

EXT. STODDARD HOUSE - NIGHT

The storm continues. Branches sway heavily in rhythm with the howling wind. All windows are dark except the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Lisa and Nate's silhouettes are projected on the side of the tent by the large flashlight inside. The tent door is zipped closed. On the floor opposite the flashlight is an iPad playing a cartoon movie. Lisa is lying on her side, propped up by her elbow. Nate tosses a piece of popcorn that she catches in her mouth. She opens her mouth and sticks out her tongue with the popcorn on it, shaking her head, being silly.

NATE

Haha let me try!

Lisa sits up and crosses her legs in front of her. Nate kneels. After a few attempts, Nate catches one. Lisa cheers.

LISA

You did it!

Nate chews the popcorn, while laughing. Lisa laughs too. The wind begins howling loudly. As the laughter dies, the wind is noticed. Nate grows uncomfortable.

LISA (CONT'D)

You know what I think it's time
for?

NATE

What?

LISA

More. S'mores.

Lisa double pumps her eyebrows. Nate smiles. Lisa unzips the tent. Thunder crashes. Nate peeks his head around before getting out. Lisa starts assembling s'mores at a previously used s'more station. She places the tray of s'mores into the toaster oven that's on the coffee table, next to a single bulb lamp. Both of these appliances are powered by a visible extension cord. The howling of the wind continues, as a new sound joins. There is a loud creaking coming from the top of the stairs. Lisa tries to ignore it.

LISA (CONT'D)

These are gonna taste so good!

Another loud creak.

NATE
Can we go back in the tent?

LISA
Do you want to wait the 4 minutes
for the s'mores?

Thunder rumbles. Nate shakes his head.

LISA (CONT'D)
Okay. It's okay buddy, let's go
watch that cartoon until the
s'mores are done.

Another loud creak, followed by the sounds of wood clacking. Nate gets into the tent quickly. Lisa looks upstairs and then follows Nate into the tent. The wind howls again.

TIME CUT:

INT. STODDARD HOUSE - LATER

Lisa and Nate are in the closed tent, lying down. Nate has chocolate all over his face. Lisa is finishing a s'more.

LISA
You were right. Peanut butter was a
game changer.

NATE
Yeah!

Lisa is about to finish her s'more then looks to Nate.

LISA
Half-sies?

Nate nods. Lisa reaches over allowing Nate to bite half of her s'more. The creaking and wood clacking happen again upstairs. Lisa looks up instinctively before looking back to Nate. She finishes the last bite of the s'more.

NATE
Don't worry Mommy, it's just Lonny.

LISA
What do you mean, baby?

NATE
Lonny said when the house makes
noises, it isn't scary. It's just
him saying hi.

LISA
Lonny's been here?

NATE
Mhmm!

Lisa's eyes widen. The creaking and clacking continue.

LISA
Is...is Lonny here right now?

Nate looks around the tent, as if looking through the walls.

NATE
Yeah, I think so.

Lisa inhales.

LISA
Okay, well tell Lonny it is time
for us to go to bed.

NATE
Aww, do we have to?

LISA
Yes, we have to... But then we can
play in the tent again tomorrow!

Nate frowns.

LISA (CONT'D)
Deal?

NATE
Okay.

LISA
Okay, let's go get ready for bed.

Lisa and Nate exit the tent. The howling of the wind picks up, followed by a loud creak and a loud bang upstairs.

LISA (CONT'D)
I'm gonna go use the upstairs
bathroom, so you brush your teeth
and potty down here and I'll be
back in a few minutes. Okay?

NATE
Okay.

Nate walks to the bathroom by the kitchen. Lisa walks up the stairs. The creaking and clacking continue.

She walks slowly, peeking up with each step. When she finally reaches the top, she sees her door swinging open by a Draft, and falling shut again, clacking as it bounces off the uneven frame. Lisa walks to the door and grabs it before it clacks again. The howling of the wind grows, as Lisa sees the curtains rustling next to her window. She walks into the room slowly, looking around. She approaches then pulls the curtains to the side quickly to see that the window is open a crack. Wind is whipping through the gap. She closes and latches the window.

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Lisa walks out of the bathroom and shuts off the light behind her. She walks towards the stairs when she hears talking below.

INT. LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Concerned, Lisa rushes down the stairs.

LISA

Nate!

The talking stops.

NATE

Yeah?

Lisa runs over to the tent and unzips it. Nate is lying on his back, legs crossed, holding the iPad. There is a video paused on the screen showing two animated characters.

LISA

Ohh.

(long exhale)

Sorry I thought... Never mind. What are you watching?

NATE

Youtube.

LISA

Anything fun?

NATE

Cartoons.

LISA

Of course. Okay buddy, time for screens off.

Nate huffs. He turns off the iPad and pulls his sleeping bag up.

LISA (CONT'D)
You sure you're okay if Mommy
sleeps on the couch for her back?

NATE
Yeah, that's okay.

LISA
Okay, if you're sure. I'll be right
out here, okay?

Lightening flashes then thunder echoes. Nate whimpers.

LISA (CONT'D)
Ooh, how about this?

Lisa zips up only the mesh screen door on the tent.

LISA (CONT'D)
See? Now we can see each other and
I'll be right here all night in
case you need anything. Sound good?

Nate nods and adjusts his pillow. Lisa lays on the couch. She turns off the lamp, so the room is only lit by the flashlight in the tent.

LISA (CONT'D)
You can keep the flashlight on if
you want to. It's up to you.

NATE
Yeah, I like it on.

LISA
Me too... You going to be able to
sleep with all this noise?

NATE
(yawning)
I think so.

LISA
(chuckling)
Okay baby, I'll see you tomorrow.

Lisa closes her eyes. The sounds of the storm continue.

NATE
Oh, I told Lonny you wanted to meet
him.

Lisa opens her eyes. She leans up and turns towards Nate.

LISA
You talked to Lonny?

NATE
Yes.

LISA
Just now?

NATE
No earlier.

LISA
Okay... well what did he say?

NATE
He said you two can't meet.

LISA
Why not?

NATE
He said it's impossible. He says
you will be afraid of him.

LISA
Nate, when did you last talk to
Lonny?

NATE
When you went upstairs. He appeared
to say goodnight.

LISA
He appeared?

NATE
Yes. He appears and disappears.
Like a magician!

LISA
Where is he now?

NATE
I don't know.

LISA
Well, can we go find him? Where
does he live?

NATE
He lives here, with us.

A chill runs down Lisa's spine.

LISA

But he's not here right now?

NATE

No... not anymore.

Lisa sighs. The wind howls.