

1. Int. Jeff's house- day

JEFF walks into his house. He is dressed as though he's just returned from a trip on the land.

Jeff: Mom? Dad? (beat) Man where is everyone.

He notices a PERSON from the darkness of the house..

Jeff: HEY WHO ARE YOU?!

The Person moves closer.

Jeff: WHO ARE YOU.

The person steps out and it's LUKE, Jeff's friend.

Luke: Hey man where were you? It feels like an eternity since you were gone and we've been worried.

He goes to give Jeff a hug.

Jeff: What do you mean I was only gone for one night.

Pushing him away.

Luke: Jeff it's been two years.

Jeff: what!?!?

Luke: We need to talk.

Cut to.

2. EXT - Jeff's house - later

Jeff and Luke sit on the COUCH talk about the events that had happened while Jeff was gone for the night. Or two years.

Jeff: Wait so you're telling me that we've been resettled.

Luke: Yes Jeff I told you this three times while we were walking. We've been resettled.

Jeff: Man, why did no one try to find me?

Luke: days, months, years have passed
we all just thought...

Jeff: Thought, what that I died.

Luke: Well you were gone for two
years!

Jeff: I WAS GONE FOR ONE NIGHT!!!

Luke: IT WAS TWO YEARS AGO YOU LEFT
JEFF!!!

Jeff: Well I'm not 17 so you're making
this up, right.

Luke: I wish I was, man but it has
really been two years.

Jeff: What if that storm was like a
portal to a parallel universe or the
twilight zone or something.

Luke: Dude none of that stuff you just
said exists.

Jeff: Well I don't get it. How could
two years pass for you and only one
night pass for me?

Luke: I don't have time to talk about
this now I have stuff to do.

Luke rises and walks towards a RADIO not far from where
they're sitting. Cut to...

3. INT. JEFF'S OLD HOME - NIGHT

Luke, in an abandoned house, fiddles with a RADIO trying to
get a signal.

Luke: Is anybody there, over.

He fiddles for another beat until he lands on a signal. A
burst of STATIC NOISE.

Luke: Hello is there anybody there,
over.

After a long attempt at trying to get ahold of the outside
world, Luke gives up. Cut to...

5. INT. LIVING ROOM - JEFF'S OLD HOME - LATER

jeff enters the old house. He sees the radio as he looks around. Jeff falls asleep on the COUCH, his favorite place- or so it was when he could call his home his home.

END ACT ONE.

6. INT. LIVING ROOM - JEFF'S OLD HOME - MORNING

Jeff wakes up from the night before thinking it was all a bad dream but that was not the case. Luke and SAM, an old classmate, enter the base to find Jeff sleeping.

They wake him up.

Luke: GET UP.

Sam: Yeah Get Up.

Jeff: What are you guys doing in my house?

Sam: We took it over.

Luke: You idiot you weren't supposed to tell him that.

Jeff: Why my house, Luke, your house is bigger than mine.

Luke: cause we're using mine as a shelter.

Jeff: Come on man, there's gotta be some other place you could use.

Luke: I don't have time for your questions! Sam, go try the radio.

Jeff: You guys have a radio?

Sam: Yeah but it doesn't work very well.

Sam starts fiddling with the radio and it picks up STATIC.

Sam: See I told you it doesn't work.

Jeff: (looking over sam's shoulder)
That's an AM/FM radio that's why.

Luke: No it's not!

Jeff: Just get out of my house, Now!

Luke: You don't own it anymore.

Jeff: I've lived here all of my life.
It's my house.

Sam: Well we own it now.

Jeff: GET OUT!!!

Luke: No way, I'll fight you for this
house.

Jeff steps up to Luke. They shove each other. Luke starts coughing.

Sam: Wait! Why are we fighting? We
should be working together. After all,
there isn't much of a community left.

Cut to.

7. INT. JEFF'S HOUSE. DAY

Jeff, KATHY, another old classmate, Sam, and Luke are stacking wood in Jeff's shelter.

JEFF: So, there must be some way to
contact the outside world. Any idea
how we do that?

LUKE: The only way we can contact the
the outside world is through radio.
We've been trying to make contact with
the outside world for months and we
haven't been able to get a signal.
Just static the entire time.

KATHY: LUKE is right. We've been
trying for at least 6 months and
haven't gotten anywhere. The longer

we've been out here the more desperate we've become. We've been running low on so many things. We had a small amount of gas in reserve but it ran out months ago, we're running low on food that we didn't kill ourselves, starting to run out of ammo too. Not to mention that we've run out of medical supplies. We need to get in contact with the outside world soon before someone gets seriously hurt or sick. Because if something bad like that did happen we don't have the resources to deal with it.

JEFF: Maybe we should try a different approach. Since you guys have been struggling to get a signal, maybe we should try again but from higher ground this time.

Jeff gets a splinter from a piece of wood.

JEFF: ahh!

Jeff drops the junk and examines his hand. Luke and Kathy also stop to assess the severity of Jeff's wound.

LUKE: Are you ok?

JEFF: Yes I'm fine. Just a splinter, see?

Jeff lifts up his hand to show a SMALL CUT. He wipes a bit of BLOOD away and goes back to stacking the wood. Luke looks ill at the sight of it. He coughs.

Kathy: I think we have enough stacked now. That should be fine.

Sam: You know, I don't think it's so bad.

JEFF: What do you mean?

Sam: Living out here on our own. I don't think it's as bad as we've been thinking. I kinda like it. I wouldn't mind staying here. I mean the chances of one of us getting seriously sick is so low. We should just enjoy this

freedom for a while.

KATHY: Maybe you're right. Our people have survived for years on their own before modern ways of life. What's to say we can't stay like this for a while. I mean I miss the life I used to have, but I feel connected to my past and to the earth nowadays. Modern life makes you forget the joy of the way things used to be.

JEFF: Yeah I know what you mean, Kathy. I haven't felt this connected to the land before.

Sam: We used to be so caught up in our modern-day lives that we forgot where we came from. These are the things that make us who we are. We can't ever forget that.

KATHY: It's gonna be dark in a few hours. Should we try to make contact?

Sam steps towards the radio before anybody else can get there.

Sam: I think maybe we should stop trying for contact for a while and just enjoy this for a few days. We've been so busy trying to get a signal that we've forgotten why we decided to stay in the first place.

KATHY: I think you're right, Sam. We should just enjoy ourselves for a few days.

JEFF: Sounds like a plan.

LUKE starts COUGHING violently.

He collapses to the ground holding his/her chest.

JEFF and KATHY notice that LUKE has started coughing up blood.

KATHY: Oh my god, Luke! We have to get him on the couch, now!

JEFF: Come on, let's go!

LUKE: Guys come on. I'm fine-

LUKE starts to cough up more blood.

JEFF: You're clearly not fine if
you're coughing up blood. Come on! We
need to get you help.

JEFF and KATHY put LUKE's arms on each of their shoulders and
carry him offstage.

8. INT. LIVING ROOM - JEFF'S HOUSE - EVENING

Luke is laying on Jeff's couch.

KATHY: Luke you need professional
healthcare, I don't know what else we
can do for you!

Luke GROANS, and rolls over facing away from Jeff, Kathy, and
Sam

JEFF: She's right, man. You're not
going to last like this.

LUKE: No way. I'm not leaving, if I go
now they'll never let me come back.

JEFF + KATHY: Who?!

LUKE: My parents.

SAM: Luke, this could be anything, we
only have Tylenol and ibuprofen left.
I don't know how much that will help
your sickness.

LUKE: Whatever this is, it's
unfixable.

Kathy and Jeff exit. Sam goes to the radio. Luke lies back
and closes his eyes.

The radio crackles.

SAM: Guys! Look! We can call for help
and get Luke out! (into radio) Hello?
Hello?

Radio silence.

KATHY: I'm going to go look around for more medicine, you guys stay here in case Luke needs anything.

Luke sleeps softly. Sam fiddles with the radio for a beat.

Jeff and Sam look out the BEDROOM WINDOW to see if they can see Kathy walking down the road.

Sam: I hope she's alright. The clinic isn't the closest walk.

JEFF: She'll be fine, Luke is the one I'm worried about. Look at him!

Luke lays there like a corpse.

Sam: Is he alive?!?

Both scramble to check for a pulse.

Jeff: I don't feel one.

Sam: Neither do I!

Luke opens his eyes in disgust.

Luke: What are you doing? Get off me!

Jeff and Sam: We thought you were gone, you didn't have a pulse!

Luke (weakly): You think this is enough to kill me? Get outta here. I can survive appendicitis, hepatitis, tuberculosis, or whatever this is.

Sam: Luke, you really don't look good.

Luke: I'll take my chances.

Kathy returns with a bag of medical supplies.

Kathy: All I found was this pain medicine.

Luke: That's fine. I'll take those. I'm fine. (beat) I'm fine.

The others share an awkward glance. Luke is anything but fine. He closes his eyes.

Kathy (to Jeff): Did Sam reach anyone?

Jeff: No. Of course not. Where'd you get the supplies?

Kathy: The basement of the clinic. It's pretty empty. I don't know how many more emergencies we can survive.

Jeff: We're not out of the woods yet.

Luke coughs.

Kathy: Maybe we should sleep here tonight. In case he needs anything.

Night comes and everyone goes to sleep in the room with Luke.

INT. JEFF'S HOUSE. NEXT MORNING.

Jeff wakes up. He looks at Luke, lying lifeless on the couch. He nudges his friends awake as they each take notice.

JEFF: Did we do the right thing?

KATHY: Obviously not. This is all our fault.

SAM: Guys everyone stop.

JEFF: He told us he would have wanted it this way, it's none of our fault Luke got sick. I think he knew it was going to end up this way for him

Kathy: Do you guys really think the death of one of our friends is really worth it? To stay in a place that's been abandoned for two years? This is our fault.

SAM: This is our way of living, the freedom is worth the cost of isolation for me and I know it was the same for Luke. Even if we had a way to get him out of here, he wouldn't have wanted it.

SAM begins walking away from the circle everyone was talking in

JEFF: Where are you going?

All characters watching.

Sam: I'm going to do what Luke would have wanted us to do for him. And if nobody is going to join me, I'll do it myself.

JEFF: Should we go with him?

Kathy shrugs. Jeff grabs a SHOVEL and follows. Kathy hesitates, then follows.

Cut to:

INT. JEFF'S HOUSE. LATER.

The trio is back in the house. Their clothes are worn out. Their hands are dirty. Their faces pale in shock. They've buried their friend.

Jeff looks absently away from the group.

Sam: You okay, Jeff?

Kathy: We're in shock. None of us are okay.

Sam nods his head towards Jeff. Kathy looks at him.

Kathy: (hesitantly) What's the matter, Jeff?

Jeff: Where did it all go?

Kathy: What?

Sam: We'll rebuild, Jeff.

Kathy: Where did what all go?

Jeff: Two years have gone, just for all of this loss.

End.