THE KILLER'S DIARY

A Comedy-Thriller Stage Play

Written by Courtney Michelle

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

MRS. STICKLEBOMB — An impatient, sarcastic, and foul-mouthed camp chaperone with a short temper and a mysterious side.

KHIA HAYWITT — An enthusiastic camper who loves the outdoors, scary stories, and local legends.

KELLY McDANIEL — A nervous, outspoken camper who isn't afraid to express her fear.

RACHEL SANDERS — An easily frightened camper who becomes the target of everyone's jokes.

CHRIS OVERTON — A sarcastic, outspoken camper who enjoys teasing his friends.

BRANDON JEFFRIES — A wisecracking camper who would rather be anywhere else than on a camping trip.

SETTING

Location: Walter's Creek, a secluded campsite surrounded by dense woods.

Time: Present day. The events take place over two days and one night.

ACT ONE

SCENE ONE: WELCOME TO WALTER'S CREEK

Lights up.

The six characters arrive at Walter's Creek for their annual camping trip. The campers carry their belongings and prepare to set up their tents. MRS. STICKLEBOMB stands before them, visibly irritated.

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

Okay, I hope you all enjoy this camping trip because Lord knows I won't!

Now, set up your tents, don't bother me, and nobody gets hurt!

She storms off.

RACHEL

I hate coming on these trips. They're so lame!

BRANDON

I know! My mom forced me to do this. I'd rather be in prison!

CHRIS

(To Brandon, teasingly.)

You're so gay! It's only guys in prison. At least we get to share tents with some chicks.

BRANDON

Why'd you have to go there?

CHRIS

I'm just telling the truth!

KHIA finishes setting up the tent.

KHIA

Okay, the tent is up!

RACHEL

How do you even know how to do that?

KHIA

I love these trips! They're fun!

CHRIS

Are you serious?

KHIA

Yeah! And there's an interesting legend about this place.

The campers exchange curious looks and gather inside the tent.

Lights dim slightly.

SCENE TWO: THE LEGEND

CHRIS

What legend?

KELLY

Yeah! What legend?!

KHIA

Last year, two girls on this camping trip were murdered in the exact same woods we're in right now.

BRANDON

(Laughing.)

You're crazy! I'm not gonna get scared by some stupid legend!

RACHEL

So, how did they die?

KHIA

Nobody knows. Most people believe they were hanged, and some believe they were killed first and then hanged.

KELLY

So, who did it?!

KHIA

No one knows. But whoever did it left a diary behind.

And the only thing written inside was...

(She pauses dramatically.)

"I told them I was gonna fuck them up!"

And then they signed it in blood...

(Lowers her voice ominously.)

"The Killer's Diary."

KELLY

That's freaky!

RACHEL

You guys... what if she's here?

BRANDON

Awww! Little Rachel's scared!

RACHEL

No, I'm not! I'm not!

KHIA

I heard she lives out here in the woods, waiting for someone to wander off at night, and then...

(Suddenly shouts.)

BOOM!

RACHEL

AHHH!

CHRIS

(Laughing.)

Damn, Rach! You're so scary!

RACHEL

I'm not scared, okay?!

MRS. STICKLEBOMB suddenly enters.

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

CHILDREN!

RACHEL

AHHH!

Everyone bursts into laughter except RACHEL.

BRANDON

Chill, Rachel! It's just Mrs. Sticklebomb!

KELLY

Yeah! Don't pee on yourself!

RACHEL

That's not funny!

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

Stop the chitchatting and go to sleep!

If I hear you again, I'm going to raise some HELL!

EVERYONE

Sorry, Mrs. Sticklebomb!

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

Now, GO TO SLEEP!

She exits.

KELLY

Goodnight, y'all!

BRANDON

Night!

KHIA

Night!

CHRIS

(Laughing.)

Don't go wandering off, Rachel!

RACHEL

Fuck you, asshole!

The campers settle into their sleeping bags.

Lights fade to black.

ACT TWO

SCENE ONE: THE MISSING CAMPER

The following morning.

Lights rise on the campsite. MRS. STICKLEBOMB stands outside the tent, looking irritated.

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

Everybody, out of the tent! I need to do a roll call!

The campers scramble out of the tent and line up.

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

Khia Haywitt!

KHIA

Here!

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

Brandon Jeffries!

BRANDON

Here!

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

Kelly McDaniel!

KELLY

Here!

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

Chris Overton!

CHRIS

Here!

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

Rachel Sanders!

(Silence.)

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

Rachel?

(She looks around.)

Oh, my gosh! Where's Rachel?!

KHIA

I don't know! She was sleeping right next to me!

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

(Under her breath.)

Not again.

(She pauses, then throws her hands up in frustration.)

Shit! I guess I'd better go to the unemployment office. I lost another child!

I'll be right back. NOBODY wander off!

She exits.

BRANDON

You think the killer got Rachel?

CHRIS

You believe that shit? She's probably just down by the lake!

KHIA

You guys, I'm scared!

KELLY

Me too! Chris, you should be concerned about Rachel!

KHIA

If the killer got Rachel, I know exactly where she is.

BRANDON

Well, let's go look for her, then!

KELLY

Hell no! The killer's not getting me next!

CHRIS

Stop being a pussy! Our friend could be dead! Now, come on!

KELLY

Okay, but if I see somebody, I'M RUNNING!

The campers gather their belongings and head into the woods.

Lights fade.

SCENE TWO: THE CEMETERY

Lights rise on a small, eerie cemetery deep within the woods. Old tombstones are scattered across the ground. The campers enter cautiously.

KELLY

Hell no! This is too spooky!

KHIA

Kelly, bring your ass on here!

BRANDON

I don't see Rachel.

CHRIS

You guys go that way, and Brandon and I will go this way.

KELLY

Shouldn't we stay together?

KHIA

Go ahead. It'll help us find Rachel faster!

CHRIS and BRANDON exit in one direction. KHIA and KELLY search the opposite side of the cemetery.

KELLY

RACHEL?!

KHIA

Rachel! Are you here?!

KHIA suddenly notices something lying near a tombstone.

KHIA

Oh, my gosh!

KELLY

WHAT?!

KHIA

I found a diary!

KELLY

Is it the killer's? READ IT!

KHIA cautiously opens the diary and reads aloud.

KHIA

"I got her, bitch!"

(She pauses, horrified.)

Signed...

"The Killer's Diary."

KELLY

OH, MY GOSH!

Both girls scream and take off running.

KHIA

BRANDON! CHRIS! WHERE ARE YOU GUYS?!

WE FOUND THE KILLER'S DIARY!

KELLY

I don't see them!

KHIA

Me either!

As they frantically search for the boys, KHIA suddenly bumps into someone.

KHIA AND KELLY

AHHHHH!

MRS. STICKLEBOMB stands before them.

SCENE THREE: THE DISCOVERY

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

Didn't I tell y'all to stay by the tent?!

KHIA

I'm sorry! We went to find Rachel! We know the killer killed her!

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

What killer? And how do you know that?!

KELLY

The killer with the diary!

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

What are you talking about?!

KHIA

LOOK!

KHIA hands MRS. STICKLEBOMB the diary.

MRS. STICKLEBOMB opens it, reads the entry, and begins laughing.

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

Is this some type of joke?!

KELLY

NO! And now we can't find Brandon or Chris, and the killer already killed Rachel!

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

Oh, I found Rachel, Brandon, and Chris. They're all fine!

Someone must've been playing a joke on you.

Come on. Let's go back to the tent where the others are.

KELLY

Oh, thank God! I was scared for a minute!

The three begin walking back toward the campsite.

Lights dim as they exit.

SCENE FOUR: THE KILLER'S REVEAL

Lights rise on the campsite.

KHIA and KELLY rush toward the tent, expecting to find their missing friends.

KHIA

Wait!

(She looks around.)

Where's Rachel, Chris, and Brandon?!

KELLY

THEY'RE GONE AGAIN!

A brief, unsettling silence.

MRS. STICKLEBOMB stands behind the girls. Her expression slowly changes.

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

(Calmly, with a sinister smile.)

I know, bitches.

KHIA AND KELLY

AHHHHHHH!

The girls scream as the lights suddenly cut to black.

A moment of silence.

A single spotlight illuminates MRS. STICKLEBOMB, now holding the diary.

She opens it and begins writing.

MRS. STICKLEBOMB

(Reading aloud as she writes.)

"I killed all them bitches."

(She pauses, smiles, and signs the page.)

"Signed...

THE KILLER'S DIARY."

She closes the diary.

BLACKOUT.

THE END