

Story Outline – Creatures in the Tall Grass - Def_D1

Act I — Arrival and Unease

1. Dallas arrives in a new town and a new house. He quietly turns on all the lights .
2. He walks around the house, unpacking his small weather devices: anemometers, barometers, and recording instruments.
3. He hangs a device outside next to a picture of his late wife. When he touches the photo, the device hums softly — then a harrowing sound outside interrupts him. The devices grow louder, then stop abruptly at a thunderclap.
4. The next morning, Dallas walks five miles to the church in town.
5. At church, he meets Dominic, who invites him to join the grief committee as a way to meet people.
6. The committee is led by Elena, who is caring for Mr. Mike — a man who is non-verbal when he chooses to be.
7. Dallas attends a grief group. Mr. Mike speaks, and a child asks curious questions about heaven — “Are we all going to be waveforms?”

Act II — Community and Discovery

8. As Dallas leaves, he sees Dominic outside dealing with raccoon traps and recycling cans. Dominic offers him a ride; Dallas declines and walks home.
9. Dominic spots Dallas walking and insists he gets in. They discover they’re neighbors.
10. Dominic notices Dallas’s weather machines around the house.
11. Dallas learns that Dominic runs a small daycare and looks after Mr. Mike. Some children live with Dominic indefinitely — including Makayla, a strange child who has seen the creatures.
12. Dallas closes up his house for the night.
13. He has strange dreams and visions — alone, silent, and afraid. He looks outside and sees a figure of Elena standing by her car – staring at the tall grass. (Note: He eventually stays at Dominic’s guest house.)
14. Dallas approaches Elena who tells him of the stories that her grandfather would tell her as a child – all of the traps and hopes she would but nothing
15. Dominic invites Dallas for dinner.
 - a. Dallas meets Janice, Dominic’s sister.
16. Over dinner, Dominic reveals he has been tracking strange creatures in the area.
17. Dallas and Dominic begin collaborating, combining Dominic’s hunting instincts with Dallas’s weather devices.
18. Mr. Mike speaks wildly at dinner, hinting at things he’s seen.
19. Dominic and Dallas search through the marsh, setting traps.
20. Dallas notices a strange symbol in the field — but chooses not to tell Dominic.

Act III — The Encounter

21. The next day, Dallas investigates alone.
 - a. He finds a small creature, about the size of an acorn, and brings it home.
 - b. He’s both fascinated and frightened, examining its anatomy.
 - c. The creature interacts with his weather dials, seemingly controlling them.
 - d. A dark screech echoes in the distance — a larger, more sinister creature appears at his window, attempting to spellbind him and kill the small one.
 - e. Dominic’s shotgun blast scares it away.
 - f. Dallas saw something he can’t unsee. (End of Act II.)

Act IV — The Storm

22. The next day, a major storm approaches.
 - a. Dominic makes plans with his family — and his shotgun — to face whatever is coming.
 - b.
23. As the winds rise, the small creature escapes. Dallas and Dominic head into the fields to confront the threat.
24. Elena is there, nursing another creature. A massive creature emerges from the tall grass. Dallas uses mirrors he built to blind it. They escape together and watch the strange lights glowing in the tall grass from afar — as a family.

Act V — Aftermath

25. The storm passes. Dallas's creature is gone.
 26. Dallas adopts a small cat. Dominic visits often. They review the photos and recordings, but the evidence is inconclusive. Dominic decides to write a book.
 27. Elena reflects that she's at peace, having witnessed something beyond this world.
 28. Dallas goes home with his cat. Together, they watch the tall grass.
- Dallas closes his logbook.