

The Tillamook Treasure

Synopsis

The Tillamook Treasure

By

Jane Beaumont Hall & Richard A. Doyon

Julie (*Suzanne Marie Doyon*), a lonely fourteen year old girl, moves to an Oregon seaside town from Los Angeles after her father, Robert (*Brian McNamara*), loses his job. Her family, including mother Kathryn (*Julia Campbell*) and older sister Susan (*Janine Doyon*), has trouble adjusting to life in a small town. Julie parents struggle with her father's unemployment and her sister finds solace in a summer fling with Tom (*Bradley Stryker*), a not-too-bright local logger.

The tale begins with Julie's dramatic encounter with a large Roosevelt Elk on the beach where she finds an old Spanish gold coin. The Elk becomes Julie's silent, watchful guide and protector as she becomes fascinated by the legend of the Tillamook Treasure. Hundreds of years ago, so the legend goes, Spanish explorers buried a chest of gold on the seaside Neahkahnie Mountain. They killed a manacled Slave (*Kararra Muharo*) and buried with the treasure to frighten the Indians away. The legend also tells of an elk, saved from drowning by the slave before his death. The elk and the spirit of the long-dead slave become Julie's guides and protectors.

Julie decides to search for the buried gold and in the process discovers more than she's bargained for. A colorful supporting cast, including her Grandpa (*Max Gail*); Grandpa's friend, Standing Elk (*Floyd Red Crow Westerman*), Uncle Jimmy (*Brian Thompson*); and the locals of this seaside community, bring the story to life.

Magic realism and a mystical myth, based on a real legend of the Oregon coast; create an enchanting and humorous tale. Most of all, ***The Tillamook Treasure*** is the story of a young girl's adventure and discovery in the most exciting summer of her life.

282 words

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