**The Jungle Deceives / 1024**

Their plane crashes into a jungle, after a few hours unconscious David wakes up to see beside him the pilot’s cold dead body, he starts to freak out, he's in the middle of the jungle, with no help for 100s of miles in any direction, and all he has is his hatchet, a purification straw, and a few protein bars.
 He climbs out of the wreck, bewildered, only to find that its worse than he imagined, the plane unable to be repaired, a miracle that David is even alive, and thick jungle covers most of the skyline, making it dark and impossible for planes coming the same way to find them, and the wildlife is hostile, mostly small animals like frogs and small cats, but that's only what David can see.
 For the first night he camps out next to the wreck, making a small fire to keep him warm and eating the last of his protein bars for dinner, he falls asleep still hungry. In the morning he starts to search for water to drink, leaving the wreck behind. On his search he is able to kill a few smaller creatures, such as a snake, and a few frogs, which he had to disgustingly skin if he wanted to eat them.
 After what seems like days of wandering and feeling like he's on the verge of death, he is able to find a small pond, he takes out his straw and starts to drink, which is pure and utter bliss, but it doesn't last long as the pond quickly disappears, seemingly giving David the bare minimum amount to keep surviving.
 He makes a fire near where the pond once was and he skins the animals that he killed, making David vomit a bit at something so foreign to him. He had never had to do any hunting to survive, he lived a good life back in the US, he was only coming down to visit his daughter, he started to question and get mad at why he thought it was a good idea to come here, going into a panic attack, and he falls asleep crying.
 David wakes up, but not in the same place as he fell asleep, “What in the hell?” he questions himself, he does remember that he used to sleepwalk, at least according to his wife, he never witnessed it himself. He doesn't think much of it after that, as he is only about 200 feet from the pond, but still he kept it noted.
 However strange things kept happening, David seeing things that aren't there, hearing his mother’s voice call for him, things that he believes that the wilderness and utter loneliness of the jungle is changing his mind. And as a very grounded person in a medical field, not believing in ghosts or an afterlife, not believing in what you can't see, he never thought much of it, as obviously it's the jungle doing this to him, right?
 He walks and questions for hours, seemingly walking in the same parts of the forest, questioning if people are looking for him, if he should end his suffering, why this is happening to him, then he hears a voice, one that he doesnt recognize. He looks over, seeing a face in the tree, one that's there but not moving, the voice says is talking about rehabilitation, mental wards, is this just memories that he had made from his job, coming back to him? Is his mind just trying to dart to something familiar? The voice transforms to his daughter, and she calls for him, “Dad, your suffering is over, you are safe here.”, David runs over to the tree to try to get a glimpse of his daughter's voice just one last time, only to miss it. “Julie.. Please don't leave me here.”.
 He goes into the fetal position, crying, accepting his fate, accepting that he's not going to make it out, yet what seems like an angel appears, in bright white, holding a clipboard, David wipes away his tears, he asks “Who are you?”, the angelic figure, with a soothing voices say “Come with me David. I'll be right beside you.”
 David walks with the man through a tunnel made of gold and clouds, a type of heaven almost, the figure leads David to a hospital room, where he sees his daughter, crying hysterically, on a chair next to a faceless man, “David do you know why I brought you here? You’ve lived a good life, you're a hard worker, and a good father. Yet none of it is real, the people around you don't exist, you have never been a doctor, you only acted like one because you have been around them so much. You were diagnosed with schizophrenia 20 years ago. I'm sorry you had to find out this way.” the voice says, in a comforting tone, soothing David on the difficult subject manner, “Wait so that means you're not real either?” “No, I am very real, David, it's your doctor, Mr. Stevenson. You have been my patient for the last 20 years, remember? David.”, the figure snaps his fingers at David, and he opens his eyes. He sees tiled wall all around him, and a solved rubix cube in the corner, he looks up to see a doctor, it reads ‘Mr. Stevenson’ on the name tag. “Where's Julie? Where's the jungle?” David asks, questioning how he got to this mental ward. “Noted, another occurrence of the character, Julie, and tell me again David who is Julie to you?” he says mumbling like had been through this too many times to count “What do you mean? She's my daughter. I raised her for 20 years in Oakley County.” David says, still trying to comprehend how he got here, the doctor finishes writing on his clipboard and says“Thank you David, your lunch will be served in two hours. I'll see you next month” Mr. Stevenson shuts the door, locking it aswell. David runs over to peer through the window, wanting to ask more questions to the doctor, yet, he runs over, only to see a jungle.