

At the very beginning of time...

The People lived peacefully in a cave near a river bordered by a large grove of trees...they lived happily but there were people in a nearby village that would make raids on *The People* and try to capture and enslave them and inflect terrible pain and trouble on *The People...*



they were known as *The Others*.

The People had to learn how to escape or they would be DOOMED!

That's when they first discovered the *Safety Rock* - a HUGE ROCK located near the entrance to a cave. Over time *The People* figured out that if the last person entering would just pull this little wedge rock then the *Safety Rock* would start rolling - blocking the entrance to the cave...

if they made it to the Safety Rock they would be safe!



Day after day The People practiced running to and excaping through the Safety Rock (kind of like a fire drill).

They got very good at scrambling to the *Safety Rock* with the slightest warning *The Others* were coming...

One day a young girl was out collecting berries...

She saw *The Others* coming but could tell that *The People* would not have enough time to make it to the *Safety Rock*.

She had to act fast or *The People* were doomed!!



The young girl started waving her arms and jumping from tree to tree yelling... LOOK AT ME!! - LOOK AT ME!!!

The Others started chasing the young girl and shooting hurtful arrows - she led them away from camp jumping from tree to tree yelling... LOOK AT ME!! - LOOK AT ME!!!

The People started running for the Safety Rock!

Aspen's Tale by John Story Brooks

The young girl kept waving her arms and jumping from tree to tree yelling... **LOOK AT ME!! - LOOK AT ME!!!**

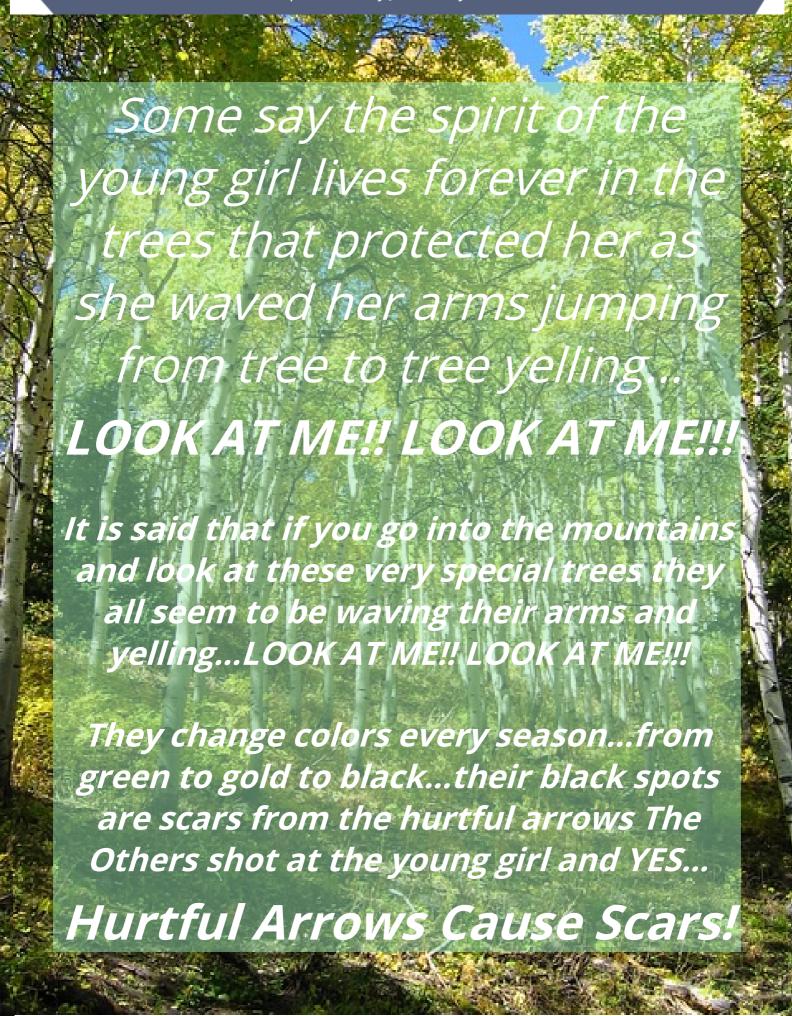
She continued leading The Others away from the camp waving her arms and jumping from tree to tree yelling...

LOOK AT ME!! - LOOK AT ME!!!



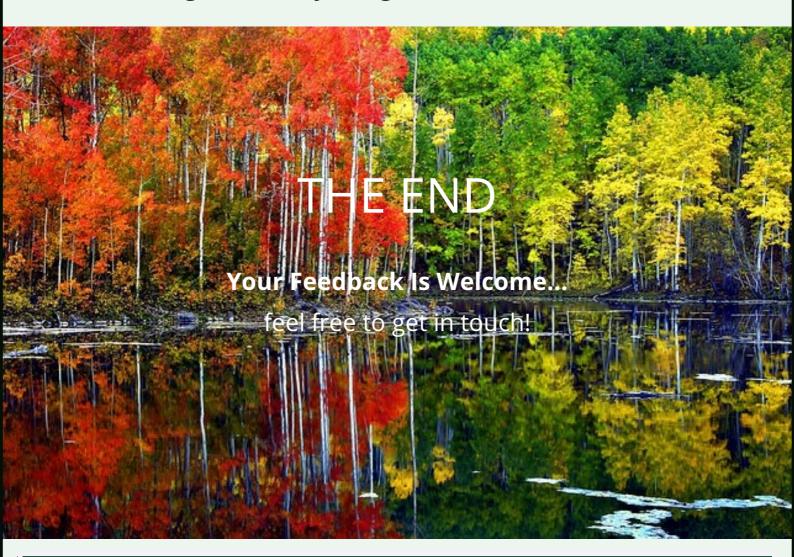
Stories are still told about the young girls bravery and how she had single handedly saved *The People* from *The Others* on that fateful day at the very beginning of time.

No one really knows what happened to the young girl... had she gotten away...or had The Others captured her?



The young girls name was Aspen and that is what we call these special trees...

The next time you see an Aspen Tree see if it doesn't seem to be waiving it's arms yelling... LOOK AT ME!! LOOK AT ME!!!





John Story Brooks
STORYTELLER

www.JohnStoryBrooks.com

Thankyou!