

I know you're out there. I see you in the forest all the time, and I bet that you're watching me leave this note for you right now. Who are you?

Come on. This note's been on the path for days, there's no way you haven't seen it. Answer me or I'll call the cops and tell them there's a weird man following me.

Answer or I'll stop coming out into the woods.

ΓΓ# +91x 6π 0-3 1x500091x76π.

What does that mean?

78+ 397 9+6π0-71x9+6 1x1,77?

?????

79#π 9+. 1x0-3 8 0001x100π

1,90-6π0-. Γ 0+91x 397 78+
69 Γ1x.

Okay, so that took me forever to work out, but I think I get it now. 00Γ0π 1x1,77?

እሱ, እርሱ, እሱ ጋላ. ሌሎች
የሚሉት. እነዚህ ልዩነቶች ተግባር
ሲሆኑ ርቀት ሌሎች ሰውነት.

I think he was. Or at least, I hope so. You know,
I thought you were him at first.

I'd see you in the forest, out near where it happened,
and I'd think about all the stories there are about this
place. There's tons of evidence that time and space
don't work out here like they do everywhere else,
even my dad would say so sometimes. Plus, I mean, if
people can vanish so easily in the forest without any
explanation, why shouldn't they be able to reappear too?

They almost never find bodies when people go
missing, even when they search for months and
months. I figured that might mean that people who
die in the forest don't really die. I guess I was
wrong, though.

That's a very interesting theory, Liam.
I wouldn't be so quick to discount it.

You know my name?

Does it frighten you that I do?

I mean, yes. But at the same time, You've had about a million chances to attack me or murder me or whatever since I've come out here alone pretty much every day for the past few years. You haven't done any of those things, though, which makes me think you might not be out to get me. But what are you doing, then?

What are you?

I'm more of an absence than a presence. ተባብሮ ያ
ህሊጊታቸው, ተባብሮ ያ ብጥቶታ, ተባብሮ
ያ ለህ-ጊዜታቸው, ተባብሮ ያ ለሀገር, ተባብሮ
ያልገባቸው, ተባብሮ ትክክል.

You're not the Blair Witch?

[illegible]

Sometimes I kind of go numb and then just sort of act without thinking. Other times, a thought pops into my head that feels like it's not even mine. Is that her? It happens the most often when I'm out walking in the forest.

ᑎᑕᑕ ᓂᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ.

ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ, ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ?
ᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ.

How long have you been out here?

As you said, time works differently in the forest.

ᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ?
ᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕ ᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ.

How did you get that??

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That note was written before I was born. It should be nothing but pulp by now.

As you said, time works differently in the forest.

It really does? Things that should be gone are still out there?

አዲስ አበባ ያለው፣ የገዢዎች ገንዘብ፣
ወጪዎችና ሌሎች.

You know, I heard your mother the other night. Your house is close enough to the forest's edge for me to listen in.

She sent you to your room like a child, all because you spoke your mind.

She doesn't like when I talk about him like he's still alive. She says it's unhealthy. She doesn't get that the real unhealthy behavior would be to give up on him if there's any chance he's still out there.

Is he? Is my dad out in the woods? Please, just tell me.

አዲስ አበባ ያለው፣ የገዢዎች ገንዘብ፣
ወጪዎችና ሌሎች ገንዘብ፣
የገዢዎች ገንዘብ፣ የገዢዎች ገንዘብ፣
የገዢዎች ገንዘብ፣ የገዢዎች ገንዘብ፣

You know, he wasn't able to finish his last words to you before he choked on his own blood, but what he wanted to say was "Thank God that you're alright."

How do you know that?

I'm connected to this place and everything in it,
ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ ᑭᑭᑭ ᑭᑭᑭᑭ ᑭᑭᑭ
ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ ᑭᑭᑭ ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ.

Okay. Fine. Please help me find him. I'll do anything.

I require no payment besides the satisfaction of reuniting a family. Whenever you're ready.

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