

DNR RANGER NICK GEILER, 40's, in uniform, steps in beside Doug, who centers the mike between them.

TEXT OVERLAY: DNR RANGER NICK GEILER, SKUNK RIVER STATE PARK

DOUG

With me is DNR Officer Nick Geiler. Ranger Geiler, can you tell me anything about this attack?

GEILER

Well, bears are extremely rare in Iowa. Every few years a solitary one will wander on down here from Minnesota but they don't stick around long. It's still early spring and right now they're just starving after hibernating all winter. I suspect he was lured into the tent by some flavored lip gloss the woman had in her purse.

DOUG

Have you located the bear?

GEILER

As of this time we are still searching for it. The Sheriff's department is bringing in some tracking dogs to help find it. In the meantime we are encouraging people living near the park to stay in doors and closing the campsites until further notice.

DOUG

Thank you, Ranger Nick Geiler.

Geiler and Doug shakes hands, Geiler ducks under the crime scene tape and heads to SHERIFF AL WHITTAKER, 40's. They confer behind Doug.

<NEW SCENE>

EXT. RANGER STATION

Ranger Geiler pulls up, jumps out of his truck, rushes toward the group. Cole films.

GEILER
Exactly what's going on?

TERRY
We've got two campsites trashed and one girl missing.

JAMES
Michelle, my fiance.

Geiler checks his watch.

GEILER
It's almost five now. We'll wait til daybreak.

JAMES
What do you mean wait? We have to look for her now!

GEILER
I said we wait.

James moves toward Geiler. Terry steps in the way.

TERRY
Going out in the woods now would be like shooting yourself in the foot. You could twist your ankle, trip over a log and break your leg or fall into a ravine.

GEILER
And then we'd have to waste time rescuing you. How does that help her?

James turns away and stomps in frustration.

<NEW SCENE>

EXT. CREEK BANK

Gordon slowly leads the way, eyes on the ground. Geiler, Whittaker, Terry, Cole and James walk close behind. Gordon stops, kneels down, runs his hands over the rock, looks back behind them.

TERRY
What?

Gordon shakes his head.

GEILER
He lost the fucking trail.

Geiler paces away, everyone stands and waits.

TERRY
Just give him a minute, I'm sure he'll find it.

Geiler stomps back. Gordon ignores him.

GEILER
You all just sit tight and take a breather. I'm going to scout ahead.

TERRY
Shouldn't we stay together?

GEILER
Just stay here. I'll be back in a minute.

Geiler stalks away and disappears into the woods. Whittaker plops down on a rock, Terry stands nearby. James shrugs helplessly at Cole, then turns toward the woods.