SCENE 2.

(The SURVIVALISTS disperse. Lights up on RILEY alone at the perimeter of the colony. She keeps watch in a tree.)

RILEY

(Into the walkie-talkie:)

Riley to Ben.

(Spotlight on BEN, restocking cans in a supply bunker.)

BEN

(Into his walkie talkie:)

Ben to Riley.

RILEY

Task update. I think this one’s gonna kill me.

BEN

(Routine:)

What is it? Laying out barbed wire, planting mines, making pepper spray, (etc. ad lib) —

RILEY

No I meant from boredom. Nothing ever happens at the perimeter.

BEN

You’re keeping watch.

RILEY

Only ‘cause Dad’s trying to toughen me up. To succeed him.

BEN

What?

(Then:)

I mean, sure he is. You’re a fly survivalist, Riley Spencer. Better than all of us. I mean, I don’t think I could ever do it. Your dad’s a legend. Did you hear him back there? It’s like he knows everything about the future. Like a prophet—

(A twig snaps O.S.)

CODY (O.S.)

You sure they went this way?

JASON (O.S.)

I didn’t get the Navigation badge for nothing.

RILEY

What was that?

CODY (O.S.)
You’re literally using Google Maps right now.

**JASON (O.S.)**

Hey. Just ‘cause we can’t hike as far, and still use our training knives, and most of our badges are pity badges doesn’t mean we can’t catch up. You and me? We stick together. ‘Cause “by itself, the tallest tree—”

*(JASON and CODY enter.)*

**JASON AND CODY**

“Will never reach the canopy!”

*(The SCOUTS high-five. Then they notice RILEY. RILEY stares back. Then she pulls her gun on them.)*

**RILEY**

You are entering unauthorized territory!

**CODY**

**JASON**

HOLY

JESUS

RILEY

Hands in the air! Now!

*(The SCOUTS do so.)*

**CODY**

Who are you?!

**JASON**

We’re not going to hurt you. Are you lost? We can help you. Just drop the gun, okay?

**CODY**

Are you *reasoning* with her?!

**JASON**

Look at her! She’s scared too.

**RILEY**

Are you with the government?

**CODY**

What? No!

**RILEY**

You have uniforms.

**JASON**

We’re Eagle Scouts!
RILEY

Is that a terrorist group?

CODY

It’s the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America youth program and can be earned by anyone who has at least 21 merit badges and has demonstrated leadership and scout spirit—

RILEY

So a terrorist group?

CODY

Who the frick are you?!

RILEY

Did you come to take our supplies? Or raid our bunkers, or—

JASON

Oh my god. She could be one of those doomsday preppers.

CODY

What?!

JASON

Yeah. I’ve seen this on Nat Geo.

RILEY

—or, or, or shoot at us?

JASON

We’re Eagle Scouts! Not terrorists! Please, just put down the gun.

(RILEY lowers her gun.)

JASON

Why did you come?

RILEY

We were just looking for our troop...

(JASON and RILEY lock eyes. Beat, then CODY speaks to JASON:)

CODY

Hey! Dude!

(JASON snaps out of it.)

If she really is a doomsday prepper or whatever she could be mentally unstable. Come on!

(CODY begins to lead JASON offstage.)

RILEY
Wait! I’m not unstable—

*(RILEY shoots the gun in the air to get their attention. JASON and CODY scream.)*

**CODY**

She’s crazy!

*(JASON and CODY run off in a panic. JASON leaves his phone on the ground.)*

2. **MISSING**

**RILEY**

Who are you? Where are you from? I want to... I just want to ask you...

*US? CRAZY?  
ALL THIS TIME THE WORLD OUTSIDE  
HAS BEEN CALLING US BONKERS  
FOR HOARDING SUPPLIES  
AND LIVING IN BUNKERS  
SO NOBODY DIES  
LIKE THAT’S SOMETHING THEY FIND SURPRISE IN  
DO THEY KNOW WHAT’S ON THE HORIZON?  
THEY THINK PREPPING IS MORONIC, RIFE  
WITH IGNORANCE, A WASTE OF LIFE  
JUST WAIT UNTIL THEY MEET THEIR DEMISE IN-STEAD OF US  
They’ll see the enterprise in a new light!  
UNLESS THERE’S NOTHING ON THE HORIZON  
*(RILEY sees the phone on the ground and picks it up. She examines it.)*  
YOU COULD SAY OUR WAY OF LIFE IS STERN  
THOUGH ESSENTIAL FOR STAYING ALIVE  
BUT IS IT SORT OF DEMENTED THAT WE LEARN  
TO SHOOT TO KILL AT THE AGE OF FIVE?  
DOES SOCIETY LOOK AT US AND SCOFF  
JUST ‘CAUSE THEY’VE NEVER MET US BEFORE?  
OR IS THERE OBJECTIVELY SOMETHING OFF  
ABOUT DIY-ING OUR OWN C-4?  
BECAUSE, RILEY  
MAYBE IT’S THE GOVERNMENT MIND CONTROL  
BUT YOUR LIFE IS NOT WITHOUT ITS TOLL  
IF IT’S DERANGED TO SUBSIST ON TRAPPING AND GUT–TING RABBITS, CALL ME QUEEN OF THE LOONS*
NEVER LEARNED ANOTHER LANGUAGE BUT
AT LEAST I’M FLUENT IN HARPOONS

AND IF IT’S NUTS PERFORM SOME RECKLESS TASK
THAT STILL HASN’T KILLED ME SOMEHOW
THEN, IT FEELS TABOO, BUT I GOTTA ASK:
WHERE THE HELL IS Y2K? ‘CAUSE NOW

I’M THINKING, “RILEY
“THOUGH IT SOUNDS A BIT UNCOUOTH
“WHO ARE WE TO CLAIM TO KNOW THE TRUTH?”

WHAT ARE WE MISSING?
DO THE SUPPLIES, PROVISIONS, GUNS AND GEAR
KEEP US SAFE YEAR AFTER YEAR
OR ARE WE JUST INSANE?

WHAT ARE WE MISSING?
IS BRACING FOR A LOOMING THREAT
AS WE RUN OUT A CLOCK THAT NO ONE SET
THE ONLY WAY TO LIVE?
IF THERE’S ANOTHER WAY TO LIVE

THERE’S NO WAY I CAN GO BACK TO THOSE CEASELESS DRILLS
WHILE THE REST OF THE WORLD PASSES BY
WHO CARES IF WE THINK THEIR COMPLACENCY KILLS
IF ALL THIS TIME WE’VE BEEN LIVING A LIE?

AND WHEN FUTURE GENERATIONS UNEARTH ME AFTER I’M GONE
AS SOME ARCHEOLOGICAL FIND
WILL THEY SAY, “THAT WAS RILEY, NO BIG DEAL, LET’S MOVE ON
“‘CAUSE LIKE THE REST OF HER PEOPLE, SHE WAS OUT OF HER MIND”

WHAT ARE WE MISSING?
THIS PLACE HAS NEVER FELT LIKE HOME
THERE’S ANOTHER WORLD THAT I COULD ROAM
BEYOND THE COLONY
BEYOND THE COLONY

FOR TWENTY YEARS WE’VE DISMISSED ‘EM
NEVER MISSED ‘EM OR THEIR SYSTEM
THEY ARE, OF COURSE, OFF COURSE
RIGHT?

NO ONE’S TRIED TO RECTIFY
OUR SHARED DISTRUST, BUT MAYBE I
CAN BE THE ONE TO ASK THEM WHY
OH WHY
THEN I–

’LL FIND WHAT’S MISSING
I WILL BE THE FIRST OF US TO DISCOVER WHAT’S REALLY OUT THERE TO BE CERTAIN OF ‘CAUSE SOON AS I EXPLAIN WHAT WE STAND TO GAIN WE WILL SEE JUST WHO’S INSANE!