Season 3: Episode 1

"See No Evil"

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# how it ends



## NETWORK INTRO

Rusty Quill Presents...

## STEPHANIE [Voiceover]

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## [INTRO MUSIC FADE IN]

## MICAH [Voiceover]

That feeling when you hear someone call your name and you turn, but no one's there, and shiver runs down your spine. When something moves just out of vision and it sets in. The sense that someone, or something is watching you. Do you know that feeling? Good. It means you're paying attention.

I'm Micah Jones. My friends and I started this podcast to explore my dreams and nightmares and to help me finally deal with my dad's death, even after all this time. Instead, we stumbled onto something much darker, something we were never meant to find out. My dreams aren't just dreams. They're memories. Warnings. I should have paid closer attention. And my dad? He's at the center of it all.

The How it Ends Podcast is no longer releasing in real time. We can't. It isn't safe. But if you're just finding us, start at the beginning. Thank you for listening.

# [INTRO MUSIC FADE OUT]

## [Voiceover]

The events that are about to unfold occurred in mid-December, 2019.

# [SCENE TRANSITION]

## LUKE

[On phone]

I don't know everything. He knows things that I don't and he refused to tell me. He said it was too dangerous. But he promised to tell you. Did you get a hold of him?

#### MICAH

[Voiceover on phone.]

Luke. No. We didn't. I'm trying to tell you. We all went. Me, Elia, Devon. And Aimee. Aimee's back, Luke.

#### LUKE

Uh...

#### MICAH

We all went to Mark's house on a day we knew he'd be home. We wanted to catch him off guard because... you know, I figured if he didn't have any time to prep another story, he'd actually tell me the truth. But I need to tell you that--

#### LUKE

Did he? What did he say? Like I told him I was going to send it to you as soon as I could. So he had a time limit on reaching out to you to tell you everything he knew.

# MICAH

Luke. Mark is dead. Did you know?

# LUKE

No. I... I had no idea.

## MICAH

Well, when we got there, Tim answered the door. And he was really upset that we just showed up. I- I- I mean, I get it. He just lost his dad. But obviously, we didn't know at first so we just kind of pressed him to talk to Mark. He just kept saying that he wasn't there. Um. But... and also, oh, you know, we're actually not sure how he died. It... Either way, it just seems a little sudden.

[Silence]

Luke?

LUKE

Yeah. I'm here.

MICAH

Also... um... I- I want to ask you. I got another text with an audio file in it. Actually it's the day we found out about... about Mark. Um. I listened to it, but it just sounds like noise. There was... There's no one talking or anything. Did you... Did you send me that? Like. Maybe by accident, or...?

LUKE

The only thing I sent you was the recording of me and Mark.

MICAH

(Sighs)

Oh. Okay. I- I just thought that, like--

# [FOOTSTEPS ON LUKE'S SIDE OF THE CALL]

LUKE

Look. I gotta go.

MICAH

Wait!

# [CAR DOOR SHUTS. CAR STARTS UP]

UNKNOWN MAN

Who were you talking to? Did you call him? We said we weren't going to.

LUKE

No, ah... No. It wasn't him.

UNKNOWN MAN

Who did you call? And don't lie to me. I can tell when you're bullshitting.

I called... Micah.

## UNKNOWN MAN

Why? Why- Why would you do that? We agreed about how we were going to communicate with them.

## LUKE

I just... I had to know if Mark talked to her. He promised me he would, and he hasn't been answering his phone.

## UNKNOWN MAN

Okay. Well. Has he talked to her?

#### LUKE

No. He... died.

## UNKNOWN MAN

Fuck me. All right. Well. Someone's catching on.

# LUKE

You can't know that. It could have been an accident--

## UNKNOWN MAN

Did she say how it happened?

# LUKE

No. She didn't know.

# UNKNOWN MAN

Yeah. Exactly. Or she's not telling you.

## LUKE

Why would she keep that from me?

#### UNKNOWN MAN

Really? Like you've been so forthright and honest with her?

## LUKE

It's not the same.

# [Pause]

# UNKNOWN MAN

Where's the package?

## LUKE

It's in the back.

## UNKNOWN MAN

Okay. Can you... grab it? And maybe keep it up here so we don't forget to send it and search for post offices near us?

# [SOUNDS OF RUMMAGING]

## LUKE

Uh... It's not here. No. I'm sure I grabbed it. It was on the nightstand, right next to my bed.

#### UNKNOWN MAN

[Laughs sardonically]

Okay. Don't tell me you left it.

## LUKE

## [Nervous]

I didn't leave it. It's not here. What the fuck? Why is it not here?

## UNKNOWN MAN

Well. Doesn't matter. We can't go back for it.

## LUKE

You didn't remember it, either.

## UNKNOWN MAN

You said you had loaded it before going to check out.

## LUKE

All right. So... What are we going to do?

# UNKNOWN MAN

I don't know. Just keep moving, I guess.

Okay. Where to next? Didn't you say you had a couple of ideas?

#### UNKNOWN MAN

Yeah, but... they're all in different directions. Not exactly easy travel. There's a national forest area in Idaho. Lake Tahoe, California. A spot in Minnesota. And the Glacier Caves.

#### LUKE

Glacier Caves? As in--

#### UNKNOWN MAN

Alaska.

#### LUKE

You want to drive to Alaska. In winter.

#### UNKNOWN MAN

# [Chuckles]

I mean... Yeah. Sure. Whatever. This is the task at hand. I'm giving you options. We don't have to go to Alaska if you're scared.

## LUKE

Scared? No. I'm being realistic. Remember that we have to work while we're out here doing all this. Work requires a reliable internet connection. Your setup is good, but will it hold up if we drive through the fucking Yukon?

## UNKNOWN MAN

Most of the driving would be through Alberta and B.C. Only a bit of it is in the Yukon.

#### LUKE

You know what I mean. Plus, it's winter.

#### UNKNOWN MAN

I didn't say we had to go there.

Holy shit. Then where do you want to go? Just pick somewhere. I'll even drive so long as it's not through the fucking Yukon in fucking Winter--

## UNKNOWN MAN

[Talking over LUKE]
--It's still Alberta.

#### LUKE

You said Idaho. I heard Idaho. So, Idaho it is. I'll put in the GPS. Just follow the instructions, okay? Think you can do that?

## UNKNOWN MAN

You got it, man.

# [SCENE TRANSITION]

#### UNKNOWN MAN

All right. So. You can go to the library. I'm gonna try that bar you mentioned. See if I can strike up a friendly conversation.

## LUKE

Okay. And after? It's getting late. I don't think the library's gonna stay open too much longer.

# UNKNOWN MAN

All right. Join me at the bar, then. I don't know, dude. This place is quiet. Not sure we're gonna get anything, but gotta go give it a shot. Worst case? We drink, eat, and leave. On to the next.

## LUKE

Okay. So... Same old story? Urban legend researchers?

#### UNKNOWN MAN

Eh. Maybe I'll switch it up. You know. If the folks get cagey. I'll figure something out.

You gonna pull a Dean & Sam? What are you, plainclothes FBI? Reporter on the beat?

#### UNKNOWN MAN

What is a "Dean & Sam"?

#### LUKE

Never mind.

#### UNKNOWN MAN

Well, the reporter's not a bad idea, though. Haven't used that one in a while.

## LUKE

[Sighs]

Keep your ringer on. I'll text you when I'm done.

#### UNKNOWN MAN

Sure, dude. See you in a bit.

# [SCENE TRANSITION]

## LUKE

She started off by telling me about some of the local Native American stories from the area. She was really nice, so I didn't want to interrupt her, but... at some point I had to stop her. Let her know that wasn't really what I was looking for. I asked her if there was anything more recent, less well-known.

She told me about a story from the '60s or '70s about a bunch of kids who were out drinking one night, stumbled upon a moonshine shack. They started poking around, just being dumb, drunk kids. But they said they heard a voice come from farther away. Like it was higher up in the mountain.

"Hey!" It called out. "I can see you!" That grabbed my attention a bit because of... well... You know. But I brushed it off, because that would be pretty common response to anyone seeing some kids mess with their stuff, right?

But then she said that the weirdest part of the story is that the next day, when the police went by to investigate, they were less worried about some rebellious kids, and more interested in catching the moonshiners, you know? They said the equipment was decades, or even a century old. Worn down. Rusted. Overgrown.

Anyway, I don't think it could be connected to anything, but I figured it was...

# [KEY TURNS IN THE DOOR]

#### LUKE

Hey. Find anything?

## UNKNOWN MAN

Possibly. You?

#### LUKE

I don't know. I was just recording it, actually. But I can fill you in later. What did you find?

# [SOUND OF ZIPPER]

## UNKNOWN MAN

Well, I headed to the bar like I said, but... didn't end up having to use the reporter disguise, whatever it was. When I got there, there were a group of outdoorsy types who were already drinking and playing darts. Waited around for a little bit and offered to buy them a round. And... you know, if they let me play winner.

## LUKE

You just walked up to them and asked to play darts? Like... Interrupted them?

## UNKNOWN MAN

Sure. Yeah. I don't know. I was just... Hoping to come off friendly, you know?

#### LUKE

Right.

#### UNKNOWN MAN

So anyways. As I was waiting, struck up a conversation with one of the dudes who wasn't playing. Mostly talked nonsense. Sports, music, Sopranos. I don't know. Some other shit. I asked him if they were local. Turns out? They weren't. Just a bunch of journeyman electricians off of work for a few weeks doing some winter sports.

Anyway, I said I was doing something similar. And asked where they'd passed through. You know, if they had any trail recommendations. Honestly, wasn't really expecting much. But the guy had lots to say.

They just got to town a day or so ago. Before that, they'd hit some trails northwest of here. They're taking a few days off because this guy I was chatting with had guite a scare.

#### LUKE

What kind of scare?

## UNKNOWN MAN

Hang on. I'm getting to it.

So they were cross country skiing and the dude said he was heading downhill into a turn, clipped an edge and fell. Called it some "yard sale" thing. I don't know what that means. Anyway, picked up all of his gear. Got back on the trail, but had to go uphill and couldn't really see the top, so he just followed the other ski tracks to try and catch up with his buddies. Finally saw a trail marker, and continued on that for a while.

## LUKE

Didn't he catch up to his friends?

#### UNKNOWN MAN

So, that's the thing. He didn't think that collecting his gear took that long, so he just wasn't sure why he hadn't run into them yet. Especially since he was following the same trail, right? But then he looked at the map.

The markers he was following weren't on it. He was following a marker carved into some trees, thinking it was the same trail they'd been on the whole time.

So I asked him if he could show me the trail map. Told him I was heading in that direction this week. And that worked. Pulled out his phone, started showing me the map and where he thought he might have fallen, and the direction he headed after.

#### LUKE

Well, okay. That doesn't really seem like much, dude.

#### UNKNOWN MAN

Hang on. Hang on. So I asked him why he didn't just turn around and retrace his steps and he said he stayed the course because he heard voices in the tree line ahead of him. Thought if he pushed himself harder, he'd eventually catch up. But the fall had knocked some wind out of him.

## LUKE

Man. He should have just turned around.

## UNKNOWN MAN

Well, he did. But not before he stumbled into a little something odd. He told me, at that point, the voices got louder so he assumed his friends were close by. But when he turned another corner, no one was there and the trail was quiet.

He saw a small campfire in the center of a clearing that was smoking like it had just been put out, but not quite all the way. There was no one around. No gear left behind like someone was coming back. Just the campfire and some rocks, set around like they were little chairs. He said something about it creeped him out. And just felt like he'd gone off route, and instead of pressing further, he decided to just head back the way he came.

#### LUKE

Okay. Finally, some sense.

#### UNKNOWN MAN

He said he thought maybe folks were out hunting, or doing something they shouldn't be and just didn't want to get mixed up. Actually minded his own business.

## LUKE

[Chuckles nervously]

It's amazing what that does for a person, huh?

#### UNKNOWN MAN

I asked him if he remembered what the trail markers looked like so I could avoid making the same mistake and he drew it out for me. We should find out if this means something.

#### LUKE

Did he say anything else?

#### UNKNOWN MAN

Nah. Not really. Only that he was lucky that he was able to follow his own path back to the trail head. Once he got back there, he had enough service to text his buddies. That's pretty much where that story time ended.

I thanked him for the heads up. We went back to talking about other stuff. I stayed for a little while longer, just... you know, to not be suspicious. And played a few rounds of darts. Lost miserably. On purpose, of course. And then bid them farewell. That's why I'm back a little later than you.

I don't know if this means anything at all, but it sure feels like it does.

## LUKE

And you wanted to go to Alaska.

#### UNKNOWN MAN

Only that it was an option. Not mandatory.

## LUKE

Whatever. Hey. Didn't you say you found some Unicode shape catcher site?

# UNKNOWN MAN

Oh, yeah. Let me try that out.

# [SOUNDS OF TYPING ON A LAPTOP]

LUKE

Well?

#### UNKNOWN MAN

The closest thing is the Zodiac symbol for Aquarius. It's also showing a Byzantine symbol, too, that's kind of close, and a few others that are way off.

#### LUKE

Yeah. The Aquarius one is definitely it. But what do you think it means? Is it also tied to these triangles?

#### UNKNOWN MAN

I don't know. But we might as well just add it to the list. This isn't the first symbol I've come across. Maybe at some point, we'll collect enough of them and it'll start to make more sense.

#### LUKE

Gotta catch 'em all.

# UNKNOWN MAN

Oy. Dude.

## LUKE

Yeah. Sorry.

[Pause]

So... What now? On to the next place?

## UNKNOWN MAN

Actually, I was thinking we should stay in the area for a little bit. This place isn't too expensive and I'm honestly looking forward to sleeping in a real bed. We've been on the move for a while now. I could really use a break, even if it's a short one.

Yeah. It's not a bad idea. I got an email about a quick contract job I could pick up. Where were those trails this guy mentioned? Are they far away from here? We could head that way and see what we find, sort of.

## UNKNOWN MAN

I just told him I was a cross country skier, man. I don't really know how.

## LUKE

Oh.

# UNKNOWN MAN

You're kind of literal, huh?

#### LUKE

Well, not all the time. I mean... some...

## UNKNOWN MAN

[Clears throat. Stifles a laugh.]

## LUKE

Right. Got it.

# UNKNOWN MAN

# [Chuckles]

Wouldn't be the worst idea to get a tune up before we head back on the road. Maybe even some snow tires, but that's not gonna be cheap.

## LUKE

I can chip in, but you're right. I need to boost my bank account.

#### UNKNOWN MAN

Nice. It's settled, then. A week. Maybe two. I'm sure we could find some stuff to do around here.

Ah... Yeah. When I was looking up this town, I noticed a Ghost Town and a trails tour. That could be cool. Maybe something else will pop up. Something a bit more local. And since we're sticking around I could always go to the library. Do some more research, look at old newspapers, see if there's anything I can dig up. If there isn't anything here, we could also research the next couple of stops. Figure out where we're going to go to.

#### UNKNOWN MAN

Sounds good to me.

#### LUKE

Tahoe probably makes the most sense, considering where we are. Then maybe we head east.

#### UNKNOWN MAN

Tahoe, it is.

# [AUDIO BEGINS TO FADE]

#### LUKE

All right. Well, in your walk back, did you notice anything? Anywhere to eat? I'm starving.

## UNKNOWN MAN

Actually, one of the guys in the group mentioned a smokehouse nearby. Said the food was pretty good, so we could try that.

# LUKE

Mm. Meat. Okay. There's a grocery store around here, too. Maybe we could grab some snacks.

# [SCENE TRANSITION]

## [OUTRO MUSIC]

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