

Buddy Club: Camp Crazy

By Leo Walmsley

-Day 1, Sunday: Getting To Camp Crise-

It was four days into summer vacation, and Lucas was ready for the camp he would be attending the following week. The week at the camp was filled with eye dropping activities, snacks, rides, and games. Let alone it was in the location of the eerie Poinsett Bridge location in South Carolina. The camp would be taking place outside of the wooded area, still, it would still be terrifyingly fun. Lucas was also the most excited, because all his friends would be there, since they all agreed to come together. Except Marcus, that is. As each day dragged on longer than the last, eventually it was the day before the trip when he would begin packing. As Lucas finished packing, he sat on his bed and thought to himself all that he went through the school year before. All the friends he came across, and all the secrets being solved. Still, there were some secrets yet to be revealed. That night, when Lucas went to lie in his bed, he wondered what all his friends were doing at that exact moment. Soon, he fell asleep, and awoke the next morning to the sight of the sun shining in through the windows blinds. As he walked downstairs, he saw his mom, and said hello. He then ate breakfast and was on his way to his friend's house, Leo's house. When he got there, Leo opened the door and greeted him. "Are you excited?" Lucas asked. "Yeah, It's going to be awesome!" Leo shouted happily. Lucas was really excited too, but he still couldn't get over the fact that the whole time he was at school, right under his

nose, the one that knew everything about Stacy, about Mr Hill, was his math teacher, Ms. Modrak. "My mom said that she will drive us to the bus stop where the bus will pick us up." Leo said to Lucas. "Alright." Evenully, when Lucas got to the bus stop with Leo, there were other kids there too, waiting for the bus as well. Lucas then saw some other people he knew. Kaleb, James, Elsy, Jake, Sofia, Natalie, Alyssa, Leim, and Casper. Then they all talked for a bit, waiting for the bus to arrive. And eventually, it did. When the bus opened, there was a man standing at the entrance. "Hello, I am Mr Smith, and I am going to be your tour guide for Camp Crise and all its fun amenities." Everyone said hello, and boarded the bus. "It was finally time for this show to get on the road!" Lucas thought.

"And the best part, no more problems!" Lucas added. Lucas

thought that all the problems were over, but he was very wrong. Lucas and everyone in the bus had been waiting for two hours to get to the camp, Camp Crise to be exact. When the bus finally arrived, all the students poured out of the bus like a glass of water. "Finally, that took forever." James stated. "Yeah, it did. Where do we go now?" Lucas asked. As if the tour guide man, Mr Smith heard him, they heard Mr Smith speak through a megaphone to all the students. "Alright, now that everyone is accounted for at Camp Crise, we will split you off into your color groups. These groups will be together the whole week and will share the same cabin, go to the same activities, work together in challenges, and much more. When you hear your name, please walk over to the table with the red flag on it." Mr Smith instructed. As the names were being called, Lucas hoped to be in the same group as some of his friends, but there were a lot of kids, therefore making the chances of getting in a group with his friends less likely. In the end, Lucas was paired up with James, Louie, Leim, and five other random kids by the name of Lindsey, Ash, Lillian, Aryaman, and Sean. Their camp counselor was Mrs DeJong. When things finally settled down, Lucas walked over to all the students and his three friends. Mrs

deJong was there as well. "I guess we are all in the same group." Leim stated aloud. "I guess we are." Lucas repeated. "I'm glad that you could all come and be a part of the blue group. We will be staying in cabin four, and our lunch table will be table seven." Mrs DeJong stated to all the students. "Now let's get to our cabin and lay out all our stuff." Mrs DeJong added. Lucas and all the other students followed Mrs DeJong to a cabin with a blue flag on top of it. "This must be it." Lucas thought to himself. As Mrs DeJong opened the door, Lucas and the other students followed her into it, seeing a kitchen, a living room, and two bathrooms on the side. When Lucas and the other students started looking around, they noticed that there were stairs leading somewhere. Lucas then took it upon himself to go up the stairs and see what was up there. When he walked up the stairs, he saw bunk beds on the top floor. This is where they would sleep. When he walked back downstairs, he told James, Louie, and Leim where the beds were, and they ran upstairs to claim which one they wanted. Finally, when all was situated, it was getting dark. "Alright, one more thing to keep in mind, you will have lots of freedom at this camp, we are entrusting you to keep that in mind and act responsible. I will not be in the cabin, I will only be your supervisor for lunch and outdoor activities. If you do act irresponsible, we will not hesitate to take away the freedom, Do you understand?" Mrs DeJong asked. All the students nodded. "Okay, well in that case, we will be having dinner in a few minutes. We called for pizza. I will leave after we pay." Mrs DeJong added as she sat down on a couch in the living room area. Lucas went over to his friends and they started chatting about what they thought the games would be like. Eventually, the pizza finally arrived, and Mrs DeJong paid for it. She then took one slice and a paper plate and left, just like that. Lucas then took one slice and so did his friends. In the end, everyone got one slice, and two slices remained. Lucas didn't mind who ate the slices, so he just left it there, getting ready to have a nice rest before the next day. As Lucas laid on the bunk bed, thinking

about how much fun he would have the next day, he drifted off to sleep...

-Day 2, Monday: Boat Build up-

As Lucas woke up in the morning, he got ready for the first day of activities. As he walked down the stairs, he noticed that all of his teammates were huddled around a table. "What is it?" Lucas asked James. "It's the schedule for this week." James said, as he handed Lucas the paper. It said,

Monday- 7:00 AM breakfast, 7:30-11:30 AM boat building, 12:00 PM lunch, 12:30-4:00 PM field trip to beach, 4:30-8:30 PM sunset beach entertainment and dinner, 8:30-9:00 PM free time 9:30 lights out

Tuesday- 7:00 AM breakfast, 7:30-11:30 AM boat building, 12:00 PM lunch, 12:30-2:30 PM dodgeball, soccer, and basketball, 2:30-5:00 PM free time, 5:30 PM dinner, 6:00-9:00 PM ghost tour at poinsett bridge, 9:30 lights out

Wednesday- 7:00 AM, breakfast, 7:30-11:30 AM boat building, 12:00 PM lunch, 12:30-3:00 PM field trip to store for extra materials for boats, 3:30-6:00 PM free time, 6:30 PM dinner, 7:00-9:00 PM night trip to museum of art, 9:30 PM lights out

Thursday- 7:00 AM breakfast, 7:30-12:30 PM finish building boats, 1:00 PM lunch, 1:30-2:30 PM load materials onto boats, 3:00 PM boat race begins

Friday- boat race is in effect, around 3:00 PM, stop at a checkmark location along the river for extra supplies and guidance

Saturday- boat race is in effect until around 3:00 PM where the contestants should all arrive at the finish line, 3:30, PM lunch, 4:00-6:00 PM free/rest time, 6:30-7:30 PM awards ceremony for the winners of the boat race, 8:00-9:00 PM dinner, 9:30 PM lights out

Sunday- 7:00 AM breakfast, 7:30-10:30 AM, free time and packing up belongings, 11:00-11:30 AM lunch, 12:00-12:30 PM loading onto busses and heading home

“So this is the list of the whole week?” Lucas clarified. “Yes, at least it should be.” Leim responded. “Alright, then breakfast should be coming up, right?” Lucas said. “About time, I’m starving.” James stated, as Mr Smith walked in with plates of eggs, bacon, pancakes, and a bottle of maple syrup. “Breakfast is here, and if you haven’t seen the schedule, you might want to. We are going to tell you the rules for the boat race and begin building after breakfast.” Mr Smith stated, as he put the plates on a table and walked out of the cabin. Lucas, James, and Leim then helped themselves to the breakfast items, and the other members of their group. After Lucas finished eating, he waited for everyone else to finish, and then started walking out of the cabin, walking to the main building. He looked behind him to see his friends following him to the building. When they arrived at the door, he heard voices, some familiar, some not. Lucas then heard Mr Smith’s voice on the intercom. “Alright everyone, we will begin today off by explaining the main event and the reason most of you wanted to come to this summer camp this week. The boat building race. In this event, you will begin building your own boat or raft, the main materials that will let it stay afloat will be given to you, but the rest of the building is up to you. You will have four days to complete the building of your boat. We will go to a local craft store at some point to get more supplies for your boat, each group will have an amount of money given to them to use on the materials. Starting in the middle of the day on Thursday, you will begin the race on your boat along the Poinsett river, spending the day making progress drifting along the river, and at night stopping on the sides of the river to camp for the night. There will be a checkpoint stop somewhere along the river to get more supplies and for an overall check in, but you will be mostly by yourself, the

camp counselors won't be with you, but don't think they won't be cheering for you. On Saturday, you should get close to the finish line, and whoever crosses the finish line first, will win. Of course we will be doing other things today, Tuesday, and Wednesday, like going to the beach, and playing some fun sports, so if the race is not your cup of tea, you will have that to look forward to. I think that is all about the boat event, so if you have any questions, ask your camp counselor, we will hand out the materials to your team now." Mr Smith finished, as he walked over to two security guards standing to the side in the main building they were at. Lucas then walked over to James, Leim, and Louie, and asked what they thought of the boat race. "It's kind of disappointing that we can't be in a team with just all our friends." James stated. "Yeah, it would be nice if we could all just be in the same team. But they already decided our team composition, so there's nothing we can do. "We will just have to live with it." Louie said. "Indeed." Leim said as well. As the four friends finished speaking to each other, Mrs DeJong walked up to them with a big canoe and other random supplies like a wood pole, tarp, and a lot of other stuff. "Here are some of the materials that you will get, remember, if you can find any materials to help you, please feel free to use them. Besides that, you can start building your boat." Mrs DeJong stated. Lucas nodded, and went over to the other students in their group. "Alright, who has any materials that they brought, I for one didn't, but I might look for some." Lucas said to all of his group members. "I brought some duct tape and some pool floats." Lindsey stated to Lucas. "Alright then, let's get building." Lucas spoke, as he and all of his teammates started assembling the canoe and a sail for it. They worked and worked for the entire time, and before they knew it, it was 11:30 AM. "Alright people, it is time for lunch, we will be eating in the main room cafeteria today, lunch will be a sandwich with a choice of fruit, grain and vegetable." Mrs DeJong said, as she walked up to Lucas's group, who was still building their boat. "Follow me." She said. All the students

then followed, now realizing how hungry they really were. When Lucas entered the main building, the air conditioning cooled him right off from the intense heat from outside where they were building the boat. As he walked by two security guards, one smiled at him, while the other had a distant gaze looking off into the distance. Lucas turned to look at what he was looking at, and Lucas began to have a memory in his mind. He could remember like it was yesterday, a security guard walked out of the prison with Stacy, and both of them were missing. Lucas heard about the incident from his friends and the tv news, but now his suspicions about that person just grew tighter when he was gazing in the direction of Leo's group's lunch table. Lucas then looked away, so he didn't drag the attention of the security guard. Lucas kept walking, and sat down at the lunch table, waiting for his group to be called to get their lunch. He sat next to Louie and James, and whispered to them, "That security guard, he makes me think of the incident of Stacy, Leo's sister, who went missing with a security guard." "Hmm, that does have some similarities to the story, but how can we be sure if they are the same person?" Louie asked Lucas. "I don't know, but something isn't right with him." Lucas said. Lucas turned back to his lunch, and continued eating, his friends doing the same. After they finished eating, they wondered if they should wait for the rest of the students to finish, in the end, they did. "Alright, as the last of you still eating finishes up, I will be telling you what we are doing next. We are going to go to a nearby beach, to play volleyball and have fun. After, we will be going to a beach restaurant that does entertainment. When you are done with your food, walk to your camp counselor and she will give you further instructions." Mr Smith stated over a microphone. When Lucas walked over to Mrs Dejong, he wanted a chance to talk to Leo about the security guard, but it seemed not likely he could. "Are all of you done eating?" She asked the group. "I think so." James said. "Ok, then we should get ready to board the bus that will take us to the beach." Mrs Dejong suggested. Once

Lucas got onto the bus, things died down, and he started chatting to James, Leim, and Louie. Soon enough, the bus came to a stop, and everyone walked out of it. Lucas then decided that he would get ice cream from a nearby ice cream shop. He started walking, when he heard someone call his name. "Lucas, come over here!" It was Leo! Lucas walked over to Leo, and noticed that Elsy, Kaleb, Alyssa, and another girl were there. "Who is this?" Lucas asked. "This is Azza, we call her Neptune though." Elsy announced. "Ok, nice to meet you Neptune." Lucas said. "Nice to meet you too, I didn't catch your name." Neptune said to Lucas. "I'm Lucas." Lucas said. "And also, Leo, I need to tell you something." Lucas stated as he then turned and faced Leo. "What? Is something wrong?" Leo asked. "We'll sort of, I have a bad feeling about this one security guard at the camp, he reminds me of when Stacy went missing." Lucas whispered. Leo gazed beyond Lucas for a brief moment, and faced him again. "I think we should just try and enjoy the time we have together at this camp, if he does anything suspicious, we can talk about it, I just want to enjoy time here." Leo announced. "I guess you're right. I'll try not to think about it. Anyways, what should we do? I was about to get ice cream." Lucas said to Leo and the club. "We can play volleyball, or get some ice cream together." Neptune suggested. "Indeed, let's get ice cream, I'm still hungry." Alyssa stated. Lucas and his friends then ate ice cream, played volleyball, and enjoyed the afternoon sun. And before they knew it, it was time for dinner. "Alright everyone, follow me and the camp counselors to the Sun Beach restaurant, it's time for dinner." Mr Smith said over a microphone. All the students then started walking to their respected camp counselors, getting ready for dinner. As Lucas walked over to Mrs Dejong, he waved goodbye to his other friends, and rejoined with James, Louie, and Leim. "What have you been up to?" James asked Lucas. "I was just hanging out with Leo and the others. I also made friends with this girl called Neptune." Lucas said. "Ok, well I think it's time for dinner." James responded.

Lucas and the rest of his group finally made it to Mrs DeJong, and waited for her instructions. "Since you all have been behaving so well, me and the other camp counselors have decided that you can all decide who you sit with at the restaurant. But don't make us regret it." Mrs DeJong declared. Lucas immediately got excited, and was now even more pumped for the dinner. Mrs DeJong then motioned with her hands that they were free to get with their friends, and that's just what Lucas did. Finally when everyone was in their groups, they walked inside this small restaurant on the bank of the beach. Lucas then noticed that there were seats on the edge of the beach in the sand. "Cool, we're basically eating on the beach!" Elsy said to Lucas and his friends. Lucas and his friends, along with everyone else then walked inside the restaurant and was overwhelmed by all the delicious smelling foods coming from the kitchen. Lucas then was told by a restaurant employee to sit down at a table outside, and that's just what he did. The rest of the dinner was amazing to Lucas, there were dancers, music, and a cool cook doing tricks with some of the food. The only thing that bothered Lucas was that the security guard, Security Guard Joseph, was there, and was standing near Lucas's friend's table. But other than that, Lucas had a blast. At first, when Lucas looked at the schedule, he thought that the time they had to go to bed, 9:30 PM, was outrageous, but now that he thought about it, he was beyond tired. After dinner, he heard Mr Smith's voice on a microphone. "Attention Camp Crise members, if you are done with your dinner, head towards your camp counselors. They will tell you what to do from there." Lucas then said bye to all his friends, and started walking back to Mrs DeJong with James, Louie, and Leim. "That was fun." James said. "Agreed." Leim stated. "It was pretty fun, but now I'm pooped." Louie said. "Ok everyone in the blue group, once we get on the bus, sit in the same seat as when we came here. Once we get to the camp, you can walk around the camp until 9:30 PM when you must stay in the cabin." Mrs DeJong said as she led the

blue group to the bus. When Lucas finally got to the camp, he decided to just go right to bed, after all he had another fun day right ahead of him...

-Day 3, Tuesday: Conspiracy Theories Arise-

Right when Lucas woke up, he was already excited for the fun day ahead of him. As he looked around, he noticed that many of his other friends and other group members were still sleeping. "What time was it?" Lucas thought to himself. Lucas decided to go downstairs and check the time on the clock. While he was walking down the stairs, he noticed that all of the lights were off. Even though it looked outside as if it was still early in the morning, something still didn't feel right. When he finally reached the clock in the kitchen area of the cabin, it seemed that it was off as well. "Is the whole cabin's power out?" Lucas thought to himself. When he pulled out his phone, he noticed that the time was 6:34 AM. Technically, he wasn't supposed to leave the cabin until 7:00 AM, but he decided that this was for the greater good of the cabin. When he walked out of the cabin he felt a sudden breeze upon him that made him shiver. As he walked around to the other side of the cabin he noticed that the circuit breaker that held the electricity was open and smashed. "Someone did this intentionally." Lucas whispered to himself. As Lucas pulled out his phone ready to call Mrs DeJong about the problem, he heard scurrying in a bush behind him. As Lucas turned around to see what caused the noise it seemed it just was a rat scurrying around and about. Lucas sighed, remembering Cody the rat that he loved dearly in 8th grade, when he dealt with Mr Hill. It truly was a crazy year. Lucas then went back to the task at hand. As he pulled out his phone and called her, he heard Mrs DeJong say, "What's this about, it's still pretty early." Mrs DeJong said. "I won't be there for another 36 minutes." Mrs DeJong added. "You might get

mad, but when I woke up, I noticed that the clock and the lights were out, so I decided to go outside and check the circuit breaker and noticed someone tampered with it.” Lucas stated. “Hmm, thank you for telling me, but next time call me before you go out.” Mrs DeJong sighed. “I will deal with this when you are building your boats, after all, I know how you do things with your friends.” Mrs DeJong added. “What do you mean?” Lucas asked, confused. “Don’t think I didn’t notice what you did in 8th grade, you pulled off something very risky and inappropriate if you were wrong. If that teacher was innocent, you would have gotten in big trouble. Turns out you were wrong, but if you turn this into something that doesn’t have to be there, you might get in trouble. I’m just warning you.” Mrs DeJong said. “Of course, thank you for telling me, you are right. Bye.” Lucas said as he hung up on the phone. Lucas immediately went back into the cabin and sat on the couch. Lucas sat there so long, he forgot what time it was, he then heard James say, “What have you been doing so early?” Lucas almost immediately said what was on his mind, the circuit breaker, but took Mrs DeJong’s advice. “Nothing, I’m just sad about Cody the rat.” Lucas stated. After all, that was true. “Well it’s almost breakfast time, cheer up.” James said. Lucas got up from the couch and took his advice too. “You’re right, let’s get ready to eat.” Lucas said. As Lucas said this to James, Mrs DeJong opened the front door to the cabin, carrying a platter of delicious smelling breakfast foods. “There you go, remember when you are done with your breakfast, walk to the main building where you will start building more of your boat. Lucas, can I have a word with you?” Mrs DeJong asked, as she turned towards Lucas. “Alright.” Lucas stated. Lucas then walked out of the cabin, and started to walk towards Mrs DeJong. “You are needed by an officer, I think his name is Officer Joseph. His office is in the main building.” Mrs DeJong said, as she walked away. Lucas’s heart dropped when he heard this. “Why would he need me?” Lucas thought to himself. As Lucas was walking to the main building, he stopped and stared at one

specific kid. The kid looked familiar, almost like he knew the kid from somewhere, but he couldn't quite remember where. Lucas ignored it, and got back to walking into the main building. He felt refreshed when he walked into the air condition building, since it was very hot outside. When Lucas walked in, he noticed a door with the word Security printed on it in bright yellow text. The door was halfway open, and Lucas couldn't help but notice an officer in there, the one from earlier in the lunchroom the day before, along with Mr Smith and Leo. Come on in Lucas." Lucas heard Mr Smith say. "Now that you are both here, me and security officer Joseph, are going to cut to the chase. We would like to inform you two that your old teacher, Mr Hill, has broken out of jail." Mr Smith stated. "WHAT?" Both Leo and Lucas gasped when they heard this. "How, why, why would Mr Hill break out of jail?" Leo asked. Lucas almost wanted to say that the security guard was in on it, but kept his mouth shut. Instead, Lucas said, "How could they let him escape?" "We don't know, we thought we should let you know just in case he tries to do something. Our guess is he will be after you, after what you did to him last year." Mr Smith said, looking at Leo and Lucas. Leo stood up from the chair he was sitting in, and quietly said, "Thank you for telling us this. We will be aware and cautious until he is found." Leo then walked out of the office without another peep coming out of his mouth. Lucas followed him, still shocked at this news. "Leo, you can't just ignore this, this is bad." Lucas finally said to Leo, who's expression Lucas couldn't read. "The professionals can handle this, I just want to enjoy this week, cmon, we have to get back to our assigned group and continue building." Leo said to Lucas, as he kept walking straight ahead, not looking back. Lucas didn't respond, but looked ahead, trying to be as calm as Leo was, even though he couldn't get his mind off the subject. Eventually, Leo and Lucas reached their groups and continued building. As they were building, Lucas kept silent, until James asked, "What happened?" "It's nothing." Lucas responded. Soon enough, it was time for lunch, and Lucas

brightened up a bit since he could see all his friends again. Sadly though, when he got to the lunch room, Mr Smith was there, holding the microphone. "Attention all students, I know you are hungry and want to talk to your friends, but there is a problem. Just this morning we investigated a tampered electrical box, and found out that someone in the camp broke it on purpose. There is also another problem. As most of you know, there is a prison on the far left of the road on the other side of the Crise lake. There has been a breakout and a certain amount of students here, the names I will not mention, could be in danger. For this reason, Security Officer Joseph has volunteered to stay with a special group of the endangered students for some periods of the day when they are not in big groups with adults nearby. Security Officer Joseph will explain this more in detail to the students that are involved with this subject. We are still here to provide a fun environment that is safe, but in order for that to work, we need the one responsible for the shameful act of destroying camp property to confess." Mr Smith stated to all of the lunch room students. No one spoke. "Fine, before we figure out who did it, the whole of the camp will be disciplined, all groups will sit at their designated tables until this is sorted out. Except for the students Security Officer Joseph will keep an eye on. That is all." Mr Smith said, as he turned off the microphone and walked away. Lucas was stunned! It seemed all too much of a coincidence that all these events played out in this order! The odds of this happening were too high! "Lucas, what's wrong?" James asked Lucas, as Lucas was standing in place, with a blank expression on his face. "It's nothing." Lucas stated, as he followed James and his friends to where Security Officer Joseph was standing. "It looks like you're all here, good. You will all be staying at a different cabin as well, just a heads up. Also, you will eat at that lunch table over there." Security Officer Joseph stated as he pointed in the direction of an empty lunch table. Lucas and all his friends waited for further instructions, but they didn't get any. They all decided to then go

sit at the table, which is exactly what they did. Finally when they finished eating, Lucas noticed that it was 12:30 PM. "I guess it's time for the next activity." Elsy said at the lunch table. The lunch table was composed of Lucas, James, Louie, Leim, Kaleb, Leo, Natalie, Allysa, Casper, Elsy, Jake, and Sofia. All of them being friends. Soon after the group started walking towards the activity yard with basketball, Tennis and volleyball courts in it. There was also a swimming pool as well. "So many activities to choose from!" Elsy said excitedly. "Yeah, there are." Lucas said. Lucas still couldn't keep his eye off the security guard Joseph, who was leaning on the wall of the building, swiping his phone screen doing who knew what on it. "Lucas, how about you try and play volleyball with us." Leo suggested, as he noticed Lucas staring intently at Joseph. Lucas nodded, and decided to try playing volleyball, since what he wanted most when he came here was to spend time with his friends. When Lucas started playing, he realized how much fun he had, and forgot all about the security guard and Mr Hill's prison escape, or at least Lucas thought it was Mr Hill was the one that escaped from the prison, but Lucas still wasn't sure. After volleyball, Lucas tried other sports with his friends, one after another, and another, until Lucas realized it was 2:35 PM. Now they got to do anything they wanted! Go on their phones, visit other people, you name it, they could do it. When Lucas went over to his friends to suggest they go hiking on a nearby trail, Lucas saw Security Officer Joseph approaching. "Sorry guys, you're going to have to stay in the cabin or at least on the campgrounds where I can see you." He said. "It's my job." Joseph added. "Hey, I was wondering, how did you get to be a security guard here at this temporary summer camp? From the info online about you, you seemed to be a security guard in-training at a college nearby, about 19 years old, and your current set job after the summer is placed at Fountain Inn High. It also says you were assigned this job by someone else that was chosen for you by a school official who wished to keep their name withheld. Can you tell us

about this? I'm very curious." Leim asked in the back of the friend group. "Who said that?" Security Officer Joseph asked dryly. "It was me." Leim said, as he walked in front of Lucas's friend group. "You, Leim. I've heard about you from the news." Security Officer Joseph responded. "Hmm, I could have sworn I've seen you on tv as well." Leim challenged. Security Officer Joseph then turned his head into the direction of the cabins. Security Officer Joseph took a long pause from talking until he said, "You know what, let's go to the cabin. The heat is unbearable for me." Security Officer Joseph then started walking towards a specific cabin that must be their new one. "Tssk." Leim spit on the ground as he also walked in the direction of the cabin, along with Lucas and his other friends who were speechless over the whole spoof. Eventually when they got inside, Security Officer Joseph then walked over to a couch and sat on it, immediately pulling out his phone and doing something on it. Lucas then went over to Leo and whispered, "Have enough evidence now?" Leo's eyes were blank, and his face was pale. "I- I don't know what to say." Leo said quietly. "Cmon, let's go upstairs and talk it over." Lucas suggested. All Leo did was nod. As Lucas motioned to all of his other friends to walk upstairs, they started walking towards the stairs. When they all finally reached the floor, Allysa whispered, "Leim! How did you find all this out?!" "I was thinking about the incident when Stacy was let out by a security guard and then disappeared. I then looked into the security guard working here, and I found the information on him on the Fountain Inn High website." Leim stated. "He hasn't seemed very suspicious to me, why don't we take our minds off of the subject and go on our phones?" Elsy commented. Everyone including Lucas then nodded, since they had no idea if Security Officer Joseph was actually listening to them as they were speaking. Eventually, it was finally the end of free time, and the beginning of dinner for them. Lucas didn't even realize the time until they heard Security Officer Joseph shout from downstairs, "Everyone outside! It's time for dinner in the lunchroom!" Lucas sighed

and walked down the stairs with the rest of his friends until they reached the door where Security Officer Joseph was waiting. Security Officer Joseph then said, "After you're done with your dinner, find me and I'll tell you what to do from there." Security Officer Joseph then walked out of the building, slowly but surely making his way to the main building/lunchroom. "I guess we should get a move on." Louie sighed. Jake and Sofia then said, "We don't feel safe around him, he has that police grade handgun in the gun holster on his belt, and if all the things Leim said about him are true, we don't like the situation we're in." "I'm with them." Casper added. "We will just have to make the most of it." Elsy stated. Finally, the friends started walking to the main building/lunchroom, until they got to the front door. Lucas opened the door and noticed another student at the camp who was speed walking out of the door and bumped right into Lucas! "Sorry." The student said. "Hey, you're the one that stopped that vice principal last year, aren't you? What's your name?" the student asked Lucas. "I'm Lucas, and yours?" Lucas responded to the mysterious student that looked oddly familiar to Lucas for some strange reason. "I'm Cody." the student stated. Lucas had an immediate flashback of all the good times he had with a rat named Cody. "Nice to meet you, Cody." Lucas said, as he walked into the main building/lunchroom. When Lucas stepped inside, he smelled pizza and other delicious foods that would soon be in his stomach. When he sat down at the special table with his friends, Lucas felt sad about being in the new group. He remembered that before he got to the camp, he wanted nothing more than to only be in a group with his friends, but if Lucas had to be honest, he missed his old group too. Without Security Officer Joseph, with Mrs DeJong, it was just better and more enjoyable in Lucas's opinion. Even still, it just didn't feel right being only with his friends. Lucas sat down at the table with his food and started eating. This camp was way more crazy than he thought, that part Lucas was sure of. After Lucas finished eating, he decided to wait for some of his other

friends to finish eating too. As he was waiting, he noticed a girl that looked oddly familiar from somewhere. Lucas immediately noticed the hair color of the girl, and realized it was Mica, one of Mr Hill's goons, and the one that helped the buddy club get into the school basement! "Impossible." Lucas thought to himself. "How did she end up here? Unless there is something else going on at this camp." Lucas wondered in his mind, Still staring at Mica from across the main building/lunchroom. Finally, after all Lucas's friends were done eating, he pulled himself off the seat, and walked towards Security Officer Joseph, who was still, leaning on a wall, and texting on his phone. Security Officer Joseph then looked up from his phone and put it away, watching Lucas inquisitively. Lucas tried not to pay attention, but the stare was unbearable. He then noticed Leo, Elsy, Kaleb, James, and all his other friends walking beside him. Lucas then remembered they were there for him. Lucas lightened up, and when they reached Security Officer Joseph, he said, "Alright, now that you're all here, I think we can start boarding the bus to go on another field trip to a supposedly haunted bridge near here. You will have to stay near me though, as it will be dark, and you are in danger when left alone near this camp." Security Officer Joseph stated blankly. Lucas knew all this was balone, after all, he was probably working with Mr Hill, the one that most likely escaped the prison near the camp. All Lucas could do though was move on. He nodded, along with the rest of his friend group, and followed Security Officer Joseph outside and to the main entrance of the camp. When Lucas boarded the bus, he sat with some of his friends, and they all went on their phones. The sun was now beginning to set, and the next time Lucas looked up from his phone when they arrived at their designated stop, it was already pitch black outside. "Time really flies when you're not bored, right Lucas?" Lucas heard Louie ask, as they started exiting the bus. "Yeah, that's true, Louie, do you believe in ghosts? Do you think it's haunted?" Lucas asked Louie. "As it stands now, no, I don't believe in

ghosts, but that might change tonight, who knows.” Louie responded. “Interesting take on that.” Lucas responded with a smile, as he too, walked off the bus. Lucas noticed other students there too, he saw his old group, the blue group as well, with Mrs DeJong leading it. “Alright everyone, from now on, we will be the orange group, so don't forget that. You all must be in sight of me at all times, which means if you are far away, and I can still see you, it's alright. Oh, and be polite to the tour guide, he works hard on these.” Security Officer Joseph stated behind Lucas that made him jump. “Ok.” Lucas said, trying to act as if he wasn't scared by him. “The tour starts in three minutes, so just hang tight.” Security Officer Joseph added, as he then pulled out his phone. “Man, that guy is so addicted to his phone.” Lucas heard Casper whisper. “That's true.” Lucas heard Alyssa respond. Lucas then saw Elsy making her way over to Neptune, the girl that they met at the beach near the ice cream shop. “Hey Neptune, it's nice to see you.” Elsy said to Neptune, who was standing alone. Lucas felt sad, to see Neptune without anyone to talk to, it must have been lonely. Lucas knew he was grateful for meeting Leo and his friends on the first day of school, but still, Lucas still wondered what his life would have been like if Leo hadn't said those words to Mr Ricardo when he did to make them both meet each other to turn in the attendance papers. “Hello everyone!” Lucas heard a voice scream from on top of the bus. “How did she-” Lucas started. “You may be wondering how I got up here, well it's simple, while you all weren't looking, I climbed on top of the bus, now here I am!” the voice added, immediately answering Lucas's question. “This guy's nuts.” Lucas heard Leim state. Lucas completely agreed with that though, after all, Leim was usually right. “Now, I will jump down and we can begin the tour, but first, while I'm still up here, let's discuss some rules. No flash photography, no screaming or yelling, no climbing, and no, I mean none, no being a scaredy cat!” The man on the bus screamed. Lucas now officially knew that this man had lost his mind. Everyone around

Lucas remained completely silent. The man then started climbing off the bus, and landed on the ground right next to Security Officer Joseph and the other camp counselors. "Please remain with your camp counselors at all times, you never know if someone could go missing." The man added, looking at the camp counselors and then at the students. Lucas then looked at Security Officer Joseph to see him rolling his eyes at the crazy tour guide man. "At least there is one thing that we both agree with." Lucas thought to himself. "Alright, who wants to get this tour guide started?" The crazy man asked. "What's even your name?" A random girl, Lucy, asked. "My name is Steavan. So call me that." The crazy man stated, with a creepy smile on his face. Once Lucas and his friends started on the tour, they walked across the old bridge that was supposedly haunted. But in the end, when the tour was over, and they walked to the bus, Lucas concluded that the scariest thing that was actually really scary wasn't the tour, or the bridge, but the crazy man that called himself Steavan, which Lucas didn't believe was his real name. "That was boring. I almost yawned." Kaleb told Lucas and his friends. Lucas wanted to laugh, but he was too tired from The whole day. As Lucas boarded the bus with his friends, he noticed in the corner of his eye that the crazy man that was the tour guide stared at him, holding a giant knife in his hand! Lucas then saw the man run away into the woods! "Kaleb! Did you see that?" Lucas asked hysterically. "Hmm?" Kaleb responded. Lucas then realized Kaleb was listening to music, and even if he explained what he saw, no one would believe that and think it was a joke. "Nothing, just nevermind." Lucas responded. Kaleb then turned away, and continued listening to his music, and Lucas looked back to the window and started to fall asleep. When he just started drifting asleep, the bus halted to a screeching stop. "We're here." The bus driver announced blankly. Lucas and his friends then boarded off the bus and started walking toward their cabin, since it was 9:28 PM. When they reached there, Lucas noticed that Security Officer Joseph was right behind

them. "Are you going to be sleeping in the cabin?" Allysa asked Security Officer Joseph. "No no no, I am going to be guarding it outside, basically me just sitting in a chair outside on my phone though." Security Officer Joseph responded. Lucas then looked towards the main building/lunchroom, and saw Mr Smith and another organizer talking to each other about something. Lucas was too far away to hear what they were saying though. Lucas then heard Mr Smith shout, "Joseph, come over here for a sec, I need to tell you something!" Lucas then saw Security Officer Joseph start walking towards the direction of Mr Smith, but ignored the rest of it, because of how tired he was. As he walked in, he heard an all too familiar voice whisper from in the bushes, "Psst, Lucas, come over here!" Lucas knew that voice, it was Jordan's! "I need your help. I've been framed for something I didn't do, I pleaded for them to give me time to prove my innocence, and they said yes, because if I was the one that did it, I might go to juvie for the other bad things I've done." Jordan whispered to Lucas. Lucas then responded, "I'm not interested." "Not even if I can tell you info about Stacy only me and a few select people know about?" Jordan asked. Lucas's heart stopped. "That's right! Only Jordan knew about Stacy! And from a conversation he overheard Jordan and Mica talking about the superintendent of the state, he must know the higher ups! The ones that are probably controlling everything!" Lucas thought to himself. "If he can tell us info about Stacy, I have to agree!" Lucas decided. "Okay, I'll help you, but you must tell me information about Stacy." Lucas declared. "And, where would we start?" Lucas added. Jordan then said, "Of course I'll tell you after you help me, and I think I know where to start. To be honest, I think I know who framed me, Cody!"

-Day Four, Wednesday: Trust Is Two Ways-

The next morning, when Lucas awoke from his sleep, he almost forgot about the situation he now surrounded himself in. Jordan was being framed. Although Lucas wondered in the back of his mind if this was all just a trick, if Jordan was actually playing some sort of sick game in order to help Mr Hill and Ms Modrak, and whoever the one in command of all this, but for some odd reason, Lucas believed Jordan, and he didn't know why. And also, if Lucas did help Jordan with his problem, he could finally find out some much needed information on Stacy's past. This was a big opportunity he couldn't miss. As Lucas saw more of his friends wake up, Lucas decided to tell them what happened. "Hey Leo, I need to tell you something." Lucas stated as Leo passed by him. "What is it?" Leo asked. "I had a run in with someone yesterday, it was a familiar face." Lucas started. Leo's face immediately got tense. "Who did you see?" Leo asked. "I saw Jordan, from last year." Lucas confessed to Leo. "What did he say to you!?" Leo demanded to Lucas. "He said he needed my help, he said that he was being framed for a crime he didn't commit. He said if I helped him clear his name, he would tell me information about Stacy only few knew. Lucas looked into Leo's eyes to try and search for his feelings on what he thought about the subject, but it was unreadable. "Do what you want, but leave me out of it, I want a peaceful summer camp week." Leo announced to Lucas as he walked away from Lucas and into the kitchen room. Lucas sighed to himself as he too, walked into the kitchen to see if breakfast was ready. He then noticed Security Officer Joseph walking in the cabin with big plates of delicious breakfast foods in his hands. "After you've all finished eating, remember to walk over to the main building to continue building your

boat for the boat race tomorrow.” Security Officer Joseph stated, as he put the breakfast foods on the kitchen table. Lucas nodded to Security Officer Joseph, and started getting his breakfast on his own plate. As Lucas was eating, he was thinking about what he was going to do about Jordan and his problem. “What am I going to do?” Lucas thought to himself. Lucas then saw Elsy walk up to him. “What’s wrong Lucas?” Elsy asked Lucas. “Oh, it’s nothing, I’m just tired.” Lucas said to Elsy, even though it wasn’t true. “Ok, well tonight, try and get more sleep then.” Elsy announced, as she walked away. Lucas then picked up his fork and jabbed it into the bacon on his plate. After Lucas finally finished eating, he walked over to the sink and put his dirty dishes into it, spraying the plate with water and soap. As Lucas walked outside, he remembered some that might help him with the investigation with Jordan. The name list of all the students in the camp, there he might be able to get to the group Jordan was in and talk to him there. The only problem was that he had to be in sight or around Security Officer Joseph at all times. Lucas turned his head to the side outside of the cabin to see Security Officer Joseph sitting in a chair, texting on his phone again. “How am I ever going to get to Jordan this way?” As Lucas was thinking on what to do, some of his friends started walking outside, probably getting ready to go build their boats. “Oh, one more thing, you all are going to have your own boat by the way.” Security Officer Joseph stated, as he didn’t even look up from his phone. “Alright.” Casper said. “How are we supposed to catch up then? Tomorrow’s the boat race!” Allysa complained. “I don’t know, and I don’t care.” Security Officer Joseph responded. Allysa then rolled her eyes and started walking over in the direction of the main building. “If we are even going to get close to making a boat, we will have to start now.” Allysa stated, motioning with her hand for everyone to follow her. Lucas started walking with her to hear Security Officer Joseph say, “Wait, remember you have to stay in my line of view.” “Then get your butt up and follow us!” Allysa talked back. “Fine, I’m coming.”

Security Officer Joseph stated, as he put his phone in his pocket and got up from the chair. As Lucas and his friends continued to walk towards the main building, Lucas continued to wonder what color group Jordan was in. When Lucas, all his friends, and Security Officer Joseph finally reached the building site for the boats, Lucas saw all the other groups building too. He then noticed that Jordan was there too, of course not building, but slacking off on his phone. Lucas then saw Security Officer Joseph walk over to Mr Smith, who was on his phone as well, which meant that this was Lucas's chance to talk to Jordan! As Lucas started walking over to Jordan, Jordan noticed him and walked over to him as well. "Jordan, I've decided I'm going to help you, but I don't know how since I'm supposed to be near Security Officer Joseph's line of view the entire time. "Why don't you just sneak out at night?" Jordan suggested to Lucas. "I suppose I could try, but what if I'm caught?" Lucas asked Jordan. "Then you admit to it, that's that." Jordan responded. "Where would we meet?" Lucas asked. "Outside the main building." Jordan responded. "Lucas, what are you doing over there?" Lucas heard Jake ask from behind them. "I've got to go, I'll meet you there." Lucas said to Jordan as he walked away with Jake. "What were you doing over there? You know you can't be away from Security Officer Joseph!" Jake stated. "Why do you trust Security Officer Joseph, he probably is the one tied into Stacy! You heard Leim!" Lucas contemplated to Jake. "I don't trust Security Officer Joseph one bit, but I do know he is smart, which means he wouldn't do anything risky unless he had to." Jake responded in a calmer voice than before. "I guess you're right." Lucas responded, his voice now calmer too. "Alright, then, let's continue building our boat for the race tomorrow, we have a lot to go if we want to compete in the race since we are so behind." Jake added, as they reached their spot where they were building their boat. As Lucas was building, he felt calmer now that he talked with Jake. Eventually after a while, it was finally time for lunch, since it was 12:00 PM. As Lucas was building

the boat, he heard Mr Smith's voice on a microphone. "Attention everyone, please make your way to the main building/lunchroom to eat lunch. After that, we will take a trip to a local Hobby Lobby and get extra supplies for your boats." Mr Smith stated on the microphone. "I guess we should get moving then." Jake said to Lucas. Lucas nodded and started walking to the main building/lunchroom as well as his friends, who were following him behind him. As they were walking, Lucas noticed the kid that framed Jordan was looking around himself, and then sneaked into some bushes. "This is my chance." Lucas whispered to himself. Lucas quickly went over to Jake and said, "If Security Officer Joseph asks where I am, tell him I'm in the bathroom." "Okay, I will." Jake said with a confused expression on his face because Lucas was not heading towards the bathrooms, but the bushes where he spotted the kid, Cody, sneaking around inside. As Lucas ducted inside the bushes, he jumped by being frightened by Cody. "What are you doing here?" Lucas asked coldly to Cody. "I could ask the same to you." Cody responded back. Lucas looked beside Cody to see spray paint cans in a backpack. "I'm going to turn you in." Lucas declared. "If you turn me in, you won't have any evidence, and that would mean you would have left Security Officer Joseph's line of view." Cody contemplated. Lucas immediately stopped dead in his tracks. If he were to turn in Cody, it wouldn't work. It had to be Jordan who turned him in. Lucas then thought of no other option but to run away and tell no one. And that's exactly what Lucas did. As Lucas was running out, he noticed that Cody wasn't following him. "Hmm, maybe I could tell Jordan to go over there." Lucas wondered. As Lucas stopped running when he reached the main building/lunchroom, he walked inside, out of breath. Lucas then started walking over to the yellow group and saw Jordan walking over to him too. "Jordan, if you go to the bushes near the blue cabin, Cody is there with spray paint cans, you can take a picture and prove your innocence! Go!" Lucas shouted. All Jordan did after was nod, then

started running out the main building/lunchroom. When he finally sat down at the lunch table, he realized that Security Officer Joseph was staring at him. Lucas tried not to make eye contact with him the whole time of lunch, which was nearly impossible. Soon enough though, lunch ended, and Lucas saw Jordan walk back in with his phone in his hand. Lucas held his breath until he saw Jordan walk over to Mr Smith and hand him his phone. Mr Smith then said something to Jordan Lucas couldn't hear. Then, Mr Smith said on the microphone, "Attention everyone, before you leave for the trip to Hobby Lobby, I want to announce that we have found the perpetrator for the vandalism on this camp. Originally we thought that Jordan Garcia was the culprit, but we were wrong, it was in reality, Cody Seidel. So me, and the whole of the staff just want to say sorry to Jordan for falsely accusing you of a crime you didn't commit." Jordan nodded and then said, "it's okay." "Alright then, let's get on to the trip! Please get more instructions from your camp counselor." Mr Smith responded as he walked away. "If you could even call Security Officer Joseph a camp counselor." Lucas muttered to himself angrily. Lucas then saw Jordan walk up to him. "It seems you pulled through for me Lucas, I owe you one." Jordan said, as Lucas saw Jordan smile for the first time. "You don't owe me anything, only the information on Stacy." Lucas informed Jordan. "Right." Jordan said. "Here, it's all the conversations between Stacy and the security guard, who is I prove, Security Officer Joseph at the prison she stayed at." Jordan added. Jordan then handed Lucas an envelope with a bunch of pages of text in it. Lucas read one aloud. *"So, after all this time, I finally get to meet his daughter, Stacy White."* *"What do you want from me?"* *"Oh, nothing really, I just wanted to get a hold of you so I could meet you in the future."* *"I don't want this."* *"Your father hired me for this specific reason, My only job is to retrieve you, no matter the cost."* *"No matter the cost? We will see about that."*

“Yes we will, he also mentioned something else, he said I could retrieve you, dead, or alive.”

When Lucas got to the end, Lucas was confused. “Wait, if Stacy’s last name is White, then how-” Lucas started. “She was adopted.” Jordan stated quietly. Lucas felt as though his heart was going 1000 beats per second. “How is this possible?” Lucas thought to himself. “Before you ask for more, the answer is going to be no, you’ll have to figure out the rest.” Jordan spoke as he then walked back to his own group, the yellow group. “Lucas, cmon, it’s time to get on the bus!” Lucas heard Kaleb shout from across the lunchroom. Lucas then used all of his sanity he had at the moment to walk over to Kaleb. “What’s wrong? It looks like you’ve seen the crazy man from the ghost tour.” Kaleb said to Lucas, who was as pale as a ghost. “It’s nothing, let’s get on the bus.” Lucas stated. In Lucas’s mind, Lucas decided to not tell his friends what he discovered, as it was truly best left forgotten for now. As Lucas finally boarded the bus, he looked at Security Officer Joseph with a dead smile. After all, Lucas got confirmation that Security Officer Joseph was indeed the person responsible for the disappearance of Stacy. As the bus started leaving, Lucas decided to take a nap on the bus, he really needed it. But as Lucas was trying to fall asleep, he couldn’t help but think of what would happen to Cody. After all, the second time he ever met Cody was very hostile. But Lucas had to, because he needed, no, he wanted the information about Stacy. Now, he wished he hadn’t done what he did. Eventually, Lucas felt the bus screech to a stop. They had finally arrived at the Hobby Lobby store. When Lucas got off the bus with his friends, he heard Security Officer Joseph say, “Wait people, remember the rules, you have to stay in my line of sight.” “We would, if you would catch up!” Lucas heard one of his friends say to Security Officer Joseph. “Watch your mouth for whoever said that to me!” Security Officer Joseph said in a cold tone. Finally, when things died down from the heated conversation, Lucas and his friends finally got to go shopping for some supplies for their boat. After all, the boat race was happening

the next day. After Lucas helped pick out some materials for the boat, he and his friends went to the checkout. "How are we going to pay for this?" Lucas wondered in his mind. As if Security Officer Joseph somehow heard Lucas's thoughts, Security officer Joseph then said to the cashier, "The camp has already paid for all the materials, if you still don't understand, go to your manager, they will know about it." Lucas was then dumbfounded by the way Security Officer Joseph spoke to the cashier! It was so rude! "Alright people, time to get on the bus." Security Officer Joseph stated, as he already started walking out of the Hobby Lobby store. "Ugghh. Why is Security Officer Joseph always like this to people!" James groaned. Lucas shrugged and then walked out of the store with his friends by his side. When they finally reached the bus and walked inside, Lucas pulled out his phone and started listening to music. After Lucas got off the bus when it arrived at the camp, Lucas noticed that he had freetime. "Too bad me and my friends have to stay in our cabin and be supervised by the mean bozo over there." Lucas heard Kaleb say, as Kaleb pointed towards Security Officer Joseph, who was on his phone again. "Shh, he might hear you Kaleb." Lucas heard Leim whisper next to him. "Yeah right, he's too busy on his phone." Kaleb stated angrily, as his whole friend group, including him, walked over to their cabin. "What should we do guys?" Lucas asked his friends when they all entered the cabin. "Perhaps we could ask Security Officer Joseph if he could take us to the basketball court or the pool." Elsy suggested. "Yeah right, as if he would." Leim stated codly. "Well you'll never know unless you try, good words of advice right there." Lucas heard Security Officer Joseph say from behind them. "How much did you hear?" Leim asked nervously. "Enough, anyways, the threat has been taken care of now." Security Officer Joseph said. "I'm also free to go home since you don't need a sitter anymore." Security Officer Joseph added. "What do you mean the threat has been taken care of now?" Louie asked. "That's not important right now." Security Officer Joseph said, as he started

walking towards the door. "Oh, and, I'm looking forward to seeing you next year." Security Officer Joseph said, as he walked out of the door. "Umm, what just happened?" Natalie asked. "I think we are free to do what we want now." Leo answered. "How about we go to the pool then?" Sofia asked. "Let's go!" all Lucas's friends shouted. After a few hours when Lucas and his friends got back to the cabin, he noticed it was almost time for the field trip to the art museum. "I think we should get ready for the next field trip guys." Lucas suggested. "Good idea." Elsy responded. A little while later, they heard a knock on the door. It was Mr Smith. "Why were you at the pool without Security Officer Joseph!?" Mr Smith demanded, as soon as they opened the door. "Security Officer Joseph said that the threat was taken care of and that he got to go home, so he left." Leo explained. "What?" Mr Smith responded, looking dazed. "That's, that's not true." Mr Smith stammered. "He wasn't allowed to leave-" Mr Smith started, as he then looked to the side of him for a brief moment. "Stay here, I'm going to try and sort this out. I'll send a different camp counselor, his name is Mr Gordon and he is in charge of the red group." Mr Smith said, as he walked away from the cabin. As Mr Smith said, Mr Gordon came, and so did a couple of other police officers. For 3 hours, Lucas and his friends were asked questions about the situation, therefore not allowed to go on the field trip to the museum of art. Finally, when everything died down, it was the lights out time. "This is really stupid." Kaleb said to all of them. "They made us stay here at the camp and have no fun." Kaleb added. "Well the museum of art would be boring anyway." Lucas pointed out. Lucas tried to remain positive the entire time at the camp, but the weight of the letters Jordan gave to him were unbearable. "Did Jordan specifically pick out those letters as the worst piece of information he could give me? No, he probably chose those as a warning to what's to come." Lucas worried. "Am I ready?" Lucas wondered to himself. The next thing Lucas remembered that night was waking up the next morning.

-Day 5, Thursday: Boat Race Begins-

When Lucas awakened, the next morning, he immediately cheered up when he remembered it was the day of the boat race! “Hey Lucas, are you ready for the boat race?” Lucas heard Elsy ask. “I think so. I'm still shocked about what happened with Security Officer Joseph though.” Lucas stated. “That's true.” Elsy pointed out. Lucas then started walking down the stairs into the kitchen and saw that the breakfast was already on the table. “How long was I asleep?” Lucas wondered to himself. As Lucas sat down with his breakfast and started eating, he looked at the clock on the wall and noticed it was almost time for building their boat! Lucas then started eating as fast as he could until he finished. After he was done he noticed that most of his friends were already gone. After Lucas ran over to the building site in the camp, he shouted to his friends, “Why did you all leave me sleeping?!” Leo walked up to Lucas and said, “You have seemed very tired, so we let you sleep.” Leo explained. Lucas then settled down after he noticed that Leo and his friends were just trying to help. “Cmon Lucas, help us build, don't worry about it.” Lucas heard Casper announce. Lucas nodded and then took a deep breath in and out. “Alright, let's get building.” Lucas said as he started building with his friends on the boat. Eventually, it was time for lunch. Lucas heard Mr Smith say on a microphone, “Alright everyone, put your finishing touches on your boat and go to the main building/lunchroom.” Lucas then started walking towards the main building/lunchroom with his friends by his side. When he finally arrived at the lunchroom, he got his lunch and started eating. As Lucas was eating, he saw Mr Smith approach the front of the main building/lunchroom. “I have an announcement to make. As you know, you will all be participating in a boat race. But what I forgot

to tell you was that a maximum of 8 people can attend the boat race itself. This is because we don't want any risk of your boat sinking in the middle of the river you will be racing on. So before you load your materials on your boat after lunch, choose who will be the 8 people. That is all." Mr Smith spoke, as he was holding the microphone. Lucas turned to his friends and said, "Who should be in the boat race?" "I will." Lucas heard Kaleb say. "Me too." James stated. "I would like to." Lucas heard Elsy say. "Also, can Neptune join us?" Elsy added. "Why? She has her own team." Kaleb stated. "She said she wanted to since no one else wanted to talk to her at this camp except for us." Elsy said. "I don't care if she does, but I want to go." Leim responded to Elsy. "And me." Louie said. "I'll go." Leo said. "I guess I could go." Lucas suggested. "Does anyone else want to?" Lucas asked his other friends. No one spoke up. "I guess it's okay if Neptune comes with us." Lucas concluded. "Then it's decided who's going." Kaleb stated as he got up from the lunch table to throw out his extra food. After Lucas and his friends finished eating their lunch, they returned to their boat and packed up their materials on the boat. "I guess we just wait. Only 10 minutes until the race begins." Lucas said to his friends who were doing the race. The rest of Lucas's friends went to the cabin and played on their phones, which they were happy about. Finally, Lucas heard Mr Smith's voice say, "Alright people, these are the people that will be in the race representing their respective color group. The rules are simple, the first one to the end of the river is the winner. During nights, you will camp on the side of the river with your respective camping equipment you packed. During the day though, you will try and make as much progress across the river as you can. There will be an extra supplies station halfway across the river, so keep an eye on that. Those are basically all the rules, I guess we are ready to begin. Each group, place your boat in the river outside the camp's entrance." Mr Smith instructed. Lucas and his other friends listened as they towed their boat out of the camp and into the river. Lucas was holding

one of the paddles that moved the boat. When all of the groups placed their boat in the water, Lucas climbed inside the boat along with Leo, James, Elsy, Kaleb, Louie, Leim and Neptune, who joined their squad. "On your mark, get set, go!" Mr Smith shouted as Lucas started paddling the boat across the river. At first, all of the teams, including Lucas's, were paddling as fast as they could, but sooner or later when they were in the current, they slowed their paces. Lucas then sat down in what little space they had in the boat they constructed. "So I guess we just wait for a while while the current takes us down the river." Louie said. James then pulled out his phone to find out they had no service. "There's no service out here!" James shrieked. "That's the point of the outdoors, there's no screens or electronics." Lucas pointed out. As Lucas and his team continued to drift down the river, Neptune asked, "Hey, I wanted to mention that I've seen you on the news before, when you exposed the evil vice principal at that school you went to, can you tell me what exactly happened?" Neptune asked. "Well, it's a long story, but I guess we could tell you. It all started when Leo's sister went to our old middle school, Rudolph Gordon Middle. Leo's sister, Stacy, was in 8th grade and had a teacher by the name of Mr Hill. She found out that Mr Hill was hiding something from everyone and almost exposed him, but she was framed for alleged drugs. She was then arrested, and Mr Hill somehow became vice principal at the school, for reasons we can't explain. In the end, Leo and I and my other friends stopped him with the help of Natalie when we were informed by a secret teacher, undercover, Ms Modrak that the secrets were held in the school basement. Which needed the principal's key to open. We eventually got the key and discovered that Mr Hill was planning to poison the school with tainted ketchup. In the end, we got evidence and he went to jail. That's who we think the threat who broke out of jail was. After the school year ended, we got a letter from Ms Modrak. Keep in mind at the time, we only knew her as the Fountain Inn Vase. She revealed herself in the letter, and told us

that if we wanted to know the whole truth about what Stacy was doing and why she was doing it, we'd have to find Sarah at Fountain Inn High. She said she'd have all the answers. And now we are here. Also, Stacy broke out of jail with the help of a security guard who we think was Security Officer Joseph." Lucas finished. "Couldn't have said it better myself." Leo commented. Neptune's face was in complete utter shock. After Lucas told Neptune the story, the rest of the ride on the boat was quiet until the sun started to set. "I guess we should camp at the side now." Leim suggested. Lucas and his friends then nodded as they started paddling towards the bank of the river. When they reached the bank, Lucas helped set up the tent and campfire. By the time it was all set up, it was pitch dark. The rest of the night, Lucas and his friends told scary stories of ghost and folk tales, and the crazy scary man from the ghost tour. Lucas told them about how he helped Jordan catch Cody in the act, and everyone went silent. At the end of all the conversations, Lucas finally said, "I think it's time to get some sleep. I'll sleep outside." "Me too." Kaleb stated. "I'll stay out as well." Louie spoke. The rest of Lucas's friends went into the tent. As Lucas went into the sleeping bag on the ground, his eyes staring at the stars, it took no time for Lucas to drift off to sleep.

-Day 6, Friday: The Boat Race-

The next day when Lucas woke up, he was immediately on his feet, ready to continue on with the boat race. As Lucas looked around him, he noticed that some of friends were still sleeping. Lucas checked his phone and noticed that it was already 8:30 AM. Lucas then felt horrible for waking his friends up from sleeping, but if they wanted to win, they had to start now. After all, Lucas couldn't even see any other

groups ahead or behind them. When Lucas finally waked all of his friends up, they all went back in the boat and paddled along once more. Eventually, a couple hours later, Lucas spotted the checkpoint area along the river. "Look over there guys! It's the checkpoint!" Lucas shouted to his friends. He looked down to see Louie and Elsy asleep. "Okay then, paddle us over there." Neptune commanded. Lucas then nodded as he moved the boat to the side of the checkpoint. When they arrived at the checkpoint, they started loading up more supplies until they heard James shout, "I have a signal!" Leim then rolled his eyes at James. "Alright, we can all hear you clear." Leim stated annoyingly. "Wait, I got a text from Casper saying something happened at the camp. I wonder what happened." James commented. As Lucas finished putting all the materials into their boat, they all hopped in once more and continued to drift with the river current. Finally a couple hours later of complete boredom for Lucas and his friends, Lucas heard Elsy say, "Look guys, it's a turtle. I like turtles." "Me too, but I'm not too sure that's a turtle." James said. "It looks like a piranha to me." Leim said oddly calmly on what the subject was. "What, oh my gosh! It is!" Elsy said in a frightened voice. "Let's hope the boat will hold up, especially since we only worked on it for a day." Leim said, picking at his fingernails. "Leim stop, you're scaring her!" Louie said to Leim. "Fine, fine. But I was just stating the obvious." Leim answered. "Look guys, it's swimming away." Elsy said cheerfully. "Good riddens." Kaleb announced. After the whole spoof of the piranha, Lucas and his friends made good progress along the river. Eventually though, it was starting to get dark out. "I think it's time to set up camp again." Leo suggested. "Good idea." Lucas answered, as he started paddling the boat over to the edge. When Lucas and his friends made camp at the spot on the bank along the river at last, Lucas was so tired he just wanted to go to sleep then. "Who else just wants to go to bed now? I'm pooped." Kaleb said. Everyone agreed,

and went straight to sleep. After all, the next day would be even crazier than this day...

Day 7, Saturday: Betrayal-

The next morning, Lucas wasn't the first to get up this time. It was actually Kaleb who woke him up instead. When Lucas finally awoke from his sleep, they all hopped in the boat once more, and started drifting along the river's current. Lucas almost fell asleep a couple hours later, if it wasn't for Neptune that shouted, "I see the finish line straight ahead!" Lucas then looked up and sure enough, it was there. But it seemed that they didn't win, since there were already two group's boats already at the end. "Ughh, we lost." Louie whined. "It's okay, it was still sort of fun." Lucas pointed out, even though it was one of the most boringest things he had ever done. Once they reached the end, Lucas and all his friends collapsed on the grass with exhaustion from the whole boat race. Lucas then saw James already on his phone texting someone. "Guys, Casper says she needs to see us as soon as possible! She says that Security Officer Joseph is at the camp outside of the main building/lunchroom! We need to help stop him from getting away again!" James screamed. "Why would he be back?" Lucas thought to himself. Lucas and his friends then started running in the direction of the main building/lunchroom. Time was running out! Once Lucas got inside of the building with his friends, they saw Security Officer Joseph through a window walking away! "The winners of the boat race are, and I quote, the Yellow group! Being first place!" Mr Smith announced on the loudspeakers in the main lunch room. Lucas, Leo, Kaleb, James, Elsy, Leim, Louie and Neptune pushed around the crowd of parents and students

celebrating the awards ceremony to get to their other friends on the other side of the room, who were trying to move out of the crowd, but couldn't. "Go on ahead, me, Elsy and Lucas are going to go around the back door to corner him!" Lucas heard Kaleb shout through the applause of claps and people shouting congratulations. Lucas instantly started running towards the direction of Kaleb and Elsy, which was near the back door. While they were running, they passed the security office, and when Lucas saw Kaleb run into the room and out with a taser gun, Lucas got even more worried. "What is Kaleb thinking?! He might get in big trouble!" Lucas thought while still running. When they reached the back door and opened it to the outside, they saw Security Officer Joseph turn the corner of the building, with a surprised expression on his face. He stopped dead in his tracks, and so did Kaleb, who was now face to face with him. "The name's Kaleb right?" Security Officer Joseph asked. "Yeah, it is." Kaleb said, putting his hand near the taser gun in his pocket. Elsy and Lucas stood by the door, waiting to see what would happen next. "Who is the one that ordered you to stay and monitor us? Is Mr Hill? Is it Ms Modrak?" Kaleb asked. "Sorry, that's confidential information, now step aside before things get ugly." Security Officer Joseph stated, putting his hand near his gun holder which had a gun in it as well. "I can't let you pass, not yet." Kaleb responded in a cold voice. "Then I'm sorry I have to do this." Security Officer Joseph stated, tapping his fingers on his gun. "I'm sorry too, for trusting you." Kaleb responded as he gripped the taser gun in his hand harder. There was then an immediate silence for what Lucas felt like was forever. Then in an instant, there was a gunshot! Lucas looked to see who got shot, and when he did, he almost fainted. Kaleb was shot in the shoulder by

Security Officer Joseph! Elsy screamed so loud, yet Lucas could barely hear her. He immediately jolted back to reality when he saw Kaleb fall to the ground! “This is just a warning, to stay out of our way. Next time, I won’t miss.” Security Officer Joseph stated, as he walked away, into the distance. The next thing Lucas remembered was waking up in the hospital. “Wha-where am I?” Lucas looked to his left to see Kaleb in another hospital bed beside him. “Is that you Gale?” Lucas muttered to himself quietly. He then looked to his right and saw Elsy in a chair reading a book. “You’re awake!” She said, almost crying with joy. “What happened, why am I here?” Lucas asked, speaking with certainty this time. “Kaleb was shot by Security Officer Joseph, he got away, and then you passed out and hit your head on the sidewalk. I ran inside to get help, and then everyone went home. Me and Leo decided to stay here to make sure you were both okay.” Elsy spoke quietly. “I’ll text Leo to come here, he’s in the food court.” Elsy added. Lucas then noticed that his head did hurt. Lucas then heard Leo’s voice walk in. “Thank goodness you’re okay. Don’t worry, Security Officer Joseph will pay.” Leo announced, as he walked in the hospital room. “Security Officer Joseph wasn’t the one behind this.” Lucas stated. “It’s someone different, someone who has been calling all the shots since the beginning. Who this person is, I’m not sure.” Lucas added. “Whoever this person is, is the one that Ms. Modrak spoke of. One day we will find out the truth, one day we will solve what Stacy started so long ago, one day.” As Leo was talking, Lucas’ brain then burst with pain, as he then instantly dreamed of a bald man in a suit with glasses, the man then spoke to Lucas, “And so it begins, eh, Lucas?”

-The End-

