



Voices From
the Twilight

Synopsis

Voices from the Twilight is based loosely on the true story of Anthropologist Kenneth Good who, in the early 80's, ventured into the Brazilian Rainforest to study the primitive Yanomami Tribe. Against the outrage of his peers, he brought back with him to New Jersey a 13-year-old Indian girl, given to him by the head tribesman, and married her and had two sons and a daughter. Even though at first she seemed to have adapted to her new and unfamiliar surroundings, eventually she abandoned her husband and children and returned to her tribe, remarried and had other children.

It was then that I decided to fictionalize this event, telling it from the perspective of her oldest son who, in the story, comes of age and decides to search for his mother, venturing into the isolated terrain of the rainforest.

The opening scenes depict a teenage boy, Peter, marginally functioning in a suburban household with his depressed and reclusive father who was once an anthropology professor. After unsuccessfully asking a colleague of this father's to let him come on an expedition, Peter decides to take matters into his own hands by hitchhiking to Texas, smuggling across the U.S. border and riding the rails of Mexico into South America.

Along the lines of *The Mission* and *The Emerald Forest* this story is about a young man, alone and isolated, ignored by his despondent father, searching for a missing part of himself. Professor Layman eventually agrees to take him into the jungle where he connects with bloodlines yet eventually realizes, just as his mother did, that he belongs in his birthplace, but takes with him all that he has learned among his tribal ancestors and applying it to his life back home.