

Season 2: Episode 1

“You Don’t Remember”

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how it ends



NETWORK INTRO
Rusty Quill Presents...

[INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC FADE IN]

MICAH [Voiceover]
Last season on the How it Ends podcast...

[SEASON 1 CALLBACKS START]

MICAH
...All I remember was that he was there to see Aimee, and that he was her boyfriend that she didn't tell anybody about. Anyway, you know, she left with him. So I went by myself...

MICAH
...So my dad's name was Nolan. Nolan Jones. This whole town loved my dad. You know, he grew up here. He knew everyone. Everyone knew us. One Friday night, I fell asleep waiting for him to come home. And when I woke up the next morning, my mom told me he'd had an accident. And I never saw him again...

MICAH
...I found a bunch of boxes, and they're all marked 'Nolan's Stuff.' So I guess it's now or never...

MICAH
...Some of the tapes just have dates written on them. Like the one I just picked up says, July 8, 1990. BB, PB, and K...

NOLAN [Voiceover] [On tape recording]
...Now there's a wonder of nature you may not have seen...

NOLAN AND YOUNG MICAH [Voiceover] [On tape recording]
...wow, Papa Bear! We see what you mean!

AVA [Voiceover] [Voicemail recording]
...I don't remind you enough. But your dad loved you so much. He was always looking out for you. Even that night, he said, "Don't let Micah see, don't let Micah see..."

SHOPKEEPER

...You have something you need to remember.

MICAH

I'm sorry?

Shopkeeper

You're trying to remember.

MICAH

Remember what...?

Luke

...Holy shit, Micah!

MICAH

Uh... Hey, hi... I'm sorry. I don't mean to be rude, but... I have no idea who you are.

LUKE

Micah, it's Luke. Sorry. I guess it's been a while. You just haven't changed much, so I recognized you right away. I'm Luke James... Aimee's old boyfriend.

MICAH

Oh my God. Hi. Hey...

ELIA

...This is the first time you're really opening up about your dad, and you're putting it out into the world and sometimes... the world gives something back...

MICAH

...The Field Guide to North American Monsters by W. Haden Blackman...

MICAH

...It's called the Grinning Man. And he has this over-pronounced leering grin. He just stands there. Smiling at you. And that

description of a person watching someone in the woods felt so much like the dream I've been having...

MICAH

...When I opened the door and flipped on the light, my cabinets and drawers were open and the contents were all over the floor. Both my front door and the back door that opens to the stairwell were standing wide open. I could see right out to the street. And on the floor of my kitchen, under all the mess, someone had written: "You've been warned."...

MICAH

...I'm a little confused though. I'm not following. I just don't understand what this has to do with me.

LUKE

You asked why I believed you that day. Why I called your mom even though Aimee told me not to. When you got to my house you were banging on the door and screaming, "Let me in!" And, when I did, you stopped yelling and went really still... just stood there crying. All covered in dirt and scratches. Your forehead was cut up and bleeding. I asked you what happened, and you looked at me and said, "It saw me."...

JOHN BUCKLEY

...It was my birthday, on... on a Friday. We went out for drinks after work. But Nolan didn't stay for too long. I'm sorry, I- I assumed you knew. We were here in this bar. We were sitting right in this room having drinks.

It was the same night he died...

MICAH

...I think we thought that it would just be something simple. And what it seems to be is that I've sort of ripped the band aid off of a wound that I didn't know that I had...

W. HADEN BLACKMAN

...You know there are people that believe really strongly that when something bad happens in an area there is something left over.

MICAH

You know, it's always scarier when it's not a ghost and that it's a person or some people out there...

BEN

...One night my wife found me sleepwalking in our backyard. She said I was just standing behind our house, staring into the darkness just mumbling...

MICAH

...You've been talking to my mom this whole time. How long have you been talking to my mom behind my back?

ELIA

A- a year... or two.

LUKE

So you're coming for me? But you've been lying to her for years?

ELIA

You don't get to talk right now.

LUKE

You're probably next...

OFFICER MARK SCHRADE

...Micah, it was an accident. He hit a fox and lost control of the car. He hit the tree hard enough to total his truck. I was there. It was a horrible accident but that's what it was...

ELIA

...Micah, um, there's someone at the door who wants to talk to you. She won't tell me her name, but she called you Mickey?

MICAH

The only person that ever... No fucking way...

MICAH

...Aimee, what do you want?

AIMEE

I listened to your podcast. I think you're onto something--

MICAH

--Go--

AIMEE

--You need to keep looking. I want to help. Someone is lying to you.

MICAH

What are you talking about?

AIMEE

Mark? Officer Schrader? He and Luke know each other. They've known each other for over 20 years. His son, Tim, was Luke's best friend.

MICAH

Okay, so what if Luke and Schrader used to know each other 25 years ago?

AIMEE

No, there's more.

MICAH

I don't care.

AIMEE

Trust me. You do.

MICAH

Look, you don't know me anymore. So please don't come here and pretend like we're kid best friends like we were all those years ago. Aimee, I'm not holding a grudge, but I'm also not going to get sucked back into a bunch of shit that ends with me pushing all my friends away. For what, like... in search of what? Nothing.

AIMEE

Your dream? And that day in the park. This matters. I mean, I think it matters. I don't have all the answers yet, but I want to help you find them.

MICAH

What about it? What... what about it?

AIMEE

The dream about the woods? The day in the park? I think there's more to it and your dad--

MICAH

--There isn't! You heard Schrade tell me what happened! It nearly fucking broke me!

AIMEE

Micah!

MICAH

--No! Go home, Aimee. Please. Just leave me alone.

AIMEE

Schrade isn't telling you everything--

MICAH

[Sternly] Go. Home. Aimee.

AIMEE

[Rushed] Micah, you were in the truck the night your dad crashed, you just don't remember...!

[SEASON 1 CALLBACKS END]

[INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC FADE OUT]

[INTRO MUSIC FADE IN]

MICAH [Season 2 Intro]

For as long as I can remember, I've suffered from unnerving recurring dreams and night terrors. A year ago, I started the How it Ends podcast to try to uncover the meaning of my dreams and finally get some sleep. It was supposed to be a fun thing to do with my friends. But then someone broke into my house and left me a message: "You've been warned." That's when I realized this was about more than just my nightmares.

Are my dreams trying to tell me something? Is there a connection between my father's death and a day from my childhood that I can't quite remember? Someone doesn't want me to know the truth. And maybe some things are better left alone. But not for me. I have to know.

We're releasing this in real time. So if you're just joining please start from the beginning, and thank you for listening.

[INTRO MUSIC FADE OUT]

[SCENE TRANSITION]

AIMEE

Schrade lied to you. And that's why you have to keep looking.

MICAH

[Voice shaking] You are out of your fucking mind.

AIMEE

I'm not, Micah, your mother knows. She's always known.

MICAH

Just go.

[DOOR OPENS]

ELIA

Hey, what is going on out here? We can hear you guys yelling from inside.

ELIA

Whoa... what did you say to her?

AIMEE

Look, I think we should all go inside. I can explain.

DEVON

Hmm-mm (negative) I think you should go. Micah, come on. Come in.

AIMEE

Please... let me come in. I'll tell you all everything. She just needed to hear it first

ELIA

Hear what first?

AIMEE

I promise I'll explain. I'm not trying to keep things from you. I just needed to tell Micah first. She's going to need you.

DEVON

What is going on?

AIMEE

[Nervously] Can we please go inside? I didn't want to tell her out here. I really hoped we could have this conversation in private.

ELIA

I think you just need to go. You should just leave.

MICAH

No. Let her in.

ELIA

Micah...

MICAH

Elia, please. Let's just go inside.

[SCENE TRANSITION]

ELIA

Go ahead.

AIMEE

Well, I'm not sure where to start.

ELIA

Uh, who the fuck are you? Maybe let's start there.

MICAH

This is Aimee.

ELIA

[Sarcastic laugh] I fucking knew it.

DEVON

Okay, Aimee. What are you doing here?

AIMEE

I listened to the podcast. It's weird sitting in a room with you both. I kind of feel like I already know you two--

ELIA

--You don't.

AIMEE

I know. I- I just meant--

MICAH

--Tell them what you told me.

AIMEE

Which part?

MICAH

You know which part.

AIMEE

Um... I told Micah that... I told her...

DEVON

Just get to it.

AIMEE

[Rushed] Micah was in the truck the night her dad crashed.

ELIA AND DEVON

What?!

AIMEE

Schrade, the officer Micah went to meet back home, he knows that. He's the one that found her.

ELIA

H- how-... No. How would you even know that and-and... and why should we even believe you?

AIMEE

Because it's true.

ELIA

No, that doesn't make any sense that... Wh- why would Ava keep this from Micah?

AIMEE

I don't know. She did.

DEVON

Okay. Why don't you walk us through this?

AIMEE

[Deep breath] Um, after Micah's dad died, Ava dropped her off for a sleepover at my house. We ran up to my room. We put on a movie. I went back down to grab us some snacks and Ava was still there talking to my mom in the kitchen.

AIMEE

I remember feeling weird. Like, I didn't know what I was hearing, but I knew I shouldn't be hearing it. My mom asked Ava if she would ever tell Micah what really happened. And I just remember Ava saying, "She doesn't remember. And I think it's

better this way." I had no idea what that meant. I wasn't keeping a secret.

MICAH

What about the park, then? You had no problem keeping that for me?

AIMEE

Yeah, we need to talk about that, too.

ELIA

Hmm-mm (negative). No, we're not going down that road again.

AIMEE

No, we have to. I heard everything that's been happening. That's... that's why I'm here. When I heard Schrade's voice, something just clicked. I called my mom and asked her about that conversation she had with Ava. I pushed until she finally told me. Ava made her swear that she'd never tell anyone. I talked to my mom last night and now I'm here. She helped me find your address. It's not like it was far.

DEVON

Not far? Where do you live?

AIMEE

Beacon Hill.

ELIA

You live in... Boston? Really? Since when?

AIMEE

I did all my graduate work and my residency there.

DEVON

Not gonna lie, you know. This sounds a little bit like what Luke was telling Micah.

ELIA

Yeah, it does.

AIMEE

I'm sure it does. But it's the truth.

ELIA

Says you.

AIMEE

Listen, I know everything that's happened over the last five months was hard on your friendship. And I'm not trying to do anything that would ever risk that. But I just don't think we should ignore this. The moment I found out about Micah being there the night of the crash, I had to come. I know I wasn't a good friend, but we were kids. Kids screw up.

MICAH

[Quietly] Yeah, I know.

ELIA

Micah, I really don't think--

MICAH

Elia. I'm only going to ask you this once. And I will believe you. And whatever you say, I won't blame you--

ELIA

--No, I didn't. I didn't. Your mom never told me any of this. I... I would have told you. I swear I didn't know this.

MICAH

Okay. Aimee, what exactly do you expect me to do with this information?

AIMEE

I don't know. But I'm hoping we... all four of us, can figure it out. Micah, Schrade knows you were there. He found you. Why did he lie?

DEVON

I mean, maybe Ava asked him to? Like he asked your mom to--

AIMEE

--Maybe. But something about all of this isn't sitting well with me. I mean, Nolan's crash was a big deal. A lot of people loved him. Folks talked about it for a long time. Everywhere we went, someone brought it up. No one mentioned a fox. From what I can remember, everyone talked about it like it was just a freak accident. I asked my mom about it, too. Yesterday. She doesn't remember anything about a fox either.

MICAH

You know, um... I- I need- I need a minute.

[FOOTSTEPS WALKING AWAY]

ELIA

Aimee, listen. You had better be telling the 100% honest-to-God truth right now. And if you're not, just get up and leave, because we can't go through this again. Micah cannot go through this again.

AIMEE

I think she has to. She has to keep doing the podcast.

ELIA

No, absolutely not.

AIMEE

I think the podcast helped this come out.

ELIA

[Sarcastic laughing] Why? Why? I mean, can't we- can't we look into all this without recording ourselves every minute of the day and putting it on the internet again?

AIMEE

But it actually helped. I mean, it helped me remember overhearing my mom. And now Micah knows the truth.

DEVON

I don't know. I think I'm with Elia on this.

AIMEE

Look, I want to be part of Micah's life. We were best friends, practically sisters. I'm here now because this matters. And I think broadcasting it will help us keep things straight.

ELIA

No. No. This... this has not helped anything.

AIMEE

I get it. Things have been scary. Especially with whatever happened in her apartment that time.

DEVON

Both times.

ELIA

Right.

AIMEE

Right. Right. There's been a lot of really weird shit that's happened. Like I said, I feel like I kind of know the two of you just from listening to the podcast, and I know that I can trust you. You're good friends to her.

DEVON

You know, you seem like a nice person. But you're gonna have to understand, this is gonna take some time. You know, if what you're saying is true, that means that every new person that's come into Micah's life in the past few months has lied to her.

ELIA

You know, I'm just having a real hard time believing any of this. Like, is this a movie? Is it a glitch in the matrix? Like where are all you people coming from? Is it some weird New Jersey shit? I just, I don't get it.

AIMEE

Look, if I were you, I'd be having the exact same reactions. Honestly, I did have the same reaction last night when I talked to my mom. It's a lot.

ELIA

Okay, let's say... fine, Micah was in the truck. She doesn't remember. She was in shock or whatever. And maybe Ava thought it would be easier, so she makes up a story. I mean, Mark did say he spoke to Ava. Do you think she maybe asked him to kind of... call Micah and like, re-up on the lie because of all this?

AIMEE

But what if Schrade didn't talk to Ava? I know Micah's mom. I don't think she would bring it up, or have someone else bring it up. I mean, why would she? There was no reason to have him double down on this story. Micah wasn't even getting close to remembering. So maybe them running into each other didn't actually happen.

DEVON

Hmm. So if that's the case, then we have to go back to Schrade?

AIMEE

Yeah, I think so. And that's the other thing that I told her.

ELIA

Oh my god. There's more?!

AIMEE

Yeah. Luke is best friends with Tim Schrade.

DEVON

Tim... Tim. Why does that sound familiar?

ELIA

Uh... remember, when Micah met up with Luke that first time and he was telling that story about Halloween? His friends called out to him in the woods? [Lowers voice] "Hey, Tim!"

DEVON

Oh, yeah, he did. So he's known Schrade all this time, then?

AIMEE

I mean, I don't even know if he still talks to Tim anymore. Like Micah said to me outside, it could be a coincidence. That area of New Jersey is just really small. Everyone knows everyone.

ELIA

Yeah, we get it. It's the same thing like that here.

AIMEE

[To Devon] You live here too, right?

DEVON

Yeah. Upstairs.

AIMEE

Whatever happened with the break-ins? Did the police ever find anything or anyone?

AIMEE

Well, after the first one, the landlord put in a security system, but it was basic, so... I feel kind of bad. I didn't tell Micah this, but I added motion sensor cameras. Just a couple outside, and one in the front hallway.

ELIA

Devon, you didn't tell me that either! Did... I mean, did you see who did it then?

DEVON

Well, no, that's the thing. I got a text alert on my phone that night, you know, that there was motion outside. So I could hear the banging, so I went out. When I got out there, I saw two people.

They looked like teenagers, but their faces were covered. And one of them was holding a can of spray paint. But, uh... you know, I went after him and they got away before I could catch them. I heard Micah yelling from her apartment, so I ran in and shut off her alarm. That's when she said that someone had opened her front door.

ELIA

But didn't you put a camera in the front hall? Did... like, you must have seen who it was then?

DEVON

Well, right, but here's the thing. The camera should have been on. It should have been in night vision mode. But when I checked it, there was nothing. It was just black. I checked in on it the next day and then it was working fine. So--

ELIA

--What the hell, Devon, why don't you say anything?

DEVON

Well, what was I gonna say? I- I figured it was just another one of the kids. But, for real it... it freaked me out. I mean, that the camera didn't work.

ELIA

[Deep breath] Okay, Aimee, so what about Luke? Do you think he's capable of this? You know, he says he's lived in Providence for a really long time. But there's like, no proof. He like, just poofed out of nowhere and...

DEVON

Do you even believe his story?

ELIA

Yeah.

DEVON

About seeing something or someone in the woods on Halloween? And I mean, do you know why he ghosted all of a sudden? You heard the podcast. You heard us get into it at the coffee shop. I mean, he said some really messed up shit to Elia.

ELIA

Yeah. He told me if I kept asking questions, I'd be next. Whatever that means.

DEVON

Right? It seemed like a threat to me. Then he just disappeared. Stopped answering Micah's texts and calls, as far as I know. She hasn't heard anything from him since that day.

ELIA

So, Aimee. What do you think of all that?

AIMEE

Honestly, I don't know. I mean, I met his whole family and they seemed normal. I told Micah when we were outside about Halloween. I mean, he was so wasted. He could be telling the truth, or at least believe he is. But I'm just not sure.

ELIA

Okay. Well, can you tell us what you told her? About that night?

AIMEE

[Deep breath] Okay, so--

[FOOTSTEPS WALKING IN]

MICAH

--Aimee, start from the beginning.

[SCENE TRANSITION]

MICAH

Hello. This is Micah. Um, you... you probably already know that. I guess I should note that it's been several months since Elia, Devon, Aimee, and I had that conversation you just heard. It's taken some time to process. Right now I'm sitting in my apartment alone, having just re-listened to it all. And even with the time and the distance, it still feels pretty surreal.

You know, listening to the beginning of the evening, and the three of us just standing around my kitchen, making jokes. Elia trying to commandeer the kitchen, as she always does, even when she's just finished complaining that she's the only one who ever cooks. And then Devon being his usual sentimental self, saying how much he cares about us, felt... it felt like we were just heading for normal. You know, like the confusion and the creepy

weirdness that had transpired over the previous months was a past that we were all more than happy to forget.

Before Aimee showed up that night, I- I had every intention of shutting this thing down and not looking back. I'd packed away all of my dad's things, even the stuff that I hadn't even looked through, and put them deep in a closet with the thought that revisiting them maybe would come after I'd healed a little bit. You know, I called Billie and I set up regular sessions, and I was back to a more routine work schedule. I was gonna move on, and that would be fine.

But now, Aimee said I should keep going. You know, she's convinced that the podcast is the reason the truth came out about the night my dad died. And she also thinks that there's something more to the story, and she seems pretty committed to helping uncover it.

[Nervous laugh] Honestly, I don't- I don't know what to make of that, or of her. She just shows up and drops this bomb on me? And I'm supposed to snap back into action? And are we supposed to just be friends again?

It's strange, you know. When I opened the door and I saw her standing there, I felt like I was both looking at a stranger and at a long lost sister at the same time. I was so angry and I kept telling her to leave, but I didn't mean it. Not even a little bit. You know, some part of me felt happy to see her, regardless of the fact that the reason she came to talk to me completely fucked me up.

In the weeks that followed, I spent a long time deciding if I really believed her. I know what you're thinking. You know, I should just call my mom, right? Yeah, that's not gonna happen. Why? Because I know what Aimee said is true. I can feel it. And that means my mom has been lying to me for most of my life. And I'm really just not ready to deal with that.

I thought about calling Schrade up and cursing him out, you know, making him tell me the truth. But each time I tried to dial his number I panicked and hung up.

[Nervous laugh] I was in the truck the night my dad had his accident and Mark found me. And my mom lied. And then Mark lied. To my face! And is the part of his story where he said my dad hit a fox even true? I mean, if it's not why- why would he pick... [Clears throat]

Aimee said that we needed to talk about the day at the park, too. Like, I'm really wondering what she meant about that. You know, we never really got around to it.

[Nervous laugh] And Luke and Mark know each other... like what the hell is even going on? You know, Luke's completely AWOL. I haven't heard from him since the day at Coffee Exchange.

You know, I'd written all the creepy dream stuff and the break-ins off as- as a shitty and-and completely terrifying coincidences, made worse by my own tunnel vision and lack of sleep. I was- I was fine with that explanation. You know, but really, now it just sort of feels, despite the fact that all the pieces are so scattered... it's like I'm missing something.

So here we are. Here I am. I'm going to keep going. We are going to keep going. After many, many talks with Devon and Elia, and a lot of reassurance and promises, you know, not to repeat past mistakes, like ghosting them or keeping secrets. We're gonna do it together for real this time.

So I guess you should expect to hear more from the two of them, you know, whenever it makes sense. You know, they want to help. Whatever it takes. And we'll keep airing episodes, you know, to document everything and keep our facts straight. And also to indirectly ask for your help.

We'll be posting periodically on our website, howitendspodcast.com, and I'm still on Instagram. So if you're listening and you think you've caught something that we've overlooked, you know, don't hesitate to reach out in any way. I'll... um... we'll need all the help we can get.

I just, um... I just have this feeling that I can't shake, you know? That this is just the beginning.

[SCENE TRANSITION]

[OUTRO MUSIC]

Transcribed by [Evelyn Archer](#)

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