



Script for Season 1, Episode 1

THE UNEXPLAINABLE DISAPPEARANCE OF MARS PATEL - SEASON I

EPISODE 1 - "CODE RED"

101-INTRO OLIVER PRUITT MONOLOGUE

Open with mysterious music as we're introduced to our narrator/sponsor/host, the billionaire inventor, OLIVER PRUITT. Pruitt is cheeky and warm, but there's an edge to him. Like science and tech's answer to Willy Wonka.

OLIVER PRUITT (V.O)

Hey kids. Yeah, you. Podcast listeners. Oliver Pruitt here. Maybe you're listening in the backseat of your parents car or on your phone. Sorry to interrupt, but I can do that since I'm the sponsor. That means I pay the bills. So if your mom or dad is listening, tell them not to pay attention. I created this podcast for you: the kid who believes anything is possible. Like eleven-year-old Mars Patel. Take a listen as I drop you into the hallway of H.G. Wells Middle School, and into the middle of a mystery.

Dozens of kids jostle around the school hallway. Laughter, high-pitched squeals. We settle in with a group of three on the outskirts of the chaos.

OLIVER PRUITT (V.O.)

Mars and his pals, Jonas and Caddie, haven't heard from their friend Aurora in... how long has it been, Mars?

101-1 INT. H.G. WELLS MIDDLE SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

MARS PATEL

Five days.

Lockers open and close.

JONAS

Five days what?

CADDIE

You know what he's talking about,
Jonas.

JONAS

Oh great. He's on the Aurora thing
again?

MARS

It's not the Aurora thing. She's
gone.

The three begin the walk to class.

JONAS

A person is made of matter. A
person has mass. She's not gone.

MARS

She's not *not* gone. Five days since
Aurora disappeared. She isn't
responding to texts or calls. She
hasn't posted anything on Instagram
all week. There's no one at her
house.

JONAS

Just 'cause someone forgets to say
goodbye doesn't mean she's missing.
I mean, wouldn't her parents be
freaking out?

MARS

We don't even know where they are.
Caddie, you feel me on this, right?

CADDIE

I always feel you, Mars. Whether I
like it or not.

MARS

And you're sure you didn't get one
of your weird vibes from her in the
locker room?

CADDIE

No. Aurora was...like she always
is. In her own world. Drawing in
that sketchbook when we were
supposed to be getting changed. But
she said she'd be right out. And
then she wasn't.

MARS

It still doesn't make any sense.
Where did she go?

CADDIE

I'm probably going to regret saying
this....

Caddie's cut off as a loud electronic Alarm beep cuts through the din of the hallway. A code red - the warning to lock down the school!

MARS

Shhh!

PRINCIPAL FAGIN

(over the loudspeaker)
Attention, students and faculty.
This is a CODE RED. Please keep
calm and proceed with lockdown
protocols.

CADDIE

Is this a real one?

JONAS

Nah, its probably a drill.

Caddie and Jonas walk quickly after Mars, who opens a heavy wooden door.

MARS

In here.

JONAS

You want to hide in the Janitor's
closet?

MARS

You'd rather pack into the science
lab with half the sixth grade?

CADDIE

No way. Last time someone knocked
off my glasses and I was blind for
a week.

The alarm continues to beep as the tenor of the hallway changes. Locks clang. A hush falls as everyone hustles to get out of the hallway. Doors open and shut. Footsteps everywhere.

MRS. WELLINGTON

Out of the halls! Everyone into the nearest room. Stay quiet. Keep away from doors and windows.

The door closes shut and now the background noise goes almost silent. We're in the janitor's closet with Mars, Caddie and Jonas. The only sound is their breathing.

MARS

Wow. It's really dark in here, huh?

CADDIE

(holding her head in pain)
Ow! I think something's really happening out there. The energy in the school totally changed.

MARS

You're having one of your headaches? Like when you can tell something's going on.

CADDIE

I don't know. It's not that bad... Yet.

JONAS

Sometimes a headache is just a headache. Could it be because that stupid alarm won't stop going off in our ears. In a few minutes - uh-oh!

CADDIE

Uh oh *what*, Jonas?

JONAS

I gotta go.

MARS

Now? You can't!

JONAS

You know my deal. The bowels are irritable, man. And I forgot to take my meds.

MARS

It's a Code Red.

JONAS

Yeah, well I'm about to have a Code Brown in my pants. The bathroom is like a ten second run.

Jonas jiggles the door handle to get out. Caddie puts out her hand.

CADDIE

And what if someone's in the hall?

JONAS

Then I juke him out. Just like clearing a level on Assassin's Quest.

MARS

Except this is not a game.

JONAS

Everything's a game, Mars.
Everything's a game.

Jonas creaks open the door. The code red beep is still sounding, but otherwise the hallway is quiet.

CADDIE

Jonas, you need to listen to me. My head is...Ugh!

Caddie stumbles from the pain.

JONAS

Believe me, you'll be glad I did.

MARS

Come on, man...

JONAS

See you guys on the other side.

Jonas opens the door and rushes off. We stay in the closet with Mars and Caddie.

MARS

He'll be okay.

CADDIE

I mean we could still...

MARS

No, we hang here. We wait 'til it's over.

CADDIE

It's okay to admit that you're scared.

MARS

You know I hate it when you read my thoughts.

CADDIE

I can't read your thoughts. I just feel things.

MARS

Yeah, well it makes me feel weird. Like you're all up inside my head.

CADDIE

Sorry. I just can't help it sometimes. It's always been this way. Since we were little kids. I felt this connection to you.

(deep breath)

So I was thinking... the dance is coming up and I know you were going to ask Aurora. Not that you told me that. And not that I felt it, I just guessed. But what if...?

MARS

We should probably be quiet. You know, in case someone's out there.

CADDIE

(stung)

Right. I'm sure Aurora's fine, Mars. You'll hear from her soon.

PRINCIPAL FAGIN

(over the loudspeaker)

Attention, students and faculty. The lockdown has ended. Please return to your regularly scheduled classes. Thank you for your cooperation.

MARS

(over the announcement)

So that's it? We're safe.

CADDIE

Yeah. Another false alarm. Guess Jonas was right. Sometimes a headache is just a headache.

MARS
I'm gonna go find him.

CADDIE
OK. See you guys at detention?

Mars opens closed door. We hear background hallway noises of the middle school as they leave.

MARS
I'll save you your usual seat.

CADDIE
Mars?... I'm glad we were together.

Caddie leaves Mars.

MARS
Yeah.

Mars walks down the hall and opens the door to the Boys' Bathroom. His voice echoes.

MARS (CONT'D)
Jonas, Code Red's over
dude...Jonas, you in here?

Nothing but silence.

MARS (CONT'D)
(narrating)
Yeah. So that was the last time any
of us saw Jonas.

BRIDGE TO: TITLE
MUSIC

101-2 INT. MR. Q'S CLASSROOM - DAY

Mars records into his cell phone.

MARS
(narrating)
Hey, Aurora. It's me, Mars. Again.
I have no idea if you're getting
these recordings I'm putting up on
the cloud. My texts are bouncing
back. Emails, too. People keep
telling me I worry too much. I
don't know.
(beat)
If you are in some kinda trouble...
I just...
(MORE)

MARS (CONT'D)

I want you know I'm looking, okay?
I'm going to find you. And Jonas,
too. So anyway, until I do... I'll
just keep recording.

We open with sounds from Mr. Q's Classroom. Detention.
Students are talking to each other and giggling, as MR. Q
brings the crew to order.

MR. Q

Welcome, Detention Dwellers. For
those law-abiding citizens making
their first appearance here, I am
Mr. Q. And yes, I am at least as
cool as you've heard. However, I do
expect you to use this time
productively. I know you've got
standardized GiFT tests coming up.
I don't need to tell you how
important they are. If you have any
pertinent questions about how
things work in here, feel free to
ask the experts. Mars Patel,
insubordination?

MARS

Do you know how unfair it is that
we are expected to be in school by -

MR. Q

(roll call)
Caddie Patchett. Let me guess.
Defending Mars?

CADDIE

He actually had a point this time.

MR. Q

He usually has a point. *Randall*
"Toothpick" Reed. What'd you do
this time, 'Pick'?

TOOTHPICK

(from across the room)
The security on the library
computers is so basic. How can you
call it "security" when all you
have to do is decode the password
and send it to
(pulls back)
I've said too much. Mr. Q, may I
begin taking attendance?

MR. Q
All you, Toothpick.

Toothpick begins taking attendance, in the background.

MR. Q (CONT'D)
Who are we missing? Let me guess.

The door flies open and JP enters.

JP
JP McGowan. Forty-third straight
day of detention. A new record,
thank you very much.

There is clapping and cheering from the students.

MR. Q
Unnecessary roughness, JP?

JP
No. It was totally necessary. Ask
Jaden Walsh if he'll ever throw
Jell-O at Toothpick again.

TOOTHPICK
(taking a break from his
counting)
He won't!

MR. Q
Grab a seat with your friends, JP.

Students settle down.

CADDIE
Hey, JP.

JP
Hi, Caddie. Hey, Mars.

MARS
You hear anything from Jonas, JP?

JP
He's probably in one of his gaming
comas. He goes MIA when he's locked
in.

MARS
He went into the bathroom during
the Code Red and never came out.

JP

It happens.

CADDIE

It's happened twice now. And like Mars said nobody besides us seems to be asking questions.

MR. Q

(approaches)

Are we talking about Jonas? I was wondering why he wasn't with us today.

MARS

We don't know where he is. He wasn't excused from detention?

MR. Q

Nobody's said anything to me. Is this another Aurora situation?

JP

Be careful, Mr. Q. He doesn't like when you call it a "situation."

MARS

I think we should just call it what it is. They're missing.

MR. Q

And why do you think that is, Mars?

MARS

(a little lost)

I don't know.

JP

Aliens. CIA assassinations... Ooh! Maybe one of those time-space wormholes.

CADDIE

JP, you don't think it's weird that they've both disappeared?

JP

I think we've all got problems. And I think Mars is trying to pull us into another one of his conspiracy theories.

MARS

It's not a theory. Two of our friends dropped off the face of the Earth.

Toothpick is now in front and center.

TOOTHPICK

Fourteen students on the list. Twelve students present. Two students absent. Jonas Hopkins and Aurora Gershewitz.

MR. Q

Thank you, Mr. Reed.

JP

Look, maybe they'll both show up tomorrow and explain that they got some weird virus that paralyzes your texting fingers.

TOOTHPICK

Or their parents moved them to a country with no wifi.

MARS

Whatever it is, nobody seems to care or even notice when it's kids like us.

MR. Q

(from across)

What do you mean, "kids like you?"

TOOTHPICK

Outcasts. Misfits. Freaks....

JP

Ok, Toothpick. I think he gets it.

TOOTHPICK

Losers. Oddballs. Weirdos...

MARS

Mr. Q, you're looking at me like I'm insane.

MR. Q

Actually, Mars, your teachers might not appreciate the way your brain fires, but I do.

(MORE)

MR. Q (CONT'D)

So if you're convinced something's going on, and if Caddie feels it too, then who am I to tell you different?

JP

Ugh, Mr. Q, don't tell me you're on his side.

MR. Q

I didn't say that. But I already know I can't stop Mars Patel once he's made up his mind..

CADDIE

You're learning. That's good.

JP

Good? I'm having a hard time seeing how any of this is "good".

MARS

Come on, JP, help us look.

JP

Not this time, Mars. Tell the alien CIA assassins I say hi.

101-3 INT. PATEL KITCHEN - NIGHT

Cheery, cheesy music leads us into a commercial for Pruitt Prep.

COMMERCIAL VOICE

At Pruitt Prep, we understand the extraordinary kid. We're looking for students who think differently. Who dream big. If you think you have what it takes to join us, visit our website at Pruitt Prep dot com and take the test. To the stars!

Mars opens a refrigerator, pours cereal and milk and closes the door. On his phone Mars begins to record a message for Aurora.

MARS

Hope you don't mind hearing me make myself dinner, Aurora. Galaxy Clusters. Again. I know, I know.
(MORE)

MARS (CONT'D)

But cereal is all we have in the house and I've got a lot to figure out.

The laptop in the background plays an interview.

REPORTER

(on laptop)

Thanks for joining us. From our electric cars to our phones to the way we power our homes, there's not a family in America that doesn't use something that came from the mind of Oliver Pruitt. And now the man who changed our world says he knows how to save it.

MARS

(over the audio)

You always made fun of me for having Oliver Pruitt's picture in my locker, Aurora, but the guy is a rock star.

OLIVER PRUITT

(on computer)

You know, I've invented hundreds of things. I've designed vehicles for private space flight and created tech for self-sustaining plants that can grow in any environment, but really I believe my true calling is education. To the stars, I like to say. The school I created, Pruitt Prep is unlike any in the world.

The door opens, and Mars' mom, MRS. PATEL enters. She's loving and warm, but she's always in a rush to get somewhere.

MRS. PATEL

Mars?

Mars turns down the audio.

MARS

Mom? What're you doing home?

MRS. PATEL

(in a hurry)

I'm not really here. Just needed to change my shoes. I'm due at the restaurant in fifteen minutes.

She notices what Mars is eating.

MRS. PATEL (CONT'D)
Galaxy Clusters, again?
Really? Didn't I leave you some of
that--

MARS
No, you didn't.

MRS. PATEL
Oh. Well, I will tomorrow. I'll get
up early and cook. I promise. Mars,
are you recording us?

MARS
No, I just... I was sending
something to Aurora.

MRS. PATEL
(into the phone)
Hello, Aurora. How are you,
sweetheart?

MARS
(very softly, almost to
himself)
Gone.

MRS. PATEL
What?

MARS
(gathering his courage)
Mom, can I talk to you about
something?

MRS. PATEL
Sure. Just let me find my....

Mrs. Patel is looking for something in the room.

MRS. PATEL (CONT'D)
Sorry. Keep going.

MARS
Okay, it's just... We were talking
to Mr. Q in detention today and...

MRS. PATEL
Detention? Again?

MARS

Yeah, but I didn't do anything this time. Mrs. Wellington got all mad because I told her the Earth is dying and that it's all her generation's fault...

MRS. PATEL

You need to listen to your teachers, Manu.

MARS

You know I don't like when you call me that.

MRS. PATEL

That Mr. Q makes it too fun for you kids. Detention is supposed to be horrible. You know who doesn't go to detention? Kids who make it to Pruitt Prep.

MARS

Mom, I'm trying to talk to you about Jonas.

MRS. PATEL

(softening)

I love that you have friends. I know that's been hard for you at times. But if Jonas and Caddie and the others keep landing you in detention..

MARS

Mom, I'm trying to explain--

MRS. PATEL

You're special, Mars. You're so special. I've always known it. You are the reason I work two jobs. So you can go to a good school and grow up to be important. Special. Okay, baby. I love you.

She kisses his forehead.

MRS. PATEL (CONT'D)

Do your homework and go to bed at a decent hour. We'll talk in the morning?

MARS

Yeah. Sure.

MRS. PATEL opens the door and leaves the apartment.

MARS (CONT'D)
(into his phone)
Good night, Aurora. I'm gonna find
you. Mars, out.

Transition Music.

101-4 INT. H.G. WELLS MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

In between the raucous cacophony of a middle school lunch room, Mars and his friends settle down to eat.

MARS
(recording on his phone)
Bet you don't miss the cafeteria,
Aurora. At least when you and Jonas
were here we filled a whole table.
Now it just feels...empty.

CADDIE
Hey, Mars.
(into Mars' phone)
Hey, Aurora. Miss you.

TOOTHPICK
The menu said tater tots was a
side. They have french fries. I
pointed it out to them. I didn't
get upset, though. Not too much.
Jonas liked fries.

MARS
Yeah. Yeah, he did.
(correcting himself)
Does. You guys hear anything?

JP
(arriving at the table)
Are you just going to keep
recording us for the rest of our
lives?

MARS
I'm trying to keep a record.

JP
Of what? The day we all finally
dropped dead from the "healthy
lunch"?

CADDIE

Hey, JP.

JP

You're cool with this Caddie?

CADDIE

It's a lot. But I think sending recordings to Aurora helps him process his feelings.

JP

Even though his girlfriend never responds?

CADDIE

She wasn't his girlfriend.

MARS

She wasn't my girlfriend.

JP

Uh huh. I'm just wondering if you'd be "keeping a record" if someone other than Aurora disappeared. Would you be this upset if it was, I don't know... ?

CADDIE

Of course we would, JP. We'd miss you just as much.

JP

(covering)

I didn't say *me*.

CADDIE

Sorry. Kinda obvious. But we're a team, right?

TOOTHPICK

Mars, I've been thinking. About Aurora and Jonas. And patterns.

MARS

You're good at solving mysteries, Toothpick.

Epica walks up and starts banging the table.

EPICA

Excuse me? I said excuse me? Are you guys the freak table or the hearing impaired table?

Students in the cafeteria start whispering as the exchange between Mars and his friends and Epica develops; some giggle.

CADDIE

Can we help you with something,
Epica?

EPICA

These two empty chairs? I'm taking
them.

MARS

Sorry. We need these chairs.

EPICA

Like, why?

TOOTHPICK

There are six people at this table.

EPICA

Are the other two people, like,
real people?

More giggling from Epica's cohorts.

JP

Okay, time for you to go.

EPICA

Spoiler alert: Nobody's coming to
sit with you losers!

JP pushes her chair back from the table.

JP

Leave now.

JP grabs Epica.

EPICA

Hey, don't touch me. Help! IT'S
attacking me!

CADDIE

Don't call her that!

Chaos in the lunchroom as Epica's friends come to her
defense. There is a lot of yelling from both sides.

MARS

Get away from her! What are you
doing?

TOOTHPICK

Stop! Stop! Stop!

JP
Get off me!

A whistle blows as one of the lunch monitors breaks up the fight.

101-5 INT. H.G. WELLS MIDDLE SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Mars is alone again, recording into his phone.

MARS
(into his phone)
Fighting in the cafeteria, Aurora.
Two more weeks of detention. But
hey, they didn't take away your
chair.
(stops mid-thought)
Jonas' mom! That's Jonas' mom going
into his locker!

Mars runs up to MRS. HOPKINS, who is at Jonas' locker.

MARS (CONT'D)
Mrs. Hopkins!

MRS. HOPKINS
(startled and nervous)
Mars?

MARS
Yeah, hi. ..uh, where's Jonas?

MRS. HOPKINS
Uh... Jonas?

MARS
Yeah. Jonas, your son? Where is he?

MRS. HOPKINS
Jonas is...he's great. Wonderful.

MARS
Um, okay... but where?

MRS. HOPKINS
Mars, I...I just came here to pick
up his medication. You know, for
his stomach. We're about to go away
on a family trip. I wasn't planning
on seeing anyone.

MARS

I don't understand. During the Code Red, Jonas just...disappeared.

MRS. HOPKINS

Oh, Mars. You look so worried. You don't have to be worried. This is a great thing. Like a dream come true.

MARS

A dream? Whose dream?

MRS. HOPKINS

All of us. Let's be honest, Jonas' record in school was less than stellar. He spent all of his time playing those silly games and--

MARS

He didn't think they were silly.

MRS. HOPKINS

Right. Well, I'd all but given up on him and then...

MARS

And then what? Mrs. Hopkins, what are you talking about? Are you okay?

MRS. HOPKINS

I'm wonderful, Mars. It was lovely to see you. I'll be sure and tell Jonas you said hello.

MARS

(upset and frustrated)

I don't understand! Why aren't you telling me where he is?!

MRS. HOPKINS

You'll understand eventually. Oh and Mars, I know you've had your own struggles. Maybe one day this will happen for you, too!

MARS

What will happen? I don't - Mrs. Hopkins?

Mrs. Hopkins' heels click as she walks off down the hall.

MARS (CONT'D)

(to Aurora on his phone)

Did you hear all that, Aurora? What the heck just happened?

101-6 BREAK

NPR ANNOUNCER

Today's podcast is brought to you by Pruitt Industries and Pruitt Prep. Pruitt takes you to the stars.

OLIVER PRUITT

Oliver Pruitt again. Look out your window. See the blue sky? The clouds? The moon. The planets. It's all going to be yours one day. I built my school, Pruitt Prep, for kids, just like you. We put it on an island, so we could make it special. Does that sound fun? Or...maybe a little scary?

(laughs)

The students at Pruitt Prep are the brightest, most original thinkers in the world. Do you think maybe that's you? Here's a question...I am weightless but you can see me...hmmm...put me in a bucket and I'll make it lighter. What am I? Think you know the answer? At Pruitt Prep, we like to say, "to the stars" and I believe it. I live it. Every day. And I know you do too. So, plug back in, think of the answer, and I'll be back with you again...sooner than you think.

101-7 INT. PAINTBALL PALACE - AFTERNOON

MARS

(recording on his phone)

Hey, Aurora. Seven days now since you disappeared. Two since Jonas went missing. Feels like a year. How weird was his mom? She took everything from his locker. It's like he was never there at all. 'Course we know where Jonas really lived.

(MORE)

MARS (CONT'D)

So that's where we're headed to get answers. Hope it's not too loud for you.

Mars enters a raucous video game arcade/kids zone. Kids screaming over the sound of games and attractions.

MARS (CONT'D)

Sorry I'm late. Mr. Q stopped me after school to ask about Jonas.

JP

Why does it always smell like roasted armpit in here?

CADDIE

All arcades smell like stinky boys.

TOOTHPICK

Because they're filled with stinky boys.

BODIE

(over speaker)

Attention paintball soldiers! Two hot dogs for the price of one. Five minutes only!

JP

Anyone else think it's twisted to have paintball and video games under one roof? It's basically murderer training camp.

MARS

Jonas loved it here.

JP

He also loved gummy bears on his pizza.

CADDIE

It's strange to see Jonas' picture up there on the wall.

TOOTHPICK

Only five people in the country have ever scored higher than ten-thousand on Breaking and Entering. He's in quite esteemed company.

BODIE

(in a thunderous voice)
*Now entering the Paintball-a-torium
for the Duel of Doom... Garth
Richardson's fifth' birthday party!
Let those paintballs fly!*

MARS

(over announcement)
Let's talk to that Bodie guy. He
does the paintball announcements.

Mars knocks on the Paintball office.

MARS (CONT'D)

Hey, Bodie.

BODIE

Mars Patel! So glad you're here,
man. You seen Jonas? Some dude is
closing in on his high score on
Breaking & Entering.

TOOTHPICK

I love that game! I like to be the
cops. Jonas was always the bad guy.

JP

Yeah, he was hard core. When he
wasn't having a tummy ache.

MARS

We need your help, Bodie. Jonas
disappeared from school two days
ago.

BODIE

Disappeared? Like...poof?

MARS

We were wondering if we can check
his locker.

BODIE

It's against Palace regs, but as
assistant manager, I do have a
master key! Come on, guys.
(to colleague)
Hey Chris, cover for me, will ya?

The friends and Bodie start walking towards Jonas' locker.

CADDIE

Tell us again what Jonas's mom said?

MARS

It isn't what she said as what she didn't say....Like pretty much anything.

CADDIE

And she was acting weird?

MARS

For a human.

JP

Alright, can we just check out this locker and get out of here?

Bodie unlocks Jonas' locker.

BODIE

Whoops. Did that thing get unlocked? Don't know how that happened. Open at your own risk, dudes.

Bodie takes the master key and walks away.

CADDIE

This could go very wrong. I once saw Jonas stuff half a meatball parm sub in there.

JP

Alright, will someone just open the dang thing already!

MARS

On three. One...two...

Mars opens it slowly.

TOOTHPICK

(in shock)

Empty! Just like his school locker!

MARS

It's gone. All of it.

JP

What do we do now?

CADDIE

Mars has another plan... Right?

TOOTHPICK

Mars always has a plan.

JP

Do you, genius?

MARS

(beat)

We're breaking into Jonas' house.

TOOTHPICK

Breaking and entering? Are we the cops or the criminals? Because you know the criminals get shot most of the time.

JP

You know, having a plan is not the same as having a good plan.

CADDIE

He's not going to let us say no.

MARS

We're going to find Aurora and Jonas.

TOOTHPICK

Even if we get shot in the process.

101-8 EXT QUIET SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

It is early evening and there are sounds of crickets in an otherwise quiet street. The friends are talking in hushed voices- whispering to each other.

MARS

(into his phone)

Here's one to draw in your sketchbook, Aurora: me and the rest of your friends hiding in the bushes outside Jonas' house. He would've loved this mission. Another game. Only we're breaking into his place.

(beat)

I know it was my idea, but to be honest I'm not even sure what we're looking for.

JP

Shhh! Could you can the narration for once so we can just do this?

MARS

Jonas's room was in the basement. I've snuck him in and out a million times. This way.

A dog begins to bark inside the house.

JP

Since when does Jonas have a dog?

CADDIE

He was allergic to every animal on Earth. Dogs made his throat close up.

MARS

Maybe his parents knew he wouldn't be living here anymore.

JP

They didn't waste any time.

Dog continues to bark.

TOOTHPICK

Woof.

JP

Shhh! You said they were going away. They left their new doggie home alone?

CADDIE

I can handle Chompers.

TOOTHPICK

(loudly)

She's going to use her powers!

The whole group shushes Toothpick. Caddie walks up from the bushes and opens the gate. The dog starts barking loudly.

JP

How long before we go in after her?

MARS

Give it a minute--

The barking suddenly stops and the street goes quiet again. Caddie calls out to her friends.

CADDIE

Guys. Come on through. I've got the puppy.

Mars, JP and Toothpick start in through the gate.

MARS

Man, she is good.

JP

You finally noticed. That's the vicious animal? It looks like a Beanie Boo.

MARS

Okay, like we planned. Toothpick, you stand guard. The rest of us in through the basement.

JP

And you're sure you remember the alarm code?

MARS

Unless they've changed it--

The keypad beeps as Mars enters three digits. He pauses to think before entering the last digit.

TOOTHPICK

The last number is a seven.

MARS

How do you know?

TOOTHPICK

I remember the code.

MARS

I thought it was an eight?

TOOTHPICK

It's a seven.

MARS

I really think its an eight.

JP

(harsh whispering)
You guys going to stand here all night and discuss this?

TOOTHPICK
(whispers)
Seven.

MARS
Okay. You're the numbers guy. We'll
go with seven.

Mars enters the last digit and the alarm beeps off.

CADDIE
Is it off?

MARS
I think so.

TOOTHPICK
(mimicking game)
One thousand points on
Breaking & Entering.

They open the basement door and walk down some steps.

JP
A light would be nice.

A light switch is turned on.

JP (CONT'D)
I thought you said he lived here.

MARS
He does.
(beat)
He did. It used to be tricked out.

CADDIE
It's totally empty. Just like the
lockers. Not even a bed or a lamp
or a poster on the wall.
Everything's gone.

MARS
Including Jonas.

JP
Can we go? I think I've had enough
creepy for one night.

CADDIE
That sounds like a pretty good
idea.

MARS
Not until we find something.

JP
Like what?

MARS
Anything. Jonas said it himself
before the Code Red. People don't
just disappear, right?

JP
Can we at least look upstairs?

The kids check out the basement - opening and closing closets
trying to find clues. There is a loud crash.

JP (CONT'D)
Oh man.

CADDIE
What was that?

JP
Expensive.

The sound of a siren in the distance.

CADDIE
No. What is that sound? Outside?

Caddie is overwhelmed by pain.

CADDIE (CONT'D)
Ow!

MARS
Is it your head? Is it hurting
again?

CADDIE
Maybe it's just...

Another wave of pain.

CADDIE (CONT'D)
Ugh, Owww!

MARS
It's that bad?

JP

Ok, I usually don't believe in the whole "Caddie's magic head" thing, but why take chances?

CADDIE

(head throbbing)

Ahh...You guys can't hear that?

The police sirens are closer now.

MARS

Sirens.

JP

Police sirens? I thought you guys said the alarm was off?

MARS

It's probably not for us.

JP

Probably?!

They each get a text message alert on their phone, one after the other. The police sirens are pretty close now.

MARS

Did you guys just get a text message?

JP

Yeah, did you?

Toothpick runs into the room, out of breath.

TOOTHPICK

(loudly)

I just got a text!

CADDIE

It's -- from Jonas!

JP

Is it me or are those sirens getting louder?

CADDIE

I don't understand the text. "AB MASTERS?"

MARS

What does that mean?

JP

You're hearing how close that is,
right?

Sound of screeching tires as the police arrive in front of
the house.

CADDIE

Toothpick, was the alarm definitely
disabled?

TOOTHPICK

(matter of fact)

Maybe the last number on the alarm
code was an 8.

Police get out of their cars and the sirens are very loud
now.

POLICEMAN

(a bullhorn, outside)

We know you're in the house! Don't
make us come in after you!

CADDIE

What do we do?

MARS

Run!

END OF EPISODE.