

# **NO TURNING BACK**

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**INT. BASEMENT – NIGHT.**

A dark basement. Four boys, unconscious: LEO (18), ARIA (18), MAIA (17) and WILL (18), tied to chairs. Tape seals their mouths. ARIA begins to wake up, she looks around and realizes they've been kidnapped. She begins to struggle, trying to free herself and starts screaming for help.

**FLASHBACK: INT. CABIN – NIGHT.**

The four boys are streaming on YouTube.

ARIA

And they never found out who the real killer was.

LEO

There were suspects. They at least narrowed down his age. He was only fifteen years old. Do you think he's still alive?

MAIA

Most likely. Only three years have passed. What if we look again at ...

WILL interrupts her, checking his phone as he leans closer to the camera.

WILL

Thanks so much for the gift juan293!, you guys really push us to keep covering unsolved cases on stream.

ARIA

This has been one of the hardest cases we have covered... But we are really close!

ARIA keeps talking as Leo receives a notification. He looks at his phone. A message from an anonymous sender: "I warned you to stop investigating and you didn't. Now face the consequences". LEO moves closer to WILL and shows him, the message.

LEO

(whispering)

We need to stop the stream now.

WILL

(to the viewers)

Guys!, we're having some internet issues right now.  
We'll be back tomorrow to continue. Bye!

WILL ends the stream. The others stare at him confused.

LEO

Guys... he texted me again.

**END FLASHBACK:**

**INT. BASEMENT – NIGHT.**

ARIA managed to free herself and is helping the others.

ARIA

(panicked)

We need to leave now!

WILL

The door's unlocked! Move! He's about to come.

The four of them rush out. They escape the place and end up in the woods.

**EXT. WOODS – NIGHT.**

MAIA

(exhausted)

Wait! Stop running. Where are we even going?

ARIA

We're close to the cabin. Look at that sign. This is the route we took to get here.

LEO

You sure?

ARIA

Yes, we can get help from there. The police station is too far on foot.

MAIA leans against a tree, catching her breath. ARIA y LEO keep talking.

ARIA

We'll be safe there. I have a spare... and Maia?  
MAIA screams. A distant gunshot echoes. The KIDNAPPER runs toward the trio. The three of them run desperately towards the cabin.

ARIA

(nervous)

He's coming closer!

LEO

Aria get help! Will and I will slow him down.

ARIA

(voice breaking)

Leo no...

LEO

Just do it!

ARIA runs off quickly. LEO trips and as he tries to get up, he feels a gun pointed at him. WILL holds a gun on LEO.

WILL

Leo, when will you realize some questions are better left unanswered.

ARIA runs and hears a gunshot.

ARIA

(voice trembling)

No, no, no, no, this can't be happening.

ARIA runs toward the cabin and bursts inside.

#### INT. CABIN – NIGHT.

She quickly locks the door. Nervous, she frantically rushes to a nightstand and starts rummaging through it, scattering everything around her. Visual chaos intensifies.

ARIA

(nervous)

Where is it? Where? I'm sure I left it here..

ARIA keeps searching until she finds a phone.

ARIA

Here is it. What was the number?

ARIA punches in a number and calls 911.

ARIA

(desperate)

Please, answer. Come on!

911 answers.

911 OPERATOR

911, what's your emergency?

ALESSIA

(about to break down)

Please I need help. I'm in a cabin, Cieneguilla 108. Someone's after me. He already killed my friends. Please!

911 OPERATOR

Help is on the way. I need you to stay calm and listen to me... First, make sure all the doors and windows are locked. Then...

A few moments go by. Not a sound.

ARIA

(raising her voice)

Then what? Hey... and then, then what?

ARIA notices the call has been cut off.

ARIA

(desesperate and almost crying)

You have got to be kidding me. Why... why me? Why?!

ARIA grips the phone, yelling in frustration. She pauses for a moment, thinking. Nervous and trembling she picks up the phone and starts the stream again. ARIA sets the phone on the nightstand, she looks at the camera.

ARIA

Everyone watching... please listen carefully. This is no longer a game. We made the mistake of digging into things that should have stayed buried. I'm...

ARIA freezes, staring at a message from a viewer: "Someone's behind you"

Lights go out. Phone clatters to the floor. On the ground, the phone screen shows viewers still typing. Only WILL's and ARIA's voices can be heard.

ARIA

You? Why would you do it?

WILL

See, solving crimes was like playing an exciting board game, fascinating and addictive, as long as I wasn't the one at risk. Now that I'm the target, the game isn't fun anymore.

ARIA screams. The phone screen glows with messages from viewers still coming in. WILL, masked, grabs the phone and speaks to the camera.

WILL

You thought this was entertainment, something distant, something safe, but the ones you've been watching... they kept digging, convinced they were untouchable. Every step they took, every question they asked, pulled them closer to the edge, closer to something they shouldn't have found. Some truths resist being uncovered. Some things are buried for a reason, some doors are meant to stay closed, because once you open them... there's no turning back.

