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[00:02] THE DUNGEON MASTER: You're listening to, WRBB 104.9 FM Boston. And this is *The Dark Forest*.

[00:10] SONG 1: Snail Mail - Thinning

[03:38] DM: This is *The Dark Forest*. ...Everybody, welcome *back*, with your hosts, the Dungeon Master and...

THE CRYPT KEEPER: The Crypt Keeper.

DM: Got a little bit of a... *cold* trek through the Forest tonight; we're takin' the night shift.

CK: We are, we're taking the night shift; it's a—it's a *dark* and *stormy* night tonight. We're gonna, you know... go a little bit off the beaten path tonight, y'know—

[04:00] CK: —Strike out on our own. Get a little *independent* with it.

DM: We'll go a little bit independent; I, I gotta let you guys know, um... The Dungeon Master, um... I've got... a bit of a tummy ache tonight, but I'm being *very* brave about it.

CK: You're being *very* brave.

DM: [overlapping] I'm being very brave. And I'm being very brave to *brave* the... *horrors* of the Forest, tonight.

CK: With a tummyache, it is quite the perilous trek, but, if *anybody* can do it, it is you, the Dungeon Master.

DM: Yeah, *um*... Let's go!

[04:30] SONG 2: Soccer Mommy - Your Dog

[07:44] SONG 3: Wednesday - Maura

[10:52] SONG 4: Indigo De Souza - Home Team

[14:18] CK: Well, y'know, we're taking this, this *trek* off the beaten path, this dark and *cold* night of the Forest... The genre is *indie rock*, tonight. We're listening to some, some indie rock for the occasion.

DM: Yep.

CK: We're... we're looking, tonight, for some, for some cryptids, for some *creatures*, for some *spooky denizens* of the Forest. We're, we're on a little bit of an adventure.

DM: [overlapping, muttering] We're going hunting... [louder] Speaking of *cryptids*, did you know that, um... Bigfoot — Bigfoot is *real*; I mean, *obviously*.

CK: [overlapping] Oh! Oh yeah, Bigfoot's totally real.

DM: Obviously; but a lot of the *evidence* of Bigfoot, um... is actually *manufactured*—

CK: Really?

DM: —By... *wizards*, and *illusioners*, um... Y'know, sometimes as a little *joke*, y'know—

CK: [overlapping] A little bit of a prank.

DM: —Sometimes to conceal things, y'know; I've happened to...

[15:00] DM: ...Partake in a little bit of, uh... *such* illusions myself, but—

CK: [overlapping] Oh, *have* you.

DM: Ehh, y-y'know, now and then, but... [clicks tongue] Y'know.

CK: Can't—can't say *too* much.

DM: Um... yeah, the thing is, like... Ugh, god, I've been doing a lot of *time travel* recently—

CK: [simultaneously] *Ooh*, time travel.

DM: —Just, like, small, *small* little time travel. And, this weird thing that I found out is that, um... future me? Actually *hates* me.

[15:27] **SONG 5: The Beths - Future Me Hates Me**

[19:34] **SONG 6: Slow Pulp - High**

[22:08] DM: ...Wow.

[beat]

DM: Some, uh... some *independent rock* right there.

CK: Oh yeah.

DM: Umm, yup. [clicks tongue] So, Bigfoot's real.

CK: Bigfoot's real.

DM: Um... so we established that; we're looking for *cryptids* today. Um... one particular cryptic, uh... has been known to lurk among this region of the Forest...

CK: Yes.

DM: Along this trail... in which we walk; and you must keep your eyes out, you must be *very* careful. Because, uh, the *Punisher* lurks among these parts.

CK: The Punisher is lurking, bridging the gap between... its world and ours. It, it resides in the Forest, as always; the stuff of legends. Ten feet tall; *crouches* to make itself visible to the average human, but if it—if it *spots* you, you will be... its prey.

DM: Very recognizable by its *gaping mouth*. The Punisher... lurks among...

[23:01] DM: The trees here, um, so keep an eye out! And, uh...

CK: [overlapping] Do keep an eye out.

DM: We'll be, we'll be looking out for it.

CK: *It* will look out for *you*.

DM: ...That it will.

[23:12] **SONG 7: Cate Tomlinson - Muse**

[26:50] **SONG 8: boygenius - Salt in the Wound**

[31:03] **SONG 9: Lowertown - Sunburnt**

[34:00] CK: ...The Punisher has proven elusive; perhaps we might not be able to... sneak a peek of it, or catch a picture, but perhaps one of *you* brave and intrepid souls on this independent quest *has*. If you have, please, um, send it to us; we would love to see it.

DM: Y'know... Mm— Other cryptids. *Lots* of other cryptids are real, by the way.

CK: Oh of course, the Loch Ness Monster's real.

DM: [overlapping] Real a—real as heck. Um...

CK: Mothman.

DM: Mothman. *Very* real. *Very* real.

CK: The Chupacabra's real.

DM: ...Uh, Chupacabra's real. For sure. Um...

CK: The *Yeti* is, closely related to Bigfoot, of *course* the Yeti is real too.

DM: ...Yup, uh, *ghosts*? Ghosts are real.

CK: Ghosts are real! Maybe not quite in the way that you think they're real, but they are real.

DM: [simultaneously] Yeah. Ghosts are real. Um... Yeah, they— [holds back laughter] Might be a little different, but, um...

CK: Any cryptid that you would say is... *not* real?

[beat]

DM: Well, um... You know, it's not, um... It's **[34:53] SONG 10: Big Thief - Not**

[40:53] SONG 11: Indigo De Souza - Ghost

[45:03] SONG 12: Lucy Dacus - Night Shift

[51:36] DM: ...Thank you so much for listening, to *The Dark Forest*. This has been... *indie rock*. We're almost through the Forest! Gettin' very close. As always, you can find this playlist, and all previous playlists, on our social media at "darkforestwrbb," and on our Discord server where we have live chat. Thank you so much for listening, um... Yeah, we've got, uh, one, um... Hmm... *Hmm*. Wait, the Crypt Keeper.

CK: Yeah?

DM: W-wh-what's next?

CK: Um... what *is* next... Uh, *oh*! I know! The end!

[52:14] SONG 13: Phoebe Bridgers - I Know The End

[58:00] END