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00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:08,840

My name is Frank Edwards. I am the author and narrator of this unique radio series, Strangest

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00:00:08,840 --> 00:00:15,440

of All. The series is actually based on my four books, which deal entirely with unexplained

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00:00:15,440 --> 00:00:21,480

and unexplainable phenomena. The books, like my newspaper columns, are based on documented

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00:00:21,480 --> 00:00:27,400

events which defy explanation in the light of conventional knowledge. Fascinating true

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00:00:27,400 --> 00:00:33,560

stories about the famous and the near famous and their baffling experiences, dreams that have

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00:00:33,560 --> 00:00:40,680

produced great inventions, and dreams to solve crimes, disappearing ships and planes and people.

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00:00:40,680 --> 00:00:46,800

Some of these cases very recent. Every field of human endeavor, including the very newest,

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00:00:46,800 --> 00:00:53,160

that of outer space, has contributed and is contributing to this fascinating collection

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00:00:53,160 --> 00:00:59,360

of documented reports. Strangest of all packs a wallop unlike that of any other program,

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00:00:59,360 --> 00:01:07,000

because no other program has such a wealth of material. Around the world, in print and on the

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00:01:07,000 --> 00:01:14,840

air, each day millions of people enjoy my fantastic but factual report. Your audience will enjoy them

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00:01:14,840 --> 00:01:21,680

too. Here, for example, is a modern mystery. From the Canadian Mounted Police comes the story of a

13

00:01:21,720 --> 00:01:27,760

village that literally vanished. Thirty-five men, women and children who disappeared so suddenly

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00:01:27,760 --> 00:01:34,160

that their guns and food were still in place in their huts, awaiting the owners who never came back.

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00:01:34,160 --> 00:01:41,960

And the story of the incredible manner in which a queen was saved from death by a moth. The true

16

00:01:41,960 --> 00:01:49,280

story of the weird signals from outer space, which the US Navy recorded on film, so shocking that

17

00:01:49,320 --> 00:01:55,880

the film had to be filed and forgotten. And the story of a nationally famous physician who was

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00:01:55,880 --> 00:02:03,560

summoned to the bedside of a woman he did not know by a girl who did not exist. The first ship

19

00:02:03,560 --> 00:02:10,040

that ever made the passage across the Arctic Sea with a captain and crew who had been dead for 13

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00:02:10,040 --> 00:02:18,320

years. In 1963, the Australian government found three beautiful metallic spheres in the desert of

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00:02:18,320 --> 00:02:24,080

New South Wales. And the Minister of Supply admitted to the Australian House of Representative that

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00:02:24,080 --> 00:02:31,440

these spheres did not originate on this earth. You will hear, in strangest of all, the astounding

23

00:02:31,440 --> 00:02:38,080

results of a request for professional astronomers to watch the moon, why they did it, and what they

24

00:02:38,080 --> 00:02:45,600

saw. Of fires that consume human beings but which are harmless to the surroundings. Of the strange

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00:02:45,760 --> 00:02:51,840

objects which are making a systematic surveillance of every important man-made center, what they are,

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00:02:51,840 --> 00:02:59,840

and how they operate. The reports in this series run the gamut of science and history and every

27

00:02:59,840 --> 00:03:07,920

phase of human activities. They are indeed strangest of all. This is Frank Edwards saying,

28

00:03:07,920 --> 00:03:14,040

welcome to our program. This is a position in the program where you have your first connection as a

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00:03:14,040 --> 00:03:19,400

sponsor with your public. However, let me take this opportunity to tell you a little about this

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00:03:19,400 --> 00:03:27,080

fabulous man, Frank Edwards, a man who was a pilot at the age of 15, an accredited newsman doing on

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00:03:27,080 --> 00:03:32,760

the spot coverage of the Floyd Collins tragedy. One of the original members of Pioneer Radio Station

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00:03:32,760 --> 00:03:39,720

KDKA in Pittsburgh served a time as a golf pro, produced many travelogues of the South Seas and

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00:03:39,800 --> 00:03:46,120

Antarctica, holding a post of special consultant to the military in World War II and a noted author,

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00:03:46,760 --> 00:03:53,960

obviously is not content with an 8 to 5 routine the rest of his life. Frank has searched the world over

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00:03:53,960 --> 00:03:59,880

for stories of the unusual, one of which he relates now. One of the most devastating and

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00:03:59,880 --> 00:04:05,160

unpredictable pranks of nature is the earthquake, which spreads death and destruction without warning.

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00:04:05,160 --> 00:04:10,600

Science has devoted much time and thought to ways of knowing in advance when earthquakes can be

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00:04:10,600 --> 00:04:16,360

expected, but little if any progress has been made. But for Bob Barr of Oakland, California,

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00:04:16,360 --> 00:04:23,960

earthquakes are an open book. On April 25, 1954, shortly after 1.30 on that Sunday afternoon,

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00:04:23,960 --> 00:04:28,520

Bob reached over and turned off the radio program to which he had been listening. Then he rubbed his

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00:04:28,520 --> 00:04:34,120

abdomen and said, there's going to be an earthquake. I've got that funny stomach ache again. Seconds

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00:04:34,120 --> 00:04:39,720

later, a temblor hit the city of San Jose with a shattering jar. Bob Barr guessed that it would

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00:04:39,720 --> 00:04:44,360

register about five on the Richter scale, which measures the violence of quakes. As a matter of

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00:04:44,360 --> 00:04:51,080

fact, that particular temblor registered exactly five on the scale. Barr feels that he has a

stomach

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00:04:51,080 --> 00:04:56,120

that is seismographically sensitive, to such an extent that he can detect earthquakes at great

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00:04:56,120 --> 00:05:01,560

distances when they are of considerable magnitude. The more violent the quake, the more pain he feels

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00:05:01,560 --> 00:05:07,480

in his stomach. And this sort of built-in earthquake predictor has been functioning for him for 20 years,

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00:05:07,480 --> 00:05:13,480

says Mr. Barr. Scientists don't believe it. They say he cannot predict earthquakes and that when he

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00:05:13,480 --> 00:05:19,560

does it, it is pure coincidence. Mr. Barr only smiles. He has predicted many an earthquake,

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00:05:19,560 --> 00:05:25,800

which is a record that the scientists who criticize him cannot approach. There is admittedly some

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00:05:25,800 --> 00:05:30,520

factor which some living creatures sense and which enables them to know in advance of an

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00:05:30,520 --> 00:05:37,160

impending earthquake. In the case of the Alaskan quake of March 1964, the animals and birds in

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00:05:37,160 --> 00:05:43,000

zoos all along the west coast of the United States became wildly excited a few minutes before the

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00:05:43,000 --> 00:05:48,760

temblor ripped the city of Anchorage apart. We have no way of knowing whether these creatures in the

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00:05:48,760 --> 00:05:54,840

zoo share Bob Barr's mysterious tummy aches and no way of knowing that they do not. Somehow they

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00:05:54,840 --> 00:05:59,720

knew and they were terrified. Perhaps a clue to the mysteries to be found in the discovery which

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00:05:59,720 --> 00:06:05,400

was announced by George Moore of the U.S. Geological Survey Laboratory at Menlo Park, California,

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00:06:05,400 --> 00:06:13,480

who says that just 66 minutes before the Alaskan quake of March 27, 1964, there was a majorably

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00:06:13,480 --> 00:06:18,920

sharp change in the earth's magnetic field. He suggested this might be due to the stresses in

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00:06:18,920 --> 00:06:25,000

the rocks, which also caused the quake. At any rate, a majorably sharp change in the earth's magnetic

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00:06:25,000 --> 00:06:31,320

field might explain why the birds and animals in the zoos got so excited and might even explain

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00:06:31,320 --> 00:06:38,680

Bob Barr's prophetic stomach ache. Thank you, Frank. And now let me tell you a little of our

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00:06:38,680 --> 00:06:43,560

success with the strangest of all series. We originally started with a much smaller number

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00:06:43,560 --> 00:06:49,320

of episodes of Strangest of All, but the demand for more of these rare and unusual episodes have

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00:06:49,400 --> 00:06:56,040

led us to increase the number of available programs to 520, with Moore being contemplated.

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00:06:56,760 --> 00:07:03,400

An amazing 90% of stations now carrying this program have continued uninterrupted into the

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00:07:03,400 --> 00:07:09,960

second and third year broadcast. We feel sure with the inclusion of this program in any advertising

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00:07:09,960 --> 00:07:15,480

picture, you will be ordering this series for the second and third year and even into the fourth

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00:07:15,480 --> 00:07:20,840

and fifth year, for more of these stories are the strange and unusual as reported and recorded

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00:07:20,840 --> 00:07:27,880

for you by Frank Edwards. Now, we've presented the program to you, the rest is up to you. It's

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00:07:27,880 --> 00:07:32,040

not an expensive proposition, as you can see by consulting the rate chart accompanying this

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00:07:32,040 --> 00:07:38,120

presentation. And it's the time program that will hold and gain listeners for you and do a selling

73

00:07:38,120 --> 00:07:44,760

job. Now, we'll be glad to aid you in merchandising this program to your best advantage. In addition

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00:07:44,760 --> 00:07:50,600

to on the spot merchandising aids such as window banners and so forth, the Frank Edwards books have

75

00:07:50,600 --> 00:07:56,760

been a very successful self-liquidating item in several areas. Our service to you does not end

76

00:07:56,760 --> 00:08:03,560

at the signing of the contract. We seriously endeavor to help you in any way possible. Thank you for

77

00:08:03,560 --> 00:08:13,000

letting us present Strangest of All. Stranger than science. Incredible the true events that have

78

00:08:13,000 --> 00:08:20,120

baffled mankind since the day they happened. Narrated by Frank Edwards. Unique among American

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00:08:20,120 --> 00:08:26,840

warships was the watery, for she fought her only battle on dry land. I'll be back in just a moment

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00:08:26,840 --> 00:08:34,600

with the story of the desert dreadnought. It was a strange name for a battleship, but then the watery

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00:08:34,600 --> 00:08:41,000

was a strange battleship. She was a sidewheeler, a wooden ship with huge awkward paddle wheels in

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00:08:41,000 --> 00:08:47,240

wooden boxes on either side of the vessel. The watery was proud but passé, outmoded before she

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00:08:47,240 --> 00:08:54,280

slid down the ways in late 1864. Commissioned too late for use in the Civil War, perhaps it was just

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00:08:54,280 --> 00:09:00,440

as well for she was a wooden ship born into the days of the ironclads. Fitted with some small

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00:09:00,440 --> 00:09:06,520

cannon, given a captain and a crew, the watery was set out to sea, banished you might say,

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00:09:06,520 --> 00:09:11,880

from the sight of a navy that had no need for her. For a couple of years she bummed around the

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00:09:11,880 --> 00:09:17,480

Caribbean, then by easy stages she ventured down the coast of South America and around the horn

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00:09:17,480 --> 00:09:24,200

to Acanagua in Chile. Her orders were to act as a morale builder for the shaky Chilean government

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00:09:24,200 --> 00:09:30,520

by merely hanging around, showing her cannon and waving the stars and stripes. This sort of thing

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00:09:30,520 --> 00:09:35,800

had been going on for more than a year when the crew began to get restless. The watery needed

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00:09:35,800 --> 00:09:41,480

some repairs so the skipper asked for permission to return to the states. The permission was granted

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00:09:41,480 --> 00:09:47,400

but it came too late. Destiny had already made other arrangements for the ugly duckling of the

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00:09:47,400 --> 00:09:53,640

United States Navy. Captain Alexander was sitting in his cabin one evening, reading the letters which

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00:09:53,640 --> 00:09:59,480

had just been brought to him from a passing mail steamer. The messages were a month old, but even

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00:09:59,480 --> 00:10:05,000

that was pretty good service for the time. The captain's log picks up the report at this point

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00:10:05,000 --> 00:10:10,440

for he wrote, while servicing the mail I noticed that the cabin lamp was swinging

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00:10:10,440 --> 00:10:16,440

fore and aft, a most unusual procedure. I noticed this because we were anchored well

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00:10:16,440 --> 00:10:23,080

inside the bay and there was no wind. I hurried on deck and quickly recognized the disturbance as

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00:10:23,080 --> 00:10:29,880

a submarine earthquake since the water was visibly draining out of the bay. By prompt action we managed

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00:10:29,880 --> 00:10:35,400

to swing the watery around but in a matter of minutes we were aground with our stern to the sea.

101

00:10:36,200 --> 00:10:42,760

I anticipated, he writes, that we might be able to ride it by cutting the anchor cable and this

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00:10:42,760 --> 00:10:49,400

was quickly done. The stench from the exposed harbor bottom was most distressing and several

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00:10:49,400 --> 00:10:55,560

members of the crew became ill. Others, including the officers, managed to endure the stench by

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00:10:55,560 --> 00:11:00,840

breathing only through handkerchiefs which had been soaked in vinegar, a practice which is to be

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00:11:00,840 --> 00:11:07,400

recommended under such conditions. The great wave which came surging in from the open sea struck us

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00:11:07,400 --> 00:11:13,000

and broke high above the stern of the ship and did heavy damage as well as sweeping overboard

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00:11:13,000 --> 00:11:19,320

three crew members who were never seen again. We had no control of the ship and indeed felt

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00:11:19,320 --> 00:11:25,400

ourselves fortunate to be afloat. Riding the wildly turning waters of the great tidal wave

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00:11:25,400 --> 00:11:30,520

the watery was driven inland with scores of other craft. Thanks to her shallow draft and flat

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00:11:30,520 --> 00:11:36,680

bottom construction she rode it like a raft coming to rest finally at the foot of a great cliff.

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00:11:36,680 --> 00:11:42,440

Two miles from the sea scattered about her was the wreckage of other vessels and the debris from

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00:11:42,440 --> 00:11:47,720

the wrecked city itself. The barren sand that stretched for miles along the face of the cliff

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00:11:47,720 --> 00:11:54,520

was strewn with tempting bait for looters and like locusts they came to prey on the plunder.

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00:11:54,520 --> 00:12:00,840

Captain Alexander armed his crew with pistols and warned the swarms of looters away. But one morning

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00:12:00,840 --> 00:12:06,520

came he realized that he was in for serious trouble for his vessel was tilted at such an angle

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00:12:06,520 --> 00:12:12,760

that it could easily be boarded by the mob that was milling about. Already his tired crewmen were

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00:12:12,760 --> 00:12:18,600

forced to discourage the more determined thieves by knocking them off the rails with clubs a form

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00:12:18,600 --> 00:12:24,840

of defense that could not long prevail in the face of such odds. The watery offered such an

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00:12:24,840 --> 00:12:30,680

irresistible piece of plunder that the mob had already marked it for its own when daylight came.

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00:12:30,680 --> 00:12:38,040

They were milling about just out of pistol range. The wateries hour was at hand. Captain Alexander

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00:12:38,040 --> 00:12:43,480

had two of the cannon pulled from their moorings and popped up so they would face the mob. Unable

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00:12:43,480 --> 00:12:49,000

to find the metal shot for the guns in the wreckage below decks the captain thought himself of an

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00:12:49,000 --> 00:12:56,120

ingenious substitute hard round cheeses from the galley. When the screaming mob came surging across

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00:12:56,120 --> 00:13:01,320

the sand toward the gunboat Alexander held his fire until they were only a couple of hundred yards

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00:13:01,320 --> 00:13:07,560

away and then the cannon roared and balls of cheese skipped over the sand. A couple of men

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00:13:07,560 --> 00:13:13,800

were bowled over like ten pins. Another broadside sent the mob fleeing in wild disorder. They had

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00:13:13,800 --> 00:13:20,360

had more than enough cheese. The watery was broken up for salvage where she lay listed in the navy's

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00:13:20,360 --> 00:13:27,960

records as lost in action. She enjoys the unique distinction of being the only battleship that

129

00:13:27,960 --> 00:13:32,920

fought a battle on dry land firing cheeseballs at a gang of thieves.

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00:13:36,040 --> 00:13:43,960

Stranger than fire. Incredible but too advanced for the baffled mankind since the day they happened.

131

00:13:46,360 --> 00:13:52,280

As the nation of President Lakin, but was a high official of the government also involved,

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00:13:52,840 --> 00:13:58,600

I'll have the evidence for you in one minute. An outraged nation clamored for vengeance on

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00:13:58,600 --> 00:14:03,560

those who had plotted and carried out the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. John Wilkes

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00:14:03,560 --> 00:14:09,480

Booth, the vain bombastic trigger man, was subsequently shot to death. Mary Serratt at

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00:14:09,480 --> 00:14:14,920

whose house the crime was plotted died on the gallows with three other characters all convicted

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00:14:14,920 --> 00:14:21,640

of involvement in the same dastardly crime. That much is clear from the record. But were they the

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00:14:21,640 --> 00:14:28,040

leal plotters, the brains behind the crime itself, or did their death merely enable others to avoid

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00:14:28,040 --> 00:14:34,520

exposure? The plot called for the simultaneous assassination of President Lakin, Vice President

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00:14:34,520 --> 00:14:39,880

Johnson and Secretary of State Seward. And had this happened, Secretary of War Stanton would

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00:14:39,880 --> 00:14:45,160

then have become a power to be reckoned with. He was cunning at times brilliant. He was also

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00:14:45,240 --> 00:14:52,200

ruthless, hard and power hungry. But the plot was bungled. Johnson and Seward survived. And after

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00:14:52,200 --> 00:14:58,200

a few brief hours as acting president, Stanton was again reduced to his capacity as Secretary of War.

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00:14:59,080 --> 00:15:03,640

On the night of Mr. Lincoln's murder, Stanton hurried to the house where the stricken president

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00:15:03,640 --> 00:15:09,320

lay dying and set up an office in an adjoining room. Directing the activities of the government

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00:15:09,320 --> 00:15:15,640

from that point, he was promptly informed that John Wilkes Booth was the killer. But for five hours,

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00:15:15,640 --> 00:15:21,560

Stanton refused to issue a public statement naming the killer. And when at last he did so,

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00:15:21,560 --> 00:15:26,760

he furnished newspapers not with a picture of Booth, but with a picture of Booth's brother.

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00:15:27,400 --> 00:15:32,920

And Booth himself used those five hours of grace to make his escape. Only an unforeseen accident

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00:15:32,920 --> 00:15:38,200

presented the getaway being successful. Lafayette Baker was the head of the Secret Service,

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00:15:38,280 --> 00:15:43,000

and he was in New York City at the time of the assassination. Because of the news blackout,

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00:15:43,000 --> 00:15:47,720

which had been imposed by Mr. Stanton, Baker knew nothing of the murder until noon of the

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00:15:47,720 --> 00:15:53,480

following day. He hurried back to Washington to find the killer's trail grown cold. The search

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00:15:53,480 --> 00:16:00,200

itself a well of confusion. The Army, under Stanton's direction, was refusing to cooperate with

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00:16:00,200 --> 00:16:05,560

other official groups. Secretary of State Seward had issued orders that Booth was to be captured

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00:16:05,560 --> 00:16:11,400

and brought back alive so he could be questioned. But Secretary Stanton refused to pass those orders

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00:16:11,400 --> 00:16:17,000

along to the troops who were searching for the assassin. Now this Lafayette Baker was a bit

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00:16:17,000 --> 00:16:23,160

of a scoundrel himself. He worked under Mr. Stanton, but the men admittedly distrusted each other.

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00:16:23,160 --> 00:16:28,280

There was a marriage of convenience based on Stanton's cunning and Baker's lack of scruples.

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00:16:30,120 --> 00:16:34,600

On April 24, Lieutenant Luther Baker was called to the office of his cousin,

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00:16:34,600 --> 00:16:40,040

the Secret Service Chief. After a brief conference there, they went together to the office of Secretary

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00:16:40,040 --> 00:16:47,320

Stanton, who told Lieutenant Baker where he would find John Wilkes Booth. Later on the witness stand,

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00:16:47,320 --> 00:16:52,200

Lieutenant Baker testified that Stanton did not tell him to make any effort to bring Booth back

163

00:16:52,200 --> 00:16:56,680

alive, although by then all the other search parties were under such orders.

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00:16:58,600 --> 00:17:03,640

Booth died of a gunshot wound, which Sergeant Boston Corbett, a crackpot fanatic,

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00:17:03,640 --> 00:17:08,680

claimed to have inflicted. But the evidence indicates that Booth died of a pistol shot

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00:17:08,680 --> 00:17:14,360

in the back of the neck, inflicted at such close range that Booth's neck was powder burned.
Corbett,

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00:17:14,360 --> 00:17:20,760

who was armed with a rifle, was 30 feet away when the shot was fired. The only man inside the barn

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00:17:20,760 --> 00:17:26,200

with Booth was Lieutenant Luther Baker, who was acting under orders from Stanton himself.

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00:17:27,240 --> 00:17:32,040

The pistol shot that killed Booth and Garrett's barn sealed the lips of the one man who might

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00:17:32,040 --> 00:17:37,400

have named all his co-plotters had he been brought in alive. The subsequent military trial, which

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00:17:37,400 --> 00:17:42,840

brought about the execution of Mary Surratt and her three co-defendants, silenced others who might

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00:17:42,840 --> 00:17:48,440

have talked. Lafayette Baker testified that he turned over Booth's complete diary to Secretary

173

00:17:48,440 --> 00:17:54,200

Stanton. Stanton first testified that he had never seen the diary, but later came back and said that

174

00:17:54,200 --> 00:17:59,320

he did have the diary after all. But that pages representing more than two weeks immediately

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00:17:59,320 --> 00:18:04,920

prior to the killing of Lincoln were missing. The military court ruled at Stanton's request

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00:18:04,920 --> 00:18:11,480

that no deletions had been made from the diary. For months before the assassination, an employee of

177

00:18:11,480 --> 00:18:17,320

Stanton's own department, one Louis Weitman, talked openly of the plot being brewed at the Surratt

178

00:18:17,320 --> 00:18:22,040

home where he boarded. He was never questioned before the killing, which might have prevented Mr.

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00:18:22,040 --> 00:18:27,560

Lincoln's untimely death. But for his services as a witness at the trial at silence Mrs. Surratt

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00:18:27,560 --> 00:18:33,160

forever, Weitman loked for years on the public payroll as long as Stanton held office.

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00:18:34,760 --> 00:18:40,360

Lincoln asked to be guarded on that fateful night by Major Eckert, who was one of Stanton's employees.

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00:18:40,360 --> 00:18:45,800

But Stanton refused. So instead of Major Eckert, Lincoln's life was entrusted to a disillusioned

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00:18:45,800 --> 00:18:51,960

scoundrel named John Parker, who promptly deserted his post to visit a nearby tavern. And as soon as

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00:18:51,960 --> 00:18:57,480

Booth saw him there, he knew that the waiter Lincoln was open. Yet Parker was never prosecuted,

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00:18:57,480 --> 00:19:01,560

and he too remained on the public payroll as long as Stanton was in office.

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00:19:02,760 --> 00:19:07,960

The official investigation of the circumstances which led up to Mr. Lincoln's assassination

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00:19:07,960 --> 00:19:13,640

left many important questions unanswered. But the unexplained actions of Secretary Edwin M.

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00:19:13,640 --> 00:19:23,800

Stanton are strangest of all. Stranger than science. Incredible the true events that have baffled

189

00:19:23,800 --> 00:19:30,600

mankind since the day they happened. Narrated by Frank Edward. For half a century science has

190

00:19:30,600 --> 00:19:37,160

been recording strange radio beams from elsewhere in the universe. Are they signals from outer space?

191

00:19:37,720 --> 00:19:45,320

I'll have the full report for you in just a moment. Radio signals from outer space are not new,

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00:19:45,320 --> 00:19:51,000

but they are just as mystifying today as they were when Marconi first picked them up more than 50

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00:19:51,000 --> 00:19:57,400

years ago. The father of wireless was conducting some experiments on his yacht in the Mediterranean

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00:19:57,400 --> 00:20:03,400

when he detected signals which he regarded as code, meaningless to him. He instructed one of

195

00:20:03,400 --> 00:20:08,440

his co-workers to make a public statement on the matter at a scientific and business banquet in

196

00:20:08,440 --> 00:20:14,840

New York. Marconi's remarkable telegram was read, it created some headlines, and then was quietly

197

00:20:14,840 --> 00:20:22,280

dropped. Nikola Tesla, the famed Yugoslav electrical wizard, also reported receiving cryptic code

198

00:20:22,280 --> 00:20:27,560

signals which were most numerous and strong when the aerial was turned toward the planet Mars.

199

00:20:28,200 --> 00:20:34,920

Like Marconi, Tesla had no qualms about making a public report on his findings. If Mars was trying

200

00:20:34,920 --> 00:20:42,680

to reach us, these scientists felt that we should know about it. In 1924, engineers for RCA admitted

201

00:20:42,760 --> 00:20:47,560

that they too had picked up these mysterious chatterings which did not fit the patterns of any

202

00:20:47,560 --> 00:20:53,640

known code, but which bore the earmarks of being intelligently conceived. The signals were recorded

203

00:20:53,640 --> 00:20:59,960

by RCA, discussed, then filed and forgotten. But they were suddenly recalled by a remarkable

204

00:20:59,960 --> 00:21:05,400

experience which befell the scientists in the Naval Research Laboratories in Washington. Scarcely

205

00:21:05,400 --> 00:21:11,320

more than a year after the RCA incident, the Naval Research experts were testing the Jenkins process

206

00:21:11,320 --> 00:21:17,320

while recording wireless signals on photographic film. Out of the ether came a weird chirping that

207

00:21:17,320 --> 00:21:23,080

made no sense in terms of intelligible code, but when the film was developed, the scientists were

208

00:21:23,080 --> 00:21:29,400

astounded at the results. Instead of recording as intermittent dots and dashes, the weird code had

209

00:21:29,400 --> 00:21:36,600

arrived in such a fashion that it was recorded in the form of faces, crude caricatures to be sure,

210

00:21:36,600 --> 00:21:43,000

but faces beyond the doubt. In 1926, the United States government financed a project

211

00:21:43,000 --> 00:21:49,720

which was designed to contact Mars by radio if possible. Scientists from Johns Hopkins University,

212

00:21:49,720 --> 00:21:55,720

aided by radio experts from both the Navy and the Signal Corps, selected a spot in Nebraska.

213

00:21:55,720 --> 00:22:00,040

There they spent hundreds of thousands of dollars constructing a powerful transmitter

214

00:22:00,040 --> 00:22:05,880

and delicate receiving sets. For two weeks they sent radio signals in the direction of Mars

215

00:22:05,880 --> 00:22:11,240

and waited hopefully for some indication that they had been heard. The net result, according to

216

00:22:11,240 --> 00:22:18,200

the official statement, was inconclusive. Thirty years later, great observatories all over the

217

00:22:18,200 --> 00:22:23,880

world were installing costly radio telescopes, huge metallic dishes that can be focused on

218

00:22:23,880 --> 00:22:30,760

individual planets. On June 4th, 1956, the Naval Observatory in Washington announced that it had

219

00:22:30,760 --> 00:22:36,920

succeeded in making what it called the first radio contact with Venus, a contact which led

220

00:22:36,920 --> 00:22:42,280

them to believe that Venus had a surface temperature about equal to that of boiling water.

221

00:22:43,160 --> 00:22:49,480

Ohio State University reported that its radio astronomer, Dr. John Krauss, had used their radio

222

00:22:49,480 --> 00:22:56,280

telescope to receive two types of signals, including the Class II signals, which, said the

223

00:22:56,280 --> 00:23:01,240

University, have many of the characteristics of a terrestrial radio transmitting station.

224

00:23:01,880 --> 00:23:06,200

These signals, which Dr. Krauss said resembled radio telegraphy in many ways,

225

00:23:06,840 --> 00:23:13,720

were received only when the giant radio telescope at the University was trained precisely on Venus.

226

00:23:15,000 --> 00:23:20,360

One of the strangest and perhaps one of the most significant of these bizarre broadcast incidents

227

00:23:20,360 --> 00:23:27,000

occurred in England in 1953, when many television viewers were startled to see on their screens

228

00:23:27,000 --> 00:23:34,200

the station identification card and call letters of television station KLEE in Houston, Texas.

229

00:23:34,920 --> 00:23:38,840

The signals came in strongly throughout a large portion of the British Isles

230

00:23:38,840 --> 00:23:43,720

during two consecutive days, and many viewers recorded the freak broadcast

231

00:23:43,720 --> 00:23:48,920

by photographing the picture on their television sets. Notified of the unusual reception,

232

00:23:49,480 --> 00:23:53,720

the British broadcast engineers had no difficulty picking up the same signal.

233

00:23:54,520 --> 00:24:00,120

Now freak long-range television pickups are rather more common than most viewers realize,

234

00:24:00,120 --> 00:24:05,000

and the British authorities attached no unusual significance to the reception of KLEE

235

00:24:05,800 --> 00:24:09,560

until they contacted the Texas station. Then they got a real shock.

236

00:24:10,440 --> 00:24:18,360

KLEE went off the air in 1950. The successor to KLEE notified the British that no KLEE

237

00:24:18,360 --> 00:24:25,480

identification card had been televised at any time since 1950, three years before the picture

238

00:24:25,480 --> 00:24:31,080

was picked up in Britain. The officials in Britain ruled out the possibility that it could have been

239

00:24:31,080 --> 00:24:35,480

a pointless practical joke, which would have cost at least a hundred thousand dollars to

240

00:24:35,480 --> 00:24:41,000

perpetrate. Where did the signal come from? Why was it being only to the British Isles?

241

00:24:41,640 --> 00:24:44,440

The chief engineer for the British Broadcasting Company said,

242

00:24:45,240 --> 00:24:51,000

Our investigation leaves us with but one possibility, however incredible, that these

243

00:24:51,000 --> 00:24:57,800

signals were transmitted to us purposefully and intelligently from a source and for a purpose

244

00:24:57,800 --> 00:25:08,600

presently unknown. Stranger than science. Incredible the true events that have baffled mankind

245

00:25:08,600 --> 00:25:16,120

since the day they happened. Narrated by Frank Edwards. Abraham Lincoln called it the song that

246

00:25:16,120 --> 00:25:22,440

saved the union. The lady who wrote it called it the song that wrote itself. I'll be back with its

247

00:25:22,440 --> 00:25:35,560

remarkable story in one minute. The battle hymns of republic is one of the most stirring songs ever

248

00:25:36,360 --> 00:25:41,720

written. Abraham Lincoln cried the first time he heard it during the darkest days of the civil war.

249

00:25:41,720 --> 00:25:47,800

The music to battle hymn came from an old southern camp meeting song. Say, brother, will you meet us

250

00:25:47,800 --> 00:25:54,120

on Canaan's happy shore? But where the words came from was quite another story and a very strange one.

251

00:25:54,760 --> 00:26:01,880

On the night of November 18th, 1861, the fog from the nearby Potomac River was drifting through the

252

00:26:01,880 --> 00:26:07,720

streets of the nation's capital. Long lines of dispirited union soldiers shuffled past Willard's

253

00:26:07,720 --> 00:26:13,800

Hotel. Some of them stumbled along for they'd been marching all day, marching with heavy hearts

254

00:26:13,800 --> 00:26:21,400

from the defeats of yesterday to the uncertainties of tomorrow. In a corner room of Willard's famed hotel,

255

00:26:21,400 --> 00:26:27,320

the pretty red-haired wife of a Boston social leader sat beside her window in the darkened room,

256

00:26:27,320 --> 00:26:30,760

watching the long lines of troops pledging past in the gloom.

257

00:26:31,320 --> 00:26:37,160

Ordinarily, Judy Award, how would have been asleep at this hour? But this was no ordinary occasion.

258

00:26:37,160 --> 00:26:43,000

Faith had chosen her for a strange mission. The campfires from the Anacostia flats

259

00:26:43,000 --> 00:26:45,720

blinked at her through the myths over the Potomac.

260

00:26:45,960 --> 00:26:56,120

I have been healing the waters of a hundred percent land. They have yielded him a life.

261

00:26:56,120 --> 00:27:01,160

This is how Watts delivered Panorama for a long time before she decided to retire.

262

00:27:01,160 --> 00:27:05,720

She was exhausted from her long train ride from Boston, and she slept soundly.

263

00:27:06,280 --> 00:27:10,760

Shortly before daylight, she found herself sitting at the writing desk in the corner of the room.

264

00:27:10,760 --> 00:27:16,280

She wrote rapidly, which was unusual for her. Here, therefore, she'd always found rhyming difficult.

265

00:27:16,280 --> 00:27:21,400

But on this cold gray dawn, her pen flew across the paper, scratching out the lines

266

00:27:21,400 --> 00:27:26,360

that would make her name live in history. It was so dark in the room that she could scarcely see the

267

00:27:26,360 --> 00:27:33,240

paper, but she didn't bother to light the candle on the desk. She wrote as one inspired. If she had

268

00:27:33,240 --> 00:27:39,720

a mission in life, she was now fulfilling it magnificently. Long after daylight, when she awakened,

269

00:27:39,720 --> 00:27:43,960

she found that she had written a poem of five verses on a sheet of stationery

270

00:27:43,960 --> 00:27:49,080

from the government agency where her husband worked. She recalled vaguely sitting at the desk

271

00:27:49,080 --> 00:27:53,800

in the darkness, but she remembered nothing of what she had written. But there it was,

272

00:27:53,800 --> 00:27:59,320

so well written that she felt compelled to change only four words in the entire work.

273

00:27:59,320 --> 00:28:05,240

It was entitled, The Battle Hymn of the Republic. But she could recall neither the verses nor the

274

00:28:05,240 --> 00:28:10,680

title. What to do with this piece of work? She mailed it to the Atlantic Monthly Magazine,

275

00:28:10,680 --> 00:28:17,400

where it was published as a poem in the February issue of 1862. They sent her a check for four

276

00:28:17,400 --> 00:28:23,480

dollars. Great songs like Great Men and Great Ideas must arrive on the scene at exactly the

277

00:28:23,480 --> 00:28:29,720

right time and place, and so it was with the masterpiece of Julia Ward Howe. Her forceful

278

00:28:29,720 --> 00:28:36,840

and moving little poem fell into the hands of Chaplain Charles McCabe of the 112th Ohio Volunteers.

279

00:28:36,840 --> 00:28:42,920

He had it in his pocket when he was captured at Winchester and sent to Libby Prison. McCabe noticed

280

00:28:42,920 --> 00:28:49,240

that Mrs. Howe's poem fitted perfectly to the tune of John Brown's Body, which had been borrowed

281

00:28:49,240 --> 00:28:56,200

from the old Southern song on Canaan's happy shore. McCabe sang Battle Hymn to his fellow prisoners,

282

00:28:56,200 --> 00:29:00,920

and they soon sang it with him. One night, when a Confederate guard told the prisoners that the

283

00:29:00,920 --> 00:29:07,480

rebels had just won another smashing victory in Pennsylvania, the prisoners were sunk in gloom.

284

00:29:07,480 --> 00:29:12,680

But a few minutes later, another trustee, who served in the officer's mess at the prison,

285

00:29:12,680 --> 00:29:19,160

brought them the real story that the Union had won a great victory at a little town called Gettysburg.

286

00:29:19,720 --> 00:29:24,760

McCabe and his fellow prisoners sang the Battle Hymn of the Republic till the windows rumbled.

287

00:29:24,760 --> 00:29:30,600

His truth goes marching on. Months later, McCabe was released as an exchange prisoner

288

00:29:30,600 --> 00:29:36,280

and sent back to Washington. There, in a crowded theater, he told the audience of his experiences

289

00:29:36,280 --> 00:29:42,200

in Libby Prison and of the song that shook the walls. He sang it for them, and suddenly they

290

00:29:42,200 --> 00:29:47,720

were singing it with him. President Lincoln rose to his feet, tears streaming down his cheeks,

291

00:29:47,720 --> 00:29:53,720

and asked them to sing it again and again. Julia Ward Howe said of her masterpiece,

292

00:29:54,440 --> 00:30:01,480

I wonder if I really wrote it. I feel that I did not. I was just an instrument. It really

293

00:30:01,480 --> 00:30:09,800

wrote itself. When he died in 19th-day at the age of 91, a chorus of 100 little children from

294

00:30:09,800 --> 00:30:21,880

the University of the Blind told her goodbye as they sang.

295

00:30:40,360 --> 00:30:53,720

The Stranger Than Siren. Incredible but true events that have baffled mankind

296

00:30:53,720 --> 00:31:00,120

since the day they happened. Narrated by Frank Edwards. I think you'll agree with me that it's

297

00:31:00,120 --> 00:31:06,920

a wacky world. A world where one man got shot by a cigarette, another was run over by a bathtub,

298

00:31:06,920 --> 00:31:12,280

and a steam shovel went head-hunting. In just a moment I'll be back with a full report on the odd

299

00:31:12,280 --> 00:31:18,600

balls of 1958. Science spends a great deal of time and money in its laudable efforts to understand

300

00:31:18,600 --> 00:31:25,480

and explain how and why strange things happen. But the day-to-day events of our modern world sometimes

301

00:31:25,480 --> 00:31:31,880

defy explanation, and sometimes the scientists themselves are involved. For instance, a veteran

302

00:31:31,880 --> 00:31:37,240

research specialist for General Electric got a call from his wife asking him to pick up a basket

303

00:31:37,240 --> 00:31:44,200

of eggs at the home of a friend who lived near his laboratory in Syracuse. He remembered the eggs,

304

00:31:44,200 --> 00:31:49,560

and as he approached the railroad crossing he remembered that it was very rough. So he leached

305

00:31:49,560 --> 00:31:56,520

back with one hand and steadied the basket of eggs as he drove slowly and very carefully across the

306

00:31:56,520 --> 00:32:02,600

track, or almost across. There just happened to be a freight train coming along at that moment.

307

00:32:02,600 --> 00:32:07,080

It struck the good doctor's car and knocked it in front of another engine, which was going in the

308

00:32:07,080 --> 00:32:13,560

opposite direction. Fortunately, neither engine was moving very fast. The scientist was badly frightened,

309

00:32:13,560 --> 00:32:20,360

got a bump on his head, and his car was erect. But the eggs were perfect. How do you think science

310

00:32:20,360 --> 00:32:27,240

would explain that one? 1958 produced buffer crops of wheat and corn, and it also produced a

311

00:32:27,240 --> 00:32:33,080

buffer crop of unpredictable incidents, such as the case of the hitchhiking jackrabbit of Grand

312

00:32:33,080 --> 00:32:38,600

Island, Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ambers of Columbus, Ohio were driving across country,

313

00:32:38,600 --> 00:32:43,480

and as they rolled along the highway west of Grand Island, they were suddenly reminded that

314

00:32:43,480 --> 00:32:48,440

they were in jackrabbit countries, for their windshield dissolved in a shower of fragments

315

00:32:48,440 --> 00:32:54,360

as a rabbit came through it head first. He plunged into the backseat of the car. Joe and his wife

316

00:32:54,360 --> 00:33:00,120

agreed that it was some jackrabbit, but it turned out that the critter was a bit of a sissy. His

first

317

00:33:00,120 --> 00:33:06,200

automobile ride killed him. One of the least appealing aspects of being a telephone lineman is

318

00:33:06,200 --> 00:33:12,200

that of having to work down in manholes hour after hour, while the world rumbled past overhead.

319

00:33:12,760 --> 00:33:16,920

Sam Bradford of Ithaca, New York was repairing some telephone cables in a manhole.

320

00:33:17,720 --> 00:33:22,680

When a collar dropped in on him, a nine-year-old girl who landed on the back of his neck.

321

00:33:23,560 --> 00:33:28,760

Only a surprise visit, nobody heard. Two weeks later, Sam came out of a manhole,

322

00:33:28,760 --> 00:33:34,600

just in time to meet the screech sprinkler, face to face. But Sam isn't complaining. One of his

323

00:33:34,600 --> 00:33:40,440

buddies was also down in a manhole when a truck loaded with sand turned over and poured its cargo

324

00:33:40,440 --> 00:33:46,200

down in the hole with him. The lineman got out all right, told reporters he wasn't frightened at all.

325

00:33:46,200 --> 00:33:53,560

A real man of grip. Ed Taylor of Madawan, West Virginia was probably congratulating himself

326

00:33:53,560 --> 00:33:59,400

on having found the parking space into which he was carefully backing his new car. Just at that

327

00:33:59,400 --> 00:34:05,240

moment, a power shovel knocked down a utility pole. The pole fell across Ed's car. Naturally,

328

00:34:05,240 --> 00:34:11,000

Ed was curious about all the rumpets, so he stuck his head out the car window, just in time for the

329

00:34:11,000 --> 00:34:16,600

clam shovel to slide off the top of the car and close its jaws around Ed's head and shoulder.

330

00:34:16,600 --> 00:34:21,880

Thirty minutes later, when they got him out of his predicament unhurt, Ed hurriedly drove away

331

00:34:21,880 --> 00:34:27,400

and let someone else have his parking place. And the cigarette that shot a man, well, that's a

332

00:34:27,400 --> 00:34:32,280

matter of record in Beloit, Wisconsin, where Jim Drager will gladly tell you how it happened.

333

00:34:32,920 --> 00:34:38,280

He was merely relaxing in his big easy chair one evening at a casually placed a lighted cigarette

334

00:34:38,280 --> 00:34:44,040

in the ice tray. Earlier that evening, his five-year-old son had placed a 22 caliber shell in

335

00:34:44,040 --> 00:34:50,440

the same tray. The cigarette he did the car preach, there was a bang, and Jim was nicked in the

arm,

336

00:34:50,440 --> 00:34:58,200

shot by a cigarette. No other cigarette can make that claim. Then Quinlan of St. Louis got into

337

00:34:58,200 --> 00:35:05,320

the wreckage in 1958 through an ironic twist of fate. Then, you see, is a safety director for a

338

00:35:05,320 --> 00:35:11,240

large industry in St. Louis, and he tries to practice the safety that he preaches. But fate

339

00:35:11,240 --> 00:35:17,800

played a mean little trick on me. After a nice, safe day at work, Ben went to bed for a well-deserved

340

00:35:17,800 --> 00:35:24,200

snooze. During the night, a bedspring worked loose, popped through the mattress cover, and stabbed Ben

341

00:35:24,200 --> 00:35:31,960

right in the middle of his night's rest. Runaway bathtubs are rare indeed, so rare that they are

342

00:35:31,960 --> 00:35:37,320

mentioned only once in the records of this busy year. Scientists calculate that your chances

343

00:35:37,320 --> 00:35:44,200

of being struck by a runaway bathtub are billions to one in your favor. But look out for that one

344

00:35:44,200 --> 00:35:49,880

chance, as Andy Anderson of Oakland, California will tell you. Andy was parked on a mountain

345

00:35:49,880 --> 00:35:55,400

highway, fixing a tire. When a truck loaded with bathtubs came rolling down out of control,

346

00:35:55,960 --> 00:36:01,400

two bathtubs came spinning toward Andy. He leaped over the first, got hit by the second,

347

00:36:01,400 --> 00:36:08,440

saw the top of his new car bashed in by still another tub. You are often admonished to avoid

348

00:36:08,440 --> 00:36:14,920

accidents by using horse fans, but even that seems to have taken a turn for the worse. Just outside

349

00:36:14,920 --> 00:36:20,280

Ann Arbor, Michigan, two delivery wagons approached each other. The horses became frightened and

350

00:36:20,280 --> 00:36:26,040

knocked each other silly when they criss-haired on. But of course, they had a perfect alibi.

351

00:36:26,040 --> 00:36:28,040

The horses were using man's sense.

352

00:36:31,480 --> 00:36:38,200

Man's science. Incredible the true events that have baffled mankind since the day they happened,

353

00:36:38,760 --> 00:36:47,080

narrated by Frank Edwards. Electronic instruments tell us there are tons of gold there on Oak Island,

354

00:36:47,080 --> 00:36:53,480

and it may be yours for the taking, but getting it may be a bit difficult. I'll be back in one

355

00:36:53,480 --> 00:37:01,720

minute with the incredible true story of the treasure in the well. Then Oak Island may be the

356

00:37:01,720 --> 00:37:08,040

end of the rainbow for you. Like the proverbial pot of gold at the rainbow's end, you may find it

357

00:37:08,040 --> 00:37:14,520

a bit elusive, but it's there. No mistake about that. The lucky ones have touched some of it.

358

00:37:14,520 --> 00:37:18,680

The better equipped seekers have watched the indicator needles on their gear

359

00:37:18,680 --> 00:37:24,760

flutter to match their own hearts. But one and all they've had to admit defeat for the treasure of

360

00:37:24,760 --> 00:37:31,320

Oak Island has been so cunningly concealed that it defied the best efforts of all comers from

361

00:37:31,320 --> 00:37:37,160

almost a century and a half. Oak Island is a tiny rocky knoll that sticks up from the cool

362

00:37:37,160 --> 00:37:43,480

blue waters of Mahon Bay in southern Nova Scotia. Nobody paid much attention to this insignificant

363

00:37:43,480 --> 00:37:49,880

speck of land until 1795. On a bright Sunday morning in April of that year, three young men

364

00:37:49,880 --> 00:37:58,280

rode out to the island and spent the rest of their lives wishing they hadn't. Tony Vaughn, Danny

365

00:37:58,280 --> 00:38:04,360

McGinnis, and Jack Smith knew that Oak Island had been used as a haven of refuge and repair

366

00:38:04,360 --> 00:38:09,400

by the free boozers who infested the seas in those days. The pirates could anchor in one of the

367

00:38:09,400 --> 00:38:14,280

convenient deep coves on the north end of Oak Island, post a lookout in one of the several

368

00:38:14,280 --> 00:38:20,280

tall trees, and go about their business of removing the barnacles from the ship's bottoms in comparative

369

00:38:20,280 --> 00:38:27,480

safety. Old Teach came there according to local gossip, and Morgan and Steve Bonney and other

370

00:38:27,480 --> 00:38:33,000

notorious scum of the seas, they came there and they traded with the Cannae Nova Scotians,

371

00:38:33,000 --> 00:38:38,280

and they paid handsomely to the local authority to look the other way while the pirates camped out

372

00:38:38,280 --> 00:38:44,440

on Oak Island. One by one the pirates had been hanged or driven from the seas, and when Smith

373

00:38:44,440 --> 00:38:50,680

and Vaughn and McGinnis rode over to the island in 1795, they knew that no pirates had been there

374

00:38:50,680 --> 00:38:57,480

openly or otherwise for at least seven years. But they knew too that the roistering free boozers

375

00:38:57,480 --> 00:39:04,040

had left a lot of evidence of their visits, pistols, knives, sometimes a gold coin or two could be

376

00:39:04,040 --> 00:39:10,040

straight from the sand of the little beach where the pirates gambled and fought and bred. It was
Tony

377

00:39:10,040 --> 00:39:16,200

Vaughn who called the attention of his two companions to a worn place on the limb of a huge oak
tree,

378

00:39:16,200 --> 00:39:22,200

and to the strange depression in the soil directly beneath that same tree limb. They agreed that it

379

00:39:22,200 --> 00:39:27,640

looked very much like heavy ropes had been looped over the limb to lower something ponderous into

380

00:39:27,640 --> 00:39:34,600

a hole that had later been carefully filled in. Working quietly in their spare time for several

381

00:39:34,600 --> 00:39:43,080

years, the three boys finally dug down to a depth of about 35 feet. Then in 1803, Smith told Dr.

382

00:39:43,080 --> 00:39:48,440

John Linds of their strange find, and of the thick layers of coconut fibers they had discovered at

383

00:39:48,440 --> 00:39:54,760

the 35 foot level. It was a fateful day for Dr. Linds when he first stood there beside that pit,

384

00:39:54,760 --> 00:40:00,760

for in the ensuing years he spent his entire fortune tolling its depths for the treasure he was so

385

00:40:00,760 --> 00:40:07,000

confident that it contained. Workmen, paid by the doctor, pulled out at successive 10 foot levels

386

00:40:07,000 --> 00:40:13,000

layers of heavy oak planks, a layer of chips putty and more thick tough layers of coconut fibers,

387

00:40:13,000 --> 00:40:18,440

presumably hauled there by pirates who had loaded this stuff in the West Indies 2000 miles away.

388

00:40:19,160 --> 00:40:23,480

Beneath the layer of oak and planks at the 80 foot level, the workmen found a flat stone

389

00:40:23,480 --> 00:40:29,560

covered with unintelligible hieroglyphics. As the last resort when his funds were virtually gone,

390

00:40:29,560 --> 00:40:35,720

Dr. Linds brought in a large hand-powered drill, and with it he probed to a depth of 100 feet.

391

00:40:35,720 --> 00:40:41,160

The drill cut its way through brittle plaster and more hardwood, then it seemed to drop into some

392

00:40:41,160 --> 00:40:46,760

sort of subterranean room. The next effort with the drill, racing against the water that was rising

393

00:40:46,760 --> 00:40:53,080

rapidly in the pit, brought up a few scraps of gold and a bit of paper, and moments later, disaster.

394

00:40:53,080 --> 00:40:59,080

For water broke into the pit with such a force that three workmen drowned, and Dr. Linds was bankrupt.

395

00:41:00,440 --> 00:41:04,760

If he had established nothing else, he had given his fortune in nine years of his life

396

00:41:04,760 --> 00:41:10,440

to prove that there was gold in some sort of a man-made vault, about 100 feet below the scarred

397

00:41:10,440 --> 00:41:16,840

old oak tree. It was 46 years before Dr. Linds was able to try again. In the Gold

398

00:41:16,840 --> 00:41:23,720

Reich madness of 1849, old and roomy-eyed, he gathered about him a small group of financial backers.

399

00:41:24,360 --> 00:41:29,960

Their workmen reopened the crumble pit, sank it 10 feet deeper than ever before,

400

00:41:29,960 --> 00:41:35,480

until they came to a hard layer of cement. The drill broke through into that room again,

401

00:41:35,480 --> 00:41:42,600

brought up a bit of gold chain, and again, just as success seemed inevitable, the water came pouring

402

00:41:43,080 --> 00:41:49,640

in and ruined them. Other treasure seekers down through the years, including Franklin D. Roosevelt,

403

00:41:49,640 --> 00:41:56,200

have spent lavishly of their time and money on Oak Island. They have confirmed that the gold is there,

404

00:41:56,200 --> 00:42:02,920

that it is cunningly protected by seawater, brought in through tunnels, and that the gold is likely

405

00:42:02,920 --> 00:42:11,800

to stay there. For in 1957, modern engineers found it just as real and just as elusive as ever.

406

00:42:12,680 --> 00:42:21,560

Stranger Than Science. Incredible but true events that have baffled mankind since the day they happened.

407

00:42:22,120 --> 00:42:28,040

Narrated by Frank Edwards. Alarm citizens of Devonshire patrolled the countryside,

408

00:42:28,040 --> 00:42:33,320

where something had left tiny footprints even on their rooftops. I'll be back in one minute

409

00:42:33,320 --> 00:42:40,280

with the fully documented report on the Devil's Footprints. The good citizens of Canvey Island

410

00:42:40,280 --> 00:42:45,080

had never seen anything like it, and they were disturbed, so they dragged the creature out of

411

00:42:45,080 --> 00:42:50,440

the shallow water onto the beach, covered it with seaweed, and ran for the authorities. The

412

00:42:50,440 --> 00:42:55,560

authorities sent for help too, and the British government assigned the task to a pair of competent

413

00:42:55,560 --> 00:43:01,480

zoologists. These gentlemen examined the fantastic creature at length, photographed it, measured it,

414

00:43:01,480 --> 00:43:07,240

and finally admitted that it looked like nothing they had ever seen or heard of before. It appeared

415

00:43:07,240 --> 00:43:12,280

to be some sort of marine creature, but it had feet and legs so arranged that it could walk upright

416

00:43:12,280 --> 00:43:17,560

if it chose. In an upright stance, it would have been about two and a half feet tall, with a thick,

417

00:43:17,560 --> 00:43:23,880

tough, brownish-red skin, a pulpy head with two protruding eyes. Well, the scientists measured

418

00:43:23,880 --> 00:43:29,480

and photographed and gave up. They had the thing cremated and left without making any public conclusions.

419

00:43:31,000 --> 00:43:34,920

If these learned gentlemen thought they were ending the enigma of Canvey Island once and for

420

00:43:34,920 --> 00:43:39,880

all by that simple procedure, they reckoned without the facts, for the case certainly did not end

421

00:43:39,880 --> 00:43:47,720

there. On August 11, 1954, the Reverend Joseph Overs was walking along the beach of Canvey Island,

422

00:43:47,720 --> 00:43:52,520

just a couple of miles from the scene of that earlier monster, when he too came upon a grotesque

423

00:43:52,520 --> 00:43:58,200

carcass wallowing in a small tidal pool. The good man took one look at the thing and sent one of

424

00:43:58,200 --> 00:44:03,480

his youngsters for the police. The bobbies pulled the carcass ashore and sent for the experts again.

425

00:44:04,360 --> 00:44:09,480

The creature which had been found in the preceding November had been about two and a half feet tall.

426

00:44:09,480 --> 00:44:14,840

This one was slightly more than four feet in length, weighed about 25 pounds, and was in good

427

00:44:14,840 --> 00:44:19,640

condition for examination. The report which the perplexed scientist submitted to the British

428

00:44:19,640 --> 00:44:25,880

government shows that the thing had two large eyes, nostril holes, a gaping mouth with strong,

429

00:44:25,880 --> 00:44:32,120

sharp teeth, and it also had gills. But instead of scales, it was covered with a pink skin,

430

00:44:32,120 --> 00:44:37,080

which the experts reported was as tough as the height of a healthy pig. Perhaps the most

431

00:44:37,080 --> 00:44:42,520

remarkable part of all, this creature, like that of the preceding November, had two short legs with

432

00:44:42,520 --> 00:44:49,640

perfect feet, feet which ended in five tiny toes, arranged in a U shape with a concave center arch.

433

00:44:51,400 --> 00:44:56,280

If science was able to identify these monstrosities, the report was never disclosed,

434

00:44:56,280 --> 00:45:02,440

but to many the things brought back memories of that incredible night in February of 1855,

435

00:45:02,440 --> 00:45:07,480

when the English countryside around Devonshire had a most remarkable visitor or visitors,

436

00:45:07,480 --> 00:45:11,640

which may or may not have been akin to the strange creatures found a hundred years later

437

00:45:11,640 --> 00:45:16,920

on the shores of Canvey Island. The story was written in the form of little footprints in the

438

00:45:16,920 --> 00:45:22,840

smooth blanket of snow that covered the countryside during the night of February 7th, a gentle snowfall

439

00:45:22,840 --> 00:45:27,800

that ended around 11 o'clock that night, somewhere between the end of the snowfall and the break of

440

00:45:27,800 --> 00:45:33,480

day on February 8th. Devonshire had played host to a mysterious visitor, something that had

441

00:45:33,480 --> 00:45:40,280

scampered or pranced or slithered over fences and fields, over walls and housetops, leaving an unbroken

442

00:45:40,280 --> 00:45:45,720

line of thousands of footprints to mark its passing. What was it? This thing that could travel nimbly

443

00:45:45,720 --> 00:45:51,080

up the walls and over the rooftops of decent god-fearing folk while they slept. Where did it

444

00:45:51,080 --> 00:45:57,160

come from and where did it go? Well, where it came from remains a mystery, but where it went was

445

00:45:57,160 --> 00:46:02,840

written in the snow from Topcham and Bictum in the north to Dollas and Totness in the south,

446

00:46:02,840 --> 00:46:09,240

a trail more than a hundred miles long. A baker in Topcham, a chap named George Fairley, seems to

447

00:46:09,240 --> 00:46:14,120

have been the first to take notice of the trail. He saw the strange marks that preceded him almost

448

00:46:14,120 --> 00:46:19,080

to the door of his little shop, but from a point about three feet short of his door, the tracks

449

00:46:19,080 --> 00:46:25,000

turned sharply right to a five-foot high brick wall. Mr. Fairley noticed that the soft curl of the

450

00:46:25,000 --> 00:46:31,400

snow atop the wall had been disturbed by the same little U-shaped footprints. He was not disturbed

451

00:46:31,400 --> 00:46:36,440

by this oddity. That remained for the other residents of the community. By nightfall, the

452

00:46:36,440 --> 00:46:41,400

countryside was up in arms, for there were many who attributed the tracks to the devil himself.

453

00:46:41,400 --> 00:46:47,160

Tiny hoof-shaped marks exactly eight inches apart from X-mouth across fields and housetops

454

00:46:47,160 --> 00:46:52,280

to the bay near Powderham Castle, only to reappear on the other side of the bay and then on to the

455

00:46:52,280 --> 00:46:57,560

end of the trail at Totness, many miles to the south. The London Times and other newspapers

456

00:46:57,560 --> 00:47:02,200

devoted many columns to reporting the strange story of the Devonshire footprints. There were

457

00:47:02,200 --> 00:47:07,640

various explanations ascribing the marks to kangaroos, birds, even a wolf. None of these was

458

00:47:07,640 --> 00:47:13,000

acceptable because none of them fitted the facts. Perplexed experts nervously advanced the theory

459

00:47:13,080 --> 00:47:18,200

that two or three creatures of unknown type had been involved. A theory that was convenient but

460

00:47:18,200 --> 00:47:23,400

unconvincing, unless you were willing to agree that three unknown creatures were all possessed of

461

00:47:23,400 --> 00:47:28,360

the same irresistible urge at the same time at three different spots on the coast of Devonshire

462

00:47:28,360 --> 00:47:34,120

on the same night and that after roping over the housetops they fled back into the sea never to

463

00:47:34,120 --> 00:47:40,600

be seen again. Unless, by some strange chance, the two monstrosities washed up on the coast of

464

00:47:40,600 --> 00:47:47,960

Canvey Island in 1953 and 54 were a clue. Did these creatures point to a solution to the riddle

465

00:47:47,960 --> 00:47:53,560

of the Devonshire footprints of a century before or did they merely add new questions to compound

466

00:47:53,560 --> 00:47:56,360

the mystery for science?

467

00:47:56,760 --> 00:48:04,040

Ranger than science. Incredible but true events that have baffled mankind since the day they

468

00:48:04,040 --> 00:48:12,280

happened. Daryed by Frank Edward. Police were admittedly desperate after weeks of investigation

469

00:48:12,280 --> 00:48:18,440

had failed to solve the disappearance of Joy Aiken. Did she tell them where to find her killer?

470

00:48:18,440 --> 00:48:21,640

I'll have the fully documented story for you in one minute.

471

00:48:23,320 --> 00:48:28,200

Science is admittedly operating under difficulties when it endeavors to explore the human mind.

472

00:48:28,200 --> 00:48:33,400

The very nature of the study precludes success in many respects. Science has learned a great

473

00:48:33,400 --> 00:48:38,360

deal about the mind in the past few decades thanks to new instruments and new techniques.

474

00:48:39,080 --> 00:48:45,320

But reduced to its fundamentals, it becomes a program of the mind studying the mind and that

475

00:48:45,320 --> 00:48:50,920

complicates the problem. We know that the human mind is capable of some very remarkable feats

476

00:48:50,920 --> 00:48:56,680

which we can only record without understanding. That it may also be capable of other and even

477

00:48:56,920 --> 00:49:04,120

more incredible attainments is a matter for debate. For example, let us examine the case of Joy Aiken

478

00:49:04,120 --> 00:49:11,560

found in the police records of Pine Town, Natal, South Africa under the date of October 9th, 1956

479

00:49:11,560 --> 00:49:16,680

and attested by four senior police officers and 46 invited witnesses.

480

00:49:18,600 --> 00:49:24,840

Joy Aiken was a few days past 17 years of age when she vanished in the middle of September 1956.

481

00:49:24,840 --> 00:49:31,800

Joy was a very pretty girl. She was also very shy. Joy had no steady boyfriend nor did she have

482

00:49:31,800 --> 00:49:37,960

any enemies. Why then had she disappeared? Her family suspected foul play and the police

483

00:49:37,960 --> 00:49:43,240

concurred. They sent out bulletins bearing her picture to police posts throughout South Africa.

484

00:49:43,240 --> 00:49:48,360

A reward was offered for anyone who could provide information leading to the finding of the missing

485

00:49:48,360 --> 00:49:55,640

girl or her body. Weeks passed without results. There were a few crank tips, the usual crackpot

486

00:49:55,640 --> 00:50:01,880

reports which are to be expected and as customary they came to naught. Joy Aiken had vented as

487

00:50:01,880 --> 00:50:08,600

completely as if the earth had swallowed her which police suspected it had done. The missing girl's

488

00:50:08,600 --> 00:50:14,200

brother Colin Aiken visited the police station in Pine Town each day in the hope that they might have

489

00:50:14,200 --> 00:50:18,440

learned something that would lead them to the end of their search, whatever that might be.

490

00:50:19,320 --> 00:50:25,240

Each day the police had to tell him that they had found nothing and by October 8th they admitted

491

00:50:25,240 --> 00:50:31,720

complete defeat. On that same day Colin heard through a friend of the retired headmaster of a

492

00:50:31,720 --> 00:50:37,720

school, Mr. Nelson Palmer, who had located some missing items for various of his close personal

493

00:50:37,720 --> 00:50:43,800

friends. Mr. Palmer did this said Colin's friend by merely relaxing closing his eyes

494

00:50:44,440 --> 00:50:49,800

and subsequently describing what his mind seemed to see. He was embarrassed by the

495

00:50:49,800 --> 00:50:53,800

knowledge that he could do this and he never discussed it for fear of ridicule.

496

00:50:55,000 --> 00:51:00,360

Colin Aiken and the Pine Town office of the South Africa police were of the same opinion.

497

00:51:00,360 --> 00:51:06,360

They had nothing to lose by asking Mr. Palmer to try. A senior police officer visited Palmer and

498

00:51:06,360 --> 00:51:12,040

his wife that night and finally secured their consent to a meeting on the following day October

499

00:51:12,040 --> 00:51:20,040

9th 1956. While 50 persons sat silently in the two front rooms and the hall of Mr. Palmer's home,

500

00:51:20,040 --> 00:51:25,400

he leaned back in his chair and closed his eyes. His breathing became heavy and labored.

501

00:51:26,040 --> 00:51:31,000

Sweep covered his face and began to trickle down from his chin. For many minutes there was only

502

00:51:31,000 --> 00:51:36,200

the sound of his breathing and those who were present, some of them began to suspect that that

503

00:51:36,200 --> 00:51:42,920

was going to be the extent of the program. Then Palmer's lips began to move but the sound that

504

00:51:42,920 --> 00:51:47,720

came from them was a voice like that of a young girl and it was a young girl in terror.

505

00:51:48,520 --> 00:51:53,320

I am dead said the voice and then there was a silence for two minutes according to the police

506

00:51:53,320 --> 00:51:59,000

record after that Palmer's lips began moving again and he said my body is in the ravine near

507

00:51:59,000 --> 00:52:05,960

the higher rocks. A man has attacked me. He's killing me. Palmer's eyes opened and he seemed to be

508

00:52:05,960 --> 00:52:11,400

staring without seeing. A few minutes later he began breathing normally and arose from the chair.

509

00:52:12,040 --> 00:52:16,840

Says the record and again I quote from it. Mr. Palmer then told us that the girl's body was

510

00:52:16,840 --> 00:52:23,000

partially concealed under some stones near a culvert at a spot about 60 miles from Feindown.

511

00:52:23,000 --> 00:52:28,600

The murderer he said was a man named Clarence about 30 years old who had hidden the murder weapon

512

00:52:28,600 --> 00:52:34,280

whatever it was in an outbuilding at his home. Mr. Palmer said he believed he could lead us to the

513

00:52:34,280 --> 00:52:40,920

place where the body was hidden. One hour and 40 minutes later Palmer led police to a lonely spot

on

514

00:52:40,920 --> 00:52:46,280

the highway along the coast of Nassau. There under a culvert and partially hidden by stones

515

00:52:46,280 --> 00:52:51,720

they found the body of the missing girl. Joy Aiken had been beaten and then shot to death.

516

00:52:52,280 --> 00:52:57,240

What of the killer? Palmer had described him as a man named Clarence. Relatives recalled that

517

00:52:57,240 --> 00:53:02,920

Joy had known a chap by that name Clarence Gordon Van Vuren. 10 hours later police placed

518

00:53:02,920 --> 00:53:08,840

Van Vuren under arrest. In a shed behind his home they found a gun which he later identified as the

519

00:53:08,840 --> 00:53:15,480

murder weapon. It was the old old story of a frustrated lover. He had lured her into his car he said

520

00:53:15,480 --> 00:53:21,880

lost his temper, struck her then shot her to death in the fit of anger. How did Palmer know

521

00:53:21,960 --> 00:53:27,320

where to find the body? Joy's family prefers to think that the dead girl told him somehow.

522

00:53:27,960 --> 00:53:35,080

But Palmer scoffs at the idea. Nothing supernatural about it he says and he adds I have found missing

523

00:53:35,080 --> 00:53:40,280

pieces of jewelry by the same process whatever it is and these pieces of jewelry certainly didn't

524

00:53:40,280 --> 00:53:46,840

tell me where they were. I think the human mind he said has some perfectly normal capabilities

525

00:53:46,840 --> 00:53:52,120

which we do not understand and this projection in time is merely one of them.

526

00:53:54,680 --> 00:54:02,680

Stranger Than Science. Incredible but true events that have baffled mankind since the day they happened.

527

00:54:03,240 --> 00:54:07,320

Narrated by Frank Edwards and now here is Frank Edwards.

528

00:54:07,960 --> 00:54:13,000

Armed guards stood watch beside the tomb both day and night but the coffins continued their

529

00:54:13,000 --> 00:54:18,680

strange antics. I'll be back in one minute with the amazing true story of the restless dead.

530

00:54:20,120 --> 00:54:25,400

Scientists who investigated carefully had to admit defeat for they could arrive at no logical

531

00:54:25,400 --> 00:54:30,040

explanation for the strange events that were uncovered on the sweltering afternoon of August

532

00:54:30,040 --> 00:54:37,000

24th 1943 when a group of masonic officials opened a sealed grave on the island of Barbados.

533

00:54:37,000 --> 00:54:42,120

It was the tomb of Sir Evan McGregor who had been buried there in 1841 but the

534

00:54:42,120 --> 00:54:47,960

masons were not interested in Sir Evan instead they wished to pay tribute to one Alexander Irvine

535

00:54:47,960 --> 00:54:53,640

who was the father of free masonry in Barbados Irvines remains had been placed in the same vault

536

00:54:53,640 --> 00:54:59,080

prior to those of McGregor. The crypt itself had been carved out of the native stone of the island

537

00:54:59,080 --> 00:55:04,120

and was so constructed that it projected about four feet above ground resting on a concrete

538

00:55:04,120 --> 00:55:08,360

and brick base which extended underground to a depth of about four and a half feet.

539

00:55:09,000 --> 00:55:15,080

Entrance could be obtained only by descending a flight of six steps and opening a sealed door

540

00:55:15,080 --> 00:55:20,600

after the heavy cover slab had been removed it was found that the doorway to the vault itself

541

00:55:20,600 --> 00:55:26,040

was sealed by having been bricked up. As the bricks were being removed while the waiting

542

00:55:26,040 --> 00:55:31,720

masonic officials sweltered the workmen called attention to a metal object of some sort which

543

00:55:31,720 --> 00:55:36,760

had become visible through the aperture they had made by removing the bricks a little more careful

544

00:55:36,760 --> 00:55:42,440

work and the nature of the metal object became unmistakable it was a coffin sheathed in lead

545

00:55:42,440 --> 00:55:48,600

and it was leaning against the only door to the crypt head downward little by little the bricks

546

00:55:48,600 --> 00:55:53,800

were removed and the heavy coffin eased away from the door until it rested once again on the floor

547

00:55:53,800 --> 00:56:01,800

of the tomb. The masonic delegation was understandably mystified how did this 600 pound lead coffin

548

00:56:01,800 --> 00:56:06,600

containing the remains of Sir Evan McGregor get out of its niche on the opposite side of

549

00:56:06,680 --> 00:56:12,200

the sealed vault what could have moved it after the vault had been carefully sealed more than a

550

00:56:12,200 --> 00:56:18,680

century before and what had caused the three tiny holes in the lid where the coffin had been sealed

551

00:56:18,680 --> 00:56:24,760

with solder confused though they were the masons had little time to ponder the problems presented

552

00:56:24,760 --> 00:56:31,080

by this state of affairs for they had another puzzle on their hands there was no trace of either

553

00:56:31,080 --> 00:56:37,320

the coffin or the body of Alexander Irvine his remains had vanished completely from the niche

554

00:56:37,320 --> 00:56:42,280

in the vault where they had rested at the time McGregor's coffin had been placed beside them

555

00:56:42,920 --> 00:56:48,920

both men had been entombed in heavy lead covered coffins placed side by side on cement shelves

556

00:56:48,920 --> 00:56:55,000

now one coffin had vanished and the other had somehow managed to cross the crypt and end up

557

00:56:55,000 --> 00:57:01,720

in a standing position against the sealed door the masons placed a guard at the tomb and went

558

00:57:01,720 --> 00:57:06,760

away to ponder the puzzle they reported to the authorities of Barbados who in turn promptly

559

00:57:06,760 --> 00:57:11,960

called in several learned men to conduct an investigation examination of the church record

560

00:57:11,960 --> 00:57:17,960

showed that both men had been entombed in that same crypt and the crypt had been sealed all

561

00:57:17,960 --> 00:57:22,360

witnesses agreed that the seals had not been broken and that the crypt had been in perfect

562

00:57:22,360 --> 00:57:29,960

condition when the workman began to open it on that hot afternoon in 1943 yet somehow and

563

00:57:29,960 --> 00:57:36,520

sometime very strange things had happened inside the vault after lengthy deliberation and careful

564

00:57:36,520 --> 00:57:42,600

investigation the scientists came away as baffled as the masons had been all of them went away to

565

00:57:42,600 --> 00:57:48,920

ponder the unexplained disappearance of Alexander Irvine whose remains should have been in the sealed

566

00:57:49,000 --> 00:57:56,440

tomb where they had been placed except they were not there and nobody knew why the disturbances in

567

00:57:56,440 --> 00:58:02,040

the vault we have just mentioned are by no means unparalleled also on Barbados but in a different

568

00:58:02,040 --> 00:58:07,240

cemetery miles from the scene of the Irvine mystery officials were plagued with the eerie

569

00:58:07,240 --> 00:58:13,400

antics of the coffins in the vault of the chase family time after time down through the years

570

00:58:13,400 --> 00:58:18,760

as various members of that family were taken to the crypt for entombment the other coffins

571

00:58:18,840 --> 00:58:25,400

inside the sealed tomb were found in wild disarray in each case they found the heavy capstone in

572

00:58:25,400 --> 00:58:32,680

position sealed with a thick layer of molten lead and no trace of tampering and in each case when

573

00:58:32,680 --> 00:58:38,440

they finally removed the seals from the inner door they found the inside a shambles coffins

574

00:58:38,440 --> 00:58:44,280

tumbled about the lead covered box that contained the body of sir thomas chase was so heavy that it

575

00:58:44,280 --> 00:58:51,000

required eight good men to lift it but time after time it was found upside down on the side of the

576

00:58:51,000 --> 00:58:57,640

crypt opposite the shelf on which it belonged oddly and perhaps significantly only two coffins

577

00:58:57,640 --> 00:59:04,200

remained untouched those of mrs. Goddard the original occupant of the tomb and that of a baby girl

578

00:59:04,200 --> 00:59:10,760

mrs. Goddard's granddaughter armed guards placed beside the vault day and night were unable to

579

00:59:10,760 --> 00:59:16,600

prevent recurrences of the disorders that occurred inside it eventually the chase family had to

580

00:59:16,600 --> 00:59:23,480

remove the bodies and re entomb them elsewhere in the old christ church cemetery of barbados the

581

00:59:23,480 --> 00:59:30,440

chase vault still stands its heavy stones and coral intact and appropriately enough carved into the

582

00:59:31,000 --> 00:59:35,400

capstone is a large question mark a reminder of the restless dead

583

00:59:41,160 --> 00:59:45,400

incredible but true events that have baffled mankind since the day they happened

584

00:59:46,040 --> 00:59:54,040

validated by frank edwards is it possible for a man to be swallowed by a whale and live to tell

585

00:59:54,040 --> 01:00:01,160

the story the logical answer is no but the correct answer is yes and i'll be back in a moment with

586

01:00:01,160 --> 01:00:07,960

the amazing true story of this modern giona official records of the british admiralty provide

587

01:00:07,960 --> 01:00:13,960

documentary evidence for the astounding account of james barclay of british seaman who was swallowed

588

01:00:13,960 --> 01:00:20,200

by a whale and lived to tell about it james was making his first and only trip as a saver aboard

589

01:00:20,200 --> 01:00:26,920

the wailing ship star of the east in february of 1891 she was pounding along before a fair wind

590

01:00:26,920 --> 01:00:33,080

a few hundred miles east of the falcon islands in the south atlantic suddenly the lookout gave

591

01:00:33,080 --> 01:00:39,880

his electrifying cry a bear she blows for he had cited a huge sperm whale half a mile off the port

592

01:00:39,880 --> 01:00:45,480

bow the star of the east flakened her sails and the wailing crew scrambled into the three small

593

01:00:45,480 --> 01:00:51,560

boats to harpoon the mighty mammal if possible young james barclay was in the first long boat to

594

01:00:51,560 --> 01:00:58,040

reach the side of the whale pulling slowly on their oars the sailors drove their frail cockle shell

595

01:00:58,040 --> 01:01:03,640

behind the unsuspecting creature so near in fact that the harpooner could lean over and drive his

596

01:01:03,640 --> 01:01:09,400

huge spear deep into the whale's vitals barclay and his fellow seaman backed practically to get out

597

01:01:09,400 --> 01:01:14,280

of the reach of those massive tail flukes which stretched the water to foam as the stricken beast

598

01:01:14,280 --> 01:01:21,080

fought to free itself of the barred harpoon for a moment luck seemed to be with the savers the whale

599

01:01:21,080 --> 01:01:26,520

ponds deep into the ocean 800 feet of heavy line streaked out of the tub before the creature ceased

600

01:01:26,520 --> 01:01:33,480

to dive then there was an ominous flaking in the line the great brute was coming up but where

601

01:01:34,040 --> 01:01:39,560

in such cases this was a matter of life and death and the sailors did not have long to wait

602

01:01:39,560 --> 01:01:43,880

they hunched over their oars ready to pull for their lives once they knew which way to pull

603

01:01:44,680 --> 01:01:49,800

without warning the sea boiled up around them there was a splintering price as their frail boat

604

01:01:49,800 --> 01:01:55,400

spun into the air the mortally wounded whale thrashed about madly in its agony beating the

605

01:01:55,400 --> 01:02:01,720

water to a bloody froth before it sounded into the depths again a nearby long boat picked up the

606

01:02:01,720 --> 01:02:07,720

survivors but two men were missing and one of them was the apprentice saver james barclay

607

01:02:07,960 --> 01:02:13,640

the wind which had borne the star of the east to the scene of this tragedy now deserted her and

608

01:02:13,640 --> 01:02:21,160

she waddled in the long swells hour after hour her sails flapping idly shortly before sunset on

609

01:02:21,160 --> 01:02:28,440

that same fateful day the dying whale floated to the surface about 400 yards from the vessel the

610

01:02:28,440 --> 01:02:33,800

crew hastily fastened the line to the whale and the witch brought it slowly to the side of the ship

611

01:02:34,600 --> 01:02:40,760

hot weather made it imperative that it be cut up at once and since they had no means of raising

612

01:02:40,760 --> 01:02:46,920

the hundred ton mammals to the deck the men took flensing spades and peeled off the thick blubber as

613

01:02:46,920 --> 01:02:53,000

they slipped and slid along the creatures back it was dirty work and dangerous for the water was

614

01:02:53,000 --> 01:02:59,320

full of sharks maddened by the taste of blood shortly before 11 that night working by lantern

615

01:02:59,400 --> 01:03:06,040

might the tired crewmen removed the stomach and the huge liver and had them hoisted aboard

616

01:03:06,040 --> 01:03:11,560

ship for processing once on deck they were startled and noticed movement inside the giant

617

01:03:11,560 --> 01:03:18,280

pond a slow rhythmic movement that looked like something breathing the captain heard they

618

01:03:18,280 --> 01:03:23,400

called the ship's doctor and a great infusion was made in the tough place a human foot became

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01:03:23,400 --> 01:03:29,000

visible shoe and all a moment later and they had pulled out one of the missing sailors it was

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01:03:29,080 --> 01:03:36,440

James Bartley doubled up unconscious but alive perhaps for one of anything better the excited

621

01:03:36,440 --> 01:03:41,880

ship's doctor ordered Bartley dredged with buckets of seawater it was a treatment which soon restored

622

01:03:41,880 --> 01:03:47,880

consciousness but not reason for Bartley was babbling incoherently as he placed about in his

623

01:03:47,880 --> 01:03:54,760

delirium for almost two weeks he lingered between life and death strapped to the bunk in the captain's

624

01:03:54,840 --> 01:04:00,200

cabin gradually so the ship's doctor wrote in the record which was signed by all on board

625

01:04:00,760 --> 01:04:06,760

gradually Bartley recovered his senses but it was a full month before he was able to tell them what

626

01:04:06,760 --> 01:04:12,920

had happened he remembered being flung into the air when the whale crushed their longboat and as he

627

01:04:12,920 --> 01:04:19,800

fell back into the sea he saw the tremendous mouth open over him he screamed as he was engulfed there

628

01:04:19,800 --> 01:04:25,960

were sharp stabbing pains he said as he was swept across the rows of tiny sharp teeth then he found

629

01:04:25,960 --> 01:04:32,280

himself sliding down a slimy tube he could recall fighting for his breath kicking about and then

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01:04:32,280 --> 01:04:39,560

blissful oblivion until he regained consciousness a month later in the captain's cabin he had been

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01:04:39,560 --> 01:04:46,280

inside the whale's stomach for 15 hours and as a result he lost all the hair on his body his skin

632

01:04:46,280 --> 01:04:51,400

was bleached to an unnatural whiteness that never left it and he was virtually blind for the rest

633

01:04:51,400 --> 01:04:58,200

of his life which he spent as a shoe cobbler in his native rooster England numerous medical men from

634

01:04:58,200 --> 01:05:05,240

many lands came to examine him and to discuss his incredible experience he lived 18 years after his

635

01:05:05,240 --> 01:05:11,000

remarkable adventure and on his tombstone is a brief account of his experience and a footnote

636

01:05:11,000 --> 01:05:18,280

which says James Bartholomew 1870 1909 a modern Jonah