

The Lost Children

“Did you get the message on Snapchat about the lost children?” said a kid to Bob and Bill as they were on their way to class.

“No?...” replied Bob inquisitively.

“Apparently a year ago this amusement park on the edge of town shut down when some kids were still on a ride and they never came out.”

When dawdling home later that day Bill inquired, “Bob, should we try and save those kids?”

“No way!” exclaimed Bob. “You don’t know what could be in there.”

“Exactly!” retorted Bill. “Those kids might not be safe”

“I’m sure if there is something or someone dangerous in there the kids won’t be alive,” suggested Bob.

“But there still is a chance,” replied Bill, “and also we’ll be famous!”

“I still think it’s too dangerous.”

“Just think about it, and tell me tomorrow.”

Lying on his bed Bob started thinking about the kids in the park. He remembered what Bill said, like how they would be famous and how they could be saving their lives. Then it hit him: if everyone at school knew about it now, then someone must have seen the kids. If the kids can survive, two seventeen year olds could.

On their usual morning rendezvous to walk to school together Bob declared, “Bill, I’ve made my decision. We’re gonna go to that amusement park and save those kids.”

“That’s great Bob,” said Bill excitedly. “We’ll meet up on Saturday.”

When Bill got home he excitedly packed all his stuff for the big day. He packed his torch, some snacks and even the pocket knife his grandpa gave to him. Then he lay in bed thinking about what could happen when they went into the park. Could they save the kids or would they fail? Or maybe they would get trapped or maybe even die. Thousands of thoughts popped up in his head, some negative and some positive, but then he finally went to sleep, ready for the big day.

On Saturday, they met at the amusement park gates with their gear, both ready to go in. As they were on their way in they met a strange man just outside the gate. He looked about forty years old and wore black clothing.

He said, “Kids, if you want to go in there you probably should take my advice. If you go on the long ride, wear a hard hat.”

Bob responded, “Oh, we’re not here to go on the rides.”

“Yeah,” added Bill. “We’re just here to rescue some kids.”

The strange man looked puzzled. “I thought that no one cared about those kids.”

Bob and Bill looked at each other and knew that they were thinking the same thing, that they probably won’t be able to trust the man. Bob remarked, “Oh, then we should just leave,” and they slowly walked away. Without the man knowing, they went around to the back of the park and snuck in.

When they got in they both noticed that the park was empty but what they also noticed was graffiti on all the walls, shattered glass all over the ground and almost every stall was smashed, broken into or burnt. The rides were even worse. They were rusty, destroyed and some of them were even completely decimated.

In the corner there was a not very merry go round spinning nearly at the speed of sound. It was red and black, all the metal was rusty, and all the wooden parts (like the seats) would definitely give you at least ten splinters. On the other side of the park there was a dunk tank, which was about 3 metres deep. There was a diagram on the wall that showed that you would get all your limbs tied up which would mean you wouldn't make it back alive.

Then Bob saw the most hazardous ride. It had razor sharp spikes on the sides, around ten loop the loops and the most dangerous part, no seat belts. Bob couldn't believe kids were allowed to go on this monstrosity of a machine.

"Bob, look at the other side of the ride!" Bill exclaimed. It was a cart still working on the rails going rapidly round all the sharp turns! As it got closer Bob noticed that there was someone on it. She was a kid! They both immediately started trying to get her attention but as soon as she saw them she tried to hide behind the edge of the cart. Suddenly, the cart hit an unexpected loop the loop. Bob and Bill watched with horror as the girl fell off, but amazingly, unwounded she got away and found a really good hiding spot as soon as they lost sight of her. So the search for the kids began.

They looked all around where the girl roughly ran off to, in stalls, on rides, in bushes. They even checked in the sewers. But it seemed like there was no one there.

After what seemed like hours of searching they still couldn't find anyone.

"Maybe they want to stay to go on the rides so they're hiding from us," said Bob.

"That's a great idea," replied Bill. So they looked around for places the kids could hide. Finally, Bill found some kids lying on the floor behind a stall not looking very good; they were covered in scars, bruises and scabs. All of a sudden, the kids jumped at him and scared the life out of him!

"BOB!!!" he screamed "RUN!" They both started running to the man at the gate. When they got to him they told him what had happened.

"Why are you guys still here? I thought you left... anyway, that doesn't matter," replied the man. "This park has been abandoned for a year, I'm sure you're just imagining things."

As they were walking away Bob asked Bill, "Should we go now?"

"No," replied Bill.

"But you heard the man. The park has been abandoned for a bit over a year now."

"But I'm sure that I saw those kids. It was so realistic."

"Okay fine. But if we don't find them in an hour we're going."

"Deal," said Bill.

Not assuming the man was right, they continued their search for the kids. But just as they entered, the gate slammed shut. Some kids came running over to them. Bob and Bill were terrified. They were pounding on the gate, begging to get out but the man wouldn't let them leave. They knew they were thinking the same thing, that the man wanted them to stay. When the kids got to them, they asked what they were doing in an abandoned park like this. Bob replied, "We're here to save you guys because we thought that you weren't safe."

"Well you're not wanted here," retorted one of the kids.

"Yeah!" shouted the rest of the kids. "You should leave."

"Well you guys should too," countered Bill.

"The man won't let us," answered a kid, "he was the owner of this park and when he shut it down he trapped us in here."

"He closed the gate on us too. We need to get out of here," said Bill.

“Yeah, we’re gonna run out of the snacks we packed,” commented Bob.

“Don’t worry,” said one of the kids, “we’ve got plenty of food”

“Yeah, probably all like candy and stuff,” scoffed Bill.

“No,” said one of the kids, “We’ve got pizza and burgers.”

“GASP!” gasped Bob and Bill.

“We need to stay here,” exclaimed Bob.

“Sorry,” interrupted one of the kids. “You guys need to go.”

“And you need to go too,” argued Bob.

“no,” replied a kid.

“Yes,” cajoled Bob.

“Fine.”

“Ok, we’ll have to try and convince the man to let us leave,” said Bob.

“Why do we have to if we have the sewers?” questioned all the kids.

After a few minutes of trying they finally lifted the drain, hopped in and started walking. “I’ll put my flashlight on,” said Bill.

“Ok right now we are all in the main tunnel,” explained a kid. “When the tunnels split into three we go into the one on the left.”

“How do you know the tunnels so well?” asked Bill.

“We’ve been down here before,” answered a kid.

“Why?” wondered Bob.

“We were trying to find a way out, ” said a kid.

“So you don’t know how to fully get out?” asked Bill.

“Well we’ve gotten really close,” responded a kid.

“How do you know?” questioned Bob.

“We saw some light shining on the water,” explained another kid. After lots of walking they finally found the drain that the light was coming from. They opened the drain but then noticed that the man was right over it so they jumped out and ran as fast as they could to the nearest police station.

When they got there they were drenched with sweat and told the police that a man down the street was trying to kill them.

The police asked why. They said that the kids were in the amusement park and the man didn’t let them out. So when Bob and Bill went to rescue them they were all trapped. They went through the sewers but saw the man start to chase them so they ran here.

After that the police started a search for the man and when they found him they asked him why he did it. He said that he was the creator of the park and that the kids were breaking the rules of the amusement park by stealing from stalls and cutting the lines.

The kids kept saying “no, we would never do that,” but then they finally gave in and admitted that they did do that. Bob and Bill were confused. They seemed like such nice kids. Bob and Bill asked that if they park reopened if they helped out there there would be no punishment. The man exclaimed “Yes! That would be great.” The police said that if it was fine with him it was fine with them.

The park was reopened with all the kids working there, as well as Bob and Bill. It had epic rides but none so long that if the park shut down again there would be kids still on it. When the man retired, Bob and Bill took over the park and decided to name it - **“Bob And Bill’s Lost Children Funpark.”**