

## **Who, When, Wow! Mystery Edition**

### **Get Out Quick (sand)**

**Carly.** Well, hello, and welcome back to everyone's favorite secret podcast! Yes, it is still a secret, for now. Someone MAY be onto me. But more on that later. You are really gonna SINK into today's episode, and you will find out why in a minute. So bring your boots, and a friend! You'll need both and get ready. I'm Carly Q, and this is Who! When! Wow! Mystery Edition.

(THEME SONG)

**Carly in the background.** Amber, can I get a hand?

**Carly.** As you know, Lewis and I have been on the trail of the anonymous person who's on our trail about our time travel adventure. And that's been very distracting.

(Soundbite rain and lightning crash.)

**Lewis.** Carly Q! Omigosh!

**Carly.** Thank you, Lewis.

**Lewis.** You're getting mud all over the office!

**Carly.** That's what you're worried about?

**Lewis.** Someone can slip at any,

**Carly.** WOAH!

**Lewis.** See! That's what I thought was gonna happen.

**Amber.** Got ya Carly. Here, let me help get that coat.

**Carly.** Thank you Amber.

**Amber.** Can I ask? Why are you only wearing one boot?

**Carly.** About time they noticed! I bent down and pulled off my one boot.

(Soundbite of her squishy wet sock along with the thunk of her boot on the floor.)

**Carly.** What HAPPENED is that I faced my worst nightmare of ALL TIME this morning, on my way to work. I was running late, not my fault because I was thinking about the anonymous letter writer. And so I decided to cut across the big field in front of BUTHEAD HQ. No big deal, I thought, because I'm wearing my rain boots. What's the worst that

can happen? I am stepping into a big puddle, just minding my own business, and I realize my boot is STUCK. I cannot lift it out of the mud! And that's when I panicked! And I thought the mud was going to swallow me up!

**Amber.** What did you do?

**Carly.** I faced certain doom! I knew I had to act fast before I disappeared forever into the center of the earth.

**Lewis.** Uhm. That might be a little dramatic, don't you think?

**Carly.** Excuse me, Lewis! Have you ever found yourself sinking into a massive puddle? Like I said, I had to think quickly and save myself! But I sacrificed one of my boots in the process.

**Amber.** Are you ok?

**Carly.** I just need a moment.

**Lewis.** Look out the window! Carly Q, is that your boot, just sticking up out of mud?

**Carly.** No, Lewis, it's the boot of an alien who visited us last night from their far away planet!

**Lewis.** Wait. Really? Because that sounded like sarcasm.

**Carly.** They had no idea how terrified I'd been. Whatever. I headed down to my desk in the basement.

(Soundbite of her squishy sock and clunky boot again.)

**Carly.** I mean, what a scary feeling, just sinking like that! I had to pull my foot out of the boot to escape from the CLUTCHES OF THE MUCK AND MUD!

(Soundbite of rat squeaking.)

**Carly.** You should have seen it, Nibbles. I was very brave. But those boots were my favorite pair. I've had them forever. They have little pictures of pies on them, with like the little curl of steam coming out on top. And here I am, with one boot and one wet sock.

(Soundbite of thumb drive comes down the vacuum tube.)

**Carly.** A time sealed event already? Give a girl a chance to settle into her day, why don't you?

**Audio File.** Event (BEEP) 2011 (BEEP) River (BEEP) Utah. A hiker named (BEEP) sinks beep buried up to his waist.

**Carly.** Well,Well, well. Having been almost half-buried myself this morning.

(Soundbite of rat squeaking.)

**Carly.** I was! It was terrifying, Nibbles! I always kept a backup pair of flip-flops in my backpack on rainy days like this. And I put them on because.

(Soundbite of her feet in flip-flops.)

**Carly.** I was determined to find out what was deleted on that file. I pulled H-dad out and typed in what I knew so far! Hiker, 2011, River, Utah.

**H-dad.** H-Dad here! Ask and you shall receive! Eventually. Analyzing.

**Carly.** Hiking, hiking is fun. I should go for hikes more often, maybe when this torrential rain stops. I would pack a lunch, maybe some pie, be one with nature. Oh, H-dad whatddya got?

**H-dad.** A hiker got stuck in a sandy area by the Dirty Devil River, in what has been deemed a modern case of quicksand. Thankfully he was rescued before the river water got too high and the temperatures got too cold.

**Carly.** I KNEW it! So much for being one with nature! I am not hanging out with nature if it just plans to swallow me whole!

**Lewis.** Quicksand! That's just a myth.

**Carly.** Lewis! Why did you sneak up on me like that?You know I've already had a horrible scare this morning! And no, quicksand is NOT a myth. The field in front of BUTHEAD Headquarters almost swallowed me alive this morning.

**Lewis.** Umm...no. That is not what happened. And by the way, your boot is still sticking out of the ground. Makes me sad.You need to go get that at some point.

**H-dad.** More information available.

**Carly.** Oh! Tell me, H-dad.

**H-dad.** There have been a number of modern quicksand episodes. In 1961, a hiker named Roger Cashin had a tragic accident when he sank into the mud flats near the Knick River in Alaska.

**Carly.** Oh no.

**Lewis.** Ok, that is truly awful! But it was an accident. He wasn't actually swallowed up. The Earth is not out to get us, you know.

**Carly.** (dramatic whisper) My wet sock says it is.

**Lewis.** First of all eww, and B, maybe you need to dial it down a little. You're freaking out that someone knows our secret and now you think the earth wants to eat you.

**Carly.** It can happen. And I'm about to prove it. I'm going back to Utah in 2011. I want to see that poor hiker who got stuck in quicksand and watch the rescue operation myself!

(Soundbite of her flip-flops as she walks.)

**Carly.** You coming, Nibbles?

(Soundbite of rat squeaking.)

**Carly.** Eh don't blame you. I don't trust quicksand either! It is no place for a rat.

**Lewis.** I'm coming with you. I'll see you at lunchtime Carly Q!

**Carly.** Didn't you hear me? I just said it's no place for a rat? Oh, gotcha! Zing Zang Zong.

**Lewis.** That's a lot of sass coming from someone who's planning to go hiking in flip-flops.

**Carly.** I was kidding! I swear and these flip flops rule. Look at them they are so comfortable and fashionable. Sure enough when lunchtime rolled around.

**Lewis.** Carly Q! Elevator time! Watch out for the quicksandddd!

**Carly.** Not funny Lewis! Come on.

(Soundbite of elevator ding.)

**Carly.** Hello, Odie! How are you doing today?

**Odie.** Better than you. What's with the flip-flops? Is it summer and nobody told me?

**Carly.** Long story.

**Lewis.** Not too long. One of her rainboots is stuck in the mud outside of the building.

**Odie.** Boots belong on your feet, you know, not outside filling up with water. Where are you and your delightful companion heading today?

**Lewis.** I feel that was a bit sarcastic.

**Odie.** Always trust your feelings.

**Carly.** Utah, 2011. The Dirty Devil River. We are investigating whether or not quicksand is real by going to the site of a rescue mission!

**Lewis.** She's afraid of quicksand.

**Odie.** You are?

**Carly.** I am not, okay I am.

(Soundbite of wind chimes.)

**Odie.** Remember, whether you're wearing boots or flip-flops. THE MORE YOU STRUGGLE, THE LESS YOU THINK, THE DEEPER YOU SINK.

**Lewis.** I'm not sure I get that.

**Odie.** What a surprise.

**Lewis.** Again, I'm sensing sarcasm.

**Odie.** Ok lets review the rules, no changing anything in the past, but you can, of course, ask all the questions you like. You can use your key card to make the elevator reappear. And you MUST be back before the end of the lunch break.

**Carly.** Thanks, Odie! See you soon!

(Soundbite of elevator travel noises.)

**Carly.** Oh that was a rough ride!

**Lewis.** Yeah, I'll say. And I'm actually wearing shoes.

**Carly.** The elevator dropped us off on a small cliff looking out over the Dirty Devil River in eastern Utah.

**Carly.** Look,down there.It`s a man sticking halfway out the ground!

**Carly and Lewis.** Quicksand!

**Carly.** All around us, we saw rescue teams, emergency rescue operators, doctors, police officers!We even saw some people carrying rafts? We ran down to the edge of the water to talk to one of the rescue team members

**Carly.** Excuse me! Excuse me!

**Rescue Team Member.** Hey, what are you doing here? Are you from the media?

**Lewis.** Yes. Yes. We are reporters.

**Rescue Team Member.** A reporter in flip-flops? What? Did they just fly you in from Hawaii or something? This is Utah, ma'am.

**Carly.** I know you're on your way to save someone, but do you have time for a quick question?

**Rescue Team Member.** We have a man half-buried in quicksand down there. We can talk after our job is done. I got to get down there with this raft...

**Carly.** Okay good luck.

(Soundbite of his steps running away.)

**Carly.** That didn't get me much information. I walked over to a group of people who definitely were reporters, judging by their microphones and cameras.

**Carly.** Hi, excuse me.

**Fatima.** Fatima Ahmed, science reporter

**Carly.** Oh ,that's a cool job.

**Fatima.** I thought about being a scientist, but then one day, in biology, we had to dissect a frog and I fainted

**Lewis.** I don't blame you. Frogs insides interesting, but gross

**Fatima.** Yep, it was time to switch careers. So now I write about and report on science.

**Carly.** Me too. In fact, I am here to investigate whether or not quicksand is even a thing.

**Fatima.** Of course it's a thing.

**Carly.** (whispers) I knew it! (normal voice) Can you elaborate?

**Fatima.** Can I elaborate? Of course I can. I mean, this is just so fascinating.

**Lewis.** Probably not so fascinating for the guy who`s stuck

**Fatima.** You know what quicksand is, right?

**Carly.** Uh, sure. But why don't you say it louder so Lewis can hear it?

**Lewis.** Whatever.

**Fatima.** So, basically, it's sand that just gets saturated with water. Like, at the beach, you can walk across the sand with no problem. Right? You won't sink or anything because the sand is packed together. But now, there's too much water mixed in with the sand. So if you're standing on it, it can't support your weight. It's not solid anymore.

**Carly.** So you start to sink.

**Fatima.** Yep!

**Carly.** And you get swallowed whole.

**Fatima.** Swallowed whole? Oh no! I mean, you sink very quickly, that's why it's quicksand. And the more you thrash around and try to get out, the faster you'll sink.

**Carly.** So, sand in which you can sink, quick, and we call that, what? Lewis?

**Lewis.** Quicksand.

**Carly.** Once more, Lewis.

**Lewis.** Quicksand. Ok How long has he been stuck like that? Can't they just, I don't know tie a rope around his waist and pull?

**Fatima.** Yeah they tried that. But he is really and truly stuck. He's been like that for thirteen hours!

**Carly.** And they have to hurry before it swallows him up, right?

**Fatima.** Not really. The science is really cool here. You see, the sand is mixed with so much water and it's really dense. But your body is not as dense, so you'll sink a bit but then you'll end up just floating in it. Like, this hiker? He sank until he was halfway down, but now he's kinda floating, just with his legs submerged in the sand. The way you might float in water.

**Carly.** What are they doing down there?

**Fatima.** Oooh! They're using rafts to reach him! (calls out) Cameras! Quick! Bring the cameras out here!

**Carly.** We watched as several rescue team members used rafts to reach the man. And then, while they circled him in their rafts, they used shovels and started digging!

**Carly.** How cool is that! They're floating on rafts to avoid sinking while they dig.

**Fatima.** The consistency of quicksand is amazing. My science nerd friends are going to love hearing about this!

**Carly.** They're pulling him out! It's working!

**Lewis.** Oh bet he's gonna track some mud into the house after this. But I do love a rescue story.

**Fatima.** Once he's out completely, he will need to go to the hospital. He likely has hypothermia.

**Lewis.** Hypothermia! Is that when you get really excited and hyper about wearing your thermal underwear because it means winter is coming and you get presents?

**Fatima.** (laughs) No, hypothermia is when your body gets too cold. Because the hiker has been stuck in the cold ground for hours, he is freezing, basically. They'll need to keep a close eye on him, but hopefully he will be ok!

**Carly.** Yes! What a close call.

(Soundbite of cheering.)

**H-dad.** Hi there! This is your reminder that lunch break is almost over.

**Carly.** Well, that's our cue. Thank you so much Fatima! You've been so helpful.

**Fatima.** No problem. Now go get some real shoes on!

**Carly.** We rushed back and used our key card to call the elevator. I just don't understand why everyone has so many opinions on my shoes.

**Lewis.** Well of course Carly! Your flip flops are terrible!

**Carly.** I'm getting you flip flops for Christmas Lewis, and you're going to understand why they're so special.

**Lewis.** No don't get me flip flops I'll take a gift card! Just a gift card is fineeee.

**Odie.** Well, did you find anything to sink your teeth into?

**Lewis.** Hah. Sink! I get it! Because quicksand! Not bad Odie.

**Carly.** Quicksand is REAL, Odie! And still around today! It's just not exactly what I thought it was.

**Odie.** That is true of so many things.

**Carly.** The hiker was trapped in the quicksand and couldn't get out. But he wasn't ever going to be swallowed up completely.

**Odie.** You've been watching too many scary movies, Carly.

**Carly.** Quicksand has been a lifelong fear of mine, right along with getting swallowed by a giant snake and also being stuck on a desert island and not know how to crack open a coconut.

**Odie.** What an imagination. As the kids say, it's not that deep Carly Q!

(Soundbite of wind chimes.)

**Odie.** THE MORE YOU STRUGGLE, THE LESS YOU THINK, THE DEEPER YOU SINK.



**Carly.** Like in Quicksand., you don't want to struggle or you'll just sink even deeper. You need to stay calm and ask for help. And always go hiking with a friend.

**Odie.** Sounds like good advice.

**Lewis.** And always clean your boots.

**Carly.** Thanks, Odie.

**Odie.** Have a good day basement companion. Lewis

(Soundbite of footsteps as they head back.)

**Carly.** Lewis and I went upstairs to check on the whole boot situation. I wonder if it's still raining.

**Lewis.** Well, I wonder if your boot is still stuck in the mud.

**Carly.** Thanks you Lewis, for your concern.

(Soundbite of office noise.)

**Amber.** Carly, your boot is not stuck in the mud anymore! We've all been watching it during lunch.

**Carly.** Really?

**Amber.** Yeah. It's just kind of floating now. We watched two frogs using it like a swimming pool. Isn't that cute

**Carly.** OK. I can respect that. They ARE great boots.

**Lewis.** Let's go get it.

(Soundbite of door opening to the outside.)

**Carly.** Amber was right. My boot, decorated with the cute little apple pies, was bobbing along in a puddle, a much smaller puddle than it had been this morning.

**Lewis.** Well?

**Carly.** Well?

**Lewis.** Shouldn't you get it?

**Carly.** Uh, nope. I'll get it tomorrow. Besides, I'm wearing flip-flops.

**Lewis.** You can just.

**Carly.** NO, Lewis! No! I'll wade in wearing these flip flops and just get sucked in again!

**Lewis.** We already know you won't get sucked in again. You're panicking.

**Carly.** Hmmm. Odie said not to struggle. TO THINK. Ok, think, Carly Q.

**Carly.** I looked around me. That's when I saw something else floating, a long branch that had broken off a tree limb in the rain. I bent down and snatched it up, reached over, and hooked that boot!

**Carly.** Well, look what I caught! A good five-pounder, I'll say.

**Lewis.** Good for you, Carly Q. And maybe that's good advice when it comes to the anonymous letter writer too! You need to think it through and not panic!

**Carly.** What a day! I faced my fear of being swallowed up by the earth, mostly by learning that there are ways you can think through a problem. (chuckles) I got my favorite boots back and I decided not to panic about the person who knows about the elevator. The mystery will get solved, I hope. But Lewis and I are in it together and we're not going to let each other sink. That's it for today's time sealed mystery. We'll be back with another soon. And remember you never heard this. Seriously, keeping this a secret is of the utmost importance right now.