The Missing

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FADE IN:

1 EXT. ROAD - DAY

1

A car drives down a long straight road. Forestry lines the outskirts with the sun poking through the trees.

Inside the car sits a couple; ALEX (Early 30s wearing upbeat outdoors wear) and WYATT (30s dressed in muted summer outdoors wear).

2 EXT. ENTRANCE TO CAMPGROUNDS - DAY

2

Wyatt and Alex pull up towards an exit. A sign is shown with the title of the camping grounds. 'Welcome to False Creek Camping Grounds'

The couple drive down a dirt road towards the campsite head office. A few people wave to the car passing.

3 INT. CAMP HEAD OFFICE - DAY

3

Alex enters the office with Wyatt loosely traveling behind. A small bell rings above the entrance as they enter.

ALEX

Hi!

Two siblings are in the office. JANE (Mid 20s) is putting a few things on empty shelves while CALEB (Mid 20s) is behind the desk. Once they see the couple a service smile shines on both men.

CALEB

Hiya there! Welcome to False Creek's Camping Grounds!

Alex nudges Wyatt who seems unamused with the loud enthusiasm. Alex walks towards the front desk.

ALEX

We are just signing in under Wyatt and Alex Taylor.

CALEB

Okay! I will let my sister grab your information and we will have all your stuff set in no time!

5

6

Jane comes around the corner grabbing a black binder from under the desk. She finds a document with Alex and Wyatt's info.

JANE

Ah. Here we are. A fine couple like you deserve our absolute best. Lot 5B should be just swell.

Jane hands the documents over to Alex.

CALEB

So, Where are you two from? How'd you meet? We wanna hear it all!

WYATT

(cutting in)

I will go unpack while you three... chat.

Wyatt takes the documents from his husband and turns to leave the office.

ALEX

Well...

4 EXT. CAMPGROUNDS - MOMENTS LATER

Wyatt gets into his car. He opens the passenger side compartment. A few file folders are inside labeled with case numbers. Wyatt reaches inside and pulls out a pair of sunglasses. Putting them on he drives down towards his campsite.

5 EXT. CAMPSITE 5B - MOMENTS LATER

Wyatt arrives at the site. A wooden picnic table sits near a fire pit. A few other sites had people already set up near by.

Wyatt opens the back trunk and unloads the camping equipment. He leaves them on the ground and gets back into the car.

6 INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Wyatt searches through the files in the compartment. He finds one with the CASE #221 written on it. A missing's person report. Wyatt pulls out his dictaphone from the same bag his bag.

WYATT

July 21st 2021, Day 10 in case #221, file missing persons; Olivia Connor.

Wyatt flips through the report. The file containing photos and information regarding the last time seen and by who.

WYATT (CONT'D)

No further details have been supplied, however...

KNOCK KNOCK! Startled Wyatt turns to see Alex stands waving at his husband happily.

Alex notices the file folder opened and instantly changes his mood. He turns to walk off.

Wyatt scrambles. Putting his stuff away, he get out of the vehicle to stop him.

7 EXT. CAMPSITE 5B - DUSK

WYATT

Lex! Please stop! I can explain.

ALEX

(turning to face him)
You promised. No work. Just a vacation
with you and I.

WYATT

Baby, I am so sorry I just got caught up. You know how it is.

ALEX

I didn't even want to go camping! We drove for 5 hours to the middle of nowhere in Canada to fix things. That's why we are here. But of course... you brought work.

Neighbours begin to turn heads and watch the couple fight. Their beside neighbour walks from his site over to them.

DANIEL

Hi there. Sorry to cut in on this little thing but is there any way you can keep it down. My baby just fell asleep. Sorry, again.

Wyatt and Alex give DANIEL (Late 20s wearing thick glasses and a tucked in shirt) a nasty glare.

Daniel holds his hands up in defence and walks back to his site.

WYATT

Lex, those are valid reasons and I get what you mean. I love you and we are here together. I'm sorry. I don't wanna fight.

ALEX

Neither do I.

The couple share a kind shy look before falling into a hug.

Alex pulls back a little just to look up at Wyatt.

ALEX

I'm not putting the tent up. I hope you know.

WYATT

(chuckling)

I wouldn't think otherwise.

Alex playfully shoves Wyatt before they begin to pick up the camping equipment from the ground.

8 EXT. CAMPSITE 5B - NIGHT

The couple sit together on a singular camp chair. The two sit before a nicely lit fire. Both of them dressed more comfy.

Alex grabs a polaroid camera from a bag beside them. Wyatt covers his face not amused with the oncoming photo. Alex swats his hand.

ALEX

Just oneee. Please.

WYATT

(pause)

Fine.

Happy, Alex takes more than one picture with his husband.

Alex shakes the photo awaiting the image to come to life. The picture is revealed.

9 INT. TENT - NIGHT/MORNING

9

Wyatt and Alex fall asleep in their tent side by side.

Wyatt is startled awake by a car's sudden ignition.

WYATT

You've got to be kidding me right now...

Wyatt pokes his head outside the tent.

10 EXT. TENT - CONTINOUS

10

Daniel exits his car. He see's an angry looking Wyatt.

DANIEL

Oops. Sorry to wake you! The misses wanted me to get an early start on the packing!

Wyatt glares before going back into his tent.

11 INT. TENT - CONTINOUS

11

WYATT

I seriously hate that guy...

Wyatt looks around the tent noticing his wife is no where inside. All of her belongings are gone.

WYATT

Babe? Alex?

Wyatt begins to scramble around in and outside the tent. He comes across the photos him and Alex had taken the night previous.

They no longer showed Alex in them. Only Wyatt sat in the photos. He looks through photo to photo. Panic and confusion setting in, Wyatt grabs his phone and dials Alex's number.

The call didn't go through. Wyatt pulls back his phone to see that he has no service.

WYATT

Shit!

Wyatt puts his phone in his pant pocket and throws on a sweatshirt. He leaves the tent in a hurry.

12 INT. CAMP HEAD OFFICE - DAY

The bell in the front office chimes as Wyatt flings open the door.

Jane and Caleb are startled but suddenly plaster that perfect smile back on their faces.

JANE

Morning Camper. How can we help you?

DANIEL

Oh! Hey again neighbour! (he eases a hand onto Wyatts arm)

WYATT

(Wyatt jerks his arm off)
Where's my husband? You two saw me
with him yesterday so I don't need to
hear the bullshit answer.

CALEB

(Still smiling)

Sir, if you could calm down before we have a civil conversation about this please.

DANIEL

Husband?

WYATT

My husband is missing. You really think telling me to calm down right now is smart?

Jane, Caleb, and Daniel shared a puzzled look.

JANE

Mr. Taylor we are going to have to ask you to leave now. Or we are calling the cops.

WYATT

Do it. They might help more than you two idiots.

Wyatt turns and storms out of the building.

13 EXT. CAMP HEAD OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

13

Wyatt is attacked with a sudden headache and vertigo. He grabs his head in pain.

MALE (O.S.)

Your husband is alive.

Wyatt turns to see a YOUNG MAN (Early 20s). He didn't trigger the bell and stands dresses in all black. His hair a mess and his eyes blood shot.

WYATT

What?

The young man vanishes leaving Wyatt alone. His head begins to pound once more however this time leading him to a flashback.

14 FLASHBACK 14

A flash of the previous night scenes with Alex.

Setting up the fire together.

A hug.

The photo being taken of the two of them.

15 EXT. FOREST - DAY

15

Wyatt opens his eyes in the middle of the forest. The young man is nowhere in sight.

A dozen file folders along with the file contents are sprawled around the forest floors. All of the cases he had brought along with him.

Wyatt reaches down to pick up the one closest to him. The file reads his and his husbands names.

The young man now stands in front of Wyatt as if appeared out of thin air.

THE YOUNG MAN

He is alive.

WYATT

This doesn't make any sense.

The young man opens the folder in Wyatt's hands.

WYATT (CONT'D)

This has to be some sick joke. I am not dead... I can't be.

THE YOUNG MAN

You got too involved in the case. The killer outsmarted you into catching the wrong guy. You and Alex became his new target.

CUT TO

16 EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

16

Alex runs through the forest holding his stomach. Blood soaked his shirt and hands.

ALEX

Please... Somebody help!

Alex falls to the ground.

17 EXT. FOREST - DAY

17

Wyatt flips back and forth through the case file unable to fully grasp what is going on.

THE YOUNG MAN (CONT)

He was stabbed. You were too. But his injuries were different.

Wyatt's shirt now is covered in blood in a spot near his heart. He touches it before looking back at the young man.

THE YOUNG MAN

He got a second chance.

18 EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

18

Jane and Caleb holding flashlights are on their nightly rounds of the campsite when they hear Alex. They run over to find him. Alec has passed out from his injuries. Wyatt also lies still beside Alex. Caleb runs over to both victims.

CALEB

Jane! Call 911! I don't know if he's breathing.

Jane reaches for her phone and begins to dial.

19 EXT. FOREST - DAY

Wyatt stands looking at the young man with a shocked expression. The young man looks up. The sounds of sirens in can be heard softly in the distance.

ALEX (V.O.)

Wyatt?

Wyatt looks in the direction he hears hIS voice.

ALEX (V.O.)

Wyatt.

Wyatt looks to where the young man was. Alex now stands shakily in place.

Wyatt runs to him. The two fall into a tight embrace. After a bit; realization strikes Wyatt.

WYATT

You can't be here.

ALEX

What do you mean?

WYATT

If you are here... Alex you need to live. You are getting a second chance. Not many people get this.

ALEX

(sorrowful)

I don't wanna leave you. I want to be with you Wyatt.

WYATT

I know.

(pauses)

But I want you to grow old. I want you to live life to the fullest. I want you to follow where your heart desires.

ALEX

Wyatt...

WYATT

I will always be with you. We made that promise. Remember?

Wyatt moves and wipes a tear from his face.

ALEX

I do.

WYATT

Now go. You don't have much time.

ALEX

(pauses)

I love you.

WYATT

Forever.

Alex grabs Wyatts hand still on his face and hold it tightly beside his. Alex's hand fades away to just Wyatt's mid air. He is once again alone in the woods.

Wyatt pauses and takes a second before turns back towards the direction of the campsite.

FADE OUT