



SUMMARY & CHARACTERS



SUMMARY

BIG PICTURE SUMMARY

Alex, Riley, and Jamie are three friends who decide to go camping in Green Park. They do not tell their parents the truth about where they are going. Riley loves scary stories and tells her friends about the legend of the Tree Walker. Jamie is easily scared, but Alex does not believe the legend is real.

At a shop near the forest, Jamie meets a strange park Ranger. The Ranger gives him one warning: "Stay on the trail." He ignores the warning, and the friends begin their adventure. Later, a big storm arrives and destroys the friends' tent after their hike. They leave their campsite to find shelter, but soon they are lost.

They see the Ranger in the forest and think that he is the Tree Walker. The friends panic and run in different directions. Riley is found by the police, while Alex and Jamie find a mysterious cabin. Inside, Jamie sees his missing sleeping bag and a Ranger with red stains on his apron. He becomes terrified and runs away, and the police arrest the Ranger.



At the police station, everyone slowly discovers the truth. The Ranger found Jamie's sleeping bag and was only trying to help the children. The red stains are not blood — they are jam! Alex, Riley, and Jamie are together again, and they are soon ready for another adventure.



SUMMARY

SCENE BY SCENE: PART 1

PROLOGUE - PODCAST

Riley introduces Off Trail, a podcast exploring strange and spooky stories from national parks. Throughout the adventure, the podcast follows the mystery of the Tree Walker in Green Park. It asks one question: is he a real man or only a myth?

SCENE 1 - COP OF COFFEE

A cop interrogates a mysterious Green Park Ranger about the disappearance of three children. The Ranger refuses to explain himself. He only repeats one strange warning: “stay on the trail.”

SCENE 2 - MEET THE FAMILY

Earlier that day, Alex, Riley and Jamie secretly prepare for their camping adventure. After successfully lying to their parents about where they are going, the three friends agree to meet without their phones.

SCENE 3 - THE TRICKERY

Jamie’s mom and Alex’s dad discover that their children are missing. Several clues help them discover the truth; the children are camping alone in Green Park. They call the police.

SCENE 4 - BIKE TO BIKE

Alex, Riley and Jamie ride their bicycles to Green Park. Alex, who is the organised one, checks their equipment one last time. Jamie sees a snack shop and gets distracted, telling his friends that they cannot have a proper campfire without sausages!

SCENE 5 - LAST SNACK

In the snack shop, Jamie ignores a radio message about a dangerous storm. He meets a strange Ranger, who tells him to “stay on the trail” before disappearing. Riley finds a book about the Tree Walker, a mysterious local legend in Green Park. Alex thinks the legend is nonsense. She leads the group out of the shop. The Ranger follows them with Jamie’s forgotten sleeping bag.

SCENE 6 - ON THE WAY

The three friends enter Green Park and begin to hike to their campsite. Alex leads and follows the map, Jamie complains about being hungry, and Riley reads about people who have disappeared in the forest. Finally, they find the perfect place to camp. Or, according to Riley, the perfect place to be captured by the Tree Walker...

SCENE 7 - CAMPFIRE

That night, Riley tells a scary ghost story around the campfire. Jamie gets very scared, but Alex is not impressed and tries to explain the story logically. Jamie discovers that he forgot his sleeping bag, and Alex gets even more upset. The friends argue. Riley thinks Alex is a control freak, while Alex is tired of Riley’s ridiculous stories. Suddenly, a storm arrives. Their tent collapses in the rain, and the friends have no choice: they must leave the campsite and look for shelter.



SUMMARY

SCENE BY SCENE: PART 2

SCENE 8 - FOREST LOST

The friends become lost in the dark forest. They see a strange figure walking on the trail very far away. Jamie realises it is the scary Ranger from the snack shop, and Riley says he is the Tree Walker! They panic. Jamie and Riley run away in opposite directions, and the three friends become separated. Riley is found by two police officers, who are searching for the children after the parents' phone call. They take Riley to the police station, but Alex and Jamie are still missing.

SCENE 9 - IN THE CABIN

Alex and Jamie are still lost in the forest. The storm gets worse and they discover a mysterious cabin. As the storm gets worse, the two friends go inside for shelter. Inside there are photos of the Ranger, a broken telephone, and Jamie's missing sleeping bag! Alex still tries to find a rational explanation. She goes to investigate a noise coming from the kitchen. Jamie hides in the closet, convinced it is the Tree Walker. The Ranger suddenly appears, wearing an apron covered in red stains. Jamie panics, assumes Alex is dead, and runs away. The Ranger tries to follow him, but the police arrive and arrest the Ranger.

SCENE 10 - ALONE IN THE DARK

Jamie runs through the forest, alone and terrified for his life. Suddenly, he smells something comforting but unexpected: pizza! He follows the smell through the darkness and finds his way out of the forest to the snack shop.

SCENE 11 - AT THE POLICE STATION

The cop excitedly interrogates the Ranger at the police station. He is convinced the Ranger is guilty of murder based on all the evidence: the Ranger was the last person seen with the children, he had Jamie's sleeping bag, and he had them in his cabin. The Ranger tries to explain, but the cop does not listen. The police receive unexpected news: Jamie has been found alive.

SCENE 12 - JAMIE'S BACK

Jamie arrives at the police station and tries to tell the cop what happened. However, as Jamie tells his version of the story, the Ranger explains the truth. The Ranger did **not** steal Jamie's sleeping bag — Jamie forgot it at the snack shop, and the Ranger tried to return it. The red stains on the Ranger's apron are **not** blood — they are from making berry jam. The Ranger was **not** trying to kill them — he was trying to help them. Jamie and the cop finally understand that the Ranger is innocent. The police find Alex safe and sound, and Jamie leaves to see his friends. The cop releases the Ranger, disappointed that this misunderstanding was not the "case of a lifetime" he hoped for.

SCENE 13 - HAPPY THREE FRIENDS

Alex, Jamie, and Riley are reunited. Alex apologises for trying to control everything, while Riley admits that she went too far with her scary stories. They forgive each other. After one strange night in Green Park, Alex, Jamie, and Riley start to plan their next big adventure.



CHARACTERS

THE THREE FRIENDS

ALEX:

Alex is organised, practical and always has a plan. She is excited to go camping with her friends in Green Park, and wants everything to go perfectly. Although she doesn't believe in scary stories, Alex soon discovers that the forest holds more surprises than she expected.

JAMIE:

Jamie is the funny one, always energetic and ready with a joke. He loves snacks and adventure with his friends, but he dislikes hiking. Even though he is easily frightened, he is loyal at heart and cares deeply about his friends.

RILEY:

Riley is the adventurous friend. She is curious and loves local legends. Riley is fascinated by the mysterious Tree Walker and enjoys telling scary stories to Alex and Jamie, even when her imagination takes things too far. She is also the host of the Off Trail podcast, guiding the audience through the mystery.

THE ADULTS

THE PARENTS:

Jamie's Mum and Alex's Dad are very different parents. Jamie's Mum is protective and quick to worry, while Alex's Dad is busy and more rational. When they realise the children have lied about their sleepover and gone camping alone, they turn to the police for help.

THE COP:

The Cop is a bored local police officer desperate for an interesting case. Convinced that something suspicious is happening in the forest, he is determined to solve the disappearance of the three friends. His eagerness to solve a big case combined with Jamie's imagination only adds to the growing misunderstanding.

THE RANGER:

A park ranger who works in Green Park, this mysterious character knows the forest well. He repeatedly warns visitors to stay on the trail, but his strange behaviour makes Alex, Riley and Jamie fear that he is hiding a dark secret in his cabin.

