

It was a dark clear summer night when Chandy the butler took a walk along the shoreline of the lake. He looked up at the stars, then down at the sand, and finally out across the dark glassy surface of the lake. Chandy was very tired from his long day. Suddenly a huge tall shape emerged from the water making it ripple, and wrapped itself around Butler Chandy. Next thing you knew he was gone and the water had stopped moving. Now all you could see was the water, the sand, and off in the distance the cabins of the hotel.

It was 1884 and Colorado's premier resort was in full swing. Those looking for a nice vacation in the mountains were in the right place in Twin Lakes, Colorado. Complete with boats, fishing rods, poles for hiking, and a dance pavilion - this was the place to be!

The day after Butler Chandy's disappearance, lots of guests were annoyed at having one less butler. There were only four Butler's to start. They were Butler Chandy, Butler Sandy, Butler Mandy, and Butler George. Now there were only three butlers. Next, late one night while everyone was dancing, Caroline and Lendra went for a walk because they were tired and wanted to get away from the crowd in the dance pavilion. It was a nice evening. They walked along the shore and Caroline looked across the lake and saw a tall black shape sticking out of the water. Lendra saw it too and they both gazed at it wondering what it could be. Finally, they went to bed and Caroline came up with the conclusion that they were tired and just seeing things.

A few days later, one of the boat tours didn't come back. Everyone thought they were just late, but Caroline and Lendra thought that it might have had something to do with the shape in the water and Butler Chandy's disappearance. They were getting very worried and Lendra thought that maybe they weren't seeing things after all. While the other guests enjoyed biking and hiking, Caroline and Lendra were racking their brains to anything that could be disrupting the Interlaken cabins.

Then, at about 9:30 PM, Caroline and Lendra went out to the lake to make sure they weren't seeing things. Sure enough they saw the tall black shapes waving in the wind. Next to the dance pavilion Lendra spotted a canoe. She pointed this out to Caroline, and they hauled the boat to the water's edge. Caroline jumped in, and Lendra pushed them off into the water. She jumped in and they both pulled life vests over their heads. They started paddling across the surface of the lake anticipating what was coming, soon they were just a speck.

Lendra's hands shook on her paddle. She and Caroline steered the canoe toward the tall shapes in the middle of the lake. They were about halfway there when the water started to ripple violently pushing them in all directions. The shapes were moving towards them! Caroline looked around in panic and in the bottom of the boat she saw some goggles and a long stretch of rope. She put the goggles on and put the rope around her arm. Then she tightened her life vest. They could both now see that the shapes were part of some kind of animal with arms or

tentacles. “An octopus,” Lendra wondered. “A mighty big one,” thought Caroline. As the monster got closer still Lendra got an idea. If we tie this rope to its neck (if it has one) then we could pull it to shore. The animal was creeping towards them still, and Caroline said, “maybe we should go back to the cabins and ask for help.” Lendra said, “you do that, and I’ll strangle this beast!” “OK” Caroline announced. With that Lendra dove into the water with the rope in her hand, Caroline feared she would never see her again.

Caroline stared at the spot where Lendra just was before paddling frantically back towards the shore in search of help. The water was cold, and Lendra’s ears hurt but she kept swimming, looking for the mysterious creature. Finally, she felt like she couldn’t breathe any more, and was just about to swim to the surface when she spotted a large tentacle swishing the water. She swam after it as fast as she could. When she caught up to it, it was at the bottom of the lake and Lendra had a perfect shot of its head. **It was a giant squid!** Quietly she swam to its head and tied a loose knot around it. She quietly swam far enough away that the rope was taut, then she yanked on the rope and swam as far away as she could, still holding on to the rope. The Squid flailed around as it tried to untangle itself from the tight rope, it was suffocating. Lendra pulled harder. She was having a hard time breathing because she had been underwater a long time. Suddenly she saw the water ripple above her, was it Caroline with help? She grabbed the rope again and swam to the surface as fast as she could. It was hard with

the big animal on her back. She swam to the top of the water and broke the surface breathing hard and spluttered, "I've got the Beast."

Lendra saw Caroline looking at her over the boat. She climbed in so they, and the yacht that the butlers had brought, could head towards the shore. Caroline and Lendra took turns holding the rope suspending the dead squid underwater. They got back to the cabins at dawn, and at breakfast Lendra told everyone about how she had caught the squid. They toasted to her and Caroline, and then everyone left because the hotel was being closed for everyone's safety. The guests said their farewells and went back to the lives they came from!