

## katie\_chapbook

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### Passage 1

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It's almost dusk in the forest, I'm on my evening walk when I notice what looks like footprints. I look around and see no one. I haven't seen anyone on this entire walk, but suddenly I don't feel so alone. They look like boot prints, on the bigger side. They are going in the same direction I always go. I look around again, still nothing. It's probably just a hunter or something.

[[I continue walking.]]

[[I turn around]]

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### See what's in the box

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{back link,label: '<- Back'}
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I can't help but stay and find out what it is he is digging up. He sets the box down carefully and picks up something from inside. I can't see exactly what it is so I subconsciously try and move to see what it is. Snap. I stepped on a twig, I looked up and he was staring right at me.

[after 2000ms]

"Hey, how long have you been there?" He yells coming closer to me.

"I didn't mean to scare you, I just saw you dig up that metal box and I wanted to see what was in it. I know that sounds creepy but it's the truth." Silence fills the air after I finish talking. I don't want any trouble, now I just want to get out of here. The man looks around and then lifts his hands towards me and shows me a vintage-looking gun. It's silver with a wooden handle. I meet his eyes and he's smiling now. Instinctively I turn and run. My heart is in my throat as I hear a gunshot wiz past my ear. I start zig-zagging, jumping over fallen trees and ducking past the ones still standing. I might be a fallen tree after this.

[[running through the woods]]

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**running through the woods**

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```

There are only six rounds in the gun at most, so I just have to keep running until then. Bang! Bang! That's three, but the footsteps behind me sound like they are getting closer. I guess the gun isn't the only thing I have to outrun. I am suddenly aware of the phone in my hand. I hold down the power and the volume button like my life depended on it because it does. Finally, the emergency SOS button comes up, and it begins to dial 911.

Bang! Number four grazes my cheek as soon as the operator picks up.

"911, what is the nature of this emergency?" a woman's voice comes a bit too calmly over the speaker.

"Send police to Grimrock Forest now, I'm being chased by a man with a gun," I scream with whatever leftover air is still in my lungs.

"Okay I'm sending them now, is there any way to take cover or hide?"

"Don't you think I would have done that if it was an option?"

"Okay ma'am, how close do you think you are to the exit?"

How could I even tell? I've been running in zig-zags for what feels like hours. Bang! Shot number five ran out but this time it wasn't as close.

"Ma'am are you okay?" the operator almost yells over the phone.

"Yes, I think he only has one more bullet left, how close are the police?"

"They are about two minutes away, hang in there for me, where is the gunman now?" I still hear the footsteps running behind me, I don't dare to look back.

"Still behind me with a gun!" I'm running on pure adrenaline right now. I take one more zig-zag before I hear the heavenly sound of sirens ringing through the forest.

The footsteps behind me stop but I start to run even faster. I do the same thing that got me into this mess and I follow the sound. Not thirty seconds later do I see flashing lights and my car in the parking lot of the forest. The police see me and don't ask if I'm okay, they ask where the gunman is. I point to the last place I thought I heard footsteps. Then they are off with their search dogs looking for him.

[[saved]]

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#### **saved**

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The paramedics came rushing over to me to tend to my grazed cheek and lack of air in my lungs. I went back to the forest for the first time since I came up and saw the man from the woods being brought back to the police cars in handcuffs. He sees me as well and we exchange looks, his a look of rage and mine a look of relief.

[[passage 6 (end)]]

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#### **passage 6 (end)**

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A few days after the incident the police called to tell me that DNA of the man I saw in the forest that day was wanted for six robberies in the last four weeks. They told me that he was sorry I got pulled into his mess and that I won't be seeing him ever again.

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**I continue walking.**

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I'm walking past some fallen trees when I hear something. It sounds like someone is digging. I stop, look around but again. I see nothing. I move towards the sound, moving as quietly as I can. The digging beings to sound like I'm getting closer. I move closer, but then, the sounds stop. My stomach drops and so do I. One single tree is between me and the man with the shovel. He's tall and buff. The type to have a gym

membership and use it twice a day. He looks like he just came from the gym as well. He's looking around, I hold my breath hoping I will blend in with the trees. The man continues shoveling and I don't know what I should do next. If I try and leave, he might hear or see me, but I can't just wait until he's done it's getting dark out. I hear a loud clink sound and both me and the man freeze. He's smiling at the hole in the ground, what could possibly be down there? I wonder if I should

[[turn away]]

or

[[see what he's digging]].

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### **I turn around**

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{back link,label: '<- Back'}

I'm walking as quietly as I can in the same direction I came when suddenly, I hear footsteps behind me. They are coming at me fast. My heart drops to my stomach as I recall what I had just experienced. I don't look behind me I just [[keep running]]

[[hide]]

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### **turn away**

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```

I'm walking as quietly as I can in the same direction I came when suddenly, I hear footsteps behind me. They are coming at me fast. My heart drops to my stomach as I recall what I had just experienced. I don't look behind me I just start running.

[[keep running]]

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### **see what he's digging**

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He bends down and picks up a metal box. It's about the size of his waist. He fumbles around with it until he finally decides that he should just pry it open. It's about ten minutes later and I want him to open it as much as he does. What could be inside a metal box that was buried six feet deep?

[[Get out of there]]

[[See what's in the box]]

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### **call the police**

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"911, what is the nature of this emergency?" a woman's voice comes a bit too calmly over the speaker. "I think I saw some suspicious activity in the Grimrock Forest. A man was digging for something but looked like he hadn't slept in day."

"Okay ma'am, are you away from the forest now?"

"Yes, I'm on the tree line now, I didn't want to stay in the forest with such a bad gut feeling."

I only hear typing over the phone for a few seconds then she comes back on the line.

"Can you stay there until the police arrive, we just want to make sure they arrive at the right entrance."

"I guess, but I'm going to wait in my car." I hang up and run to my car and lock the doors behind me. It's about 10 minutes until the police show up.

[[police investigate]]

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### **walk away and pretend this never happened (end)**

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I've already stuck my nose in something that I shouldn't have. I don't want to push my luck. Slowly, I turn around and carefully walk back the same way I came from. I hold my breath until I reach the woodline and can finally exhale. I don't think I'll ever be back in those woods.

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### **police investigate**

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The police interview me for whatever information that I could give. After about an hour of questions, they send me home. It feels like eternity before I finally reach my front door. I get inside and the smell of my air fresheners swaddle me in comfort. As I'm about to go to change and pour a glass of wine, my phone rings. It's the police

from earlier.

[[answer the phone (the end)]]

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### **answer the phone (the end)**

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{back link,label: '<- Back'}

They called to tell me that DNA of the man I saw in the forest that day was wanted for six robberies in the last four weeks. My jaw drops to the floor as I try and get a grip on this. If I would have stayed, maybe I wouldn't have made it out of those woods.

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### **keep running**

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{back link,label: '<- Back'}

My heart is in my throat as I hear a gunshot wiz past my ear. I start zig-zagging, jumping over fallen trees and ducking past the ones still standing. I might be a fallen tree after this. I am suddenly aware of the phone in my hand. I hold down the power and the volume button like my life depended on it because it does. Finally, the emergency SOS button comes up, and it begins to dial 911.

Bang! Number four grazes my cheek as soon as the operator picks up.

"911, what is the nature of this emergency?" a woman's voice comes a bit too calmly over the speaker.

"Send police to Grimrock Forest now, I'm being chased by a man with a gun," I scream with whatever leftover air is still in my lungs.

"Okay I'm sending them now, is there any way to take cover or hide?"

"Don't you think I would have done that if it was an option?"

"Okay ma'am, how close do you think you are to the exit?"

How could I even tell? I've been running in zig-zags for what feels like hours. Bang! Shot number five ran out but this time it wasn't as close.

"Ma'am are you okay?" the operator almost yells over the phone.

"Yes, I think he only has one more bullet left, how close are the police?"

"They are about two minutes away, hang in there for me, where is the gunman now?" I still hear the footsteps running behind me, I don't dare to look back.

"Still behind me with a gun!" I'm running on pure adrenaline right now. I take one more zig-zag before I hear the heavenly sound of sirens ringing through the forest. The footsteps behind me stop but I start to run even faster. I do the same thing that got me into this mess and I follow the sound. Not thirty seconds later do I see flashing lights and my car in the parking lot of the forest. The police see me and don't ask if I'm okay, they ask where the gunman is. I point to the last place I thought I heard footsteps. Then they are off with their search dogs looking for him.

[[saved]]

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## hide

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I hide a couple of fallen trees that have fallen on top of each other. I don't think I can keep running much longer. I decide to hide under the pile of fallen trees. I get in the pile and cover whatever I can see of myself with dirt and leaves. I'm just a sitting duck waiting for im to find me. I am suddenly aware of the phone in my hand. I hold down the power and the volume button like my life depended on it because it does. Finally, the emergency SOS button comes up, and it begins to dial 911.

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"Still behind me with a gun!" I'm running on pure adrenaline right now. I take one more zig-zag before I hear the heavenly sound of sirens ringing through the forest. The footsteps behind me stop but I start to run even faster. I do the same thing that got me into this mess and I follow the sound. Not thirty seconds later do I see flashing lights and my car in the parking lot of the forest. The police see me and don't ask if I'm okay, they ask where the gunman is. I point to the last place I

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[[saved]]

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### **Name**

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myName: 'katie'

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What would you like your name to be?

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[[Passage 1]]

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### **Get out of there**

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{back link,label: '<- Back'}
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I suddenly don't have a good feeling about this. I decide I shouldn't be here anymore.

But maybe I should call the police, something about this doesn't seem right.

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[[call the police]]
```

```
[[walk away and pretend this never happened (end)]]
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