

1 **EXT. RED TAIL NATIONAL PARK - LATE AFTERNOON**

ALEX

Reese? Do you copy?

REESE

Yes! Yes I'm here. God it's nice to hear your voice.

ALEX

It's nice to hear your voice too. I'm uh... I seem to be able to keep my distance from The Dead Zone right now which is good. I-I don't know how it crept up so quickly while I was in the tower. I didn't even realize it was spreading.

REESE

Well, at least it slowed for now. You just gotta keep moving.

ALEX

Yeah that is the plan. Anyway I think we should probably keep these calls brief. I don't want to keep, I don't want to hold you up just in case one of the others tries to call.

REESE

Yeah. Yeah that's a good idea.

ALEX

Yeah I know. I'll call you in an hour.

REESE

Yeah. Over and out.

ALEX

(OVERLAPPING)

Over and out.

ALEX

(ALONE)

Over and out.

2 INT. UNKNOWN WAREHOUSE - AFTERNOON

REDACTED

I've reached the last recordings for Reese Williams and Alex Taylor. I didn't make any comments on their last recordings. They were overshadowed by the news of Addison's death. I apologize. I should have been focusing on my job. The Dead Zone has spread towards Alex's tower. They have left and are now trying to make it to Reese. It appears the dead zone is moving at an inconsistent rate. No way to predict what will happen. I'm not hopeful. These are the last recordings. Who knows why they just stopped.

BLAKE

You're allowed to be shaken up, you know?

REDACTED

I still have a job to do. My emotions can come later. Let's keep moving.

3 EXT. RED TAIL NATIONAL PARK - LATE AFTERNOON

ALEX

Hey. Hour two. I'm still alive. Uh must be bad news I know.

REESE

No, no it's good news.

ALEX

You uh... heard any word from anybody else?

REESE

Nope, just you.

ALEX

Cool. Do you think I could stick around and um chat for a bit then?

REESE

Yeah that's-that's fine but what about?

ALEX

I don't know. Sometimes I feel like I don't really know you. Like I don't know Reese Williams. Like we know each other we've been talking on the radio for however long but I haven't even met you. It-it... I don't even know the basics.

REESE

Well, it's kinda fair. I feel like I don't really know Alex Taylor. So tell me something. Why'd you get into the whole park ranger business?

ALEX

I don't know that you want to know Alex Taylor. I don't know. I like nature.

REESE

Oooh that sounds like a bullshit reason.

ALEX

Well that's because it is a bullshit reason. I was running away. I need some time alone and I figured what better way to be alone than to be stuck in a radio tower for months at a time away from everybody else. Until I kinda wasn't planning on having a chatty coworker who called me every five minutes.

REESE

Aw you love me. So, what were you running from?

ALEX

Y'know the usual. Shitty small town full of closed minded people. Bad parents also closed minded people. An even worse ex. Ooh let's not get into that. I wasn't... I don't know if I was much better. I got into some pretty bad stuff for a while. I just felt stuck and I needed to get back on my feet. That's why I left.

REESE

Hm. Honestly, I can't imagine you being a bad person. I mean sure you're stubborn but...

ALEX

Well I-I am. Okay? Just take my word for it.

REESE

If you were really a bad person, I wouldn't still be here.

ALEX

You barely even know me. You're just... you're just saying that.

REESE

Nope. I'm not. I've been through too much shit to deal with bad people.

ALEX

Hey, can I ask you a question?

REESE

Yeah go for it.

ALEX

Before you mentioned that there were two terrifying events you lived through. I know one of them was the dead zone. I don't know exactly what you saw in there

but I kinda figured maybe it's better you tell me about that when I'm not uh, actively running from the dead zone. I-I don't know that knowing that right now would be super great for me. But I was... what was the other one?

REESE

Y'know, I took this job to get away from horrifying things.

ALEX

Horrifying things like questions? That's not an answer Reese.

REESE

Well I know but it leads into it. But it probably won't help the scary situation we're in. I was also running away. I mean not from bad parents or a shitty ex. From grief I guess. When I wandered into the dead zone I told you I heard the voice of someone. Blair. My ex-girlfriend. She's not my ex by choice or anything like that. She was killed in a caving incident. Blair loved the paranormal. Ghosts and demons and ouija boards. Basically she was the embodiment of one of those shitty paranormal youtube channels. Wasn't really my thing but I liked supporting the things she liked. And she heard this old folklore or something like that about this entity that resided in these caves. It was all knowing and all powerful but it was held back by some magic or some other bullshit. And she was convinced it was there. So me and some friends decided to join her. I mean we had a guide and everything in these caves and we did what we were supposed to but... well the guide was killed. The cave collapsed and we were completely alone. We should have stayed put but Blair was determined. We almost made it out. But the cave collapsed and she couldn't make it. She was still alive when I left to get help but I was too late. I

um... the rest of our friends, Clyde and Sarah, they were never recovered. They stayed put when we didn't. So I guess we were doomed no matter what we did

ALEX

Reese, I'm... I'm sorry. That's awful.

REESE

I went into the dead zone because I knew she would of loved it. And I knew that the paranormal definitely existed. I mean... There is stuff that happened in that cave that I can't explain. I honestly thought I was losing it. Going crazy from the darkness. The claustrophobia. Maybe trying to cover up my grief with weird stories but... scary shit exists. And I needed to see it again. I needed to see some horrifying monster. The cave collapsing didn't kill my friends or my girlfriend or the guide. That entity did.

ALEX

We don't have to... we don't need to keep talking about this. Don't worry. I'm sorry I brought it up. I should have minded my own business.

REESE

No.

ALEX

I think I just sort of thought maybe talking about it would help in this situation. I'm sorry Reese.

REESE

No. It's okay. I wouldn't have shared if I didn't want to. But that's why I was so insistent on you leaving your tower. When I got here after all that horrifying and shitty stuff, despite your cold front attitude and y'know you totally hating my guts, you were the one thing I found myself looking forward to everyday. Just talking to you. I was happy for the first time in a

long time. So I'd prefer it if you kept moving and Y'know maybe didn't die on me. Please.

ALEX

I never hated your guts Reese. And I uh I don't plan on dying. Well I don't think anybody does. But I'll do my best.(a pause) I'm sorry about Blair. I can tell how much she meant to you.

REESE

Yeah. Thank you.

ALEX

And if you ever need to talk about it I'm here. You can... you can talk about it with me. Right now though I guess I should make it to your tower. And then we can um we can talk about the horrible bullshit we've been through um... maybe not on the radio where we're being recorded.

REESE

Y'know oddly that sounds really nice.

ALEX

Great cause um... It sounded a lot better in my head and then I was saying it and I was like does this sound fucked up? Like-

REESE

Alex. Alex, no, I look forward to getting to hang out with you. In person, not just over the radio. So, don't overthink it. Just keep moving. I hate to cut this short but you should turn your focus to getting the hell over here.

ALEX

Yeah. Yeah you're probably right.

REESE

I'll see you soon.

ALEX

I'll see you soon Over and out.

REESE

Over and out.

4 EXT. RED TAIL NATIONAL PARK - LATE AFTERNOON

ALEX

Reese I don't know if I can make it to your tower.

REESE

No, no, no. Hey, Hey. I'm-I'm here. I got you. What's going on? What makes you think that?

ALEX

The dead zone is catching up to me. It's moving fast. I don't... I don't know if I... I don't know...

REESE

No, no, no, no. It won't. You just have to keep moving.

ALEX

Reese, you're still days away from me.

REESE

And you'll make it. Alex, you are way smarter than I am. Even if you do get caught in the dead zone I know you'll get out. If I managed to get my way out and I'm a complete moron, I know you can too.

ALEX

Maybe being a moron is like the key. Maybe... what if I don't.

REESE

No, don't think like that. You are going to make it. And then we'll talk about the scary stuff we've survived. Or y'know, we can just get some pizza.

ALEX

Pizza sounds fucking great right now.

REESE

Yeah It really does. It really does. Just please keep pushing forward. And when the dead zone slows again you should get some rest. I could um... Oh I could call your radio to wake you after a few hours.

ALEX

What if I... what if I... I sit down or I try to go to sleep and I wake up and it-it's there? What-what if it... what if I never get your call because I'm... I'm in it?

REESE

If you don't get rest you will never make it here. And if it does catch up with you, which it won't, I'd rather you be alert than exhausted because you haven't slept.

ALEX

Okay. I'm going to keep moving for now. It's um... It's moving faster than I'd like. I'll call you in an hour. Over and out.

REESE

Over and out.

5 **EXT. RED TAIL NATIONAL PARK - EVENING**

ALEX

Hey Reese it's me.

REESE

Hey. How's it going? A-Anything to report?

ALEX

No, not really. I-I've stopped for the night. It looks like the dead zone has kind of slowed down a bit. So I'm gonna-I'm gonna try and get some rest. Can you call me in like three hours?

REESE

Yeah. Yeah totally. I can do that.

ALEX

(A pause) I'm scared.

REESE

I know. So am I. But you need to rest.

ALEX

Yeah. I know.

REESE

How about I call in two hours instead?

ALEX

That sounds great. Sounds like a good idea.

REESE

I know. Get some sleep. I mean it. Goodnight Alex.

ALEX

Goodnight Reese. Over and out.

6 EXT. RED TAIL NATIONAL PARK - NIGHT

REESE

Alex? Do you copy? It's Reese. (a pause) Alex, wake up!

ALEX

I'm here. I'm up. God how has it already been two hours? I feel like shit.

REESE

Yeah I know. You can get more sleep in a minute. I just need you to tell me where the dead zone is. (a pause) Alex?

ALEX

It's right there.

REESE

What?

ALEX

It's right next to me, Reese. Fuck I gotta move.

REESE

Okay. Don't panic. Does it look like it's moving still?

ALEX

I don't know! This flashlight sucks! I'm- shit!

REESE

Okay. Get out of there. Get some distance between you.

ALEX

Yeah well I'm-I'm trying. Okay? Um- Sorry, hang on.
I'll call you when I'm uh, not running for my life.
Um-

REESE

Yeah

ALEX

I'll call you in a bit

7 EXT. RED TAIL NATIONAL PARK - NIGHT

ALEX

Reese? Are you there?

REESE

Oh thank god- thank god you're okay.

ALEX

Sorry about that um... The dead zone looks like it's
stopped for now or it's moving really slow. I can't
really tell. I'm going to keep moving. Try and get
some more distance. A little-a little bit of a buffer
between us. Between it and me.

REESE

Maybe I should just get the truck and come get you. I
mean it would be a lot faster-

ALEX

No. Reese, what good is it gonna do us if both of us
get stuck out here?

REESE

Alex I'm just worried. If you get caught in there I
won't be able to reach you.

ALEX

I know but... Reese I'm not staying put. I'm moving and I will feel better knowing you're safe.

REESE

I know, but I would feel better knowing you were safe here and we can do that faster with the truck!

ALEX

Yes, well- I'm-I'm... Listen, the breakdown here is either one of us is safe for sure or neither of us is safe for sure and like... somebody has to be there Reese. Somebody needs to listen. Somebody needs to be there if somebody calls.

REESE

I know but I mean, it wouldn't take too long. We would probably be back before anyone called.

ALEX

Yeah but what if-what if we weren't? And what if we-what if we never made it back? What if they called and no one was there? I'll be okay. It's gonna be okay. I've got this. I'm going to walk for another hour. It seems like it moves quicker at night maybe. So I-I might be safer trying to rest during the day. Okay?

REESE

Yeah. Maybe. Just... just be safe.

ALEX

I will. Over and out.

REESE

Over and out.

8 EXT. RED TAIL NATIONAL PARK - NIGHT

ALEX

Hey. I know it hasn't been an hour yet but... hey.

REESE

Hey. Is-Is everything okay?

ALEX

I'm living the dream. I-I guess I could just... maybe I just like having you to talk to.

REESE

Oh? Is that so?

ALEX

Shut up.

REESE

My annoying calls have finally paid off! *The Alex Taylor* likes talking to me.

ALEX

I take it all back. Never happened! Never happened! Never-

REESE

No! No! These calls are recorded. I have this in recording. There's no take backs!

ALEX

You're insufferable.

REESE

I know but you love me.

ALEX

Well maybe I do.

REESE

Oh? Oh? Oh.

ALEX

I mean is that okay? If it's not, it was a joke like um...

REESE

No, no, no! Yeah! Yeah! It's totally okay. It's more than okay. I just... wasn't expecting that.

ALEX

Okay. Um... Sorry? Or you're welcome?

REESE

No. We're good. This is good. And we can talk about it more once you get to my tower in one piece.

ALEX

Well I'm doing- I'm doing my best. Sorry. It just sort of... slipped out. I guess? I haven't really processed it or anything... or... it's- (A pause) Reese? Did you hear that?

REESE

No. No nothing came over the mic. Alex what's going on? What is it?

ALEX

Just hang on for a second, okay? Just hang on.

(cracking can be heard followed by whale like sounds in the distance)

REESE

Alex? (a pause) Alex, do you copy? Alex please I...
Please I can't do this by myself. I can't do any of
this by myself. Alex? Please. Are you there?

ALEX

Reese? Reese? Yes, I'm here. Sorry, I'm sorry, sorry!
Sorry. Um I kinda, I knocked the radio over uh trying
to move too fast. I'm so fucking sorry Reese. I didn't
mean to freak you out um... I'm here. I'm still here.
Something walked by... and it was huge. Like uh I don't
even know... it didn't have a head. Reese, is this what
you saw?

REESE

Fuck... Yeah, yeah it was. Alex I'm coming to get you.

ALEX

No. Reese. I-I-I'm just gonna move faster. I'm- look
I've already come this far. There's no- there's no
point you-

REESE

No I am, not leaving you there when that thing is
around! That's probably what killed Addison. Alex. I
can't lose you.

ALEX

You're not going to. And I-I don't wanna lose you!

REESE

Yeah I know I'm not because I'm getting the truck.

ALEX

No, no! Reese, Reese I know that, I know it's hard but
I need- I need you to understand that I'm moving. I
need you to- I need you to stay put. (a pause) Reese?
Reese? Reese, get back in your tower! Reese?! God
fucking dammit!

REDACTED

That's-That's the end?

BLAKE

Yeah. We intercepted Reese in the early morning once we arrived. Took them in.

REDACTED

And Alex?

BLAKE

Alex was found alive in the dead zone. In critical condition but alive.

REDACTED

Okay um... How is he now?

BLAKE

A lot better. Going to make a full recovery.

REDACTED

Thank god. That thing got him?

BLAKE

Yeah. We found Alex just as they were hit. That's when the team managed to get the creature. It wasn't easy though.

REDACTED

Well, let me finish this up and then you can tell me all about it.

BLAKE

We're almost through all the recordings. I'll fill you in at the end okay?

REDACTED

Okay. For the record, Alex Taylor made it decently far into Red Tail after leaving his tower. They were in constant communication with Reese Williams who was offering support during this trek. The dead zone was moving at rapid speeds during the night. Alex said it moves faster at night. Maybe it has some kind of aversion to light. Alex saw the creature and when they told Reese, she took off. Our team intercepted them and took them in. Alex Taylor was found badly injured. Both survived.

BLAKE

Frederick and Liam only have a few more recordings to go.

REDACTED

Let's get going then.

BLAKE

You get set up. I'll be right back.

REDACTED

Don't be late.

CREDIT READ

Do You Copy is written and produced by Delaney Sutton. In this episode you heard the voices of Eilidh Nicholson as Reese Williams, Kale Brown as Alex Taylor, Rowan Farlow as Blake Bennett, and Delaney Sutton as (creature sound). This episode was edited by Delaney Sutton. A special thanks to Kaylee Scott for the theme song. Thanks for listening!

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