



# LAST SEEN ON EARTH

Show Bible By  
Rocco Giamatteo

## QUICK SUMMARY

Jack Medina is the thirteen-year-old leader of his neighborhood friend group, with three other boys and a couple girls from school rounding out the crew. He's led them all through thick and thin, but faces the challenge of a lifetime as autumn rolls in... one of the boys goes missing! With the authorities convinced it's a runaway case and the boy's loved ones desperate for answers, Jack takes matters into his own hands and gets his friends to do the same. Together, they discover a trail of clues which all point to one conclusion: their friend was abducted aliens. Up against a ticking clock and skeptical grown-ups who dismiss their theory, Jack and the gang must get to the bottom of their friend's disappearance before it's too late.

## THEMES

### The Power Of Friendship

Jack and the gang work tirelessly to find their friend, even when the supposed "responsible" figures in their life deem it a lost cause. For Jack and the crew, it's just as much their responsibility to find answers as the actual detectives. After all, nothing will stop a true friend from doing what's right.

### Unlikely Heroes

At each and every turn, Jack and the crew will have to put up with sneering and disbelief from the powers that be. They're just kids, after all, who are not expected to stay one step ahead of investigators. They prove everyone wrong as they get closer and closer to the truth.

### Crazy vs. Stupid

Our leads ride this line throughout the show, connecting dots and analyzing clues that have such preposterous implications that the kids themselves wonder whether they're onto something or just plain crazy. Just before they lose hope in their theory, though, they always find another clue or witness as a sort of sign that they're on the right track.

## GENRE

While a crucial part of the premise is clearly a sci-fi trope, the story plays out episode-by-episode as a mystery and suspense piece. The amateur detectives piece together what happened to their friend breadcrumb by breadcrumb, encountering strange obstacles and unlikely enemies along the way. The mystery behind their friend's disappearance only gets deeper when shady authority figures and violent threats start popping up unexpectedly in their lives. All the while, the teenage spirit at the heart of their journey never wanes. Closest comp is Stranger Things.

## MAIN CHARACTERS

### Jack Medina

Do-gooding leader of his rag-tag group of friends, whose only weakness is his crush on Leanne. With his quick wits and tendency to take initiative, there's not a challenge in the world he feels unprepared to tackle – provided that his friends are by his side.

### Leanne Parkes

Adventurous young woman from troubled home who treasures her group of friends as her makeshift family. For her, losing Benny is like losing a loved one. To find him, she becomes the Watson to Jack's Holmes, developing thoughtful strategies for Jack to enact.

### Tommy Toledo

A brash and abrasive member of the gang who likes to eat as much he likes to make a scene – a lot. Still, what he lacks in social grace he makes up for in size and strength – both of which get put to the test when the gang's investigation attracts the wrong kind of attention from grown-ups.

### Naomi Young

The one socialite of the group, whose good looks earned her a lot of attention at school, until gossip and rumors made her see who her real friends were. She still has some social clout which she uses on her friends' behalf, but has been more focused on pursuing her newfound passion in the arts.

## Lucas Shaw

A timid but nonetheless well-intentioned hypochondriac and scaredy cat who is quick to point out the dangers in whatever plan the group undertakes. Still, he winds up surprising the group more than anyone, increasingly putting himself in harm's way for the sake of their missing friend.

## Benny Gibson

The youngest and sweetest member of the group, who mysteriously goes missing without a trace. It's not until his friends discover his trove of alien drawings and book collection that his disappearance becomes a mystery to solve.

## **VILLAINS**

### Men In Black

Catch-all term for the mysterious figures the kids encounter on their journey to discover the truth about their friend. These nameless, faceless foes obstruct their search every step of the way, treating them more and more like grown-up adversaries as the story progresses.

### Local Law Enforcement

As far as they're concerned, they have enough to fret about already without also having to worry whether these kids will get themselves into trouble while playing detective. They issue stern warnings at first, but become increasingly agitated with the teenage sleuths and eventually resort to using force.

### Alien Forces

Beams of light, trespassed hay fields, bizarre dreams... the kids all have unexplainable experiences and sightings which they can only conclude to be extraterrestrial in nature. It's not clear at first whether these occurrences are friendly communications or stern threats, and it's up to Jack and the gang to determine which is the case.

# 4 EPISODE OUTLINE

## EPISODE 1

The neighborhood kids deal with a bully, then hang out after school complaining about how this new school year has gotten off on a bad start. Benny behaves more quietly than usual, but the rest of the group shrugs it off as the back-to-school blues. The next day, Jack shares a letter with Tommy and Lucas describing his feelings for Leanne and asking if she wants to be his girlfriend this year. The boys urge Jack not to give it to her, while Leanne and Naomi have a similar conversation elsewhere about whether Jack will ask her out and what she would say. Just before the drama unfolds, the group gets some unexpected news: Benny has gone missing!

## EPISODE 2

“Classic runaway case,” a detective concludes. The gang doesn’t buy it, though. They insist that they know Benny better than anyone, and that he would never do something like this – not without telling them first. Jack sneaks out at night and retraces Benny’s steps to an abandoned hay field where something unusual sticks out at him... an odd shape has been perfectly burned into the hay. The next day, he discusses what he found with the gang and convinces them to go to the police. At the police station, the cops lost their patience and shoo them away. Afterwards, the kids all agree – something suspicious is going on.

## EPISODE 3

Lucas does some research on the symbol burned into the field and believes it's a cry for help... that Benny has been kidnapped. If so, there's only one obvious place where he would be... in the old abandoned house in the center of the hay field. The group trades rumors about all the urban legends that have been told about that house, with some jumping to the conclusion that Benny may already be dead. Still, Jack insists that they find out for sure by breaking in. Come nightfall, they sneak out of their houses and do just that, slinking their way through the dark and terrifying house where they find trash and graffiti, but no Benny. After a few false scares where the kids get spooked by little more than their own shadows, they hear something disturbing... someone else is in the house.

## EPISODE 4

"Freeze!" a man shouts. When the man flips on his flashlight, the kids can all make out who it is... a police officer. The same one who dismissed them earlier at the station. He brings them all to the station, where each kids' parents scolds them for what they've done. Leanne is the only one spared, because her foster parents barely keep track of her. Saddened by this reminder, she later breaks into Jack's bedroom and asks if she could spend the night in his room and pretend like she has a family who would worry about her as well. He lets her have the bed while he sleeps on the floor, wondering if he should tell her about his feelings. The next morning, the kids go around handing out flyers with Benny's face on them. Out of nowhere, the bully from earlier appears, steals their flyers and dares them to fight him and his jock buddies. A tense standoff ensues.

CONFIDENTIAL -- WORK SAMPLE



## LAST SEEN ON EARTH

Showrunner — Lauren Richmond

Writer — Rocco Giamatteo

09/26/23

### Episode 1 Where's Benny?

“Get your hands off of me!”

Benny Gibson’s cries were met with a chorus of laughter from the middle school jocks who grabbed him by his arms.

“Let’s spin him around and around until he pukes!”

Benny tried breaking free from the bullies, but he was no match for them.

“One!” they all shouted, after spinning him once. “Two!” they continued.

“Stop it!” Benny exclaimed while they counted.

“I say he barfs after eleven!”

“My money’s on twelve!”

Meanwhile, Benny started to feel dizzy. He could already feel the nausea setting in when heard an unexpected sound... bicycles skidding to a stop.

“Hey!” a familiar voice exclaimed.

Just then, the jocks stopped what they were doing and turned.

A pack of middle-schoolers stared down the bullies atop their bikes like they were the backup cavalry crew in a Western.

Their leader, Jack Medina, held a slingshot with a rock pulled back and ready to fire.

“Let him go!” Jack demanded.

The bullies’ leader, Cliff, stepped forward. “Or else what?!” he shouted with a snarl. “You gonna slingshot us to death?”

While Cliff’s buddies laughed at the joke, Jack remained perfectly calm.

“I don’t plan to kill you with this...” he said, “... but it sure would be a shame if you lost an eye, wouldn’t it, Cliff? Seeing as how you’re the star quarterback and all...”

Cliff’s face fell. He could tell that Jack meant business.

“If you do that, my posse here will tear you to pieces. ALL of you!”

Cliff’s crew stepped forward to join their leader in his face-off with the middle schoolers. As they did, each the middle schoolers reached into their pockets and pulled out slingshots.

The two crews were at a stalemate, with Benny trapped behind the line of jocks facing off with his friends.

“I know what you’re all thinking...” Jack began. “You’re thinking, ‘These dorks only have one single shot apiece. No way they’re taking MY eye out...”

Jack’s crew wound back their slingshots, as Jack continued, “So come on, then. Take your chances.”

Jack and Cliff held each other’s gaze, while one of Cliff’s cronies whispered to him, “Cliff, I can’t get injured and sit out this season. Coach is gonna kill me...”

Everything fell to Cliff, who trembled with anger as he glared at Jack. Finally, he exclaimed, “Let the twerp go!”

A line full of Varsity jackets parted and Benny stepped forward to join his friends.

“This isn’t over, Medina,” Cliff warned. “You and your friends will pay for this.”

Benny hopped on the back pegs of Jack’s bike while Jack and the gang pedaled away. As they left, Cliff gave Benny a menacing look. Benny was used to dealing with bullies in his life, but Cliff was the worst one yet.

He felt lucky to have friends in his life who had his back.

\*\*\*

“Thanks, guys,” Benny told his friends while they all ate fast-food burgers at the park sometime later.



His heavysset friend, Tommy Toledo, answered while gobbling his burger and eyeing Benny's French fries, "It's what friends do, Benny... kinda like giving a friend your French fries, because it looks like you're not eating them."

While Benny took the hint and passed along his fries, a longtime friend of the group named Leanne Parks chimed in, "I don't seem to remember you doing anything at all, Tommy."

Leanne's friend Naomi added, "Yeah, Jack was the one who did all the talking."

Tommy turned toward Leanne and Naomi and stuffed his mouth with fries as he declared, "Moral support."

Jack and the crew laughed until the group's most neurotic member, Lucas, interrupted to ask, "Does this look undercooked to you?"

Presenting a chicken nugget to the gang, he explained, "The last thing I want is salmonella, It kills over four hundred people a year, you know."

Jack placed his hand on Lucas' shoulder. "You worry too much, Lucas."

Tommy added, "Yeah, just eat it!"

Lucas shook his head and gave his chicken nuggets to Tommy. "Here, if you want to risk your life for a couple of chicken nuggets, be my guest."

Tommy accepted the nuggets without hesitation. "Well, getting salmonella can't be any worse than school. The year just started and it's already the worst ever."

Jack shook his head, "Bad day, that's all. Keep your head up."

Leanne gave Jack an admiring look. She loved how much of a team leader he was in moments like this.

Jack could see Leanne looking at him and smiled. He felt a deep connection with Leanne.

Meanwhile, Naomi noticed something in the grass nearby. "Benny?" she asked aloud. "What are you doing?"

The group turned to see Benny lying in the grass staring up at the twilight sky. The stars were just beginning to become visible.

"Sometimes I look up at the sky like this..." Benny began, "... it reminds me that everybody here on Earth is just as small as I am."

Concerned, Leanne assured Benny, “You’re the youngest in our grade. You’ll start growing and catch up to everybody.”

But Benny just shook his head, answering, “Even then, I’m still stuck on this planet where guys like Cliff will always have on over on guys like me... even though we’re all just ants in the scheme of things, he’s a more important ant here on Earth.”

The group all shared confused looks, as Benny continued, “Maybe there’s someplace up there... someplace far away, where guys like me matter more than guys like Cliff.”

All Benny could see was a sky full of stars, until Jack’s head suddenly entered view and hovered over him. “Until then...” Jack said, “... you’re stuck here in Summerville with us.”

He reached out his hand. Benny smiled and grabbed it, as Jack pulled him up and led him back to the group. Together, they rode their bikes away to make it home by nightfall.

As they pedaled away, Jack stole another glance at Leanne. There was something he wanted to ask her, but it was going to have to wait until the next day.

\*\*\*

“You’re gonna ask Leanne to be your girlfriend?!” Tommy exclaimed.

Jack looked all around the school bus to make sure nobody heard Tommy. “Keep your voice down, Tommy.”

But Tommy couldn’t contain himself. “Listen, Jack. We all really like Leanne. She and Naomi are the only girls at school who don’t treat us like flies.”

Lucas nodded in approval while he took a puff from his inhaler.

“But she’s like your sister, dude,” Tommy continued. “You can’t ask out your sister. It’s just wrong.”

Lucas chimed in, “It’s not just wrong, it’s illegal. In fact, sibling marriage is frowned upon across most of the world.”

Jack responded, “She’s not my sister, guys, she’s my dear friend. Plus, I’m pretty sure she feels the same way about me.”

Tommy chomped away at a bag of cookies, explaining, “You’re making me stress eat. Let me think...”

Meanwhile, Lucas puffed away on his inhaler.

“What’s gotten you so nervous?” Jack asked him.

“The thought of our friend group splitting apart...” Lucas answered, “... because things between you and Leanne are about to get weird.”

Jack was caught off-guard by Lucas’ words, since he hadn’t considered the possibility of the friend group breaking apart over his feelings for Leanne.

“Look dude...” Tommy began, with a mouth full of cookies, “... Leanne’s a foster kid. She doesn’t have a family. WE’RE her family... so if she doesn’t feel the same way about you, or if it doesn’t work out between the two of you... it’s gonna crush her.”

Lucas then added, “Me too.”

Jack felt overwhelmed by the decision he had before him. He was hoping for some moral support from his friends, but instead he just got discouragement.

He wanted to ask Benny his opinion, but looked around to see that Benny was nowhere to be found.

“Where’s Benny?” he asked.

Tommy and Lucas surveyed the bus and shrugged their shoulders.

“Mom’s probably driving him today,” Tommy asserted.

With that, Jack didn’t even think twice about Benny’s whereabouts. He had a lot on his mind already.

\*\*\*

***(SFX: School bell ringing, crowd in hallway)***

When school ended for the day, Leanne stopped by her locker. She opened it to find a picture of her and the gang taped on the inside door.

Just the sight of the picture made her smile.

“Hey there, foster trash,” a voice bellowed from behind her.

Leanne turned to find Cliff standing behind her. “Must be nice to have your boyfriend do your fighting for you,” he said.

“Jack’s not my boyfriend,” Leanne asserted. “Besides, I do my own fighting. You want to go toe-to-toe with a girl like me, you’re even less of a man than I thought. But be my guest.”

Cliff immediately shot back, “No, I’m gonna show you what a real man could do. First, by making an example out of Jack. And as for that little pipsqueak, Benny...”

Suddenly, another young woman’s voice popped up out of nowhere, asking, “What about me?”

It was Naomi, who stepped in between Leanne and Cliff. “You gonna show me what a real man can do?”

Cliff smiled in surprise, telling Naomi, “I was planning on it... but then you quit the cheerleading team and became this artsy chick who hangs with losers...”

Leanne butt in to say, “It’s called finding yourself, Cliff. You should try it sometime. And she’s not just ‘artsy.’ She’s more talented at sketching than you’ll be at anything in your entire life.”

Gazing into Naomi’s eyes. “If you ever want to come back to the cool kids where you belong...” he said, raising his fingers to her hair, “... I’ll show you what you’ve been missing.”

He tried streaking his fingers through Naomi’s hair, but Naomi slapped his hand away. With a chuckle, Cliff tore himself away.

“Thanks,” Leanne told Naomi.

“Don’t mention it,” Naomi replied. “Let me walk you home.”

Arm in arm, the girls did exactly that. They stayed close together, side by side, as they walked to the part of Summerville where Leanne’s foster family lived.

Leanne appreciated Naomi’s friendship the same way she valued Jack’s. And so, when she and Naomi finally made it to her foster house and found Jack waiting for her there, it was a pleasant surprise.

“Hey, what are you doing here?” Leanne asked.

Jack swallowed his nerves and answered, “I uhh... I wanted to ask you something.”

Naomi could already sense that they would need some privacy.

“I’ll be on my way,” she said. “Call me, Leanne.”

With that, Naomi excused herself.

“What do you want to ask me, Jack?” Leanne asked.

Jack felt a wave of panic wash over him, breaking into a cold sweat. “I’ve never uhh... this is my first time, uhh... well, I want to do this right, okay? So I wrote it down.”

Leanne watched as Jack fumbled with a piece of paper he took out of his pocket. She could see that Jack was a wreck.

“Do you want to come inside?” Leanne asked. “My foster dad won’t be home until four.”

Jack shook his head, insisting, “Please, just listen to what I have to say.”

With trembling hands, he read the paper, “Dear Leanne... your friendship has and always will mean the world to me. We’ve been through thick and thin together. Since we first met, I have found myself wanting to be around you more and more.”

Leanne froze in shock. She wasn’t expecting this at all. She could already imagine what Jack’s question would be, but didn’t know how she would answer it.

“That’s why...” Jack continued, “... I want to ask you a very important question.”

For Jack and Leanne, their hearts completely stopped. This was a moment that would change their relationship forever.

“Guys!” someone yelled down the road.

Jack and Leanne were suddenly taken completely out of the moment. Reality settled back in, as they turned to find Tommy running as fast as he could toward them.

“Guys!” Tommy yelled again.

“What is it, Tommy?” Jack snapped. “We’re kind of in the middle of something.”

Finally, Tommy arrived and panted over and over again because he was so out of breath.

“Guys, it’s...” Tommy uttered before heaving again. “... it’s Benny...”

Leanne immediately grew concerned. “What about Benny?”

Tommy was still catching his breath. “He’s... he’s...”

Jack couldn’t take it anymore, shouting, “He’s WHAT?”

Finally, Tommy inhaled enough air to say the words. “He’s missing!”

CONFIDENTIAL -- WORK SAMPLE