

SAVE OUR SASQUATCH

Written by

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*Based on the Novel 'S.O.S. (Save Our Sasquatch)'
by Ariel "Rel" Mathiowitz*

FADE IN:

INT. HELICOPTER - ROCKY MOUNTAINS - NIGHT

YOUNG NANCY MATTHEWS (30), a pretty and rugged explorer with black hair, wakes up as the helicopter nosedives.

PILOT #1 (O.S.)
Mayday! Mayday!

Pilot #1 looks at flashing lights, radar, and LCD screens around him.

PILOT #2
(to pilot #1)
They need to abort.

PILOT #1
(screaming)
Get your parachutes on NOW!

Nancy, scared for her life, quickly puts on her parachute. Her COLLEAGUES in the seats around her also get theirs on.

Pilot #1 is struggling to keep the helicopter out of a nosedive.

PILOT #1 (CONT'D)
GET OUT WHILE YOU CAN!

COLLEAGUE #1
(to Nancy)
You first!

Nancy jumps out of the helicopter, and unleashes the parachute immediately.

She looks up, and sees nobody follow her out.

EXT. HELICOPTER - ROCKY MOUNTAINS - CONTINUOUS

With snows falling in sheets, the helicopter spins violently in the air. It crashes and tumbles into the snowy, foggy, windy forest. Tree branches jab into the windows, as the panicky helicopter beeps and alarms sound off.

The helicopter crashes into the ground.

Nancy lands on the snowy ground, and hurts her ankle. She wiggles out of the parachute. She limps as fast as she can to the helicopter.

INT. HELICOPTER - ROCKY MOUNTAINS - LATER

Nancy sees her all her colleagues passed out.

She checks the pulse of the colleague closest to her. Then the next. Then the next. Everyone is dead. Nancy is stunned and hopeless.

She cries hysterically.

Nancy limps back to the front of helicopter. She uses the radio headset.

NANCY

This is Nancy Matthews, over.

After a brief moment Nancy turns a dial on the radio.

NANCY (CONT'D)

This is Nancy Matthews. Can anyone hear me? Over! HELP!

Nancy puts the radio headset back down.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Fuck. Fuck. Fuck.

She grabs her supplies. As she jumps out of the helicopter she cuts her shoulder against the helicopter's side that was sliced up during the crash.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - LATER

Nancy lands and checks her slightly bleeding shoulder.

It's freezing outside and there's a blizzard.

Nancy limps around aimlessly. She looks around.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Help! HELP!

Nancy's teeth are clattering because of the cold.

She grabs a bundle of sticks and brush, and gathers them together on the ground.

She takes out a lighter and starts a fire.

The fire grows bigger, as the smoke gets thicker.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Okay, calm yourself down. Breathe,
Nancy. Breathe...

She massages her hands in front of the fire.

NANCY (CONT'D)
 Brave the cold. They will rescue
 you. Brave the cold.

Nancy takes out a whiskey bottle from her supplies.

She pours a little whiskey into a handkerchief and dabs it
 against a wound on her shoulder. She winces in pain.

She hears FOOTSTEPS in the snow. The footsteps approach the
 crash site, but she can't see what it is at first.

Two FIGURES appear through the fog, one of which is OLE BEAR,
 an elder, but very powerful bear, the other FIGURE is
 unclear.

Nancy limps away, hiding behind a tree.

OLE BEAR hears Nancy's FOOTSTEPS in the snow, and walks in
 her direction. The other figure trails right behind the bear.

As OLE BEAR and the figure approach Nancy, she panics even
 more. She keeps limping away.

A furry paw grabs Nancy, preventing her from escaping any
 more.

NANCY (CONT'D)
 (Yelling)
 NO! God no! Not like this! HELP!
 HELP!

Nancy drops into fetal position.

FIGURE (O.S.)
 Shhhhh. I'm not going to hurt you.

Nancy looks up.

NANCY
 You... Are you... How?

Nancy faints.

CUT TO:

TITLE: SAVE OUR SASQUATCH

EXT. BELFONT STUDIOS - LOS ANGELES - DAY - 30 YEARS LATER

The huge windows of a beautiful, multi-story commercial building reflect the afternoon sun.

A large 'BELFONT STUDIOS' sign is on the front of the building.

A few media vans with 'BELFONT' logos are parked outside. People with camera and audio equipment are walking indoors.

INT. BELFONT LOBBY CAFE - LATER

FRANCESCO "CHESS" RIDLEY (32), a handsome, witty barista with black hair, is taking an order from a middle-aged, DORKY CUSTOMER with thick, black glasses.

CHESS

Welcome to the Belfont Cafe, can I interest you in this morning's speci-

DORKY CUSTOMER

No, no. What do I look like, an amateur? Can I get a mocha latte, one cream, and one and a half sugar.

CHESS

One and a half sugar?

DORKY CUSTOMER

Yes. One and a half.

CHESS

What happens if I put two sugars?

DORKY CUSTOMER

Then I don't tip.

CHESS

Yeah, but would you even notice?

DORKY CUSTOMER

I probably wouldn't, but my blood-sugar level might. Doctor says less than two sugars per coffee from now on. So, chop-chop if you want this tip.

Chess swipes the dorky customer's credit card. Chess makes the mocha latte and puts in one cream, and one and a half sugar.

Chess hands the coffee to dorky customer. The dorky customer walks away without tipping.

Chess looks at the empty tip jar.

 CHESS
 Asshole. Next time I'll put nine
 and a half sugars.

 STAN (O.S.)
 I heard that.

Chess turns to look at STAN, a fat cafe manager with a nasal voice and nerdy glasses.

 STAN (CONT'D)
 Go and take your lunch break,
 Chess. And come back with a better
 attitude.

INT. BELFONT STUDIOS - HALLWAY

With a sandwich and drink in his hand, Chess walks through the hallway. He walks by a few studios, each with a different type of show - Politics, Sports, and Weather.

Chess approaches a soundproof glass partition. Through it he can see the filming of a conspiracy theory show called 'BNN' ('BELIEVERS NEWS NETWORK').

On the soundproof glass is a mounted TV that shows BNN's live feed that people in the hallway are able to hear.

Chess looks through the glass and is in awe of the production crew and show.

The show cuts to a field report from JULIE KNOWLES (30), a gorgeous reporter with curly, brown hair, and a fit figure. Chess gazes at her on the TV.

 JULIE
 In what is the most exciting news
 for Bigfoot believers in decades,
 locals in Jefferson County have
 flocked to the most recent Bigfoot
 sighting, which happened just hours
 ago...

Chess hears the start of her report but is encapsulated by Julie's beauty. Her words trail off in his mind as he daydreams about making love to her.

INT. DAYDREAM - LATER

With a hazy dream perspective, Chess is in bed with Julie.

JULIE
Ooooh baby. Finally.

CHESS
I knew this day would come.

JULIE
Just you, me, and Bigfoot.

CHESS
Bigfoot?

Bigfoot appears in bed next to Julie and Chess.

CHESS (CONT'D)
No. Can we leave Bigfoot out of
this?

JULIE
But that's how I like it.

CHESS
Ugh, fine.

JULIE
Wait up, Chess.

CHESS
Wait up? What do you mean wait up?
I'm right here.

JULIE
Wait up!

CHESS
For what? What am I waiting for?

Chess slowly wakes up from the daydream.

INT. BELFONTS STUDIOS - HALLWAY - LATER

Chess's boss, STAN, is waving his hands in front of Chess's face.

STAN
WAKE UP, CHESS!

CHESS

Whoa sorry, boss! What can I do for you?

Chess is startled. He has a huge boner, extremely oversized.

STAN

You've surpassed the allotted lunch break time by two minutes. Get back to work.

Chess has visions of horrible customers race through his mind.

INT. CHESS'S VISIONS - LATER

Each character in Chess's vision fades in and out.

STAN

Your lunch break was one minute and thirty seven seconds too long!

DORKY CUSTOMER

I asked for two point four-five sugars. This tastes more like two point five-nine!

STAN

You will never get a raise, muahahahah!

INT. BELFONTS STUDIOS - HALLWAY - LATER

Stan snaps his fingers in front of Chess's face.

Chess awakens from his visions.

STAN

CHESS! Snap out of it, and get back to work!

CHESS

Nah, I think I'm done here.

STAN

Done?

CHESS

Yeah, done.

Chess slams the barista apron off of his body.

CHESS (CONT'D)

Go find a new submissive bitch to
tolerate your micro-managing
bullshit... I'm outta here.

Chess walks away from Stan.

STAN

So what are you going to do now?
Unemployed and with no degree...

Chess walks to the exit. Before he exits, he adjusts his
boner so it doesn't show.

EXT. BELFONT STUDIOS - LATER

Chess walks away from the large 'BELFONT STUDIOS' sign on the
building.

EXT. SIDEWALK - LATER

Chess walks down the sidewalk and looks at an advertisement
on the side of a bus stop overhang. The advertisement reads:
'For only \$29.99, find out where you came from at
AncestryFinder.Net'

Chess takes a picture of the ad with his phone.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE - LATER

Chess walks into the liquor store.

INT. LIQUOR STORE - LATER

Chess walks into the store, as bells cling on the door.

Chess takes Brandy from a shelf, and approaches the STORE
CLERK at the register.

STORE CLERK

You again?

CHESS

Unfortunately.

Chess hands the clerk two, \$20-bills.

STORE CLERK

How've you been lately?

CHESS
Better... Better you didn't ask.

STORE CLERK
Yeeesh. Sorry to hear that.

The clerk returns \$2.50.

CHESS
Let's hope I survive this one.

Chess walks away.

STORE CLERK
Let's hope.
(To the next person in line)
Next please!

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - LATER

Chess walks up a flight of stairs, then stops in front of his apartment.

He hears the TV inside his apartment.

He takes a deep breath, and walks inside.

INT. APARTMENT - LATER

SEEMUS (41), a conspiracy theorist, disheveled, and unkempt, is wearing sweatpants and a black tee shirt with a UFO on it. Seemus is working on a robotic mule, BRUSKI, and occasionally staring at the TV, which is broadcasting BNN.

SEEMUS
Bro!

CHESS
(dejected)
Hey Seemus.

SEEMUS
Bruski now knows 57 animal
languages. Comes check this out!

CHESS
Not now.

Chess walks to the kitchen. Seemus frowns at Chess's back.

SEEMUS
(to Bruski)
Say asshole in Bear language.

Bruski makes a BEAR NOISE.

SEEMUS (CONT'D)
Good boy... Chess, he's talking to
you!

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Chess takes out the brandy from the liquor bag.

He pours a quick shot into a whiskey glass and gulps it down.

Looking at the ground, Chess winces as the brandy burns down
his throat.

Chess throws a handful of ice cubes into the whiskey glass,
and pours another.

SEEMUS
Grab me some ice cubes, too, bro!

Chess grabs a cup and fills it with ice cubes.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Seemus is sitting on the couch staring at the TV. Chess hands
Seemus the cup of ice cubes. Chess sinks into a leather
chair.

Seemus takes the cup and pours the ice cubes into his bong.
Chess shakes his head as looks at the TV.

On TV the conspiracy reporter, JULIE KNOWLES (33), is giving
a report.

CHESS
(annoyed)
Here we go again.

SEEMUS
SHHHH! This is serious shit, man!
Look!

CHESS
I saw this already.

ON TV - CONTINUOUS

A shot of reporter Julie is in the forefront, with the blurred Rocky Mountains and thick forest behind her.

JULIE

I caught up with the man who recorded the latest Sasquatch sighting.

JULIE (CONT'D)

Sir can you tell us exactly what happened when you first saw Sasquatch.

Julie puts a microphone up to an extremely wide-eyed man, ROB (40), southern accent.

Rob is staring awkwardly at Julie as he talks to her.

ROB

Yes. Well... I pulled over to take a piss. And after a few seconds I heard a hooting and a hollering about 20 yards off yonder in those woods. Sounded like an actual man yackin' and laughin'. And that's when they came into view. And I saw him!

JULIE

Saw who, sir?

ROB

The Sasquatch, and he was holding a bottle, and a bear was right there with him. I couldn't believe my eyes. And I just froze for a second, but then I took my phone out to record him. And then he finally saw me with my willy hangin' out, and he musta got scared and ran away because I'm so huge, you know what I mean, lady?

Rob gives Julie an elbow nudge and a wink.

JULIE

Aaaand, that's quite enough. Thank you so much for your time. Let's go ahead and see that footage again.

The news program shows cell phone footage of a faint, furry figure on two legs with a large whiskey bottle in hand, and another faint, furry figure on four legs scurrying away into the woods.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

CHESS
HA! Unbelievable.

Seemus snaps a look at Chess.

SEEMUS
What's unbelievable?

CHESS
That these conspiracy
(Using air quotes)
"REPORTERS" actually make a living
from this.

SEEMUS
From what? Telling the truth?

CHESS
Give me a break, Seemus. This is
all a joke. That Texan is clearly
an actor who looks like he just saw
a ghost.

SEEMUS
Because he pretty much DID see a
ghost.

CHESS
Whatever. Forget the actor. That
Bigfoot could just be a guy in a
gorilla suit.

SEEMUS
Bro, what type of guy is going to
put on a Bigfoot costume and walk
step-by-step with a stray grizzly
bear?

CHESS
Ohhhhh, I dunno, the same type of
guy who did it in 1967?

SEEMUS
Fuck you!

Seemus stands up.

SEEMUS (CONT'D)
You know what...? You're just
jealous of Julie.

CHESS
Jealous? Why would I be jealous?

SEEMUS
Because she's a popular Belfont
reporter, and you're just a Barista
there who can't get a real job
there.

Chess stands up.

CHESS
Fuck that. I wanted to be a real
field reporter, giving REAL news.
Julie LIES FOR A LIVING with this
made-up gorilla-suit crap.

SEEMUS
STOP CALLING IT A GORILLA SUIT!

CHESS
Sorry. I meant BIGFOOT suit.

SEEMUS
It's not a... Okay, asshole. Let's
say IT IS a costume. How do you
explain the Bigfoot feces sample I
had at my lab?

CHESS
I can't take this right now.

Chess walks to his room.

SEEMUS
AS GOD AS MY WITNESS, THOSE WERE
BIGFOOT DROPPINGS! AND THE
GOVERNMENT STOLE IT FROM ME!

Seemus takes another hit of marijuana. He stares at the TV.

A bug crawls across the coffee table. Seemus jumps out of the
couch and backs away.

SEEMUS (CONT'D)
FUCK! CHESS! HELP!

CHES (O.S.)
If it's another bug, then man-up
and kill it yourself!

SEEMUS
I can't, bro! Insectaphobia!

Chess walks into the room with a paper towel. He smashes the bug, and wraps it in the paper towel.

He jokingly waves it in Seemus's face. Seemus runs away.

SEEMUS (CONT'D)
NO MAN! NO!

CHES
You're such a nancy, sometimes, you know that? The feces you play with at work every day is much nastier than this little bug.

Chess throws the paper towel in the trash. Chess notices a couple of duffel bags in the living room.

CHES (CONT'D)
What's with the duffel bags?

SEEMUS
I'd tell you, but you'd just make fun of me, you judgemental twerp.

CHES
Dude... I'm sorry. I'm pissy because I quit my job.

SEEMUS
AGAIN?!

On TV a MALE NEWS ANCHOR is behind a news desk.

MALE NEWS ANCHOR
According to the Save Our Sasquatch organization, this bigfoot sighting is within just a few square miles of the famous Nancy Matthews helicopter crash back in 1981, where conspiracy theorists believe Bigfoot carried her away.

CHES
Dude, mute it while they talk about my mom.

Seemus hits mute on the remote. Chess takes a deep breath.

CHES (CONT'D)

Wait a minute, I know what the bags are for. You're gonna search for Bigfoot, aren't you?

SEEMUS

Yeah, I am. And I was going to invite you until you started talking shit.

CHES

Invite me? I don't believe in this conspiracy stuff. Why would you want ME to come?

SEEMUS

Well, two reasons, one: My lab wants me, or a colleague, to report the search. They think it will get a lot of hits on YouTube. You're good looking and witty, which is perfect for the camera. And me? I look like I've been living under a bridge the past ten years.

Chess chuckles.

SEEMUS (CONT'D)

So I figured, I do my scientific research in the field, and you could be the star.

CHES

Dude, no offense. I want to be a field reporter for REAL news.

SEEMUS

Well, you gotta start somewhere. We could record this trip, and then you could show it to someone at Belfont. Think of it as an audition.

Chess ponders. He tilts his head from side to side, as if to consider the options, but then he shakes his head.

CHES

Naahhhh! Maybe next sighting... What's number two?

SEEMUS

What?

CHESS

You said there were two reasons.

SEEMUS

Oh, two... Don't get upset. But...
you've never been to your real
mother's crash site, and...

CHESS

Yeah, yeah, yeah. I know, I know I
have to go there... I don't know.
Maybe one day, but not now... I'm
just not ready yet... You know?

Chess pauses to reflect.

CHESS (CONT'D)

God, just like my mom. Always
begging me to take a trip there.

SEEMUS

I'm sorry, man.

CHESS

Don't be. I need it.

Chess's phone RINGS. The incoming call reads 'Mom Pamela.'

CHESS (CONT'D)

Speak of the devil.

Chess walks back to his room, and picks up the phone.

CHESS (CONT'D)

(walking down the hallway)
Hi mom.

Pause.

CHESS (CONT'D)

Yes, I saw the Bigfoot news, and
NO, mom, I'm not going over there.

Chess walks into his room, and closes the door.

Seemus goes back to fidgeting with Bruski.

Seemus un-mutes the TV. On TV, a FEMALE NEWS ANCHOR and MALE
NEWS ANCHOR at a news desk reports.

MALE NEWS ANCHOR

Julie, does this vindicate Dan Reardon and his 1967 video, especially in the eyes of the public?

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

JULIE

Perhaps, but there will always be naysayers. I can guarantee you right now much of the blogosphere is doubting the latest evidence. Hopefully Rob doesn't get the same treatment as Mr. Reardon did.

Back in 1967 when Mr. Reardon released the footage of Sasquatch the public shamed him; most people felt it was a costume and laughed at the notion. But worse, he received death threats and ultimately he and his family were forced into witness protection. So even if the general public DID apologize to the Reardon family, what is Dan supposed to say? "Hey thanks, can we rewind the last 40 years of my life so my family doesn't have to live in hiding?"

INT. NEWSROOM - CONTINUOUS

In the newsroom, a MALE NEWS REPORTER and the female news reporter are sitting behind the news desk.

MALE NEWS ANCHOR

Good point. Well, I know we all can't wait to hear the updates throughout the week. Good luck out there!

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

JULIE

Thanks, Dan! Talk to you all soon!

A couple seconds pass, as ANDY, Julie's cameraman, signals to Julie.

ANDY

Aaaand, we're off air.

JULIE

This is so fucking stupid.

Julie walks away steadily and frustrated.

ANDY

What?

Andy puts down the camera on a fold out table, and follows her.

JULIE

That they're making us camp overnight here because some wacko recorded his friend in a costume.

ANDY

(in jest)

Julie, are you saying you're NOT a believer?!

JULIE

It's one thing to report this shit from the studio, but now we have to sleep with ticks, wolves, bears, rodents...

ANDY

Don't forget Bigfoot.

Julie stops, turns, and gives him a stare.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Oh, c'mon! It's only for a couple of days. We plant some fake bigfoot prints here and there, make up some story, and then say he escaped. Think of it as a mini vacation.

Julie and Andy arrive at a mobile home set up in the parking lot.

JULIE

Oh sure, a vacation with no alcohol, no beaches, and no overpriced back massages... I can't wait!

ANDY

Well, if you want a massage...

Julie gives Andy a nasty look, and then walks into the mobile home.

ANDY (CONT'D)
(winks)
For free, too!

INT. APARTMENT - CHESS'S ROOM - MORNING

The sun rises, as Chess is wearing basketball sweats and sitting at his desk looking for jobs on a website.

He scrolls through a number of jobs; security guard, janitor, waiter, bartender.

He looks bored by the choices.

Seemus knocks on his door.

SEEMUS (O.S.)
Dude? Stop beating off for a second.

CHESS
Come in.

Seemus opens the door.

SEEMUS
I'm heading out now.

Chess stands up.

SEEMUS (CONT'D)
I should be back in a few days, maybe a week.

CHESS
All right.... um, hey. All kidding aside from last night, I know this trip means a lot to you, so I jsut wanted to say I'm happy for you, and I hope you find what you're looking for out there. Because it's not often you get to do what you truly love.

SEEMUS
Thanks, man. That means a lot... So, and, just wanted to make sure... you're sure you don't want to come?

CHESS
I'm sure, Pamela.

SEEMUS
Understood. Can't blame me for
trying.... Take care, bud.

Seemus gives Chess a friendly handshake and hug.

Seemus leaves the room.

SEEMUS (O.S.) (CONT'D)
No parties while I'm gone!

CHESS
Yes, mom!

Chess goes back to his computer to search for more jobs.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - LATER

Seemus closes the apartment building door and walks down the stairs toward his SUV.

INT. APARTMENT - CHESS'S ROOM - LATER

After scrolling through even more jobs, Chess is frustrated.

Outside is the sound of Seemus unlocking his SUV. Chess watches from the window as Seemus puts a couple duffle bags in the trunk.

Chess thinks to himself, looking up to the ceiling, as if for guidance or some type of answer.

INT. CHESS'S VISIONS

Going through Chess's mind are visions of Chess's mother, PAMELA, telling him to see his biological mother's crash site, and the conspiracy news channel mentioning Nancy Matthews was never found, and Bigfoot walking through the woods, and himself as a field reporter.

INT. APARTMENT - CHESS'S ROOM - LATER

Chess looks back at the computer. He reads a job titled 'Line Cook for University.'

CHESS
Fuck it.

Chess sprints out of the apartment.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - STREET

Chess races to Seemus's SUV, as Seemus is backing out of a parking spot.

Chess pats the side of the car.

CHESS

Wait!

Seemus rolls down the window.

CHESS (CONT'D)

You got room for one more in there?

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - PARKING LOT - LATER

A noisy, excited crowd of Bigfoot believers and news crews are packing their hiking bags.

Julie Knowles and Andy are seen in the crowd.

JON WEST has a thick brown beard, a gentle demeanor, and is the leader of the International Save Our Sasquatch Organization. He addresses the crowd.

JON WEST

I need everyone's attention,
please!

The crowd doesn't hear him.

JON WEST (CONT'D)

Hello? Everybody?

The crowd doesn't hear him.

JON WEST (CONT'D)

Penis! Vagina! Breasts! Condoms!

The crowd still doesn't hear him.

JON WEST (CONT'D)

Hey! It's Bigfoot! Right over here!

The crowd is silenced instantly and looks Jon's way.

JON WEST (CONT'D)

Finally... Now, I know a lot of you have heard this shpiel before, but some of you haven't so I'll make it quick.

Some of the members of the crowd come closer for a better listen.

JON WEST (CONT'D)

My name is Jon West, founder of the Save Our Sasquatch Organization. We oversee the safe search and investigation of Sasquatch. There are some guidelines that we hope you will follow to increase the chances of finding Sasquatch.

First, we always use the same radio frequency, so when we go our separate ways into the woods and happen to find a clue or Bigfoot himself we can communicate with each other.

Can anyone guess what number radio signal we use? I'll give you a hint, it's between 1 and 100.

FEMALE HIKER

67!

JON WEST

Yes! Radio signal number 67 in honor of the 1967 sighting.

So if you guys do see something, let the rest of us know. I urge you, however, to take video or photo evidence BEFORE you communicate to us, otherwise you may lose your chance at recording Sasquatch. So for lack of a better phrase, shoot first and ask questions later.

The crowd chuckles.

JON WEST (CONT'D)

I received word from the Rocky Mountains Park Service that this area has a high number of bears and wolves because of the river a few miles up.

(MORE)

JON WEST (CONT'D)

So, if you plan on camping overnight, follow the standard rules: clean up after yourself, don't leave any food out, put out your fires... No hot steaming sex...

The crowd laughs.

JON WEST (CONT'D)

All right. You can either follow my group, or go your own way. But before I let you go... all together with me now... WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?

JON WEST AND CROWD

SAVE! OUR! SASQUATCH!

Most of the crowd follows Jon West's group, including Julie and Andy.

EXT. HIGHWAY - LATER

Seemus is driving the SUV. Chess is in the passenger's seat. Rock music is playing on Seemus's satellite radio.

SEEMUS

So... there's a tiny, little elephant in the room we need to discuss.

CHESS

What?

SEEMUS

Your biological mother.

CHESS

What about her?

SEEMUS

So, everyone that knows anything about Bigfoot considers Nancy a legend. And I know you make me mute the TV every time her name comes up, but it's not exactly something we can ignore while filming our trip.

CHESS

Okay, so what do you suggest?

SEEMUS

Well, I was thinking that maybe we could just film this as you, Nancy's son, looking for Bigfoot as a way to find his mother. Because most people believe your mother was either killed or kidnapped by Bigfoot. It's like a murder mystery.

CHESS

But it's not a murder because nobody found her body.

SEEMUS

Hence...

CHESS

The mystery...

Chess ponders.

CHESS (CONT'D)

This is kind of sick, but I like the angle.

EXT. HIGHWAY - LATER

Seemus's SUV drives on.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - FOREST

The Save Our Sasquatch search crew, including Julie and Andy who are lingering in the back, trek through the forest. Everyone has hiking backpacks with enough supplies to last them a few days.

One person spots bear tracks, and takes a photograph.

Andy is recording behind Julie's shoulder. He stops recording, and looks and the rest of the crowd. He hangs the camera by the strap on his shoulder.

ANDY

Hey, hold on a sec.

Andy grabs Julie. She stops.

JULIE

What?

Andy pulls Julie to the side. He looks at the people ahead and waits for them to walk further.

ANDY

I think we should veer off from the rest of the group.

JULIE

What? And risk getting lost alone? Hell no!

ANDY

You can't get lost as long as I'm with you. Even if my smartphone bugs out, I've gone camping dozens of times. I will know where we are at all times.

JULIE

But why go alone when we have a whole group with us?

ANDY

That's exactly my point. If we show you venturing out there alone you will look rugged, gutsy, maybe even heroic. Like Lara Croft or something!

Julie considers the suggestion.

ANDY (CONT'D)

With these people in the background you look like you're part of some sissy boy scout search.

JULIE

I don't know, Andy.

ANDY

Julie, I've trekked alone in the woods before. Remember? The UFO sighting, which turned out to be a military drone... I was out there alone while you were sipping coffee at the office. Look...

Andy takes out his map from the backpack.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Here...

He points to a location on the map.

ANDY (CONT'D)

All I want to do is go by the river
and then to this huge cave.

JULIE

Why?

ANDY

Think about it... Where would our
made-up Bigfoot hide? In thickets?
In a tree? Under a rock? No... He
would hide in the only logical
place: a cave...

Andy points to the group ahead.

ANDY (CONT'D)

And these idiots are walking
aimlessly.

Julie nods her head.

ANDY (CONT'D)

We go to the cave, plant the
Bigfoot evidence, have one of our
digital people superimpose footage
of Bigfoot escaping in there, and
then we circle the cave a few times
and say we couldn't find him.

Now you tell me what's better: My
version, or following those
knuckleheads all day...?

Julie pauses to look at the group. She looks at Andy.

BEGIN FLASHBACK: 1981

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS

The blizzard from the 1981 helicopter crash rages. YOUNG
NANCY is fainted.

A furry paw puts a smelly plant near Nancy's nose. Nancy
wakes up, and coughs from the smell of the plant.

A paw is patting her on her shoulder. She looks up and sees
the large furry figure again. She closes her eyes, hoping it
would blind her from the imminent pain of being eaten alive.

NANCY
HEEEEEEEELP!

BOB (O.S.)
(drunk and slurring his
words)
Hush now. Everything is going to be
all right.

Nancy opens her eyes, and sees the furry paw on her back. She
looks up to the figure.

NANCY
Oh my... OH MY GOD!

BOB
Easy now, lady.

NANCY
You're talking.

BOB
Does that impress you?

NANCY
WHAT ARE YOU?!

BOB, a Bigfoot, grins.

BOB
Just a concerned passerby. Are you
okay? You seem dazed.

NANCY
Are you... Are you Bigfoot?

BOB

Well,
(Chuckling)
I may have big feet. But my name is
Bob. Can you walk?

Nancy is stunned.

NANCY
It hurts.

BOB
Okay... I'm not supposed to do
this, but I sense you are one of
the nice humans, so I'm going to
take you to a warm place and heal
you.

NANCY

Where?

BOB

It's not too far from here. And when you recover and it gets warmer outside you will be able to leave on your own...

NANCY

Okay.

BOB

But I'm doing this only on one condition... You have to promise me that you don't tell another human soul where I'm taking you. Do you understand?

NANCY

Yes.

BOB

Do you understand why?

NANCY

Yes.

BOB

Do you realize I can sense if you're lying.

NANCY

I'm not lying. I won't tell anyone. Please help...

Bob nods his head.

Bob carries Nancy, while Ole Bear walks beside him, as they fade into the fog.

END FLASHBACK.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - CAVE EXTERIOR - MORNING

The sun rises over the cave, the trees, and the beautiful sounds of the Rocky Mountains nature.

INT. CAVE INTERIOR - BOB'S BEDROOM - LATER

OLD (PRESENT DAY) NANCY is sleeping in bed.

INT. - CAVE LIVING ROOM - LATER

BOB, the bigfoot, is playing checkers with his best friend, OLE BEAR, a large grizzly bear.

Sitting beside and watching are BELOOBALAH, a Bigfoot who is Bob's daughter with an eastern-European accent, and MCGOATSKI, a mountain goat.

BOB
YES! King me!

OLE BEAR
(Roaring)
Dammit!

BELOOBALAH
Shushki, shushki! You will waking her up!

BOB
Don't worry, Beloobalah. If she can sleep through my snores, she can sleep through anything... Bear, drink up!

Ole Bear places a checkers piece on top of another to "king" Bob.

OLE BEAR
I'm going to pass out if I have another.

MCGOATSKI
C'mon! You know the rules. You get King'd, you drink!

OLE BEAR
I'd like to see you drink this much and not puke, you little sissy.

MCGOATSKI
My stomach's a beast. I never puke.

OLE BEAR
Prove it, you little shithead.

BOB
Bear, stop stalling and drink!

Ole Bear takes a shot of whiskey. He starts tapping on the table.

OLE BEAR
That's the last one. I give up.

BOB
But the game's not over! You still
have two little checkers pieces
left...

Bob points at Ole Bear's remaining checkers pieces and mocks
him.

BOB (CONT'D)
Look at them sitting there, just
waiting to be gobbled up. Here
kitty, kitty... meow!

OLE BEAR
(Frustrated)
FUCK YOU! AND FUCK CHECKERS!

BOB
Hey, what's with the attitude?
Since when can't you take a little
smack talk?

OLE BEAR
It's not fun when you win all the
time, dipshit!

BOB
Well now. Maybe it would be more
FUN if you didn't SUCK all the
time! Pencil dick!

OLE BEAR
What did you just call my Thor
hammer?

Ole Bear stares down Bob.

MCGOATSKI
We got a fight brewin'! C'mon now,
don't be shy. Let's see them paws
pound away!

BELOOBALAH
Papa and Bear, please for everyone
to calm down. No fighty. No again.

BOB
(to Beloobalah)
Sweetie you stay out of this.
(to Ole Bear)
(MORE)

BOB (CONT'D)
Come on, Bear. Show me your best
shot, bitch!

Ole Bear growls and lunges at Bob. The two are wrestling and punching each other to the ground.

INT. - CAVE BEDROOM - LATER

Nancy slowly wakes up to the commotion in the other room. She is frustrated.

NANCY
(yelling)
Guys... Quiet!

INT. - CAVE LIVING ROOM - LATER

The fight continues.

INT. - CAVE BEDROOM - LATER

NANCY
(yelling louder)
Guys... Shut up!

Nancy gets out of bed angrily. She whips off the blanket and slams it down. She storms out of the bedroom.

INT. CAVE LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Nancy sees Bob and Bear fighting each other. She grabs a whip made of vines and whips Bob.

BOB
Owwwww!

Bob and Ole Bear stop fighting.

NANCY
How many times do I have to say it?
Stop fighting over checkers!

MCGOATSKI
My dear lady, I tried tellin' these
smelly dipshits: Don't piss the
Nancy off.

NANCY
(sarcastically)
Oh, sure you did, Goatski.

OLE BEAR
My dearest apologies, Madame Nancy.

NANCY
Thank you, Bear, but this isn't
your fault.

Nancy turns her eyes to Bob and gives him a scowl.

BOB
Me?!

NANCY
Yes, you!

BOB
Why do you always blame me? He
started it!

OLE BEAR
That's a lie! You started it!

BOB
No, you did! Isn't that right,
McGoatski?

OLE BEAR
Oh please. McGoatski would say it's
my fault no matter what. Bell, tell
Nancy the truth. It was his fault.

BELOOBALAH
Well, I sorry Papa, but...

BOB
That's quite alright, Beloobalah.
We don't need your input at this
time. As the leader of this forest
I say that you started it, Bear.
And that's final.

OLE BEAR
No, man. That's bullshit!

BOB
Don't make me hurt you again.

NANCY
(annoyed)
Guys...

OLE BEAR
Pfff. Hurt me? I wasn't even trying
last time. Come at me! See what
happens!

BOB
You sure you want this again?

Bob approaches Ole Bear intimidatingly.

NANCY
GUYS! Bob! ENOUGH!

Nancy whips Bob with the whip.

BOB
OWWWW! Dammit! I should have never
crafted that whip for you!

NANCY
Everybody but Bob get out of here!

OLE BEAR
Yes, miss.

Ole Bear walks to the boulder exit. Beloobalah and McGoatski
go downstairs.

Bob takes a deep breath, frustrated and sympathetic.

BOB
Bear!

Ole Bear turns to look at Bob. Bob walks to Bear and motions
his hands for Bear to come to him.

BOB (CONT'D)
C'mon... let's hug it out.

Bob and Bear hug, and pat each other on the back.

BOB (CONT'D)
It was all in good fun, right bud?

OLE BEAR
Of course. No such thing as a
brotherhood without a few
nosebleeds.

Ole Bear walks out of the cave through a big boulder entrance
that was left open.

Bob looks at Nancy, who has her hands crossed over her chest,
and staring angrily at him.

BOB

Honey, I know you're upset, but it's not my fault, I swear! Bear doesn't know how to take a loss like an adult.

NANCY

Nuh-uh. Not this time, Bob. This is YOUR doing. You never let him win. Of course he's going to get fed up!

BOB

Why would I let him win?

INT. CAVE BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

From the bottom of the basement staircase, Beloobalah and McGoatski eavesdrop on Bob and Nancy's argument.

BOB (O.S.)

He's not a child, and that would be the same as me lying to him. He isn't better than me.

INT. - CAVE LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

NANCY

Don't you care about his feelings?

BOB

I care about all the animals' feelings, but-

NANCY

And why are you DRINKING so early in the morning?!

BOB

It's Saturday!

NANCY

How many times do I have to tell you, NO DRINKING BEFORE NIGHTFALL! As someone who is responsible for protecting all forest animals, you surely do NOTHING to protect yourself.

Nancy angrily walks to a coat hanger and grabs binoculars. She storms out of the cave.

BOB
Where are you going?!

Nancy turns around.

NANCY
TO BIRD WATCH! REMEMBER WE WERE
SUPPOSED TO HAVE A DATE?

Nancy walks out.

BOB
(to himself)
Fuck! We had a date?!

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - RIVER - LATER

Nancy, still upset, walks to the river, kneels down, and massages the water through her fingers.

Birds and cicadas chirp. The sound of the rushing river is soothing. She takes a slow, soothing deep breath through her nose to relax, and release it through her mouth quietly.

A deer down the river takes a sip of water.

Nancy looks through her binoculars at the deer.

NANCY
So pretty.

Nancy scans the trees with her binoculars, and notices birds chirping in distress. She sees that their nest is broken.

BOB (O.S.)
(From a distance)
Nancy!

Nancy puts the binoculars down for a second, and takes a deep breath of frustration, but does not acknowledge Bob.

Bob comes into view and spots Nancy.

BOB (CONT'D)
Nancy.

Nancy turns her head slightly in Bob's direction.

NANCY
No, Bob.

BOB
I won't talk for long. I promise.

NANCY

Before we talk, go help those birds
at the top of the tree. Their nest
is broken.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - TREETOP - DAY - LATER

A mother bird and a few chicks are desperately tweeting from
atop a tree, huddling together in a broken nest.

BOB climbs frantically up the tree.

The impressive and gorgeous Rocky Mountain landscape is
behind him.

As he reaches the birds' nest he sees that it's broken. As he
fixes the nest his paws move at a pace so fast it looks
blurry.

BOB

There you are little fellas.

BIRDS

(Chirping)

Thank you!

Bob smiles, then looks at the beautiful view of the Rocky
Mountains from the tree top.

He slides down and lands hard on the ground. He runs right
back to Nancy.

BOB

Done and done. Now can you hear me
out?

NANCY

At this point I won't listen to
anything short of you giving up
drinking altogether.

BOB

I know I have a little problem,
Nancy, but-

NANCY

A LITTLE PROBLEM? No, no, no. You
have way more than just a little
PROBLEM. It's called an ADDICTION.
And the worst part is, you're in
denial.

BOB

Okay. Okay. I have an addiction.
But I can't just give up whiskey...
So, how's this... What if I only
drank twice a week?

NANCY

Bob, you can't even follow my night
rule. So if you want to do this
right, you have to do it cold
turkey.

BOB

Honey, I can't eat turkey. I'm a
vegetarian.

NANCY

Cold turkey means...

A faint helicopter rotor is heard in the air.

Nancy looks up to hear the rotor.

NANCY (CONT'D)

You hear that...?

Bob raises his head.

BOB

I do... A helicopter. There hasn't
been one in these parts since...

Nancy runs over to a hill to get a better view of the sound's
source.

She looks through the binoculars and sees a helicopter in the
distance, media vans and reporting crews.

NANCY

(To herself)

Fuck.

Bob walks up right behind her. He squints his eyes to engage
is incredible sight.

BOB

(swallowing his throat)

Why are all those people there?

NANCY

(puzzled)

I don't know.

Nancy's puzzled look turns to suspicion, as she looks at Bob.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Tell me... Did you and Ole Bear happen to go out the other night?

BOB

Yes, of course. As we always do.

NANCY

And did you happen to drink?

BOB

Yes, of course. As we always do.

NANCY

And as you drank, did you accidentally stumble too close to the paved road, which I told you to avoid at ALL COSTS?

BOB

(Eyes widening)

Oh... Of course not!

NANCY

(suspiciously)

Bob...

BOB

...Oh alright! Yes, we did! But it wasn't on purpose! We were having a little fun chasing the deer, and then-

NANCY

(whispering, but angry)

This is EXACTLY why you need to STOP drinking. Somebody probably saw you down there, maybe even recorded you. Do you realize what's going to happen now?

BOB

No, what?

NANCY

These crazy Bigfoot conspiracy theorists down there are going to search this entire forest, day and night. Don't you remember the last time this happened?

BOB

So what? We hide in the cave and close the boulder, just like we did back then. It's impossible for a human to get through the maze, let alone move the boulder with their minimal strength.

NANCY

Nothing is impossible, and accidents happen, just as I found you.

A scorpion closes in on Bob's foot, unbeknownst to Bob.

BOB

Can we at least wait a few days? If I smell them coming anywhere near the boulder, we can collapse the cave and escape.

NANCY

Let's hope it doesn't come to that.

Nancy looks back to the helicopter and media vans.

The scorpion attacks Bob's foot.

Bob HOWLS in pain. It sounds like a baritone whale. The sound resonates throughout the forest.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - TRAIL - CONTINUOUS

Jon West and the Save Our Sasquatch group hear the ECHOES of BOB'S HOWL.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - TRAIL #2 - CONTINUOUS

Andy and Julie also hear the ECHOES of BOB'S HOWL, at a dissipated level.

The howl echoes stop.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - TRAIL #2

JULIE

(panicked)

What the fuck was that, Andy?

ANDY
(to himself, stunned)
I knew it.

JULIE
What?

ANDY
I don't know. A wolf, a bear.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE CAVE - ROCKY MOUNTAINS - LATER

BOB
(Yelling)
Fucking scorpions!

Nancy quickly puts her hands across Bob's face to make him stop yelling.

NANCY
SHHHHH! Are you crazy?

Nancy looks through the binoculars again.

The helicopter approaches them.

Nancy looks at Bob.

NANCY (CONT'D)
Dammit Bob! Pick me up and run!

Bob lifts her onto his back and runs as fast as he can. He busts through brush and tree branches, while a number of animals scatter out of his way.

The helicopter rotor becomes louder, as it inches closer to Bob and Nancy's path.

They approach a waterfall.

NANCY (CONT'D)
Hide here.

Bob hides behind the waterfall, as the water rushes down in front of them.

The helicopter hovers right over them, unable to see Bob or Nancy.

INT. HELICOPTER - LATER

PILOT #3 looks around the area, and then speaks into his radio.

PILOT #3
Nothing unusual here. It was probably a wolf. We're going to head back to main search area. Over.

JON WEST (O.S.)
Roger that.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - TRAIL

Jon puts away the two-way radio.

Jon West is looking in the direction of Bob's howl from before.

JON WEST
(to himself, aloud)
That definitely wasn't a wolf.

HIKER #1 approaches Jon West.

HIKER
Maybe we should re-route to the direction of the howl?

Jon takes out a map.

JON WEST
Not quite. We should re-route, but not directly at Bigfoot. We should circle the perimeter because even if he's at this point right now, he won't be by the time we get there.

Jon looks back in the direction of the howl.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - HIGHWAY

Seemus's SUV is winding through the Rocky Mountains highway, during a beautiful day.

INT. SUV - LATER

Seemus is asleep, and Chess is driving.

A spider on a string of web is hanging from the ceiling of the car and dangling in front of Seemus's face.

As Seemus wakes up fully, his eyes widen in fear and he begins SCREAMING HYSTERICALLY.

Chess, shocked, starts swerving around the road, and then gains control of the car.

CHESS

What the fuck is going on?

SEEMUS

THERE'S A FUCKING SPIDER IN MY
FACE! PULL THE FUCK OVER!

CHESS

I'm not pulling over! Just kill it!

SEEMUS

I'm not touching that thing man!
Pull over and YOU KILL IT!

Chess swats the spider. The car veers out of its lane. Another car honks at Chess.

The spider web gets cut by Chess's swat, and the spider lands on Seemus's face.

SEEMUS (CONT'D)

AAAAHHHHHHH!!! GET IT OFF! GET IT
OFF!

CHESS

Smack your face!

SEEMUS

I'M NOT TOUCHING THIS THING! YOU
SMACK MY FACE!

CHESS

You want me to smack your face?!

SEEMUS

Yes! NOW! GET THIS THING OFF ME!

CHESS

You asked for it.

Chess smacks away at Seemus face.

Seemus yells in pain from the smacks.

He misses the spider the first few times. He finally hits the spider directly on Seemus's face. Seemus get a bloody nose.

Seemus grabs a napkin from the dashboard, wipes off his face from the blood and spider guts, and throws the napkin out the window.

Seemus is hyperventilating.

SEEMUS

Thank you!

CHESS

You and your arachnophobia... Where did it come from?

Seemus takes deep breaths to slow down his heart rate.

SEEMUS

I don't know, man. Maybe it was on the roof, and crawled in through the window.

CHESS

No, I mean where did the arachnophobia- better yet, how the FUCK are do you go on these trips in the woods with this fear? There are one-million times the amount of bugs in the woods than in our apartment.

SEEMUS

I dunno, man. I guess I sort of block the fear out when I'm in the zone, searching for Bigfoot or scat.

Chess gives Seemus a long look.

CHESS

You're a fucking weird cat, buddy.

Chess looks at Seemus, who is still breathing heavy, and trying to calm down.

CHESS (CONT'D)

Hey, why don't you take a hit and chill for a bit.

SEEMUS

Good idea.

Seemus reaches for the bag, and takes a hit of weed.

EXT. SUV - ROCKY MOUNTAINS HIGHWAY

The car is shown driving away. Seemus screams again.

SEEMUS (O.S.)
 AHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!! SPIDER!

CHESS (O.S.)
 OH GOD, not again..! Brace
 yourself, Seemus!

The sound of face smacks are heard.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - PARKING LOT - LATER

Chess pulls into the parking lot. Seemus's nose is bandaged up.

Chess and Seemus get out of the car. They see a van and mobile home with a Belfont logo.

Seemus opens the trunk of his SUV.

SEEMUS
 Help me with this.

Chess and Seemus pull out Bruski, the robotic mule, who is folded up.

Seemus turns on Bruski, presses a button, and Bruski unfolds itself.

Seemus piles all the duffel bags and supplies onto Bruski, and then puts on his own backpack.

Chess puts on his backpack.

SEEMUS (CONT'D)
 Bruski, follow.

Seemus and Chess, trailed by Bruski, head to the start of a trail in the woods.

Seemus pulls out a video camera.

SEEMUS (CONT'D)
 Chess, you stand there and give an
 introduction.

CHES

Introduction? What am I supposed to say?

SEEMUS

Something like, Hi I'm Chess Ridley, here in the Rockies, beginning a search for Bigfoot and my mother, blah, blah, blah. It doesn't have to be perfect... We can shoot it a few times until you get it right.

Seemus sets up the camera shot. Chess massages his palms together quickly.

SEEMUS (CONT'D)

On my point.

Seemus hits record, then points at Chess.

CHES

Hi Sasquatch fans! My name is Chess Ridley and For those of you who don't know me, I am Nancy Matthews son. Yes, THE Nancy Matthews. And while some consider my mother's crash site and Bigfoot's recent appearance a coincidence, I certainly don't.

I'm out here in the Rocky Mountains within yards of the most recent sighting of our big, furry friend. For the next few days I'll be searching for Bigfoot evidence, and in doing so I hope to find clues to my mother's whereabouts.

Filming this and giving me guidance along the way is an expert outdoorsman and Sasquatch Encyclopedia, Seemus Parker, who works for the New York Science and Archaeological Research Center. So join us as we attempt to track down the biggest and hairiest escape artists of them all, and, hopefully, a family reunion.

Chess holds his look at the camera, as Seemus hits pause.

SEEMUS

Damn, bro!

CHESS
 What? Was that stupid?

 SEEMUS
 All I gotta say is... Watch out
 Julie Knowles because that was
 SMOOTH, brother!

Chess grins.

 SEEMUS (CONT'D)
 Alright. Down to business.

Seemus pulls out a map. And points to locations as he explains the plan to Chess.

 SEEMUS (CONT'D)
 So first thing's first. We're
 heading for this river right here.
 No matter the animal, they have to
 drink water at some point. I know
 I'll find a clue there. And then
 eventually, I wanted to check out
 this cave here.

 CHESS
 Let's do this! I'm pumped!

Chess claps his hands.

 SEEMUS
 Not too much noise once we're deep
 in there. Got it?

 CHESS
 (whispers)
 Got it.

 (talking regularly)
 So which way do we go?

Seemus checks his compass and points in a direction.

 SEEMUS
 That a way.

 CHESS
 After me!

Chess walks in that direction.

 SEEMUS
 Ah! Ah! Ah! Not so fast, my friend.

Chess stops, and turns around. Seemus takes out two bear costumes.

 CHESS
What the fuck are those?

 SEEMUS
Exactly what they look like. Put
this on.

Seemus tosses the bear costume to Chess's feet.

 CHESS
And why exactly am I wearing this?

 SEEMUS
Camouflage, my friend. When we see
a bear, wolf, or bigfoot, we'll
blend in.

Seemus takes off his pants and shirt, and only has his boxers on. He puts his clothes in a bag, and then puts on the costume, but doesn't put on the mask yet.

Chess picks up the costume from the ground and looks at it.

 CHESS
Okay, I'm no expert here, but won't
these animals SMELL that we're not
actually a bear?

 SEEMUS
Good question, and I'm glad you
asked.

Seemus pulls out a spray bottle from his bag.

 SEEMUS (CONT'D)
That's where this stuff comes in.

Seemus sprays his own costume with it. He sprays Bruski. Then he tosses the spray to Chess.

 SEEMUS (CONT'D)
Spray some on your hand to get a
whiff.

Chess sprays a bit on his hand, and smells it. He jolts back and gags.

 CHESS
OHHH! DUDE! What the fuck is this
shit?!

SEEMUS

You answered your own question.
Bear-shit perfume, my friend.

Chess looks at the bottle.

CHESS

Bear-shit perfume? I am NOT wearing
this!

Chess wipes his hand on the ground, and tosses the spray
bottle back to Seemus.

Seemus catches the spray bottle.

SEEMUS

You are if you want to survive.

Seemus tosses the spray bottle back to Chess.

CHESS

Dude, I can't do this.

SEEMUS

Then you sit in that car for the
next few days and leave me alone.
You either do this my way, or you
don't come at all. But two things
are for sure: I will not let you
die, and you are NOT fucking this
up for me. A bear, wolf, and
ESPECIALLY Bigfoot himself will
become suspicious if you don't have
this on.

Chess rolls his eyes.

CHESS

This is insane... FINE!

Chess takes off his shirt, sprays the scent on his costume,
and starts to put it on.

SEEMUS

You might wanna take off those
basketball sweats, too, dude.
You'll get super hot.

Chess puts his hand on his basketball swats, as if to protect
them.

CHESS

Oh, these? No, that's okay. I'll be
all right.

SEEMUS
It's your laundry, boss.

Chess puts on the costume.

Seemus puts on the bear mask, as does Chess.

SEEMUS (CONT'D)
Let's go, Bruski!

Seemus, Chess, and Bruski walk into the woods.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - TRAIL #2 - EARLY EVENING

Andy's camera is laying on a big rock. He uses two fake bigfoot feet (one left, one right) and stamps them into the mud a few times to make it seem as though bigfoot walked in a certain direction.

Julie looks at herself in a pocket mirror.

Andy grabs his camera.

ANDY
Ready?

Julie fixes her hair and puts away the pocket mirror.

JULIE
Fire when ready.

ANDY
In three...

Andy counts down two and one with his fingers, then points to Julie.

JULIE
(whispering to camera)
On a hunch, Andy and I decided to divert from the main Sasquatch search crew, and follow a trail toward a cave. And lucky for us because look what we found.

Julie points to the ground, as Andy's camera follows.

JULIE (CONT'D)
These are *enormous* footprints that fit the description of Bigfoot perfectly.

Julie looks beyond the footprints, as if to search for a glimpse of bigfoot up ahead.

JULIE (CONT'D)

Interestingly enough, these prints are going in the direction of that cave... We're going to camp nearby and keep following this trail tomorrow. But trust me, we will keep our eyes peeled and the camera rolling tonight.

Andy and Julie walk on through the woods.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - CAVE EXTERIOR - LATER

Night falls, and the full moon illuminates the forest through the clouds. Cicadas and frogs harmoniously chirp and ribbit.

INT. BOB'S DOMAIN - BEDROOM - LATER

Nancy is asleep. Bob is looking at her, and slowly sneaking out of bed.

NANCY

(half asleep)

Where are you going?

Bob thinks for a second.

BOB

Just to play some checkers with Bear.

Nancy grabs Bob's arm so he can't leave just yet.

NANCY

Bob...

BOB

Yes, darling?

NANCY

Let him win this time. And no drinking.

BOB

Of course, honey. I love how thoughtful you are. Good night.

NANCY
(mumbling)
I love you.

Bob plants a kiss on Nancy's cheek.

INT. BOB'S DOMAIN - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Bob tiptoes his way to the exit. The boulder entrance is already slightly open, and Bob squeezes his way out.

INT. CAVE ENTRANCE - LATER

Moonlight shines into the cave entrance, offering enough light to see. Ole Bear is sitting and drinking a whiskey bottle alone. A checkers board is set up in front of him.

Bob enters the room.

BOB (O.S.)
Did you save some for me, big guy?

Ole Bear turns around.

OLE BEAR
Always plenty to go around.

Ole Bear reaches out to give Bob the whiskey bottle.

OLE BEAR (CONT'D)
What took you so long?

Bob takes a swig of alcohol.

BOB
Nancy stayed up a bit longer than usual. But you know what that means...?

Bob hands the liquor back to Ole Bear.

OLE BEAR
Mmm?

BOB
It means big Bob can STAY UP later than usual! She'll easily be asleep until noon tomorrow!

Bob and Ole Bear high five.

OLE BEAR
Okay, you won last game, so your
move.

Bob reaches for a piece, but hesitates.

BOB
You know what? You go first this
time.

OLE BEAR
Ooooookay... Your loss.

EXT. CAVE EXTERIOR - LATER

ECHOES of BOB and OLE BEAR'S NOISE can be heard just outside
the cave.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - ANDY AND JULIE'S TENT - LATER

Andy and Julie's tent is set up 50 yards from the cave
exterior.

INT. ANDY AND JULIE'S TENT - LATER

Andy and Julie are asleep. The ECHOES FROM THE CAVE wake up
Andy. He lifts his head and focuses on the SOUNDS.

Andy unzips the tent to listen closer.

Julie wakes up to the SOUND OF THE ZIPPER.

JULIE
Where are you going?

ANDY
Shhh! I hear something.

JULIE
(whispering)
Well grab the camera.

Andy grabs the camera, and turns on the night vision. He
slips on his shoes, and walks out of the tent.

JULIE (CONT'D)
(whispering)
You're leaving me here alone?!

ANDY
Come with me, then.

Julie slips on her shoes and follows Andy.

EXT. CAVE EXTERIOR - LATER

Julie holds onto his shoulder, as he leads the way. The murmurs from the cave become louder.

They stop behind a rock and listen for a few seconds.

JULIE
(whispering)
Sounds like... a bear...and...

ANDY
(whispering)
English?

JULIE
How is that even possible?

INT. CAVE ENTRANCE - LATER

Ole Bear jumps one of Bob's pieces.

OLE BEAR
King me again! And drink up!

Bob slams a checkers piece onto Ole Bear's to king him. Bob takes a swig of alcohol.

BOB
Dammit, you're on your game tonight!

OLE BEAR
This is the worst I've ever seen you play! You're worse than McGoatski!

Bob and Ole Bear laugh loudly together. McGoatski enters the room.

MCGOATSKI
Is the wee little laddie talking shit again?

Ole Bear and Bob turn to see McGoatski.

BOB
Come here, big fella, and have a drink with us.

McGoatski grabs the whiskey bottle and takes a huge swig.

MCGOATSKI

Aye. I got winner, you sissy bastards!

The three laugh together.

EXT. CAVE EXTERIOR - LATER

JULIE

Do you think it's one of those wackos that lives with bears?

ANDY

Could be...

Andy looks at the cave for a few seconds. Then turns to Julie.

ANDY (CONT'D)

You don't have to follow me, but I want to try and sneak in.

JULIE

I am definitely with you on this. Do you have your gun?

ANDY

Yes.

Andy and Julie slowly sneak closer to the cave.

Suddenly, Andy is swooped up by a rope trap on the ground, and he is hanging upside down.

The sleeping bats and birds are awakened and flutter into the sky.

INT. CAVE ENTRANCE - LATER

Bob, McGoatski, and Ole Bear are alerted by the noise outside, and look to the exit of the cave.

BOB

Bear, go check that out!

Ole Bear stumbles to the exit.

EXT. CAVE EXTERIOR - LATER

Julie slices through rope trap with a knife, and Andy falls to the ground.

Andy gathers the camera.

ANDY
(panicked whisper)
Follow me, quick!

Using Andy's night vision camera as a guide, Andy and Julie jog swiftly back to the tent.

Ole Bear exits from the cave and, because he is drunk, can only see a foggy view of the brush moving in the distance.

He walks up to the rope trap, and sees that it was cut.

Ole Bear walks back into the cave.

INT. CAVE ENTRANCE - LATER

BOB
What happened?

OLE BEAR
Nothing to worry about. Probably
some stupid wolf that forgot about
the trap.

BOB
Are you certain?

OLE BEAR
No.

BOB
Let's play it safe, and go back
inside.

INT. ANDY AND JULIE'S TENT - LATER

Julie is breathing heavily and nervous. Andy is also breathing heavily, but maintains his composure.

JULIE
What the fuck, Andy?! What the fuck
is going on?

ANDY
Calm down.

JULIE

How can I calm down?! Someone is clearly hiding something here, Andy.

ANDY

I know, Julie... Believe me, I know. Just breathe for now.

Julie looks at Andy curiously, wondering what it is Andy knows, and why it is he's so calm.

Andy peaks out of the tent to make sure no one is coming.

Julie breathes heavily, each breath becoming slower than the next.

ANDY (CONT'D)

One thing's for sure... We are not taking our eyes off that cave tomorrow.