

## THE GREAT OUTDOORS (1989)

By Walt Wright

The illusion of great distance becomes quickly evident as you stand back a distance up to 10 feet. The autumn colors bring contrast to the tents. It is the blue tent that gets your attention and draws you into the scene. A whimsical path invites the viewer to take a little stroll. It stirs the free spirit within each of us. However, this solemn moment of silence in the forest should bring anyone's senses to a heightened state. The tents are empty, nobody is around. All appears well and there are no pending signs of danger. Oh, really? Perhaps you should take another look. Almost hidden among the fall foliage is a light whisper of smoke in the breeze. Look closely at the fire pit; it is surrounded by dry leaves. Remember the words of Smokey the Bear? He said, "Where there's smoke, there's fire and only you can prevent forest fires."

