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On this episode of Expedition X, my team treks deep inside the longest cave system in the world.

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It is over 400 miles long.

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00:00:10,000 --> 00:00:12,000

So this is the edge of the map right here.

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00:00:12,000 --> 00:00:13,000

That is a steep drop.

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00:00:13,000 --> 00:00:17,000

To investigate 5,000 years of strange phenomena.

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There's places that we really shouldn't go.

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00:00:19,000 --> 00:00:21,000

A shadowy figure.

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00:00:21,000 --> 00:00:23,000

This is exactly where it was.

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00:00:23,000 --> 00:00:26,000

And a paranormal force that's claiming victims.

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00:00:26,000 --> 00:00:28,000

They completely disappeared.

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00:00:28,000 --> 00:00:31,000

I just saw something pass right in front of my face.

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

I want to get out of here.

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

Out of the shadows comes this presence.

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00:00:34,000 --> 00:00:35,000

What is that?

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00:00:35,000 --> 00:00:37,000

It's like going cave crazy.

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00:00:37,000 --> 00:00:38,000

This isn't good.

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00:00:38,000 --> 00:00:39,000

We've got to get out of here right now.

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00:00:39,000 --> 00:00:41,000

Water's coming in. Let's go.

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00:00:42,000 --> 00:00:43,000

Holy f***!

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00:00:45,000 --> 00:00:48,000

My name is Josh Gates.

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00:00:48,000 --> 00:00:55,000

In my travels, I've experienced strange things that defy logic and made me question everything.

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00:00:55,000 --> 00:00:56,000

Oh my God.

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00:00:56,000 --> 00:01:01,000

Now, I've put together a team to investigate the stranger side of the unknown.

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00:01:01,000 --> 00:01:02,000

Let's go!

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00:01:03,000 --> 00:01:07,000

Phil Torres is a scientist who hunts for rational explanations.

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00:01:07,000 --> 00:01:08,000

I'm a criminal.

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00:01:08,000 --> 00:01:09,000

I'm actually found.

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00:01:09,000 --> 00:01:10,000

I'm still.

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00:01:10,000 --> 00:01:15,000

Jessica Chobot's paranormal research has made her a true believer.

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00:01:15,000 --> 00:01:18,000

There is a monster living in this forest.

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00:01:18,000 --> 00:01:19,000

Phil, Phil, Phil.

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00:01:19,000 --> 00:01:20,000

I just saw something right across.

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00:01:20,000 --> 00:01:22,000

Together, we're searching for answers.

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00:01:22,000 --> 00:01:24,000

What is that?

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00:01:24,000 --> 00:01:28,000

To the world's most extraordinary mysteries.

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This is Expedition X.

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One of the things that people ask me all the time is,

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00:01:38,000 --> 00:01:40,000

haven't we explored everything?

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Haven't we mapped everything?

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Haven't we been everywhere at this point?

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And of course, the answer is, no.

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Take the Amazon rainforest, for example.

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Over a billion acres and huge areas of it have not been explored a modern times.

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For example, this area called Vale do Javari in Brazil.

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There are over a dozen uncontacted tribes living there today.

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Yeah, and I think a lot of people have the tendency to just think of land.

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00:02:03,000 --> 00:02:05,000

I mean, I always think of the ocean.

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It's huge.

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We've just started exploring the depths of it.

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00:02:09,000 --> 00:02:12,000

We're finding new species living there all the time.

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00:02:12,000 --> 00:02:15,000

So, you know, who's to say what else we might find?

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00:02:15,000 --> 00:02:20,000

And in fact, the topic of unexplored places is really at the heart of today's case.

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00:02:20,000 --> 00:02:24,000

So, a few weeks ago, I received a message from a guy named Mark Wenner.

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Now, Mark is a caving expert.

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00:02:26,000 --> 00:02:28,000

He has explored caves all over the world.

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00:02:28,000 --> 00:02:31,000

He lectures around the world on caves and cave safety.

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00:02:31,000 --> 00:02:35,000

And in particular, he has spent thousands of hours in a place called Mammoth Cave.

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So, you may know Mammoth Cave.

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This is in Kentucky.

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00:02:37,000 --> 00:02:40,000

It is actually the longest cave system in the world.

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Now, Mark knows his stuff.

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00:02:42,000 --> 00:02:47,000

This guy is a real deal expert, which is why I was so surprised to hear about his team's

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00:02:47,000 --> 00:02:49,000

recent experience down in the cave.

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00:02:50,000 --> 00:02:53,000

We've been mapping Mammoth Cave for 14 years.

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Initially, the first couple trips were pretty standard operation.

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The second or third trip, though, we experienced some things that were very unexplainable.

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00:03:04,000 --> 00:03:10,000

Measuring 420 miles and counting, the Mammoth Cave in central Kentucky was inhabited by

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00:03:10,000 --> 00:03:14,000

Native Americans starting about 4,000 years ago.

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00:03:15,000 --> 00:03:21,000

They used the caves as shelter and for burial rituals, a spiritual realm where they could

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00:03:21,000 --> 00:03:23,000

commune with the dead.

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00:03:23,000 --> 00:03:28,000

Then, about 2,000 years ago, they suddenly abandoned the caves.

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00:03:29,000 --> 00:03:34,000

Some descendants say their ancestors were driven away by ancient spirits deep within

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00:03:34,000 --> 00:03:35,000

the darkness.

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00:03:35,000 --> 00:03:41,000

A more conventional explanation is that changes in climate drove game animals away, and the

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00:03:42,000 --> 00:03:44,000

people followed the food.

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00:03:44,000 --> 00:03:50,000

Whatever the reasons for their abrupt departure, Mammoth Cave remains a place of mystery.

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In the past few centuries, there have been numerous deaths and disappearances, and many

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00:03:55,000 --> 00:03:58,000

claims of paranormal activity.

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00:03:59,000 --> 00:04:04,000

In the deepest uncharted parts of the cave, people have reported feeling like they were

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00:04:04,000 --> 00:04:08,000

stalked and even touched by a menacing, shadowy figure.

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00:04:08,000 --> 00:04:14,000

While many chalk up such reports to colorful legend and lore, others, including cave experts

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00:04:14,000 --> 00:04:21,000

like Mark, disagree, having experienced this terrifying presence firsthand.

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00:04:22,000 --> 00:04:29,000

So the four of us were walking down the passage, and out of the shadows comes this presence.

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00:04:30,000 --> 00:04:35,000

It's the only way that I can explain it.

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00:04:35,000 --> 00:04:38,000

It was as real as the guys standing next to me.

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00:04:38,000 --> 00:04:43,000

In fact, so much so that I had to turn to see if one of those guys had walked behind me.

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00:04:43,000 --> 00:04:47,000

So I said, you guys feel that person that just entered our party?

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00:04:47,000 --> 00:04:50,000

And Matt, who was on the end, said, absolutely.

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00:04:53,000 --> 00:04:54,000

Really strange stuff.

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00:04:54,000 --> 00:05:02,000

Now, I've spent a lot of time in caves over the years, and look, they are extremely strange, mysterious worlds.

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00:05:02,000 --> 00:05:04,000

I mean, this is quite literally the underworld.

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00:05:04,000 --> 00:05:07,000

Wow. It is spectacular in here.

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00:05:07,000 --> 00:05:10,000

But this is something I've never experienced.

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00:05:10,000 --> 00:05:12,000

No, this is the next level.

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00:05:12,000 --> 00:05:14,000

I mean, I definitely have heard of Mammoth Cave before.

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00:05:14,000 --> 00:05:21,000

A lot of people have reported shadow figures, strange sounds, and like obviously even Mark

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00:05:21,000 --> 00:05:25,000

and his team experienced some sort of presence down there.

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00:05:25,000 --> 00:05:28,000

So all of that stuff combined, I don't think you can dismiss it.

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00:05:28,000 --> 00:05:30,000

To me, that's very much worth investigating.

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00:05:30,000 --> 00:05:31,000

Phil, what do you think?

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00:05:31,000 --> 00:05:37,000

Caves are the exact type of place you'd expect a story like this to kind of come alive.

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00:05:37,000 --> 00:05:39,000

They are incredibly dark.

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00:05:39,000 --> 00:05:40,000

They are disorienting.

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00:05:40,000 --> 00:05:46,000

And throughout history, people all over the world have always looked at them as mystical or portal

to the other side.

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00:05:46,000 --> 00:05:53,000

So to me, it's no surprise that people would think a deep dark cave is haunted or has something living in it,

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00:05:53,000 --> 00:05:58,000

but it does give me pause when a caving expert like Mark has a story like that.

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00:05:58,000 --> 00:06:03,000

Right. This is a really credible guy and part of a team of scientists, right?

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

This isn't just one person having an experience.

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00:06:06,000 --> 00:06:07,000

So the mission is simple.

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00:06:07,000 --> 00:06:12,000

What's going on in Mammoth Cave that has these scientists so spooked?

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00:06:12,000 --> 00:06:14,000

Or is nothing going on?

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00:06:14,000 --> 00:06:18,000

Is it nothing more than campfire stories and folklore?

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00:06:18,000 --> 00:06:24,000

So to find out, I'm going to have you join Mark on his next mission to an uncharted section of the cave.

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00:06:24,000 --> 00:06:25,000

You up for it?

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00:06:25,000 --> 00:06:26,000

Absolutely.

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00:06:26,000 --> 00:06:27,000

Let's go caving.

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00:06:27,000 --> 00:06:34,000

Jessica and Phil make the 800-mile drive from the big city to Cave City, Kentucky.

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00:06:34,000 --> 00:06:41,000

Here, beneath the tree-lined streets and country stores, this small city hides a secret.

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00:06:41,000 --> 00:06:43,000

The longest cave system in the world.

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00:06:43,000 --> 00:06:49,000

What do you think you would do if you actually had something you couldn't explain happen to you?

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00:06:49,000 --> 00:06:52,000

I would have somebody check the oxygen reading.

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00:06:52,000 --> 00:06:58,000

I would assume that we're in an area of the cave where, like, there's some other gas and so you're starting to trip.

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00:06:58,000 --> 00:07:05,000

What I'm really excited about is what Josh was saying, where there is still exploring left to be done.

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00:07:05,000 --> 00:07:08,000

And I don't like exploring just for the sake of saying, I've been there.

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00:07:08,000 --> 00:07:13,000

This is exploring for science, to document something, to map something no one's ever done before.

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00:07:13,000 --> 00:07:18,000

So I love that bigger contribution to what we're adding to solving the mystery here.

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00:07:18,000 --> 00:07:24,000

And I think it's really, really cool that we're going into a section of the caves that have never been gone into.

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00:07:24,000 --> 00:07:25,000

Oh, yeah.

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00:07:26,000 --> 00:07:35,000

To date, the Mammoth Cave System has 25 known entrances that are spread out over 82 square miles of Kentucky.

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00:07:35,000 --> 00:07:40,000

Phil and Jess are headed to this one, nine miles to the west of Cave City.

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00:07:40,000 --> 00:07:44,000

They're here to meet with Mark Wenner's colleague, Dr. Pat Cambesis.

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00:07:44,000 --> 00:07:45,000

Hi.

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00:07:45,000 --> 00:07:46,000

Good to meet you.

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00:07:46,000 --> 00:07:47,000

Good to meet you.

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00:07:47,000 --> 00:07:53,000

Pat teaches Geographic Information System Mapping, or GIS, at Western Kentucky University.

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00:07:53,000 --> 00:08:01,000

She also runs Kentucky's Cave Research Foundation and has personally explored and mapped caves all over the world.

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00:08:01,000 --> 00:08:04,000

Welcome to Mammoth Cave, longest cave in the world.

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00:08:04,000 --> 00:08:09,000

It is over 400 miles long, but you understand that's not like 400 miles on a straight line, right?

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00:08:09,000 --> 00:08:10,000

Yeah.

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00:08:10,000 --> 00:08:13,000

It's like 400 miles stacked on like five levels.

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00:08:13,000 --> 00:08:19,000

Geologists estimate that the origins of the cave system date back 15 million years,

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00:08:19,000 --> 00:08:24,000

to when the Green River carved its way through a thick cap of sandstone below,

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00:08:24,000 --> 00:08:28,000

exposing a 600-foot layer of soft limestone.

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00:08:28,000 --> 00:08:33,000

Over the course of the next 10 million years, flowing water hollowed out the stone,

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00:08:33,000 --> 00:08:39,000

creating a labyrinth of stacked subterranean passages that are still being mapped to this day.

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00:08:39,000 --> 00:08:41,000

Let's go see some cave.

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00:08:41,000 --> 00:08:42,000

Alright, thanks.

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00:08:46,000 --> 00:08:47,000

Whoa.

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00:08:48,000 --> 00:08:49,000

Wow.

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00:08:59,000 --> 00:09:03,000

So what was the cave like before all the modern construction?

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00:09:03,000 --> 00:09:06,000

Well, it was a lot more rugged than what you see now.

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

The original Native Americans were the explorers.

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00:09:09,000 --> 00:09:15,000

You had to be really ballsy to come in here with cane torches and barefoot.

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00:09:15,000 --> 00:09:21,000

There's no light, so you have to figure that they had to overcome a lot just to come in here.

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00:09:21,000 --> 00:09:25,000

The caves were occupied by ancestors of the Cherokee tribe.

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00:09:25,000 --> 00:09:31,000

They mined the upper three levels of the cave system, seeking minerals such as gypsum and selenite,

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00:09:31,000 --> 00:09:35,000

which were used for trade, rituals, and even medicine.

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00:09:35,000 --> 00:09:41,000

And then after about 2,000 years ago, there isn't a lot of evidence of their activity.

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00:09:41,000 --> 00:09:43,000

So it's like they completely disappeared from here?

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00:09:43,000 --> 00:09:44,000

We don't know.

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00:09:44,000 --> 00:09:45,000

So there's a lot of mystery.

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00:09:45,000 --> 00:09:49,000

I mean, there's a lot of things that we know, but there's a lot of things that we don't know.

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00:09:49,000 --> 00:09:51,000

Did they ever use the cave for burials at all?

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00:09:51,000 --> 00:09:55,000

There have been some mummies found in here, but they didn't mummify them.

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00:09:55,000 --> 00:09:59,000

It's because of the atmosphere of the cave.

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00:09:59,000 --> 00:10:04,000

The consistent temperature and humidity, as well as the salt found in the soil,

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00:10:04,000 --> 00:10:09,000

means that Mammoth Cave is the perfect environment for mummifying a body.

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00:10:09,000 --> 00:10:13,000

Although the exact number of people who have died in Mammoth Cave is unknown,

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00:10:13,000 --> 00:10:18,000

caving experts are certain the number of deaths is vastly under-reported.

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00:10:19,000 --> 00:10:25,000

The bodies of most people who disappear in and around the caves are never found.

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00:10:28,000 --> 00:10:31,000

What are your thoughts on paranormal activity in the cave?

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00:10:31,000 --> 00:10:33,000

Well, first, you know, I'm a scientist.

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00:10:33,000 --> 00:10:39,000

However, I like to keep an open mind, and so I wouldn't totally discount it.

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00:10:39,000 --> 00:10:40,000

I mean, you know...

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00:10:40,000 --> 00:10:42,000

They're my favorite kind of scientists.

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00:10:42,000 --> 00:10:44,000

I'm right here.

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00:10:44,000 --> 00:10:45,000

You need a job.

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00:10:45,000 --> 00:10:47,000

I'm not seeing you just kidding.

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00:10:48,000 --> 00:10:52,000

We've heard reports of people seeing things in here, hearing things in here,

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00:10:52,000 --> 00:10:54,000

chanting or even being pushed,

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00:10:54,000 --> 00:10:57,000

especially when they go into unmapped sections of the cave.

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00:10:57,000 --> 00:11:00,000

So what are your thoughts on that?

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00:11:00,000 --> 00:11:02,000

You know, a lot of it could be psychological.

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00:11:02,000 --> 00:11:07,000

If you stay in the cave long enough, you start to hear things and you start to see things.

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00:11:07,000 --> 00:11:09,000

It's like going cave-crazy.

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00:11:09,000 --> 00:11:10,000

Yeah.

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00:11:10,000 --> 00:11:14,000

Because you're sensory-deprived, your mind starts to play tricks on you.

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00:11:15,000 --> 00:11:18,000

And so maybe you could go a little cave-crazy.

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00:11:18,000 --> 00:11:20,000

It's pretty terrifying, actually.

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00:11:21,000 --> 00:11:28,000

Sensory deprivation can cause anxiety and even hallucinations in as little as 15 minutes.

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00:11:28,000 --> 00:11:34,000

The brain seeks out sensory patterns, and when none exist, it creates its own.

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00:11:36,000 --> 00:11:41,000

Have you had any experience as well down here that you can't really explain?

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00:11:41,000 --> 00:11:42,000

I actually have.

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00:11:45,000 --> 00:11:51,000

I was on a trip where we were down there, and we were just kind of sitting around on this flat rock.

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00:11:51,000 --> 00:11:53,000

And it just kind of got really weird.

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00:11:53,000 --> 00:11:57,000

Like, there was some sort of like, is there somebody here?

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00:11:57,000 --> 00:11:58,000

You know, everybody got that feeling.

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00:11:58,000 --> 00:12:00,000

We got a little bit spooked.

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00:12:01,000 --> 00:12:05,000

And then we started hearing like rock fall, and we're like, ooh.

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00:12:05,000 --> 00:12:07,000

You know, because all of us are here.

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00:12:07,000 --> 00:12:08,000

Yeah.

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00:12:08,000 --> 00:12:11,000

The feeling was too strong, and we're like, okay, we're out of here.

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00:12:11,000 --> 00:12:13,000

So bad enough to scare you out.

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00:12:13,000 --> 00:12:14,000

Oh yeah, we left.

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00:12:14,000 --> 00:12:21,000

In an encounter similar to Mark's, Pat said she too sensed a dark shadow and felt the presence of some type of entity.

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00:12:21,000 --> 00:12:29,000

Whatever is down here seems to have scared this extremely experienced caver enough that she and her team wanted to get out immediately.

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00:12:31,000 --> 00:12:36,000

Tomorrow we'll join Mark and Pat on a two-day expedition to explore unmapped sections of the cave.

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00:12:37,000 --> 00:12:46,000

In the meantime, they've arranged for us to meet with a Native American expert named Braveheart to help us understand the locals' view of what's really happening in Mammoth Cave.

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00:12:50,000 --> 00:12:54,000

She lives in the hills directly above the caverns where her ancestors once lived.

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00:12:54,000 --> 00:13:00,000

Supposedly, if we keep heading west from the stables, we'll find her cabin just past a fresh spring.

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00:13:03,000 --> 00:13:05,000

All right, so there's the spring.

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00:13:05,000 --> 00:13:07,000

We just got to go west, I guess, from there.

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00:13:07,000 --> 00:13:08,000

Keep going west.

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00:13:08,000 --> 00:13:10,000

Run into it eventually.

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00:13:19,000 --> 00:13:20,000

You see that?

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00:13:20,000 --> 00:13:21,000

Yeah.

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00:13:21,000 --> 00:13:30,000

We see smoke rising from a cabin off in the distance, but as we get closer to the hills and the caverns, our horses suddenly seem hesitant to go on.

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00:13:30,000 --> 00:13:31,000

Come on.

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00:13:32,000 --> 00:13:33,000

Come on.

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00:13:34,000 --> 00:13:35,000

Let's go.

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00:13:37,000 --> 00:13:38,000

She's freaked out.

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00:13:38,000 --> 00:13:39,000

Stop.

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00:13:39,000 --> 00:13:40,000

What?

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00:13:40,000 --> 00:13:41,000

Nope, nope, nope, nope, nope, nope.

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00:13:41,000 --> 00:13:42,000

Whoa, whoa, whoa.

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00:13:42,000 --> 00:13:43,000

Whoa, whoa, whoa.

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00:13:43,000 --> 00:13:44,000

We're good.

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00:13:45,000 --> 00:13:50,000

So we tie up our nervous horses and hike the last 50 yards through the woods.

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00:13:57,000 --> 00:14:00,000

I think we have found her.

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00:14:00,000 --> 00:14:02,000

Yeah, look at this place.

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00:14:04,000 --> 00:14:05,000

Hi, Braveheart.

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00:14:05,000 --> 00:14:06,000

Yes.

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00:14:06,000 --> 00:14:08,000

Nice to meet you.

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00:14:08,000 --> 00:14:09,000

Thanks.

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00:14:09,000 --> 00:14:10,000

Phil.

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00:14:10,000 --> 00:14:11,000

Nice to meet you.

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00:14:11,000 --> 00:14:13,000

It's not an easy place to find.

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00:14:13,000 --> 00:14:15,000

You wouldn't have found me a spirit hat in the same year.

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00:14:15,000 --> 00:14:17,000

How long have you lived out here?

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00:14:17,000 --> 00:14:20,000

I've lived here 20 plus years.

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00:14:21,000 --> 00:14:24,000

So from your perspective, what's going on in these caves?

242

00:14:24,000 --> 00:14:27,000

A lot of these caves were used as burials.

243

00:14:27,000 --> 00:14:33,000

There's shamans, there's medicine people that has been buried here long before Europeans ever came to this country.

244

00:14:33,000 --> 00:14:40,000

I believe that in these caves, there is actually a portal to the afterlife.

245

00:14:46,000 --> 00:14:54,000

My team is in Kentucky, investigating reports of mysterious phenomena in the longest cave system in the world.

246

00:14:54,000 --> 00:15:03,000

They've just met up with a local Native American expert who believes that Mammoth Cave connects to the underworld in a very literal way.

247

00:15:03,000 --> 00:15:10,000

I believe that in these caves, there is actually a portal to the afterlife.

248

00:15:11,000 --> 00:15:20,000

The caves beneath this region have historically been a sacred space for tribes like the Cherokee, a place of refuge from the elements,

249

00:15:20,000 --> 00:15:29,000

but also a place where groups conducted mystical funerary rituals, rituals that some believe unleashed powerful unseen forces.

250

00:15:29,000 --> 00:15:38,000

There was a conflict between both sides of the grass, as we call it, the dead and the living, and it became almost a spiritual warfare.

251

00:15:38,000 --> 00:15:46,000

The dead, they want to be alive, and some of them hasn't officially crossed over, so they're jealous and they're angry.

252

00:15:49,000 --> 00:15:55,000

She tells us that the deeper into the cave we go, the closer we get to this spiritual underworld.

253

00:15:55,000 --> 00:16:01,000

For generations, her family has told stories about hearing dead ancestors chanting,

254

00:16:03,000 --> 00:16:06,000

warning of danger in the deepest parts of the cave.

255

00:16:06,000 --> 00:16:13,000

So there are obvious risks of caverns or getting lost or floods and all sorts of danger to us being in there,

256

00:16:13,000 --> 00:16:16,000

but you're saying there's kind of a different type of danger as well.

257

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

Yes, yes.

258

00:16:18,000 --> 00:16:20,000

It's a very real thing.

259

00:16:20,000 --> 00:16:23,000

Okay, there's places that we really shouldn't go.

260

00:16:26,000 --> 00:16:29,000

And you will excuse me when I get emotional.

261

00:16:32,000 --> 00:16:35,000

The places that y'all are possibly going into.

262

00:16:36,000 --> 00:16:38,000

It's not friendly.

263

00:16:39,000 --> 00:16:45,000

There's deaths, murders, these energies kill people.

264

00:16:46,000 --> 00:16:50,000

So I'm going to set you up with things that I want you to go into the cave with.

265

00:16:50,000 --> 00:16:52,000

I wouldn't go without them.

266

00:16:52,000 --> 00:16:58,000

Braveheart leads us to a nearby spot where she conducts a blessing and helps create a protective talisman for me and Phil.

267

00:16:58,000 --> 00:17:00,000

Grandmothers of the North.

268

00:17:00,000 --> 00:17:05,000

She uses a combination of sacred herbs and even a lock of our own hair.

269

00:17:05,000 --> 00:17:07,000

Just a little snap is all you need.

270

00:17:07,000 --> 00:17:08,000

Oh, that's fine.

271

00:17:08,000 --> 00:17:15,000

It's an unusual gift, but considering her description of what's lurking inside the cave, I'm feeling thankful for the gesture.

272

00:17:16,000 --> 00:17:22,000

The next morning we drive back towards the outskirts of town to join the team about to map more of Mammoth Cave.

273

00:17:22,000 --> 00:17:27,000

I'm legit feeling way better going to the caves after getting these bags for protection.

274

00:17:27,000 --> 00:17:29,000

Do you feel protected?

275

00:17:29,000 --> 00:17:30,000

I feel good.

276

00:17:30,000 --> 00:17:34,000

I mean, I think it was a really nice gesture, really very meaningful.

277

00:17:34,000 --> 00:17:39,000

I'm actually really surprised to hear you say that that was like a meaningful visit.

278

00:17:39,000 --> 00:17:41,000

I would have thought you would have been like blah blah blah blah blah.

279

00:17:41,000 --> 00:17:46,000

I'm Phil, I'm a scientist, but instead you're like totally down.

280

00:17:46,000 --> 00:17:52,000

When I hear these stories of the portal or the spirits of the dead in these places, I wonder like what's the seed of truth to it?

281

00:17:52,000 --> 00:17:54,000

What was really happening back then?

282

00:17:54,000 --> 00:18:01,000

There could have been rock slides, there could have been floods, there could have been disease from the dead that they were storing in the caves.

283

00:18:01,000 --> 00:18:08,000

I do think there's a seed of truth there, but what's the paranormal or mythological seed?

284

00:18:08,000 --> 00:18:13,000

Why does it have to be something real?

285

00:18:15,000 --> 00:18:25,000

But I would counter that in regards to the caving team we're going to be meeting up with, they themselves have mentioned weird experiences that they can't explain that they've had in the cave.

286

00:18:25,000 --> 00:18:28,000

They're scientists and yet they're still mentioning this.

287

00:18:28,000 --> 00:18:33,000

So explain that one, see that's what I'm saying, these things are happening and you still turn a blind eye to them.

288

00:18:33,000 --> 00:18:38,000

It's not a blind eye, it's a critical eye, it's a skeptical eye and I just think we need more evidence.

289

00:18:38,000 --> 00:18:41,000

So that's why we're going into the cave to get more evidence.

290

00:18:47,000 --> 00:18:50,000

We're meeting with Josh's contact expert caver Mark Wenner.

291

00:18:50,000 --> 00:18:51,000

Welcome to MAMAS.

292

00:18:51,000 --> 00:18:58,000

He believes that when his team started mapping an unexplored area of the cave, they encountered some type of dark spirit.

293

00:18:58,000 --> 00:19:03,000

Now they're heading even deeper inside and we're joining their expedition.

294

00:19:03,000 --> 00:19:13,000

We're going to camp overnight the first night after traversing some relatively difficult passage and then we're going to end up the second day in this area completely unexplored.

295

00:19:13,000 --> 00:19:15,000

We'll be the first ones in there.

296

00:19:15,000 --> 00:19:21,000

Not only that, but to get there, we'll pass through the area where he experienced the unusual phenomena.

297

00:19:22,000 --> 00:19:28,000

Well part of the reason why we're wanting to go down there is that I also want to do a paranormal investigation.

298

00:19:28,000 --> 00:19:30,000

You had experiences while you've been down there?

299

00:19:30,000 --> 00:19:31,000

Numerous.

300

00:19:31,000 --> 00:19:33,000

So it didn't just happen once.

301

00:19:34,000 --> 00:19:38,000

The last time we, I had an experience, there were three other guys with me.

302

00:19:38,000 --> 00:19:40,000

I felt a presence.

303

00:19:40,000 --> 00:19:42,000

Same exact thing happened.

304

00:19:42,000 --> 00:19:45,000

I just looked at Matt and said, you feel that again?

305

00:19:45,000 --> 00:19:46,000

He says, yep.

306

00:19:46,000 --> 00:19:47,000

All right.

307

00:19:47,000 --> 00:19:55,000

We're eager to get down into the caves, but first we check in with Josh and update him on the various eyewitness accounts we've heard in the field.

308

00:19:55,000 --> 00:19:56,000

Phil, what's your take on this?

309

00:19:56,000 --> 00:19:59,000

As Mr. Science, you are off the map here, my friend.

310

00:19:59,000 --> 00:20:02,000

Talking to all those cavers, they all have years of experience.

311

00:20:02,000 --> 00:20:08,000

They're all very skeptically minded, but they all say something kind of happens to you when you're down there.

312

00:20:08,000 --> 00:20:16,000

Look, when you're in those utterly dark places and those narrow winding tunnels, it is easy to lose

a sense of time and space.

313

00:20:16,000 --> 00:20:18,000

It's complete sensory deprivation.

314

00:20:18,000 --> 00:20:19,000

Into the darkness. You ready?

315

00:20:19,000 --> 00:20:25,000

Things can go sideways pretty quickly, guys, especially if you are moving into unmapped areas of the cave.

316

00:20:25,000 --> 00:20:29,000

Use your eyes and ears as well as the tools that you have, and I'll see you on the other side.

317

00:20:29,000 --> 00:20:30,000

All right.

318

00:20:30,000 --> 00:20:31,000

Sounds good.

319

00:20:31,000 --> 00:20:38,000

We grab our gear and link up with Pat and the rest of Mark's team who will be mapping the unexplored area of the cave.

320

00:20:38,000 --> 00:20:39,000

Let's do it.

321

00:20:39,000 --> 00:20:40,000

Gear up.

322

00:20:40,000 --> 00:20:41,000

All right.

323

00:20:41,000 --> 00:20:49,000

Our plan is to head to the spot where Mark saw the apparition and record any anomalous sounds or heat signatures that we come across.

324

00:20:54,000 --> 00:21:00,000

Before we know it, we're entering a world of darkness and an expedition where anything could happen.

325

00:21:02,000 --> 00:21:05,000

This place is f***ing terrifying.

326

00:21:12,000 --> 00:21:22,000

Phil and Jess are in Kentucky exploring reports that Mammoth Cave, the world's longest cave system, is home to a shadowy paranormal presence.

327

00:21:22,000 --> 00:21:26,000

This place is f***ing terrifying.

328

00:21:26,000 --> 00:21:34,000

They're being led by renowned cave expert Mark Wenner, who himself encountered a ghostly figure deep in this tunnel system.

329

00:21:34,000 --> 00:21:36,000

So you see all the rocks on the floor?

330

00:21:36,000 --> 00:21:37,000

Yeah.

331

00:21:37,000 --> 00:21:38,000

They came from up there.

332

00:21:38,000 --> 00:21:39,000

Wow.

333

00:21:39,000 --> 00:21:41,000

So you see that one sticking right out like a little tooth?

334

00:21:41,000 --> 00:21:42,000

Yeah.

335

00:21:42,000 --> 00:21:43,000

We call it a widow maker.

336

00:21:43,000 --> 00:21:44,000

Wow.

337

00:21:44,000 --> 00:21:47,000

Because if you happen to be standing under it at the wrong time.

338

00:21:47,000 --> 00:21:48,000

Yeah.

339

00:21:48,000 --> 00:21:51,000

We're standing in the perfect place for more of these to fall on us.

340

00:21:51,000 --> 00:21:52,000

Yeah.

341

00:21:52,000 --> 00:21:55,000

By all means, let's continue to have this conversation elsewhere.

342

00:21:55,000 --> 00:22:08,000

The closer we get to the unexplored area, the more treacherous the ground becomes.

343

00:22:08,000 --> 00:22:13,000

One false step could easily result in a serious injury or worse.

344

00:22:13,000 --> 00:22:15,000

Here's a little slide here.

345

00:22:15,000 --> 00:22:16,000

Super slidey?

346

00:22:16,000 --> 00:22:17,000

Super slidey.

347

00:22:17,000 --> 00:22:19,000

It's kind of slippery here, guys.

348

00:22:19,000 --> 00:22:20,000

Okay.

349

00:22:20,000 --> 00:22:21,000

Three points of contact.

350

00:22:22,000 --> 00:22:23,000

Whoa.

351

00:22:23,000 --> 00:22:24,000

Got it.

352

00:22:24,000 --> 00:22:25,000

You good?

353

00:22:25,000 --> 00:22:26,000

You good?

354

00:22:26,000 --> 00:22:27,000

Yeah.

355

00:22:27,000 --> 00:22:28,000

Sit down and slide.

356

00:22:28,000 --> 00:22:29,000

Okay.

357

00:22:29,000 --> 00:22:30,000

Like legit slide.

358

00:22:30,000 --> 00:22:37,000

Let me get back up before you get your big butt down here.

359

00:22:37,000 --> 00:22:43,000

The only entrance to the passageway where Mark said he encountered the spirit is straight down.

360

00:22:43,000 --> 00:22:48,000

We tie a rope to a secure section of rocks and descend into the unknown.

361

00:22:56,000 --> 00:22:57,000

All right.

362

00:22:57,000 --> 00:22:59,000

What's it looking like up here?

363

00:22:59,000 --> 00:23:01,000

Uh, I think you can go through.

364

00:23:01,000 --> 00:23:02,000

Yeah?

365

00:23:02,000 --> 00:23:03,000

Yeah, yeah.

366

00:23:03,000 --> 00:23:04,000

I think so.

367

00:23:04,000 --> 00:23:07,000

Just be really careful where you step.

368

00:23:07,000 --> 00:23:10,000

A lot of people think caving will look like going down a big tunnel.

369

00:23:10,000 --> 00:23:12,000

You take a right or a left and that's caving.

370

00:23:12,000 --> 00:23:15,000

Really, the passageways will look something like this.

371

00:23:19,000 --> 00:23:25,000

As we get farther into the cave, the tunnel curves, and we're suddenly heading up again.

372

00:23:25,000 --> 00:23:30,000

A thin layer of water coats the rocks, creating a slippery mud.

373

00:23:34,000 --> 00:23:36,000

Real careful here.

374

00:23:36,000 --> 00:23:37,000

I know, I'm almost out.

375

00:23:37,000 --> 00:23:40,000

All right, I'm trying to make my way over.

376

00:23:40,000 --> 00:23:42,000

How'd you fit through it?

377

00:23:42,000 --> 00:23:44,000

For a canyon.

378

00:23:48,000 --> 00:23:49,000

All right, I'm up.

379

00:23:49,000 --> 00:23:51,000

That is a steep drop back here.

380

00:23:51,000 --> 00:23:53,000

Yeah, yeah.

381

00:23:53,000 --> 00:23:56,000

See those little footprints that I made in the mud?

382

00:23:56,000 --> 00:23:57,000

Yeah.

383

00:23:57,000 --> 00:24:00,000

Knee and hand crawl all the way up with them, okay?

384

00:24:00,000 --> 00:24:01,000

Okay.

385

00:24:01,000 --> 00:24:03,000

This is real slippery.

386

00:24:03,000 --> 00:24:04,000

Hold on.

387

00:24:04,000 --> 00:24:05,000

Got it?

388

00:24:07,000 --> 00:24:08,000

Ugh.

389

00:24:08,000 --> 00:24:10,000

Woo!

390

00:24:13,000 --> 00:24:16,000

Mark, Pat, and the other two crew members catch up with us

391

00:24:16,000 --> 00:24:19,000

as we continue through this maze of disorienting tunnels.

392

00:24:19,000 --> 00:24:20,000

What's up?

393

00:24:21,000 --> 00:24:23,000

This is where I felt the presence.

394

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

This is exactly where it was.

395

00:24:27,000 --> 00:24:29,000

Came up, out of the shadows there.

396

00:24:33,000 --> 00:24:35,000

And this is where I said, do you guys feel that?

397

00:24:35,000 --> 00:24:37,000

There's a fifth person in our party.

398

00:24:37,000 --> 00:24:39,000

Matt said, absolutely.

399

00:24:39,000 --> 00:24:41,000

Exactly right here.

400

00:24:41,000 --> 00:24:42,000

This was it.

401

00:24:42,000 --> 00:24:43,000

Wow.

402

00:24:43,000 --> 00:24:47,000

I've been caving a long time and I've never felt anything like that before.

403

00:24:47,000 --> 00:24:49,000

As real as you stand next to me.

404

00:24:49,000 --> 00:24:52,000

Well, this would be an ideal place for our investigation.

405

00:24:52,000 --> 00:24:56,000

So could we set up base camp somewhere close by?

406

00:24:56,000 --> 00:24:59,000

Yeah, there's a flat spot right back there and it's perfect.

407

00:24:59,000 --> 00:25:01,000

In fact, that's exactly where we were.

408

00:25:01,000 --> 00:25:02,000

We set up camp that night.

409

00:25:05,000 --> 00:25:08,000

What do you think we need for this?

410

00:25:08,000 --> 00:25:10,000

Let's grab the thermal.

411

00:25:10,000 --> 00:25:11,000

Okay.

412

00:25:11,000 --> 00:25:13,000

Just to see if we can get any changes in temperature.

413

00:25:13,000 --> 00:25:14,000

Yeah.

414

00:25:14,000 --> 00:25:16,000

And let's grab the audio recorder.

415

00:25:17,000 --> 00:25:18,000

That's a good place to start.

416

00:25:18,000 --> 00:25:19,000

Okay, cool.

417

00:25:23,000 --> 00:25:27,000

We're on top of the spot where Mark believes he encountered some type of entity.

418

00:25:27,000 --> 00:25:29,000

Mark is the only one who can do that.

419

00:25:29,000 --> 00:25:31,000

Mark is the only one who can do that.

420

00:25:31,000 --> 00:25:33,000

Mark is the only one who can do that.

421

00:25:33,000 --> 00:25:36,000

Mark believes he encountered some type of entity.

422

00:25:36,000 --> 00:25:41,000

The question is whether it's still here or whether any residual energy can be detected.

423

00:25:41,000 --> 00:25:48,000

I think this is probably our best bet for a hotspot for finding out why Mark was feeling those presences.

424

00:25:48,000 --> 00:25:50,000

Sounds like a plan.

425

00:25:50,000 --> 00:25:55,000

Phil plugs a thermal imaging camera into his tablet while I record audio.

426

00:25:55,000 --> 00:25:58,000

Even when an entity isn't viewable in the visible light spectrum,

427

00:25:58,000 --> 00:26:03,000

this theorize that it may be able to displace heat which appears in red on a thermal camera.

428

00:26:03,000 --> 00:26:09,000

The audio recorder I'm using can also detect sounds that are imperceptible to the human ear.

429

00:26:14,000 --> 00:26:16,000

Did you hear that?

430

00:26:16,000 --> 00:26:17,000

Over in that direction.

431

00:26:17,000 --> 00:26:19,000

That's where I keep hearing something.

432

00:26:19,000 --> 00:26:20,000

I heard a gun.

433

00:26:20,000 --> 00:26:21,000

Hear me too.

434

00:26:21,000 --> 00:26:23,000

I still don't know if that was voices.

435

00:26:23,000 --> 00:26:26,000

It's really hard to tell what it is.

436

00:26:29,000 --> 00:26:30,000

Wow.

437

00:26:35,000 --> 00:26:37,000

It just keeps pulsing.

438

00:26:37,000 --> 00:26:38,000

It gets louder.

439

00:26:39,000 --> 00:26:41,000

It's still going.

440

00:26:54,000 --> 00:26:55,000

Whoa!

441

00:26:59,000 --> 00:27:05,000

The team is 300 feet deep in the longest cave system in the world.

442

00:27:05,000 --> 00:27:12,000

This is where Mark and his caving team encountered what they believe was some type of dark, possibly evil spirit

443

00:27:12,000 --> 00:27:16,000

while they were mapping a new section of the cave.

444

00:27:16,000 --> 00:27:23,000

While Phil is sweeping the area with a thermal camera, Jessica is recording audio.

445

00:27:29,000 --> 00:27:30,000

Whoa!

446

00:27:30,000 --> 00:27:32,000

What was that?

447

00:27:33,000 --> 00:27:36,000

That's like the sound Pat said she heard before her encounter.

448

00:27:37,000 --> 00:27:40,000

And then we started hearing like rock fall and we're like, ooh.

449

00:27:47,000 --> 00:27:48,000

Look at this.

450

00:27:48,000 --> 00:27:49,000

Look here.

451

00:27:49,000 --> 00:27:50,000

What do you got?

452

00:27:50,000 --> 00:27:51,000

There's a little hot spot here.

453

00:27:51,000 --> 00:27:53,000

Oh yeah, that line.

454

00:27:54,000 --> 00:27:56,000

What is happening over here?

455

00:27:56,000 --> 00:27:57,000

Over here.

456

00:27:57,000 --> 00:27:58,000

Careful.

457

00:28:00,000 --> 00:28:01,000

Oh, there it is.

458

00:28:01,000 --> 00:28:02,000

Yeah.

459

00:28:02,000 --> 00:28:03,000

What is that?

460

00:28:04,000 --> 00:28:06,000

Why does that get on all of a sudden?

461

00:28:06,000 --> 00:28:07,000

It's that rock right there.

462

00:28:07,000 --> 00:28:08,000

You see this?

463

00:28:08,000 --> 00:28:09,000

Yeah.

464

00:28:09,000 --> 00:28:10,000

Yeah.

465

00:28:10,000 --> 00:28:11,000

I don't see it anymore.

466

00:28:11,000 --> 00:28:13,000

That is so weird.

467

00:28:13,000 --> 00:28:29,000

After another thorough pass through the area of the cave where Mark originally felt a mysterious presence, we don't encounter any other anomalies.

468

00:28:29,000 --> 00:28:32,000

So we head back to camp for some much needed rest.

469

00:28:32,000 --> 00:28:39,000

According to the cavers, many of the strangest encounters happen when they pushed into an unmapped section of the cave.

470

00:28:39,000 --> 00:28:42,000

And that's where we're heading tomorrow.

471

00:28:42,000 --> 00:28:51,000

And though I know it should be nighttime, it's impossible to tell what time it is in a place that is perpetually completely dark.

472

00:28:51,000 --> 00:28:54,000

You just have nothing to relate to.

473

00:28:54,000 --> 00:28:59,000

And after this crazy day of just physical and mental exhaustion, I think it'd be easy to sleep.

474

00:28:59,000 --> 00:29:04,000

But then again, there are giant slabs of stone hanging over me that could fall at any moment.

475

00:29:04,000 --> 00:29:07,000

So actually, I might sleep.

476

00:29:07,000 --> 00:29:09,000

Put the helmet on.

477

00:29:12,000 --> 00:29:14,000

That's better.

478

00:29:24,000 --> 00:29:25,000

Good morning.

479

00:29:25,000 --> 00:29:27,000

Hey, buddy.

480

00:29:27,000 --> 00:29:31,000

After a quick breakfast of something that I would describe as, well, edible.

481

00:29:31,000 --> 00:29:33,000

It's calories.

482

00:29:33,000 --> 00:29:37,000

We head out for day two of the expedition.

483

00:29:37,000 --> 00:29:39,000

All right, let's go.

484

00:29:39,000 --> 00:29:44,000

We head deeper into the cave to the location where Mark and Pat's previous mapping efforts ended.

485

00:29:44,000 --> 00:29:52,000

Almost every time someone has crossed into a new area, there have been reports of odd sounds and even sightings of a strange, dark figure.

486

00:29:52,000 --> 00:30:12,000

This is the side path that I was telling you about and goes to uncharted territory.

487

00:30:12,000 --> 00:30:14,000

So this is the edge of the map right here?

488

00:30:14,000 --> 00:30:15,000

Wow.

489

00:30:15,000 --> 00:30:16,000

Ready for a crawl?

490

00:30:16,000 --> 00:30:17,000

I'm ready for a crawl.

491

00:30:17,000 --> 00:30:18,000

I'm ready for a crawl?

492

00:30:18,000 --> 00:30:19,000

Yeah.

493

00:30:22,000 --> 00:30:26,000

The passageway into the next part of the cave is extremely narrow.

494

00:30:26,000 --> 00:30:32,000

To guard against losing the entire team in case of a cave-in, we go through impairs.

495

00:30:32,000 --> 00:30:34,000

Wow.

496

00:30:34,000 --> 00:30:39,000

Okay, it is getting way narrow over here.

497

00:30:39,000 --> 00:30:43,000

And we've been hearing water the entire time, seeing a dripping from the ceiling.

498

00:30:43,000 --> 00:30:48,000

We have no idea what's going to be up ahead.

499

00:30:48,000 --> 00:30:53,000

Whoa, okay.

500

00:30:53,000 --> 00:30:54,000

Shine your light down there.

501

00:30:54,000 --> 00:30:55,000

Do you see it?

502

00:30:55,000 --> 00:30:56,000

Does it go all the way through?

503

00:30:56,000 --> 00:30:59,000

Wow, it just keeps going.

504

00:30:59,000 --> 00:31:04,000

As the team catches up, we continue to climb through the narrow passageways.

505

00:31:04,000 --> 00:31:08,000

Suddenly, it opens up and we're standing in a giant cavern.

506

00:31:08,000 --> 00:31:21,000

Okay, guys, this is where our new survey will start.

507

00:31:21,000 --> 00:31:23,000

So this is where mapping begins.

508

00:31:23,000 --> 00:31:29,000

All right, well, if you guys are going to go ahead and do the mapping here, we're going to go do our investigation a little further.

509

00:31:29,000 --> 00:31:30,000

You got it.

510

00:31:30,000 --> 00:31:31,000

All right.

511

00:31:32,000 --> 00:31:40,000

If Braveheart is right, and there really is some kind of portal to the underworld here, I want to document it.

512

00:31:40,000 --> 00:31:51,000

While Mark and his team start the mapping process, we move ahead to a completely unexplored area and prepare for whatever the cave has in store for us.

513

00:31:51,000 --> 00:31:54,000

All right, well, this looks good.

514

00:31:54,000 --> 00:31:56,000

It's pitch black in here.

515

00:31:56,000 --> 00:32:06,000

The perfect place to test my theory that Mammoth Cave's mysterious sights and sounds could be explained by the effects of sensory deprivation.

516

00:32:06,000 --> 00:32:15,000

At the same time, Jessica will be testing her theory that there's a presence in the cave that is the source of these phenomena.

517

00:32:15,000 --> 00:32:18,000

So what I'm thinking is we can set up the wireless surveillance system.

518

00:32:18,000 --> 00:32:21,000

But I'm going to go back there and just sit in the dark.

519

00:32:21,000 --> 00:32:24,000

I want you to mark down anything that seems weird.

520

00:32:29,000 --> 00:32:31,000

So how's three looking?

521

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

Three's looking good.

522

00:32:32,000 --> 00:32:38,000

Okay, I'm going to go ahead and turn off my headlamp and bust out the recorder, and we're good to go.

523

00:32:38,000 --> 00:32:40,000

All right, good luck in there.

524

00:32:42,000 --> 00:32:49,000

The infrared cameras show what's going on around me as I sit in complete darkness in this uncharted area of the cave.

525

00:32:49,000 --> 00:32:57,000

I'm hoping to encounter the strange sounds or the sense of a dark physical presence that both Pat and Mark described.

526

00:32:57,000 --> 00:32:59,000

Okay, recording.

527

00:33:00,000 --> 00:33:09,000

Hello, I'm Jessica, Braveheart, made a prayer asking if we could have passage into Mammoth Cave.

528

00:33:09,000 --> 00:33:17,000

We're allowing 30 minutes for our experiment to see what might be physically present here and what might just be in Jessica's head.

529

00:33:19,000 --> 00:33:28,000

Is there anyone here with us?

530

00:33:43,000 --> 00:33:45,000

Phil, did you capture anything on camera?

531

00:33:45,000 --> 00:33:53,000

So far, nothing. A lot of shadow play from the infrared around you, but I'll let you know if I see anything.

532

00:33:59,000 --> 00:34:01,000

Is there anyone there?

533

00:34:06,000 --> 00:34:08,000

Phil, did you hear that?

534

00:34:10,000 --> 00:34:12,000

I'm pretty sure I heard something off to my left.

535

00:34:16,000 --> 00:34:19,000

Hello? Is there anyone over there?

536

00:34:20,000 --> 00:34:22,000

I can hear it again.

537

00:34:22,000 --> 00:34:29,000

Yeah, and I know what you're going to say. That's the side with the water. I know where the water is. It's not the water. It's like an undertone to the water.

538

00:34:29,000 --> 00:34:32,000

It sounds like there's almost a wailing.

539

00:34:33,000 --> 00:34:38,000

Are you picking anything up on those cameras because I am hearing a litany of voices to the right of me.

540

00:34:38,000 --> 00:34:44,000

Absolutely nothing. I'm getting no visual signs of moving back there.

541

00:34:46,000 --> 00:34:51,000

Phil, did you see that?

542

00:34:51,000 --> 00:34:53,000

I didn't see anything. What happened?

543

00:34:53,000 --> 00:35:00,000

I swear to God, I just saw something pass right in front of my face. It was super close. It feels like there's something standing right next to me.

544

00:35:00,000 --> 00:35:02,000

I'm getting kind of freaked out.

545

00:35:05,000 --> 00:35:10,000

If it's not okay for Phil and I to be here, will you please send a sign?

546

00:35:10,000 --> 00:35:12,000

I'm going to send a sign.

547

00:35:14,000 --> 00:35:16,000

Holy s***!

548

00:35:21,000 --> 00:35:27,000

Phil and Jessica's investigation into Mammoth Cave is a stark reminder of something I've experienced firsthand.

549

00:35:27,000 --> 00:35:35,000

Regardless of whether you believe a cave might be home to supernatural forces, it can certainly be a place that turns deadly in a hurry.

550

00:35:36,000 --> 00:35:44,000

On a recent expedition to Ecuador, my own team descended hundreds of feet into the earth to explore the massive Taos Caves.

551

00:35:44,000 --> 00:35:56,000

In places like this, every step counts. The careless placement of a foot or a loss of balance in the dark can mean the difference between getting out of a tight spot and not making it out alive.

552

00:35:57,000 --> 00:36:02,000

And while people think of caves as empty places, they're actually teeming with life.

553

00:36:03,000 --> 00:36:10,000

They are also treacherous conduits for water, and weather conditions above can lead to unexpected flooding underground.

554

00:36:10,000 --> 00:36:18,000

These realities were dramatically highlighted in 2018 when 12 boys and their coach were trapped underground in a flooded cave in Thailand,

555

00:36:18,000 --> 00:36:24,000

sparking a dramatic rescue effort with thousands of volunteers and 100 trained divers.

556

00:36:25,000 --> 00:36:34,000

So if you're venturing into a cave, go with an experienced guide, go with the proper gear, and always go with a plan for how to get back out safely.

557

00:36:41,000 --> 00:36:48,000

Deep inside Mammoth Cave, Jessica is alone in the dark, trying to determine whether there is paranormal phenomena here,

558

00:36:48,000 --> 00:36:54,000

or if reports of phantom figures are a trick of the mind brought on by sensory deprivation.

559

00:37:18,000 --> 00:37:19,000

Who was that?

560

00:37:19,000 --> 00:37:20,000

Something just touched me.

561

00:37:24,000 --> 00:37:25,000

Jess, you okay?

562

00:37:26,000 --> 00:37:31,000

Oh my god.

563

00:37:32,000 --> 00:37:33,000

No, no.

564

00:37:34,000 --> 00:37:35,000

I want to get out of here.

565

00:37:37,000 --> 00:37:38,000

I'm coming up.

566

00:37:50,000 --> 00:37:52,000

So this is the area back here.

567

00:37:52,000 --> 00:37:54,000

You see that?

568

00:37:54,000 --> 00:37:58,500

Jess and I look through the footage and from one angle we see what appears to be a strange

569

00:37:58,500 --> 00:38:00,000

shadowy figure.

570

00:38:00,000 --> 00:38:04,000

That's right after I said it, I feel like something is standing next to me.

571

00:38:04,000 --> 00:38:06,700

So that was kind of weird.

572

00:38:06,700 --> 00:38:11,120

We slow it down and while the shadow doesn't seem to be Jess, we still can't tell what

573

00:38:11,120 --> 00:38:12,120

it is.

574

00:38:12,120 --> 00:38:13,320

That's crazy.

575

00:38:13,320 --> 00:38:18,640

What is that?

576

00:38:18,640 --> 00:38:23,480

Mark and his team reach us by walking, ask us to meet back up with them, right away.

577

00:38:23,480 --> 00:38:28,080

Just immediately we run into something that's definitely cause for concern.

578

00:38:28,080 --> 00:38:30,080

What's going on?

579

00:38:30,080 --> 00:38:31,080

This isn't good.

580

00:38:31,080 --> 00:38:33,080

This was dry when we came through here on the way in.

581

00:38:33,080 --> 00:38:34,080

We should get out.

582

00:38:34,080 --> 00:38:35,080

How much time do we have?

583

00:38:35,080 --> 00:38:36,080

None.

584

00:38:36,080 --> 00:38:37,080

We've got to get out of here right now.

585

00:38:37,080 --> 00:38:38,080

I guess.

586

00:38:38,080 --> 00:38:39,080

Alright we gotta go guys.

587

00:38:39,080 --> 00:38:40,080

Come on everybody.

588

00:38:40,080 --> 00:38:43,880

Water's coming in, let's go.

589

00:38:43,880 --> 00:38:48,280

Rain above the surface is causing a flash flood in the caverns below.

590

00:38:48,280 --> 00:38:51,880

Water levels can rise rapidly and quickly turn deadly.

591

00:38:51,880 --> 00:38:58,880

It's Russian, it's going.

592

00:38:58,880 --> 00:39:13,880

Up to knees.

593

00:39:13,880 --> 00:39:20,880

Almost out.

594

00:39:20,880 --> 00:39:28,580

Okay.

595

00:39:28,580 --> 00:39:33,920

After two grueling days underground and a narrow escape from flash flooding, the expedition

596

00:39:33,920 --> 00:39:40,880

team is exhausted but they've also gotten results.

597

00:39:40,880 --> 00:39:45,440

Mark and his colleagues have added to the map that's providing a more accurate picture

598

00:39:45,440 --> 00:39:47,520

of the world's longest cave system.

599

00:39:47,520 --> 00:39:49,880

Did that do it for you?

600

00:39:49,880 --> 00:39:50,880

Gosh.

601

00:39:50,880 --> 00:39:52,880

I've never experienced anything like that.

602

00:39:52,880 --> 00:39:54,880

That was crazy.

603

00:39:54,880 --> 00:40:01,480

Jessica and Phil have captured audio and video evidence that may indicate some kind of strange

604

00:40:01,480 --> 00:40:03,440

phenomena.

605

00:40:03,440 --> 00:40:08,840

Their thermal camera recorded an unexplainable hit in a passageway where paranormal activity

606

00:40:08,840 --> 00:40:10,880

has been reported before.

607

00:40:10,880 --> 00:40:11,880

Whoa.

608

00:40:11,880 --> 00:40:16,760

What was that?

609

00:40:16,760 --> 00:40:22,400

The audio of strange disembodied voices is consistent with what several eyewitnesses reported

610

00:40:22,400 --> 00:40:25,160

hearing in unexplored regions of the cave.

611

00:40:25,160 --> 00:40:26,160

What did you think?

612

00:40:26,160 --> 00:40:27,160

I mean, it's weird.

613

00:40:27,160 --> 00:40:29,160

And it's pulsing.

614

00:40:29,160 --> 00:40:30,160

Uh-huh.

615

00:40:30,160 --> 00:40:32,760

I have no idea.

616

00:40:32,760 --> 00:40:35,720

Everybody interprets everything different.

617

00:40:35,720 --> 00:40:40,880

Perhaps most intriguing of all, the shadow figure the infrared camera picked up seems

618

00:40:40,880 --> 00:40:45,800

to corroborate the strange experiences of Mark Wenner and his team.

619

00:40:45,800 --> 00:40:52,280

So the question remains, are these just the tricks of light and shadow to be expected

620

00:40:52,280 --> 00:40:57,080

in the inky, disorienting depths of Mammoth Cave?

621

00:40:57,080 --> 00:41:03,560

Or is there something extraordinary, something paranormal going on?

622

00:41:03,560 --> 00:41:09,000

Phil puts his money on the power of superstition and the science of sensory deprivation, but

623

00:41:09,000 --> 00:41:13,800

admittedly is unable to explain the audio and visual evidence.

624

00:41:13,800 --> 00:41:17,920

Jess believes their findings back up eyewitness reports.

625

00:41:17,920 --> 00:41:22,880

Either way, if you happen to find yourself in the stunning caverns of Kentucky, be sure

626

00:41:22,880 --> 00:41:28,320

to pack an extra flashlight, because there may be something lurking in the darkness of

627

00:41:28,320 --> 00:41:30,360

the longest cave in the world.