

TREASURE HUNT

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Misfit Lunatics Production
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1. EXT. PARK - DAY

The sun looks high overhead, illuminating a colorful playground in a lush green park. Families litter the grounds as kids run up and down the playground. Parents meander in groups, chatting the time away.

A TRASH CAN stands near the playground, a small piece of crumbled PAPER lay's beside it. 3 friends, walking almost hand in hand, laughing as they walk up to the playground from the parking lot.

EVELYNNE (19), adventurous, high of hope and fun, glue of the group, steps onto the piece of paper.

EVELYNNE

Oh come on!

Evelynne grimaces as she lowers to the ground, peeling the paper off her shoe.

FELIX (19) obnoxious, overly dramatic, mean-spirited, leans down next to Evelynne, helping her.

FELIX

(touching the paper)

Ew!

The paper, moist, sticks to Felix's hand. Evelynne visably gags as she peels it from his hand.

Paper off, Felix motions to the TRASH CAN mere feet away, near the group of parents.

FELIX

The can is right there! Couldn't they at least have throw it away properly?!

Felix rolls his eyes and Evelynne lets out a laugh.

LEO (19), head-strong, forward-thinker, "Alpha" of the group, walks over to his friends.

LEO

Hey, you don't know what might be going on in those people's heads-

FELIX

Well they need to learn to take better care of the planet

Motions to the kids playing

FELIX

Less their offsprings not have a plent to live on.

LEO

Dude, it isn't even your shoe-

Felix gives Leo a baffled expression, looking from Evelynne, back to Leo.

FELIX

WELL! Mind you fair gentleman, but dost the fair lady not deserve to walk on a clean pathway!

Felix gives an odd bow, gesturing to Evelynne's foot, before slowly going over to the trash can in a sloth-like motion.

EVELYNNE

Dost me shoe deserve the path of the cleanest degree!

She snickers. Leo rolls his eyes.

EVELYNNE

Well at least someone cares to clean up the enviroment!

Felix, sloth-walking, makes it to the trash can, lift his hand ever-so-slowly to the trash can lid before-

LEO

DON'T...

Hesitant from the parents glares.

LEO

...throw it away!

FELIX

Come on dude, let me save the enviroment.

Felix waggles the paper above the trash can. Leo shakes his head: No.

LEO

I don't know, I have this feeling we shouldn't throw it away.

Evelynne gives out a hardy laugh, mocking Leo.

EVELYNNE

Oh! Dost me shoe ever get thy justice it deserves!

She waggles her foot at the boys. Leo gives her a glare, before turing back to Felix.

LEO

Just trust me. Open it.

Felix, confused/intrigued, unfolds the paper, eyes widening in awe before turing it over in an over-the-top twirl, revealing a BLANK PAPER.

FELIX
(fake shock)
It's... It's BLANK!

Evelynne bursts out in loud laughter, buckling at the amusement.

Leo rushes Felix and the two wrestle a bit before Felix concedes and the papers in Leo's hands.

Leo turns the paper all around and still nothing.

LEO
I just have this feeling...

Evelynne sighs.

EVELYNNE
Well
(hands on her hips)
Why don't we go to my place, have an ice cold lemonade, cause this heat's killing me. Then we can examine your "precious" piece of trash.

Leo tucks the paper into his POCKET and the 3 friends head back to the parking lot.

JUMP CUT TO:

2. INT. EVELYNNE'S ROOM, EVELYNNE'S HOUSE - DAY

Evelynne's room is a colorful explosion of posters, plants, and knick-knacks. The walls are adorned with images of nature and travel destinations. The bookshelves filled with textbooks, brochures and souvenirs. In the back, a large window let's ample sunlight in, illuminating the space.

The 3 friends, lemonade in hand, gather around Evelynne's cluttered desk. Leo carefully flattens the piece of paper on the desk.

LEO
There's got to be something we're missing.

EVELYNNE
Let's see what we can do.

She looks around her room for something useful, before settling on a lamp and positioning it over the paper.

EVELYNNE

I beleive I've seen this before on
some History Channel show-

FELIX

I don't know, still looks pretty
blank to me.

Slowly, faint writing begins to appear. The 3 friends gasp in
unison.

EVELYNNE

Look! Look!

FELIX

No way... It's actually something.

Huddling close, the paper seems to glow in the light of the
lamp.

LEO

40.233-

FELIX

And it's a bunch of numbers.
Disappointing.

EVELYNNE

No stupid!

She wacks Felix on the back of the head.

EVELYNNE

It's clearly coordnates! Longitude
and latitude.

FELIX

Hey! For all I know those could be
prices on a receipt! The paper can
have more numbers!

Evelynne rolls her eyes and Felix slumps a little.

EVELYNNE

See, this gets more interesting by
the minute.

FELIX

(to: Leo)

Alright, you were right, Now what?

3. EXT. CENTER STREET - DAY

Center street, the basic old-town main street, buildings
closely connected, people walking up and down the sidewalk.
Narrow. Close. Local.

Leo, Evelynne and Felix stand across the street, confusion striking their faces.

FELIX

So. It's on main street?

Evelynne consults her phone, opened on Google Maps, the coordinates pinpointing where they stood.

EVELYNNE

I guess?

Both Felix and Leo casually nod across the street.

EVELYNNE

This is where the coordinates take us.

She raises her phone for the boys to see.

The 3 take a long look at the buildings across from them, then proceed to cross the street.

4. INT. STAIRWAY - UNDERGROUND - DAY

A narrow hallway, yellowed by the overhead lights. The 3 friends enter through a single doorway, follow the hallway, turning left, finding a staircase leading down into darkness.

FELIX

Whoa. Creepy hallway I can handle, the stairwell to hell is a whole other thing.

Evelynne gives him a quizzical look.

FELIX

What? You can't say all this isn't screaming "I'm gonna get killed"

He looks from Evelynne to Leo.

LEO

I mean it is an old paper with coordinates leading into a dark underground.

FELIX

Thank you!

Evelynne scoffs.

EVELYNNE

Where's your sense of adventure?!

Turns back to the boys.

EVELYNNE

You know, sometimes we find the strangest things in the most ordinary of places. A piece of paper, just littered on the ground, something most people would ignore or toss away without a second thought. It's the little moments like that, that'll lead to something bigger, something unexpected. When I first stepped on that paper, I was annoyed. It was sticky, gross, and seemed like another piece of trash left behind. But now, here we are, standing at the edge of something mysterious, something that could lead to an adventure we never saw coming. So yeah, this place might be a little creepy, and maybe it does scream "danger", but isn't that what makes life exciting?

She takes a deep breath, turning back to the stairwell.

EVELYNNE

Taking risks, exploring the unknown. Because in the end, it's not about the destination, but the journey and the memories we create along the way. So! Which one of you boys will head down first for me?

Leo and Felix, baffled, but a little inspired, look at each other and both shout:

LEO & FELIX

He will!

5. INT. TUNNEL, UNDERGROUND - DAY

The stairwell leads into a narrow, dimly lit passageway that stretches out like an old long forgotten relic of the past. The walls are lined with ancient, weathered brick, each one stained with age, The air, cool, carrying a faint musty scent as the 3 friends cling to each other, slowly stepping down the stairs, the path illuminated by the faint light from their phones flashlights.

LEO

(whis.)

This place is creepy.

FELIX

(whis.)

Seriously. What are we even looking for?

Evelynne, smirking, pats Felix on the back, taking the lead from the boys.

EVELYNNE
Adventure, Felix, Adventure.

6. INT. TUNNEL, UNDERGROUND - MOMENTS LATER

Continuing onward, the 3 friends exchange uncertain glances. Strange symbols line the walls.

FELIX
(whis.)
What do you think these mean?

LEO
(whis.)
No idea, but it feels like we're getting closer.

7. INT. TUNNEL, UNDERGROUND

After a few more minutes of walking, the group comes to a stop, indicating that they were at the location the coordinates indicated.

EVELYNNE
(loudly)
STOP!

Her right hand goes up, military style, halting the group.

EVELYNNE
This is it.

The group begins to breakaway from each other, looking for something connected to the clue.

Leo begins looking at a part of the brick wall nearby. Concern, but intrigue sets upon his face. He begins examining the bricks closely, feeling for any sign of something.

Felix scowrs an area under pipes, hand wilding grasping for something.

Evelynne stand in middle of the room, wildly turning, eyes darting between the walls, floor and pipes. Taking it all in.

FELIX
I don't see anything. Are you sure this is the right spot?

EVELYNNE
Yes. Just keep looking. There has to be something.

Silence.

LEO
 (voice echoing)
 Hey, I think I found something.

Leo's voice reverberates through the tunnel. Looking at the wall in front of him, a brick in the middle looks slightly different from the others.

EVELYNNE
 (rushing over)
 What?

Felix follows, but skeptically looks at the wall in front of them.

FELIX
 Oh!

Felix pushes Leo aside, touching the different BRICK.

It pushes back with a CLICK.

FELIX
 Look what I found!

Emphasis on I.

LEO
 Hey!

The brick springs backwards, revealing a compartment within the brick.

LEO
 I found that!

Leo grasps for the brick, only for Felix to beat him to it.

FELIX
 Nuh-uh!

Leo grabs one end of the brick and tries to take it from Felix.

FELIX
 Hey!

The two bicker, pulling the brick in two directions.

EVELYNNE
 Boys, boys. Stop all this bickering
 and show me what we got.

She lays her hand in the middle of the brick.

LEO
Not until this fool let's go.

FELIX
No you!

Evelynne proceed to open the compartment. A little piece of paper lays inside.

FELIX
Well shit! Another dumb piece of paper!

He lets go of the brick, sending Leo backwards from still pulling.

Evelynne begins to unfold the paper, backing away from the boys to read it.

Felix lifts his palm, beckoning her to give it to him.

FELIX
I found it. It's mine.

He looks deep into Evelynne's eyes.

FELIX
It should be me.

He takes a step forward, menecingly, causing Evelynne to step back in fear.

Leo regains himself, stepping in between Evelynne and Felix.

LEO
Or maybe, it should be me. I found the clue.

Felix huffs. Deep breath, then swings a fist at Leo.

Leo blocks.

LEO
Dude!

Felix swings again.

Leo ducks, jabs.

Felix steps back, narrowly missing Leo's swing.

Evelynne backs away slowly.

Felix rushes Leo, pinning him to the wall.

Leo pushes Felix.

Evelynne, far back, proceeds to unfold the paper.

Leo and Felix circle each other.

Evelynne, looking at the paper, gasps.

Leo and Felix pause, turning to meet Evelynne's gaze.

Evelynne looks from the paper to the boys, pinning their attention.

EVELYNNE
(reading the note)
"Better Luck Next Time"

She QUICKLY folds the paper back up, looking at the boys and shrugs.

EVELYNNE
Better luck next time. That's what
it says

FELIX
What. The. Fuck!

LEO
No way, let me see that.

Leo beckons for Evelynne to hand it over, but Felix takes another swing at Leo.

FELIX
This is what happens when you find
pieces of trash LEO! They end up
being pieces of TRASH!

Felix's punches get harder and harder each swing, causing Leo to fumble to the ground.

LEO
Dude! I'm sorry!

Felix stands over Leo and proceeds to pummel him. Leo covers his face, failing to block the blows.

Evelynne lets out a cry, running over and reaching for Felix's arm. Restraining him. Fear.

LEO
Dude! Dude!

Cuts bleed from Leo's face.

FELIX
Are you? Are you really sorry?!

He shrugs Evelynne off, getting up from Leo.

FELIX

I wasted my time with you looking
for some... Treasure you thought
we'd find.

Fed up, Felix leaves the tunnel.

Evelynne rushes to Leo's side, laying his head on her lap.

EVELYNNE

Are you okay?

Tears leak from her eyes.

Leo coughs, straining to get up.

LEO

Yeah, yeah.

Evelynne tries to help. But Leo shoo's her away.

LEO

Just go. I'll see you later.

8. MONTAGE:

Felix walks away from the tunnel entrance, his face a mix of anger and frustration. He reaches the park where the journey started, sitting down on a bench near the playground. The playground, once lively, is now deserted as the sun sets. Felix stares blankly into the distance, lost in thought. His hand grips the edge of the bench, knuckles white, as he struggles to calm himself.

Evelynne sits in her room, now dimly lit. She is on the floor with her knees pulled to her chest, her eyes red from crying. The crumpled piece of paper is clutched in her hand. She looks around the room at the vibrant posters and plants, landing on a photo on her bedside; a photo of Leo, Felix and her, which now offer no comfort, and sighs heavily.

Leo stands in his dimly lit bathroom, staring at his reflection in the mirror. His face is bruised and cut from the fight, and he gingerly touches a bruise on his cheek, wincing at the pain. He turns away from the mirror, avoiding his own gaze, and walks over to his bed. He lies down fully clothed, pulling out his phone. As he scrolls through his messages, his expression, regret and determination. His phone screen glows faintly in the dark room as he closes his eyes, attempting to block out the memory of the day.

Felix remains on the bench as night falls, the park now shrouded in darkness. He pulls out his phone, typing a message to the group chat but then deleting it. He runs his hands through his hair, the tension still evident in his body, before finally getting up and walking away from the bench, the park fading into the background.

Evelynne lies in her bed, staring up at the ceiling. The crumpled piece of paper sits on her bedside table, the only reminder of the day's events. She picks up her phone, typing a message to Felix and Leo, but hesitates. She sets the phone down, unresolved, and turns off the light, leaving the room in darkness.

Leo looks into his reflection, then to the ceiling, lost in thought, grimacing at the pain.

Felix finally gets up from the bench and walks away from the now-empty park, the loneliness of the night mirroring his own isolation.

The crumpled paper on Evelynne's bedside table is barely visible in the faint moonlight streaming through the window.

Leo, hands on the sink, looks into his own eyes in the mirror. Closing his eyes, seeking a temporary escape.

MONTAGE END

9. INT. EVELYNNE'S ROOM, EVELYNNE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

SUPER IMPOSED TEXT: 3 Weeks Later

Evelynne sits at her desk, now adorned with homework that she intently looks at. She goes to grab a pencil, but grasps air instead. Opening a drawer to see a jar of pencils and beside it the clue.

She pauses, going for the paper instead, lifting it up. BLANK. Another mystery yet to be solved. She turns it around, inspecting it, then places it back into the drawer.

EVELYNNE (V.O)

Bettler luck next time. That's what it says.

She sits there a moment, contemplating her decisions, then pulls out her phone.

In MESSAGES, the group chat with Leo and Felix lays dormant, almost to the bottom, below MOM, DAD, SISTER, AUNT, and two individual text threads with Leo and Felix.

She opens Felix and types: "Meet me at the park at 6pm tomorrow"

She opens Leo and types the same.

She slumps back into her chair, placing her phone on her desk, creating distance from it and lets out a deep sigh.

10. EXT. PARK - EVENING

The park, empty, the families gone home for the night. No sound emanates from the playground, it's color drained as the sun sets. Only the wind, brushing the leaves breaks the silence.

Evelynne sits on a park bench, across the trash can that started their adventure. In her lap sits the clue.

Two cars pull up into the parking lot, the headlights illuminating the pathway.

Almost insync, Leo and Felix exit the two driver sides.

They look at each other in disgust.

FELIX

What the fuck are you doing here?

Leo closes his door and gestures to Evelynne.

LEO

She invited me.

Felix closes his door and proceeds to the pathway.

FELIX

Hmmmmmm

Leo joins him, the two stand 3 feet apart from each other.

Felix balls his hands into fists, tightening as Leo gets closer, then loosens when Leo stops.

Leo takes note of the fists.

LEO

Well, shall we?

The two walk, never breaking the invisible barrier between them, all the way up to Evelynne on the bench.

FELIX

So? What's the play Evelynne?

She stands, holding out the clue to the boys.

EVELYNNE

I lied.

The two stare, dumbfounded.

EVELYNNE

The clue was blank, probably another heat thing. But you two were-

(MORE)

EVELYNNE (CONT'D)

(pause)

Scary that day. A treasure hunt that stated here, ruined because of our greed. Now we either hang out individually or not at all.

She takes a step between them.

EVELYNNE

Your my best friends. And now I'm here to give you an ultimatum. Either we can all be friends again or we never see one another again.

Leo takes a step forward, alarmed.

EVELYNNE

We can continue where we left off with the clue, or we can just forget it ever happened. Return to how it was before. What'll it be?

Silence passes. The boys, looking ashamed, scared and unsure, finally look each other in the eye. Then Felix goes forward, grasping Evelynne's hand. Then whisks away the clue and throws it away and onto the ground.

FELIX

Your right, though damage was done
(looks to Leo)
I'm willing to admit my wrongs.

He steps forward to Leo, extending his hand.

FELIX

I'm sorry.

Leo grasps Felix's hand.

LEO

Bros?

FELIX

Bros.

Then the 3 look up at each other, big grins on their faces and all head back to the parking lot.

LEO

Don't you guys wonder what was at the end of the hunt?

FELIX

Honestly no. I just feel as if we shouldn't care. It got way into my head. Let's just act as if it was before we found it.

EVELYNNE

Really?

THE CAMERA FALLS ONTO THE PAPER, NOW BACK ON THE GROUND LIKE THE BEGINNING.

FELIX

I mean sure, I'm curious, but really what'll a random paper in the middle of the park really amount to?

The 3 friends laugh and fade into the background.

TIMELAPSE TO MORNING

11. EXT. PARK - MORNING

As the sun rises on the park a glimmer of sunlight hits the clue revealing words, but before anything could be made out a hand goes to pick it up.

Cut to black.

UNKNOWN (O.S)

Hey, what's this.

12. THE END.