

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,400

On this episode of Destination Truth...

2

00:00:02,400 --> 00:00:03,600

That's what I'm wishing for, baby.

3

00:00:03,600 --> 00:00:04,960

It just happened so fast.

4

00:00:04,960 --> 00:00:07,680

She was running after her chicken, she didn't want them to escape,

5

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

and then all of a sudden it materialized itself right before her.

6

00:00:12,480 --> 00:00:17,600

Josh travels to South America after documented sightings of a werewolf in Argentina.

7

00:00:17,600 --> 00:00:20,880

And he finds that this legend's bite might be worse than its bark.

8

00:00:23,600 --> 00:00:24,320

What the hell was that?

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00:00:24,400 --> 00:00:32,320

Next, the crew searches for a volatile gnome that reportedly lives in the Argentine woods.

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00:00:32,960 --> 00:00:34,800

What can you tell me about the Pumbero?

11

00:00:34,800 --> 00:00:37,040

You know, there's stories and there's legends and whatnot,

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00:00:37,040 --> 00:00:38,960

but this is one that really exists.

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00:00:38,960 --> 00:00:43,200

Does Josh catch the elusive Pumbero or does he come up just short?

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00:00:44,080 --> 00:00:47,600

I don't know, I should just be wrestling really, really close to me.

15

00:00:53,040 --> 00:00:54,320

I'm Josh Gates.

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00:00:54,320 --> 00:00:58,320

My travels have taken me to the most exotic and mysterious places on Earth.

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00:01:00,000 --> 00:01:03,680

I've seen some unexplainable things which have raised some strange questions.

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00:01:04,080 --> 00:01:13,680

Now, I've pulled together a crack team armed with the latest technology to search for answers.

19

00:01:17,760 --> 00:01:21,920

I'm not sure what's out there waiting for me, but I know what I'm looking for, the truth.

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00:01:25,120 --> 00:01:29,680

Anyone who has ever gone on a childhood camping trip or has turned on a cable TV at three in

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00:01:29,680 --> 00:01:32,400

the morning knows a thing or two about werewolves.

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00:01:32,400 --> 00:01:37,120

In America, we know them as those legendary beasts who, triggered by a full moon in the sky,

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00:01:37,120 --> 00:01:41,520

turn from regular humans into manic, snarling, fur-covered beasts.

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00:01:41,520 --> 00:01:45,760

But unlike here, there are places where the werewolf is not just considered a myth.

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00:01:45,760 --> 00:01:51,280

I came across a creature called El Lobozone, which is Argentine's adaptation of our home-grown growler.

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00:01:51,280 --> 00:01:54,640

Their version has had documented sightings all over the country,

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00:01:54,640 --> 00:01:58,960

from farmlands to highly populated cities, with a recent spate of reported sightings

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00:01:58,960 --> 00:02:00,560

in northern Argentina.

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00:02:00,560 --> 00:02:02,800

The crew and I packed up our night vision cameras,

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00:02:02,800 --> 00:02:07,440

bullard, and electromagnetic sensor to assist us in getting first-hand evidence of our creature,

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00:02:07,440 --> 00:02:10,080

and jetted off to Buenos Aires, Argentina.

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00:02:10,080 --> 00:02:14,240

What sets the Lobozone apart from the classic werewolf is that rather than transmogrifying

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00:02:14,240 --> 00:02:17,600

into a wolf, it commutes into an oversized ferocious dog.

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00:02:18,160 --> 00:02:22,080

Also, the Lobozone can't just be any shlub bitten by another werewolf.

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00:02:22,080 --> 00:02:26,720

It is said that the creature can only be the seventh son in a family of just boys.

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00:02:27,360 --> 00:02:31,840

The belief in the Lobozone is so strong in Argentina that the president of the country

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00:02:31,840 --> 00:02:36,880

to this day has every reported seventh son baptized to try to stop any transformations.

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00:02:37,440 --> 00:02:41,680

But just like its lupine counterpart, the Lobozone is victim to the lunar cycle,

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00:02:41,680 --> 00:02:44,320

and with a bad moon rising in just a couple of days,

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00:02:44,320 --> 00:02:47,200

this was perfect timing for our investigation in Argentina.

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00:02:48,160 --> 00:02:56,800

To learn more about the Lobozone, we set up a meeting with Ramon Feraris,

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00:02:56,800 --> 00:02:59,040

author and expert on Argentine folklore.

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00:02:59,600 --> 00:03:02,800

The story of the Lobozone is very complicated to me.

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00:03:04,240 --> 00:03:09,840

In some ways, it sounds similar to this European idea of a werewolf.

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00:03:10,640 --> 00:03:14,560

But it has characteristics which are unique to this part of the world.

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00:03:17,920 --> 00:03:25,840

Absolutely right. What is European about it is the fact that this all began right after the

47

00:03:26,960 --> 00:03:30,960

conquest of America. Yes, Tuesdays and Fridays, full moon.

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00:03:34,320 --> 00:03:36,240

Man suffers this transformation.

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00:03:37,360 --> 00:03:41,600

People here seem to believe that it is the seventh son in a family, correct?

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00:03:41,840 --> 00:03:48,560

Exactly. That's exactly what they believe. It's got to be a family of all boys.

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00:03:49,120 --> 00:03:51,680

So these are some drawings of the Lobozone.

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00:03:53,280 --> 00:03:58,640

Almost this cartoony kind of image of a wolf up on its hind legs howling the moon.

53

00:03:59,760 --> 00:04:05,920

This is the Lobozone. And here you have a much more stylish werewolf.

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00:04:06,000 --> 00:04:10,880

A very fancy belt buckle. Maybe some diesel jeans. Very fancy jeans.

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00:04:11,440 --> 00:04:17,280

Yeah, he appears to have turned into a wolf but still enjoys a tight pair of jeans.

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00:04:18,000 --> 00:04:20,640

Like most men in Argentina. You know what I mean?

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00:04:21,200 --> 00:04:24,160

We wanted to make our way to the area where the sightings had occurred.

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00:04:24,160 --> 00:04:28,480

But first, I had to stop at the zoo to meet with a man that had an alternate explanation for the

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00:04:28,480 --> 00:04:34,400

Lobozone. All right, so we're here at the zoo. Home, of course, is a very dangerous giant twin squirrels

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00:04:35,200 --> 00:04:36,720

of Buenos Aires.

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00:04:38,720 --> 00:04:40,400

Which one of these animals attacked your son?

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00:04:42,960 --> 00:04:45,040

No. Your son was attacked by an animal.

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00:04:47,360 --> 00:04:49,840

It's a shame. The zoo is very, very dangerous.

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00:04:49,840 --> 00:04:54,560

I caught up with zoologist Fernando Peralta to see if any of Argentina's indigenous animals

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00:04:54,560 --> 00:04:58,080

could be linked to the Lobozone sightings. There is a similar animal, however.

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00:04:59,040 --> 00:05:01,520

It's right here in the zoo. It's called...

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00:05:02,640 --> 00:05:07,760

It's a similar animal to a werewolf in your zoo. You have the greatest zoo of all time.

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00:05:12,080 --> 00:05:13,440

And it is a werewolf.

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00:05:16,880 --> 00:05:19,520

Yeah, it's derived from that animal.

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00:05:20,000 --> 00:05:21,120

I would like to see this animal.

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00:05:24,560 --> 00:05:26,000

This is the Argentine Lobozone.

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00:05:26,960 --> 00:05:29,360

It's the closest they have to a werewolf.

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00:05:30,720 --> 00:05:35,360

People sometimes say that they've seen the Lobozone. Do you think maybe they've seen this animal?

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00:05:40,080 --> 00:05:45,200

As fascinating as his theory of the Lobozone was, I wanted to hear directly from someone who actually

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00:05:45,200 --> 00:05:49,920

claimed to have seen the mysterious creature. And for that, we needed to travel to Sonic Nacio,

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00:05:49,920 --> 00:05:54,480

the hub of the recent sightings. But since it didn't have an airport, we first had a fly to

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00:05:55,040 --> 00:06:00,000

Iguazu in northern Argentina, which also happens to be the home of the beautiful Iguazu Falls,

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00:06:00,000 --> 00:06:03,680

where several famous American movies were shot, including The Mission,

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00:06:03,680 --> 00:06:09,200

Miami Vice, and most notably, Leslie Nielsen's critically acclaimed performance in Mr. Magoo.

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00:06:12,560 --> 00:06:16,320

We left the falls and drove to the nearby Sonic Nacio to meet with our first witness,

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00:06:16,320 --> 00:06:22,000

Ramon Guimenez, a police officer sporting the official uniform of short shorts and an old Adidas

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00:06:22,080 --> 00:06:32,080

T-shirt. This animal appeared at his home and it was a Lobozone. Describe what it looked like.

83

00:06:38,080 --> 00:06:40,320

Brilliant eyes. Are you sure it wasn't just a dog?

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00:06:45,440 --> 00:06:49,840

You know a dog? When you know a dog, this wasn't a dog. And what happened when you saw the

Lobozone?

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00:06:49,920 --> 00:06:55,040

The Lobozone began to howl. Yes, two long howls. What did the howl sound like?

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00:06:59,280 --> 00:07:04,400

Ramon led us to a local barmaid that had a similar experience, only she had seen the Lobozone in

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00:07:04,400 --> 00:07:09,760

both its dog and human form. I understand you had an experience with the Lobozone. It's four in the

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00:07:09,760 --> 00:07:16,560

morning, she walks to the bar, yes. And that's when the chicken started making a ton of sound,

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00:07:16,560 --> 00:07:22,720

no? Yeah, lots of noise. It just happened so fast. She was running after her chicken,

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00:07:22,720 --> 00:07:27,520

she didn't want them to escape, and then all of a sudden there was this dog. The next day she

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00:07:27,520 --> 00:07:35,520

happened to see it there and a man came up. It's a horrible looking man and he told her.

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00:07:38,880 --> 00:07:43,280

He said, did you see what I did to you last night? So he was the Lobozone.

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00:07:44,000 --> 00:07:48,480

That was him. The woman was shaken by her experience and said that she never saw the

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00:07:48,480 --> 00:07:54,080

man again, but she told me about another man nearby who claimed to be a Lobozone.

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00:07:54,080 --> 00:07:58,560

She was too terrified to see the man herself, but for me it was a meeting I couldn't pass up.

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00:08:01,680 --> 00:08:06,240

We are monitoring the area around the 7th Sun's house to see if there are any signs of a Lobozone.

97

00:08:08,480 --> 00:08:09,840

What is that right there? Where is that camera?

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00:08:13,600 --> 00:08:22,320

Our first two Lobozone eyewitnesses intrigued me and I was really excited about our next one

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00:08:22,320 --> 00:08:26,400

because we were told that he could actually turn into the Lobozone right before our eyes,

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00:08:26,400 --> 00:08:31,520

but it being daytime and him not being a 7th Sun, I was a little skeptical. Once you turn into the

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00:08:31,520 --> 00:08:36,800

Lobozone, do you become dangerous? Yes, yes. So I should be very careful once you transform.

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00:09:43,280 --> 00:10:04,800

So

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00:10:04,800 --> 00:10:12,960

and see. Look at it. It's very good. I like how he turned into the Lobozone and then turned back

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00:10:12,960 --> 00:10:18,400

and he'd lost a lot of time. This Lobozone transformation was more fit for dinner theater

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00:10:18,400 --> 00:10:22,160

than howling at the moon. It might have something to do with the fact that he's the only son in

106

00:10:22,160 --> 00:10:28,000

a family of all girls, but I wanted to find out why 7th Sun's need to be baptized to prevent the

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00:10:28,000 --> 00:10:33,200

Lobozone curse. So we went to an old Spanish mission to speak with a priest who over the years

108

00:10:33,200 --> 00:10:38,800

has performed hundreds of 7th Sun baptisms. What is the story of the Lobozone? The story is that

109

00:10:38,880 --> 00:10:42,400

the 7th Sun was of course baptized by the president of Argentina.

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00:10:44,400 --> 00:10:51,040

To protect him from apparently becoming a Lobozone. To people in Argentina still believe in this

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00:10:51,040 --> 00:10:58,320

legend? Not everybody, but many. To help us out in our investigation, Father Smolley told us that

112

00:10:58,320 --> 00:11:02,880

there had been many 7th Suns that had been baptized in his church and he gave us an idea on where to

113

00:11:02,880 --> 00:11:08,560

find them. He also led us to a local farmer that said he had actual Lobozone DNA evidence.

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00:11:08,560 --> 00:11:12,960

So you had this experience with the Lobozone. What time of day was it?

115

00:11:16,800 --> 00:11:21,840

In the day or in the night? In the morning. He heard some the children were out there playing

116

00:11:21,840 --> 00:11:27,040

and they said uncle, uncle, come get and come. So take us take us to one next to another.

117

00:11:27,040 --> 00:11:32,480

Let's go look. So basically you see these bricks here? Actually the children grabbed up the bricks

118

00:11:32,480 --> 00:11:36,240

and started hitting with with the bricks. Hitting the Lobozone with the bricks? Hitting the Lobozone

119

00:11:36,320 --> 00:11:42,160

with the bricks? The the Lobozone actually went running up this way, jumped up on top of that

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00:11:42,800 --> 00:11:47,520

cart and came down, ran up around the house and actually went inside the house. Okay.

121

00:11:49,120 --> 00:11:55,440

So he came into this room. Here's where the Lobozone came and he managed to lasso it here.

122

00:11:55,440 --> 00:12:03,200

Lassoed it in this room? So he dragged it out of the room? Drag it out. This is the lasso he used.

123

00:12:03,200 --> 00:12:10,400

That's where he started to hit it. Three big all hits. He hit it three times with a big stick.

124

00:12:10,400 --> 00:12:15,040

That's when you actually tied him up to the tree. He said no to the Lobozone.

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00:12:15,040 --> 00:12:20,800

So that's when they just kind of eased up the road. He let the Lobozone go and it ran off.

126

00:12:20,800 --> 00:12:26,080

It sounds a lot to me like you beat the hell out of a dog. I mean it's just such a long encounter

127

00:12:26,080 --> 00:12:30,160

in so many different areas. You know, I mean it's like he took this Lobozone through a double

128

00:12:30,240 --> 00:12:34,880

there course. He said that the whip was covered in blood. Is that true?

129

00:12:36,880 --> 00:12:41,920

Yeah, it was covered in blood. It was covered in blood. Ask him if he'd be willing to sell us this whip.

130

00:12:42,560 --> 00:12:43,440

How about 50 pesos?

131

00:12:52,720 --> 00:12:57,360

With the rope now in our possession, we'd be able to send it back to the U.S. to have it tested.

132

00:12:57,360 --> 00:13:02,800

If it was indeed covered in the animal's blood, we should be able to determine what animal or human it belonged to.

133

00:13:03,520 --> 00:13:07,840

The day now ending in the full moon rising, we needed to meet with a seventh son right away

134

00:13:07,840 --> 00:13:15,760

to see if we could witness a transformation into a Lobozone. And of your nine boys, this is the seventh.

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00:13:19,840 --> 00:13:27,120

When president manum was in office, he came here. We baptized him. It's custom from long ago

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00:13:27,120 --> 00:13:33,200

the seventh son's always baptized by the president. Why does the custom exist? They said if he wasn't

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00:13:33,200 --> 00:13:37,840

baptized, then the Lobozone would come out. Everything was going along fine until the

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00:13:37,840 --> 00:13:42,640

father saw how late it was getting. Baptized or not, we could tell that he did not want his son

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00:13:42,640 --> 00:13:47,040

outside that night, which was fine. We had an appointment to get to with another seventh son

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00:13:47,040 --> 00:13:52,480

that lives in an area that has had multiple reported sightings of Lobozones. With this kid

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00:13:52,480 --> 00:13:56,960

being treated as a pariah for not being baptized by the president, in an area being known for

142

00:13:56,960 --> 00:14:01,920

its large amount of Lobozone activity, this was the perfect place to set up our investigation

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00:14:01,920 --> 00:14:10,400

and maybe, just maybe, catch ourselves a werewolf. Are you picking anything up on camera four?

144

00:14:14,000 --> 00:14:15,680

I thought I saw something on the edge of the road.

145

00:14:18,960 --> 00:14:19,920

What the hell was that?

146

00:14:27,040 --> 00:14:41,280

So we are here in a small village where we're going to conduct our investigation for the Lobozone.

147

00:14:41,280 --> 00:14:45,840

This town area has been known for its reported sightings of the Lobozone, so our first priority

148

00:14:45,840 --> 00:14:49,840

is to investigate throughout this village for signs of our creature. Witnesses claim that the

149

00:14:49,840 --> 00:14:55,280

Lobozone is a snarling wolf man with sharp claws and a deep growl. This house behind us where we're

150

00:14:55,280 --> 00:15:02,320

setting up our base camp tonight is the home of a seventh son. With any luck, maybe this kid

151

00:15:02,320 --> 00:15:07,040

will transform before our eyes. We also know that the Lobozone likes to eat raw meat, so we have a

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00:15:07,040 --> 00:15:10,800

big side of beef which we're going to hang up as well and focus one of our cameras on that.  
Certainly

153

00:15:10,800 --> 00:15:15,840

if we're going to find a Lobozone, this is the time and the place to do it. So we're going to set  
up

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00:15:15,840 --> 00:15:25,840

our gear and get to work. What we're going to do is take our seventh son, sit him down and monitor

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00:15:25,840 --> 00:15:30,400

him throughout the night to see if he transforms into a Lobozone. Since there's been a lot of

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00:15:30,400 --> 00:15:34,320

reported activity in the area, we're going to use our surveillance equipment to try to capture any

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00:15:34,320 --> 00:15:39,200

evidence of an unusual creature. Tracking for footprints is out because it's way too dry and

158

00:15:39,200 --> 00:15:42,960

dense around the area, but we are going to use our thermal imager to see if we can pick up

159

00:15:42,960 --> 00:15:47,280

heat signals from anything warm-blooded around the camp. Also we'll have our four night vision

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00:15:47,280 --> 00:15:52,640

cameras that feed directly to our laptop where Lindsay will be monitoring them. One of the cameras

161

00:15:52,640 --> 00:15:57,280

will be fixed on this point. Another one of the cameras will face out here towards the edge of

162

00:15:57,280 --> 00:16:01,040

this property. There's an animal pens out here. We've heard a lot of stories about the Lobozone

163

00:16:01,040 --> 00:16:07,280

coming and attacking animals. Another one of our cameras is going to be trained on our seventh son

164

00:16:08,080 --> 00:16:11,840

and the final camera will just sort of be a general one which will sweep out

165

00:16:11,840 --> 00:16:15,120

over the edge of the property and give us a nice broad view if anybody

166

00:16:15,120 --> 00:16:21,520

or anything walks into the yard. Meat hook, check. Sketchy warm beef.

167

00:16:26,560 --> 00:16:26,880

Check.

168

00:16:30,720 --> 00:16:36,400

Okay let's get the let's get the kid out here. Cheers going right out here. I want this kid

169

00:16:36,400 --> 00:16:44,960

isolated in case he turns into a freakish werewolf.

170

00:16:51,120 --> 00:16:56,560

In some areas the child's supposed to be named Benito. It's a benediction, a protective name

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00:16:56,560 --> 00:17:02,240

which keeps the curse at bay. In this case this child wasn't in fact baptized by the

172

00:17:02,240 --> 00:17:07,040

president of Argentina and was not given the benedictive name so in many circles people would

173

00:17:07,040 --> 00:17:13,440

believe that he is susceptible to the curse. So you never know at any moment this kid could

174

00:17:14,720 --> 00:17:22,800

start howling of the moon and rip me to pieces.

175

00:17:23,680 --> 00:17:33,760

Not really much going on with the night vision cameras. You guys keep an eye on a kid. I'm

176

00:17:33,760 --> 00:17:43,360

going to go investigate the town area. No problem. I'll hold down the fort.

177

00:17:43,600 --> 00:17:51,440

I haven't seen a single person in this town.

178

00:17:53,360 --> 00:17:58,400

It's like I'm in a George Romero movie right now. This place is completely abandoned.

179

00:17:59,120 --> 00:18:03,920

What's really weird is that I haven't seen or heard any dogs or animals around here at all.

180

00:18:04,640 --> 00:18:15,680

We have to remember that even though we are monitoring the seventh sun in our camp there

181

00:18:15,680 --> 00:18:19,360

are other seventh suns in this area so I still have to keep my eye out for anything.

182

00:18:20,880 --> 00:18:25,680

We just did a survey through the town. Didn't find anything. It's almost totally abandoned though.

183

00:18:26,400 --> 00:18:27,440

All right we're headed back to you now.

184

00:18:27,440 --> 00:18:34,640

All right well I went through the whole town. There's no sign of life out there. There's no

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00:18:34,640 --> 00:18:38,560

dogs. There's no people. It's weird actually. I went block after block after block and it just

186

00:18:38,560 --> 00:18:44,880

feels abandoned. No sign of life at all. Yeah well there's nothing much back here either. I mean

187

00:18:44,880 --> 00:18:48,800

we were watching the cameras. The kid hasn't moved in a long time. He hasn't turned into a werewolf yet.

188

00:18:49,920 --> 00:18:53,600

I'm watching though. Yes so what's the plan of attack? We're going to continue to monitor this kid.

189

00:18:53,600 --> 00:18:56,960

Monitor the kid. Just look at the cameras for a little bit I think. That's it. That's all we

190

00:18:56,960 --> 00:19:12,880

can do for now. It's been pretty quiet around here so far.

191

00:19:20,560 --> 00:19:22,400

Not much going on with the night vision cameras.

192

00:19:27,840 --> 00:19:33,600

What is that right there on camera 2? It went that way. I'm going after it. Where did the kid go?

193

00:19:38,480 --> 00:19:38,880

Come here.

194

00:19:43,440 --> 00:19:44,880

Right there. Right there. Right there. Right there. Right there. Right there. Right there.

195

00:19:48,160 --> 00:19:48,880

There it goes.

196

00:19:57,840 --> 00:20:07,360

What is that right there on camera 2? Where did the kid go?

197

00:20:12,880 --> 00:20:14,960

I just saw it run this way. It darted into the bushes.

198

00:20:18,800 --> 00:20:20,880

Whatever it was it was large and fast.

199

00:20:27,920 --> 00:20:29,760

Not seen anything.

200

00:20:34,000 --> 00:20:38,320

What we're looking for is something larger than a dog. Something with bigger eyes. Something

201

00:20:39,440 --> 00:20:47,600

much more terrifying looking. It definitely came right through this area. I was looking for any

202

00:20:47,600 --> 00:20:52,800

signs of tracks. The ground is really hard and dry so it may not have left any tracks here. I'm

203

00:20:52,880 --> 00:20:55,120

barely leaving any tracks but it came right through here.

204

00:21:00,320 --> 00:21:01,360

Did he wolf out on you?

205

00:21:05,520 --> 00:21:08,400

I'm just going to walk down the road and see if I can see what was down here.

206

00:21:10,560 --> 00:21:14,880

I'm using the thermal imager to see if I can pick up any heat signatures on the ground or in a heavy

207

00:21:14,880 --> 00:21:19,760

brush. Are you picking anything up on camera 4?

208

00:21:23,200 --> 00:21:24,880

I thought I saw something on the edge of the road.

209

00:21:28,160 --> 00:21:28,880

What the hell was that?

210

00:21:38,720 --> 00:21:42,400

I just saw it go in there right there. That thing was definitely bigger than a dog.

211

00:21:44,880 --> 00:21:49,600

Right there, right there, right there, right there.

212

00:21:49,600 --> 00:21:50,320

Right there, right there.

213

00:22:14,560 --> 00:22:16,320

Nothing here.

214

00:22:19,840 --> 00:22:37,680

This is really frustrating. It's been a couple of hours since I lost track of whatever the hell

215

00:22:37,680 --> 00:22:46,880

that was. Better go ahead back to camp. So what happened? I tried to chase whatever was on the

216

00:22:46,880 --> 00:22:51,520

camera. I caught something on the imager a few times. It looked like it was on four legs whatever

217

00:22:51,520 --> 00:22:55,760

it was. It was a dog. It was a pretty good sized dog. I just saw it tear into the bushes on the

218

00:22:55,760 --> 00:23:01,760

imager and went into the bushes. I couldn't get up close to it. That's it. I don't know. Could

219

00:23:01,760 --> 00:23:05,920

it be a dog? Could it be a lobzone? In terms of this kid, I mean the moon is full and the moon is up.

220

00:23:05,920 --> 00:23:09,840

If he hasn't turned into a lobzone by now, I don't think he's going to. I think we should let him go

221

00:23:10,800 --> 00:23:17,040

to bed. All right guys, so here's where we stand. We got nothing going on in town. We definitely have

222

00:23:17,040 --> 00:23:22,320

some dog-like figures skulking around this area that we've seen on the cameras and on the imager.

223

00:23:22,320 --> 00:23:27,040

But nothing that we can get to up close. Kid has not turned into a lobzone and the sun's going to

224

00:23:27,040 --> 00:23:33,280

be up soon. And the lobzone is not on good terms with sunlight. So I think we've done the best we

225

00:23:33,280 --> 00:23:37,920

can do here and we need to pack it up. The next morning, I packed up the rope with the purported

226

00:23:37,920 --> 00:23:43,600

DNA evidence and sent it to Dr. Terry Coon, forensic specialist at UC Davis for analysis.

227

00:23:43,600 --> 00:23:48,640

Truthfully, it should be canine blood because it sounds like this guy just beat the crap out of a dog.

228

00:23:48,640 --> 00:23:53,920

But if any human DNA is found, that may prove his lobzone encounter. Also, we plan to take our

229

00:23:53,920 --> 00:23:58,560

thermal imager and night vision camera footage to the curator of the LA Zoo to see if he can

230

00:23:58,560 --> 00:24:03,200

identify what creature we encountered on our investigation. It would take a few days to get

231

00:24:03,200 --> 00:24:07,520

the rope results back from the lab. So in the meantime, we left San Ignacio and hightailed it

232

00:24:07,520 --> 00:24:12,240

to Corrientes to investigate documented eyewitness accounts of another creature,

233

00:24:12,240 --> 00:24:17,360

El Pombero, that has been terrorizing this region of Argentina. What we're looking for is something

234

00:24:17,360 --> 00:24:22,480

pygmy-like, covered in hair with extremely unusual powers. Reportedly, the creature has

235

00:24:22,480 --> 00:24:27,840

the ability to impregnate women simply by touching their stomachs. Local witnesses have described

236

00:24:27,840 --> 00:24:33,120

the Pombero as a short, hairy and grotesquely ugly creature that will pay you a late night visit

237

00:24:33,280 --> 00:24:37,920

if you leave rum, cigarettes and honey on your doorstep. It's sort of like trick-or-treating

238

00:24:37,920 --> 00:24:42,880

in Las Vegas. But before our search began, there was significantly more important business at hand.

239

00:24:51,920 --> 00:24:56,000

I am in a wacky sea of women. Hola! Hola! Hola!

240

00:25:03,520 --> 00:25:10,800

After a myriad of failed attempts to lure one of the Carnival dancers to join our crew,

241

00:25:10,800 --> 00:25:15,520

we set out the next morning to meet with a local school teacher who actually teaches the subject

242

00:25:15,520 --> 00:25:19,200

of El Pombero in his classroom. What can you tell me about the Pombero?

243

00:25:21,040 --> 00:25:26,400

He said there's a very strong belief system here about the Pombero. He said, I believe in the Pombero,

244

00:25:27,200 --> 00:25:31,040

but I've never had an experience with him per se. It's just this is a belief that has been

245

00:25:31,040 --> 00:25:38,320

conserved within their culture. It's within their education here. You know, there's stories and

246

00:25:38,320 --> 00:25:43,280

there's legends and whatnot, but this is one that really exists. And where do you believe that the

247

00:25:43,280 --> 00:25:49,760

Pombero lives? We don't know, nobody knows where he lives, but you know, he's been seen by lots of people.

248

00:25:50,240 --> 00:25:54,080

The teacher then led us to a witness that said she'd come in direct contact with the Pombero.

249

00:25:54,720 --> 00:26:02,720

She was sleeping and she woke up. I mean, how could she not hurt? She felt this cold wind.

250

00:26:03,280 --> 00:26:07,440

And how did you know that the Pombero was in your room? Because he makes his whistle.

251

00:26:07,440 --> 00:26:08,720

Can she imitate the whistle?

252

00:26:12,080 --> 00:26:16,560

She's not willing to do that. If you were to imitate him, he would come after you.

253

00:26:17,360 --> 00:26:21,760

Since Dora was too terrified of the Pombero to whistle in her own house, we might just have to go

254

00:26:21,760 --> 00:26:28,240

whistle in his. Don't we try and whistle? Go for it.

255

00:26:38,000 --> 00:26:44,240

What was that? Let's go, let's go, let's go, move it, let's go.

256

00:26:44,320 --> 00:26:52,800

On our quest to find the small devilish creature known as El Pombero, we were led to the Warrani

257

00:26:52,800 --> 00:26:57,440

Indian Reservation, where many sightings have been reported. The Warrani sect has had the most

258

00:26:57,440 --> 00:27:03,280

recent run-ins with the Pombero, and I was anxious to hear their accounts. Unfortunately, our car had other plans.

259

00:27:03,280 --> 00:27:14,720

It's about 150,000 degrees here. We're in beautiful somewhere, Argentina, middle of nowhere.

260

00:27:15,440 --> 00:27:19,760

Eric tried his own solution, but nobody would pick him up, probably due to his abundance of

261

00:27:19,760 --> 00:27:24,240

outlaw facial hair. Yet another reason why we needed one of those carnival dancers.

262

00:27:25,760 --> 00:27:30,240

No AC. It's 100 degrees out, I have to drive around with the heat on.

263

00:27:30,720 --> 00:27:37,760

Assuming our car troubles were behind us, we finally got to our destination. So we're here in

264

00:27:37,760 --> 00:27:42,400

Hardin, America. There's a very large Warrani Indian population in this area of Northern

265

00:27:42,400 --> 00:27:48,320

Argentina. We found our first Warrani witness and local bar manager, sort of a combination of Rosie

266

00:27:48,320 --> 00:27:58,720

O'Donnell and Meatloaf. So you saw a guy. It looked like he was like, you know, seven years old.

267

00:28:00,960 --> 00:28:06,400

Completely naked. So Eric came walking and he stopped right in front of him.

268

00:28:08,160 --> 00:28:13,040

He stopped and just stared at him. He was calling him. The Pombero was calling him.

269

00:28:13,680 --> 00:28:17,680

When you saw the Pombero, how did you know that it was a Pombero and not just a man?

270

00:28:20,080 --> 00:28:25,680

He was like a black doll. Raul then referred us to a customer of his that had just recently had an

271

00:28:25,680 --> 00:28:30,320

encounter with a Pombero. But we had to go deep into the village to find this witness. But you

272

00:28:30,320 --> 00:28:34,880

know, there's no more truthful person than an old Argentine mountain man. I understand that you

273

00:28:34,880 --> 00:28:43,680

had an experience with the Pombero, yes? Yeah, it was on the mountain. He was there like in this

274

00:28:43,680 --> 00:28:49,920

hole in the mountain. He didn't have any clothes and he just a little something tapping, you know,

275

00:28:49,920 --> 00:28:55,360

covering him here. He has a cane. Do you believe that there are many Pombero or only this one?

276

00:28:55,920 --> 00:29:04,880

But it is possible that I could see the Pombero. Yes, of course. He told us of a house on the

277

00:29:04,880 --> 00:29:09,840

edge of the village that we had to check out because it had so many reported Pombero visits.

278

00:29:09,840 --> 00:29:14,560

So I set out looking for it and after searching for a few hours and just as the sun was setting,

279

00:29:14,560 --> 00:29:19,200

we finally found the abandoned house on the village lakeshore. As a family that vacated

280

00:29:19,200 --> 00:29:23,360

the premises claimed that the Pombero would take gifts right off their porch at night,

281

00:29:23,360 --> 00:29:26,400

this was an ideal place to set up our investigation.

282

00:29:39,680 --> 00:29:44,960

It's extremely dense out here in the forest and there's a house here which was recently

283

00:29:44,960 --> 00:29:50,880

abandoned by a Warrani family. But they swear that when they lived here, when they would put out food,

284

00:29:50,880 --> 00:29:55,360

honey, tobacco, rum for the Pombero, every night it would come and take these things.

285

00:29:55,360 --> 00:29:59,280

There's nobody around here. We're completely alone out here. We're going to set up here

286

00:29:59,920 --> 00:30:03,120

and see if we can't site this Pombero.

287

00:30:05,840 --> 00:30:09,920

We're looking to capture any evidence of this short, hairy, ugly,

288

00:30:09,920 --> 00:30:14,560

gnome-like figure with a whistle that many eyewitnesses claim to have heard before citing it.

289

00:30:15,520 --> 00:30:19,360

We have four cameras set up here, four night vision cameras,

290

00:30:19,360 --> 00:30:24,240

one of which is fixed on the food that we've set out. The other three are positioned in various

291

00:30:24,240 --> 00:30:28,800

spots looking out at the edge of the tree line. If anything comes out of the forest to take this

292

00:30:28,800 --> 00:30:32,560

food, we're going to be able to image it. We're also using what's called a dolphin ear.

293

00:30:33,280 --> 00:30:39,600

Develop primarily for listening to sounds in the ocean. It can also be buried in the ground

294

00:30:39,600 --> 00:30:45,040

and it's an extremely sensitive microphone. We should be able to pick up the sounds of anything

295

00:30:45,040 --> 00:30:50,560

moving around on the perimeter of the camp. While Lindsay is monitoring everything on the

296

00:30:50,560 --> 00:30:55,040

laptop, I'll be walking around the camp with the thermal imager that will help me see through this

297

00:30:55,040 --> 00:31:03,280

brush. This is going to help me pick up anything giving off heat that may look like a small goblin.

298

00:31:06,000 --> 00:31:09,920

How's it going with the cameras? Nothing came to strip the food yet?

299

00:31:10,560 --> 00:31:11,280

No, not yet.

300

00:31:11,280 --> 00:31:17,440

Well, they say that it whistles or if you whistle, you will make it come out of the forest.

301

00:31:17,440 --> 00:31:19,840

So we're all going to take a crack at how's your how's your whistling?

302

00:31:21,200 --> 00:31:25,440

I'm a top notch whistler. All right, well, it's good. So we're going to, um,

303

00:31:25,440 --> 00:31:28,640

we're going to just go lights out for a bit. We'll all take a crack at whistling and see what

304

00:31:28,640 --> 00:31:33,520

comes out and tries to kill us. Perfect. Eric, how's it going over there?

305

00:31:35,120 --> 00:31:37,120

No, nothing yet. Don't let me try and whistle.

306

00:31:37,360 --> 00:31:41,360

I read my mind to go for it.

307

00:31:42,080 --> 00:32:08,800

Good whistling, Eric. Solid whistling. I'm making a quick sweep around the perimeter to see if I

308

00:32:08,800 --> 00:32:21,040

can pick up anything moving through the brush with a thermal imager.

309

00:32:33,200 --> 00:32:34,000

What was that?

310

00:32:34,560 --> 00:32:36,240

Yeah, what's up?

311

00:32:36,240 --> 00:32:46,240

I don't know. I should try to rest like really, really close to me.

312

00:32:56,960 --> 00:32:57,760

What was that?

313

00:33:00,720 --> 00:33:01,760

Everybody heard that, right?

314

00:33:04,240 --> 00:33:16,800

Something big just made a noise over there. So I'm going to take the thermal imager. I'm going

315

00:33:16,800 --> 00:33:21,680

to walk up this way. Lindsay, you let me know if you see anything on the camera. Just keep in touch

316

00:33:21,680 --> 00:33:26,240

with the walkie-talkie and, uh, and I'll keep in touch and let you know if I, if I see anything up there.

317

00:33:27,040 --> 00:33:28,240

Carter, let's go.

318

00:33:34,240 --> 00:33:36,240

Shh.

319

00:33:44,480 --> 00:33:47,760

Nothing yet, but it definitely heard a big loud noise back here.

320

00:33:49,520 --> 00:33:54,160

There's been numerous sightings of the Pombaro in this area and not just on this property, so

321

00:33:54,160 --> 00:33:58,640

it's our hope that we'll get lucky tonight. Guys, if I'm another one of these traps up here,

322

00:33:58,640 --> 00:34:03,200

be very, very careful if you walk up behind the house on the left-hand side of the path.

323

00:34:04,720 --> 00:34:09,120

One of the really weird things about this part of the village is that there seem to be these

324

00:34:09,120 --> 00:34:14,240

traps everywhere in the ground. They're, they're almost like booby traps. They're holes that are

325

00:34:14,240 --> 00:34:20,480

covered over with sticks and, um, crossbeams sometimes that, that go fairly deep down. We've

326

00:34:20,480 --> 00:34:24,720

almost stepped into a couple of them while we were setting up equipment earlier, but I've just come

327

00:34:24,720 --> 00:34:28,640

across another one here. You should be very, very careful with your footing. There are these strange

328

00:34:28,640 --> 00:34:32,880

holes that go around everywhere. It's almost as though whoever was living here on this part of

329

00:34:32,880 --> 00:34:43,040

the land was trying to trap something. There's a creepy little ladder over here. It goes up into a tree.

330

00:34:46,320 --> 00:34:52,960

This whole property is really weird. How's it going? All right, I'm not getting much.

331

00:34:52,960 --> 00:34:57,200

Oh, yeah. Well, I don't know. I mean, the weird thing about this place are these pits everywhere.

332

00:34:57,200 --> 00:35:01,280

Did you come across the one over here? Yeah, almost stepped in it. I know, like these, these

333

00:35:01,280 --> 00:35:06,080

big covered pits, they're very, very strange. Linz, how's it going over there with the cameras?

334

00:35:07,840 --> 00:35:12,320

Not too much. We definitely heard something rustling around in the trees back there and

335

00:35:13,120 --> 00:35:16,800

they're definitely going to have these pits all for the property for some sort of animal or some

336

00:35:16,800 --> 00:35:23,840

sort of creature. So there's something roaming around out here for sure. Yeah, what's up?

337

00:35:25,040 --> 00:35:29,600

I don't know. I just heard the rustling really, really close to me. I can't see anything.

338

00:35:31,360 --> 00:35:32,560

All right, I'm headed back your way.

339

00:35:35,600 --> 00:35:47,200

You heard something over here? Where? I thought it was you over there.

340

00:36:02,000 --> 00:36:07,120

Well, whatever it is, it's moved away.

341

00:36:09,600 --> 00:36:17,200

I'll tell you one thing, though, this whole place gives you the creeps.

342

00:36:26,400 --> 00:36:30,800

Well, it's starting to get light in the sky, which means that morning is here.

343

00:36:30,880 --> 00:36:35,040

It's been a long night. We did a really thorough investigation for El Pombero.

344

00:36:35,680 --> 00:36:43,200

The criteria which we used to try to search for this creature was that we were hoping either

345

00:36:43,200 --> 00:36:47,600

with our thermal imager, with our night vision cameras or firsthand to have some sort of visual

346

00:36:47,600 --> 00:36:53,360

encounter with this creature. We left out its favorite foods, rum, tobacco, honey,

347

00:36:53,920 --> 00:36:59,680

and it was our hope to kind of coax it or something else out of the forest to take this food.

348

00:36:59,680 --> 00:37:05,280

But other than a groan caught on tape, no sign of the, no sign of the Pombero.

349

00:37:05,920 --> 00:37:11,440

As I said, it is getting light out and that doesn't make this place any less spooky.

350

00:37:11,440 --> 00:37:15,920

So we're going to pack it up and call it a night, which means we're going to have to drink

351

00:37:16,640 --> 00:37:23,040

all that rum and smoke those cigarettes ourselves, which is fine. We can certainly do that.

352

00:37:23,760 --> 00:37:28,800

We left Argentina and zipped back to Los Angeles to visit Michael D, the curator of the LA Zoo.

353

00:37:28,800 --> 00:37:33,040

We wanted him to listen to the groan-like sound we captured on tape to see if he could recognize

354

00:37:33,040 --> 00:37:37,520

it as animal or human. Hey, Mike, good to see you again. Good to see you. How are you, sir? I'm

355

00:37:37,520 --> 00:37:41,840

just fine. Good. Just take a listen and tell me if you can identify what you think this sound is.

356

00:37:49,840 --> 00:37:50,160

Wow.

357

00:37:50,720 --> 00:38:01,200

That is really an odd sound. I have no idea what it possibly could be other than some type of flying

358

00:38:01,200 --> 00:38:05,840

insect. So that noise is not characteristic to you of something, of some creature that you know?

359

00:38:05,840 --> 00:38:12,480

It's certainly not anything that I would be aware of mammal-wise. Based on what I'm hearing,

360

00:38:12,480 --> 00:38:17,760

I really don't know what it is. Without any substantial evidence to support the existence

361

00:38:17,760 --> 00:38:22,720

of a bad tempered dwarf terrorizing Argentina, it's hard to say that the Pombero is anything

362

00:38:22,720 --> 00:38:26,880

more than a good excuse to stop people from whistling and to explain missing liquor and

363

00:38:26,880 --> 00:38:30,640

cigarettes. Believe me, if you leave gifts like that laying around in my neighborhood sooner

364

00:38:30,640 --> 00:38:34,800

or later, something's going to walk away with it. And as for our loba zone investigation and the

365

00:38:34,800 --> 00:38:39,760

giant fur-covered beast plaguing Northern Argentina, well, we also had Michael try to identify the

366

00:38:39,760 --> 00:38:43,440

strange creature in the footage we captured on the thermal imager and night vision camera.

367

00:38:44,160 --> 00:38:51,280

So our night investigation, we have a thermal imager and also a fixed camera which runs an

368

00:38:51,280 --> 00:38:56,800

infrared, which picks up an image of an animal running by the camera. We just want to get your

369

00:38:56,800 --> 00:38:58,880

opinion as to whether you think you can identify the animal.

370

00:39:03,600 --> 00:39:04,960

Oh geez, that was fast.

371

00:39:09,120 --> 00:39:13,200

Interesting. And that's the second image it picks up moving by one of the cameras very quickly.

372

00:39:13,600 --> 00:39:17,280

Okay. Yeah, that looks...

373

00:39:19,520 --> 00:39:25,360

Oh, that's cool. That may have been a main wolf. And I don't know if main wolves, I know they're

374

00:39:25,360 --> 00:39:32,800

found in Brazil, but I don't know how far over they go into Argentina if they are. It's obviously a

375

00:39:32,800 --> 00:39:39,760

very relatively large canine. Now, one of the things that the locals talk about is how, you know,

376

00:39:40,480 --> 00:39:43,920

they say that there's lobosone as a man who's turned into a dog and so the natural question is,

377

00:39:43,920 --> 00:39:47,040

well, how do you know it's not just a dog? Yeah. So you think that, you think that

378

00:39:47,040 --> 00:39:51,760

characteristically this looks different than just an average dog? Oh yeah, yeah, yeah, especially

379

00:39:51,760 --> 00:39:56,400

when it walks across the screen because you really have a good outline of it. And in that

380

00:39:56,400 --> 00:40:01,360

outline, I see the difference that it's not just a regular dog. Terrific. All right, well,

381

00:40:01,360 --> 00:40:05,840

thank you so much, Mike, for your time. I really appreciate it. Okay. We then travel to UC Davis

382

00:40:05,840 --> 00:40:10,880

in Northern California to get the DNA results of the blood found in our rope that an Argentinian

383

00:40:10,880 --> 00:40:17,680

family claimed they used to capture a lobosone. Terry. Hi. Hello. Nice to meet you. Nice to meet

384

00:40:17,680 --> 00:40:22,880

you as well. Go get you a lab coat. So you, uh, I get a lab coat? You get a lab coat. Very impressive.

385

00:40:22,880 --> 00:40:27,520

Is it going to fit me as the rope? So what I did was look on the rope, looking for possible

386

00:40:27,520 --> 00:40:33,200

points for blood and swab that. And so what we're going to look for is a color change. So the greener

387

00:40:33,200 --> 00:40:37,840

it gets, the better, the stronger the presence of the right. Okay. So then what I do is I take the

388

00:40:37,840 --> 00:40:45,440

swab that's got the sample on it, press it to the hemostic. That's telling me there's blood there is

389

00:40:45,440 --> 00:40:49,520

just a small amount. As you can see, it's getting greener right now. All right. So there's blood on

390

00:40:49,520 --> 00:40:55,040

the rope for sure. That's sure. Sure. Great. Okay. So these are the results. Right. Well, this was

391

00:40:55,040 --> 00:41:00,000

our machine that we used to do the sequencing on. And what you're seeing is a visualization of the

392

00:41:00,000 --> 00:41:03,840

results. And so in the case of our sample, did you get any sort of match from the database? Yes,

393

00:41:03,840 --> 00:41:10,880

we did. And what percentage was that match? It was 100%. Okay. So what was it? It was human.

394

00:41:10,880 --> 00:41:16,720

It's human. It's human. So 100% the blood on the rope is human blood. That's correct. What's

395

00:41:16,720 --> 00:41:22,000

interesting is that this family that had this experience that had this rope, they, they claimed to

396

00:41:22,000 --> 00:41:26,720

have this very dramatic, bloody kind of run in with this creature and they last sued it. They

397

00:41:26,720 --> 00:41:30,080

sort of hung it from a tree. They almost killed it. And eventually they released it at the end of

398

00:41:30,080 --> 00:41:36,560

the encounter. But you know, the loa bason is purported the sort of hybrid between a human and

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00:41:36,560 --> 00:41:41,360

a dog really. And so we were maybe expecting to find canine blood. So whatever this last

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00:41:41,360 --> 00:41:46,000

two went around, it had human blood. Right. Thanks very much for your help. I really appreciate it.

401

00:41:46,000 --> 00:41:50,160

You're welcome. And I'm sure there'll be more samples coming your way. Alrighty. Thanks a lot.

402

00:41:50,160 --> 00:41:56,320

Thanks. I appreciate it. I was surprised that human blood, not canine blood, was found on the rope.

403

00:41:56,400 --> 00:41:59,840

Does this mean that the farmer had an actual loa bason encounter?

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00:41:59,840 --> 00:42:05,440

Not necessarily. But the evidence sure hasn't discounted his claim. The zoo curator thought

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00:42:05,440 --> 00:42:10,480

that what we saw definitely looks bigger than a dog indigenous to Argentina. And this certainly

406

00:42:10,480 --> 00:42:16,480

opens up some interesting questions. What exactly did we encounter out there that night? I can't

407

00:42:16,480 --> 00:42:21,680

say for sure. If there's a darker side to this story, I guess we won't know until the next full

408

00:42:21,680 --> 00:42:28,240

moon. That is, unless there's a different explanation for men turning into big, uncontrollable salivating dogs.