

SAM (CONT'D)

Call me again when you're ready.  
I'll be with the birds.

**INT. ZOEY'S HOME - BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey finishes packing by throwing in a few more sweaters.  
Opens a couple drawers and pulls out a jacket.

When she opens it a PHOTO peeks out of the pocket.

She removes it and stares. It's years-old and features a  
younger Sam with Sam's father PETER HAYES (30s), a rugged man  
with a big smile.

She sets it on a dresser. Glances out her second story window  
and reflectively gazes at Sam taking pictures in the  
backyard.

**INT. ZOEY'S HOME - PANTRY - DAY**

Zoey sifts through a shelf and reaches her hand near the  
back. Touches a bottle we don't fully see.

SAM (O.S.)

Mom, what are you doing?

She startles. Turns with a grin and Sam is behind her.

SAM (CONT'D)

You promised we'd be on-time and if  
we don't leave in the next seven  
minutes we won't be.

ZOEY

Seven, huh? Have I ever told you  
how much I love you?

SAM

There's not enough time. We have to get going if we want to set up the tent before it gets dark.

ZOEY

(through chuckle)  
Are you certain you have everything?

SAM

Mom, do you really think you're in the best position to be asking me that right now?  
(beat)  
And yes, I love you too.

Sam walks away.

**INT. ZOEY'S JEEP - DAY**

Zoey drives with Sam in the passenger seat.

Always attached to Sam are his backpack, camera, glasses and pocket watch. He stares at a piece of paper he's holding with a typed line-by-line description of their itinerary.

ZOEY

What does our first night look like?

SAM

(dead serious)  
We will get to the park at approximately 6:45pm and set up camp. After, we will head to the lake and see the sunset. When we're done, we'll come back for dinner. Smores will follow and we'll be in the tent by 9.

She looks at him with a grin. Unbelievable.

**EXT. OREGON FOREST - DUSK**

Zoey's Jeep weaves through the Willamette National Forest.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE PARK - DUSK**

Zoey's Jeep passes the CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK sign as they enter.

**INT. ZOEY'S JEEP - DUSK**

Zoey sings along to a song, enjoying the drive. She looks to a sleeping Sam in the passenger seat, smiles. Back to the windy road ahead. Over to the rear view mirror and back to--

WHAM! She slams on her brakes, instantly reaches her arm over to shield Sam, as they squeal to a halt along the side of the road. We never see what she saw though.

Sam, half of his things now at his feet, is fully awake.

SAM  
Mom, what happened?

Zoey stares at the road, silent and shaken.

SAM (CONT'D)  
Mom, what's wrong?

ZOEY  
Stay here.

SAM  
Mom?

ZOEY  
(stern)  
Stay. Here.

Zoey gets out.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE ROAD - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey walks to the side of the road, confused. She instantly turns to her left and stares into the woods.

Looks to the ground around her, but can't really see the bottom through all the brush.

Back to the road and the black skid marks the Jeep has made.

A 360 sweep of the area reveals nothing out of the ordinary.

All of which seems to be baffling her.

**INT. ZOEY'S JEEP - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey gets back in, still shaken.

Sam leans over, camera now in his lap.

SAM  
Mom, what happened?

ZOEY  
Nothing, hon. I thought I saw  
something... maybe a deer.

SAM  
Roosevelt Elk are common in the  
park, mom. It could have been one,  
although they're usually not on  
this side of the lake.

ZOEY  
Yeah, it was probably just that.  
Are you okay, babe?

SAM  
I'm fine.

ZOEY  
Good. Sorry, I know we're behind  
schedule now.

Zoey starts the car and continues to drive. Glances in her  
side mirror, still concerned.

**EXT. ZOEY'S CAMP SITE - DUSK**

The Jeep is parked. Zoey and Sam set up the tent.

Sam reads the tent instructions in his hands and instructs  
Zoey who can't stop laughing.

LATER

They systematically unpack everything from the Jeep.

Sam directs with his checklist.

LATER

Sam puts on his Spiderman sweater as Zoey drinks from her  
coffee mug.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DUSK**

Zoey and Sam trek through, a palpable excitement in the air.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE - DUSK**

Zoey and Sam come over a hill at the top of the lake and look over as the sun sets. A gorgeous expanse of blue, orange and purple hues. Sam takes a photo.

SAM

Wow, mom. Wow, wow, wow.

They look at each other and smile.

ZOEY

Well said, kid.

**EXT. ZOEY'S CAMP SITE - NIGHT**

Zoey and Sam sit around a campfire making smores.

SAM

No mom, it has to be one layer of graham cracker, one marshmallow, one piece of chocolate and another graham cracker.

ZOEY

That's the only way?

SAM

If you're eating a smores, yes. Those are the rules.

ZOEY

Are you all of a sudden obeying rules?

They laugh and she messes up his hair with her hand.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey sits next to Sam as they stare up at the stars.

SAM

Mom, do you think dad is with us?

ZOEY

Of course he is. He's on your waist.

Sam takes his pocket watch out and looks at it.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

You hold on to that and dad is with you wherever you go.

Zoey brings Sam in for a big hug.

**INT. ZOEY'S TENT - NIGHT**

Zoey lies asleep, turned to the side of the tent.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE - NIGHT**

The moon bounces off the top of the pristine lake.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - NIGHT**

Something rapidly moves through, unseen. The trees sway as though a gust of wind kicked up.

**INT. ZOEY'S TENT - LATER**

Zoey stirs in her sleep. Turns over toward the center of the tent. Her eyes slowly open and she realizes there's no one there. Instantly shoots up.

ZOEY

Sam?

Looks to the entrance and the zipper is undone.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Sam?

**EXT. ZOEY'S CAMP SITE - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey exits and looks around, panicked.

ZOEY

Sam? Sam?

Dashes out of the campground and into the surrounding area.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Sam? Sam?

Gets to a clearing and stops.

Sam is standing near a small creek in the distance.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Sam!

She dashes over and grabs him.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Honey, what are you doing out here?

But, Sam doesn't immediately respond.

She pulls his face close as she bends down.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Sam? What are you doing out here? I  
told you never to leave without  
telling me.

Sam stares directly at Zoey, a bit more absent than previous.

SAM  
The eyes.

ZOEY  
What? What eyes?

SAM  
The eyes outside the tent.

ZOEY  
What?

SAM  
When I came outside they went over  
there.

Sam points across the creek.

Zoey turns to look in that direction, but sees nothing.

ZOEY  
Eyes of what?

SAM  
I don't know.

ZOEY  
Did you see it?

SAM  
No. It ran away.

ZOEY  
Okay. Let's go back to sleep,  
alright? And, do not come out here  
by yourself ever again. Got it?  
(Sam nods)  
Promise?  
(Sam nods)  
Pinky swear.

They lock pinkies.

**EXT. ZOEY'S TENT - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey ushers Sam inside.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE - DAWN**

Zoey pushes a kayak out into the water, Sam already in the back, camera around his neck and backpack on. Here we get to see how toned and in-shape Zoey really is.

ZOEY  
Alright. Ready?

SAM  
Mom, you're the one paddling.

ZOEY  
Mom has been working out for this trip.

SAM  
Your biceps are quite large.

Zoey laughs, splashes Sam with water, jumps in and grabs the paddle.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey paddles through the lake as Sam takes photos. Mountains on all sides, blue sky, glistening lake, bountiful trees and birds in the air.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey picks up the pace as the paddles slap the water.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey stops paddling as they get near the center. She looks around, takes a big deep breath and soaks in the beauty that surrounds them.

ZOEY  
How's the view from back there?

SAM  
Two thumbs up.

ZOEY

You want to paddle for a while?

SAM

That's not funny, mom. The paddle  
is taller than I am.

She laughs as she shifts direction.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE - LATER**

Zoey continues paddling through the picturesque setting.  
Picks up steam as they glide through.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE - LATER**

Zoey stops, lets the kayak coast as it heads toward shore.  
Takes a puff of her asthmatic inhaler. She points a bird out  
to Sam as it flies overhead.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE - DAY**

Zoey pulls the boat up to the shore, dips her sweating head  
into the lake and out. Sam climbs onto shore, continues to  
take photos.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE TRAIL - DAY**

Zoey walks with Sam along a man-made trail, brush and forest  
on each side of them.

ZOEY

Did you get to see your bird?

SAM

It's not just a bird, mom.

ZOEY

Is that right?

SAM

It's a spotted owl. They're brown  
and white. Big black eyes. Look  
like they have spots and they sing  
and make noises all the time.  
They're beautiful.

Sam quickly sees a bird and follows it off the trail.

ZOEY

I thought you were hungry?

SAM

Life is a cycle mom and sometimes we cycle out of what we want.

ZOEY

So, no lunch?

SAM

There's licorice in my bag.

ZOEY

You're cute. I'm going up the trail. Come along when you're done following the birds, okay?

SAM

Mom, I'm never done following birds, but I know you become a t-rex without food.

Zoey laughs as she continues up the trail.

ZOEY

(to herself)

Your dad would be proud of that comment.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE TRAIL - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey walks along the trail, bends down next to a creek and runs her hand through it. Soaks up the sun and beautiful weather.

ZOEY

Sam, come on. Enough with the birds. My stomach won't stop talking.

Zoey laughs and gets up from the rock.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Eyes buried in a camera. The story of your life.

Zoey goes back down the path the way she came.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Sam, come on. Imagine what would happen if you saw the world live, and not through a lens.

Zoey gets to the point where she last saw Sam and looks around, but he's nowhere to be found.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Sam? Come on...

Zoey continues down the trail, searching the brush to make sure he's not there.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Sam? Don't you dare hide from me.

She stops and looks around wondering where he could have gone. Her worry level ratchets up.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Sam? Sam?

A COUPLE (50s) comes along the trail.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
You haven't seen a small boy with glasses and a camera, have you?

MAN (COUPLE)  
(both shake head)  
No, sorry.

Zoey nods and continues back down the trail, venturing deeper from where they came. Legitimate concern starts to set in.

ZOEY  
(raised voice)  
Sam? Sam? Sam?

She stops and looks around, confused. How could he have gotten this far? There's nothing around.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey continues back up the trail toward the water.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Sam? Sam? This isn't funny.

Zoey stops and takes a deep breath. Focus.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE TRAIL - DAY (SERIES)**

- A. Zoey searches the trail and brush yelling "SAM"
- B. Zoey speaks with a FAMILY walking near the trail

C. Zoey walks up and down the creek water searching

D. Zoey goes back to the kayak to look around

**EXT. CRATER LAKE CAMP GROUND - DAY**

Zoey walks through speaking with campers. A photo of Sam on her phone for reference.

Zoey stands next to a WOMAN (40s), who is with her DAUGHTER (3).

ZOEY

He's seven. About this high  
(motions with her hand), has a  
backpack and a camera.

WOMAN

We've been here all morning, but we  
haven't seen anyone. I'm sorry.

LATER

Zoey speaks with a MAN (50s) who is camping alone.

ZOEY

It was just forty-five minutes ago.

MAN

Sorry, I'm a late riser.

LATER

Zoey speaks with TWO TEENAGERS.

ZOEY

He has a backpack and would have  
been taking pictures. He loves  
birds, so he may have been calling  
to them. Did you see anything?

Both look at each other, then shake their head.

Zoey nods, having been denied now many times.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey looks across the campground and everything goes silent as she stares. It's as though everyone in the camp is staring right at her. She stares at each attempting to see anything. Anything at all that could provide a clue.

While he blends in well, PHILLIP TACK (40s), clean shaven, neighborly looking, stands off in the distance.

MAN (O.S.)  
Hello? Miss?

Zoey turns and approaching is JASON FOSTER (20s). He's a Parks Services rookie, but genuine and outgoing.

JASON  
We got a few calls about something on the grounds. Do you need help?

ZOEY  
My son...

JASON  
What about him?

ZOEY  
He... disappeared.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE TRAIL - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey walks Jason through.

ZOEY  
We were walking right here. He was taking pictures, so I went to the water. When I came back he was gone.

Jason looks around.

JASON  
Would he go off without you?

ZOEY  
He knows not to.

JASON  
Okay. Stay here.

Zoey nods as Jason takes off through the brush. She nervously fidgets.

JASON (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Sam? Sam? Sam?

**EXT. CRATER LAKE BRUSH - SAME**

Jason moves through, searching.

JASON

Sam? Sam?

Searches the ground, brush and trees for clues.

JASON (CONT'D)

Sam? Sam?

Doesn't find a thing.

Stops walking. Looks around, confused.

ZOEY (V.O.)

I asked everyone I could find, but no one saw a thing. It was like he just vanished into thin air.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - MOMENTS LATER**

Jason leads Zoey through, walkie-talkie in-hand.

JASON

(to Zoey)

We'll find him.

(into walkie-talkie)

I'm with her now & I didn't see anything. I don't know what's going on, but the kid isn't here.

WOMAN (V.O.)

Keep digging. I'll get the team moving.

Jason turns to Zoey.

JASON

Send that photo to my phone and I'll get it out to the entire park.

Zoey nods, feeling better about having someone on her side.

JASON (CONT'D)

Show me your site.

**EXT. ZOEY'S CAMP SITE - MOMENTS LATER**

Jason looks around, taking images with his cell phone.

JASON

Do you have something of your son's? Like a shirt?

Zoey nods, goes inside the tent and brings out a t-shirt.

JASON (CONT'D)

Does your son have any medical conditions?

ZOEY

No. Sam's autistic. High functioning, but autistic.

JASON

Is he wearing warm clothing?

ZOEY

No, but he has a sweater in his backpack. He always does.

JASON

What does it look like?

ZOEY

It's Spiderman.

JASON

Okay. Would he accept a ride from a stranger?

ZOEY

Never.

JASON

Would he approach someone if he was lost?

ZOEY

I think so.

JASON

Okay, good.

Jason looks around, but can't think of anything else.

JASON (CONT'D)

The Sheriff is sending the team out, so we can head to the station.

ZOEY

What? I'm not going anywhere.

JASON

We just need your statement and to make sure we have everything.

ZOEY

Then you can do that out here. I'm not going anywhere until I find my son.

Zoey steps away and continues searching.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE - DAY**

SHERIFF COLLINS (40s), female veteran with a commanding presence directs VOLUNTEERS and PARKS SERVICES EMPLOYEES, some with search dogs. One of the search dog handlers has Sam's shirt in his hand.

SHERIFF COLLINS

Alright, you all know what you're doing. Radio back with anything. Let's find this boy.

Everyone nods and starts the search.

Collins beelines for Zoey as she stands to the side.

ZOEY

I want to help.

SHERIFF COLLINS

I understand, Ms. Hayes. I just want to first have a conversation with you to lay everything out.

ZOEY

I know you're going to say things to make me feel better. I appreciate that, but there's only one thing I want right now and that's my son.

Collins stares at Zoey for a second, understanding she's a straight shooter.

SHERIFF COLLINS

Usually in these cases, a child has wandered off, gotten injured and can't find their way back. Please be prepared for that. Injuries can be tough in a place like this.

ZOEY

How long does it usually take to find someone?

SHERIFF COLLINS

We don't see it all that often, but when we do we usually have the missing back to their family within a couple hours.

ZOEY

You're certain someone from the camp site didn't take him?

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DAY**

The search party continues through with everyone periodically yelling "SAM" while others blow whistles.

SHERIFF COLLINS (V.O.)

We'll continue looking into it, but so far we don't see that. And, it's not common in these situations.

After the whistles blow everyone stops and listens.

SHERIFF COLLINS (V.O.)

You'll be the first to know if we find something.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE TRAIL - DAY**

The PARKS SERVICES with search dogs move through the trail, but the dogs stop and sit when they reach the creek.

The handlers turn to each other, slightly confused.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE CAMP GROUND - DAY**

Collins speaks with a group of CAMPERS all in a circle. Holds up a photo of Sam on her cell phone.

SHERIFF COLLINS

This is Sam. He's seven years old and at the moment he's missing. We're asking everyone to keep an eye out for him. If you see anything please alert parks services immediately.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DAY**

Zoey continues to head the search party.

ZOEY  
Sam? Sam? Sam?

She holds up her hand and the search party stops and listens.  
Nothing. They continue.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE CAMP GROUND - DAY**

Collins lifts a tarp covering the back of a pickup.

Turns to the WOMAN OWNER (50s).

SHERIFF COLLINS  
When did you get into the park?

WOMAN  
Last night.

SHERIFF COLLINS  
I need to know everything you saw.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE SEARCH BASE - DUSK**

A series of tents, tables, supplies and PARKS SERVICES  
EMPLOYEES monitor the surroundings.

Collins stands next to the dog handlers as they speak. Her  
perplexed facial expression says she isn't hearing what she'd  
expect to be. One of them hands her back Sam's shirt.

She immediately heads away.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DUSK**

The search party continues moving through.

Zoey wipes off her forehead as she's now profusely sweating  
and pale. She closes her eyes and squeezes with her fingers  
as her vision blurs.

**EXT. ZOEY'S CAMP SITE - DUSK**

Collins walks through and investigates the area.

Goes to Zoey's tent and gets inside.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DUSK**

The group of searchers has dwindled to a handful.

JASON  
Ms. Hayes? Ms. Hayes?

Zoey stops for a second and turns to Jason. Her pale face is now whiter than ever and she looks like she's about to pass out.

ZOEY  
What?

JASON  
I have a few people who want to head back, so I think we should consider taking a break. Just for now.

ZOEY  
Go ahead.

JASON  
You should come with us.

ZOEY  
I'm not going anywhere.

JASON  
You need food and water.

ZOEY  
I need my son.

Zoey turns back and continues through as the remaining searchers stop where Jason is.

He stares at her, concerned.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - LATER**

Zoey searches by herself. Puffs on her inhaler, but it's run out. She pushes down, again and again, but nothing. She throws it against a tree in frustration.

Someone watches her through the trees from a distance, but she has no idea they're there.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DUSK**

Sunlight continues to dwindle as Zoey refuses to give up.

ZOEY  
Sam? Sam? Sa--

She coughs and wipes the sweat from her forehead. She stumbles a bit as her strength is giving out. She leans over and throws up.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - NIGHT**

Zoey considerably slows as she moves through. She's sweating, dehydrated, fatigued and short of breath. She stops next to a tree and closes her eyes.

ZOEY

Sam. Don't leave me.

A twig snaps from behind, catches her attention and she quickly turns. Her vision is blurry though and it's hard for her to see.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Sam? Sam?

Zoey coughs as her breath gives out. She stumbles through, attempting not to give up, but her body clearly is.

The leaves crunch behind her and she turns.

Through her blurry vision she sees what looks to be a man with long hair and a giant beard moving toward her.

She stumbles to get away, but just before he gets to her she falls unconscious.

OVER BLACK:

Silence for a moment...

Leaves crunch as just one person walks through.

A thud as something's dropped. A plastic pole snaps.

A woman SCREAMS.

**INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT**

Zoey's eyes slowly flutter open and come into focus.

Standing near the window of her room is Jason.

ZOEY

What-- where--

JASON

Ms. Hayes, don't worry, you're fine. You're in the hospital getting fluids. Doc says you were really dehydrated and having breathing issues.

ZOEY

Sam?

JASON

Right now you need to focus on you.

ZOEY

Did you find anything?

JASON

Please just relax.

The door opens and in walks Collins.

Zoey slowly sits up.

ZOEY

Sam?

SHERIFF COLLINS

Ms. Hayes, I'm glad you're doing better.

ZOEY

Did you find anything?

SHERIFF COLLINS

I wanted to talk about that.

Collins steps forward. There's something in her hand behind her back.

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)

I need to make sure you're okay though and ready to speak.

ZOEY

I'm fine.

SHERIFF COLLINS

Okay. We found nothing in the search area.

(beat)

But, we did find something.

That gets Zoey's attention.

Collins pulls a Ziploc bag from behind her back and inside is Sam's camera.

Zoey lunges forward and takes the bag from her hand.

ZOEY

Oh my god, that's Sam's camera.  
It's his camera. Where did you find  
it? Where?

Collins and Jason exchange a glance.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Where did you find it? Did you find  
anything else?

SHERIFF COLLINS

We got a call a few hours ago that  
someone found a camera just like  
your son's. We'd sent Sam's photo  
around the park.

ZOEY

Did you print the photos?

SHERIFF COLLINS

My team is doing that right now. We  
pulled off prints that match you  
and your son, but no one else.

ZOEY

Where did you find it?

Collins pauses again, carefully broaching the subject.

SHERIFF COLLINS

That's what we wanted to talk to  
you about, Ms. Hayes.

Zoey looks to Jason, then back to Collins.

ZOEY

What is it?

SHERIFF COLLINS

Your son's camera was found by  
hikers nowhere near where you said  
he disappeared.

ZOEY

Where was it found?

SHERIFF COLLINS

Miles away.

ZOEY

Miles?

Collins takes a Crater Lake tourist map out of her pocket and shows it to Zoey. With a marker she draws where Sam went missing and where the camera was found.

SHERIFF COLLINS

This is where you say your son went missing, and this is where his camera was found.

Zoey stares at the two spots, confused.

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)

More than three hours away for an experienced hiker and a solid mile from any nearby roads.

Zoey's confusion grows.

ZOEY

How did it get all the way out there?

SHERIFF COLLINS

We were wondering the same.

ZOEY

How did I even get here?

JASON

A camper brought you in. Said you stumbled into their campsite.

Collins turns to Jason.

SHERIFF COLLINS

Give us a minute?

Jason nods and exits.

Collins gets closer to Zoey.

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)

Ms. Hayes... there's no plausible explanation for finding your son's camera where we did if he disappeared where you say.

Zoey is slightly caught off-guard.

ZOEY

I told you, I don't know--

SHERIFF COLLINS  
I'm asking you to be honest with  
me.

ZOEY  
(irritated)  
I'm asking you to help me find my  
son.

Collins pauses, measured. Before...

SHERIFF COLLINS  
Your coffee cup at your camp  
site... isn't just coffee.

Zoey glances at Collins, caught off-guard.

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)  
I found the alcohol inside your  
bag, after I found it in your cup.  
Your blood-alcohol level was high.  
(beat)  
So, I did some digging.

ZOEY  
Don't bring up my husband.

SHERIFF COLLINS  
You lost him--

ZOEY  
Five years ago. Please don't--

SHERIFF COLLINS  
You have two DUIs.

ZOEY  
Don't pretend you know what I went  
through.

SHERIFF COLLINS  
I'm not.

Zoey takes the IV out of her arm and the monitors on various  
parts of her body. All trigger sounds in the room.

ZOEY  
Good. Then help me find my son.  
And, don't you dare say another  
word about my husband.

Collins watches in dismay, not liking where this is heading.

**INT. PARKS SERVICES VEHICLE - NIGHT**

Jason drives with Zoey in the passenger seat as they weave through the roads toward Crater Lake.

An awkward silence as Zoey refuses to say anything.

JASON

I've only been with parks services for about a year, but we found a kid six months back. Was missing for two days. He'd fallen into a creek and it took him down stream.

(beat)

He grabbed onto a branch, but when he got out of the water had no idea where he was. And, he was a long way away from where he started.

ZOEY

Three hours away?

JASON

Four. But, we found him, eventually.

ZOEY

Was he okay?

JASON

He was in the hospital for a couple days, but other than that he was fine. At home with his family now.

Zoey turns to Jason with a respectful smile.

JASON (CONT'D)

That's why I do this.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE PARKING LOT - PRE-DAWN**

Zoey walks around the vehicle to Jason in the driver's side.

ZOEY

Thank you, Jason.

JASON

You're welcome, Ms. Hayes. Sure you don't want me to stay?

ZOEY

I'll be fine.

JASON  
You have the directions?

ZOEY  
Got it.

JASON  
Should only be a few hours before  
the search team arrives.

Jason hands Zoey two bottles of water.

JASON (CONT'D)  
Make sure you have these.

Zoey takes one and walks away.

Jason grins.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE TRAIL - PRE-DAWN**

Zoey walks through with her cell flashlight, following the instructions written on a piece of paper.

LATER

Zoey follows the trail along the side of the lake as it grows in altitude. Clearly no place Sam could go on his own.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE TRAIL - DAWN**

Sunrise sits just below the horizon.

Zoey is stopped, reading the instructions. She looks ahead at a boulder. An X on the paper says the camera was found next to it.

She slowly approaches and looks around. There's nothing but boulders, rocks, debris and dirt.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey searches the entire area, going around the giant boulders and looking for anything that may not be easily visible. Digging in the dirt, sifting and coming up empty. Not a single sign of Sam or him being there.

ZOEY  
Sam? Where are you?

She stops next to a boulder, closes her eyes and puts her hand on it.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Sam?

SAM (V.O.)

(faint, in distance)

Mom?

Zoey's eyes shoot open as she quickly looks around.

ZOEY

Sam? Sam?

SAM (V.O.)

(faint, in distance)

Mom?

Zoey darts around the boulders again, but can't see anything.

ZOEY

Sam? Where are you? Sam?

SAM (V.O.)

(faint, in distance)

Mom?

Zoey looks down the other side of the mountain and sees a trail. Immediately runs down it.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE BOULDER TRAIL - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey hauls ass like her life depends on it.

ZOEY

Sam? Sam?

(beat)

Sam, I'm coming. I'm coming. Stay where you are.

Zoey runs down the trail and sees there's a fork that leads to a creek. She takes off toward it. Runs and runs, heading straight for the creek.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE CREEK - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey stops next to the water, frantically searches.

ZOEY

Sam? Sam?

But, Sam's voice is gone.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
No. Sam? Sam?

She moves up and down the creek, but there's nothing standing out to her.

Looks through the trees of the forest all around her.  
Immediately beelines for them.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey aggressively plows through the forest.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Sam? Sam? Sam?

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey changes direction and continues through the trees.  
Pushes the branches out of her face.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Sam!

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey stops for a second and takes a deep breath.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Breathe. Sam, where are you?  
(yells)  
Where are you?  
(beat)  
Please Sam, tell me where you are.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey relentlessly continues searching.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Sam? Sam?

She stops next to a tree and turns back. Does a full 360 scan and there's nothing. Realizes this isn't happening and her head falls.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Damn it, Sam. Where are you?

LATER

Zoey emerges from the forest area, disappointed. Walks to the water and bends down. Runs some over her hand. Puts it on her face. Deep breath. Stares at her reflection in the water.

She gets up and turns back the way she came.

Walking along the creek toward her is a BLACK BEAR. It stops for a second to dip its paw in the water.

She cautiously moves toward the trees and it immediately whips its head around to stare straight at her.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
(to herself)  
No sudden movements. Stay still.  
Just stay still.

She slowly moves toward a tree, stops with her back against it, but the bear is moving with her. Closer and closer...

The bear stares right at her as it moves toward her.

She's paralyzed in fear, but looking up and down in an attempt to find a way out. There's a rock on the ground she can pick up. A branch she can attempt to climb. None of which seems like a good idea.

Five feet from her, the bear stops and sniffs.

She stares to the side, attempting not to make eye contact, but watching out of her peripheral vision.

The bear steps toward her--

BOOM!

Suddenly, a gun shot pounds the quiet air.

Zoey quickly darts around the tree as the bear takes off running down the creek.

The bear gone, she comes back around to see--

AARON STEVENS (50s), long hair, beard, torn clothing, standing with a shotgun some yards away. We've already seen him before, but only through Zoey's blurred vision. This clearer image doesn't do much to clean it up.

Aaron goes to walk away.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Wait.

She moves toward him, which makes him uneasy.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Thank you. I... I think I saw  
you... in the woods.

Aaron doesn't respond. His social awkwardness shinning through.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Is this about my son? Do you know something? Please, if you know anything--

AARON

They won't find him.

ZOEY

What?

AARON

The park won't find him.

ZOEY

Do you know something? Anything?

AARON

They won't--

ZOEY

Why are you saying that?

Aaron walks away again.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Hey! Wait.

Zoey quickly follows as Aaron continues walking.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Hey! What do you know?

AARON

You're not ready.

ZOEY

Not ready for what?

AARON

The truth.

ZOEY

What truth?

AARON

This place isn't what you think it is.

ZOEY

What are you saying?  
 (no response, furious)  
 Hey! This is my son.

Aaron stops and aggressively turns to Zoey.

AARON

People disappear in this park all  
 the time and are never found. Not  
 just your son. Ask them about that.  
 Ask them about Lisa Stevens.

Aaron walks away.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DAWN**

Parks services and volunteers move through, continuing the search.

**EXT. ZOEY'S CAMP SITE - DAY**

Zoey stands with her tablet in her hand, but she can't get great reception. Has to move around to get internet.

Article snippets on her screen: MAN'S 7 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER MISSING -- NEVER FOUND -- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES -- AARON STEVENS -- **STILL LIVES IN THE PARK**

She quickly opens another tab and into the search field types: CRATER LAKE DISAPPEARANCES

Article headline snippets: MANY MISSING -- NEVER FOUND -- NO DATABASE -- PARANORMAL

She hovers over the PARANORMAL article, but clicks into the MANY MISSING and begins reading.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE SEARCH BASE B - DAY**

A few parks services employees move about as they set the new base up near where Sam's camera was found.

Collins and Jason stand off to the side in hushed conversation.

JASON

I don't get it.

SHERIFF COLLINS

The photos aren't there.

JASON

Has anything else come through?

SHERIFF COLLINS

Nothing. No clothing, sightings, fingerprints... anything.

JASON

So, what now?

ZOEY (O.S.)

Who's Lisa Stevens?

Collins turns around as Zoey approaches.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

She went missing in this park, just like Sam. You never found her.

SHERIFF COLLINS

I see you met Aaron.

ZOEY

People go missing in this park and no one does a thing. You don't even keep track of them. How many people in this park have never been found?

This seems to be news to Jason.

A measured Collins quickly deflects.

SHERIFF COLLINS

We do what we're required to do by law, Ms. Hayes.

ZOEY

How many people have never been found?

Collins hands her a stack of PHOTOS.

SHERIFF COLLINS

The photos... from your son's camera.

Zoey flips through, but every single one is white, except the final image. An image of Zoey standing in the street after she slammed on her brakes after entering the park. And, even part of that is tinted white.

ZOEY

There's nothing here.

SHERIFF COLLINS

They came from your son's camera.  
And, the last one is you, which is  
actually the first one in the roll.

Zoey looks closer.

ZOEY

I slammed on the brakes when we  
first got to the park. I went out  
to see if there was something  
there. He must have taken the  
photo.

SHERIFF COLLINS

So, where are all the other photos  
you said he took?

ZOEY

I don't know. There's no reason for  
them not to print. He took so many.

Collins looks to Jason. Back to Zoey.

SHERIFF COLLINS

(motions)  
Come here.

Collins walks to a table that has a map on it. She draws an X  
on a road on the map.

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)

Based on the sign behind you, that  
photo was taken here.

Collins draws a straight line from that X to another X some  
miles away.

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)

This is where we found your son's  
camera. It's a straight shot  
through the woods.

Zoey takes a second to process, but she's at a loss.

ZOEY

I don't--

Collins gets agitated.

SHERIFF COLLINS

Ms. Hayes. I spoke with everyone in  
the camp and no one saw your son.  
No one.

(MORE)

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)

In fact, I haven't spoken with a single person who's actually seen your son in this park.

ZOEY

You think I'm making this up?

SHERIFF COLLINS

The dogs we brought out the first day never got past the creek. They should have taken your son's scent and followed it wherever he went. Instead, they immediately stopped. Do you know what that means?

ZOEY

That you stopped too?

SHERIFF COLLINS

My job is to follow the evidence, Ms. Hayes. That's why I'm asking you these questions. And, I need to know, are we looking for your boy, or are we looking for a body?

Zoey stares back in disdain.

**EXT. ZOEY'S CAMP SITE - DAY**

Zoey paces back and forth, a ball of emotion. Grabs her coffee mug, chugs, then tosses it into the fire pit.

ZOEY (V.O.)

What if he was kidnapped by a camper and taken somewhere?

SHERIFF COLLINS (V.O.)

We have no evidence of that.

ZOEY (V.O.)

You have no evidence of anything.

SHERIFF COLLINS (V.O.)

So, tell us the truth.

ZOEY (V.O.)

I'm telling you the truth.

**INT. ZOEY'S JEEP - DAY**

Zoey races through the park.

SHERIFF COLLINS (V.O.)  
Then why does the evidence keep  
telling us you're not?

**EXT. CRATER LAKE PARK - DAY**

Zoey pulls the Jeep off the road on the opposite side as her skid marks. Jumps out. Looks around the forest and the road.

She looks at the skid marks and back to the sign Collins referenced.

Goes around to the other side of the Jeep and takes a pocket knife out of her glove box.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey pushes through, looking around and checking where she's stepping.

ZOEY  
Sam? Sam? Sam?

LATER

Zoey continues through.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Sam? Are you out here? Sam?

She slowly does a 360 sweep of the forest, but nothing.

Tired, she puts her hand on a tree to rest against it.

**INT. CAVE - UNKNOWN (FLASH)**

Zoey walks through a dark cave using her cell phone light as a guide.

ZOEY  
Sam? Sam? Where are you?

BACK TO SCENE

Zoey stumbles back as she removes her hand from the tree.

Attempts to get her bearings. Looks around and realizes she's right where she was. Shakes her head, attempting to clear the cobwebs.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DUSK**

The search party continues walking through and periodically yelling "SAM" and blowing whistles.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE BASE CAMP 2 - DUSK**

Jason and Collins speak off to the side.

SHERIFF COLLINS

No one is finding a thing.

JASON

I spoke with a few people. They never saw the boy either.

SHERIFF COLLINS

Made a few calls. Awaiting details of her husband's death.

(beat)

I don't know what's going on here, but we need to figure it out.

JASON

When she asked earlier about Lisa Stevens... who is that?

SHERIFF COLLINS

The guy in the woods we told you to steer clear of? That was his daughter.

JASON

What happened?

SHERIFF COLLINS

She went missing. Never found her. He hasn't left the park since.

(beat)

And, he's dangerous, so stay away.

**INT. COLLINS' HOUSE - DUSK**

Collins walks in the front door and closes with a sigh. A single-story, middle class home with sharp lines and cool colors. Photos of her and her daughter in a few areas.

**KITCHEN**

Collins walks in and puts on a pot of coffee. Stares at her fridge, which has kid drawings magnetized to the outside. A slight grin befalls her face.

HALLWAY

Collins moves through and stops at a door. Quietly opens and looks in.

BEDROOM

Collins' eight year old daughter ABBY sleeps in bed. She has the air of a hellion who resembles an angel only in sleep.

HALLWAY

SANDY (20s), the babysitter, enters from another room.

SANDY

She went down about an hour ago.

SHERIFF COLLINS

Didn't give you any problems again, did she?

SANDY

No, she just doesn't feel well.

SHERIFF COLLINS

Thank you again, Sandy.

SANDY

Sure thing, Ms. Collins. Do you need me to stay the night?

SHERIFF COLLINS

No. We're good. And, her dad is picking her up in the morning.

SANDY

Sounds good.

(beat)

Any closer to finding that boy?

SHERIFF COLLINS

I don't know.

SANDY

I can't imagine being lost out there. Must be scary.

Collins nods, still unconvinced of the story.

**INT. COLLINS' HOUSE - BEDROOM - LATER**

Collins lies in bed reading an email on her phone. She opens an attachment titled: PETER HAYES DEATH

Document snippets: HOME INCIDENT -- CUTTING TREE -- WIFE HOME  
-- THREE YEARS AGO -- RULED ACCIDENTAL

**INT. CRATER LAKE RANGER STATION - DUSK**

Jason stares at his computer monitor. A series of the images he took at Zoey's campsite on the screen.

He goes from one to the other. Zooms in and out.

TREES -- JEEP -- FIRE PIT -- SURROUNDING AREA -- OUTSIDE OF  
TENT -- INSIDE OF TENT -- CLOTHING -- ITINERARY

Stops on an image in the tent and zooms in on a cannister of 35mm film.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DUSK**

Zoey pushes tree limbs away from her face as she's entered a dense section of the forest.

ZOEY

Sam? Sam?

She stops next to a tree and downs a full bottle of water.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey treks through, weaving around the trees.

As she moves through she spots a tiny log cabin off in the distance. Single story, weather-worn and somewhat dilapidated.

She hesitates, then approaches...

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey steps to the cabin and cautiously looks around. The dilapidated surroundings hint that it could be abandoned.

She walks around, keeping her distance and trying to make up her mind. Windows still intact, chimney slightly broken off at the top and no other doors except the front.

This looks like a place a serial killer would hide in the woods and she is fully aware.

With no movement inside or out, she decides to approach the front door. Lightly knocks with one hand, grips her pocket knife with the other.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
 (softly)  
 Hello? Hello?

With no answer, she reaches for the door knob and slowly opens. Stays outside while...

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
 Is anyone here? Hello?

With no response, she opens the creaky door and enters.

**INT. LOG CABIN - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey leaves the door behind her slightly open. Looks around.

It's barren, but with signs of life. Small kitchenette with a couple old dishes and silverware, wooden table in the center with a plate, wooden couch against the wall with blankets, wood heater stove with firewood next to it.

She moves to the wooden table and lying next to the plate is a DOLLAR COIN. Much like the one we saw with her patient, Kevin. The place is so quiet it's making her nervous.

She turns back to the front door in contemplation of whether to leave right then. Turns back to the one door in the place that is currently closed. Slowly steps toward it.

ZOEY  
 Hello?

She gets to it and lightly knocks.

Something small clatters against the floor, as-if knocked over. She startles, backs up. Grips her knife.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
 Hello? Sorry to intrude. I just...  
 I'm just looking for someone. And,  
 thought you could help?

She puts her hand on the door knob and hesitates for a second. Slowly turns and opens. The door loudly creaks open.

**BEDROOM**

The bareness continues. A single clouded window currently shut, dilapidated bed along the side wall, cracked dresser in the corner. All remnants of a time once lived.

Clearly someone lives here as the signs of life continue: blankets, shoes, jackets and clothing sporadically strewn.

Zoey approaches the dresser. Opens the first drawer and inside are a few flannel shirts. She moves them around, but there's nothing else.

Moves to the second drawer and opens. Socks and underwear. Doesn't touch.

She opts not to go any further and turns back to the bed.

The second she does, someone passes by the window outside.

She approaches the bed and sifts through the blankets.

With nothing there, she turns to the floor and what looks to have been the small clatter, an overturned picture frame.

She picks it up and stares at a close-up image of LISA STEVENS & her father AARON.

Suddenly, shock envelopes her face.

**INT. ZOEY'S JEEP - DUSK (FLASHBACK)**

Zoey looks from her rearview mirror to the road and sees LISA STEVENS running across it.

Slams on the brakes.

BACK TO SCENE

Zoey drops the frame on the floor and it cracks. She staggers back and almost trips while running out of the room.

MAIN LIVING AREA

She darts through and out the front door.

**EXT. LOG CABIN - SAME**

Zoey runs out and the door swings shut.

She immediately freezes staring straight ahead, a shotgun pointed right at her from ten feet away.

AARON

What are you doing here?

She's frazzled though and can't speak.

AARON (CONT'D)

What- are- you- doing here?

ZOEY

I... I... saw your daughter.

Aaron slowly lowers the shotgun as his face falls.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

(emotional)

I don't know what's happening. But,  
I saw her. I swear.

(beat)

I'm just trying to find my son.

**INT. LOG CABIN - NIGHT**

Zoey sits on the couch. The wood stove is now on and crackling.

The tea kettle lets loose on the stove and Aaron comes from the bedroom to pick it up. He pours some hot water into a cup with a tea bag and approaches. Hands it to Zoey.

ZOEY

Thank you.

Aaron sits in a chair at the table. His social awkwardness still there.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I didn't--

AARON

Stop saying that, for fuck's sake.  
Used to say it too. "Sorry" won't  
help find your son.

Zoey gets up and approaches.

ZOEY

Why did you say they wouldn't find  
him? The last time I saw you--

AARON

Cause they won't. Made that mistake  
too. Thought I could rely on  
them...

ZOEY

But?

Aaron hesitates.

AARON

Lisa was a good kid. Stubborn, like her mother. Loved to say "okay dad", then do whatever she wanted.

ZOEY

Sounds like a kid.

AARON

I told her to stay away from the water, but she just wouldn't.

ZOEY

She disappeared near water?

AARON

Most do.

ZOEY

What do you mean?

AARON

Did you listen to a thing I said?

ZOEY

People have gone missing. I get it.

Aaron looks at her, understanding she clearly didn't go deep enough.

AARON

They looked for Lisa for about two weeks and that was that.

ZOEY

They just stopped?

AARON

They aren't your friend.

ZOEY

What did they say?

AARON

That's all the resources they had. And, the FBI was busy doing something else.

ZOEY

So you stayed? For all this time?

AARON

She's my daughter.

Zoey nods in complete understanding.

LATER

Zoey and Aaron sit next to the heater stove.

ZOEY  
I know it sounds crazy.

AARON  
It doesn't. I see her all the time.

ZOEY  
Really?

AARON  
I think I see her. I think I hear her. I think she's there. Then she's not.

ZOEY  
It was clear as day though. I swear.

AARON  
Usually is.

ZOEY  
But, I've never met your daughter. I didn't even know what she looked like until I saw that picture. Why on Earth would I see her and how could I if she's missing?

AARON  
Have you heard the voices?

Zoey stares back, not wanting to say yes.

AARON (CONT'D)  
Something isn't right in this park. I don't think anyone took Lisa. But, there's something out there that has her.

ZOEY  
Like what?

AARON  
Something we can't see. But, it's there.

Zoey gives an extended look to Aaron.

ZOEY

I get paid to help people who think things are there they can't see. Rarely do I join them.

AARON

Like I said, you aren't ready.

Zoey smiles back in complete dismissal of Aaron's comments.

ZOEY

So, what now? What did you do when you got to this point?

AARON

You don't want to do what I did.

ZOEY

Why is that?

AARON

I'm still here.

**INT. ZOEY'S JEEP - NIGHT**

Zoey heads south on the lake road.

**INT. ZOEY'S JEEP - NIGHT**

Zoey drives into the campground and parks at their spot. Takes a deep breath.

Looks at photos of Sam & Peter on her phone for some time. Tosses the phone onto the passenger seat, frustrated.

She reaches under her seat, pulls out a beer and drinks.

Dark circles under her eyes, as she stares off.

**EXT. ZOEY'S CAMP SITE - PRE-DAWN**

Zoey walks through the campsite, staring at everything that surrounds her. As if anything could offer a clue.

**INT. ZOEY'S TENT - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey unzips and gets inside. She sits and stares at the emptiness on Sam's side. Takes the itinerary Sam typed up and looks it over. Touches it like it's his skin.

Gets the tourist map out and draws the same lines Collins drew. There's a triangular shape that exists where major points have been. She draws an X in the middle.

She takes out a larger, more granular map and draws the same lines. This is where she's going to focus. She studies the map up and down.

Sits for a second in contemplation. What does she do next? Goes back to the map and thinks.

Quickly gets her things together and packs her bag.

Takes Sam's stuff and puts it piece-by-piece into his bag, including the cannister of 35mm film.

**EXT. ZOEY'S CAMP SITE - DAWN**

Zoey takes the tent apart.

LATER

Zoey packs everything from the camp site and moves it to her Jeep. She pauses with the marshmallow bag and opens it. Removes a marshmallow, finds a stick on the ground. Puts the marshmallow on the stick and puts the stick in the ground near the fire pit.

**INT. ZOEY'S JEEP - LATER**

Zoey sits inside the Jeep as it runs, staring out across the now empty camp site. Maps on the passenger seat.

Puts the car in reverse and drives out.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE ROAD - DAWN**

Zoey's Jeep moves north through the park.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE SEARCH CAMP B - DAWN**

Zoey pulls up to the parking lot, but it's empty.

She jumps out of the Jeep and surprisingly looks around at the lack of people there. In fact, the search party is nowhere to be found.

Checks her phone, but there's no signal.

Confused, she gets back in and drives away.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE RANGER STATION - DAWN**

Zoey races down the hill, the lake on the other side of the station. She pulls into a spot and immediately jumps out. Heads straight for the front door.

**INT. CRATER LAKE RANGER STATION - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey bursts through the entrance.

ZOEY

Where's the search party?

Jason gets up from his desk and approaches.

JASON

Ms. Hayes--

ZOEY

I went to the area and there's no one there. I thought you'd have people there at first light?

JASON

Well, we had to--

ZOEY

What?

JASON

We have two guys out in the field.

ZOEY

What does that mean?

SHERIFF COLLINS (O.S.)

Ms. Hayes?

Zoey turns and entering from a hallway is Collins.

ZOEY

The search party. Where is it?

SHERIFF COLLINS

Why don't you come into my office?

ZOEY

Why don't you stop talking to me like I'm five.

Collins pauses, measured. The strained relationship continues.

SHERIFF COLLINS

I'm sorry, but we've found nothing. Outside of your son's camera, no one has found a thing. A footprint, a scent, clothing, glasses, the pocket watch... anything.

ZOEY

So, you've stopped looking for Sam?

SHERIFF COLLINS

No. We have two guys out in the field still canvassing.

ZOEY

Two guys? Two guys in a state park?

SHERIFF COLLINS

Right now that's all we have.

ZOEY

That's all you have now? All of a sudden?

SHERIFF COLLINS

I'm sorry.

ZOEY

You don't believe me? Is that why you're doing this? You think I'm making this up... you think I'm...

Zoey stops, immediately thinking of Kevin.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

(to herself)

You don't believe me.

JASON

Ms. Hayes, do you have the other roll of 35mm film?

ZOEY

What?

SHERIFF COLLINS

Simple question. There's a photo of another roll of film. Do you have it?

ZOEY

Of course I do. Sam switched it out before we left.

SHERIFF COLLINS

He switched it out before you left,  
but you brought it anyway?

ZOEY

We were going to have them printed  
on the way back from the lake. And,  
what does this have to do with  
finding my son?

SHERIFF COLLINS

We're trying to--

ZOEY

What? My son went missing in your  
park and you aren't doing anything  
about it.

SHERIFF COLLINS

We were trying to get a hold of  
you. We couldn't find you anywhere.  
Where were you?

Zoey throws a death glare at Collins, who slightly retreats,  
realizing this isn't a winning strategy.

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)

We still have our eyes open and  
we'll let you know if our people in  
the field find anything.

ZOEY

Your people in the field? You told  
me this would take hours and it's  
been days. Now you're abandoning my  
son.

Angered, Zoey turns to leave the building.

SHERIFF COLLINS

Ms. Hayes, it's the end of the  
season. Volunteers and employees  
are leaving. I can't force them to  
stay. Our resources are limited.

ZOEY

So call someone else.

Zoey stops at the door to hear her response.

SHERIFF COLLINS

I wish it was that easy. There's  
only a week before the snow comes.  
At that point...

Zoey stares at the door. She'd forgotten about the snow.  
Storms out.

**INT. ZOHEY'S JEEP - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey sifts through Sam's bag and pulls out his itinerary. Stops and thinks for a second. The next spot on their list is a place called PHANTOM SHIP OVERLOOK. She checks it against the map she's already drawn on and sees it's within the triangle.

She starts the Jeep and flies out of the parking lot.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE ROAD - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey's Jeep races through.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE TRAIL - LATER**

Zoey walks, passing a sign that says:

PHANTOM SHIP VIEWPOINT 1/4 MILE

LATER

Zoey makes it to the lookout and stares out at the small jagged rock structure that looks like a ship in the water.

She looks around, but no one is there. Left. Right. Seemingly no idea where to go.

Out to the lake and all of the different areas that could be searched. It's overwhelmingly large.

ZOHEY  
(to herself)  
Come on, Sam. Where are you? Where  
would you go?

She looks around and something hits her.

SAM (V.O.)  
Call me again when you're ready.  
I'll be with the birds.

ZOHEY  
The birds. The birds.

She grabs her cell phone, but it doesn't have service.

Takes Sam's papers and looks at what he typed out.

Comes across Sam's mention of the SPOTTED OWL, but no mention of a location except for LOW ELEVATION.

**EXT. ZOEY'S JEEP - LATER**

Zoey grabs her backpack out of the Jeep. Puts a few bottles of water, food and a sweater in it before zipping up.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey changes into hiking boots. Laces them tight. Puts on a hat and heads toward the forest.

**INT. CRATER LAKE RANGER STATION - DAY**

Jason stands next to his desk while speaking with Collins.

JASON

Do you want me to follow her?

SHERIFF COLLINS

No. Tony and Abiid have promised they'll let me know if they find anything.

JASON

So, what do we do now? You still think she's lying?

SHERIFF COLLINS

I don't know. Every time we see her she's angry, but not sad. Have you seen her cry once?

JASON

I don't know.  
(beat)  
You think that's fair?

SHERIFF COLLINS

What do you mean?

Jason takes a reflective beat.

JASON

Did you ask Lisa's dad that?

Collins considers, shrugs it off. Hands Jason a file.

SHERIFF COLLINS  
Read for yourself.

JASON  
What's this?

SHERIFF COLLINS  
The disappearance of Lisa Stevens.

**INT. CRATER LAKE RANGER STATION - MOMENTS LATER**

Jason sits at his cubicle reviewing the file.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DAY**

Zoey treks through. No one around in this part of the park. Animals and birds are the only companions. She glances up in the trees, searching.

ZOEY  
(to herself)  
Come on, Sam. Where are you?

LATER

Zoey continues searching. Bird calls echo throughout the forest. She looks up and around to see if she can see a bird. But, only in the sky above.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DUSK**

Zoey continues through, now slower than before.

She stops to catch her breath. Bends down and touches an odd shaped rock next to a tree.

**INT. CAVE - UNKNOWN (FLASH)**

Zoey moves through.

ZOEY  
Sam? Sam?

SAM (O.S.)  
Mom?

Zoey, surprised to hear his voice, races forward.

ZOEY  
Sam?

SAM (O.S.)

Mom?

Zoey races around a corner and stumbling toward her is Sam. She picks him up in her arms and holds him tight.

ZOEY

Oh my god, Sam. Where have you been? Where have you been? I was looking everywhere.

SAM

I know.

BACK TO SCENE

Zoey stumbles back from the rock and falls backwards. Dazed and confused, she stares up at the sky through the trees while on her back. A tear falls from her eye.

ZOEY

Sam.

**INT. CRATER LAKE RANGER STATION - DUSK**

Jason continues to sit at his desk reviewing the file on Lisa's disappearance.

We catch periodic portions: DISAPPEARED NEAR WATER -- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES -- FATHER ACTING ODD -- SHOES FOUND MILES AWAY -- NO SUSPECTS IDENTIFIED -- NEVER FOUND

Something isn't making sense to him.

He gets up, quickly looks around. The two remaining RANGERS in the station walk out the front door leaving him alone.

He beelines for Collins' office.

COLLINS OFFICE

Jason enters and goes straight for the filing cabinets. Opens and sifts through the files. Not getting anywhere, he turns to her computer.

He opens it up, goes to search the files on the computer and types: MISSING. When the number of files appear on the screen, it surprises him. He opens the first and reads.

Moves to others and reads. One after the other. He stops, floored. Leaves the office.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DUSK**

Zoey powers through an area that is highly remote.

She stops as she spots a section up ahead that looks odd. Something is hanging from the trees, but she can't quite see what it is from this distance.

Out of nowhere a MAN crosses through the area.

She quickly hides behind a tree.

Peeks around and watches him as he removes what seems to be sticks dangling from the trees.

She cautiously approaches, attempting to stay hidden.

As she gets closer the man comes more into view. It's Phillip Tack, who she saw earlier at the camp site immediately after Sam went missing.

He takes the sticks, some of which are strewn together in the shape of a cross, while others are haphazard. Puts them into a box, which he pushes under a series of rocks. Drags brush and debris over them.

Just as he finishes, he hears the crunching of a leaf behind him. Immediately turns, but sees only trees.

Zoey hides behind a tree, now just twenty yards from him.

He moves away and she follows.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey continues to follow from behind as they move through the dense forest. She watches as he moves toward a motorhome parked a solid distance ahead and largely in the middle of nowhere.

MOMENTS LATER

Phillip walks up to his site. The motorhome has clearly been there for some time and is quite weather-worn. It's shielded by trees on a couple sides. Multiple camping chairs sit outside. A small pit for a fire. But, nothing that signals more than one person lives there.

Zoey approaches from a distance, carefully watching.

Phillip enters the motorhome and she gets closer.

Watches from a short distance as he moves through it. Everything goes quiet for a second and she waits.

He suddenly walks out and away from the site.

Crouched down next to a tree, she watches until he's completely gone.

Looks around, contemplating whether or not to move.

Decides to and quickly heads toward the motorhome.

Stops next to the door, crouched down. Looks around.

With no one and no sounds, she cautiously enters.

**INT. PHILLIP'S MOTORHOME - SAME**

Zoey enters and shuts the door. Cautiously looks around, ensuring she's the only one there.

The place is a mess. A similar version of the sticks hung from trees hang near the driver's seat. Bags of groceries on the floor. Clothes strewn. Filthy windows.

She opens a few drawers and it's nothing but knickknacks, tools or silverware. A few pots and pans here and there.

Makes her way to the back.

Opens the bathroom door and peeks inside. Nothing special.

Along the way to the bedroom in the back, peeks in cubby holes.

**BEDROOM**

The strewn clothes continue around the messy bed.

Zoey moves to the very back and opens the closet. The mess never ends. Tool box, hanging sticks, rope and boots.

Sifts through clothing and newspaper on the floor.

With nothing, she turns back and notices something protruding from a single door cubby space.

She walks over and opens the small door.

Pulls out what was protruding. Stares silently at it in complete disbelief. Holds it up.

**SAM'S SPIDERMAN SWEATER**

The air momentarily taken from her sails, she can do nothing but gaze. Sadness in her face as though she believes this could confirm the worst. She grips the sweater tight.

Stands for a moment in despair. Looks around the room, wondering if this is where Sam's last breath was taken. Wondering if he's still there.

ZOEY

Sam? Sam? Sam? Are you here?

Her face shifts from sadness to anger.

Feels her back pocket and the knife is still there.

She turns back and starts to open anything that can be opened. Flips up the mattress to look underneath. Pulls open drawers.

Suddenly, she stops.

Footsteps crunch the leaves outside as someone makes their way toward the motorhome. She glances out the window and sees Phillip approaching with firewood.

Without time to get out she must hide. Decides to do so against the wall of the bedroom next to the hallway.

Phillip walks in and shuts the door.

PHILLIP

Lisa, Lisa, Lisa.

That piques Zoey's curiosity.

He opens a drawer and takes out a hammer. Sets it on the counter.

Moves into the hallway and in the direction of Zoey.

Stops off at the bathroom and washes his hands.

Moves out and toward the bedroom. Just before he enters and would be right next to Zoey he stops. Talks to himself, turns around and moves back toward the front.

He goes to the passenger seat and picks up a bag. Opens it and it's filled with duck tape, rope, sticks, etc...

A KNOCK on his door causes Zoey to tense up.

He opens it.

PHILLIP (CONT'D)  
Where've you been?

Zoey intently listens.

AARON (O.S.)  
Around.

Her mouth drops to the floor. The implications clear.

PHILLIP  
You ready?

AARON  
How many do we have?

PHILLIP  
Eight. And counting.

The two men walk out leaving Zoey there, stunned.

She turns and watches Phillip and Aaron move into the woods in the direction she followed Phillip from.

Waits for them to be completely out of sight then leaves, Sam's sweater in-hand.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey follows the two men from a good distance back.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey stops next to a tree and crouches down.

The men stop in the same place she saw Phillip originally.

They grab the supplies, but she can't see when suddenly they disappear and their lights fade away.

She quickly makes her way toward where they were.

When she gets there, there's a small cave and she can hear echoes of their voices. In addition to a light that looks like it's coming from a fire. Decides not to enter.

MOMENTS LATER

As she sits outside she hears chants coming from the cave. Has no idea what is happening, but it concerns her.

**EXT. PHILLIP'S CAMP SITE - NIGHT**

Phillip makes his way back toward the motorhome. No one else is with him. He lights a cigarette and stands there to smoke for a moment. Walks from one end of the motorhome to another. Puts the cigarette out and enters.

**INT. PHILLIP'S MOTORHOME - MOMENTS LATER**

Phillip walks in, humming and takes his shoes off.

Moves back over to the front of the motorhome and the stick formations dangling.

Phillip suddenly stops. Zoey's knife pushed against his back.

ZOEY

Don't fuckin move.

She digs the knife into Phillip's back. Moves him toward the sitting area.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Where's Sam? Where is my son?

PHILLIP

I don't--

Phillip quickly swings around and attempts to grab Zoey's hand. She blocks and knees him in the stomach. Right hook to the face and Phillip is dazed.

Quickly comes back and rushes at her. Slams her into the back passenger seat. Everything around them falls. Including the knife out of her hand.

She gets him in a headlock and pushes back, but he's sticking with her.

He swings her around and throws her into the window. It shatters. She quickly recovers.

PHILLIP (CONT'D)

Wait!

She kicks him in the groin and adds a right hook to the face. All too quick for him to react.

With his back now to her, she wraps Sam's sweater around his neck and squeezes. From behind pushes him up against the fridge.

He pushes back, but she just flips him around and pins him against the messy seating area. Tightens the sweater.

ZOEY  
Where is my son?  
(beat)  
Tell me.  
(beat)  
Is he here?

Phillip shakes his head.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Where?

He fights, but she leverages the counter behind her, stands on it and drives all of her weight into him.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Where is he?

Phillip falls unconscious.

The second he does, she falls to the floor, exhausted.

Jumps up and goes to the closet. Grabs the rope she saw earlier and ties his hands and feet behind him. Uses her knife to sever rope pieces.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - NIGHT**

Zoey moves through, Phillip flung over her shoulder.

LATER

Zoey continues, slightly struggling with Phillip's weight.

LATER

Zoey dumps Phillip on the ground. Kicks him in the ribs.

ZOEY  
Wake up.

Kicks him again.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Wake up.

Phillip slowly comes to, quickly looks around as he pulls on his tied hands and feet.

PHILLIP

What are you--

Zoey gets down close to Phillip's face. Takes out her pocket knife and puts it at his throat.

ZOEY

I'm not carrying you anymore. So, get up and walk yourself. Try anything, I won't hesitate.

PHILLIP

Why are you--

ZOEY

Shut up.

PHILLIP

Listen--

Zoey puts the knife back at his neck.

ZOEY

If you ever want to talk again, I advise against it.

Zoey unties Phillip's feet. Takes the rope and weaves it through Phillip's back belt loops.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Walk.

PHILLIP

Wher--

ZOEY

Walk.

Zoey pushes Phillip to move.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - PRE-DAWN**

Zoey guides Phillip through as they approach Aaron's cabin in the distance.

**EXT. AARON'S CABIN - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey walks up the steps, opens the door and shoves Phillip inside.

**INT. AARON'S CABIN - SAME**

Zoey pushes Phillip forward.

Turns and slams the door shut.

ZOEY

Aaron! Get out here.

(beat)

Aaron!

The bedroom door eventually opens and Aaron comes out, half-asleep.

AARON

What--

Aaron catches sight of Phillip.

ZOEY

What were you doing with this guy?

AARON

Zoey, what are you--

ZOEY

Don't try to lie. I saw you. You came to the motorhome. Then you went to some cave. What were you doing?

Aaron throws a sideways glance to Phillip.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Don't look at him.

AARON

Zoey.

ZOEY

No. Tell me. Right now.

AARON

I wanted to. But, you weren't ready. I told you that.

ZOEY

Ready for what? Finding my son's sweater with this guy?

Zoey holds up the Spiderman sweater.

Aaron looks to Phillip, surprised.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

In the motorhome.

PHILLIP

What are you talking about? I found that near a stream.

ZOEY

Sure you did.

(to Aaron)

Walking around saying Lisa's name too. So, what were you doing? Tell me.

PHILLIP

I was out by the stream the other day. It floated by and I grabbed it. I swear.

AARON

(to Zoey)

Sit down. And, please cut him loose.

ZOEY

Aaron.

AARON

I've helped you out a few times. At least sit down and listen.

ZOEY

If you--

AARON

You don't have to sit, if you don't want. Just listen.

Zoey stares back, still unconvinced.

**INT. AARON'S CABIN - MOMENTS LATER**

Phillip, now untied, stands against the wall behind where Aaron is sitting.

Zoey stands on the other side of the table, pacing.

Aaron stares to the side, takes a deep breath.

AARON

I told you the people in this park wouldn't find Sam.

ZOEY  
Cut the bullshit.

AARON  
I told you it was something else.

ZOEY  
Fine. What is it?

AARON  
Many people have disappeared. For decades. They make no sense, to anyone. Like those being taken simply vanish into thin air. Just like Sam.

ZOEY  
So.

AARON  
So, makes less sense when they start finding stuff. They found Lisa's shoes and jacket. Why would she have taken them off at night when it was cold?

ZOEY  
Hypothermia causes the body to feel warm when it's really freezing.

AARON  
But, where are the people? If it was a person doing the kidnapping, wouldn't they have been found by now? Why would her stuff be found in the park at all? How could one person or a group of people do all this... and never get caught? Why would they take people just to let them freeze?

ZOEY  
Sometimes there are no true reasons for the way people act.

AARON  
I met Phillip a while back and he's been in the park for some time doing research. Initially, when he brought it up, I thought he was crazy. But, the longer I stayed and the more I saw... other explanations had to be considered.

ZOEY

Such as?

Aaron takes a pregnant beat before...

AARON

I told you, I don't think someone  
took Lisa.

Zoey stares at Aaron in contemplation.

AARON (CONT'D)

Have you seen the eyes?

That stops Zoey dead in her tracks. She turns to Aaron.

AARON (CONT'D)

Lisa saw them before she  
disappeared.

Zoey's eyes, deadlocked on Aaron says she knows exactly what  
he's talking about.

ZOEY

Where the hell is my son?

AARON

In a parallel world.

Zoey stares back in disbelief.

ZOEY

What? Are you insane?

PHILLIP

Listen--

ZOEY

(to Phillip)

Shut the fuck up.

(to Aaron)

And, you? Go sell your snake oil to  
someone else. I'm done with this  
bullshit.

AARON

You said it yourself. How did you  
see my daughter if she's missing?

That stumps Zoey for a second.

ZOEY

Clearly, I was seeing things.

AARON  
I was following you.

Zoey pauses for a second, unsure what to make of that.

ZOEY  
What?

AARON  
When Phillip told me your son went missing, I thought maybe anything could lead to finding Lisa. So, I followed you. You heard Sam's voice. I watched you follow it. I don't know what reality he's in--

ZOEY  
The only reality is the one we're sitting in right now.

AARON  
The visions, the voices. What if they were real? What if they were happening? Just in a different time, in a different world?

ZOEY  
What if they were our imagination?

AARON  
What if they weren't?

Zoey storms out.

AARON (CONT'D)  
Zoey!

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey runs through the night. No direction and no particular place to go. The weight of everything overwhelming.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey continues through.

ZOEY  
No... no... no...

MOMENTS LATER

She continues through the trees. Her breath getting heavier and heavier with each passing step.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
(to herself)  
Sam. Sam. Sam. Sam. Sam.

MOMENTS LATER

She's moving faster and with more abandonment. Tears start to rush down her face.

Suddenly she stops. Closes her eyes.

Falls to her knees.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
(screams)  
Saaaaaaaaaaaaaam!!!

She continues to scream, even though we don't hear it. The frustration of her journey and the emotional loss pours itself out.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey crawls along the ground, makes it to a tree and sits against it. The tears on her face dry and the anguish still present.

**INT. CRATER LAKE RANGER STATION - DAWN**

Jason sits at his desk before anyone is there. Stares at two stacks of papers. One from Lisa's disappearance and another from Sam's. Cross references one with the other.

They're similar, but not entirely identical.

He flips a couple pages of Sam's and comes across a page:

WITNESS STATEMENTS

Scrolls...

Reads something we don't see that catches him by surprise. He flips to the next page and continues reading.

A befuddled look falls across his face.

**INT. PARKS SERVICES VEHICLE - DAWN**

Jason drives through the park.

Around a corner Zoey passes at a high rate of speed.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE PARK - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey drives through, exiting the park.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE PARK - DAY (SERIES)**

1. Jason speaks with a WOMAN (40s) next to her truck
2. Zoey drives along the Oregon highway
3. Jason speaks with a MAN (50s) next to the lake
4. Zoey passes a sign: WELCOME TO MEDFORD

**INT. PARKS SERVICES VEHICLE - DAY**

Jason sits, staring out the window in contemplation. Glances at the paper on his dash.

Written at the top:

PEOPLE WHO SAW SAM -- followed by a list of 5 NAMES.

SHERIFF COLLINS (V.O.)  
(through radio)  
Jason, we need you at Watchman.

JASON  
(into radio)  
What is it?

SHERIFF COLLINS (V.O.)  
(through radio)  
A guest found something. They aren't sure what it is. Can you check it out? Let me know if I need to be there.

JASON  
(into radio)  
Sure.

Jason sighs, staring at his list. Something isn't right here.

**EXT. MEDFORD POLICE STATION - DAY**

Zoey's Jeep is parked out front of this modern complex.

**INT. MEDFORD POLICE STATION - DAY**

Zoey sits in front of the desk of OFFICER TAMS (30s).

ZOEY

He went missing in the park. I was told I could file a missing person's report.

OFFICER TAMS

What about the park?

ZOEY

I can't rely on them. That's why I'm here.

OFFICER TAMS

We could, but we don't have jurisdiction there, so filing a report where there are no officers who can look into it won't do you any good.

ZOEY

You can't send officers there? At all? Just to help look?

OFFICER TAMS

Not that I'm aware, but... you know what, give me a second.

Tams gets up and walks into another room as Zoey nervously taps her foot.

**INT. MEDFORD POLICE STATION - OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey sits across from SHERIFF LANKFORD (50s), veteran law enforcement with a genuine demeanor.

ZOEY

I'm getting no help from the park and my son is still missing.

SHERIFF LANKFORD

We received notification of your son's disappearance.

ZOEY

He was there. Then he wasn't. It happened so fast.

SHERIFF LANKFORD

Usually does. And, you're saying the park was no help? Even Sheriff Collins?

ZOEY

At first, yes. But, that quickly changed. The search team is gone. They said they left a couple people in the field, but that's it.

SHERIFF LANKFORD

Yeah. That's what happens at the end of the season.

ZOEY

I know. The snow. But, that's why I need help. As soon as possible. The snow will bury... everything.

Lankford sits back and stares at Zoey for a second.

SHERIFF LANKFORD

I'd love to help you, Ms. Hayes. I really would. But...

ZOEY

But, what?

SHERIFF LANKFORD

We don't really know the exact nature of your son's disappearance, now do we?

ZOEY

I'm sorry?

SHERIFF LANKFORD

If I understand correctly, there's no definitive classification of your son's case as a missing persons or a homicide. And, technically you haven't been ruled out as a suspect. So, that's something to consider when taking any case beyond the boundaries of where it occurred.

Zoey stares back in astonishment.

SHERIFF LANKFORD (CONT'D)

I do wish you the very best though and thank you for stopping by.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE PARK - WATCHMAN TRAIL - DAY**

Jason moves through.

Makes it to caution tape that surrounds a series of trees.

Glances at the ground and stares at a series of DECAYED CHILDREN'S BONES & JEWELRY.

**INT. ZOEY'S JEEP - DAY**

Zoey sits behind the wheel in the Medford PD parking lot, staring into space.

Gets a text message:

FROM: JASON

MESSAGE: CALL ME ASAP

Zoey doesn't respond though and starts the Jeep.

**EXT. MEDFORD NEWSPAPER - DAY**

Zoey's Jeep pulls into the parking lot.

**INT. MEDFORD NEWSPAPER - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey walks behind WALTER (30s), unkept journalist.

ZOEY

He went missing in the park more than a week ago. I'm just trying to get the word out in case...

WALTER

In case what?

ZOEY

In case anyone has any information.

WALTER

The park isn't doing all that?

ZOEY

As I said, the park helped at first, but... I don't know what else to do. Please. I'm not asking for a lot. My son is missing.

WALTER

You understand what happens if we run a story though, right?

ZOEY

Yeah. Maybe someone helps me find my son.

WALTER

Maybe. But, we also have to dig. Which means we have to look at everyone who could have been involved. Everyone.

ZOEY

So. Do that.

WALTER

That includes you, Ms. Hayes. We'd have to look into your history. Things that have happened in your past... and present. We'd have to dig.

ZOEY

I'm sorry, are you--

WALTER

You have to understand, this is a close-knit area, so news travels fast. If we look into the disappearance of your son, everything about your life... would become public knowledge.

(beat)

And, we'd be obligated to print it. Obligated.

Zoey looks around the news office at the other people there going about their day.

Her phone rings and it's JASON.

She turns and answers.

ZOEY

What do you want?

JASON (V.O.)

Where are you?

ZOEY

What do you want?

JASON (V.O.)  
How quickly can you get to your  
camp site?

ZOEY  
I don't know. I'm in Medford.

JASON (V.O.)  
What are you doing out there?

ZOEY  
None of your business.

JASON (V.O.)  
Meet me at your camp site as soon  
as you can.

ZOEY  
What's going on?

JASON (V.O.)  
Get here. Now.

The call ends.

Zoey disappointedly glances at Walter, leaves.

Walter watches her exit. Takes out his cell and texts.

**INT. ZOEY'S JEEP - DAY**

Zoey sits at a stop light. Glances to her right and just past the light is a liquor store. She stares at it and goes into a trance.

The car behind her honks its horn and she jolts back to reality. Drives forward and pulls into the liquor store parking lot.

She sits there for a second in contemplation.

Gets out.

**INT. LIQUOR STORE - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey walks in and makes her way to the booze.

Stares at it in the fridge for some time. A battle inside of her taking place.

Puts her hand on a door to open. Keeps it there for a second.

**EXT. LIQUOR STORE - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey walks out with a full paper bag.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE ROAD - DUSK**

Zoey's Jeep speeds through.

**EXT. ZOEY'S CAMP SITE - DUSK**

Zoey pulls into the camp site next to Jason's vehicle. Gets out and hops in.

**INT. PARK SERVICES VEHICLE - SAME**

Zoey closes the door and turns to Jason.

ZOEY

What do you want?

JASON

First, I'm sorry... about earlier.

(beat)

I went through the report we put together on your son. What you were told wasn't entirely accurate.

That piques Zoey's curiosity.

JASON (CONT'D)

There were people who saw your son in the park. The Sheriff didn't talk to those people, but other rangers did. You had no way of knowing.

(beat)

I don't know why you weren't told. I'm sorry.

Zoey sits back and nods. This is starting to make sense.

JASON (CONT'D)

You don't look surprised.

ZOEY

Where is Collins now?

JASON

That's the second thing. Some campers found something.

ZOEY

What?

Jason looks around before...

JASON

Bones... of a child.

Zoey digests for a second, but she's levelheaded.

ZOEY

There's no way that's Sam.

JASON

It's not. Some jewelry was found near it though. Jewelry that was reported to be on someone who went missing in the park years ago.

ZOEY

Who?

Jason stares at Zoey for a second.

JASON

Lisa Stevens.

Zoey looks away as the implication sets in.

She processes for a moment.

ZOEY

Where?

JASON

This is what we can't figure out. In a place we searched a million times before.

Zoey quickly gets out of the vehicle.

JASON (CONT'D)

Hey!

**EXT. ZOEY'S CAMP SITE - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey quickly moves through. Her emotions and determination on overload.

ZOEY

Sam! Sam! Sam!

**EXT. CRATER LAKE PARK - DUSK**

Zoey quickly moves to the creek and the area that Sam went missing.

ZOEY  
Sam! Sam! Sam!

She beelines into the brush, pushes branches out of her face.  
As she grabs a branch--

**INT. CAVE - UNKNOWN (FLASH)**

Zoey hands Sam his pocket watch.

ZOEY  
I told you I'd never leave you.

SAM  
I know, mom.

She grabs him and pulls him in tight.

ZOEY  
God, I love you.

BACK TO SCENE

Zoey stumbles forward and falls to her knees. Closes her eyes. Sits for a second breathing deeply.

JASON (O.S.)  
Ms. Hayes? Ms. Hayes? The Sheriff  
wants me back at the scene.

Zoey's eyes shoot open, determined.

**INT. AARON'S CABIN - BEDROOM - DUSK**

Aaron sits on his bed, staring at the pic inside the cracked frame.

LIVING AREA

Aaron walks over to the sink and stares at the fogged window. Turns and looks at the empty space.

Walks over to a closet and opens. Pulls out a box and opens. Lisa's clothes, drawings and toys.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE PARK - WATCHMAN TRAIL - DUSK**

Sheriff Collins stands next to a PARK RANGER.

SHERIFF COLLINS  
Let me know when you have the  
results back.

The Park Ranger nods and walks away.

Collins turns and approaching is an extremely pissed off Zoey. Jason trying to keep pace behind her.

She looks at nearby RANGER PATRICKS (50s) and motions for him to approach.

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)  
Patricks?

Patricks stands next to Collins as Zoey gets closer. Jason next to her.

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)  
Ms. Hayes, what can I--

ZOEY  
Cut the shit. You set me up.

Jason glances at Zoey, unsure where this is going, but knows it isn't good.

SHERIFF COLLINS  
Ms. Hayes, what can I do for you?  
I'm a bit busy--

ZOEY  
You lying sack of shit. You called  
everyone around this place. Leaked  
my personal information, and told  
them not to help me. Because you  
knew you never would.  
(points to Jason)  
You lied to him, so he'd doubt me.  
You lied to me, so I'd doubt me.  
(yells)  
You lied to everyone here. I had  
nothing to do with my son's  
disappearance and you know it. You  
knew it from the beginning.

A few heads turn.

Collins stares at Jason for a second.

SHERIFF COLLINS

Let me speak with Ms. Hayes in private.

Jason looks to Zoey, back to Collins.

JASON

No. She's right. You lied. I went through the report. In fact, I went through a few reports. People in the park saw Sam and you said they didn't. I want to know why. I want to know why many of the reports sound exactly the same.

Both Zoey and Jason look to Collins.

Collins dismisses Patricks.

She turns and walks away from the smattering of people around them. Zoey and Jason follow.

SHERIFF COLLINS

I don't expect you to understand. This park is special. People come every year for the time of their lives. They take pictures, make memories and share that with the world. *The world*. We make a huge difference--

ZOEY

That's why you hide what goes on here? For a "difference"?

Collins turns around.

SHERIFF COLLINS

Yes. For the local economy. For my job. For Jason's job, and everyone else who relies on this place to provide for their family. The wildlife, the forests... making sure the lake and the entire ecosystem remain intact. I protect that above all else.

ZOEY

No matter who gets hurt?

SHERIFF COLLINS

People don't understand nuance, Ms. Hayes. You know that.

(MORE)

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)

You could tell them a million people who enter this park every year leave just fine. The only headline you'd see is twenty-five disappear.

(beat)

I do what I have to do to control the headline.

ZOEY

The bones you found--

SHERIFF COLLINS

We won't have the results for a few weeks, but we found them next to jewelry that Lisa Stevens was reportedly wearing.

Zoey approaches just steps from Collins, getting uncomfortably close.

ZOEY

And, you don't care about finding out what happened to that little girl? Or, my son?

Collins leans in.

SHERIFF COLLINS

(whispers)

I told you what I care about.

Zoey takes a second to process.

ZOEY

(grins, whispers)

I'm going to find Sam.

(beat)

Then I'm coming for you.

Zoey turns and leaves, leaving Jason and Collins staring at each other.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE PARK - DUSK**

Zoey walks to the edge of a cliff overlooking the lake. Stares out across, down to the steep drop below. She's at the edge with nowhere to go.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - NIGHT**

Zoey darts through the trees.

**EXT. AARON'S CABIN - NIGHT**

Zoey races toward the door and immediately knocks.

ZOEY

Aaron? Aaron? It's Zoey. Please  
open up.

With no response she opens the door and enters.

**INT. AARON'S CABIN - SAME**

Zoey walks in and it's just as it was prior, but Aaron isn't there.

ZOEY

Aaron? Aaron?

She goes to the box that's still out and against a wall.  
Looks through a few of Lisa's things.

Finds a PHOTO of Lisa smiling with Aaron and wearing jewelry.  
Picks it up and stares at it. The love emanates.

She moves to the closed bedroom door and knocks.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Aaron, it's me. I heard the news.  
Can I come in?

Zoey opens the door, but no one is there.

She turns back and immediately steps on something.

Moves her foot and it's the coin that was on the table  
earlier. She picks it up and stares.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey runs through.

**EXT. PHILLIP'S CAMP SITE - LATER**

Zoey runs up to the motorhome. Knocks. Looks through the  
windows.

ZOEY

Phillip? Phillip? I'm looking for  
Aaron. Phillip?

With no answer, she turns and scans the site.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - CAVE - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey runs up to the cave that she previously didn't enter. Sweat all over her face. She stops and listens inside. Hears the chanting. Cautiously enters.

**INT. CRATER LAKE CAVE - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey moves toward the light.

Comes around a corner and sitting around a fire are EIGHT PEOPLE with Aaron. All have their eyes closed.

At the helm is a chanting Phillip. Although with the air of a séance, it's not threatening.

She looks around at the hanging sticks that she originally saw in the forest. It starts to make sense.

Aaron opens his eyes and looks up at Zoey. Rises from the group and makes his way over.

Aaron motions and they move to the entrance of the cave.

ZOEY

I'm sorry.

AARON

For?

ZOEY

What they found.

AARON

Doesn't matter. I don't believe them. They lie.

ZOEY

Yes, they do. Who are all those people?

AARON

You think we're the only ones?

ZOEY

Those people lost someone in this park?

AARON

(nods)

It isn't just me and Phillip out here. There's eight others.

Zoey nods.

ZOEY  
What are you doing?

AARON  
I tried to tell you. You weren't  
very receptive.

ZOEY  
I know. It's just hard.

AARON  
I tried to do it alone at first  
too. But, eventually...

Zoey looks around, back to Aaron.

ZOEY  
I've been doing it on my own for a  
while, so that habit isn't easy to  
break.

AARON  
Phillip talks a lot about other  
places... worlds, parallels,  
dimensions, wormholes. Things that  
seem like Earth, but aren't.

Zoey skeptically stares back.

AARON (CONT'D)  
I know you don't trust him.

ZOEY  
I don't trust anyone around here...  
except... maybe you.

AARON  
I don't know if it'll ever work,  
but my Lisa's been missing for too  
long for me not to try to  
everything.

ZOEY  
So, what is it supposed to do?

AARON  
Open your mind.

ZOEY  
Why do you think I saw her?

AARON

Don't know. Maybe she wanted you to tell me. Maybe she wanted to warn you. Maybe she was just trying to get home.

ZOEY

I'd give anything--

AARON

I know. Me too.

Zoey stares at Aaron in contemplation.

AARON (CONT'D)

Do you want to stay?

Zoey looks to the cave entrance, hesitant. Back to Aaron.

ZOEY

Have to try everything, right?

Aaron nods as they make their way back over and sit down with the group.

Phillip continues to chant over them. Drops something in the fire that causes it to shoot up.

LATER

Zoey sits in the group as all have their eyes closed.

LATER

Zoey speaks with various members of the group.

LATER

Zoey approaches Phillip.

PHILLIP

Sorry about earlier.

ZOEY

Me too.

PHILLIP

It's okay. I'd be ballistic if I was going through what you are. I hope we can help. I really do.

Zoey nods.

**INT. COLLINS' HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT**

Collins drinks a cup of coffee, sets it down on the counter as she reads a piece of paper.

Sets the paper on the counter and sighs.

PAPER:

"Dear Sheriff Collins, please accept my resignation...  
Sincerely, Jason Foster"

Attached to the paper is Jason's name tag.

**INT. COLLINS' HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER**

Collins moves through, looking around the empty house. Opens the backyard and walks out to meet her GOLDEN RETRIEVER, who's excited to see her. She reaches down and pets it.

SHERIFF COLLINS

Hey babe. You excited to see me?

The dog jumps around excited.

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)

I'll take that as a yes.

She bends down and hugs the dog.

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)

You understand, right? Of course  
you do. Let's get you some food.

She takes the dog into the house.

**INT. COLLINS' HOUSE - DEN - MOMENTS LATER**

Collins sits at her computer and opens a file on her desktop named DISAPPEARANCES.

She scrolls through them all until she comes to a file named: HAYES, SAM.

She double-clicks and opens the Word file. She's typed up everything about the case thus far, gets to the end and types in a final line: NOT LIKELY TO BE FOUND

**EXT. PHILLIP'S CAMP SITE - DAY**

Zoey and Aaron sit in chairs as Phillip stands.

PHILLIP

Many physicists have long believed in what they call the "many worlds theory". It says that, given what we know about physics it's entirely reasonable to conclude many worlds exist around us, but we just don't have access to them.

Zoey's skeptical glance catches Phillip.

PHILLIP (CONT'D)

I know. I know what you're thinking, but picture it like this...

Phillip grabs an old radio, extends the antenna and turns it on. Goes from station to station as the music cuts in and out.

PHILLIP (CONT'D)

Frequency on a radio. When you're on the station...

He stops on a station playing music.

PHILLIP (CONT'D)

...you hear the music.

He rolls the dial and stops on static.

PHILLIP (CONT'D)

But, when you're not, you don't. Does that mean there's nothing on the other frequencies? No. It just means you're not in the right place to hear it.

ZOEY

And, you're saying we can travel to these other worlds?

PHILLIP

I'm saying from a theoretical physicists perspective, yes.

ZOEY

But, you haven't seen it?

PHILLIP

There are many reported cases.

ZOEY

Just like alien abductions.

PHILLIP  
I know how it sounds.

Zoey skeptically glances at Aaron.

PHILLIP (CONT'D)  
Do you know what happens when you  
see stars in the sky?

ZOEY  
What?

PHILLIP  
You see time travel in the form of  
light.

ZOEY  
Meaning?

PHILLIP  
The stars are so far away that by  
the time the light reaches us here  
we're actually seeing what the star  
used to look like... up there.

That makes sense to her and piques her curiosity.

ZOEY  
But, that's seeing, not traveling.

PHILLIP  
Right. But, it's the same concept  
when it comes to physics. If we're  
seeing time travel, why can it not  
be experienced?

ZOEY  
And, you think we could somehow  
travel to a...

PHILLIP  
...parallel world. I don't see why  
not.

ZOEY  
You think that's where these people  
could be disappearing? Maybe where  
Sam is?

Phillip nods.

MOMENTS LATER

Phillip and Aaron sit hunched over a map of the lake with dots in certain areas.

PHILLIP

A majority of disappearances happen near water, so we start there.

ZOEY

Why water?

PHILLIP

Don't know. Could be a type of frequency.

ZOEY

So, we find the station and tune in?

PHILLIP

Yes, but it's not that easy. We chant and meditate because we hope opening our minds helps.

ZOEY

Why?

PHILLIP

Because it's mostly kids who go missing.

ZOEY

And, they're more open-minded than adults.

Phillip nods.

Zoey turns to Aaron and he nods.

AARON

You have to believe. It's the only way.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DAY**

Dense forest surrounds a small creek of water that runs through. While we may not realize it, we're next to the area in the opening scene.

PHILLIP

Of all the areas in the park where people go missing, this creek is the most highly concentrated.

ZOEY

So, we do what? Set up camp? Stay here until something happens?

PHILLIP

I wish it worked like that. But, there's little we can do to pinpoint a precise location where the opening or wormhole will happen. It doesn't announce itself, or it isn't something you can see.

(beat)

Just like with the stars, you're seeing time travel, but not in any physical form.

ZOEY

So, what are we supposed to do?

PHILLIP

We can search, stay active and move through the park hoping to find something.

ZOEY

That's it?

PHILLIP

Our belief in the ability for this to happen has to be enough.

ZOEY

And, how long have you been doing this?

Phillip purposely doesn't answer.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

How am I supposed to just believe?

Zoey throws a sideways glance at Aaron.

AARON

I've tried to do more, but it doesn't work. Trust me, I've done everything you can possibly imagine.

Zoey looks around, frustrated. Walks away.

PHILLIP

Zoey? Wait.

Phillip goes to follow, but Aaron stops him.

AARON

This is exactly what I did. She needs space. She'll be back.

PHILLIP

You sure about that? She isn't like most of the others.

They watch her walk down stream.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - LATER**

Zoey walks up and down the creek, getting acquainted with the area. Searching. Anything that could remotely point her in the direction she so desperately seeks.

She stops next to the water and crouches down.

ZOEY (V.O.)

Sam? Can you hear me? Send me a sign, something. Anything that says you're here.

(beat)

Please. Anything.

She looks everywhere around, but nothing comes. The sky, the trees, the creek, the birds and the clouds remain the same.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - LATER**

Zoey continues through, next to the creek, looking everywhere.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DAY**

Aaron continues to search.

AARON

Sam? Sam? Sam?

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DUSK**

Zoey won't stop walking up and down the creek.

LATER

Zoey sits on a rock and stares out into the forest. A glaze over her eyes. A doubt of whether this will ever happen.

**INT. CRATER LAKE CAVE - NIGHT**

Phillip chants to the circle as Zoey sits next to Aaron, along with the others.

**INT. ZOEY'S JEEP - NIGHT**

Zoey sits in the parked Jeep. Reaches in the bag from the liquor store and pulls out an iced tea.

**EXT. PHILLIP'S CAMP SITE - DUSK**

Zoey, Aaron and Phillip sit around the campfire eating and talking.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE PARK - DAY**

Zoey continues to search the forest.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE PARK - DISCOVERY POINT TRAIL - DUSK**

Zoey treks through, continuing her search.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - NIGHT**

Aaron and Phillip search along a small creek.

**INT. CAVE - UNKNOWN**

Zoey sits with the group and they meditate.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - DAY**

Zoey continues her search.

**INT. AARON'S CABIN - NIGHT**

Zoey sits alone next to the fire. Looks at her phone, but it's dead and won't turn on.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE CREEK - DAY**

Zoey searches up and down.

Eventually, she stops and her head dips in frustration. She's losing hope and it's showing.

ZOEY (V.O.)

Kevin, if you're reading this, it's not likely I'll see you again. I'm sorry. I really never intended on this.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE PARK - DUSK**

Zoey sits on a ledge overlooking the lake as the sun drops below the horizon.

A similar sunset as she first saw with Sam.

ZOEY (V.O.)

But, I have to be honest. I didn't believe the things you told me. As a doctor, I'm taught the boundaries of belief are held in the things we can see and touch.

(beat)

I was wrong.

**INT. ZOEY'S JEEP - DUSK**

Zoey sits inside writing on a piece of paper.

ZOEY (V.O.)

Inside of this package is a referral to a friend of mine who is better at this job than I am. Please see her and may she help you find peace within yourself. You've opened my mind Kevin and I want to thank you for that.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - PRE-DAWN (DREAM)**

Zoey emerges from the forest and walks toward a highly elevated ledge along the lake.

Ten feet from it she stops and stares in contemplation.

ZOEY (V.O.)

Before you go though, I'd like you to do something for me.

She suddenly runs toward the ledge and jumps off. Puts her arms out and hangs as she falls toward the water.

**INT. AARON'S CABIN - DAWN**

Zoey wakes up with a gasp and quickly looks around. Sweat along her forehead.

She's sleeping on Aaron's couch.

ZOEY (V.O.)

Inside of this package there are  
five letters that I need you to  
send to five different journalists.

Gets up and goes to the sink. Washes her hands and face.  
Stares at the clouded window.

ZOEY (V.O.)

All I ask is that you send them.  
Nothing else. Hopefully, this story  
starts a conversation about how we  
can better protect each other,  
regardless of what it costs.

The faint echo of the spotted owl's call hits her ear,  
although she doesn't know specifically what it is.

Turns to the door.

ZOEY (V.O.)

Kevin, I believe in you. I really  
do. I hope you find peace. All the  
best, Zoey.

**EXT. AARON'S CABIN - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey walks outside and stares at the morning fog that has  
engulfed the area. Visibility no more than forty feet.

She sticks her hand out as the air is misting. But, when she  
brings it close, realizes it's not mist, but snow.

Her eyes well up as she stares. The moment she'd been  
dreading this whole time is here.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey makes her way through the trees, but with limited  
visibility moves slower than usual.

The owl's call grows louder as she gets closer to its  
location.

**INT. AARON'S CABIN - DAWN**

Aaron walks out of his bedroom and moves to the kitchen table where a thick envelope has been left.

A note next to it: IF I DON'T RETURN PLEASE SEND TO: KEVIN  
(Kevin's Portland address)

He goes to the door, opens and looks out at the fog. Comes back in and shuts the door.

**EXT. CRATER LAKE FOREST - MOMENTS LATER**

Zoey looks up and around, but the fog isn't helping. The snow continues to mist.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey makes it through a clearing and looks straight ahead.

In the distance, a spotted owl sits in a hole it has created in a tree, almost blending in to the bark surrounding it.

She slowly moves toward it as it continues its call.

SAM (V.O.)

They're brown and white. Big black eyes. Look like they have spots and they sing and make noises all the time.

Zoey smiles through the sadness as she approaches.

The owl turns its head and looks at her.

ZOEY (V.O.)

Hi. I'm Zoey. I'm looking for my son, Sam.

(beat)

He came here to see you. Maybe you know. He always talked about you. Couldn't wait to come.

She gets within ten yards of the owl and its calls stop, so she does as well. Stares into the black eyes of the owl.

ZOEY (V.O.)

You don't know where he is, do you? If you do, please tell me. Show me. Anything that'll give me back my son. Please.

A tear falls from one of Zoey's eyes.

The owl continues to stare at her.

ZOEY (V.O.)

Please.

Suddenly, it makes a noise, flies out of the tree and right past her. She turns as it goes by. Lands on a tree in the distance and turns back to her.

She stares, wondering what it's doing.

It calls again and she steps forward. Another call.

She slowly walks toward it and it takes off in another direction. She follows as it flies from tree to tree to tree, as though guiding her through a maze.

The snow is starting to accumulate and pick up steam.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey dashes through the forest, following the owl.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey turns a corner and stares straight ahead at a tree the owl is on just a few yards away. She slowly walks toward it as the owl flies up and out of sight.

At the tree's base: SAM'S POCKET WATCH

She looks at it for a second, half wanting it not to be real. Tears rush down her cheeks.

Steps forward and picks it up.

Clutches it tight in her hand as she looks at her surroundings in a different light for the first time.

AARON (V.O.)

The visions, the voices. What if they were real? What if they were happening?

She now believes.

ZOEY

Sam.

MOMENTS LATER

Zoey dashes through the forest, crunching the snow.

LATER

Zoey dashes around the trees next to the creek they were all previously gathered.

Her anguished breath pounds the cold air. Tears dried to her cheeks as she moves with reckless abandonment. She pushes the branches of the trees away and they rustle.

Suddenly, she falls to her knees and dips her head, clutching the pocket watch tight.

BACK TO BEGINNING

The running creek water calmly moves through as we head in Zoey's direction.

Around the trees and toward where she was.

Through the brush we emerge to her location.

Except she is no longer there.

Vanished without a trace.

**INT. CAVE - UNKNOWN**

Zoey's eyes slowly flutter open as she sits up and looks around. Sam's pocket watch still in her hand.

She cautiously gets up, understanding this is the same cave as her flashes. Puts the pocket watch in her pocket.

Looks at the ground. The coin from Aaron's cabin lies there.

She stares at it for quite some time, contemplating turning it over. Bends down, and with her hand right next to it, suddenly stops. Doesn't need the confirmation any longer and rises.

ZOEY

Sam!

Quickly darts further into the cave.

FADE OUT:

**THE END**

Since the United States National Parks Service began, more than 1,000 people have gone missing in national parks. There is still no park registry for those who disappear.