

ALL THAT REMAINS

Written by

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A title card begins our story, closely echoing previous found footage horror films: "In October, 2015, three teenagers disappeared in the remote forests of upstate New York. They were never seen again. All that remains is an audio recording found near their abandoned campsite."

A second title card reads: "in an effort to understand their disappearance, our team of animators have used that recording to recreate their final moments."

TITLE: ALL THAT REMAINS

From this point forward, the audio track is something straight out of a horror film: three frightened teens confronting a monster in the darkness—lots of heavy breathing, eerie silences, and frantic screams.

In complete contrast to the audio, the 2D animation shows the characters as early 1960s Hanna-Barbera-style anthropomorphic animals, walking left to right through a spooky forest.

EXT. CARTOON FOREST - NIGHT

The three teens, KAREN, JESSE, and SCOTT, walk along a forest path. Karen holds a tape recorder that might look like a 1980s Walkman.

SCOTT

I think there's something out there.

Peeping out from behind the trees is the cutest, sweetest big-eyed MONSTER imaginable. He could be a stuffed animal on a little girl's bed. He has fangs, but they're part of the biggest, cheeriest smile in the world. He's not trying to hurt anyone. He's trying to help them. Everything that happens to the teens is the result of a series of misunderstandings.

JESSE

Do you hear that? Shh. There's definitely something out there. What is that?

SCOTT

Wait.

The teens stop walking as if to listen.

JESSE

It stopped. It's gone.

KAREN

Can we go home? Can we please just
keep moving?

From behind one of the trees, the monster emerges, now wearing a magician's black top hat and cape. With him is one of those large upright cabinets that magicians use to make people disappear.

SCOTT

What is that?

JESSE

What? What are you looking at?

The teens line up to watch like an audience.

The monster does a few quick warm-up tricks (pulling colorful handkerchiefs out of his hand, pulling a dove out of his hat, making a playing card levitate, etc. -- these should be done rapidly, one right after another).

SCOTT

There. Did you see that?

KAREN

I don't see anything.

The teens seem to be captivated, none as much as Scott, whose eyes grow big with wonder and whose mouth curls into a big smile.

JESSE

You're really freaking out, man.

The monster opens the cabinet and scrutinizes the crowd, looking for a volunteer.

SCOTT

Shh. Look!

Scott raises his hand ecstatically.

The monster motions for Scott to enter the booth and closes the door behind him.

KAREN

Where are you going?

JESSE

Don't be stupid!

The monster shows the remaining teens that he has nothing up his sleeves, then waves his wand and opens the door to reveal a tall beautiful flower with a big, smiling face. The happy flower bobs left and right as if dancing with joy.

KAREN

Scott?

The smiling monster hands the flower to Karen and bows, tipping his hat, proud of the thing he's done.

KAREN (CONT'D)

Scott!!

Karen starts frantically plucking off the petals. The flower is mortified, and stops smiling.

KAREN (CONT'D)

Oh my god, they've done something to Scott.

JESSE

He's gone. Let's go.

She tosses the sad little flower down to the ground, hurting the little monster's feelings.

JESSE (CONT'D)

Come on. We've got to get out of here. We'll just keep walking. Okay?

The two remaining teens continue walking.

KAREN

Oh my god, I just want to go home.

The monster returns, now dressed like a carnival barker, with a straw boater hat and a red and white striped coat. Next to him is a helium tank.

The monster quickly starts filling up balloons.

Jesse stops and looks back at the monster. He's curious.

JESSE

Hold up. What is this?

The Monster quickly blows up a number of helium balloons with smiley faces on them. Jesse's eyes light up like a kid as he sees the balloons and runs over.

KAREN

Jesse! We need to stay together. We need to get out of here now.

JESSE

Just give me one second.

KAREN

Oh god, Jesse, please don't. Please don't. Jesse?

The monster hands him the balloons and Jesse rises up off the ground, smiling and happy.

The monster reaches to hand one more balloon to Jesse, but notices him floating up out of the frame.

Whoops. That wasn't supposed to happen. The monster smiles in a poor attempt to hide his embarrassed guilt.

KAREN (CONT'D)

Jesse? Jesse?

Karen starts crying and snot is running down her nose.

KAREN (CONT'D)

Oh my god oh my god oh my god.
Please. Whatever you want. Please just stop.

The little monster turns to her and her screams wipe the smile off his face.

His face lights up. He's got an idea.

He takes her by the hand and leads her to a barber's chair, where he sits her down, drapes her with an apron and starts curling her hair and giving her a makeover. He's taking this seriously—he's like an artist absorbed in his work. Karen pants and sobs throughout.

KAREN (CONT'D)

I'm really scared. I don't want to die out here. Please God, please, I just want to get out of here.

The monster finishes his work, pulls out a vanity mirror and proudly shows Karen her new look.

Karen sees her face in the mirror and SCREAMS!

She drops the tape recorder and runs off into the woods, leaving the lonely little monster all by himself.

He picks up the tape recorder and presses stop, ending the audio track.

SILENCE

The monster tapes out the tape and tosses it aside. He pulls out a second tape, puts it into the tape deck and presses play.

A fun, rollicking punk song starts to play, and the monster does a joyous dance.