Season 2: Episode 3

"Lost Time"

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how it ends



NETWORK INTRO
Rusty Quill Presents...

[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]

[TEXT NOTIFICATION CHIMES]

MICAH

Devon, who are you even texting? Everyone you know is here.

DEVON

Hey, not true. Eh... okay, it's kind of true. It's Elia. She won't stop guilting me. That woman has lightning thumbs.

MICAH

I put her on Do Not Disturb in the car.

DEVON

Oh, so it was you?

MICAH

Yeah, it was me. You know, well, if I didn't, I'd never get to enjoy this. She's just mad that she's not here. She'll be fine.

DEVON

Oh, I'm well aware.

MICAH

She'll get over it. She's with her family, which she opted to do, and it isn't like deCordova so far from Providence that we can't come back. Like, it'll be fine.

AIMEE

Well, Elia's rage thumbs notwithstanding, Devon, I'm really glad you suggested coming here.

MICAH

Yeah, for real.

AIMEE

For one, I've never been and honestly, even though I live near a ton of museums, I can never get to them.

DEVON

Oh, cool. You know, they're my happy place.

MICAH

Seriously, like, Devon goes to museums more than anyone I know. Not that I understand how he fits it in between vacuuming his apartment and working out twice a day.

DEVON

Oh, yeah that's--

MICAH

--weirdo.

DEVON

[Laughs] I do two things and two things only.

MICAH

Three, I guess, if you count art.

DEVON

[Sarcastically] Ah, three. Thanks, Micah.

MICAH

Yeah.

AIMEE

You work out twice a day?

DEVON

Yeah, I go on my lunch break.

AIMEE

Lunch break is for lunch.

MICAH

And apparently pushing tires from one end of a parking lot to the other.

[All laugh]

AIMEE

Oh, CrossFit? Hmm, I wouldn't have guessed you were into that.

DEVON

Oh, why not?

AIMEE

Because it wasn't the first thing you said to me when we were introduced.

[All laugh]

DEVON

Fair.

AIMEE

Don't get me wrong. Don't get me wrong. I'm not a hater. I- it's a good workout.

DEVON

Yeah, I get you. It is. And I mean, it's one of the few things that doesn't get boring so that's why I stick with it. You know, Micah, could try it with me one day. I got free passes. You might even like it.

AIMEE

[Laughing] That would be a horrible idea!

MICAH

Come on!

DEVON

Wait, why?

MICAH

Aimee... you can't just show--

AIMEE

--Micah is the least coordinated person you'll ever meet in your life. 100%. Believe that.

DEVON

Really? How did I not know that? Wait a second... I did. That's why you never come play basketball with me and Elia.

MTCAH

[Under her breath] Oh fuck, here we go.

AIMEE

[Laughing] Basketball?! Remember when we tried that rec league during the summer after sixth grade, Micah? You remember that summer?

MICAH

Yes...

DEVON

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Ooh, Storytime! What happened?
MICAH
I broke my elbow. It wasn't that interesting.
DEVON
What?! During a game?
MICAH
No...
[AIMEE laughing]
MICAH
I tripped on my shoelace on the way out of the locker room.
Okay?
DEVON
Wait so you didn't even play?!
AIMEE
It was the first practice.
DEVON
What? [Cracking up]
MICAH
Come on, guys!
DEVON
I am never, ever letting you make fun of me about anything ever
again.
AIMEE
That's why she walks everywhere.
DEVON
Walks, never runs.
MICAH
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This fucking treason.

[CROSSTALK INAUDIBLE]

AIMEE

Listen. I'm trying to save everyone the horror of your inevitable bloody injuries. And a bill from me when I had to rehabilitate your entire body.

MICAH

It will be free. Because... I said so... whatever.

[AIMEE and DEVON laughing]

MICAH

Ugh. Whatever. Anyway.

AIMEE

So anyway... Devon, museums. Why are they your go-to?

DEVON

Oh, well, that's easy. I've loved art since I was a kid. Well, you know... you know how Micah's dad took her on hikes and made her fall in love with nature? It's like that for me.

MICAH

Oh, can you tell her about the first time you went to a museum?

DEVON

[Sighs] You're such a nerd for that story.

MICAH

Well, I don't know. Like, when you tell it I can picture little wide eyed nerd Devon. You know, he's just the cutest. It's just the best story.

AIMEE

Okay, now I have to know.

DEVON

Oh, gosh. Well, I mean, it's not like it's a long story or anything. One year, my mom and I took the train in New York

City. We went to see the tree lighting, thought it would be a great idea. I was super pumped because I had never been to New York. But when we got to Rockefeller Center, I kind of freaked out.

I- the place was jam-packed and there were just way too many people there, and I don't love crowds. Still don't. So, anyway, I started panicking. And as soon as my mom noticed she like, yanked me out of there and we hustled around the corner into this great big building--

MICAH

-- It was MoMA! Sorry.

DEVON

Yes, Micah, it was MoMA. [Laughs]

And thankfully, it wasn't nearly as crowded as Rockefeller Center. So, you know, I calmed down pretty quickly. I remember walking through the halls and looking at all these different pieces and just being mesmerized. And, um... at one point, we turned the corner, and there is a huge exhibit of this artist. You know, I found out later it was Jasper Johns and, you know, at that point I just... I was a goner. Just fell in love and it was all I wanted to do since.

MICAH

So adorable.

AIMEE

So are you an artist too, or just an appreciator?

DEVON

Well... yeah. Yeah, I'd be okay with calling myself an artist.

AIMEE

What, umm... how do I ask this? What... is... your art?

[MICAH and DEVON laugh]

What do you make?

DEVON

Well, the art I make is- no, I'm teasing. I'm a printmaker, mainly. I try to do all kinds of different things. But yeah, printmaking.

AIMEE

Has your work ever been like in a gallery anywhere?

DEVON

Oh, no, no. I haven't done any shows or anything.

AIMEE

Well, do you want to?

DEVON

Eh... no, not anytime soon, anyway. It's just that showing isn't a priority for me. I don't know. Really, I enjoy the process of making a piece - the painting, the drawing. For me, it's a meditation. Kind of like vacuuming...

MICAH

[Laughs] Well, that notwithstanding, I- actually, Devon's my favorite person to talk art with, you know. He has so much knowledge, and I'm always learning things. Plus, don't let his sort of humbleness sway you. Like he's super, super talented.

DEVON

Oh, come on. You're the talented one.

MICAH

Oh, my God. No.

DEVON

Speak for yourself.

AIMEE

Right, your photography. You know, I'm not at all surprised that that's the path you ended up following.

MICAH

Well, I mean, I wouldn't go as far to say that it's a career just yet. But you know, maybe someday. I don't know.

AIMEE

I wish I was artistic. Whatever the opposite of artistic is, that's what I am.

DEVON

That's probably not true.

AIMEE

You're sweet, but it's definitely true.

DEVON

No, really. I mean, I think that most people--

AIMEE

--Mm-mmm [negative], no. So my coworkers and I have a wall calendar in our office, you know. Shared stuff, meetings, whatever. And I like to manage it because I like to be in control. So I like to color code everything. And one of the other things I like to do is draw little holiday doodles or like season-related things if there's not a holiday that month. So like, in October, I'll draw jack-o-lanterns or maybe some leaves.

MICAH

I remember this!

AIMEE

In March, I do four leaf clovers and a four leaf clover might seem pretty simple, but I just can't make it happen. I can't make the picture come up in my mind.

MICAH

Devon, so she has these little... she has these little pneumonic devices to remember how to draw really basic things.

AIMEE

Yeah--

MICAH

--It's very cute

AIMEE

[Mimicking MICAH] "To remember how to draw really basic things." These are not really basic to me. A four leaf clover--

MICAH

--Oh, okay--

[MICAH and AIMEE laughing]

AIMEE

--It's harder to draw than you think! But I remember it's- it's four hearts, with the points facing in toward each other and touching.

DEVON

Aww, that's adorable. I mean, and it works. You know, that's really endearing.

AIMEE

Yea sure it is. I'm going to be famous one day.

MICAH

Well, no one draws a better Santa hat than you.

AIMEE

Yea, that's true. Or Christmas tree, which if you're wondering are both triangles with puffy circular things added to them.

[All laugh]

DEVON

Of course they are.

AIMEE

So what kind of photography would you want to do, like professionally?

MICAH

Oh, uh you changing the subject? Cool. Okay. Um... I guess, um... You know, I don't know. Travel, wildlife, photojournalist, journalism type stuff, you know? Pretty much anything that would let me see the world, you know, backpack from place to place by myself, hike, climb mountains. You know, maybe something like Backpacker or Outdoor Mag or, you know, just- just anything really.

AIMEE

You know, I think after everything that's happened, if I were you, I'd have a hard time hiking again. Let alone doing any of that stuff by myself.

MICAH

Well, you know, Devon was right when he said that it was because of my dad that I love being out in the world as much as I do. You know, I feel strong and safe when I'm out there, even when I'm alone. And... Yeah, I don't know. Yeah, a lot's happened but no matter what comes of any of this, no one is going to take that away from me. You know, my dad gave that to me and... I don't know. I'm pretty sure I plan to hang on to it.

AIMEE

Yeah.

MICAH

Yeah. So... um, being out on this lawn, kind of reminds me of Duke Island.

AIMEE

Okay, I can see that.

MICAH

You know, when- when you first showed up that night, you said that we needed to talk about the day at the park and Luke's?

AIMEE

I did.

MICAH

So maybe we should talk.

DEVON

So, uh, I think I'll walk around on my own for a bit. That Harry Potter game is calling me. Give you a chance to chat.

MICAH

Okay, cool. Well, if we don't see you wandering around making swirling motions with your arms to like, catch... what do they call them? The Confoundables, right? Like, we'll text. That cool? You good?

DEVON

Levio-SAH, not levio-SUH--

[AIMEE and MICAH laugh]

MICAH

--Yeah, okay.

DEVON

Anyway, I'll catch up with y'all a little bit.

[DEVON WALKS AWAY]

MICAH

So, you know, I've been meaning to ask you about what you said the night that you came to my house. You said that we needed to talk about the day at the park and then whatever happened at Luke's house?

AIMEE

Yeah, we do.

MICAH

Well, you already know what I remember from the day, but maybe, you know... I guess I was wondering if you could kind of start from the beginning. You know, like, tell me everything even if it seems irrelevant? Maybe it'll make some more sense.

AIMEE

Sure. Yeah. So that morning was pretty similar to a lot of other days off from school. The day before you'd asked me if I wanted to hike to that little waterfall at the end of the trail. I don't know if you remember it?

MICAH

Yeah. Yeah, yeah.

AIMEE

Yeah, I said yes. But I already knew I'd made other plans.

MICAH

Yeah.

AIMEE

Uh, anyway, we woke up early. We met in front of your house, and we rode our bikes down to D'Alessio's to get snacks and soda to take with us.

MICAH

Oh my God... that old lady! I forgot all about her.

AIMEE

Yeah, she was like--

AIMEE AND MICAH

Like a hundred!

[Both laugh]

AIMEE

I remember that morning really clearly. Because you were wearing Nolan's favorite hat. You know, the... I don't know, it was like orange or tan or something?

MICAH

Yeah, it had like a logo or something? Like a symbol... I can't remember.

AIMEE

Yeah, yeah. Yeah, that one. But your hair was all tucked up in it and you were wearing like, a million layers.

MICAH

Well I don't like being cold and I'm terrified of ticks, so...

AIMEE

Yeah, I'm pretty sure that's what you said to me when I teased you about it.

MICAH

Listen, consistency is key. I haven't changed.

AIMEE

Anyway, when we got to D'Alessio's, that old lady thought you were my boyfriend. She didn't even recognize you. She was like, "Oh, hello, miss. I see. You got yourself a new fellow. Very handsome."

AIMEE

Right, I think I actually remember this. But you know, I don't think I realized it was the same day. Didn't I drop my voice low, and like, say something back to her?

AIMEE

Uh-huh. (affirmative) Yeah, you did. I was basically trying not to crawl out of my skin because I was embarrassed. And I knew I was going to see Luke who really was my new boyfriend. And you were just having a laugh at my expense.

MICAH

Yes. And I put my arm around you and said, [Drops voice] "Isn't she pretty? And she's all mine!"

[Both laughing]

AIMEE

Yeah... freaking nightmare.

MICAH

Oh, I guess now I just have them.

AIMEE

Oh, dark. Okay.

MICAH

I don't know, go on.

AIMEE

Anyway, after that we just rode all the way to the park. And then... well, you remember some of this?

MICAH

Yeah. All right, so we got there. And then Luke was already there. Waiting for you.

AIMEE

You know, I- I know. I've said this, but I'm really sorry. I shouldn't have ditched you.

MICAH

Aimee, it's fine. You know, we were kids. And, I don't know, maybe I think at some point, I felt some type of way about it. But you know, clearly, there's a lot bigger things to be concerned with. So you don't have to apologize. But since you did, I- let's clear the air, I accept. We're good. It's fine.

AIMEE

Okay. [Deep breath] So after we left the park, we just rode over to his house. He made some sandwiches. We went up to his room to watch a movie. We ended up making out a bunch, obviously.

[Both laugh]

But we did watch Empire Records.

MICAH

Oh, my God. I love that movie. I haven't seen it in a while.

AIMEE

Yeah, me too.

AIMEE AND MICAH

[Quoting Empire Records] "My name isn't fucking Warren!"

[Laughing]

MICAH

Oh, yes. Got it. Still got it. But... [Pauses]
Wait a minute... that's not- it's not possible for you to have watched a whole movie.

AIMEE

What do you mean?

MICAH

Well...

AIMEE

That's what happened. The movie had just about ended when we heard banging on the front door. That's when you showed up.

MICAH

No, seriously, like, there's just- it's- there's no way, that can't be right. I was only... I think I was only on the trail for what, like maybe 20 minutes? Like... I mean, I know it's kind of wild. But even though I somehow managed to find my way to Luke's house, it would mean that we were apart for what? Maybe 45 minutes?

AIMEE

What? That's... no, that's not...

MICAH

It's not what?

AIMEE

[Pauses] Micah, you were gone for hours.

MICAH

[Nervous laugh] No, it couldn't have been. Okay... you left. And then I started walking on that—that trail, that little trail that was blazed on the edge of the woods, like near the water. And, I don't know, I couldn't have been more than like, a quarter of a mile in? There's no way that took me hours. It's not that far.

AIMEE

Micah, like I said, we got there in the morning, maybe like nine o'clock? Luke's parents had just left for work. It was after two when you got back.

MICAH

So you're telling me I lost five hours?

AIMEE

I- yeah. Yeah, I guess.

MICAH

The fuck?

AIMEE

You showed up all muddy, like Luke said. I was upset when he called up the stairs that it was you and that he was calling your mom. And I told him not to, mostly because I wasn't supposed to be with anyone but you and I knew Ava would tell my parents. At first I wouldn't even come down the stairs. But then he said you were hurt. And when I came down, he was already on the phone. And I saw that your head was bleeding pretty badly. And, um...

MICAH

What? Why the face?

AIMEE

I'm just trying to remember... Um, your head was bleeding. Your dad's hat was gone. You came back without it.

MICAH

I mean, I guess I didn't even remember that I was wearing it until you reminded me today.

AIMEE

Yeah, but Micah you know how you were with that hat. I know you were scared, but I don't know. I guess if you fell and hit your head, you could have forgotten it. But it's... it's just that, you know, it was so important to you. And then when I took you to the bathroom to help you clean up--

MICAH

--Yo, I'm gonna text Devon. I know that he like, basically just left but you know, maybe we should go anyway. I think I- I want to catch him up on this.

AIMEE

Yeah, and no need. He's right over there. But Micah--

MICAH

[Yells] -- Devon! Hey! Over here.

[DEVON JOGS OVER]

DEVON

Hey, hey, what's up? Did I not give you all enough space?

MICAH

No. No, you're fine. Um, are you actually ready to head out? I know that you didn't have a lot of time to play.

DEVON

Oh, no, it's fine. What's up?

MICAH

Well, Aimee, and I just figured out something pretty significant and really weird about that day in Duke Island Park. And I thought that maybe we should head home before it got too late so we could see if Elia could hang out.

[TEXT MESSAGE CHIMES]

DEVON

I bet that's her.

AIMEE

Micah, I still need to--

MICAH

--Guys, it's not Elia. I had her on Do Not Disturb. Remember, I muted her? It's actually just a random phone number. And there's no text. It's just an audio file.

AIMEE

Well don't open it, it could be a virus.

MICAH

From an audio file? Devon? Is that a risk?

DEVON

It's possible, you know? Are you sure you didn't recognize the number?

MICAH

Definitely not. But fuck it. Let's listen to it.

[MICAH PLAYS RECORDING]

OFFICER MARK SCHRADE [Voiceover]

What the hell are you doing here? You can't be here.

ATMEE

That's Mark!

MICAH

Ssh!

LUKE [Voiceover]

You know why I'm fucking here.

DEVON

Luke?

OFFICER MARK SCHRADE [Voiceover]
Get inside. Did anyone see you come here?

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LUKE [Voiceover]
Why? Why does it matter?
OFFICER MARK SCHRADE [Voiceover]
Never mind. What are you doing here? What do you want?
LUKE [Voiceover]
I want to know why you're doing this to her. To me.
OFFICER MARK SCHRADE [Voiceover]
You have no idea what you're talking about.
LUKE [Voiceover]
I know that you lied to her. And I know that you--
OFFICER MARK SCHRADE [Voiceover]
[Sternly] -- Stop. Talking.
LUKE [Voiceover]
You need to tell her the truth. If you don't, I will.
OFFICER MARK SCHRADE [Voiceover]
I can't do that.
LUKE [Voiceover]
What the hell do you mean you can't do that? You're the one
messing with her. You've been lying to her about so much shit
for so long.
OFFICER MARK SCHRADE [Voiceover]
You don't realize how dangerous this is.
LUKE [Voiceover]
Dangerous? What the fuck are you talking about?
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[RECORDING ENDS]

What's that? Are you recording this? What the fuck?

OFFICER MARK SCHRADE [Voiceover]

DEVON

Wait, who sent that?

MICAH

I don't know. Maybe Luke?

DEVON

Call back.

MICAH

And say what?

DEVON

Doesn't matter! Just... anything. Ask who they are. Say you're taking a survey. I don't know.

[ERROR NOTIFICATION CHIME]

[AUTOMATED VOICE]

Your call cannot be ...

[MICAH HANGS UP]

MICAH

Guys. Let's go. I think we need to talk to Elia.

DEVON

Yeah, I think we do.

AIMEE

I'll text her from the car.

[SCENE TRANSITION]

[OUTRO MUSIC]

Transcribed by $\underline{\text{Evelyn Archer}}$

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