## LOOKING FOR BIGFOOT

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FADE IN:

EXT. WILDERNESS AREA (LATE SUMMER) - MEADOW - AFTERNOON

Tall woods cast deep shadows. Looking child-sized with distance, a science team makes camp on the edge of the woodline.

LORRAINE SANCHEZ (40), pretty and well-dressed, preps to do a field interview. Her producer MAGGIE (40s), attractive, but unadorned, sets up a news camera on a tripod. A news van with the channel 10 emblem and number sits a little ways behind her, side doors open.

DR. TREVOR MARTIN (35), managing to look both nerdy and outdoorsy, waits to the side and watches the science team set up. Lorraine tries to reposition herself, only to stumble slightly. Dr. Martin doesn't try to help and smirks slightly.

DR. MARTIN

Careful. Dirt doesn't support heels too well.

LORRAINE

(sarcastic)

Thanks. I hadn't notice.

DR. MARTIN

Hey, just trying to help, Lori.

LORRAINE

I prefer to be called Lorraine.

DR. MARTIN

Sure thing, toots.

Maggie rushes to intervene.

MAGGIE

Do you need to change shoes?

LORRAINE

(softening)

Nope. I just have to walk on tiptoes.

(muttering)

Now I know how a ballerina feels.

Dr. Martin smiles impishly.

DR. MARTIN

You'd look sexy in a tutu, Lori.

Lorraine gives him a smoky glare and opens her mouth.

MAGGIE

(hurriedly)

Let's get started. I'm sure you have work to do, Dr. Martin.

Lorraine composes herself as Maggie guides Dr. Martin into position. Once he's set, Maggie hands Lorraine a microphone and hurries around to operate the camera.

NEWS CAMERA POV

Lorraine smiles into the camera as Dr. Martin casually looks around.

MAGGIE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

We're recording in three... two...

Lorraine pauses for a moment, then...

LORRAINE

I'm here today with scientists from Eastern State University who are investigating recent bigfoot sightings. Dr. Martin, what are you and your team hoping to accomplish this week?

MARTIN

Well, Lori...

A hint of irritation momentarily crosses Lorraine's face.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

... we're looking for evidence to corroborate the recent bigfoot sightings. So, we're using the latest technology to include motion sensors and infrared cameras.

LORRAINE

Do you believe bigfoots... bigfeet... whatever you call them, really exist?

MARTIN

As a scientist, I don't work off of belief. I examine available evidence and draw conclusions.

LORRAINE

Okay. So, what is your conclusion?

MARTIN

We just got here, Lori, so I don't have one yet.

Lorraine's irritation returns.

LORRAINE

Aren't you a cryptologist?

DR. MARTIN

If you mean a cryptozoologist,
no.

Uncomfortable silence as Lorraine waits for more. Finally...

LORRAINE

And?

DR. MARTIN

And what? Cryptozoology is pseudoscience. I study what is real, not myths... can I go now? I have work to do.

Lorraine throws up her hands.

LORRAINE

Cut!

RESUME SCENE

Lorraine hefts the microphone as if contemplating its use as a weapon. Maggie hurries around and ushers Dr. Martin towards his camp.

MAGGIE

Thanks, Dr. Martin. This and the interviews with your staff should give us plenty. Take care.

Lorraine's glare sends Dr. Martin scurrying towards the camp. Maggie turns to Lorraine.

LORRAINE

Why do I get the jerks? I just want to do my job and this is what I get. Can't you get me better stories, Maggie? I'm really not feeling supported.

MAGGIE

(irritated)

Not feeling supported?! (MORE)

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

I'm not the one that punched a ventriloquist. You're lucky you still have a job.

LORRAINE

Wuh?

MAGGIE

Just do your closing remarks so we can get out of here.

LORRAINE

(in a huff)

Fine. Whatever.

Maggie moves behind the camera as Lorraine gets back into reporter mode.

NEWS CAMERA POV

MAGGIE (O.S.)

In three, two...

Lorraine pauses for a moment, then begins.

LORRAINE

Off the record, several scientists said they doubt anything will be found. One of them even asked, and I quote...

Lorraine reads off her notes.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

"Where are the bodies? Where are the fossils? There is no evidence whatsoever that a large hominid other than Homo sapiens has ever lived in North America."

Lorraine looks back at the camera.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

We'll have to wait and see whether the scientists find anything or it is all just a wild goose chase. I'm Lorraine Sanchez... Channel ten news.

MAGGIE (O.S.)

And... you're clear.

## RESUME SCENE

Lorraine tosses the microphone Maggie, who hurriedly unplugs and stuffs it in a large camera bag. As Maggie unmounts the camera from the tripod and puts it in the bag, Lorraine looks back at the scientists.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

You could give me a ha...

LORRAINE

(overlapping)

Why do I keep running into schmucks?

CKS:

(pointing)

He said I'd look good in a tutu.

A tutu!

Maggie shrugs and quickly stows the gear in the van. Lorraine turns back to Maggie, a thoughtful look on her face. She looks down at the ground, choosing her words carefully.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

You know something, Maggie?

MAGGIE

Nope, but I bet you're going to... tell... me.

Maggie's eyes bug out as...

Past Lorraine's shoulder and in the distance, a bigfoot appears and leaps into the middle of the group of scientists. It grabs one by the shirt collar and the seat of the pants and hikes him over its head.

LORRAINE

You're right. I don't have anything to whine about. Those scientists have to slog through the woods, get bitten by bugs, not shower for days... ew... that's gross when I think about it.

A scientist grabs a tree branch off the ground and whacks bigfoot in the crotch. Bigfoot drops the scientist, who lands on the beast's head, driving it to its hands and knees.

Maggie points and tries to get Lorraine's attention. Lorraine shakes her head.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

No. No.

(MORE)

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

I'm secure enough to admit when I was wrong. I have it good. I get to do different things everyday...

Another scientist jumps on bigfoot's back as the rest begin beating on it. Bigfoot tries several times to regain its feet before succeeding. Finally, bigfoot runs into the woods with several scientists on his heels.

Maggie has a horrified look.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

What? Don't tell me I have something in my teeth?

She sucks her teeth for a second then glances at the scientists' campsite. Several scientists celebrate. Lorraine looks back at Maggie.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

What?

FADE OUT.

THE END