

"Away With the Fairies"

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

A moving van is parked in front of a house nestled in the woods. The family's MOTHER and FATHER carry boxes inside. Their children--HARRY, 14; LISA, 9; and JUNE, 5--play in the front yard.

ADULT LISA (V.O.)

I don't consider myself a superstitious person. I've always been a skeptic, but there's one thing I could never explain. It started when I was nine. We had just moved into our new house....

FATHER

Harry, would you come over here and give us a hand?

HARRY

Aw, fine.

JUNE

Let me help too, daddy!

FATHER

No, honey, you're too little. Lisa, why don't you take June and show her around the place?

LISA

Okay, Dad.

Lisa leads June into the backyard.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

The yard is surrounded by trees. As soon as she sees it, June runs around playing. Lisa follows.

JUNE

Wow, this place is great!

Lisa notices a knot in a tree that looks like a woman's angry face. She stares at it, disturbed, and it seems to stare back. Push in on their eyes as they keep staring at each other. Suddenly, time seems to have passed, and a voice comes from inside the house.

MOTHER

Lisa. Lisa! I said come inside.  
Dinner's ready.

LISA

Coming, Mom!

She runs inside, casting one last glance at the knot.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lisa lies sleeping in her bedroom, still mostly unfurnished and filled with boxes. A buzzing sound begins coming from outside, which wakes her. She gets up, opens the window, and looks into the backyard.

The sound seems to be coming from the tree knot. They stare at each other for a protracted moment as the buzzing grows ever louder.

Lisa grabs her head in pain, closes the window, and goes back to bed.

INT. DINING ROOM - MORNING

A window overlooks the backyard. The family is having breakfast. Lisa enters, looking tired.

MOTHER

Lisa, sweetie, are you alright?  
You look terrible.

LISA

I'm fine, just tired. What was  
that noise last night?

MOTHER

What noise?

LISA

The tree in the backyard was making  
a buzzing noise. It was so loud,  
it kept me up all night.

FATHER

You just had a bad dream. Don't worry about it.

LISA

It wasn't a dream, I know it!

HARRY

(Teasing)

Maybe it's the monsters in the woods coming to take you away.

MOTHER

Harry, don't.

LISA

There aren't monsters in the woods, right?

MOTHER

Of course not. There's no such thing as monsters.

Lisa stares out the dining room window. The tree stares back.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

A middle-aged woman walks through the trees. She grabs a pine cone off the ground, holds it to her head, and meditates. The buzzing sound begins. She lowers the pine cone, and her face transforms into the knot in the tree. Lisa wakes up in bed.

EXT. BACKYARD - NIGHT

Lisa sneaks out into the yard. The buzzing grows. She looks at the knot again--it seems to be smiling warmly.

She looks around the ground surrounding the tree and finds a pine cone. She meditates on it, just as the woman in her dream did.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

When Lisa looks up, she finds herself deep in the woods. There is lantern light nearby. A half dozen FAIRY CHILDREN run up to surround her.

FAIRY 1

Ooh, a new friend! Hi there!

FAIRY 2

What's your name?

LISA

...Lisa. Who are you? Where am I?

FAIRY 1

We're the children of the trees,  
and this is our home.

FAIRY 3

We've been waiting for you. We  
want to play.

LISA

Where are your parents?

FAIRY 1

All around us. I said, we're the  
children of the trees.

FAIRY 2

Grown ups can't see us, or hear our  
call.

LISA

The buzzing?

FAIRY 2

Yeah. We were worried you were too  
old to hear it.

FAIRY 3

But now you're here, so you can be  
our friend. Come on!

They walk to a nearby clearing filled with lanterns and  
more fairy children. In a brief montage, they dance  
and play until morning light peeks through the trees.

FAIRY 1

It's almost morning. You have to  
go back home now.

LISA

Aw, but I've had so much fun.

FAIRY 1

You can come back again. Just wait  
until you hear our call.

LISA

Okay.

The fairy leads Lisa through the trees and back home.

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

Lisa arrives and sits on the end of her bed. Her pajamas are covered in dirt and leaves. She is about to lie down, when her alarm clock goes off.

LISA

Oh, no.

INT. DINING ROOM - MORNING

Lisa joins her family.

MOTHER

Lisa! What happened?

JUNE

Ha ha! You're messy.

HARRY

Ooh, you're in trouble.

LISA

I was just... sleepwalking.

FATHER

You were playing outside at night, weren't you?

LISA

I didn't do anything.

FATHER

It's dangerous out there. You'd better not do it again.

LISA

Yes, Sir.

She looks out at the tree. It smiles at her.

Another montage plays out as, throughout the following year, Lisa continues being awakened by the buzzing, going outside to stare at a pine cone, and playing with a rotating cast of fairies.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lisa is in bed. The buzzing begins.

LISA

Ugh, I'm tired.

The buzzing grows louder.

LISA (CONT'D)

I don't want to play tonight.

The buzzing gets even louder. The face on the tree distorts from a smile to a snarl. Lisa turns away from the window.

LISA (CONT'D)

No! Maybe tomorrow.

The buzzing stops. There is a tap on the window. Lisa turns to see a fairy staring at her, face against the glass. She screams. The fairy, furious, throws a rock through the window. Lisa screams again, and her parents rush in.

MOTHER

What happened?

LISA

There was someone at the window,  
and--

FATHER

I'm calling the police.

He leaves.

MOTHER

Are you okay? Did you see who it  
was?

LISA

It was... I don't know. I couldn't  
see.

MOTHER

Don't worry, it'll be fine.

She holds her crying daughter. Jump forward to show police examining the broken window.

ADULT LISA (V.O.)

And that was the last time I ever saw them. I never told anyone about my trips into the woods, or my strange former friends. Like I said, I'm not superstitious. One thing is for sure, though. I do believe in fairies.

INT. HOUSE - DAY

In the present day, ADULT LISA leafs through a photo album. We don't see her face. She stops on a picture of the knot in the tree.

ADULT LISA (V.O.)

Oh, and there's something else strange. That face in the tree... it looked strangely like my own.

We now see Lisa's face. She is the same woman we saw in the dream.

THE END