

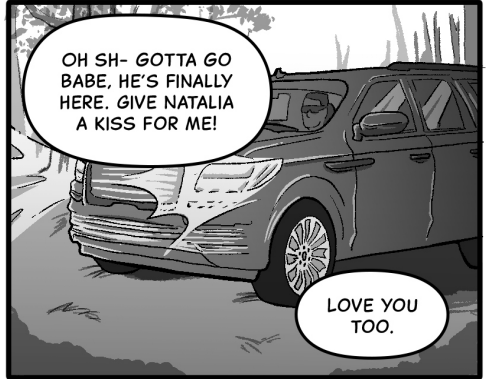
OZARK NATIONAL FOREST, ARKANSAS



... AND REMEMBER, IF SHE GETS HUNGRY THERE ARE BOTTLES IN THE -

YES, I'M SURE IN THEORY YOU CAN HANDLE ONE LATE NIGHT WITHOUT ME, SWEETIE. BUT DO I REALLY NEED TO REMIND YOU ABOUT THAT TIME WITH THE DOG?

EXACTLY.



OH SH- GOTTA GO BABE, HE'S FINALLY HERE. GIVE NATALIA A KISS FOR ME!

LOVE YOU TOO.



ALRIGHT, BECCA - PILAS. LET'S JUST GET THROUGH THIS AND HEAD HOME.



MR. ATWOOD. THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME OUT OF YOUR EVENING TO MEET WITH ME.

PLEASE, MISS PALMER - REBECCA - CALL ME NATHANIEL! SO, WHAT DO YA SAY WE GET DOWN TO IT?

STARVED

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AS YOU CAN SEE, MR. ATWOOD, THE FOREST SERVICE HAS AWARDED YOUR COMPANY MORE THAN ENOUGH ACRES OF OZARK NATIONAL FOREST TO HELP YOU FINISH THE YEAR STRONG.

WELL, IT'S DEFINITELY BETTER THAN A POKE IN THE EYE WITH A SHARP STICK!



BUT I GOTTA ADMIT, I WAS HOPIN' OZARK LUMBER MIGHT BE ABLE TO HAVE A... CONVERSATION ABOUT THOSE NUMBERS. A LITTLE "TÊTE-À-TÊTE," IF YOU WILL.

MR. ATWOOD...

PLEASE, REBECCA, CALL ME NATHANIEL.

SO WHAT DO YOU SAY, HOW 'BOUT WE FINE TUNE THAT ACREAGE A BIT?



MR. ATWOOD. WHILE I UNDERSTAND YOU WANT THE BEST FOR YOUR COMPANY,

THE FOREST SERVICE'S JOB HERE IS TO ENSURE THAT ANY LUMBER HARVESTED FROM A NATIONAL FOREST IS DONE SO SUSTAINABLY.



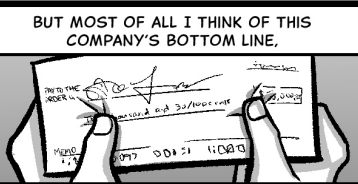
YOU WANNA KNOW WHAT I THINK WHEN I HEAR SOMEONE TALKIN' ABOUT "SUSTAINABLE", MISS PALMER?



I THINK OF STOCK PRICES.



I THINK OF BOARDROOMS AND SHAREHOLDER MEETINGS AND EARNINGS REPORTS.



BUT MOST OF ALL I THINK OF THIS COMPANY'S BOTTOM LINE,

AND EVERYONE WHO MAKES THEIR LIVIN' WORKING FOR US.



THAT'S THE KIND OF SUSTAINABLE THAT MATTERS.

NOT SAVIN' AN EXTRA TREE OR TWO SO SOME BUREAUCRAT CAN TURN INTO A TWITTER HERO.



I'M SURE THAT PLAYS GREAT WITH BOARD MEMBERS, MR. ATWOOD, BUT THE FOREST SERVICE HAS DIFFERENT PRIORITIES...

LIKE THE SAFETY CONCERNS RAISED BY YOUR WORKERS RECENTLY.

SAFETY CONCERNS? WHAT'N THE WORLD ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



SOME OF THEM ARE GETTING NERVOUS ABOUT THINGS HAPPENING AROUND THE CAMP RECENTLY...

THEY'RE SAYING IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF SOMETHING CALLED THE HOWLER.

EXCUSE ME? THE HOWLER?



IT'S AN OLD PIECE OF OZARK FOLKLORE, SUPPOSED TO BE-

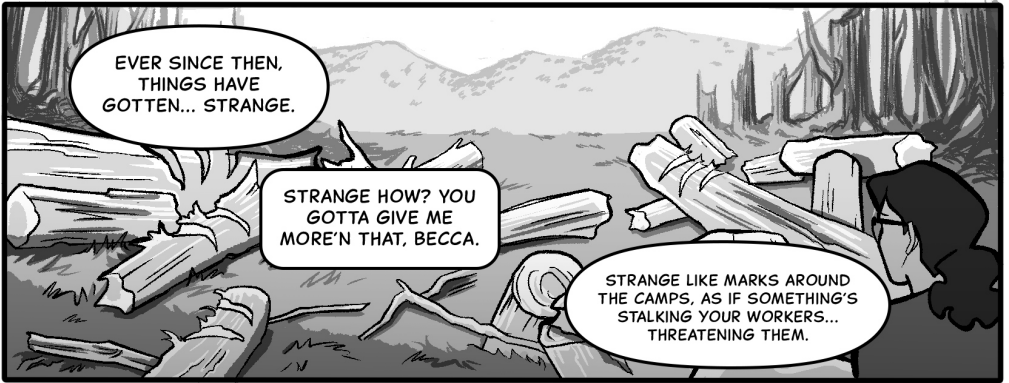
MISS REBECCA, MY FAMILY'S FROM VAN BUREN, LESS THAN AN HOUR DOWN THE ROAD. SO WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, I DON'T NEED SOME FERNER LECTURING ME ABOUT A KID'S STORY!

YOU MIGHT BE FROM AROUND HERE, MR. ATWOOD, BUT YOU HAVEN'T SEEN WHAT I'VE SEEN.



IT ALL STARTED A FEW WEEKS AGO, WHEN THEY CALLED ME OUT TO CHECK OUT SOME DEN THEY'D DESTROYED.

THEY WANTED TO KNOW IF IT WAS SOMETHING ENDANGERED, BUT I'D NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT.



EVER SINCE THEN, THINGS HAVE GOTTEN... STRANGE.

STRANGE HOW? YOU GOTTA GIVE ME MORE'N THAT, BECCA.

STRANGE LIKE MARKS AROUND THE CAMPS, AS IF SOMETHING'S STALKING YOUR WORKERS... THREATENING THEM.



STRANGE LIKE HEAVY EQUIPMENT, RIPPED TO SHREDS.



STRANGE LIKE PEOPLE DISAPPEARING FROM THEIR SHIFTS, WITHOUT ANYONE ELSE NOTICING A THING.



THEY SAY THEY ALL CHIPPED IN FOR CAMERAS, TRIED TO STAY UP ALL NIGHT TO GET A GLIMPSE OF IT... NOTHING.

IT COMES IN THE NIGHT, IT TAKES WHATEVER IT WANTS, AND NO ONE EVEN KNOWS IT WAS THERE UNTIL THE MOR-




SNAP

¡MIERDA!



WAS THAT THE HOWLER?? D'YA THINK IT'S CLOSE BY?

AW, COME ON! WE NEEDED A BIT A' LEVITY IN HERE, WITH YOU NERVOUS AS A CAT IN A ROOM FULL OF ROCKING CHAIRS.



HONESTLY, I THINK YOU'VE BEEN SPENDIN' TOO MUCH TIME AROUND THE BOYS WHEN THEY'RE DRUNK, GIVIN' THEMSELVES A REASON TO QUIT ON THE JOB.

ALL THE SAME, MR. ATWOOD... YOUR WORKERS' FEAR IS REAL, WHETHER OR NOT THE HOWLER IS.

ALRIGHT, I'LL ASK AROUND, SEE WHAT THEY'RE SAYIN', IN THE SPIRIT OF DUE DILIGENCE.

BUT IN RETURN, OZARK LUMBER REALLY WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU'D CONSIDER ALLOTIN' US A FEW MORE ACRES.

MR. ATWOOD...

I KNOW, I KNOW, FOREST SERVICE, SUSTAINABILITY, ET CETERA. BUT THINK ABOUT IT.

END