

THE HORROR OF THE FOREST

Written by

Madelyn Cajamarca

EXT. FOREST - DAY

A beautiful two-story house with five bedrooms, a very modern structure, and a lovely, large yard nestled in the middle of a stunning forest.

INT. HOUSE - DAY

STEFANY (18 years old, fun, useful and fearful)

STEFANY

Well, we finally arrived. What do you all think of the place.

GAEL (19 years old, Stefany's brother, over-protective)

GAEL

Very beautiful honestly. I hope we have a good time.

The other people look excited too.

STEFANY

I'm glad you all like it. Let's go, and I'll show you the rest.

Stefany gives them a tour of the entire house. Everyone looks fascinated. After, everyone goes to their bedrooms to rest.

INT. STEFANY'S BEDROOM - DAWN

Stefany wakes up startled; the clock reads 2:30 a.m. She begins to scream after having a nightmare. In it, a killer is chasing her and murdering her and her friends one by one.

STEFANY

Noah! Camila! Gael!

Everyone wakes up after hearing the desperate screams.

NOAH (19 years old, Stefany's boyfriend, strong)

NOAH (WORRIED)

What happened? Is everything ok?

CAMILA (17 years old, Noah's sister, lovable, timid)

CAMILA (CONFUSED)

What's up with the screams? What's happening?

STEFANY (CRYING)  
H... He followed us, but... he  
killed us one by... one.

CAMILA  
What are you talking about? Who  
killed us? Surely, it was just a  
nightmare.

Noah tries to calm Stefany.

Noah signals to the door, telling people to leave them alone,  
so Stefany can rest. The group understands the signal and  
leaves.

EXT. FOREST - LATER

The group decides to go out for a walk, so they can know the  
area bit more, when suddenly they hear chilling screams.

STEFANY (SCARED)  
D... Did you hear that?

GAEL  
It's probably some animal.

CAMILA  
What are you talking about?! An  
animal? Don't you think that's a  
bit stupid?

STEFANY (SCARED)  
I think it's better if we go back  
home.

Gael and Noah ignore Stefany and continue walking, but after  
these events, Camila and Stefany grow closer.

After a long walk, they find themselves with a boy.

JACK (19 years old, sociable, strong, tall)

JACK  
Hey! You guys new here?

NOAH  
Yes, we just got here yesterday.

JACK  
Please! I'm Jack.

NOAH

Pleasure's mine, I'm Noah. That's my sister, Camila, Gael - my best friend, and Stefany, my girlfriend.

JACK

What do you all think of the place?

NOAH

Very beautiful, honestly. The only thing is that it's far and lonely.

JACK (LAUGHING)

Well, what can I say? Some of us like to live far away.

GAEL

We were thinking of having a bonfire later. Wanna come?

JACK

I'd love to! I'll see you later.

Gael points out where they live. They say goodbye, and each one goes to their home to get ready.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

We can see Noah preparing the bonfire. Jack arrives and says hi to everyone.

JACK

Well, you all enjoying your vacation?

GAEL

Honestly, yes. This place is so beautiful and calm.

They continue talking all night. Jack keeps looking at Stefany and starts flirting with her.

Noah notices Jack flirting with Stefany. We can see the jealousy on his face as he walks up to Stefany, hugs her despite the difficult moment they're all going through, and says:

NOAH

Don't you all think it's late? I think it's time for us to go to bed.

GAEL

You're right. Tomorrow is going to be a long day, all the more reason to rest.

Jack says goodbye to everyone. Camila and Stefany go to their bedrooms, but Gael and Noah stay to talk.

GAEL (CONT'D)

You good, buddy? I'm sensing you're a bit off. Because of Stefany?

NOAH

Honestly, yes. Do you think we can save what we have?

GAEL

Don't worry about it. You'll see that after this vacation, you'll both be together like before.

NOAH (SIGH OF RELIEF)

I hope so. Well buddy, I'm going to my bed to sleep. Good night.

GAEL

Good night.

Gael turns off the house lights and goes to bed.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

The group finds themselves in the living room, waiting for Camila to play board games. Camila walks down the stairs.

CAMILA (SMILING)

Good morning, how'd we sleep, family?

STEFANY

Very good. I see you're happy.

CAMILA (WHISPERING)

Yes. I dreamt that my brother and my best friend got married.

NOAH

What'd you say? I didn't hear.

STEFANY (LAUGHING)

No, no, it's nothing. Just something dumb.

Gael  
Anyway, you all ready?

Camila  
Obviously. Who wants to lose?

Jack arrives to the house and says hi to everyone before joining them.

Jack stares at Gael with an expression of hate in his eyes.

After a long day, they decide to watch movies.

Gael  
I'm a bit tired. I'm going to bed.  
Enjoy the movie.

Gael heads to his room, puts on some music from "La La Land", and lies down on his bed. Meanwhile, Noah pauses the movie, Camila goes to the kitchen for water, and Noah heads to the bathroom. Stefany goes to her room to grab a blanket, leaving Jack alone in the living room.

INT. GAEL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gael begins to feel like he's being watched but brushes it off. A few minutes later, he starts hearing knocks on his window.

Gael  
Who's there?

Nobody responds?

Gael (CONT'D)  
I know it's you guys. Let me sleep.

The knocking on Gael's window resumes, this time louder and more forceful.

Gael moves closer to see who it is, but he's struck on the head, leaving him weak and struggling to move.

Gael (CONT'D)  
W-who are you?

Gael sees someone, but their face is obscured by a completely black mask.

The attacker, armed with a knife, tries to kill him. Gael attempts to dodge but gets slashed on the arm. He manages to escape the room and starts screaming for help.

GAEL (SCREAMING) (CONT'D)  
Help! Help!

NOAH (WORRIED)  
What happened? Why are you  
bleeding?

Camila, Stefany, and Jack run towards them.

STEFANY (SCARED)  
What's happening? Look at your arm!

CAMILA (CONFUSED)  
What happened?!

GAEL (SCARED/CONFUSED)  
I-I don't know what happened. Why  
does my arm hurt so much?

Jack and Camila take Gael to help his wound.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Stefany and Noah stay, standing in the house hallway.

STEFANY  
You ok? Did anything happen to you?

NOAH  
No, I'm good. Thanks for asking.

STEFANY  
I know things aren't right between  
us. Don't you think it's time to  
change that? I don't like seeing  
you like this.

NOAH  
I don't like it either. I feel like  
we're too distant. This isn't good  
for us.

They remain silent. After a few brief minutes, Noah hugs her  
and kisses her. Stefany smiles, and they begin to talk.

STEFANY  
Well then. We're good?

NOAH (SMILING)  
Yes. I hope we never do that again.

STEFANY  
I think we should go see Gael.

They go to the living room towards Gael and the others.

STEFANY (CONT'D)

You ok? What happened?

GAEL

Something was tapping on my window. I went to check, and I felt a blow to the head. The only thing I remember is running and calling for help.

Jack tells them he has to leave because it's late. He says goodbye and leaves. Everyone else goes to bed, allowing Gael to get some rest.

INT. STEFANY'S BEDROOM - DAY

GAEL

Sis, I'm going out for a walk. I need to clear my head.

STEFANY

Alright. Don't be out too late.

Gael leaves his room and heads outside.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

As he walks while listening to music, he suddenly feels like he's being watched. He looks around but doesn't see anything. He keeps walking but starts to feel like someone is following him. Gael begins to run but is struck by something.

The attacker hits him in the leg with a bat. Gael tries to run, but he can't—the only thing he feels is pain.

Finally, the attacker removes the mask, revealing their identity. Gael can't believe who he's seeing.

JACK (LAUGHING)

Hello, hello.

GAEL (SCARED)

W-what? It was you? Why'd you do this?

JACK (LAUGHING)

I'm sorry, but my game's over. Last words?

Gael (CRYING)

No, no, please let me go. I swear I won't tell anyone, but let me go. Don't do anything to me.

JACK

It was an honor getting to know you, "friend".

Jack stabs Gael. We see Jack enjoying the moment, a smile on his face as he watches Gael bleed and writhe in pain. Jack stabs him again.

Gael is lying on the ground, his breathing labored from the pain. Jack looks at him bleeding out, then walks away.

EXT. FOREST - LATER

Hours later, Stefany decides to look for her brother but comes across Jack, his hands covered in blood.

STEFANY (WORRIED)

What happened to you? Are you alright?

JACK

Yes, I just fell, but I'm ok.

Stefany says goodbye to Jack, but the only thing on her mind is her brother. She keeps walking and suddenly sees a body. As she gets closer, she realizes it's her brother.

She starts running toward the house, crying desperately. Once again, she runs into Jack, who sees her crying.

JACK (CONT'D)

What's going on? Why are you crying?

STEFANY (CRYING)

Don't lie! It was you. Why'd you do it? Why him?! Why?!

JACK

What are you talking about? Calm down. You're crazy.

STEFANY (CRYING)

I knew it. When you attacked Gael. You weren't in the living room, you entered from the window. I SAW YOU!

Jack confirms he's the killer.

JACK (LAUGHING)  
I'm not gonna lie to you. It was  
me, but I'd never harm you. Join  
me.

Jack smiles as he makes her a proposal to kill together.

Stefany's face reveals a mix of anger and sadness, realizing  
he isn't the person she thought he was.

STEFANY (CRYING)  
You're crazy. You killed MY  
brother!

Terrified and crying, she starts running to alert the others.  
She rushes into the house and runs into Noah.

INT. HOME - LATER

NOAH (WORRIED)  
What happened? Why are you crying?

STEFANY (CRYING)  
I don't have time to explain. Jack  
killed Gael and is coming for us.

CAMILA (WORRIED)  
What are you talking about? Who  
killed who?

NOAH  
There's no time. We need to get  
ready to right. NOW.

CAMILA (SCARED)  
You're both crazy. I'm not thinking  
of staying one more second. Let's  
go.

STEFANY  
No. It's my brother who was killed.  
Help me or I'll do this alone.

Camila starts to cry, but everyone gathers the strength to  
confront Jack.

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

All the lights are off as Jack arrives.

JACK (LAUGHING)  
Hello, hello. You miss me, family?

Jack notices where Noah is hiding and moves in to kill him, but a scream interrupts him.

CAMILA (SCREAMING)

Now!

Everyone comes out of their hiding spots and starts attacking Jack. In the struggle, Jack manages to stab Camila in the arm with a knife.

Jack runs, but Stefany and Noah chase after him.

A fierce fight breaks out. Jack injures Noah but remains careful with Stefany. As they fight for survival, the police arrive.

POLICE OFFICER (Tall, strong, attractive, with a deep sense of justice)

POLICE OFFICER (SCREAMING)

Hands in the air!

Jack tries to escape, running as fast as he can. However, the police fire, hitting him in the leg. Jack collapses, his leg bleeding profusely.

POLICE OFFICER (CONT'D)

Put him in the ambulance. It's time to put this killer in his place.

The police cuff Jack, load him into the ambulance, and take him away.

STEFANY

I think it's time for us to go.

The group gathers their belongings and prepares to leave the house, the memory of Gael's absence heavy on their hearts.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

As they walk toward the car, they suddenly notice a figure approaching them. Deciding to investigate, they move closer and realize it's a person.

CAMILA (CONFUSED)

Gael?

GAEL (SMILING)

You thought you'd leave without me, huh?

They start to cry after noticing that he's alive. They run to him and hug.

STEFANY (CRYING)  
I thought that I lost you.

NOAH  
I couldn't accept that I'd lost my best friend.

STEFANY (CONFUSED)  
But I saw you were dead. How are you alive?

Gael  
Jack got me in the leg, but when he supposedly stabbed me, I moved. He didn't notice, but I played dead. Then I gathered my strength and came back.

Everyone hugs Gael again, showing the joy they feel. They grab Gael's things and hop into the car.

NOAH  
Ready?

STEFANY  
More than ready. I can not imagine one more day in this place.

Noah starts the car, and they drive away from the house, having escaped a nightmare they thought they would never wake up from.

FIN.