

THE FOX CREEK CARVER

Written by

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EXT. FOREST - DAY

Light pierces through a calm and peaceful forest. A symphony of woodland critters echo throughout.

FOOTSTEPS interrupt the otherwise quiet locale. They grow louder, POUNDING and CRUNCHING against the sticks and leaves.

KYLE(24) runs as fast as he can through the woods, his blood stained clothing clinging onto him; his tattered hat clinging to his head. Visibly shaken, he dares not turn around.

Dodging trees left and right, his arm clips a branch and he SLAMS into the ground.

He races to get up, pushing through the pain coursing through his injured leg. He takes a step, but immediately recoils onto the trunk of the closest tree. He turns to look behind him. Nothing. His eyes dart back and forth, trying to find...

He spots a worn dirt path in front of him. A ROAR of an engine is heard in the distance. Kyle weeps in relief and charges forward. He takes a step and another and...

A HAND covers his mouth. A muffled SCREAM. A KNIFE is raised in the air as it plunges down...

EXT. GAS STATION - DAY

RILEY (21), SLAMS the car door closed behind. She sees AMY (22) get out of the car with cellphone in hand moving it around in the air as she walks around the car to JOSH (24) who places the nozzle into the gas tank. Riley looks on as Amy strokes his arm.

AMY

Let's take a selfie for later.

Riley turns away walking into the disheveled gas station.

INT. GAS STATION - CONTINUOUS

Light peers through the holes in the newspapered windows revealing the bland and dull space. Riley pulls out a small camcorder, hitting the record button. She moves the camcorder, capturing various bars and knickknacks in the background. Riley spots a newspaper article with the headline "ANOTHER BODY FOUND" and slowly approaches. She looks around for sign of life.

RILEY

Hello... is there any one here?

She rips it from the board. LAURIE (late 50's) suddenly appears in front of Riley.

LAURIE

What do you think you're doing? Can I help you with something?

Riley jumps back and closes the camera, shoving the article in her pocket.

RILEY

Oh I'm sorry, I just got a little... Hi. I'm Riley and I'm. I mean we're doing a project on the Fox Creek Carver murders that happened out here 30 years ago

LAURIE

We? There's more of you capture everything generation?

Riley looks to the board then back to Laurie. Laurie moves behind the counter.

RILEY

Yeah, myself and my friends. Do you mind if I ask you a few questions on camera about that? See I have a theory that it was actually..

LAURIE

Everyone always had a theory. People gone missing, bodies being found every other day...

Riley leans in intrigued. Laurie turns around to Riley.

LAURIE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry I can't help you.

RILEY

I.. I could pay you. Look I really need to get a good grade on this and getting a local's insight...

LAURIE

Why can't you just leave things be? I said no interviews.

A HONK from the car interrupts their exchange they both look to the door. Another HONK.

Riley looks back at Laurie.

Riley rushes out to the car. Laurie goes in the doorway as the car drives off.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

The groups vehicle pulls up next to Kyle's car in front of a remote cabin. As Josh runs around the car heading for the door, Riley gets out of the car and looks over the location.

JOSH

Hey yo Kyle! We're here.

Amy gets out of the car, looking up from her phone and moves toward Riley.

AMY

This is it, Kyle couldn't have picked somewhere better? Why do I always let you drag me to places like this?

RILEY

It's not that bad Amy.

Amy gives Riley a questionable glare. They let out a Laugh.

RILEY (CONT'D)

You didn't have to come for this project. (pause) I mean I'm glad you came but. Um. Look there's uh, there's been something I wanna...

Josh emerges from the cabin, moving back towards car, opening the trunk and pulls out Amy's fancy luggage.

JOSH

Kyle's not here. (Pause) he must have gone exploring.

Riley and Amy move to Josh. Amy puts her arm around him.

AMY

Well then, I guess you can do some exploring too..

Riley looks away frustrated. She grabs a couple of bags and moves towards the cabin. LAUGHTER comes from the couple as Riley stops at the doorway, taking a deep breath.

INT. CABIN - DAY

Riley places the bags down taking in the oddly decorated wooden space. Newspaper clips, various crime books, police reports and crime scene photos are sprawled out on a nearby table.

RILEY

Wow, Kyle's sure been in full research mode.

Amy and Josh walk in, placing their bags down next to Riley's. Amy walks around the space fascinated. Josh moves closer to Amy.

Riley pulls out the article from her pocket placing it onto the table. She picks up a picture from the table.

AMY

What are those, hieroglyphs?

JOSH

Those are markings that he would leave near the bodies. Many think they mean death, but no one really knows.

AMY

And nobody knows who this guy is?

JOSH

Many assume that it was Benjamin Blackwell, but our...

RILEY

...it was a guy named Wes Winter. He was around in '87 & his rap sheet filled with assault charges and he was a local butcher...

Amy looks on in disgust. Various images of gruesome crime scenes hits a nerve. Riley picks up another photo.

RILEY (CONT'D)

See if you look at how Calvin and Liz are carved up... The stomach ripped open and their arms sprawled out like how a butcher displays his killings... and over here on the map, this is where Mabel's body was...

JOSH

Riley... Riley!

Josh gestures his head to Amy. Riley turns to see Amy's shocked face. Embarrassed she drops the picture grabbing her bag as she exits our the back. Josh moves to Amy, pulling her close.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Riley stops at the porch and sighs.

She looks up and sees an unidentifiable MAN standing in the distance. She turns on the camcorder as it zooms in. She squints her eyes trying to make out the figure.

A hand is placed on Riley's shoulder as she is pulled out of her trance.

JOSH

You okay?

Riley turns back to the woods at... nothing. Riley closes the camera.

RILEY

Yeah, I'm fine. Amy... is she...

JOSH

She'll be fine. You spooked her a bit, but you know, she'll get over it. Look I know you two have been friends and since her and I started...

Riley shakes her head. Amy emerges from the cabin. She wraps her arms around Josh, putting herself between the two. Riley stares back out into the vast emptiness of the woods.

AMY

So Josh and I are gonna take the back room. I think Kyle is on the left, so you can have the room on the...

RILEY

I'm gonna go get a head start on the project.

Riley storms off into the woods. Josh and Amy give each other a knowing look and look back towards Riley.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

The camcorder comes to life as we see Riley backing away and sitting down on a near by log looking into the camera.

RILEY

In the fall of 1987 in the Fox Creek woods surrounding the town of Jensen Hills, the dismembered bodies Mabel and Jordan Myer's were found. Police began getting calls from a man taking responsibility and claiming there were...

Riley pauses. She does a double take looking into the camera and behind her. Nothing. She shakes her head.

RILEY (CONT'D)

Five other bodies were soon discovered. With Blackwell's death in '88 the trail went cold and...

SHE LOOKS TO HER LEFT, SHE SPOTS THE SILHOUETTE OF A MAN.

RILEY

Kyle? Is that you?

She waves her hand. The man doesn't move. She looks around then back. The Man is gone. She readjusts her seat.

RILEY (CONT'D)

You're fine it's just a... creepy guy... watching you in the woods. While you're talking about a serial killer... Nothing scary about that.

A branch SNAPS. She looks up. She sees the Man standing motionless in the distance behind the camera. She bolts to the camera, flipping it around. The Man is gone.

Riley sweeps the camera back and forth before closing it. Panicked she looks around and sprinting toward the cabin.

INT. CABIN - DAY

Josh and Amy lay on the couch kissing. Josh shuffles his body closer to Amy. Amy pulls Josh in closer...

The door bursts open and Riley flies in. The two immediately recoil.

JOSH
You've got to be kidding me.

AMY
Jesus Christ Riley?

RILEY
There was a man watching me.
Something... something didn't feel
right.

JOSH
I'm sure it was nothing. It was
probably Kyle.

RILEY
It wasn't Kyle. I'm telling you
there's someone out there.

AMY
It was probably just some local
hunter. Look, I know it hasn't been
easy with Josh and I starting to
date... and I know..

Riley takes a step back.

RILEY
Seriously. That has nothing to
fucking do with it!... I.. I can't
deal with this.

Riley storms out. Amy jumps up

AMY
Riley.... wait.

Amy hangs back and looks to Josh.

RILEY (O.S.)
Guys!

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Josh and Amy emerge from the front of the cabin. Riley stares
straight ahead camcorder in hand. On the trees in front of
them is a white is a symbol.

JOSH
Riley... are those?

Riley nods her head. Fearful, Amy turns. She SCREAMS.

Josh and Riley whip their heads around and spot Kyle's body placed against his car. His stomach ripped open. Riley drops the camera as Amy runs inside, Josh looks back to Riley before running inside. Riley brings up the rear.

INT. CABIN - DAY

The door SLAMS closed. Riley joins the others in the center. Josh consoles the shaken Amy.

JOSH

Riley, what the fuck was that? You said Blackwell died.

RILEY

He did. And so did Winter... at least I thought he did.

JOSH

You thought? And you fucking dragged us out here!

AMY

Can we get outta here.

RILEY

Hey don't blame this on me. You agreed to come up here too.

AMY

Can we just get in the car and go. Josh, where are the keys?

She looks to Josh who stares blankly back.

Josh heads to the kitchen looking for the keys. Riley and Amy move to the living room tossing things looking for the keys. Tears run down Amy's face.

Amy spots a rotary land line and moves to it. She picks up the receive, her hand shaking, and looks at it blankly.

RILEY

Move over.

Josh spots the keys on the counter. He grabs them sprinting to the door.

JOSH

Found 'em.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Josh jogs to the car and unlocks the door. He turns around and notices that the girls haven't followed him.

JOSH

Come on!

A knife suddenly appears as it glides across his throat.

INT. CABIN - DAY

Riley and Amy are huddled around the small table. Riley taps the receiver and looks up at Amy.

RILEY

Why doesn't this thing work?

AMY

Let's just go. Wait where's Josh?

The two run outside.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

And spot Josh just standing at the car. They move towards him.

AMY

Josh, phone's dead lets just get outta here... Josh.

She grabs Josh's shoulder, spinning him around. She lets out a SCREAM!

Blood pours down from Josh's neck as he falls onto Amy. Riley rushes to help pull him off her.

Standing on the other side of the car is the Man, now revealed as MR. WINTER, wielding a Machete.

RILEY

Run!

Riley and Amy sprint to the cabin and

INT. CABIN - DAY

Mr. Winter moves towards the door. Riley slams it shut as Mr. Winter swings.

The door begins to shake as Mr. Winter BANGS against it. Amy rushes forward to help Riley brace against it.

It stops. The girls back away from the door moving to the center. Wood CREEKS as footsteps move around the cabin. The girls look at each other then to the back door. Riley flicks the lock on the door Just as the door knob begins to rattle.

Metal taps against the glass of the windows as the girls turn to find the source. Nothing.

Amy's face filled with sheer terror. Riley looks around searching for anything to defend themselves.

RILEY

Don't worry we're gonna make it out of here.

She turns to Amy whose eyes are watering. Riley grasps her hand clutching it tight.

RILEY (CONT'D)

Amy... look at me. We just have to make it to the car.

Suddenly the back door breaks open. The two girls turn to see Mr. Winter standing at the door. He charges forward.

Riley pulls Amy by the hand and heads to the front door, swinging it open. Mr. Winter grabs the back of Amy's hair yanking her back

AMY

RILEY!

Riley turns. She spots a pencil on the ground and stabs Mr. Winter in the hand with it. He releases Amy as she falls to the ground.

RILEY

Head for the car, Ill be right behind you.

Mr. Winter counters, swinging his bladed weapon slicing Riley across the arm. Riley falls hitting the table.

Mr. Winter stands over the wounded Riley. He pulls the pencil out of his hand. He raises the machete.

Amy grabs the walking stick next to the door swinging it at Mr. Winter. He stumbles back and falls to the ground.

Riley quickly gets up and heads for the door.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Riley limps out of the cabin proceeding towards the car.

RILEY
We're almost there.

Riley reaches Josh's body pulling out the keys, fumbling, placing her bloody hand on the door. She unlocks the door and turns to Amy.

RILEY (CONT'D)
Amy, come on. Lets go!

She sees the horror on Amy's face. Her eyes widen. She struggles with a small step as she coughs up blood. Amy falls to the ground. Mr. Winter appears behind her.

She reaches her hand up trying to stop the pain, before Mr. Winter plunges the blade down into her.

Riley, helpless, looks on in horror. She lets out a TIRED SCREAM. Mr. Winter pulls the blade out before advancing towards Riley.

She opens the door. Riley tries to put the key in the ignition, but drops the keys to the floor. She sits up and puts the keys in. The engine roars to life.

Mr. Winter reaches his hand out for the door but misses as the car takes off down the dirt road.

INT. GAS STATION - NIGHT

The jeep SCREECHES to a halt as the light begins to fade. Riley stumbles out and through the door. She limps to the counter as tears stream down her face.

RILEY
(yelling)
Hello! Hello! Is anyone here?

LAURIE (O.S.)
Oh back so soon. I haven't changed my mind.

RILEY
I need to use your phone! We got to call the cops, we gotta get out of here!

Laurie emerges from the back room.

LAURIE

What are you.. Oh dear. We got to get you to a hospital.

RILEY

No, You don't understand. He's still alive. He's coming this way!

LAURIE

Who's still alive? Who's coming this way?

Laurie goes to the to door, opening it and peers out.

RILEY

No don't! He's out there! The Fox Creek.... He just killed my friends.

LAURIE

Wes isn't out there. Just take a deep breath and I'm gonna get you a towel from the back.

Laurie goes to the back room. Riley, panicked, looks around taking some deep breathes as blood drips down her arm. She grips her arm tight. Riley taps her foot. She pulls out her cell phone. It blinks NO SERVICE

Riley spots a hat, Kyle's hat, hanging amongst the knickknacks that she didn't see prior. Riley stops and stares at the back room. She backs up towards the front as Laurie emerges with a towel and a land line in hand.

LAURIE (CONT'D)

Where are you going, don't you need the phone?

RILEY

I just remembered I have a cell in the car.

LAURIE

Well, let me stitch that wound.

RILEY

That's okay.. I'm just wanting to go home.

She stumbles back turning to leave and standing in the door way is Mr. Winter. He looks at Laurie and smiles. She gleefully grins back.

He lunges forward, grabbing Riley by the hair, stabbing her in the stomach. Her eyes widen.

Her phone drops from her hand and hits the floor. NO SERVICE flashes on the screen, before SERVICE FOUND comes across the screen. Riley is dragged out the door, back into the woods.

FADE OUT.