LIVESTOCK
(PROOF OF CONCEPT VERSION)

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EXT. FOREST - DAY

The scene begins with the footsteps of someone running through the forest. The camera then shows the legs running through the grass as flashing images of bloody wardrobe begin to appear. The segment ends as you hear a thump-like sound while the running suddenly stops.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

NEWS ANCHOR
Since November of last year, the number of missing persons has increased throughout Ruidoso. People are demanding answers and closure about the whereabouts of their loved ones.

HYSTERIC MOTHER
My son has been missing for three weeks. He hasn't come home, hasn't been seen at work or school. I just want to know if he's okay.

The TV keeps playing in the background as a close-up shows the person sipping from a coffee mug.

HYSTERIC FATHER
I don't know what's going on with this town. Why is my daughter missing? Why my family? She was just about to graduate next year.

CLOSE FRIEND
I've been searching for him for months, and nothing, there's no way he could of just… disappeared.

The news channel keeps playing in the background as SEBASTIAN(22), Pale, brown eyes, skinny, signs in disbelief.

…

SEBASTIAN
Can’t believe they used my interview without any form of credit, and I thought getting fired there was bad enough..

Sebastian sits down and looks at the mug as it transitions to a flashback of the interview he had last week.

Hysteric Mother
-I just want to know if he’s okay. We miss him so much. I hope nothing has happened to him

The mother begins to tense up as she tries not to cry.

Sebastian
..He will be found, I can assure you.

The door of the room creaks open as you see a young curly-haired male in his early 20s walk in

SIBLING
Mom, what’s going on? What’s with the camera? Who are you?

Sebastian
Journalist, freelance?

Hysteric Mother
Oh, honey, we were just in the middle of an interview. You wouldn’t mind being interviewed, would you?

Sibling
If this is about Josh, I’m not giving this guy any info. Can’t believe you would just come here and take advantage of our situation.

Hysteric Mother
Richard, he’s just trying to help us find Josh!

…

Sebastian
This isn’t any form of disrespect. I just want to shed light on the situation, not just with your family, but also with the others who are in the same situation as you.

Richard(**name change)**
This isn’t your business or anyone else’s. You people are always looking for news, but never do more than just acknowledge our situations.

Sebastian
I’m just trying to help, let me re-

Richard
I don’t see you looking for my brother in the nearby woods or helping my mother cope with the despair. You should leave, now!

There’s a sudden awkward pause, and Sebastian starts getting his equipment back into place.

Hysteric Mother
I can talk to him for a secon-

Sebastian
No, no, it’s fine; look, I understand, and I’m sorry that you're in this situation in the first place, but you don’t know the lengths I will go to, to uncover the truth behind your brother’s disappearance.

Sebastian begins to leave and opens the door carefully, and closes it neatly. The flashback ends as the hand on the door handle transitions into Sebastian holding the door to the restroom of his house. Sebastian drinks the rest of his coffee as he also prepares his camera equipment and leaves his house.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Sebastian is seen parked inside this grey sedan outside. He is seen looking at his journal, as he already has information on all the other families he's interviewed.

Sebastian
I didn't ask, but he also said something about the nearby woods, just like the rest of the families. I'll find Josh for you guys.

Sebastian takes out his camera and glances at it with determination.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Sebastian is already in the midst of the woods, feeling tension in the air, which could be his brain tricking him, but it doesn't stop him from getting further. Sebastian Stumbles upon drops of blood and trails them; he then finds a shoe in a messy condition. Sebastian starts recording.

Sebastian
(recording)
I'm in the middle of a search and have found drops of blood. I trailed only to find a bloody shoe? Could this be one of the missing people?

???
What are you doing?

Sebastian
God!.. Wait, Katelyn?

KATIE(**name change**)
It's Katie, not Katelyn. You've worked with us for two months, and you still mess up my name..

Sebastian
You... you guys didn't give me credit for the interviews..

Katie
And we never will, you called out a bunch of times just to mess around with your silly camera.

Sebastian

I wasn’t messing around; I just like getting extra info that other reporters wouldn’t do.

Katie

You were our camera guy for the studio! Not a lot of people can handle a camera, you know? Never mind that, have you seen a tall, maybe brownish guy with a camera? He was supposed to be here twenty minutes ago, but he’s wasting time, so I just went to the woods alone.

Sebastian

A replacement? Anyway, no, I haven’t, wait, you guys are trying to search for the missing people as well?

Katie takes notice of Sebastian’s camera.

Katie

Yes! You brought a camera, well, it’s not ideal, but it should do, oh sorry, but yeah, we were supposed to since it could be huge news if we found something.

Sebastian

News hunting, well, I wouldn’t mind the extra support, so go ahead and be the camera, we can look for your guy, but after I track where this shoe came from.

Katie

Shoe? God, that’s his shoe, what is going on!

Katie’s body gets tense as her mind gives her the worst imaginative scenarios. Sebastian, although concerned, gently grabs Katie’s hand and places the camera into her hand; she reluctantly nods and begins compositing the setting. The sky becomes darker as it’s close to nighttime, and they both worry but still go along with the search.

…

Sebastian
We could call it a day, you know? It’s getting dark.

Katie
Not until we find Chad, I can’t just leave without him.

Timid footsteps can be heard. Sebastian gets his guard up as Katie presses record.

Sebastian
You'd better be recording.

Sebastian
Who’s there?!

A familiar figure reveals itself behind the tree.

Richard
You? What are you doing here?

Sebastian
Richard?

Katie
You know this guy?

Sebastian
Yeah, I interviewed his mother, but he didn’t take it well.

Richard looks the other way, seeming annoyed.

Katie
Whoa, what is..

The conversation stops as the camera Katie is using spots a Tall build from afar. Sebastian and Richard both see it too and begin to tail it quietly as Katie stays behind them as she’s recording.

Richard
What’s he dragging? Looks like some form of bag.

Sebastian
Hopefully not what I think it is. More importantly, what's he wearing on his head?

The dragging stops as you hear gagging and ripping and tearing from inside the bag.

???
Somebody!, ple-

The tall figure kicks the bag, putting the noise to sleep, and they continue kicking to make sure it never wakes up again.

Katie
Chad?! No, that can't be him; we have to save him.

The figure spots them. They make their presence known as they reveal their axe to them.

Sebastian
Tchh, not good.

They don't approach. They all three just stand cautiously there. Rapid footsteps are heard behind them.

Sebastian
Katie!

Katie gets knocked out, Richard and Sebastian get their defense up. Sebastian swiftly gets his camera from the dirt as the other figure swings their hammer at him.

Richard
We have to make a run for it dude..

Sebastian
You can, but I'm not leaving her here.

The second figure lunges at Sebastian, but Sebastian holds their swing, the first figure closes in on them, and thrusts their axe behind Richard's back and knocking him out cold with the back of the axe. Sebastian, having been caught off guard, gets a full force punch to the face and

is on the floor. The camera is still running as it shows Sebastian trying to get up, only to be knocked out.

INT. DARK ROOM - NIGHT

Sebastian
(VO)
There is more to this than just a case of missing people. Day after day, more cases pop up, and I wonder how it could be possible. I've dug too deep, and now I'm in this shithole of a mess..

Sebastian is seen tied up, as the bag covering his face is taken off, showing his bruises.

THE END