

# Creatures in the Tall Grass

Written by

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2.2

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title: "pending title ::

Sea Monster

Creatures In the Tall Grass

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# A LONG LONG TIME AGO

## SCENE 0: THUNDERSTORM DOWN SOUTH

Flashes of a thunderstorm - Flashes of a mother playing with her son - buildings and bird houses - - flashes of wind hitting the breeze upon the mountain fog - and flashes of a packed car and a vacation up north and to the east - from the barren west towards New England - flashes of a seaside beach town - flashes of a big thunderstorm - flashes of mom and dad getting gas - driving doing errands - flashes of Dallas setting up an weather device - flashes of a smile - flashes of a young boy in his mother's arms - flashes of a soft embrace - flashes of the hand on her shoulder from the warmth of her husband - flashes of chemo - flashes of weather instrument - flashes of experimental procedures in the garage and pointing it towards the sky - flashes of a washing machine broken and then Mac's mom showing them how to hand dry it with things outside. flashes of Dallas and his wife putting up a bird house - flashes of the mother pressing record on a tape and teaching young Mac how her voice sounds- flashes of the mom marveling at a baby bird - flashes of the three of them having dinner at the table - flashes of Mac helping him - flashes of the woods - flashes of green eyes in the tall grass - flashes of the dark grass - flashes of the mother coming back and running away from the dog - towards the light - flashes of a mother holding on to a bird house - sick - as she watches the birds flutter - she smiles - flashes of the darkness - flashes - of Dallas trying to shine lasers into the mirrors - and then the refractions into the eyes of the mom - but leaving the mom hopeless and flashes of Dallas holding young mac alone in a hospital waiting room - of the tall-grass and green eyes that sparkle like fireflies.

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# SATURDAY

SCENE 1 - DRIVING HOME

SCENE 1: EXT. WINDY SEASIDE ROAD - DAY

DALLAS (Mid 30s) and his son MAC (14) x drive along a winding seaside road. The rugged coastline stretches beside them, with Atlantic waves crashing against the rocks. A storm brews in the distance, dark clouds gather on the horizon.

As they drive the radio is on and the newscaster is almost excited to announce that there is a storm coming and that we are about to enter hurricane season.

VOICE OVER WEATHERMAN ON RADIO

Bob Bobabandalous here - and I will be your meteorologist covering for Sam Coglafino - and boy is today a day. It's looking like the sky is dusky skies, with temperatures hovering right around 72 degrees - Tomorrow, 40ph winds are coming in from Glouhster and are going to warm things up for us. By Friday - expect 4 inches of rain - a lot of sun - it looks like today is going to be the last good day for a while - better get out the dog and go for a walk - because the winds might not allow you for much longer.

**SCENE 2: EXT. NEW HOUSE - SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT COAST - DAY**

Dallas signs papers on a clipboard handed to him by a MOVER. The Movers begin moving various boxes and furniture including a large wooden piano from the back of the truck.

In the distance sharp bark of a dog interrupts the movement - a man chases a small dog down the street. Dallas and Mac look at the commotion - but then are interrupted by a nearby news crew temporarily all turn their attention to the commotion - but quickly go back to their camera work.

Nearby across the street from the house - outside the nature preserve with the tall grass - , a TV CAMERAMAN and a CAMERA CREW capture a REPORTER speaking into the camera. Mac watches from a distance, curious and uncertain about the commotion.

**SCENE 3: EXT. NEW HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - DAY**

Distant seagulls fill the air as tiny birds find a resting perch on the fence dividing them from the marsh land tall grass that engulfs their property.

Dallas looks at the birds for a moment - and then at the tall grass. Mac looks at the house - a pretty decent New England little cottage - single floor - 2 bedroom - on a patch around neighbor beautiful homes.

Dallas\_ and Mac\_ unload various items from a bucket in the back of their sedan. Dallas stands over the bucket and the items are an unfinished bird feeder and gardening tools.

Dallas pauses, staring somberly at the bucket. His emotions overwhelm for a moment. Mac noticing this takes the bucket and walks away.

Mac from the back of the truck grabs his bike and examines it for damages. He brings it on the side of the house.

In the distance Mac hears a howl - and makes eye contact with Makayla - a girl on the other side of the fence - there she is looking at him and grasps her shovel tight - and then walks back into her house. Mac watches from a while - and Makayla peers at him through the window.

#### **SCENE 4: INT. NEW HOUSE - DUSK**

Mac and Dallas walk around the empty house and examine all of the properties and begin to unpack boxes and what not.

The stop at a kitchen and look for a moment at a table with three chairs. Dallas - goes over to the stove and checks if the gas is on

Mac watches the sunset out of his window - and from the distance he sees fireflies - lights that resemble - as they murumate around the screen- glints of pierces eyes of darkness.

Mac peeks up at the sky - and accepts the breeze from the ocean from the late autumn night.

A whimper fades in the distance.

#### **SCENE 5: INT. MAC AND DALLAS KITCHEN - DINNERTIME - NIGHT**

Dallas stands over the half-complete kitchen island and carefully plates an avocado, an onion, and a sliced lemon-- meticulously into small pieces and then reassembled to appear untouched.

Mac plays the piano nearby for a bit and a bit haphazardly - he uses a cassette audio recorder - and rewinds and listens - dissatisfied he tries another song.

Dallas comes in with the food and places it on the coffee table - Mac scoots over. They flip on the channels and finds the weather channel.

ON TV: The same REPORTER from earlier, standing outside their house, discusses the unpredictable weather this time of year.

TV REPORTER

As you can see behind me, new traffic is - we even have some new residents - despite the ominous weather forecast. Meteorologists are predicting an unusually severe storm system to hit our coast within the couple of weeks hours. That's right folks - we're in for a wild ride.

Dallas stares blanky at the TV, his expression growing concerned as he listens to the report.\_

TV REPORTER

> Residents are advised to always be ready in case of a such an emergency - have a plan - stock up on the basics - essentials and prepare for potential power outages. Stay tuned for further updates on this developing situation.

Mac's eyes drift back to the window, where the wind has picked up, rustling the tall grass outside.\_

Mac walks over to the piano and grabs the tape recorder and positions it outside of the window.

Cut to :

Dallas walks over and pulls something out of a drawer. It is his resume and cv.



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## SCENE 6: INT. MAC'S ROOM - NIGHT

Thunder rumbles in the distance, and the wind causes the storm approaches.

Mac looks at all of his boxes - and his mostly empty room - he doesn't have much decorations but a small single bed and a nightstand by a window. Out of the box - he takes a picture out of a

Mac looks out the window but the recorder has stopped. Mac opens the device to look for the batteries and finds a single battery - but is suddenly startled by the sound of the tape recorder is making - it is playing irregularly - and then it stops again - suddenly a faint whimpering sound is heard out Mac's bedroom window - and the window shakes a bit.

Mac restless in bed - walks around his house and makes sure all of the blinds are closed.

FADE OUT

## SCENE 7: INT. CHURCH - MORNING

Really this is scene 4

The Elderly woman stands at the pulpit, addressing the congregation. The church is filled with attentive listeners, including DALLAS (40s) and MAC (10), sitting quietly in a pew.

ELDERLY WOMAN

> Today's old testament reading is from the Book of Isaiah, Chapter 5 Verse 5. God will stretch out over Edom the measuring line of chaos and the plumb line of desolation. Her nobles will have nothing there to be called a kingdom, all her princes will vanish away. Thorns will overrun her citadels, nettles and brambles her strongholds.

(MORE)

ELDERLY WOMAN (CONT'D)

She will become a haunt for jackals, a home for owls. Desert creatures will meet with hyenas, and wild goats will bleat to each other; there the night creatures will also lie down and find for themselves places of rest. The owl will nest there and lay eggs, she will hatch them, and care for her young under the shadow of her wings; there also the falcons will gather, each with its mate.

SCENE 8: EXT. CHURCH FRONT LAWN - AFTERNOON

The church bustles with activity as congregates gather around long tables with plastic plates and tiny paper cups of iced tea. Dallas and Mac stand awkwardly on line for salad - progressing slowly.

DOMINIC (50s), noticing their discomfort, approaches them with a welcoming smile.

DOMINIC

Hey there, - hey (hey) - dont worry - im not cutting the line ha - but i mean i will if you let

DALLAS

A suburb outside of Illonis - nothing really there.

DOMINIC

Indiana, huh? Never been - Well, welcome - Where are you living now?

DALLAS

Branford.

DOMINIC

( face lights up.\_\_)  
 > Christ on a crutch - you're  
 kidding me - Dallas - I'm a  
 Branford man too - - I'm in  
 Branford too! Names Dominic -  
 Howdy - hey whose this big guy -  
 yo Kid you meet my kids - Whats  
 your name again ? Dallas what are  
 you from Texas (snarls) hey hey  
 big listen - We have a BBQ going  
 on tomorrow for the three day  
 weekend - you got off work right?  
 Bonnie told me you're some  
 professor at Yale - i got a cousin  
 who works at Yale - yeah big time  
 - full health benefits - yeah he  
 works the library - truthfully i  
 don't know what the hell he does  
 ha ha - okay let's get you a plate  
 big guy .

DOMINIC

Where do you work?

DALLAS

I'm looking for a job.

DOMINIC

Oh I Got one for you brother - me  
 and my brother Gio go out and  
 collect scrap metal you kno -  
 whatever the Lord provides us for  
 that day - and we got an uncle in  
 Hamden who flips it - you could  
 ride with us - I'll call Gio now

Dominic begins to dial the phone

DOMINIC

Yo Gio - I got a new guy here  
 whose going to ride with up to  
 Morgan Point tomorrow - yeah - in  
 grandpas truck - Gio listen -  
 what's your name?

DALLAS

Where do you work

Dallas nods politely, \_Dominic points toward a flier hanging on the fridge near the coffee machine. It reads: "23rd Annual Branford Harvest Sea Festival."

DOMINIC

> Diego - yo Diego! - yeah -  
Diego, works there - some charity  
who the hell knows - we should go

Dallas listens politely, nodding along, but his attention drifts as the man continues to rattle on.\_

In the distance outside by the playground, \_Makayla and Asher hover around an object - Makayla looks around and signals Asher to put it in a backpack - Mac sees from the distance - but doesn't say anything.\_

Makayla sits and eats salad next to an older woman who reads to a little kid and explains.

ELDERLY WOMAN

Now it's okay - you know - life in  
times is about loss -

Makayla looks closely through a magnifying glass at a blade of tall grass. Asher sits next to her and eats his salad in silence.

Mac approaches across by himself - and sits down on the table over - and begins to play with his tape recorder. Asher looks over at him - and the two make eye contact. Makayla also looks over and walks over.

MAKAYLA

What is that?

MAC

It's a tape recorder.

Dominic walks over to Makayla and taps them its time to go.

DOMINIC

Is this your son Dallas? - - you  
meet my daughter Makayla?

MAKAYLA

Yeah - we met dad.

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SCENE 9: EXT. BRANFORD STREETS - EARLY EVENING

Dallas and Mac\_ walk home from church. The journey is a bit of a hike. They pass through the tall beech grass, a little pizzeria, a small post office, a free library mail post, and a mix of nice homes with boats docked nearby--some pristine, others not so much.

In the backyard - Dominic and Mac hang hangers and there clothes so that they could be washed out.

Mac Records sounds of the distant seagulls - he looks around but sees none - just a breeze that blows the hangers he has.

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SCENE 10: EXT. MAC AND DALLAS HOUSE - BUTTERFLY LANE

They continue past it all, into their corner of the world-- a quiet cul-de-sac near a land preserve and a bird sanctuary.

They finally arrive home, exhausted, taking in the sight of their new house as the wind begins to pick up and the clouds begin to gather.

Mac and Dallas look around at the property and at the tall grass - and in a way - the tall grass looks back.

SCENE 10 A: EXT. MAC AND DALLAS HOUSE - BACKYARD - SUNSET

Mac takes out his tape recorder and records the distant winds.

Dallas looks over at the tall grass - and then walks over and begins to dig a hole.

He puts a weather device - along top.

In time Mac and him add a bird feeder - and a cable from the device - all the way to the kitchen window.

Mac looks over at the device - and then looks away.

Mac watches his father hold the birdhouse steak - and looks at its blade as he digs it into the dirt.

SCENE 10 B: INT MAC AND DALLAS KITCHEN NIGHT

Mac and Dallas sit down to eat

DALLAS  
Have you tried the radio Dominic  
gave?

MAC  
No, not yet

DALLAS  
(\*pause)  
I think it could work with your  
audio recorder.  
We could make it work after dinner  
if you'd like

MAC  
Maybe

DALLAS  
We don't have to

MAC  
How would it work?

Cut to Montage of Dallas and Mac building the crystal radio set that Dominic gave mac.

DALLAS (VOICEOVER)  
If you connect the radio to the audio recorder - you'll be able to get sounds on tape - and then have that tape - you can then take that tape - make it really big - and then have someone print that tape - and then develop the negative - and if you do that 24 times in one second you'll be able to show some sort of film.

Mac goes outside with Dallas and the two record the radio - near the edge of their property - near the tall grass. Mac turns the dial but nothing - then eventually - a signal comes on - it is the voice of the weatherman from a distance land.

V.O WEATHERMAN  
It is an absolute doozy out there folks - stay safe - listen to the weather people... That was Barbra Turk from- expect the unexpected - Good evening, folks. We have your latest of your accuweather right after the drop. As we look ahead, we're in for quite a ride with the weather. Currently, the barometric pressure is dropping rapidly, indicating a significant storm system moving in from the southwest. Expect wind speeds to increase, reaching up to 60 miles per hour by midnight.

>

> The National Weather Service has issued a severe weather warning for the coastal areas, with a 70% chance of heavy rainfall, potentially accumulating up to 3 inches overnight. Temperatures will drop to the mid-40s, with a wind chill factor making it feel closer to the mid-30s.

>INTERRUPTION

- IS ANYONE OUT THERE? THIS IS HENRY MARSHALL JANUARY 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1933 - I have tranmissitted this message - outwards to the sky.. - On this day - I have successfully made contact with the creatures.

RADIO GOES BACK TO NORMAL WEATHERMAN

> Satellite imagery shows a well-defined cold front approaching, which could lead to isolated thunderstorms. Residents are advised to secure outdoor items and prepare for possible power outages. Stay tuned for further updates as this system develops.

Dallas and Mac begin to walk around the house together holding the radio - trying to get a better signal - - - and look at the bucket on the corner of the room - in it is a picture of mom.

They hang the photo of mom near the fridge - above the microwave - left of window - so the blinds cast shadows upon her.

#### **SCENE 11 C: INT. MAC'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Mac goes to sleep and looks outside the window - as the weather and the storm approaches. Mac\_ looks out his bedroom window. The fireflies are out again, their soft glow dotting the landscape. The wind rustles the tall grass outside, making the fireflies flicker and blur - the optical illusion caused by the nature makes

As \_Mac\_ focuses on the distance, the fireflies' lights begin to resemble eyes watching from the darkness, unsettling him.

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#### **SCENE 11 B: MORNING AFTER - EXT. MAC AND DALLAS HOUSE - BUTTERFLY LANE**



They continue past it all, into their corner of the world-- a quiet cul-de-sac near a land preserve and a bird sanctuary.

They finally arrive home, exhausted, taking in the sight of their new house as the wind begins to pick up and the clouds begin to gather.

Mac and Dallas look around at the property and at the tall grass - and in a way - the tall grass looks back.

#### ## SCENE 11A : INT: DALLAS AND MAC KITCHEN - MORNING

Mac goes downstairs and Dallas is already up - and they eat breakfast - Dallas silently checks the device that accompanies the table - and a video feed and dashboard of content. Dallas watches. And then walks over and grabs a sheet of paper and a pen and begins to do math again. Mac watches him in silent - and puts the tape recorder in his backpack.

The device is a sun dial - that records shadows on the paper - dallas drops some water from a breaker onto a wax paper - and then watches how the sun dial works with the water.

He takes the drawing on a microphone and then

Mac looks in the morning and the earth is foggy but still - Mac peers out the window - nothing.

Mac enters the kitchen - dressed and ready for school.  
Dallas shows Mac

#### ## SCENE 12: INT. DALLAS AND MAC CAR - MORNING

DALLAS drive through town in their old sedan. Mac watches the condensation on the window as the two drive past an array of beautiful seaside homes.

Mac nods, gripping his backpack tightly as they pull up to the school.\_\_

**## SCENE 13: EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - BACK ENTRANCE - MORNING**

Mac steps out of the sedan, looking up at the imposing structure of his new school. The sounds of chattering students and the ringing of the school bell fill the air. Dallas watches him from the car before driving off.

Off in the distance - Dominic drops off his Kids - Makayla, Asher, and Julie-Bee - who is accompanied by a Hispanic aid.

As Mac walks over he approaches a new kid - that shakes his hand and then runs away.

**Scene 13a (Dallas):**

Dallas begins to go to the office - and the person hands him some bad news. He looks at the papers.

DOMINIC

Oh what's up Dallas. We can take turns you know - driving the kids home - it's all good. (Beat) Hey man is it cool if the kids ride together tomorrow - I got to go to hamden - scrap yard closes at 2pm and I need to make it.

DALLAS

Yeah, that's fine.

**SCENE 14: INT. CLASSROOM - MORNING**

Mac enters the classroom, glancing around - he acknowledges at the unfamiliar faces. He finds an empty seat and sits down, trying to blend in.

The Mrs. Mary, an eccentric woman in her late 40s, stands at the front of the room, beginning his introduction.

MS. MARY

Good morning class - lets get settled - lets get cozy - for we got some thinking to do - and I - like you - like to take things slow.

(MORE)

## MS. MARY (CONT'D)

Good morning class - I am Ms. Mary Fosterford - but you could just call me ms. Mary - I've been at this school for 23 years now - and I can honestly say - that there is nothing better than having a fresh season of life - - I love Thea academic calendar

and I to you shall be referred to as Mr Foster - your 5th grade science teacher - - - - this semester we will be exploring the wonders world of-weather patterns, the phases of the moon, and count all of the ripples of the tides... We'll then move on and examine different ways in which the phases of the moon rile together. In a chasm of solar gravity - moon beams. the tides work.

Ms. Mary walks around - and grabs a globe off of the desk - and a little model of an old submarine - and then flies it around - and then walks over to another demonstration - of a miniature forest - inside of the forest there are these little acorn looking people helping plant the moss on the trees.

## MS MARY

(continuing)

There were creatures deep below - creatures of old - but those days are gone - and that is not what we are going to talking about this year - I hope you all enjoy the weather as much - and mysteries this world holds for those who dare brave enough to explore- to contact to touch

Mac listens intently, but his attention is drawn by a noise deep outside the window. More kids notice - and miss Mary notice too.

MS MARY  
The weather around these parts.

SCENE 14B- LUNCHTIME

A group of kids sit down next to Mac

KID  
You know it is going to be the end  
of the world soon - that's what my  
dad says - that's why all of the  
weather is acting so strange.

**SCENE 15: EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - EARLY AFTERNOON**

Mac\_ sees \_ASHER\_ (10) from afar, accompanied by MAKAYLA (12). In the distance - Mac sees \_Makayla\_ hands \_Asher\_ a bag, and \_Asher\_ discreetly puts it in his backpack. \_Mac\_ watches the exchange, his curiosity piqued.

Makayla from far away sees Mac -

Mac pretends to not have noticed but is clearly busted by Makayla.

Dallas Arrives and Mac enters the car - clearly busted by Makayala.

DOMINIC  
Yooo Mac Attack - Mr Dimentarini -  
look we got to start car pooling  
or something because - I got am  
working on a project with my  
brother down in Bridgeport - and  
it's getting really far. I can  
have roslaita - take us - or even  
split for an uber - - or have the  
kids walk home.

MAKAYLA  
We can ride our bikes home.

DOMINIC  
Yeah you cool with that Dallas?

DALLAS  
I could pick them up.

DOMINIC  
 Alright fine - we'll take turns. -  
 Sorry man - I just have a lot  
 going on right now.

The crew hear a noise in the distance.

DOMINIC  
 Damn coyotes again - did you hear  
 them last night.

The wind howls a bit - as the weather changes. The crew

SCENE 16: EXT. DALLAS AND MAC HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Dallas and Mac go to Home Depot - and look for tools - and they get a bunch of wood and drive home - as they get home and take out all the wood - Makayla looks beyond her fence next to his house - and says

MAKAYLA  
 Did you see me give Asher that  
 bag?

MAC  
 Yeah

MAKAYALA  
 Do you want to know what was in  
 it?

MAC  
 What was in it?

MAKAYLA  
 Bait

MAC  
 Bait for what?

MAKAYLA  
 The creatures that live in the  
 trail grass

MAC  
 The tall grass where?

The two look and realize that they are surrounded in a marsh in the bumble eff Miflord Bradford Waterford who knows Connecticut - and see the coast from afar but the bright breeze washes away .

**SCENE 17: EXT. THE HUNT - DAY 1 - DINNER TIMER AT DOMINICS**

Dominic makes burgers and hotdogs on the grill in the public park - the kids all huddle around - Dallas drink a beer.

Makayla opens up the bag, revealing crab meat and bits of chicken in some tiny zip locks. She hands some to Mac, along with sticks and string. The kids spend the night trying to lure something out in the wetlands, but nothing happens. A thunderstorm begins to brew, and the wind howls around them.

Mac takes out his tape recorder and records the distant winds.

Makayla looks over at him - and then looks away.

Makayla walks over to a bag of lens on the ground - she looks at them.

MAKAYLA

Asher - what is this

ASHER

Be careful!

Asher runs over to the bag of lens and takes them away from Makayla.

MAKAYLA

You brought all of your toys here  
- did you bring the batteries for  
the trail cams?

ASHER

Dad would be mad if we used those  
the trail cams.

MAC

(to Asher)

What kind of lens are they?

ASHER

I think like a fish eye.

Makayla walks over to Mac

MAKAYLA

Mac - did you have much crab out  
in Illinois?

CUT TO:

DOMINIC

My daughter has been into looking at owls - there are a ton among them - she thinks there creatures from another world - but I tell her there just owls Makayla - they re just owls. What does your son like to do?

DALLAS

Ah well - he's got this tape recorder...

DOMINIC

And the misses - where's the misses at?

DALLAS

She passed

DOMINIC

Oh - I'm sorry to hear that

DALLAS

Yeah

DOMINIC

Mine too you know

DALLAS

Really?

DOMINIC

Yeah... Yeah - yeah yeah yeah - it has been a while - - lets see - makayla is 12 - asher is 14 - - - julie bee - but she dont count - she's from my new wife - - - lets see - it has been 6 years - so yeah - makayla was a little - asher was 8 - asher a little slow so he don't talk too much - - anyway - how long it been for you

DALLAS

It's been 3 years.

DOMINIC

And its just you and the boy ?

DALLAS

Yeah

A loud siren from far away - a horn. Dallas looks startled - it is an oddly deep like an organ but not as brassy - a calming tone -

DOMINIC

Ah - don't worry about that -  
that's just for the fire - look  
did you know that they are - watch  
- 3 - 5 - - 7 - - that means there  
going to foster street new haven -  
- we're good out in branford - I  
guess something big is going on  
over there. You work out of New  
Haven yeah?

MAKAYLA

You

MAKAYLA

Can I trust you?

MAC

Yeah.

Molly glances over at Dallas and to her father Dominic,  
then back to Mac.\_

MAKAYLA

Did you bring a bike?

Mac nods.

MAKAYLA

Good. Get your bike - and meet me  
back here in five minutes. (As she  
walks away) and Asher - I suggest  
you pack a snack because we might  
be ought there for a while.

Makayla turns and walks away, disappearing into the  
distance behind her garage.



Mac\_ looks over at his dad Dallas - who nods as Dominic continues - and he casually glances over at Asher - who casually glances over at him.

The two look at each other for a while - and then the wind moves one of the wind chimes - and then Mac takes out a little recorder out of his back pack Dominic - and then back to the retreating figure of Makayla.

Asher notices the tape recorder - and then looks over at Mac.

ASHER

What is that?

MAC

> It's a tape recorder.

ASHER

What do you use it for?

MAC

Mainly to practice guitar.

ASHER

Oh you got a guitar.

MAC

No I had to leave it behind - but  
I have a ukulele.

ASHER

Is a guitar like a ukulele?

MAC

Kind of.

ASHER

Okay... I'll see you in a bit.

Makayla reemerges with a bike and Ashers bike.

**SCENE 18: INT. NEW HOUSE - MAC'S ROOM - NIGHT**

Mac looks around his new room - and takes out and plays back the tape recorder - and then puts it away.

That night, Mac looks out his bedroom window. The thunderstorm rages outside, the wind shaking the trees and tall grass. The power flickers, then goes out. Mac stares into the darkness, his eyes wide as he hears a loud crash from outside.\\_

\_He presses his face closer to the glass, trying to make out what caused the noise, but all he can see are the blurred, glowing fireflies--now resembling eyes watching him through the storm.\_

FADE OUT.

# TUESDAY

## SCENE 19: EXT. HOUSE - TUESDAY MORNING

The morning sun casts long shadows as \_DALLAS\_ steps outside, carrying a trash bag. He walks towards the bins, inspecting them for any sign of raccoons - he looks a bit puzzled at the far distance of the grasslands that surround their home.

In the distance, \_MAC\_ (10) sprints towards the mailbox, eager to grab the mail. As he opens the mailbox, he notices something unusual: a small burn mark on the ground. It's not large or round, but scattered and irregular.

\_Dallas\_ notices \_Mac's\_ hesitation and walks over, peering down at the mark.

\_Dallas\_ frowns slightly but doesn't comment further. \_Mac\_ collects the mail, and they head to the car.

\_Mac\_ looks down - next to the lightning mark there is a single gemstone laying on the ground. \_Mac\_ doesn't touch it - but goes into the car.

## SCENE 20: INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

The classroom buzzes with chatter as the \_TEACHER\_ begins the day's lesson.

MR FOSTER  
Today's lesson is

> For those who were up last night, some of you may have the faint clap of a heard a distant rolling thunder - but what causes that? What causes these phonemeonms that allow us to get wild throughout the night?

> \_The teacher throws a book on the ground\_

\*\*MR FOSTER\*\*  
> I'm talking about boom thunder!  
And how long does thunder make a sound after lightning? Wake up people these are life long anecdotes! Today, we'll be learning about lightning forms-- phenomena that are particularly interesting here on the coast.

\\_As the teacher continues, Mac glances across the room at ASHER (10). The two exchange knowing looks.

SCENE 21: EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - AFTERNOON

Asher, Mac and Makayla wait at the parking lot for their parents to arrive.

Suddenly Dominic enters the frame in a large minivan blasting out bachata.

DOMINIC

Oh Mac - good to see you boy -  
Makayla, Asher - my children my  
legacy - - get in - - sorry its a  
bit messy - me and your uncle are  
collecting metal rods for sale up  
in North Haven.

Mac rearranges all of the metal and gives him some space to breath. all of the metal pipes around to give him space.

The crew drive away.

SCENE 22: INT CAR

DOMINIC

So Makayla tell you all about the  
monsters in the marsh?

MAKAYALA

Dad!

DOMINIC

Asher, you tell Mac.

Asher looks nervously at Makayla - and then nervously at his Dad and then nervously at Mac.

ASHER

Makayla believes that there are

MAKAYALA

Aye - Rick - To TAKA!

ASHER

Taka - Tic - Boi Boink

DOMINIC

Oh here they go again - -  
hollerin' about in their secret  
language that Dad can't be a part  
of - right kids? Dad can talk too  
you kno - - bukka bukka nuu nuu -  
bukaa bukkaa buuuu buuu

The crew pull up to the driveway that divides their two houses.

SCENE 22A: EXT. DOMINIC HOUSE BEACH - DUSK

DOMINIC AND CREW GO THERE SEPEARATE WAYS

DOMINIC

Mac, what time does you get off work?

MAC

I'm not sure - he'll be here before dinner.

DOMINIC

Well alright - alright then kids - Dad has to go back and run find out how much these pipes are going to cost - go back in the backyard and have fun.

Domnic

The golden light of the setting sun bathes the beach in a warm glow. Makayla, Asher, and Mac arrive with flashlights and ziplock bags. They begin collecting small crustaceans from the rocks, carefully placing them in the bags with a bit of seawater.

SCENE 22B - POSSIBLY OMITTED - CORNER BEACH MOM DEAD REVEAL

Makayla finds Mac alone and begins to talk to him.

MAC and MAKAYLA sit on a driftwood log, the silence between them heavy. The distant sound of waves fills the air.

\*\*MAKAYLA\*\*

\_(after a long silence)\_

> What happened to your mom?

\*\*MAC\*\*

\_(speaking softly)\_

> She died a long time ago. She got sick when I was two... and died when I was three.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> That's cool - my mom too - \_(pause)\_ - so Why did you move here?

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> My dad got a job at Yale.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Doing what?

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> I don't know - physics and nuclear stuff.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> He doesn't talk much does he.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> No

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> He see's things doesn't he?  
Things that arent there? - - you  
know my sister Julie-Bee sees  
things - but no one ever listens  
to her -

ASHER  
Carmen does

MAKAYALA  
Carmen treats her like a little  
stuffed animal Asher - grow up -  
we have to get her out of this -  
but for now its the situation -  
but little by little - as we learn  
through these creatures technology  
- we can

\_Mac doesn't respond - a long break.

\_The atmosphere is tense. Strange, wild sounds echo in the  
distance, like coyotes letting loose - and howling from far -  
and then close.\_

**\*\*ASHER\*\***

> What was that?

\_The kids freeze, glancing around. MAKAYLA grabs out a small  
audio recorder that she has - and motions for the rest of the  
crew to stay silent - but after the second cry - without a word,  
they quickly gather their things and rush to their bikes.\_

**SCENE 23A: EXT. MAKAYLA'S FORT**

Makayla shows Mac a prototype of how it all works.

MAKAYALA

You see - the water goes down the bamboo shoot - and then it stops there for a moment - just a tiny drop is all it takes - and the water activates the smell from the bait - is activated in the air - and the creatures like it - we are trying to get the best smells it could emit - but it is what it is and time is tight. They are attracted by the storms and are active this time of season.

MAC

How do you know all of this?

Mac and Makayla exchange glances - Makayla glances over at Asher in acceptance.

MAKAYALA

Because my mom - like yours died - and in her final breath - she told me so - and Asher was too young to understand - and my dad thinks its all a dream about something that I made up - but it happened.

The crew look at each other for a while. Asher breaks the silence by fiddling with the rope that holds up a camera.

Mac watches curiously.

MAC

What is that for?

MAKAYALA

To get some sensors - we got a raspberry pi up there collecting data.

The wind catches up the the crew. Makayla takes them into the secret fort.

Scene 23 B;

**SCENE 24: INT. MAC'S LIVINGROOM - NIGHT**



\_Mac\_ pedals home as fast as he can, the events of the evening still fresh in his mind. When he arrives, he sees \_Dallas\_ outside, watching the bird feeder sway with the wind.

Without hesitation, \_Mac\_ runs to him and gives him a hug.

Dallas turns toward his son. And for a moment embrace - whilst doing so - they both hear the strange sound together--carried on the wind from the direction of the beach. Dallas looks out into the darkness, his concern growing.\\_

\_Dallas\_ and \_Mac\_ sit down on their couch for dinner. Tension lingers, and they eat quietly. The distant sounds of the night mix with the clatter of utensils, adding to the growing sense of unease.

On the TV is the \_WEATHERMAN\_ - talking about how some hurricane quickly making headway along the southern coast, and how it is hurricane season. He urges viewers to be on the lookout.

Dallas after dinner tells Mac he's going to go upstairs- Mac follows him up and goes into the little attic - Dallas is building lots of little bird feeders - he sands and shaves them down and puts them on the internet

# WEDNESDAY

SCENE 25: EXT. DRIVEWAY - EVENING

—

Dallas and Mac walk the neighbor's dog but it isn't going well. They walk it by a patch of grass - tall grass - and Dallas looks off into the distance - Mac watches his gaze - and soon does the Dog - the latter too now staring at the great nothingness among the tall grass.

DALLAS\_ and \_MAC\_ take a long walk around the block - as they walk - Mac notices some of the traps that Makayla has set up. Dallas stops for a moment and looks at it.

As they walk home - the VoiceOver of there radioman fills the air.

\*\*RADIO ANNOUNCER (V.O.)\*\*

> And now for your evening weather forecast. Expect clear skies tonight with a slight breeze off the bay side. Perfect weather for the upcoming that Branford Sea Harvest Festival next week. Oh yeah - it should be good this year - get the kids - the get family - the whole family! Though right now the storm seems to be coming in - so you might want to stay indoors - but not too long - because the storm will pass and we should be good for the festival.

---

## SCENE 26: INT. DOMINIC'S SCREENED BACKYARD DECK PARTY - EVENING

The setting sun bathes the backyard in a golden glow of fury. Laughter and sizzling sounds engulf the air as the neighbors mingle upon the backyard screened deck. \_DALLAS\_ stands with \_DOMINIC\_, who's talking enthusiastically as he dips baby carrots into hummus and puts them on his plate.

Dominic gives Dallas and Mac the tour of the house - as he does - he points out a leaky roof.

DOMINIC

Yeah yeah - we got some leaky roof  
aint nothing to it.

Makayla and Cousin Joyce run by - ignoring Mac and headed straight for a little opening down the street.

DOMINIC  
(\_(gesturing with a fork  
full of ziti)\_)

> Yeah, yeah, Hugo--my cousin--  
throws a big party every summer.  
You'd really like him-- he used to  
manage a cosignment store off in  
Branford but the owner died so he  
got into inflatable balloons - and  
was part of the team that brought  
the sea festival - so he throws  
these parties - for charity you  
kno - . You and your boy - what's  
his name?

CUT TO : KIDS  
TABLE:

\*\*Mac\*\*

> Mac

\*\*Jocylen\*\*

> Jocylen (beat) nice to meet you  
- my Mom said you and your Dad are  
from Minnesota? This is my brother  
Dylan

UNCLE DYLAN  
Hello - nice to meet you. What is  
your name?

MAC  
Mac

UNCLE DYLAN  
Howdy Mac nice to meet you - Uncle  
Dylan at your service.

**\*\*Mac\*\***

> No - we were Monroe

**\*\*Asher\*\***

> Is that in illonois?

**\*\*Mac\*\***

> No it's part of Connecticut

**\*\*Jocylen\*\***

> My mom said that your Dad and my dad work together

**\*\*Mac\*\***

> Whose your dad?

**\*\*Jocylen\*\***

> Rodney Roberts

**\*\*Mac\*\***

> What does he do?

JOYCE

> He makes tools and stuff for the weather.

**\*\*Makayla\*\***

> Your dad is absolute Legend -  
watch your mouth Jocylen

MAC

What does your dad think about all  
of this weather?

JOYCE  
He's pumped up about it - haven't  
you heard him on the news.

**\*\*Mac\*\***

> Really?

**\*\*Asher\*\***

> I like him

**\*\*Makayla\*\***

> He invented the kaledoscope \\*\\*\\*\\*

**\*\*Mac\*\***

> Where is he?

**\*\*Jocylen\*\***

> He moved to Florida - i'm here  
now with my mom and grandma.

**\*\*Mac\*\***

> How does my dad know him?

**\*\*Jocysten\*\***

> Not sure.

**\*\*Makayla\*\***

> My grandfather must know

**\*\*Asher\*\***

> We shouldn't wake him

### CUT TO:  
ADULTS TABLE

(\_(Dominic takes a bite  
of ziti, then  
continues)\_)

**\*\*DOMINIC\*\***

> My old man's old man - God rest  
his soul - used to tell me -  
Dominic - baby - get with the  
times - but he wasn't around much -  
and I worked the bars - I always  
respected what he did though -  
that with the weather - I mean,  
who knows when the next storm  
might hit. My old man is now here  
with us - but he don't talk much



\\_Dallas nods politely, but seems a bit overwhelmed by Dominic's energy. Mac stands nearby, quietly listening but not engaging, his eyes occasionally drifting to the edge of the backyard. In the far distance there appears to be an object

\\_MAKAYLA (12) approaches Dominic, hugging him quickly. She then steps back, looking over at Mac as she adjusts her backpack straps.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Dad, I'm heading to the back with the others. We'll be back in 20 minutes.

**\*\*DOMINIC\*\***

> 20 minutes? What do you got to for 20 minutes? Makayla used to go and find squirrels and nurse them back to health - yep yeah - she still has those

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> I want to show them the fort

**\*\*DOMINIC\*\***

> Ooo the secret fort - - Makyala - when you going to show us the secret fort?

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Yes, Dad.

\\_Makayla and the crew at the kids table - head toward the far end of the backyard. She disappears into the twilight, silhouetted against the setting sun.

\\_Dallas watches them leave, as if sensing something in the air, but doesn't say anything. Dominic resumes the animated conversation.

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## SCENE 27: EXT. MAKAYLA'S SECRET LAIR - LATE AFTERNOON

The deck party continues in the distance. Mac wanders alone near the far end of Makayla's backyard, which stretches to the edge of the coast.

Mac stands still, staring at the water. Waves crash against the rocks. He scans the grass, looking for mysterious eyes, then back to Makayla.

Suddenly, a faint whimper--like an animal in pain--echoes from the wilderness. Nautical sounds engulf him, heightening his fear. The grass rustles, but it's unclear if it's wind or something else.

Frightened, Mac steps back, ready to return to the party. But before he can leave, the kids table emerges from the fog--Makayla, Asher, and Jocylen. They move purposefully, faces serious.

\\_MAKAYLA STEPS  
FORWARD,  
FOCUSING ON MAC.

MAKAYLA  
Mac, hand me the shovel

Mac hesitates, then nods and grabs a nearby shovel. As he hands it over, Makayla turns to the group, her expression shifting to leadership.\_

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> You there Mac, Mac?

\\_Asher takes a short breath and grasps his shovel. He begins to dig and dig and dig - almost in anger - almost too fast.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Relax baby brother

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> What is he digging for?

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> He's not digging FOR anything

> Alright. The best thing we could probably do is rub our faces with mud - it hides our scents.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> What is going on?

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> There is something out there - and I am going to make contact with it.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> What do you mean?

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> What are you going to say?

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> What do you say to a group of photons who are distangled from eachother?

**\*\*Julie Been\*\***

> what are they saying

Makayla and Asher look at each other. Makayla continues to gear up.

**\*\*MAKAYALA\*\***

> I am not sure.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> Well, what does it look like?

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Well, there is more than one type - so far in this part of the region - they are part of a subsect - they are phsyical - real - things that can tackle you -

**\*\*ASHER\*\***

> They are also small.

**\*\*JULIE BEEN\*\***

> Tiny

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> You guys still claim that - there is no evidence of that - we have no relationship to this.

The kids, led by Makayla, move deeper into the tall grass, toward the tallest grass where the coast drops off into the sea. The fog thickens, and the air grows colder.

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**## Scene 28: EXT. THE EDGE OF THE TALL GRASS THICKET**

The crew hang around the tall grass as time moves slowly agaisnt the wind - agaisnt the branches of the tall grass.

\\_Makayla takes out a pack of hotdogs from Asher's backpack cooler and cleans it on a flat rock - Mac grabs the the shovel leaning agaisnt the outer wall of the wigwam - and Asher slowly brings the baitfish over and puts it in the bucket.

**\*\*JOCYLEN\*\***

> Makayla this is crazy

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Yeah - you think?

**\*\*JOCYLEN\*\***

> Makayla

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> What's crazy about it?

**\*\*JOCYLEN\*\***

> Huh?

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> You said this was crazy - what's crazy about it - Mac get the shovel and dig a hole by the edge of the lawn - we call that the outpost - we're going to plant another camera - Asher - get the rope swing pulley and string the bags of bait. - - See what we do is tie these bad boys to that tree there - and let them swing -

**\*\*JOCYLCEN\*\***

> How do we know this isn't just some racoon getting its kicks oabout it?

\\_Mac and \\_Asher diligently set up cameras on the surrounding trees - they hook cables up to a battery pack taped onto a wooden panel.

**## SCENE 29: EXT. MAKAYLA'S HIDEAWAY - LATE AFTERNOON**

\\_The kids gather at their hideaway--a makeshift wigwam - fort hidden deep in Makayla's backyard old playground set - grass. Inside, houses a rudimentary surveillance system: several portable HDMI Monitors - run by a batterypunk tied to a solar panel. Shovels and buckets and poles are propped up against rocks and driftwood, their screens glowing in the dim light. Cables stretch out towards to a jury-rigged power supply--a large battery bank cobbled together from old car batteries and solar chargers.

\\_ASHER fiddles with the wiring as he ensures each screen is properly connected. Makayla walks over and sits down in front of the monitors. Asher, Mac, and Jocylen behind her.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> The creatures are likely to come out tonight - the tide.

\\_Mac looks out the cracks of the makeshift wigwam - through it he watches the tallgrass swaying in the wind.

**\*\*JOCYLEN\*\***

> How do you know that?

\\_They exchange glances.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> What creatures?

**\*\*ASHER\*\***

\\_(setting up a camera)\\_

> The wind will pick up and push the smell out -

**\*\*JOCYLEN\*\***



> Out where?

**\*\*ASHER\*\***

> Out there.

Asher tests the camera pan into the Tall Grass

\\_Makayla watches Asher set up the final camera.

**## SCENE 30 - BACK AT THE WIGWAM HQ**

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Asher, the feed isn't working.

\\_Asher leans over, squinting at the screen.

\\_He scrolls through the tiny menu of the cheap digital camera, but the screen remains locked in the wrong shutter speed.

**\*\*Makayla\*\***

> Just turn the night vision on - we can fix it on computer

\\_Mac watches Makayla - and off in the distance - he hears a little noise - that it seems like only he could hear - he looks out the at the darkening sky, a hint of worry in his voice.

**\*\*Makayla\*\***

> Mac what is it?

\\_Makayla looks torn, glancing between the malfunctioning equipment and her friends.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> But we haven't got the camera working yet. Haaaaaa - okay - I guess we have enough cameras - Asher go and record - make sure you are saving it as an mp4.

They like blackberries - did you know that?

**\*\*JOCYLEN\*\***

\\_(standing up)\\_

> Makayla we ought to go back - its been more than 20 min

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Go then Jocylen - we are right in the backyard - tell them we're fine - but go if you need to - go go go go go.

\\_Jocylen leaves the wigwam...

\*\*CUT TO: EXT. DOMINICS'S BACKYARD - NIGHT\*\*

\\_Reluctantly, they begin to gather their things. Makayla lingers, staring out at the tall grass with a mix of disappointment and determination.

\\_As they pack up their makeshift surveillance system, the wind picks up, rustling through the grass. For a moment, it almost sounds like whispers carried on the breeze.

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<!-- END of 25-30 -->

## SCENE 30A - SCHOOL

Ms Mary looks concerned at Mac

MS MARY

Mac - is everything okay?

MAC

Not really - Makayla - she's been talking about the end of the world and stuff - do you think the world is going to end because of the hurricanes and the creatures in the tall grass.

MS MARY

That was a lot Mac - can we break that down for a moment?

MAC

Sure

MS MARY

How long have you and your father  
lived here?

MAC

Not that long.

MS MARY

What does your mom do for work?

MAC

My mom died.

MS MARY

I'm sorry to hear that.

MAC

It's alright.

MS MARY

You know - that makes you special?

MAC

What do you mean?

MS MARY

Well, one day Mac the truth is one  
day we all are going to meet and  
reunite - and don't know when the  
wind will blow to take us home

MAC

You really believe that?

MS MARY

I do.

<!-- START OF 31 -->

## Scene 31: INT. DOMINICS BACK DECK - EARLY EVENING

\_The kids return to the party. Mac approaches Dallas, who's standing alone in the hallway, looking at wall-mounted family portraits--photos of when the kids were little. He looks at his son and smiles.\_

**\*\*Dominic\*\***

> Where were you guys?

**\*\*Makayla\*\***

> We were out in the backyard

**\*\*Dominic\*\***

> You out there cookin Lizards - you better watch yourself Makayla (jokin) I'm joking kid relax - (to Dallas) I gotta check that the girl - i vote yes for bush craft - but got to make sure she aint doing witch craft.

\_Bonnie comes out with a big mashed potato plate of mashed potatoes.

**\*\*Dominic\*\***

> Alright - let's go - it's time for dinner.

**## Scene 32 - EXT. BEACHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD- SUNSET**

\*\*\_[Traveling Montage]\_\*\*

Dallas and Mac walk home - the pair gently stroll through the windy sunset and watch all of the docks dance upon the ocean - they walk towards the edge of mansions - towards the sidewalks - towards the tallgrass.

As they walk adjacent to the tall grass - Mac begins to notice some movement in the far distance. Dallas stops - and for a moment the two begin to listen. Silence.

## SCENE 32a - EXT. BEACHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD - SUNSET

They continue their walk.

As they walk into their driveway - they notice a howl in the distance followed by a series of howls and howls and slow whimpers. They go inside.

## Scene 33 - INT. MAC'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Mac and Dallas get ready for bed - Dallas checks upon his project on the table - and mac goes and looks at a spindel of a paper towel holder - which he holds up to the light - Dallas notices him looking at it - and then goes back to his own creation.

\*\*Mac\*\*

> Do you think this could be used as a tripod?

**\*\*Dallas\*\***

> A tripod for what

**\*\*Mac\*\***

> Makayla wants to build a radar system - so she wants to mount something

**\*\*Dallas\*\***

> That wont be able to hold the weight

Mac puts a couple of obects on the edges

**\*\*Mac\*\***

> But it can stand the wind. Do you think its possible for for animals to give off distinct radiation?

**## Scene 33a- INT. MAC'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Mac looks outside his window and sees a disturbance in the tall grass. In the distance a small light glows and flickers. Mac takes a little flash light and flickers back - and the light goes out. And then it doesn't go on again.

# THURSDAY  
MORNING

## SCENE 34: INT. HOUSE - MORNING

Dallas begins to go inside, the sound of the breeze from the Long Island Sound rustling through the trees. He pauses, looking out at the sky before stepping through the door. From the corner of his eye - he spots an object by the mailbox but he doesn't go up to it.

Mac goes and begins to record the sounds through his tape recorder.

## SCENE 34a - INT CAR

Dallas drives Mac to school.

## Scene 35: INT. CLASSROOM - MORNING

The class mid-session - Mac looks out the window in the distance and sees another weather reporter taking footage of some bush behind a chain linked fence across the street. The cameraman is pointing to something on the ground.

The teacher an elderly woman - asks the class a question - and Mac is the first to answer.

\*\*MR. FOSTER\*\*



> Light gives us an alert - in the 1980s it was the - the man from the funeral home and the scientist have the same fate. But that is not this class -

> Mac - what have you learned about the weather so far this year?

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> There are a bunch of things - we live in an atmosphere - and the atmosphere is made up of a bunch of different things - and the weather is what happens when the atmosphere changes. Different things happen when the atmosphere changes. Animals and plants and things act differently when the atmosphere changes. And we can predict the weather - but we can't predict everything.

**\*\*Teacher\*\***

> Okay Mac - I see you.

**\*\*Teacher\*\***

> Asher

**\*\*ASHER\*\***

> Yeah?

**\*\*Teacher\*\***

> What do you think about the weather?

**\*\*ASHER\*\***

> I like it.

**\*\*Teacher\*\***

> What makes you say that?

**\*\*ASHER\*\***

> I don't know - I just like it.

**\*\*Teacher\*\***

> Can you elaborate?

**\*\*ASHER\*\***

> I don't know - I just like it.

---

## SCENE 36: EXT. CHURCH PARKING LOT

The crew gather around outside of youth group parking lot playground - there parents drop them off and they meet with Pastor Jerry outside and sit in a circle of chairs outside -

The group sit around in a circle and play basic board games - and getting to know you ice breakers.

\*\*JERRY\*\*

> Let's go around and see where we  
are all from

\*\*MAKAYLA\*\*

> Did you guys hear the coyotes  
last night?

\*\*JERRY\*\*

> How many do you think there  
were?

\*\*MAKAYLA\*\*

> Dozens

\*\*MAKAYLA\*\*

> Pastor Jerry - have you noticed  
what is going on with the Weather?

After the class, the \_Youth Pastor\_ notices \_Mac\_ sitting alone and goes over to console him.

---

SCENE 37: EXT. CHURCH PARKING LOT

\_Mac\_ sits alone on the picnic table near the parking lot as the rest of the crew's parents pack up. Jerry helps by folding the chairs and asks for a hand.

The \_Youth Pastor\_ notices \_Mac\_ sitting alone and joins him on the stoop.

PASTOR JERRY

> Mac - thought I saw you someone  
- you waiting on dad?

MAC

> Yeah.

PASTOR JERRY

Nice - yeah man - how's it going?

MAC

Good

PASTOR JERRY

Cool cool - yeah man - first week  
new town right? New school - new  
youth group - new haven - - you  
guys live out in new haven right?  
Someone told me that.

MAC

> No - East Haven - on the edge of  
Branford .

\*\*JERRY\*\*

Oo that's a nice place  
> How did you father find this  
church?

\*\*MAC\*\*

> he works at Yale  
> Ah - that's good...

**\*\*JERRY\*\*** (CONT'D)

> Yeah - I remember coming here  
from Georgia - wasn't used to  
these New England winters. But  
that was a while ago.

\_Mac continues to look onward. At the tall grass that surrounds  
the church.

MAC  
Have you ever seen something in  
that grass before at night?

PASTOR JERRY  
What do you mean? That grass?

MAC  
Nevermind

PASTOR JERRY  
You have something on your mind  
Mac?

MAC  
Yeah - I am just wondering how  
this all could fit - how could  
there be creatures in the  
tallgrass - and why they are  
following me around.

PASTOR JERRY  
That's what you saw?

MAC  
What do you mean?

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> Can you keep a secret? stories?

**\*\*JERRY\*\***

> Well, I

\*\*MAC\*\*

> What about creatures?

\*\*JERRY\*\*

> What do you mean?

\*\*MAC\*\*

> Do you think there are creatures  
in other worlds?

\*\*JERRY\*\*

> What's that?

\*\*MAC\*\*

> The handout you gave before -  
and the talk after - you said that  
the \*\*\_ came from \_\*\* to serve  
God.

\*\*JERRY\*\*

> I did - yes.

\*\*MAC\*\*

> So are there still creatures in  
this world?

\*\*JERRY\*\*

> Hmmm. Well, maybe you could  
 think of the creatures of the deep  
 waters that we're still figuring  
 out.  
 > (MORE)

**\*\*JERRY\*\* (CONT'D)**

> I think it's easy for us to get  
 hung up on the logistics - - but  
 if you think about it there are  
 still - - ancient things - things  
 we don't understand - we're  
 discovering about dinosaurs and  
 whatnot.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> That's not what I mean. Makayla  
 was talking about these creatures  
 that she has been seeing in the  
 tall grass - and now her and Asher  
 and me are taking pictures of the  
 tall grass. And the other day - I  
 really could have sworn - that I  
 saw one outside my window.

\\_Dallas parks outside - and Mac shakes Jerry's hand.

Dallas gives an apologetic wave - thank you

**\*\*DALLAS\*\***

> Sorry I was late - thank you -

\\_Mac walks into the car and looks off in the distance of a  
 small object on the side of the road far off in the  
 distance.\_

[MONTAGE OF  
DRIVING FROM THE  
HAVENS TO  
BRANFORD]

ENE 38: CORNER BEACH BBQ

The crew gather at corner beach

Dallas grills outside - - \_Dallas\_ grilling. The smoke from the grill rises and catches the light, casting eerie shadows. \_Mac\_ looks beyond the borders of their property, his gaze fixated on the tall grass swaying in the breeze. Mac takes out his recorder and

SCENE 40: INT. MAC'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Dallas and Mac eat dinner. walks back inside to find \_Dallas\_ staring at the weather TV - and then Dallas grabs his device again. \_Dallas\_ notices \_Mac\_ and gets up. The two sit together by the TV. Off in the distance - the wind pulls up.

Dallas walks over to the bird house not complete or built - and he looks down somberly over it. Mac goes over to the piano and plays a little rift as he records it in his tape recorder - as the wind picks up outside.

## SCENE 41: EXT. MAC'S HOUSE - NIGHT

That night, as they prepare for bed, a strange sound echoes through the house. The wind begins to pick up, rattling the windows. \_Dallas\_ looks out into the night, the tall grass swaying ominously.

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## SCENE 42: EXT. MAC'S HOUSE - NIGHT

\_Dallas\_ steps outside into the thunderstorm to make sure everything is secure. The wind howls around him as he checks the perimeter, a sense of unease settling in.

Mac Joins him.

The two far in the distance - hear the birds but they do not see them - the tall trees cast shadows beneath the tall grass

And tiny - but tiny little glowing lights 2 green and 3 red below - and then two big purple type eyes that glow blue - little blue lights - and then a bit of a mist -

Fire flies

Mac does his best to go back inside to get his tape recorder.

## SCENE 42a : : :

::

\\*\\* THE BIG ENCOUNTER

Mac goes outside and takes out the trash - he notices a dead bird - and then from the far he sees three little stones placed near his mail box. Circular smooth stones

Mac walks over and sees a little figure - but as he looks it is just some twine. As he examines the tall grass with a flash light - he notices some horrid looking shadows in the far distance and quickly closes his sack up and goes up

SCENE 42a: INT. MAC'S BEDROOM - DARK NIGHT

Mac stares outside the window outside on the tall grass

\*\*FADE OUT.\*\*

# FRIDAY

SCENE 43: INT. MAC'S HOUSE - MORNING

The next morning, the storm has passed, but the air is foggy - the street lights are still on - creating a golden hue of shadow amid the rainy street. heavy with the remnants of the previous night's events. \_DALLAS\_ looks out the window and finds the seed from the bird feeder scattered about. \_MAC\_ searches for the rocks they had collected earlier.

---

## SCENE 44: INT. SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

The \_TEACHER\_ stands at the front of the class, addressing the students.

MR FOSTER

What a busy week we have had class no? What a busy week indeed - Mr Mac - who is new in town - is welcomed with a wild display of nature's glory. Not sure if you folks have been noticing, but the weather has been acting sporadic lately. A little weird - a little odd - like something doesn't seem right - Sporadic - the sporadic nature of nature - - what does the word sporadic mean? Let us find out.

SCENE 45: INT. SCHOOL MEDIA LAB - AFTERNOON

The crew-- MAKAYLA, MAC, and a few other kids--gather around a computer. They stand over a software editor, DaVinci Resolve, going frame by frame through various camera footage, scanning for any sign of eyes or other mysterious figures. MISTY hands MAKAYLA another camera, and she inserts its SD card into the computer.

Nothing unusual comes up on the screen.

MAKAYLA

What Mac saw last night - the cameras must have picked up somehow - - see if we can go and saturate the colors some how

MISTY

I think I am doing it

MAKAYLA

Yeah yeah - that's right - good  
Misty good - that looks better - -  
look - look right there

Mac and Asher move closer to the computer screen - above the three little stones is a little fog in the lens.

MAKAYLA

Zoom in on that

ASHER

What is that?

MAKAYLA

It has to be one of the creatures  
- they congregate on the pebbles -  
it serves as a beacon for them

MISTY

What are you talking about? It's  
just a lens flair

MAKAYLA

Mac - call your dad

MAC

We have that bbq picnic tonight

MAKAYLA

Crap that's right.

ASHER

It's out by the docks though -

S

SCENE 46 : EXT: NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY - EVENING SUNSET

The place is buzzing at the docks - the sunset is  
beautiful. And the atmosphere of Stony Creek is off the  
charts## Scene

People from church are there. People from school are there.  
And the block party really ramps up - people can't seem to  
stop talking about

The crew huddles behind a cotton candy machine.

MAKAYLA

The creatures are going to come  
out tonight. We have to bunker  
down at your house Mac - as you  
had the last contact with them.  
These people won't know what hit  
them -

ASHER

I can build a radio and we could  
put them by it.

The crew ride there bikes - Makayla and Mac ride together in the collaborative bike - and Asher rides along side them along the school yard and begin to go and go and go until they get to the edge of the beach spot

# SATURDAY #2

SCENE 47: EXT. MAC'S HOUSE - MORNING

DALLAS is outside, focused on building a bird feeder but he can't seem to get it working. He watches the way that the reflection of the glass holding the seed reflects off of it - and how it goes into the garage.

Dallas goes back and finds a little mirror to add -

He examines his creation, a little then turns his attention to a bucket filled with gardening supplies. Initially hesitant, he eventually begins tending to the garden.

The wind ramps up.

MAC rummages through the bucket, discovering an old fishing wire and a ring. He fashions a makeshift ring toss game on a tree across from the tall grass.

Mac plays for a while, then retrieves his bike and rides off.

SCENE 48: EXT. MAKAYLA'S HOUSE - MORNING

Mac parks his bike outside Makayla and Asher's home.  
DOMINIC, is outside raking the leaves and , answers the door.

DOMINIC

Oh what's up Mac - Mr Mac - what's the good word - how's your father?

MAC

He's okay

**\*\*DOMINIC\*\***

What's he up to these days?

**\*\*MAC\*\***

Works mostly

DOMINIC

What time is he coming home later  
- I just got this new h-vac system  
that my cousin - I got a new air  
fryer and . You looking for  
Makayla?

**\*\*MAC\*\***

Yea.

**\*\*DOMINIC\*\***

> Makaylaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa

Asher walks past and hands Mac a manilla envelope.

DOMINIC

What the hell is that?

ASHER

It is a note from Makyla - she  
told me to give it you in the  
event of her absent

DOMINIC

Absent - where is she going?

ASHER

She's going down by the beach to  
put more traps up - and she is  
waiting for the high tide so she  
could go

DOMINIC

She's going to freeze - and drown  
- and freeze again - - what

ASHER

She is using your rubber boots and  
snow pants to go into the water.

DOMINIC

Asher - are you serious?

ASHER

Yes.

CUT TO:

Mac, Asher and Dominic all look at each other out the window as they drive along to go get Makayla.

Mac in the back window starts to open and peer through the manila folder that Makayla has left him.

## SCENE 50: EXT. MAC'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Mac rides his bike home alone among the tall grass.

---

\*\*MAC\*\*

Okay - when do you want to do this?

\*\*MAKAYLA\*\*

We have to wait on the weather - for a true thunderstorm.

MAC

I think that the creatures are  
real and just not yet discovered -

MAKAYLA

What do you think they are?

MAC

But then we forget.

MAKAYLA

We can never tell anyone about this. I thought about of - but I don't think we should capture it anymore.

The winds crash agaisnt the shoreline.

SCENE 51: EXT. MAC'S BIKE RIDE HOME

\_Mac\_ rides his bike along the tall grass, scanning for eyes. He notices a dog in the distance acting strangely, barking at the tall grass. Mac speeds up. And rides away.

## SCENE 52: EXT. MAC'S HOUSE - OUTSIDE GARAGE

\_Mac\_ finds \_Dallas\_ outside taking weather measurements. Dallas explains how it works.

In the distance, a camera crew is filming something in the tall grass. Mac, curious, walks over to investigate. He spots another gemstone on the ground but doesn't touch it.

SCENE 53: INT. MAC'S HOUSE - DINNER TIME

\_Mac\_ and \_Dallas\_ eat dinner while watching the weather on TV. News reports discuss the approaching hurricane and "hurricane season."

\_Mac\_ looks out the window, searching for eyes in the tall grass. He sees a flicker in the night.



That night, as the wind howls, Mac's gaze wanders across the street to the tall grass.

SCENE 54: INT. CHURCH SANCTUARY

The church is buzzing with talk of the town - apparently a very strange event happened to everything the night before.

\_Mac\_ looks at different congregates hovering around a coffee pot as an older gentleman hands out welcome cards. On the screen there are announcements for the upcoming Harvest Festival - the church is going to be a part of it and run the kids crafts table - volunteers are needed.

\_Mac\_ and \_Dallas\_ walk into the pew and sit behind a baby that stares at Mac.

The piano begins.

**\*\*PASTOR JERRY\*\***

Please find a seat - our call to worship this morning is from the book of Isaiah - Chapter 52 verse 25.

\_The projector screen displays the verse.\_

\_Mac\_ looks around for \_Makayla\_ and \_Asher\_ but they are not here this morning.

An elderly woman approaches Dallas and Mac - and asks Mac if we could

## SCENE 55: EXT. CHURCH OUTSIDE FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

\_Mac\_ approaches \_Jerry\_ and asks him if he has seen \_Makayla\_ or \_Asher\_.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

I was with them yesterday.

**\*\*PASTOR JERRY\*\***

They were supposed to help out  
with the nursery room - all good -  
just not like their father to not  
bring them - okay - sorry - just  
wanted to make sure they were  
okay.

**## SCENE 56: EXT. BEACH HOUSE**

\_Mac\_ and \_Dallas\_ approach their home from their walk. \_Mac\_  
runs over to the mailbox.

\_Mac\_ looks around the neighbors' house but sees their car gone.

**# MONDAY #2**

## SCENE 57: INT. SCHOOL

\_Mac\_ checks the stones - they are still there. School begins  
and ends. The teacher talks about the weather more. \_Asher\_ and  
\_Mac\_ eat silently during lunch. \_Makayla's\_ dominic pics them  
all up.

Outside Makayla's house there is the news crew.

Asher takes special interest

Mac\_ goes home that night and sees \_Makayla\_ sitting alone.

SCENE 58: EXT. MAKAYLA'S HOUSE

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

I can't believe that what we are seeing is real.

\_Mac's eyes widen.\_

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

It came.

\_Mac's eyes widen again.\_

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> Really?

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> We were going to get the footage before it got dark - and as we were approaching the camera - He saw the creature too and he ran away and he broke his leg - I stood there and stood still... we were there until late - and I was tired so I asked my dad if I could stay home from school today and he said it was okay - he took off work himself - Asher's in the hospital and we're going to go over after we shower and visit him - he should be back tomorrow.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> Have you talked to him?

> No - not really - I told him not to talk about what we were doing back there - as the adults would think would get all worried and start a big investigation and ruin our plans before they begin.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> What do you see?

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> I saw eyes in the distance... And then - and then I don't know what happened - it was like - I was dreaming for a second - but then I woke up and it was gone - and Asher was crying in the distance.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> Did you look at the footage?

(\_Makayla Smiles.\_)

**\*\*CUT TO\*\***

The footage is profound - and the kids are excited - it shows a creature - and then a flash of light - and then nothing - and then Asher crying - but a flash of light - and in the center as they zoom nothing - but as a filter is applied - some makeshift eyes appear.

**## SCENE 59: INT. MAKAYLA'S COMPUTER ROOM**

The Hispanic aid helps Julie-Bee

The crew look at a series of old CRT era laptops all haphazardly and hackerdly arranged - and then a big slow motion - and then nothing - and then Asher crying - but a flash of light - and in the center as they zoom nothing - but as a filter is applied - some makeshift eyes appear.

\_The Dominic comes downstairs and tells Makayla that they have to go - Mac needs to go home.\_

DOMINIC

Mac - you have to go home - we're about to have dinner - are you staying for dinner? If not - go to get the hell out

**\*\*CUT TO\*\***

## ## SCENE 60: EXT. MAC HOUSE - EVENING

\_Dallas\_ is out in the front yard looking at the smooth stones scattered on the outside of his wall. He takes out a little hankerchief and grabs one and holds it closer to his face.

Mac walks behind him - ready for school and then he looks at \_Mac\_ - \_Mac\_ looks back - the two walk inside and check the weather.

# TUESDAY #2

## ## SCENE 61: EXT. MAC'S HOUSE - MORNING

\_School has been cancelled. DALLAS turns on the TV.\_

\*\*TV ANNOUNCER (V.O.)\*\*  
Due to the impending hurricane,  
all schools in the area will be  
closed today. The storm is  
expected to make landfall...

\_MAC looks out the window, seeing a bright sunny sky. MAKAYLA and ASHER arrive on bikes.\_

\*\*MAKAYLA\*\*  
Can we use your sink?

## ## SCENE 62: INT. MAC'S KITCHEN

Dominic and his family are there -

**\*\*DOMINIC\*\***

Thank you for letting us use your  
- the power keeps going out on our  
house. Here

sink. And for the overall  
hospitality my friend - we got a  
leaky roof - shelter.

Dominic begins handing dallas a suitcase full of supplies -  
battery chargers - and what not - crackers - bottles of water -  
bottles of seltzer.

Behind him - Makayla comes in with her own suitcase - and Asher  
comes in with his own - and Julie Bee - and the hispanic aid  
also come in - and all set up shop in the living room - Makayla  
watches the crowd gather and instead goes and

DALLAS stands over the sink, washing dirt off potatoes. He  
moves aside as MAKAYLA storms in.\_

MAKAYLA takes out an old metal instrument and begins washing  
dirt off of it.\_

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

(\_(rattling on)\_)  
I have a plan. I think the  
creatures have landed.  
(MORE)

\*\*MAKAYLA\*\* (CONT'D)  
I believe they've come with the  
storm. Now, we're going to mark  
them.

\_DALLAS putters around, looking for a towel to dry his hands.\_

\_MAKAYLA hands MAC the wet instrument. DALLAS hands MAC a  
cloth.\_

\_MAKAYLA and DALLAS lock eyes. ASHER bumps into them, carrying a  
box of meat thermometers.\_

## SCENE 63: EXT. MAC'S BACKYARD

\_MAKAYLA demonstrates to MAC, ASHER, and DALLAS how to plant a  
device in the ground.\_

                  \*\*MAKAYLA (V.O.)\*\*  
Creatures, like animals, give off  
heat... These are set to pick up  
temperature changes in the ground.

\_MAKAYLA pulls out an electrical device. DALLAS picks it up,  
inspecting it.\_

                  \*\*ASHER\*\*  
Does it work?

\_DALLAS looks concerned, takes it to his workshop.\_



**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

He's going to fix it, right? I think that one works. He'll figure it out. Here's another.

(\_(tosses a trail cam to  
MAC)\_)

It's a trail cam. When we get notice of ground temperature changes, we'll know when to look for footage. Grade A stuff - they detect night vision and anything else. And then - we are going to - remotely - communicate via flash light - with mirrors

**\*\*MAC\*\***

Where do you want to hang them?

SCENE 64: EXT. MAC'S BACKYARD - THE TREE

\_MAC uses his fishing line kit to tie down a device.\_

Makayla runs out of the kitchen and everyone tries to get her to stay - but she is determined. And escapes - she runs away through the tall grass.

SCENE 65: EXT. MAKAYLA BACKYARD

\_MAC hangs another deer cam. ASHER plants meat thermometers near the tall grass and arranges his tripods.

**\*\*MAKAYLA (V.O.)\*\***

The creatures give off heat - just like any other creatures. What we are going to is start to make a pattern of light - and mirrors

Off in the distance - Domonic looks off in the distance as he waters his plants and shakes his head.

SCENE 65A: EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - LATE AFTERNOON

\_The kids ride bikes. MAKAYLA scouts locations. ASHER and MAC ride together.\_

                  \*\*ASHER\*\*  
Do you think there are really  
creatures in the tall grass?

                  \*\*MAC\*\*  
          (\_(Looking at Asher)\_)  
Do you?

                  \*\*ASHER\*\*  
I saw them once when I was  
younger.

                  MAC  
Really?

                  ASHER  
Yeah - but I never told Makayla.

Makayla and the gang add little tiny baits on hooks and then Asher frames little trail cams on selfhie sticks that they plant in the grass

## SCENE 66: EXT. MAC'S HOUSE - DUSK

\_The children arrive. DALLAS comes out with the fixed device, handing it to MAKAYLA. They exchange looks. MAKAYLA and ASHER ride off.\_

\_MAC and DALLAS go inside silently. DALLAS resumes washing potatoes.\_

SCENE 67: INT. MAC AND DALLAS' LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Dallas sits on the couch sad - and he looks at the object in front of him. The winds howl outside - but he just feels so sad.

## SCENE 68: INT. MAC'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

\_MAC stares at glow-in-the-dark stars on his ceiling, then at a picture of his mom on the dresser.

\_A faint cry, like a wounded animal, is heard in the distance, then stops.\_

\_MAC looks out the window at the tall grass. He sees nothing.

Mac gets up and takes his little tape recorder off at first, then spots eyes.\_

Mac retreats to bed, then looks out again. Nothing.\_

\_Another cry is heard, followed by a loud crash and then nothing - and then a little whimper - like a small animal is dying.

MAC stands at his bedroom window, peering out into the darkness. The moonlight casts eerie shadows across the backyard.

His eyes scan the dark horizon, searching. For the briefest moment, GLOWING EYES appear between the swaying grass. MAC's breath catches in his throat. He blinks, and the eyes are gone. Was it real, or just his imagination?

Another faint cry echoes in the distance, sending a shiver down MAC's spine. He leans closer to the window, pressing his forehead against the cool glass.

Suddenly, the motion-activated porch light flicks on, startling MAC. He sees DALLAS step out onto the porch, looking around with a concerned expression.

MAC quickly ducks away from the window, his heart racing. He climbs back into bed, pulling the covers up to his chin. As he lies there in the dark, he can't shake the feeling that something out there is watching them.

SCENE 69: INT. MAC'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Mac stares out his window - and looks outside the tall grass - he goes outside a bit - and approaches it.

He gets a little batty club and grips it tightly. He grabs the steak that houses the bird feeder.

Mac makes a decision - to go outside - he goes and straps his tape recorder around his neck and musters up the courage to open the kitchen screened door

Mac musters up the courage and leaves his bedroom to head outside.

SCENE 70 : EXT. TALL GRASS - MAC'S BACKYARD - NIGHT

As Mac approaches the tall grass and gets closer - he sees the creature and its light flickers in the tall grass - it comes to the edge of the grass - and appears from far away - it is small in size and appears quiet friendly - though Mac really make out what it is.

Nervously - Mac enters the tall grass - towards the shattering light - through the wind - and it pauses - as he approaches it the light shines upon his face - blinding him temporarily - but then settling down - into a small silhouette of a creature hovering above a tiny stone - Mac makes eye contact with the creature - and then the creature gets off the stone and begins to walk on top of the grass floor.

Nervously - he records the tape recorder - but soon - the creature goes back into the tall grass - it is a little grassy looking creature that almost looks like a sea urchin or some ball of light.

Next around Mac - he sees in the trees what looks and appears to be eyes of a sea urchin

Mac looks at the stones in the ground - and nervously - takes out his camera phone but the phone is dead - and he tries to record the tape - but the tape is speeding up faster and faster - and suddenly pops out - the creature is short in nature - and about no larger than a water bottle. It looks at Mac - frozen - and mac looks back at it.

Mac bends down - almost in a trance - and finds his fear turns towards curiosity.

Mac holds out his finger - and the creature backs away - and then gazes away from Mac - behind him in the tall grass.

The creature is still about 10 feet away - and Mac still can't make out - but it seems friendly.

It all disappears and Mac quietly walks back to home and goes to bed - a bit shocked.

SCENE 71: BREAKFAST NEXT DAY

71A = INT. MAC'S BREAKFAST TABLE - MORNING

Dallas walks around the house and makes sure that everything is connected to a battery that is charging several larger battery units - and also solar panels and he checks the progress of them all - it is a big array of batteries.

Mac grabs a bowl from the Hubbard and Dallas turns on the radio.

V.O RADIO

East Hammden, ThisThat School are canceled - weather folks are advising you to stay indoors as we await the storm.

A knock at the door - it's Makayla

MAKAYLA

My dad is going nuts - he should be here

Boom the door opens

DOMINIC

Dallas - Dallas - are you home  
Dallas?

DALLAS

Yeah - what's going on

DOMINIC

Oh goodness gracious blessed Mary  
glad to see you buddy - Listen -  
Dallas - I got to get you  
certified to do this - - - listen  
we are going to need to post up  
here for a couple of days

CUT TO

SCENE 72: EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

Makayla and the crew ride their bikes home among the nature - among the wind - among the tall grass. Mac rides in Makayala's spare wagon - and feels a bit spacey - peaceful but a bit dazed - as if he cannot stop looking out on the tall grass - even though it terrifies him so.

Dominic, Asher, Makayla, Mac and Dallas - all take boxes after boxes.

DOMINIC

Damn drains bursted in the upstairs unit and started showering down - sorry for all of this stuff. Kid's schools are shutting down - the news are going wicked - what is going on in this tow - I know it's hurricane season but dang nabs Dallas - dang nabs.

MAKAYLA

Mr. Dallas - could we set up some computers downstairs?

DOMINIC

You don't mind yeah Dallas? It'll keep the kids quiet so I can set up shop up in the kitchen - I'll give you a cut - you good with that

DALLAS

Yeah

SCENE 72: B

Asher and Makayla unpack a bunch of monitors and construct all of the makeshift computer station in Mac's basement.

The crew look and watch the screen and begin to fast forward and rewind.

At around 11:52p - when Mac went out there to go look for the creature - the computer shows that it flashes.

MAKAYLA

There stop.

The camera zooms in - revealing something that looks so look.

COUSIN DORUS

What are you caring about that  
Makyla? It's just a thing - who's  
your friend?

MAC

Mac.

COUSIN DORIS

I know your name.

SCENE 73: MAC'S KITCHEN - DOMINICS REVEAL - EARLY AFTERNOON

Dominic comes downstairs from his home office.

DOMINIC

What are you kids doing? Mac -  
nice to see you - Misty - good to  
see you - you kids hungry? Why are  
you not in school

ASHER

The weather

DOMINIC

What weather

Dominic puts his head outside but sees nothing.

MAKAYLA

If what you are saying is right -  
they are connected to the smooth  
stones - which makes sense - that  
the spirit world often will tie  
physical objects

MISTY

I thought you said that these  
creatures are physical and not  
orbs or spirits

MAKAYLA

Yeah Misty well facts have change  
d- and it makes sense if you think  
about it

JULIE-BEE

We not care about the how.



The gang is around the computers in the media center - as the rest of the building watches the news - and sirens go off.

Makayla looks at the GPS of Mac's backyard.

The school is buzzing with the news of the creatures. The kids are whispering and pointing at Mac and Dallas as they enter.

\_Mac\_ and \_Dallas\_ sit at a table with \_Makayla\_ and \_Asher\_.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> They're going to come back again  
- Mac saw the stones again this  
morning

MISTY  
Did you Mac?

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> I know.

**\*\*ASHER\*\***  
> We're going to be stuck in this  
metal box with a bunch of dead  
batteries.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> What?

**\*\*ASHER\*\***

> The thermometers - they're dead.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> I know.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

We're going to be stuck in this  
metal box with a bunch of dead  
batteries.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> I know.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> It has to be tonight.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> I know.

The basement house is filled with the sound of the storm  
approaching. The wind howls outside as Makayla arrives, carrying  
a backpack full of supplies. She knocks on the door, and Asher  
quickly lets her in.\_

**\*\*ASHER\*\***

> Did you bring everything?

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Yeah, it's all here. We need to set up the trap before it gets any worse out there.

SCENE 75: EXT. MAC'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The storm approaches

\_The house is dark and Mac and Dallas have dinner. Mac begins to talk about the creatures.\_

\*\*MAC\*\*

> Dad... Do you think that the storm will hit us?

\*\*DALLAS\*\*

> It could be.

MAC

I miss mom.

DALLAS

Me too.

MAC

Dad... Have you seen the eyes?

\_Dallas pauses, his expression serious. He looks at Mac, considering his words carefully.\_

**\*\*DALLAS\*\***

I have.

\_Mac's eyes widen, a mix of fear and curiosity.\_

\_Mac nods, feeling a sense of reassurance from his father's words. The bond between them strengthens as they prepare for the unknown.\_

**\*\*CUT TO\*\***

**SCENE 76: INT. MAC'S HOUSE - NIGHT**

Dallas and Mac go into overdrive mode - preparing the house. They board up the windows and take all of the outdoor furniture into there kitchen.

Dominic walks over and shakes his head in approval. He plops a seat next to the fridge on one of the chairs in a cheeky way.

Dominic prepares some mashed potatoes and stew for the whole family.

Makayla in Mac's room getting impatient - but Asher is admiring all of Mac's collectiabies and what not.

**\*\*TV REPORTER (V.O.)\*\***

> Evacuations are underway in the area - but are limited in scope focusing on the northern regions - for the southern regions - it is advise that people stay in their homes and board up any long - head for a basement.

Mac and Dallas sit in the living room as Dominic makes a dinner in there kitchen. Julie Bee cries a bit and the spanish maid has to go . casting shadows on their faces. Suddenly, Mac's phone rings. He looks at the screen and sees it's a FaceTime call from Makayla.

Asher makes mac and cheese - Makayla looks around and laughs to herself.

**MAKAYALA**

You know when I was younger I used to watch this woman who would take pictures of these lights -

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

Mac?

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> Makayla?

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> We're ready. If they are going to be there again - now is the time - we do not have much time.

MAC

I don't think they'll be out there  
- and it is getting kind of windy  
- aren't you afraid?

As Dallas and Mac watch the tv - Dallas watches Mac get up the couch and follow Makayla and Asher into their kitchen - Dallas sits alone for a while - and then makes a decision to go follow them.

## SCENE 77 : EXT. EDGE OF MAC'S BACKYARD

Asher sets up the tripods and the cameras and points out the window - and he aims the cameras. Mac also sets up his tape recorder next to him.

Makayla and Mac and Dallas and Asher all rush to the center of the tall grass - as they do horrific sounds are heard.

## SCENE 78 : EXT. OUTSIDE THE ALL GRASS - NIGHT

The creatures and the children make contact with each other - and there are creatures of dark figures all around them too - but the creatures are soft with the children and are delighted by the gifts that they offer -

They show this by hovering over the meat and dancing among them - in a big orchestra of light and sound around them.

It is like the wind - like the whisper - and like the wonder - and through the vision the children see flowers and peace and growth and wonder through the light - and then a gated wall - and far off in the distance - darkness over a forest - and microorganisms growing - growing into metal - into steel - and into objects of despair.

## ## SCENE 79: EXT. INSIDE TALL GRASS

As the children go inside the world they begin to see that the world is much like they're own - and they're true home and yet they see all the loved ones back home - they see the hurricane coming from a distance and the creatures in the tall grass - bring them back to the tall grass - and do dances around the bottom floor -

The creatures all hover around the little stones - and the stones point up at the weather and separate the clouds.

Mac Makayla Asher and Dallas are frozen in this tundra of light.

Suddenly a dark creature is surrounding them all.

The winds pick up - the hurricane looms closer

## ## SCENE 80:

The cat like creature - shadows and hangs over the children and Dallas and the creature on the floor from a branch nearby - - interlude of the creature is so vast - it has wingspan and it comes down and goes for the throat of one of the soft small creature and goes for the neck - and Makayla tries to get a stick to swat it away - but the creature grabs the stick - and Dallas - looks at the creature and grabs it - Mac and Asher stand paralyzed with fear - the dark winged creatures grow in length - eventually covering the entire treescape - and the howls that they emit are so devastating

The winds pick up

## ## SCENE 81

The good little creatures come out of the wood work - and begin to help there fallen friend - they arrise and begin to climb and make music together that tears the dark creatures into sparks and particles that blow into the wind and the storm - and the little creatures - are hurt - and the hurricane winds pick up - and they begin to float away - as there little bodies are light as feathers - and they begin to cry - and as they cry a cone of light emits from their head - much like a projector - that of flowers and of winds - and of mystics

They go on the little stones - and do a little dance - and little by little the weather begins to get better. And everyone just watches.

## ## SCENE 82:

Mac has an encounter with the creature as it bleeds to death and as the light begins to fade - as the other creatures begin to cry - the dying little creature tells Mac a story in his mind

## ## Creature ##

> There was peace once and there will be peace again - but not in this world - not in this world -

## ## SCENE 83:

Weather report

Clouds are good back to normal

Makayla and Mac sit on a log - and



**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Did you get any of that on tape?

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> No - I don't think so

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> The creature sang with me a song  
- and was the reason why the  
hurricane broke up you know.

I think we need to plant something.

**\*\*Makayla\*\***

> What do you mean?

MAKAYLA

I'm scared.

MAC

Really?

MAKAYLA

Yeah.

MAC

Then why are you hunting these  
creatures?

MAKAYLA

Because I don't think they're any  
different than animals - real  
physical animals - not aliens - or  
interdimensional beings - I think  
they are flesh and blood and live  
in the arth - and if they got  
found out - the lawyers of the  
town.

(MORE)

MAKAYLA (CONT'D)

And the truth is - you saw them -  
your dad saw them - and now we  
have to capture it on film.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> I know.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> We need to do that again. At  
first I thought this was all just  
a way to get proof that there is  
something in that tall grass - but  
now that we have seen the  
creatures - I think we need to  
take it a step further - we got to  
communicate with them - they were  
obviously trying to communicate  
with us - and I think we need to  
do that again - I think they need  
our help.

**## SCENE 84 : EXT. MAC AND DALLAS HOUSE**

Makayla and Asher arrive via bike.

Makayla and Mac Meet Jocylen and Asher and Dallas and they  
all go to the church.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> My theory is simple - the  
creatures are trying to  
communicate with us - that we must  
protect that piece of land out in  
the back of Mac's house. Now the  
way we can do that - it seemed  
like they liked the little berries  
more than they liked the meat.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> I don't think that's what they  
were trying to tell us

Dallas goes outside and is working

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> So what say you?

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> I don't think we do anything.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Asher - what say you?

**\*\*ASHER\*\***

> I don't know.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Well - we got to do something.

**\*\*ASHER\*\***

> I think we were just all dreaming.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> What do you mean we were just all dreaming? How is that possible?

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Well, let's just go back to the spot and look about.

**## SCENE 85:**

Mac's backyard by the tall grass. The crew is examining the tall grass. Asher is setting up his camera and tripod.

Mac is a bit nervous as he looks at the tall grass and begins to pant. His ears begin to ring and his head begins to spin. Makayla and Asher grab him and bring him out of the tall grass.

Mac looks up at the sky and the weather is getting stormy again.

**\*\*MAC\*\***

> We got to stop - this is none of our business - we ought not do what we did - and we ought to go back to the house and forget about it.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> What is making you say that? Did that thing get into your mind?

**\*\*ASHER\*\***

> It would have had to been the dark one.

Suddenly a dark creature goes and swoops in and continues to kill the little creature on the floor.

**\*\*DOMINIC\*\***

(off in the distance)

> Makayla Asher - come here.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> Dad we have to go.

**\*\*DOMINIC\*\***

> What is your definition of  
grounded Makayla - - last night  
you ran into the storm - and we  
had to chase after - poor Dallas  
had to go out in the rain.

Dallas sits at the table and looks at the kids.

**\*\*Dominic\*\***

> Say you are sorry to Mr. Dallas.

**\*\*MAKAYLA\*\***

> I'm sorry Mr. Dallas - I won't  
do it again.

SCENE 86: EXT. CURCH OUTSIDE - DAY

Church BBQ is buzzing.

Mac tells Makayla and the gang what the creature told them

**## Scene 84: INT. MAKAYLA'S BACKYARD**

The the crew gather around and look at footage

**## Scene 85:**

Seaside festival the cameras pick up something wild - and animals start to act funky. As they drive down the street - As Dallas and Mac wander the streets - the tall grass whimpers in the distance.

# ## SCENE 87:

The children plant the thing the creature told them to plant - a seed a beacon of hope - a symbol of a gift - of a time for peace - a remembrance - of time for peace. And as the statue remains there - time passes - and people age and the hurricane season never really

VO WEATHERMAN

The Hurrican looms closer - it is  
adsided that the

The kids all gather around the spot again - but this time they appear closer to the tall grass - for they go in Mac's backyard and it seems as if that everything has disappeared.

Then Asher begins to get a headache and drops to the ground - he says that they have moved closer to the edge - because the dark creatures do not like the water.

So they are going to regroup by the water and give us a final message.

MAKAYLA

How do you know that?

ASHER

It was just a voice inside my head  
- it was the creature - it's  
friendly. It wants us to go now -  
right this moment.

# SCENE 89 - EXT: NEIGHBORHOOD SUNSET MONTAGE

The kids ride bikes through the wind and the rain and they get to the edge - there is no sign of them - but by the tunes they wait - and they look at the corners of the dunes and nothing is there.

MAKAYLA

Maybe we should put something down  
for bait.

ASHER

They don't want bait anymore.

The crew waits from a distance from a little hollowed

SCENE 90 - BIG CREATURE MOMENT

# SCENE 90 - EXT. BEACH TRAIL TALL GRASS

Makayla and Mac wait on the trail - and as they talk - in  
the distance they seem like the

From the corner of their eye - and from their great surprise  
they see another creature.

MAC

Why do you think this is all  
happening?

MAKAYLA

You tell me - you are the

Asher sets up one of his tripods. Mac sets up one of his  
tape recorders - but the winds howls and dark whispers  
appear past the mountain by the tall grass.

MAKAYLA

My grandfather saw this once.

In the distance more howls - and Makayala and Mac turn  
around to see the creature limping ever so slightly - it  
falls to the sand - and its little blood begins to bleed on  
the sand.

Makayla rushes over to the creature - which looks more like  
a squirrel if anything else - but it is bright green around  
its eyes - as if painted as a tropical bird - or much like  
soft gleams of yellow gradients into green - it bleeds -  
and in its little hand is a little stone.

As Makayla approaches it - a dark figure shadow figure goes  
and swoops up the creature and takes it far into the sky.

As it drifts in the distance it looks like a giant seagull  
- but it is hard to see via the clouds and the distance.

[100] THE END

# SCENE MAC'S HOUSE

Mac looks at the tall grass and the tall grass looks back. Flashes of his mother haunt his mind. And he finally figures out how to play that song on the melodica.

## # SCENE 91 - EXT - ENCOUNTER

A more direction confrontation with the creatures. One of the creatures is seriously injured and is limping on the ground - Makayla takes out supplies out of her backpack - the same thing that she uses for the squirrels.

## # SCENE 92 -

## ## SCENE 93: INT. DALLAS KITCHEN

Dallas looks at the device as the kids wander about.

The scene opens in the quiet, dimly lit kitchen of Dallas's house. The storm outside has settled into a steady rhythm, with rain tapping against the windows and distant thunder rumbling. Dallas is seated at the kitchen table, a weather device in front of him. Its blinking lights and faint beeping add an ambient tension to the room. He's focused, meticulously adjusting knobs and checking readings on the dashboard. His face is lined with both concentration and unease.

## Scene 94: EXT. Film Screening

The kids watch a film screening of the footage they have made. But

## Scene 94a: EXT: Bon Fire - Morning



The kids light a bon fire and put all of the film down in it

Scene 94: EXT. MAKAYALA'S DRIVEWAY

There is a bbq - and the kids gather around the kids table - as Dominic introduces Dallas to a shy lady - Mac looks back at Dallas and then at Makayla and then at Asher and then at the tall grass out in the distance.

He takes out his little whistle and begins to play his tune - as if he is entering a littlet rance like state

At a church basement - a new family comes in.

They get all jazzed up about the tale.

Scene 95: Mac and Dallas

Mac plays the piano - Dallas looks out the window at the tall grass - Dallas notices Mac playing the piano and sits next to him.

FADE TO BLACK.