

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,800

It's one of the most valuable shipwrecks

2

00:00:02,800 --> 00:00:04,300

I've ever lost in the Caribbean.

3

00:00:04,300 --> 00:00:07,140

It was carrying not one, but two treasures on board.

4

00:00:07,140 --> 00:00:08,640

Are you kidding me?

5

00:00:08,640 --> 00:00:12,680

Lap has been evaluated to be \$2 to \$3 million.

6

00:00:12,680 --> 00:00:14,840

So in terms of the Maravillas, she's where?

7

00:00:14,840 --> 00:00:16,720

300-some-odd years of hurricanes.

8

00:00:16,720 --> 00:00:20,480

It's moved this debris all over the place.

9

00:00:20,480 --> 00:00:22,520

Well, now I got treasure fever, so what's the plan now?

10

00:00:22,520 --> 00:00:24,160

What do you say? You want to go diving?

11

00:00:24,160 --> 00:00:25,360

Let's do it. Come on.

12

00:00:25,360 --> 00:00:29,600

MUSIC

13

00:00:29,600 --> 00:00:31,000

The blowers are down.

14

00:00:31,000 --> 00:00:32,000

Let's move some sand.

15

00:00:32,000 --> 00:00:35,000

MUSIC

16

00:00:35,000 --> 00:00:36,840

I didn't think we would see this.

17

00:00:36,840 --> 00:00:40,640

This is an actual part of the ship.

18

00:00:40,640 --> 00:00:41,840

Oh, Jim, look at this.

19

00:00:41,840 --> 00:00:42,840

Piece of me.

20

00:00:42,840 --> 00:00:46,840

That's what all the pirates were after.

21

00:00:46,840 --> 00:00:49,080

You are clear to dive, dive, dive.

22

00:00:49,080 --> 00:00:51,560

You're going to see stuff no human's ever seen.

23

00:00:51,560 --> 00:00:52,960

Something weird there.

24

00:00:52,960 --> 00:00:54,760

Right here. Right now.

25

00:00:54,760 --> 00:00:56,560

Right here. Right now.

26

00:00:56,560 --> 00:00:58,560

Right here. Right now.

27

00:00:58,560 --> 00:01:00,200

You find something?

28

00:01:00,200 --> 00:01:02,400

What do you got?

29

00:01:02,400 --> 00:01:04,400

Holy s***.

30

00:01:04,400 --> 00:01:15,880

MUSIC

31

00:01:15,880 --> 00:01:18,960

In the 17th century, Spain was on a roll.

32

00:01:18,960 --> 00:01:21,160

The conquest of the Americas gave them access

33

00:01:21,160 --> 00:01:24,560

to lucrative trade routes, vast natural resources,

34

00:01:24,560 --> 00:01:27,800

and a near unlimited supply of gold and silver,

35

00:01:27,800 --> 00:01:31,400

of which King Philip IV meant to steal every bit.

36

00:01:31,400 --> 00:01:32,960

MUSIC

37

00:01:32,960 --> 00:01:35,120

Massive galleons loaded with treasure

38

00:01:35,120 --> 00:01:37,720

sailed across the Atlantic from the New World,

39

00:01:37,720 --> 00:01:40,800

braving storms and pirates to reach the Old One.

40

00:01:40,800 --> 00:01:45,040

One of these vessels was la nouestra senora de las maravillas,

41

00:01:45,040 --> 00:01:48,920

or Our Lady of Wonders, and she was surely that.

42

00:01:48,920 --> 00:01:51,240

Packed to the bulkheads with riches,

43

00:01:51,240 --> 00:01:54,080

including a legendary solid gold statue

44

00:01:54,080 --> 00:01:55,960

of the Madonna and Child.

45

00:01:55,960 --> 00:01:59,240

The maravillas was the crown jewel of the King's fleet,

46

00:01:59,240 --> 00:02:04,080

or at least it was, until the night of January 4th, 1656.

47

00:02:04,080 --> 00:02:07,920

MUSIC

48

00:02:07,920 --> 00:02:10,640

While navigating a treacherous maze of reefs

49

00:02:10,640 --> 00:02:13,960

in the Bermuda Triangle, she collided with another ship

50

00:02:13,960 --> 00:02:21,720

and was ripped apart, sent to the ocean floor off the Bahamas.

51

00:02:21,760 --> 00:02:26,760

Her sinking was a catastrophe, a butcher's bill of 600 souls,

52

00:02:26,760 --> 00:02:30,160

and a treasure worth billions gone.

53

00:02:30,160 --> 00:02:33,720

For centuries, salvagers have attempted to claim her bounty

54

00:02:33,720 --> 00:02:37,600

from the depths, losing ships and sailors in the process.

55

00:02:37,600 --> 00:02:39,680

The wreck was said to be cursed,

56

00:02:39,680 --> 00:02:44,000

but the maravillas has recently found an unlikely savior.

57

00:02:44,000 --> 00:02:46,560

Businessman turned philanthropist Carl Allen

58

00:02:46,560 --> 00:02:49,960

is using his fortune to find a lost fortune

59

00:02:49,960 --> 00:02:53,520

and preserve the maritime history of the Bahamas.

60

00:02:53,520 --> 00:02:57,120

He's assembled a team of marine archaeologists and salvagers

61

00:02:57,120 --> 00:02:59,520

to locate the remains of the wreck,

62

00:02:59,520 --> 00:03:02,280

and he's pulling out all the stops.

63

00:03:02,280 --> 00:03:05,240

Using a fleet of ships worth tens of millions,

64

00:03:05,240 --> 00:03:09,000

not to mention one of the world's most advanced personal submarines.

65

00:03:09,000 --> 00:03:11,800

They're homing in on the lost treasure.

66

00:03:11,800 --> 00:03:15,440

So join me on the hunt for one of the most valuable shipwrecks

67

00:03:15,440 --> 00:03:19,360

in history, the wonder that is the maravillas.

68

00:03:20,800 --> 00:03:22,960

My name is Josh Gates.

69

00:03:22,960 --> 00:03:23,960

Hello!

70

00:03:23,960 --> 00:03:24,960

Explorer.

71

00:03:24,960 --> 00:03:25,960

Here goes nothing.

72

00:03:25,960 --> 00:03:26,960

Adventurer.

73

00:03:26,960 --> 00:03:27,960

Woo-hoo-hoo!

74

00:03:27,960 --> 00:03:28,960

Oh, that's a long way down.

75

00:03:28,960 --> 00:03:31,960

And a guy who ends up in some very strange situations.

76

00:03:31,960 --> 00:03:33,960

I'm alive for now.

77

00:03:33,960 --> 00:03:37,960

With a degree in archaeology and a passion for the unexplained,

78

00:03:37,960 --> 00:03:39,960

I travel to the ends of the earth,

79

00:03:39,960 --> 00:03:42,960

investigating the greatest legends in history.

80

00:03:42,960 --> 00:03:44,960

May your rock and roll.

81

00:03:44,960 --> 00:03:47,960

This is Expedition Unveiling.

82

00:03:47,960 --> 00:03:50,960

This is Expedition Unknown.

83

00:03:55,960 --> 00:03:58,960

Wheels down, Freeport, Grand Bahama.

84

00:03:58,960 --> 00:04:03,960

A tropical paradise just 55 nautical miles from Florida.

85

00:04:03,960 --> 00:04:06,960

These islands have long attracted outsiders.

86

00:04:06,960 --> 00:04:09,960

They were a stomping ground for colonial explorers,

87

00:04:09,960 --> 00:04:14,960

a haven for pirates, and of course, a magnet for shipwrecks.

88

00:04:14,960 --> 00:04:19,960

And while the maravillas was the richest prize to wreck on these treacherous shoals,

89

00:04:19,960 --> 00:04:23,960

in Port Leucia marketplace, there's another treasure to be found.

90

00:04:25,960 --> 00:04:27,960

This is a huge problem.

91

00:04:27,960 --> 00:04:29,960

I'm eating my own treasure map.

92

00:04:29,960 --> 00:04:30,960

It's fine.

93

00:04:30,960 --> 00:04:33,960

And as I eat my weight in chocolate doubloons,

94

00:04:35,960 --> 00:04:37,960

a parade rolls through the market.

95

00:04:37,960 --> 00:04:41,960

Called Junkanou, this Bahamian take on Mardi Gras

96

00:04:41,960 --> 00:04:45,960

traces its roots from the Caribbean all the way to West Africa.

97

00:04:49,960 --> 00:04:54,960

I groove my way through the crowd to reach the nearby Bahamas Maritime Museum.

98

00:04:54,960 --> 00:05:01,960

This exhibition space and research lab is dedicated to preserving the nautical history of the Bahamas

99

00:05:01,960 --> 00:05:04,960

and conserving the treasure of the Maravillas.

100

00:05:04,960 --> 00:05:05,960

Jim Sinclair.

101

00:05:05,960 --> 00:05:06,960

Josh Gates.

102

00:05:06,960 --> 00:05:07,960

How are you?

103

00:05:07,960 --> 00:05:08,960

Great man, how you doing?

104

00:05:08,960 --> 00:05:09,960

I'm well.

105

00:05:09,960 --> 00:05:13,960

I'm here to meet my friend Jim Sinclair, a fellow member of the Explorers Club.

106

00:05:13,960 --> 00:05:16,960

Jim was the first archaeologist to dive the Titanic.

107

00:05:16,960 --> 00:05:23,960

I last saw him in Panama on the hunt for the final resting place of British privateer, Sir Francis Drake.

108

00:05:23,960 --> 00:05:24,960

Great to see you.

109

00:05:24,960 --> 00:05:25,960

Great to see you too.

110

00:05:25,960 --> 00:05:27,960

This is a beautiful museum.

111

00:05:27,960 --> 00:05:29,960

It's really a special museum.

112

00:05:29,960 --> 00:05:31,960

It's the first of its kind in all of the Bahamas.

113

00:05:31,960 --> 00:05:33,960

And we have Carl and Gigi Allen to thank for that.

114

00:05:33,960 --> 00:05:34,960

These folks right here.

115

00:05:34,960 --> 00:05:35,960

Right there.

116

00:05:35,960 --> 00:05:40,960

Businessman Carl Allen quite literally went from trash to treasure.

117

00:05:40,960 --> 00:05:48,960

In 2016, he sold his company Heritage Bags, a producer of trashcan liners, and founded Allen Exploration,

118

00:05:48,960 --> 00:05:52,960

trading in his suit and tie for a captain's hat and a scuba tank.

119

00:05:52,960 --> 00:05:58,960

A longtime lover of the Bahamas with an obsession for the siren song of the Maravillas treasure.

120

00:05:58,960 --> 00:06:06,960

In 2018, Carl and Gigi Allen purchased the northernmost Bahamian island, Walkers Cay, near the site of the historic shipwreck.

121

00:06:06,960 --> 00:06:16,960

In 2022, Allen Exploration opened the Bahamas Maritime Museum to share their discoveries and the rich nautical history of the Bahamas with the world.

122

00:06:16,960 --> 00:06:22,960

So Josh, this is a model of the Newestres Senora de las Maravillas.

123

00:06:22,960 --> 00:06:24,960

So this was a serious ship?

124

00:06:24,960 --> 00:06:26,960

It was a really serious ship.

125

00:06:26,960 --> 00:06:30,960

It was, you know, 135 feet long, 35 feet wide, 900 tons.

126

00:06:30,960 --> 00:06:32,960

It was a major Spanish galleon.

127

00:06:32,960 --> 00:06:34,960

She could hold over 600 people on board.

128

00:06:34,960 --> 00:06:35,960

Wow.

129

00:06:35,960 --> 00:06:39,960

So as impressive as this is, I know a lot of galleons went down in the Caribbean.

130

00:06:39,960 --> 00:06:41,960

What makes the Maravillas special?

131

00:06:41,960 --> 00:06:44,960

It's one of the most valuable shipwrecks ever lost in the Caribbean.

132

00:06:44,960 --> 00:06:47,960

It was carrying not one, but two treasures on board.

133

00:06:47,960 --> 00:06:48,960

Two treasures?

134

00:06:48,960 --> 00:06:49,960

Two.

135

00:06:49,960 --> 00:06:50,960

And why is she carrying two treasures?

136

00:06:50,960 --> 00:06:55,960

Well, to tell you that, we have to go back to the dawn of the age of exploration in the New World.

137

00:06:56,960 --> 00:07:02,960

After Christopher Columbus landed near the Bahamas on his first voyage in 1492,

138

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

Spain got into the bling business, conquering much of the Americas and the Caribbean.

139

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

Spanish fleets robbed 200 tons of gold and 16,000 tons of silver,

140

00:07:13,960 --> 00:07:17,960

an estimated \$20 billion in today's value.

141

00:07:17,960 --> 00:07:21,960

It was an extremely profitable, but also risky, venture.

142

00:07:21,960 --> 00:07:28,960

On October 26, 1654, one of the empire's flagships known as La Capitana hit a reef

143

00:07:28,960 --> 00:07:31,960

and went down off the coast of Ecuador.

144

00:07:31,960 --> 00:07:36,960

Despite rumors that the treasure must be cursed, the Spanish salvaged the wreck,

145

00:07:36,960 --> 00:07:44,960

recovering tens of millions in silver and gold, including perhaps a fabled solid gold Madonna statue.

146

00:07:44,960 --> 00:07:47,960

Now, how to get it all to Spain?

147

00:07:47,960 --> 00:07:49,960

That's where the Maravillas comes in.

148

00:07:49,960 --> 00:07:51,960

Okay, so their first stop is where?

149

00:07:51,960 --> 00:07:55,960

In the spring of 1655, that's where they stopped in Colombia,

150

00:07:55,960 --> 00:07:58,960

and they would pick up the treasures coming out of Colombia.

151

00:07:58,960 --> 00:08:02,960

The Maravillas route takes them from Colombia through Portobello Panama,

152

00:08:02,960 --> 00:08:06,960

where the rich salvage from the sunken Capitana is loaded aboard,

153

00:08:06,960 --> 00:08:09,960

and then on to Havana.

154

00:08:09,960 --> 00:08:14,960

Along the way, they're also picking up some very rich Spaniards, headed back to Europe.

155

00:08:14,960 --> 00:08:17,960

And all of those people that are getting on board,

156

00:08:17,960 --> 00:08:19,960

they don't have a checkbook or a credit card like we're used to.

157

00:08:19,960 --> 00:08:23,960

They've got to carry their own treasure to pay for whatever it is that they're doing.

158

00:08:23,960 --> 00:08:25,960

So part of their personal fortunes are aboard?

159

00:08:25,960 --> 00:08:29,960

All of their personal fortunes, especially as they're going back permanently to Spain.

160

00:08:29,960 --> 00:08:33,960

So the Maravillas and the rest of the fleet depart Havana when?

161

00:08:33,960 --> 00:08:35,960

On January the 1st of 1656.

162

00:08:35,960 --> 00:08:36,960

New Year's Day.

163

00:08:36,960 --> 00:08:38,960

New Year's Day, auspicious day to go.

164

00:08:38,960 --> 00:08:44,960

And so now they're heading back to Spain, and they have to go through what's known as the Bahama Channel.

165

00:08:44,960 --> 00:08:52,960

Now I've read that the value of the treasure aboard this ship is anywhere from 250 million to half a billion dollars in today's value.

166

00:08:52,960 --> 00:08:57,960

And the idea of losing that treasure would have been a catastrophe for Spain.

167

00:08:57,960 --> 00:08:58,960

But that's exactly what happens.

168

00:08:58,960 --> 00:09:00,960

That's exactly what happens.

169

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

On the evening of January 4th, the Maravillas crew saw that they were sailing near a treacherous reef.

170

00:09:07,960 --> 00:09:13,960

Under the command of Admiral Don Matias de Ariana, the crew fired a cannon to warn the rest of the fleet.

171

00:09:13,960 --> 00:09:21,960

Mistaking the shot as a signal for help, another ship turned and sped toward the Maravillas, and then disaster.

172

00:09:21,960 --> 00:09:27,960

The Maravillas was rammed, and a massive hole ripped into her hull just above the waterline.

173

00:09:27,960 --> 00:09:30,960

And how long does it take for the Maravillas to sink?

174

00:09:30,960 --> 00:09:31,960

45 minutes.

175

00:09:31,960 --> 00:09:32,960

45 minutes and it's gone?

176

00:09:32,960 --> 00:09:33,960

It's gone.

177

00:09:33,960 --> 00:09:35,960

And there's how many people on board at this point?

178

00:09:35,960 --> 00:09:37,960

Well, there's over 600 people on this ship.

179

00:09:37,960 --> 00:09:39,960

And how many survived this event?

180

00:09:39,960 --> 00:09:40,960

45.

181

00:09:40,960 --> 00:09:42,960

45 people left?

182

00:09:42,960 --> 00:09:48,960

I mean, a lot of people managed to grab things, but they just slowed it off.

183

00:09:48,960 --> 00:09:50,960

Some, they said, were eaten by sharks.

184

00:09:50,960 --> 00:09:59,960

The waters of the Caribbean are home to several species, including bull sharks and tiger sharks, that reportedly devoured some of the survivors.

185

00:09:59,960 --> 00:10:01,960

Unbelievable.

186

00:10:01,960 --> 00:10:05,960

Battered by the reef, the Maravillas was reduced to splinters.

187

00:10:05,960 --> 00:10:10,960

Her precious cargo scattered and lost to the shifting sands of the sea floor.

188

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

Now, Alan Exploration has rediscovered this trail of debris and is recovering her treasure one artifact at a time.

189

00:10:18,960 --> 00:10:30,960

We're conducting what's basically almost 400-year-old forensic investigation so that we can tell the story of not only the ship, the people that were on it, and what its wider place in the world history was.

190

00:10:30,960 --> 00:10:31,960

Can I see what you've been finding?

191

00:10:31,960 --> 00:10:33,960

Absolutely. Come this way.

192

00:10:33,960 --> 00:10:38,960

Jim brings me to the lab, where thousands of objects from the Maravillas are being conserved.

193

00:10:38,960 --> 00:10:42,960

I'd like to meet Dr. Michael Pateman. This is Josh Gates.

194

00:10:42,960 --> 00:10:43,960

Dr. nice to meet you.

195

00:10:43,960 --> 00:10:44,960

Nice to meet you, Josh.

196

00:10:44,960 --> 00:10:46,960

Alright, so what do we have bubbling away in this tank?

197

00:10:46,960 --> 00:10:51,960

Well, we have a rail gun from the Maravillas, and it's going through what we call the electrolysis process.

198

00:10:51,960 --> 00:10:55,960

Electrolysis is basically a spa treatment for artifacts.

199

00:10:55,960 --> 00:11:03,960

The objects are immersed in a salt bath, wired with a mild electric current that slowly strips away the centuries of encrustation.

200

00:11:04,960 --> 00:11:09,960

Hundreds of artifacts from the Maravillas are currently undergoing this restoration process.

201

00:11:09,960 --> 00:11:12,960

Whoa! Cannonballs!

202

00:11:12,960 --> 00:11:20,960

While the cannonballs bubble away, Dr. Pateman reveals some of the more spectacular finds Carl Allen's team has made so far.

203

00:11:20,960 --> 00:11:24,960

This is one of my favorite pieces in the entire collection.

204

00:11:24,960 --> 00:11:26,960

This is the Hilt of a Sword.

205

00:11:26,960 --> 00:11:27,960

Correct.

206

00:11:27,960 --> 00:11:28,960

Look at that.

207

00:11:28,960 --> 00:11:30,960

It's just a beautiful piece.

208

00:11:30,960 --> 00:11:33,960

I mean, this is a weapon, but it is truly a work of art.

209

00:11:33,960 --> 00:11:35,960

That's just stunning.

210

00:11:35,960 --> 00:11:38,960

And here we have some silver coins from the Maravillas.

211

00:11:38,960 --> 00:11:40,960

Wow.

212

00:11:40,960 --> 00:11:48,960

Spanish eight real coins, better known as Pieces of Eight, were mined and minted in the New World and sent back to Spain by the treasure chest.

213

00:11:48,960 --> 00:11:54,960

Today, a pristine single coin from the 1600s could be worth thousands.

214

00:11:54,960 --> 00:11:57,960

I'm officially hypnotized.

215

00:11:57,960 --> 00:11:59,960

What else you got?

216

00:11:59,960 --> 00:12:01,960

A nice hunk and piece of silver.

217

00:12:01,960 --> 00:12:03,960

This is solid silver.

218

00:12:03,960 --> 00:12:05,960

That's a bullion bar.

219

00:12:05,960 --> 00:12:09,960

The raw value of this much silver today is about what?

220

00:12:09,960 --> 00:12:12,960

About \$100,000.

221

00:12:12,960 --> 00:12:21,960

This and the other finds will go on display here at the museum, but they pale in comparison to one of Allen X's shiniest finds to date.

222

00:12:21,960 --> 00:12:24,960

Are you kidding me? This is real?

223

00:12:24,960 --> 00:12:26,960

These are very real.

224

00:12:26,960 --> 00:12:28,960

Would you like to hold it?

225

00:12:28,960 --> 00:12:32,960

This is a chain so glorious it would make Mr. T. Weep.

226

00:12:32,960 --> 00:12:37,960

I mean, just look at the patterning on this. Look at the way it's all hooked together.

227

00:12:37,960 --> 00:12:41,960

This is as fine, as beautiful a thing as you could hope to find.

228

00:12:41,960 --> 00:12:44,960

You know, I've been lucky enough to work on a lot of show breaks, Josh.

229

00:12:44,960 --> 00:12:47,960

This is the most unique chain I've ever seen come off of a show break.

230

00:12:47,960 --> 00:12:48,960

Yeah.

231

00:12:48,960 --> 00:12:53,960

Known as Money Chains, the links on necklaces like this could be removed and used as currency.

232

00:12:53,960 --> 00:12:55,960

It's stunning.

233

00:12:55,960 --> 00:12:57,960

What is this? Just a lump of gold?

234

00:12:57,960 --> 00:12:59,960

About five pounds.

235

00:12:59,960 --> 00:13:02,960

And if you look at that, it fits in your hand perfectly.

236

00:13:02,960 --> 00:13:05,960

So it's something that you could have easily just stuck in your pocket.

237

00:13:05,960 --> 00:13:07,960

Yeah, let me try, for instance.

238

00:13:07,960 --> 00:13:08,960

Oh, you're right. It does. It fits perfectly.

239

00:13:08,960 --> 00:13:10,960

Guys, this has been a real pleasure.

240

00:13:10,960 --> 00:13:12,960

See you later.

241

00:13:12,960 --> 00:13:20,960

While the valuables listed on the manifest would be worth about half a billion dollars today, smuggled goods may double that official number.

242

00:13:20,960 --> 00:13:23,960

So this is an emerald pendant.

243

00:13:23,960 --> 00:13:26,960

This is another very special piece.

244

00:13:26,960 --> 00:13:28,960

This is extraordinary. May I?

245

00:13:28,960 --> 00:13:30,960

Yes, just be very careful.

246

00:13:30,960 --> 00:13:32,960

Oh, look at that.

247

00:13:32,960 --> 00:13:34,960

It glows.

248

00:13:34,960 --> 00:13:40,960

One of the things about your efforts here that's really remarkable is you're not finding all of these materials to sell them.

249

00:13:40,960 --> 00:13:44,960

This is about preserving them, telling the story, presenting them to the public.

250

00:13:44,960 --> 00:13:45,960

Yes.

251

00:13:45,960 --> 00:13:49,960

Having said that, I have to ask.

252

00:13:49,960 --> 00:13:55,960

All right, so that piece has been evaluated to be between two to three million dollars.

253

00:13:55,960 --> 00:13:59,960

Okay. That may be the most expensive thing I've ever held.

254

00:13:59,960 --> 00:14:01,960

Okay, big question.

255

00:14:01,960 --> 00:14:06,960

In terms of outstanding mysteries, what gnaws at you about this wreck?

256

00:14:06,960 --> 00:14:10,960

We're still looking for the stern castle because that hasn't been seen.

257

00:14:10,960 --> 00:14:12,960

The stern castle, the back part of the ship.

258

00:14:12,960 --> 00:14:18,960

The back part of the ship, when it sank, the back part of the ship actually came off of the rest of the ship.

259

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

Broke off.

260

00:14:19,960 --> 00:14:24,960

Yeah, and we have survivors' testimonies about how that part floated away.

261

00:14:24,960 --> 00:14:28,960

Quarters for the captain and the wealthiest passengers were in the stern castle,

262

00:14:28,960 --> 00:14:34,960

and these first-class guests would have kept their most prized possessions close at hand.

263

00:14:34,960 --> 00:14:36,960

What would lead you to the stern castle?

264

00:14:36,960 --> 00:14:40,960

You know, maybe we're looking for navigators' tools, you know, really fancy china plates.

265

00:14:40,960 --> 00:14:42,960

Maybe we'll find more jewelry like this.

266

00:14:42,960 --> 00:14:49,960

So things like the chain or the emerald pendant, these are things that may have been in the stern castle and may lead you back to that stern castle.

267

00:14:49,960 --> 00:14:50,960

Right.

268

00:14:50,960 --> 00:14:52,960

And they're out there looking right now, like this is underway?

269

00:14:52,960 --> 00:14:54,960

Yes, absolutely.

270

00:14:54,960 --> 00:14:55,960

Wow.

271

00:14:55,960 --> 00:14:56,960

Have any interest in going?

272

00:14:56,960 --> 00:14:57,960

Let's rock and roll.

273

00:14:59,960 --> 00:15:02,960

Jim and I meet our ride at a nearby dock.

274

00:15:02,960 --> 00:15:04,960

This is stunning.

275

00:15:04,960 --> 00:15:06,960

Carl Allen didn't send some dinghy.

276

00:15:06,960 --> 00:15:13,960

This 80-foot yacht called Frigate is an aquatic Lamborghini, capable of cruising at over 40 knots.

277

00:15:13,960 --> 00:15:15,960

That's my favorite expedition ever.

278

00:15:16,960 --> 00:15:25,960

We quickly leave dry land in the rear view and chart a course to an undisclosed location where we'll meet the rest of the Allen Exploration fleet.

279

00:15:25,960 --> 00:15:30,960

Somewhere beneath our wake lies the most valuable treasure in the Caribbean.

280

00:15:36,960 --> 00:15:38,960

Okay, this is nice.

281

00:15:38,960 --> 00:15:42,960

Yeah, it was an 80-foot Viking 5200 horsepower.

282

00:15:42,960 --> 00:15:44,960

5200 horsepower.

283

00:15:44,960 --> 00:15:47,960

Yeah, 5200 and it cruises at about 35 knots.

284

00:15:47,960 --> 00:15:48,960

Should I hold onto something?

285

00:15:48,960 --> 00:15:49,960

Yeah.

286

00:15:50,960 --> 00:16:03,960

I'm cruising toward open sea aboard Frigate, sent by millionaire treasure hunter Carl Allen to ferry me and archaeologist Jim Sinclair to an undisclosed rendezvous point in the northern Bahamas.

287

00:16:03,960 --> 00:16:11,960

It's there that Carl's team is searching for the lost treasure of the Maravillas, one of the most valuable Spanish shipwrecks in the Caribbean.

288

00:16:11,960 --> 00:16:13,960

Jim, where is this place?

289

00:16:14,960 --> 00:16:19,960

I can tell you this, you're smack dab in the middle of the Bermuda Triangle.

290

00:16:19,960 --> 00:16:25,960

The Bermuda, or Devil's Triangle, is the stuff of maritime legend and nightmares.

291

00:16:25,960 --> 00:16:30,960

It is estimated that more than 20 aircraft and 50 ships have vanished here.

292

00:16:30,960 --> 00:16:35,960

But as we approach our coordinates, I spot a vessel that should be able to beat the odds.

293

00:16:35,960 --> 00:16:37,960

I see a boat.

294

00:16:37,960 --> 00:16:39,960

Oh my word.

295

00:16:40,960 --> 00:16:42,960

What am I looking at?

296

00:16:43,960 --> 00:16:50,960

This is the Axis, the state of the art floating command center in Carl Allen's search for millions in missing treasure.

297

00:16:50,960 --> 00:16:52,960

And she's not alone.

298

00:16:52,960 --> 00:16:56,960

Nearby is the Sea Reaper, used for excavations on the ocean floor.

299

00:16:56,960 --> 00:17:00,960

The Sea Trepid, for ship to ship transfers and diving.

300

00:17:00,960 --> 00:17:08,960

And last but not least, Gigi, a tricked out 164 foot super yacht for, well, for why the hell not?

301

00:17:08,960 --> 00:17:15,960

Add in a half a dozen support boats and you've got yourself a shipwreck seeking armada that would make Logan Roy blush.

302

00:17:19,960 --> 00:17:21,960

Mr. Allen, I presume.

303

00:17:21,960 --> 00:17:23,960

Yes, sir, Mr. Gates. Good to see you.

304

00:17:23,960 --> 00:17:24,960

Hey, nice to meet you.

305

00:17:24,960 --> 00:17:25,960

Nice to finally meet you, sir.

306

00:17:25,960 --> 00:17:27,960

Thrilled, thrilled to be here. Thank you for having us aboard.

307

00:17:27,960 --> 00:17:31,960

I've seen people passionate about treasure hunting. This is another level.

308

00:17:31,960 --> 00:17:33,960

I assume you know you have a submarine behind you.

309

00:17:33,960 --> 00:17:37,960

I do. I have a triton 3300, goes down to 3300 feet.

310

00:17:37,960 --> 00:17:40,960

Incredible. And I see axis written here. Is this axis we're on?

311

00:17:40,960 --> 00:17:49,960

Yes, it is. This is a 180 through Daemon built in Europe, mainly built for offshore oil tenders, but converted it to a treasure hunting ship.

312

00:17:49,960 --> 00:17:52,960

So in terms of the wreck, in terms of the Maravillas, she's where?

313

00:17:52,960 --> 00:17:53,960

She's all around us.

314

00:17:53,960 --> 00:17:54,960

Literally?

315

00:17:54,960 --> 00:17:59,960

Literally. 300 some odd years of hurricanes, it's moved this debris all over the place.

316

00:17:59,960 --> 00:18:02,960

Now, Carl, you are not the first person to try to salvage the Maravillas.

317

00:18:02,960 --> 00:18:03,960

Right.

318

00:18:03,960 --> 00:18:04,960

When was the first salvage operation?

319

00:18:04,960 --> 00:18:08,960

Well, the first salvage operation started six months after she was lost.

320

00:18:08,960 --> 00:18:18,960

Spanish recovery efforts using trawling grappling hooks and tragically enslaved native pearl divers managed to recover more than half a million pesos.

321

00:18:18,960 --> 00:18:31,960

But over the centuries, storms and currents scattered the wreck, including the elusive stern castle section across an estimated five mile stretch now buried beneath 10 to 20 feet of sand.

322

00:18:31,960 --> 00:18:39,960

More than 300 years later in 1972, diving pioneer and explorer Bob Marks rediscovered part of the ship.

323

00:18:39,960 --> 00:18:49,960

Marks and another group salvaged millions from the wreck until the government put a moratorium on all salvage operations in Bahamian waters until now.

324

00:18:49,960 --> 00:18:59,960

Alan exploration is working with local authorities to responsibly excavate the remains, find the stern castle and recover the ship's greatest treasures.

325

00:18:59,960 --> 00:19:06,960

They've done this by marrying extensive sonar and magnetometer surveys with cutting edge GPS and mapping technology.

326

00:19:06,960 --> 00:19:10,960

Is there a white whale for you? I mean, is there something you want to find more than anything else?

327

00:19:10,960 --> 00:19:19,960

There's a mysterious artifact on there known as the golden Madonna. It's estimated that she's life-sized, five foot tall, let's call it.

328

00:19:19,960 --> 00:19:21,960

A life-sized golden statue? We're talking about?

329

00:19:21,960 --> 00:19:25,960

Holding baby Jesus. It is something that King Philip IV would have done.

330

00:19:25,960 --> 00:19:29,960

He was a man of the arts, a man of literature, a man of the theater.

331

00:19:29,960 --> 00:19:34,960

And apparently a man who really wanted to get in the good graces of the church.

332

00:19:34,960 --> 00:19:42,960

King Philip's holy bribe, if it does exist, never made it to Spain, lost along with an estimated half billion in treasure.

333

00:19:42,960 --> 00:19:46,960

But before we start looking for it, we have a little business to attend to.

334

00:19:46,960 --> 00:19:51,960

I understand that you are a newly elected member of the Explorers Club.

335

00:19:51,960 --> 00:19:52,960

I am, yes.

336

00:19:52,960 --> 00:19:55,960

And as you know, probably Jim and I are both members of the club.

337

00:19:55,960 --> 00:20:02,960

So because of that, I applied for and we have been granted a flag to carry on this expedition from the club.

338

00:20:02,960 --> 00:20:06,960

Flags are given out for important expeditions.

339

00:20:06,960 --> 00:20:10,960

This particular flag started its journey in the 1930s going down to Peru.

340

00:20:10,960 --> 00:20:13,960

It has been to both the Arctic and the Antarctic.

341

00:20:13,960 --> 00:20:19,960

This flag went down to Titanic in 2005 and has been down to its sister ship, the Britannic.

342

00:20:19,960 --> 00:20:20,960

That is awesome.

343

00:20:20,960 --> 00:20:22,960

We can hoist that wherever we can.

344

00:20:22,960 --> 00:20:23,960

Wow, thank you.

345

00:20:23,960 --> 00:20:24,960

I'm shaking.

346

00:20:24,960 --> 00:20:31,960

Well, this is a serious expedition and so hopefully this will bring us some luck.

347

00:20:31,960 --> 00:20:32,960

What do you say? You want to go diving?

348

00:20:32,960 --> 00:20:34,960

Let's go diving. Let's go diving.

349

00:20:34,960 --> 00:20:35,960

Let's do this.

350

00:20:35,960 --> 00:20:36,960

Let's do it. Come on.

351

00:20:38,960 --> 00:20:43,960

We raise the storied flag, gear up and transfer from Axis to C-trepid,

352

00:20:43,960 --> 00:20:48,960

which will take us to one of the salvage boats positioned over the team's latest target.

353

00:20:51,960 --> 00:20:52,960

Welcome, Josh, to the sea reaper.

354

00:20:52,960 --> 00:20:56,960

This is one of the main recovery vessels that we use at Alan X.

355

00:20:56,960 --> 00:20:59,960

And we think we're on a good spot right now.

356

00:20:59,960 --> 00:21:02,960

We've been following tracks and material and we think we're on a really good area.

357

00:21:02,960 --> 00:21:03,960

Okay.

358

00:21:03,960 --> 00:21:07,960

So one of the things we have to do though is we have to blow a hole.

359

00:21:09,960 --> 00:21:15,960

Recovering treasure from the Maravillas is not as simple as just throwing on a scuba mask and a set of fins.

360

00:21:15,960 --> 00:21:21,960

After three centuries of storms, artifacts from the wreck are now covered by 10 to 20 feet of sand

361

00:21:21,960 --> 00:21:23,960

and lodged into the reef below.

362

00:21:23,960 --> 00:21:25,960

All right, Mikey, let's drop the blowers.

363

00:21:25,960 --> 00:21:31,960

To reveal the shiny stuff, the Alan X team deploys two prop wash-deflecting shoots

364

00:21:31,960 --> 00:21:33,960

known as mailboxes over the site.

365

00:21:35,960 --> 00:21:38,960

Divers pin the blowers in place over the ship's propellers,

366

00:21:39,960 --> 00:21:44,960

directing the force generated by the engine down to the sea floor.

367

00:21:47,960 --> 00:21:50,960

The force of the propellers pushes the sand away.

368

00:21:52,960 --> 00:21:55,960

We wait for the dust to settle and then it's time to get wet.

369

00:21:58,960 --> 00:22:03,960

I drop down with Jim and a team of divers while Carl mans the comm system topside.

370

00:22:03,960 --> 00:22:05,960

Josh, Josh, Carl here.

371

00:22:05,960 --> 00:22:06,960

What's going on down there?

372

00:22:06,960 --> 00:22:09,960

Josh, we're topside. We are headed down the line.

373

00:22:13,960 --> 00:22:15,960

Josh, can you see that excavation down there?

374

00:22:15,960 --> 00:22:18,960

That's a huge hole those blowers clear.

375

00:22:18,960 --> 00:22:26,960

At the bottom of the sandy crater lies a dead reef, part of the formation that sank the Maravillas more than 350 years ago.

376

00:22:27,960 --> 00:22:29,960

Okay, so what's the plan here, Jim?

377

00:22:29,960 --> 00:22:36,960

While we're looking for any material that appears to be human made, then we will go around the hole with the metal detectors

378

00:22:36,960 --> 00:22:39,960

and see if there's anything hiding in these cracks and crevices.

379

00:22:39,960 --> 00:22:42,960

Alright, I'm going to fire up the metal detector. Here we go.

380

00:22:50,960 --> 00:22:58,960

After more than three centuries of decay, most of the wood and organic material from the ship has been eaten away by the sea.

381

00:22:58,960 --> 00:23:02,960

So we're looking for metal, pottery and anything that seems out of place.

382

00:23:05,960 --> 00:23:07,960

Hey Josh, you see anything yet?

383

00:23:07,960 --> 00:23:10,960

A lot of sand, a lot of coral. That's about it so far.

384

00:23:17,960 --> 00:23:20,960

Look at this. Is that a ballast stone?

385

00:23:20,960 --> 00:23:26,960

Yeah, you can see it's kind of dark and if you look around there's nothing else like this kind of rock.

386

00:23:26,960 --> 00:23:29,960

Looks like a kind of granite.

387

00:23:29,960 --> 00:23:37,960

The Maravillas would have been carrying several hundred tons of ballast in its hold to balance out the weight on deck and stay on an even keel.

388

00:23:37,960 --> 00:23:43,960

These stones are a good sign that we're on the wreck. The question is, which part of it?

389

00:23:43,960 --> 00:23:45,960

Okay, let's keep looking.

390

00:23:45,960 --> 00:24:01,960

Hey Josh, look at this. That's a shirt of pottery, you know? Typical Spanish earthenware pottery.

391

00:24:04,960 --> 00:24:06,960

And here, there's more of it.

392

00:24:06,960 --> 00:24:11,960

There's going to be a lot of this. Anytime you're on a Spanish wreck, you see a lot of this kind of pottery.

393

00:24:11,960 --> 00:24:17,960

These are the storage containers of the Spanish Empire. This pottery is so cool.

394

00:24:17,960 --> 00:24:23,960

The debris field grows and a ghostly picture of life aboard the galleon begins to take shape.

395

00:24:23,960 --> 00:24:28,960

But is this part of the missing stern section and its vast treasure reserves?

396

00:24:36,960 --> 00:24:40,960

Josh, look at this. I'm not sure what this is.

397

00:24:41,960 --> 00:24:48,960

It looks almost like a key. It does look like a key. There were lots of keys on this vessel.

398

00:24:48,960 --> 00:24:55,960

But a key to what? That's the question. We'll take it back to the surface. I think this one goes back to the lab.

399

00:24:55,960 --> 00:25:01,960

Did this key belong to a chest? And if so, could its contents be nearby?

400

00:25:06,960 --> 00:25:09,960

Oh, got a big head here. Hold on.

401

00:25:11,960 --> 00:25:16,960

What do we got here?

402

00:25:16,960 --> 00:25:21,960

Oh, Jim, look at this. Jim, is that what I think it is?

403

00:25:21,960 --> 00:25:24,960

That's a coin. No question. That's a coin, yeah?

404

00:25:24,960 --> 00:25:27,960

Yeah, absolutely. Your first coin on the Marabia.

405

00:25:34,960 --> 00:25:37,960

Look at that. Look at that.

406

00:25:37,960 --> 00:25:43,960

No question. That's a coin, yeah? You see that shape and that black? That's the dead giveaway.

407

00:25:43,960 --> 00:25:47,960

They look like old Oreo cookies. They do. That's silver under there.

408

00:25:47,960 --> 00:25:50,960

It's where all the pirates were after. Pieces of eight.

409

00:25:50,960 --> 00:25:55,960

I'm with the Allen Exploration Team on the hunt for the treasure of the Maravias,

410

00:25:55,960 --> 00:26:02,960

a Spanish galleon that sank off the Bahamas in 1656 with an estimated half a billion on board.

411

00:26:02,960 --> 00:26:07,960

Amazing. An actual coin from the Maravias.

412

00:26:07,960 --> 00:26:12,960

Yeah, keep looking and check that same hole again because there could be more there.

413

00:26:12,960 --> 00:26:14,960

Oh, I'm on it. No worries. Here we go.

414

00:26:14,960 --> 00:26:24,960

I got two here, Jim. Look at that. Two coins.

415

00:26:24,960 --> 00:26:29,960

Look at that. Two silver coins. That is incredible.

416

00:26:29,960 --> 00:26:31,960

Oh, my word.

417

00:26:31,960 --> 00:26:34,960

Great. That's what we're looking for. Bring them up.

418

00:26:34,960 --> 00:26:40,960

While the dive team continues to scour the bottom for more treasure from the Maravias,

419

00:26:40,960 --> 00:26:45,960

I make my way up the shot line and surface with a fistful of silver.

420

00:26:45,960 --> 00:26:50,960

Carl, I got a present for you.

421

00:26:50,960 --> 00:26:52,960

Couple of them, actually.

422

00:26:52,960 --> 00:26:54,960

That's great.

423

00:26:54,960 --> 00:26:56,960

Oh, yeah.

424

00:26:56,960 --> 00:26:58,960

I got a present for you.

425

00:26:58,960 --> 00:27:00,960

I got a present for you.

426

00:27:00,960 --> 00:27:02,960

Couple of them, actually.

427

00:27:02,960 --> 00:27:04,960

That's great.

428

00:27:04,960 --> 00:27:06,960

Come on.

429

00:27:06,960 --> 00:27:08,960

How about that?

430

00:27:08,960 --> 00:27:10,960

I mean, my heart almost stopped.

431

00:27:10,960 --> 00:27:12,960

That's beautiful. Congratulations, Josh.

432

00:27:12,960 --> 00:27:14,960

First dive, huh?

433

00:27:14,960 --> 00:27:16,960

So exciting, man.

434

00:27:16,960 --> 00:27:18,960

Great job.

435

00:27:18,960 --> 00:27:22,960

We return to Axis, the operation command center, which begins to steam ahead.

436

00:27:22,960 --> 00:27:24,960

To where?

437

00:27:24,960 --> 00:27:28,960

To here. Welcome to Walkers K.

438

00:27:28,960 --> 00:27:34,960

Further than most island in the Bahamas, this remote spit of land was once a legendary sport fishing destination

439

00:27:34,960 --> 00:27:38,960

that hosted a who's who from Richard Nixon to Jane Fonda.

440

00:27:38,960 --> 00:27:44,960

That is, until hurricanes ripped the island to pieces, leaving it deserted in 2004.

441

00:27:44,960 --> 00:27:48,960

Carl Allen first came here on a fishing trip when he was 12 years old,

442

00:27:48,960 --> 00:27:52,960

and he loved it so much that four decades later, he bought it.

443

00:27:52,960 --> 00:27:56,960

Carl and Gigi are now revitalizing every square foot.

444

00:27:56,960 --> 00:28:02,960

Restoring the runway, building a tree nursery, restoring the island's church,

445

00:28:02,960 --> 00:28:08,960

and outfitting Walkers with a pristine marina, his new home base for exploration,

446

00:28:08,960 --> 00:28:12,960

and in between discoveries, a little fishing.

447

00:28:12,960 --> 00:28:18,960

Once in port, we meet on the bridge to review our finds.

448

00:28:18,960 --> 00:28:20,960

Wow. Should we see what we got?

449

00:28:20,960 --> 00:28:22,960

Yes, let's check it out.

450

00:28:22,960 --> 00:28:24,960

Let's take a look at what we found.

451

00:28:24,960 --> 00:28:25,960

Pottery.

452

00:28:25,960 --> 00:28:29,960

They would fill them with wine or olive oil or olive or even fish.

453

00:28:29,960 --> 00:28:36,960

The wreck site is littered with fragments of these storage jars, the Tupperware of the Spanish treasure fleet.

454

00:28:36,960 --> 00:28:39,960

But some of our other discoveries are more unusual.

455

00:28:39,960 --> 00:28:44,960

We were looking at that down there, and you were trying to say to me it looked like a key almost, and it does.

456

00:28:44,960 --> 00:28:51,960

This is where the little teeth would have been hollow shaft, and then this is where the ring would be.

457

00:28:51,960 --> 00:28:53,960

Do you think that's what this really is?

458

00:28:53,960 --> 00:28:54,960

Oh yeah, absolutely.

459

00:28:54,960 --> 00:28:56,960

How cool is that?

460

00:28:56,960 --> 00:28:59,960

What's cool about it is what was it locking?

461

00:28:59,960 --> 00:29:01,960

Exactly, the big question.

462

00:29:01,960 --> 00:29:09,960

After a dip in the electrolysis bath to remove the encrustation, this key will go on display at the Bahamas Maritime Museum.

463

00:29:09,960 --> 00:29:16,960

The million, or should I say billion dollar question is, what greater treasures might it unlock?

464

00:29:16,960 --> 00:29:18,960

Alright, and Josh, you know the coins we found down there?

465

00:29:18,960 --> 00:29:21,960

We had a chance to clean a couple of these up, but I really...

466

00:29:21,960 --> 00:29:22,960

Here on the ship.

467

00:29:22,960 --> 00:29:23,960

Here on the ship.

468

00:29:23,960 --> 00:29:24,960

So there's a kind of a fast process.

469

00:29:24,960 --> 00:29:26,960

Well, it was a pre-cleaning. We'll call it that.

470

00:29:26,960 --> 00:29:30,960

It's not perfect, but I am very excited to show you these. They cleaned up pretty good.

471

00:29:32,960 --> 00:29:33,960

Get out of here.

472

00:29:33,960 --> 00:29:35,960

These are the coins we just had out there.

473

00:29:35,960 --> 00:29:36,960

Well, you found it.

474

00:29:36,960 --> 00:29:37,960

Yeah, you were the ones that found it.

475

00:29:37,960 --> 00:29:40,960

But now you can see the Florence Otta Cross on it a lot better.

476

00:29:40,960 --> 00:29:42,960

I mean, see it. Look at that.

477

00:29:42,960 --> 00:29:46,960

It's just right on there, and in fact you can see the stamp on the back as well.

478

00:29:46,960 --> 00:29:50,960

That'd be the crest of Philip IV, the king of Spain.

479

00:29:50,960 --> 00:29:54,960

You know, when you see him down there, there are just these blackened lumps.

480

00:29:54,960 --> 00:29:58,960

But just underneath that, shining beautiful silver.

481

00:29:58,960 --> 00:29:59,960

Wow.

482

00:29:59,960 --> 00:30:03,960

Look at that. Genuine piece of aid right there.

483

00:30:03,960 --> 00:30:05,960

That is something.

484

00:30:05,960 --> 00:30:08,960

Okay, well now I got treasure fever, so what's the plan now?

485

00:30:08,960 --> 00:30:11,960

Josh, you know, not far from where we are is deep water.

486

00:30:11,960 --> 00:30:12,960

Like how deep?

487

00:30:12,960 --> 00:30:15,960

Oh boy, it can go down almost 3,000 feet.

488

00:30:15,960 --> 00:30:20,960

There was theory that the stern castle of the Marrivia may have bobbed off.

489

00:30:20,960 --> 00:30:23,960

So there's a chance that whole stern castle went down off that shelf?

490

00:30:23,960 --> 00:30:24,960

That's correct.

491

00:30:24,960 --> 00:30:33,960

Just past our excavation site, the shallow Bahama bank drops into a deep ocean abyss where scuba

divers can't reach.

492

00:30:33,960 --> 00:30:38,960

When the Marrivias wrecked, the aft section broke off and floated away before sinking,

493

00:30:38,960 --> 00:30:41,960

and despite much searching, has never been found.

494

00:30:41,960 --> 00:30:45,960

It's therefore theorized that it may have settled in these deep waters,

495

00:30:45,960 --> 00:30:49,960

taking the golden Madonna and countless millions with her.

496

00:30:49,960 --> 00:30:52,960

Very quickly, it will drop hundreds of feet straight down.

497

00:30:52,960 --> 00:30:54,960

We're not scubaing down to that.

498

00:30:54,960 --> 00:30:57,960

No, we are going to get in the Triton submarine.

499

00:30:57,960 --> 00:30:58,960

We're using the sub.

500

00:30:58,960 --> 00:30:59,960

We are, sir.

501

00:30:59,960 --> 00:31:00,960

We're using the sub.

502

00:31:03,960 --> 00:31:05,960

Hey, swing it.

503

00:31:05,960 --> 00:31:11,960

This is the Triton 3300, one of the safest and most advanced subs on the planet.

504

00:31:11,960 --> 00:31:16,960

With an array of thrusters with dynamic vectoring, the sub is highly maneuverable.

505

00:31:16,960 --> 00:31:17,960

Everybody careful.

506

00:31:17,960 --> 00:31:19,960

16,000 pounds.

507

00:31:20,960 --> 00:31:26,960

Its nine-inch thick acrylic pressure sphere can withstand depths of more than 3,000 feet

508

00:31:26,960 --> 00:31:29,960

and can stay down for up to 12 hours.

509

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

Let's go find a wreck.

510

00:31:39,960 --> 00:31:42,960

Piloting this mission is Captain Montana, Monty McKinnon,

511

00:31:42,960 --> 00:31:46,960

which is officially the greatest name for a sub pilot ever.

512

00:31:46,960 --> 00:31:48,960

I'm ready for thruster checks.

513

00:31:48,960 --> 00:31:51,960

Let me know when I am clear to test.

514

00:31:51,960 --> 00:31:53,960

A surface support boat shuttles us over.

515

00:31:53,960 --> 00:32:00,960

The axis will follow us topside, using acoustic live tracking to monitor our position once we submerge.

516

00:32:01,960 --> 00:32:03,960

All right, bibs coming off.

517

00:32:03,960 --> 00:32:04,960

Going down.

518

00:32:04,960 --> 00:32:07,960

Clear to open my vents and start my dive.

519

00:32:07,960 --> 00:32:11,960

In your hatches secure, you are clear to vent and dive, dive, dive.

520

00:32:11,960 --> 00:32:12,960

Here we go.

521

00:32:20,960 --> 00:32:21,960

Unbelievable.

522

00:32:22,960 --> 00:32:24,960

Down into the abyss.

523

00:32:31,960 --> 00:32:33,960

Okay, down we go.

524

00:32:33,960 --> 00:32:35,960

Boy, this beats all the scuba gear.

525

00:32:35,960 --> 00:32:38,960

Yeah, I mean, forget the 100 pounds on your back.

526

00:32:38,960 --> 00:32:45,960

We quickly drop down 40 feet to the edge of the shallow Bahama bank and start searching for debris.

527

00:32:45,960 --> 00:32:50,960

So basically we're keeping our eyes open for anything, anything human made out here, right?

528

00:32:50,960 --> 00:32:51,960

The kind of stuff we were seeing back at the site.

529

00:32:51,960 --> 00:32:52,960

Pottery.

530

00:32:52,960 --> 00:32:54,960

The ship could be anywhere here.

531

00:32:54,960 --> 00:32:55,960

Right?

532

00:33:01,960 --> 00:33:08,960

We crawl along the bottom, monitoring the onboard sonar and scanning for any signs of a debris trail.

533

00:33:09,960 --> 00:33:12,960

I mean, this is like another world down here.

534

00:33:18,960 --> 00:33:20,960

So we're starting to see that drop here, Carl.

535

00:33:20,960 --> 00:33:21,960

Yeah.

536

00:33:21,960 --> 00:33:24,960

We ease our way toward the ledge.

537

00:33:24,960 --> 00:33:29,960

Just beyond lies the deep ocean and the more predatory waters of the Bahamas.

538

00:33:29,960 --> 00:33:31,960

Oh, look right over there.

539

00:33:31,960 --> 00:33:32,960

Big shark out there.

540

00:33:32,960 --> 00:33:33,960

Right there.

541

00:33:41,960 --> 00:33:42,960

That's a bull shark.

542

00:33:42,960 --> 00:33:43,960

Is it a bull?

543

00:33:43,960 --> 00:33:44,960

Yeah.

544

00:33:44,960 --> 00:33:46,960

And they're like curious ones.

545

00:33:46,960 --> 00:33:49,960

They come in and dart in and out.

546

00:33:50,960 --> 00:33:53,960

And that curiosity sometimes gets them into trouble.

547

00:33:53,960 --> 00:33:58,960

Bull sharks are responsible for more than 100 attacks on humans every year.

548

00:33:58,960 --> 00:34:02,960

You did install the electric shock plating on the outside of this thing.

549

00:34:02,960 --> 00:34:03,960

Just turn on the force field.

550

00:34:03,960 --> 00:34:04,960

Perfect.

551

00:34:05,960 --> 00:34:11,960

Despite having the strongest bite force of any shark, we're perfectly safe from this big bull inside the sub.

552

00:34:13,960 --> 00:34:21,960

We continue to descend along the ledge, heading into deeper and darker waters, where less sunlight from the surface is able to penetrate.

553

00:34:21,960 --> 00:34:31,960

Carl's team believes these trenches just beyond the known wreckage zone could be harboring the never found stern castle of the Maravillas for one very simple reason.

554

00:34:31,960 --> 00:34:38,960

Okay, and as we pass about this point, you're going to see stuff no humans ever seen because this is about below the diving depth.

555

00:34:38,960 --> 00:34:39,960

How about that?

556

00:34:39,960 --> 00:34:42,960

The idea that we might be seeing a few here that nobody's seen before.

557

00:34:52,960 --> 00:34:54,960

220 feet.

558

00:34:54,960 --> 00:34:55,960

220 feet down.

559

00:34:55,960 --> 00:34:57,960

220 feet down.

560

00:34:57,960 --> 00:34:58,960

Yeah.

561

00:34:58,960 --> 00:35:03,960

Monty navigates the trench using careful thruster bursts and onboard sonar to scan ahead.

562

00:35:03,960 --> 00:35:09,960

Josh, you can see if a ship was to land on this, it's just going to tumble right down.

563

00:35:09,960 --> 00:35:10,960

Totally.

564

00:35:10,960 --> 00:35:15,960

We think the stern section with most of the silver on it, bobbed off somewhere like a half can of beer.

565

00:35:18,960 --> 00:35:20,960

A lot of sand, a lot of coral.

566

00:35:20,960 --> 00:35:21,960

Yeah.

567

00:35:21,960 --> 00:35:22,960

So far nothing else though.

568

00:35:22,960 --> 00:35:23,960

Nothing yet.

569

00:35:23,960 --> 00:35:26,960

It's just that sometimes this deep search is hard, you know.

570

00:35:30,960 --> 00:35:32,960

Something weird there.

571

00:35:32,960 --> 00:35:34,960

It's what that lead plating looks like.

572

00:35:36,960 --> 00:35:37,960

But I don't know.

573

00:35:37,960 --> 00:35:40,960

The feeding there at the bottom of the ship, almost it does.

574

00:35:40,960 --> 00:35:47,960

The Marvious was covered in a thin layer of lead below the waterline to protect the hull from

shipworms.

575

00:35:47,960 --> 00:35:50,960

Any lead plating down here would be a smoking gun.

576

00:35:50,960 --> 00:35:52,960

Oh, this is it right here.

577

00:35:52,960 --> 00:35:54,960

Yeah, we got to go down this a little ways.

578

00:35:58,960 --> 00:36:01,960

I think it's, I don't know, I think it's organic, I think it's like a leaf.

579

00:36:01,960 --> 00:36:02,960

Yeah.

580

00:36:02,960 --> 00:36:05,960

You can see how it's moving, that's organic for sure.

581

00:36:05,960 --> 00:36:07,960

Damn, it looked like metal.

582

00:36:07,960 --> 00:36:09,960

So close.

583

00:36:10,960 --> 00:36:16,960

We continue to drop down deeper and deeper, carefully scanning the trench for any evidence of wreckage.

584

00:36:23,960 --> 00:36:25,960

We just hit 400 feet, Josh.

585

00:36:25,960 --> 00:36:26,960

I think this is the deepest you've been.

586

00:36:26,960 --> 00:36:27,960

Yeah, for sure.

587

00:36:27,960 --> 00:36:31,960

This is, I have to say, such a thrill.

588

00:36:31,960 --> 00:36:34,960

I mean, it's, this is insane, Carl.

589

00:36:34,960 --> 00:36:40,960

At 400 feet, we're in the Mesopelagic Zone, also known as the Twilight Zone.

590

00:36:40,960 --> 00:36:42,960

Sunlight doesn't reach these depths.

591

00:36:42,960 --> 00:36:46,960

We're venturing into an alien world of total darkness.

592

00:36:46,960 --> 00:36:49,960

Only a handful of people ever get to see this.

593

00:36:49,960 --> 00:36:53,960

But unfortunately, our visit to this dark realm doesn't last long.

594

00:36:53,960 --> 00:36:55,960

Copy abort dive.

595

00:36:58,960 --> 00:37:03,960

Okay, they want us to come up because it is current that we're getting pushed sort of down and along the wall.

596

00:37:03,960 --> 00:37:06,960

Yeah, they're having the same thing up top.

597

00:37:06,960 --> 00:37:11,960

With the current picking up, we're drifting farther and farther from the fleet.

598

00:37:11,960 --> 00:37:17,960

To avoid becoming hopelessly lost at sea, our little yellow submarine makes its way topside.

599

00:37:19,960 --> 00:37:21,960

We go to the surface.

600

00:37:30,960 --> 00:37:31,960

Amazing.

601

00:37:31,960 --> 00:37:38,960

While Carl, Monty and I were exploring deep water in the sub, the rest of the team continued to follow the debris trail.

602

00:37:38,960 --> 00:37:43,960

And after getting strong hits on the magnetometer, they've identified a new site.

603

00:37:43,960 --> 00:37:50,960

They've redeployed Sea Reaper and unleashed her mailbox blowers just north of the area where we found the coins.

604

00:37:50,960 --> 00:37:52,960

So we head back out to meet them.

605

00:37:52,960 --> 00:37:54,960

Back at it, here we go.

606

00:37:57,960 --> 00:37:58,960

Right here.

607

00:37:58,960 --> 00:37:59,960

Right now.

608

00:37:59,960 --> 00:38:00,960

Right here.

609

00:38:00,960 --> 00:38:01,960

Right now.

610

00:38:01,960 --> 00:38:02,960

Right here.

611

00:38:02,960 --> 00:38:03,960

Right now.

612

00:38:03,960 --> 00:38:04,960

Right here.

613

00:38:04,960 --> 00:38:05,960

Right now.

614

00:38:05,960 --> 00:38:06,960

Let's do this.

615

00:38:08,960 --> 00:38:15,960

We rendezvous with the Reaper, but with a forecast for stormy weather and the current getting even stronger, we're going to have to be cautious.

616

00:38:15,960 --> 00:38:17,960

We have some trouble, we have current.

617

00:38:17,960 --> 00:38:20,960

It's on the surface, it'll carry you a mile away from the boat.

618

00:38:20,960 --> 00:38:24,960

As soon as you get in, you want to pull onto the tagline and get down as quick as possible.

619

00:38:24,960 --> 00:38:25,960

Down to the bottom.

620

00:38:25,960 --> 00:38:26,960

Down to the bottom.

621

00:38:26,960 --> 00:38:27,960

Okay.

622

00:38:27,960 --> 00:38:28,960

You ready to dive?

623

00:38:28,960 --> 00:38:29,960

You ready?

624

00:38:37,960 --> 00:38:40,960

We gear up and it's go time.

625

00:38:44,960 --> 00:38:48,960

I drop down beneath the waves before the swift current can rip me out to sea.

626

00:38:48,960 --> 00:38:51,960

Josh, for top side, come in.

627

00:38:51,960 --> 00:38:52,960

Yeah, go ahead, Josh.

628

00:38:52,960 --> 00:38:54,960

Okay, Kong, sound good.

629

00:38:54,960 --> 00:38:56,960

We are headed down the line.

630

00:38:56,960 --> 00:38:57,960

Okay, got you.

631

00:38:57,960 --> 00:38:59,960

Stand by up here.

632

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

The captain will closely monitor the weather.

633

00:39:03,960 --> 00:39:10,960

Meanwhile, 30 feet down, a team of divers has already started to scour the newly exposed search zone.

634

00:39:10,960 --> 00:39:12,960

So, same sort procedure.

635

00:39:12,960 --> 00:39:17,960

We got to check at top to bottom, visual first, and then metal detectors.

636

00:39:17,960 --> 00:39:18,960

Copy that.

637

00:39:19,960 --> 00:39:30,960

Artifacts may have settled in the nooks and crannies of the long dead reef, but we also have to investigate the sandy edge of the crater created by the blowers.

638

00:39:35,960 --> 00:39:39,960

We divide and conquer, leaving no stone unturned.

639

00:39:48,960 --> 00:39:50,960

Hey, Josh, come look at this.

640

00:39:55,960 --> 00:39:56,960

Is that wood?

641

00:39:56,960 --> 00:39:59,960

Yeah, that's part of the hull of the Maravi.

642

00:39:59,960 --> 00:40:02,960

This is an actual part of the ship.

643

00:40:02,960 --> 00:40:03,960

That's right.

644

00:40:03,960 --> 00:40:04,960

Oh, my word.

645

00:40:04,960 --> 00:40:07,960

I didn't think we would see this.

646

00:40:08,960 --> 00:40:14,960

When the Maravias wrecked, more than 600 souls were lost.

647

00:40:14,960 --> 00:40:20,960

Some survivors clung to timbers like this, holding on for hours until they were rescued.

648

00:40:20,960 --> 00:40:28,960

But what part of the ship is this from, and could it be part of the stern castle where the wealthiest passengers kept their fortunes?

649

00:40:40,960 --> 00:40:42,960

Oh, wait, went to something there. Hold on.

650

00:40:43,960 --> 00:40:44,960

What was that? I just saw...

651

00:40:45,960 --> 00:40:48,960

Oh, look at this. Jim, Jim, come here for a second.

652

00:40:52,960 --> 00:40:54,960

Jim, look at that. Look at that blue.

653

00:40:54,960 --> 00:40:57,960

Oh, wow. Josh, that's a fragment of porcelain you got right there.

654

00:40:57,960 --> 00:41:00,960

So this is like actual Chinese porcelain?

655

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

Absolutely.

656

00:41:01,960 --> 00:41:03,960

And it's incredible.

657

00:41:04,960 --> 00:41:08,960

And all this sand, a little piece of beautiful artwork almost, right here.

658

00:41:08,960 --> 00:41:09,960

Absolutely.

659

00:41:09,960 --> 00:41:12,960

And items like this, these are status items, right?

660

00:41:12,960 --> 00:41:18,960

No, none of the social classes except the highest class would have had access to this.

661

00:41:18,960 --> 00:41:22,960

This really could be like from the captain's cabin. Yes, it could.

662

00:41:22,960 --> 00:41:24,960

It could be right from the captain's cabin.

663

00:41:25,960 --> 00:41:30,960

Admiral Don Matias to Oriana himself may have dined on this China.

664

00:41:30,960 --> 00:41:33,960

We may be on to something awesome.

665

00:41:34,960 --> 00:41:37,960

Hey, Josh, I got a coin here.

666

00:41:37,960 --> 00:41:40,960

Nice work, Jim. That's a beauty.

667

00:41:43,960 --> 00:41:47,960

In quick succession, we find one coin after another.

668

00:41:51,960 --> 00:41:53,960

Jim, I got another one.

669

00:41:54,960 --> 00:41:56,960

I've got a bunch of coins here.

670

00:41:56,960 --> 00:42:00,960

Look at that. Coins, four coins.

671

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

Coins, four coins. Oh, my word.

672

00:42:04,960 --> 00:42:07,960

There are coins everywhere down here.

673

00:42:07,960 --> 00:42:11,960

Spanish Silver seems to be hiding everywhere we look.

674

00:42:11,960 --> 00:42:16,960

The jackpot keeps paying out, leaving us literally breathless.

675

00:42:16,960 --> 00:42:21,960

Hey, Josh, I'm getting a little low on here. Let's head to the top and check out what we have.

676

00:42:21,960 --> 00:42:26,960

I got a few minutes left on this tank. I'm going to do one more pass.

677

00:42:26,960 --> 00:42:28,960

Copy that. See you, TomSci.

678

00:42:31,960 --> 00:42:35,960

Counting the seconds, we continue to scan.

679

00:42:35,960 --> 00:42:38,960

The metal detectors are eerily silent.

680

00:42:40,960 --> 00:42:44,960

But not all that glitters in these depths is gold.

681

00:42:47,960 --> 00:42:50,960

You find something? What do you got?

682

00:42:51,960 --> 00:42:53,960

Holy s***!

683

00:43:01,960 --> 00:43:05,960

The Explorer's Club flag we're carrying has been all over the world.

684

00:43:05,960 --> 00:43:08,960

This isn't even the first time it's been underwater.

685

00:43:08,960 --> 00:43:12,960

This has been Titanic, Britannic, and now headed down to the wreck of the Marvia.

686

00:43:12,960 --> 00:43:14,960

How about that?

687

00:43:14,960 --> 00:43:16,960

This is incredible.

688

00:43:16,960 --> 00:43:21,960

The Triton Submarine has sonar, independent thrusters, and even the upgraded audio package.

689

00:43:24,960 --> 00:43:27,960

This is the most civilized submarine I've ever been in.

690

00:43:28,960 --> 00:43:32,960

The music sets the perfect mood for me to ruin.

691

00:43:32,960 --> 00:43:35,960

Twenty thousand leagues. I never see.

692

00:43:35,960 --> 00:43:38,960

That's one of the movies that got me into this.

693

00:43:38,960 --> 00:43:41,960

Me too. I'm not a civilized man, Professor.

694

00:43:41,960 --> 00:43:44,960

That's my James Mason. It's not great, but keep de nemo.

695

00:43:44,960 --> 00:43:48,960

That's my Peter Lorre. I could do the whole cast, really. None of it well.

696

00:43:54,960 --> 00:43:56,960

Oh my God, look at that!

697

00:43:57,960 --> 00:43:59,960

Are you kidding me?

698

00:43:59,960 --> 00:44:04,960

Seeking treasure in the depths of the Caribbean, we may have just struck Paydirt.

699

00:44:04,960 --> 00:44:07,960

Is that what I think it is?

700

00:44:09,960 --> 00:44:12,960

Josh to topside. Come in. Carl, you're there.

701

00:44:12,960 --> 00:44:14,960

Yeah, go ahead, Josh.

702

00:44:14,960 --> 00:44:17,960

Man, we got something special for you down here, buddy.

703

00:44:17,960 --> 00:44:20,960

We're gonna head up. We'll meet you on the side of the boat.

704

00:44:20,960 --> 00:44:23,960

Oh, come on. Don't tease me. Get up here.

705

00:44:23,960 --> 00:44:25,960

We'll be right up. Stand by.

706

00:44:25,960 --> 00:44:27,960

Copy that. We'll be waiting.

707

00:44:34,960 --> 00:44:38,960

I hold on tight to the prize as I make my way to the surface.

708

00:44:38,960 --> 00:44:42,960

If this is what I think it is, we may be on to something huge.

709

00:44:47,960 --> 00:44:49,960

Woo! Oh, amazing!

710

00:44:49,960 --> 00:44:52,960

Good day. Amazing. Carl, I got some presents for you.

711

00:44:52,960 --> 00:44:54,960

You ready? Yes.

712

00:44:56,960 --> 00:44:58,960

Oh, yes!

713

00:44:58,960 --> 00:45:00,960

Yes, Alan. Is it? Beautiful.

714

00:45:00,960 --> 00:45:02,960

It's an emerald. That's an emerald, yes.

715

00:45:02,960 --> 00:45:04,960

That is a Colombian emerald off the Marabia.

716

00:45:04,960 --> 00:45:06,960

So that probably came from which mine?

717

00:45:06,960 --> 00:45:08,960

The Muzo mine. Muzo mine. That's in Colombia?

718

00:45:08,960 --> 00:45:12,960

That's in Colombia. That is the most desired mine in the world right there.

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00:45:13,960 --> 00:45:20,960

Located deep in the Andes, Colombia's famed Muzo mine was used by the Inca and other pre-Columbian cultures.

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00:45:20,960 --> 00:45:25,960

Once the conquistadors found it, they christened it Mayne Real, or Royal Mine,

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00:45:25,960 --> 00:45:29,960

producing emeralds so fine they were reserved for royalty.

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00:45:30,960 --> 00:45:34,960

How big do you think that is? I'm going to guess 15, 18 carats. Beautiful. Awesome, guys.

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00:45:34,960 --> 00:45:36,960

An 18 carat emerald.

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00:45:36,960 --> 00:45:43,960

Depending on its color and clarity, an 18 carat emerald could be worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.

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00:45:43,960 --> 00:45:47,960

It's an amazing treasure hall, both in terms of wealth and history.

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00:45:47,960 --> 00:45:50,960

And that would have gone where? Back to Spain to be worthy.

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00:45:50,960 --> 00:45:54,960

Yeah, it would be turned into jewelry back in Spain. Incredible.

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00:45:54,960 --> 00:45:56,960

Yeah, great job.

729

00:45:57,960 --> 00:46:03,960

From emeralds to solid gold statues, unimaginable treasures are still down there.

730

00:46:04,960 --> 00:46:09,960

You talk about trying to find this stern castle, getting into this part of the ship where some of the most valuable stuff might be.

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00:46:09,960 --> 00:46:14,960

Finding an emerald certainly would have been in that part of the ship, so you guys might be close.

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00:46:14,960 --> 00:46:16,960

Hard to believe that would be in the bow.

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00:46:16,960 --> 00:46:18,960

Yeah, it would be really hard.

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00:46:18,960 --> 00:46:20,960

Yeah, well, just fantastic, Josh. Congratulations.

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00:46:20,960 --> 00:46:22,960

Unbelievable.

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00:46:22,960 --> 00:46:24,960

Look at that. That's beautiful.

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00:46:24,960 --> 00:46:26,960

Hey, excellent.

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00:46:26,960 --> 00:46:28,960

Very good job. Very good job.

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00:46:28,960 --> 00:46:30,960

Carl, you don't mind if I just live out here with you?

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00:46:30,960 --> 00:46:32,960

Just go on, Josh. Get back down there and go find something.

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00:46:32,960 --> 00:46:33,960

You got work for me, right?

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00:46:33,960 --> 00:46:35,960

Yes, sure. You're tired.

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00:46:35,960 --> 00:46:36,960

Guys.

744

00:46:36,960 --> 00:46:37,960

God, that's beautiful.

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00:46:37,960 --> 00:46:38,960

Woo!

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00:46:38,960 --> 00:46:41,960

All right, anybody needs to be able to speak back in the bottom of the ocean.

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00:46:41,960 --> 00:46:42,960

Good luck down here.

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00:46:46,960 --> 00:46:49,960

More than 350 years after she wrecked,

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00:46:49,960 --> 00:46:56,960

Nuestra Señora de las Maravillas, our Lady of Wonders, is still giving up her secrets.

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00:46:57,960 --> 00:47:02,960

The promise of untold riches is a deadly lure, and it always has been.

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00:47:04,960 --> 00:47:09,960

Colonial Spain's unbridled greed for silver and gold was, at least in this case,

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00:47:09,960 --> 00:47:15,960

repaid in kind by an unforgiving sea, and perhaps the hands of fate.

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00:47:16,960 --> 00:47:22,960

Centuries of salvagers have since made countless attempts to find and pillage the wreck,

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00:47:22,960 --> 00:47:25,960

but this time it's different.

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00:47:25,960 --> 00:47:29,960

To quote Indiana Jones, that belongs in a museum,

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00:47:29,960 --> 00:47:32,960

and that's just where these treasures will go.

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00:47:32,960 --> 00:47:38,960

The coins, emerald, and key we found are all undergoing restoration for public display.

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00:47:38,960 --> 00:47:43,960

This time, everyone will be able to profit from these discoveries.

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00:47:43,960 --> 00:47:48,960

Alan Exploration will continue to work this site for years to come,

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00:47:48,960 --> 00:47:51,960

sharing their finds with the world.

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00:47:51,960 --> 00:47:55,960

Who knows what wonders still lie in the depths?