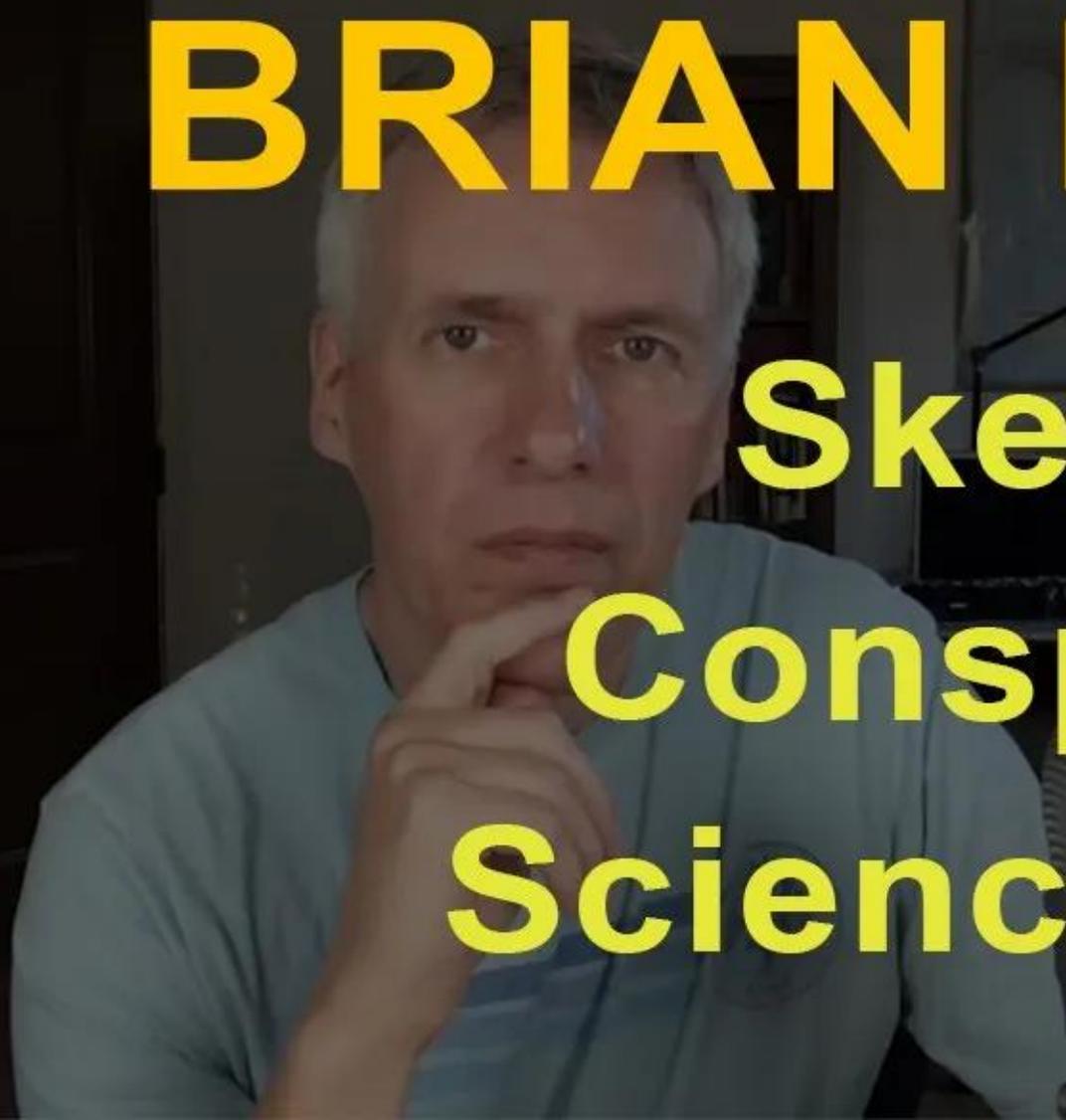


#028

BRIAN DUNNING

**Skeptoid,
Conspiracies,
Science Friction**



1
00:00:07,940 --> 00:00:05,300
welcome to Towson Toronto I'm your host

2
00:00:10,160 --> 00:00:07,950
Nick West my guest today is Brian

3
00:00:12,530 --> 00:00:10,170
Dunning host of these skeptoid podcast

4
00:00:14,299 --> 00:00:12,540
and the associated in fact YouTube

5
00:00:16,880 --> 00:00:14,309
channel he's written several books

6
00:00:19,519 --> 00:00:16,890
including conspiracies Declassified

7
00:00:21,950 --> 00:00:19,529
which is the one I'm most interested in

8
00:00:24,500 --> 00:00:21,960
and he has a new documentary film coming

9
00:00:26,480 --> 00:00:24,510
out soon called science friction so

10
00:00:28,519 --> 00:00:26,490
Brian welcome to the podcast

11
00:00:30,890 --> 00:00:28,529
Hey thank you for having me it's great

12
00:00:34,370 --> 00:00:30,900
to finally be here after all these years

13
00:00:36,590 --> 00:00:34,380

it is it is and our paths of kind of

14

00:00:38,299 --> 00:00:36,600

crossed a few times but not really that

15

00:00:40,910 --> 00:00:38,309

much you know over the years it's kind

16

00:00:43,729 --> 00:00:40,920

of interesting that we have in some ways

17

00:00:45,529 --> 00:00:43,739

kind of similar similar backgrounds and

18

00:00:49,069 --> 00:00:45,539

they were both kind of tech guys who

19

00:00:50,869 --> 00:00:49,079

gone into into debunking things very

20

00:00:53,330 --> 00:00:50,879

much you know I was using I was using

21

00:00:56,529 --> 00:00:53,340

made a bunk as a resource for a lot of

22

00:00:59,090 --> 00:00:56,539

my podcasts and as a listed reference

23

00:01:01,610 --> 00:00:59,100

probably four years before I realized

24

00:01:03,439 --> 00:01:01,620

that it was your project I just thought

25

00:01:05,630 --> 00:01:03,449

it was an internet forum or just random

26
00:01:07,760 --> 00:01:05,640
people posted and I was really surprised

27
00:01:09,740 --> 00:01:07,770
at the quality of the content it's like

28
00:01:11,450 --> 00:01:09,750
boy they the first article on all of

29
00:01:14,120 --> 00:01:11,460
these threads is really thorough and

30
00:01:16,670 --> 00:01:14,130
very well done and very well sourced and

31
00:01:18,649 --> 00:01:16,680
also yeah I was pleased to finally know

32
00:01:20,240 --> 00:01:18,659
oh there's actually a guy here and he's

33
00:01:22,969 --> 00:01:20,250
someone who we share a lot in common

34
00:01:24,859 --> 00:01:22,979
with so yeah no thank you yes no so not

35
00:01:28,130 --> 00:01:24,869
all me of course but I do write a lot of

36
00:01:30,020 --> 00:01:28,140
the first posts it's kind of kind of

37
00:01:33,550 --> 00:01:30,030
like my blog in a way but also with a

38
00:01:35,810 --> 00:01:33,560

bunch of other people but your your

39

00:01:38,660 --> 00:01:35,820

endeavors are very much all about you

40

00:01:41,300 --> 00:01:38,670

and it's really very obvious like

41

00:01:44,270 --> 00:01:41,310

skeptoid yeah I don't I don't have the

42

00:01:46,100 --> 00:01:44,280

advantage of well advantage and

43

00:01:49,340 --> 00:01:46,110

disadvantage it's definitely a two-edged

44

00:01:51,050 --> 00:01:49,350

sword of a bunch of collaborators

45

00:01:54,740 --> 00:01:51,060

working on it all the skeptoid podcast

46

00:01:57,170 --> 00:01:54,750

episodes are researched and written and

47

00:01:59,060 --> 00:01:57,180

done entirely by me I've got a I've got

48

00:02:02,270 --> 00:01:59,070

a Google Group that I will post

49

00:02:04,639 --> 00:02:02,280

questions to but not that often maybe a

50

00:02:07,190 --> 00:02:04,649

couple times a month and there's I don't

51
00:02:09,440 --> 00:02:07,200
know 500 or so people on there anyone

52
00:02:11,630 --> 00:02:09,450
can join it and occasionally I'll get

53
00:02:13,850 --> 00:02:11,640
some really amazing stuff like I'll need

54
00:02:15,770 --> 00:02:13,860
some really obscure

55
00:02:18,050 --> 00:02:15,780
reference or some some particular book

56
00:02:19,880 --> 00:02:18,060
found or something like that and that's

57
00:02:22,370 --> 00:02:19,890
that's when that use that when that list

58
00:02:24,590 --> 00:02:22,380
comes in most hopeful yeah I said I

59
00:02:27,590 --> 00:02:24,600
think crowdsourcing is it's a very

60
00:02:29,360 --> 00:02:27,600
useful thing didn't we can yeah yeah

61
00:02:31,280 --> 00:02:29,370
it's kind of one of the great benefits

62
00:02:32,660 --> 00:02:31,290
of the Internet is that it's not just

63
00:02:35,180 --> 00:02:32,670

that you can look things up so quickly

64

00:02:37,640 --> 00:02:35,190

but you can get so many people looking

65

00:02:38,780 --> 00:02:37,650

at as an issue and I think that's you

66

00:02:41,090 --> 00:02:38,790

know it's kind of we've got pros and

67

00:02:44,420 --> 00:02:41,100

cons would you say like because the

68

00:02:46,040 --> 00:02:44,430

assembly people can can solve problems

69

00:02:48,350 --> 00:02:46,050

but so many people can also can I get

70

00:02:53,240 --> 00:02:48,360

you know sucked down into and magnify

71

00:02:54,920 --> 00:02:53,250

them yeah I mean if if if you're if I

72

00:02:58,729 --> 00:02:54,930

was going to be doing something like if

73

00:03:00,890 --> 00:02:58,739

I had a forum for example of for

74

00:03:02,540 --> 00:03:00,900

research for each upcoming podcast like

75

00:03:03,920 --> 00:03:02,550

doing it a little bit different from of

76

00:03:06,380 --> 00:03:03,930

the way you do it but let's say I had a

77

00:03:08,270 --> 00:03:06,390

forum for sirs that have not yet been

78

00:03:10,400 --> 00:03:08,280

produced and I'm waiting for you know

79

00:03:11,900 --> 00:03:10,410

the whole thread wind-up and everyone to

80

00:03:16,430 --> 00:03:11,910

learn everything and do all the research

81

00:03:19,400 --> 00:03:16,440

I would have limited confidence in the

82

00:03:22,039 --> 00:03:19,410

quality of the information and that's

83

00:03:25,060 --> 00:03:22,049

probably a paranoid on my part and it

84

00:03:27,680 --> 00:03:25,070

probably would be very good quality but

85

00:03:29,539 --> 00:03:27,690

it's tough because just as the Internet

86

00:03:32,509 --> 00:03:29,549

is it provides the democratization of

87

00:03:34,670 --> 00:03:32,519

content as you and I enjoy with with

88

00:03:36,140 --> 00:03:34,680

distributing our materials and the

89

00:03:38,090 --> 00:03:36,150

ability to compete with major media

90

00:03:41,660 --> 00:03:38,100

outlets and stuff like that it it also

91

00:03:43,910 --> 00:03:41,670

it has the Wikipedia issue of you know

92

00:03:45,530 --> 00:03:43,920

there's nobody is nobody knows too much

93

00:03:49,550 --> 00:03:45,540

about the quality of this newly

94

00:03:51,650 --> 00:03:49,560

democratized content yeah your podcast

95

00:03:52,940 --> 00:03:51,660

skeptoid there's a wonderful resource I

96

00:03:54,320 --> 00:03:52,950

was just going through all the episodes

97

00:03:57,710 --> 00:03:54,330

you've got nearly seven hundred episodes

98

00:03:59,990 --> 00:03:57,720

now I'm working on number 700 this

99

00:04:02,360 --> 00:04:00,000

morning in far right yeah that's quite

100

00:04:05,900 --> 00:04:02,370

amazing that's you've been doing it

101
00:04:08,270 --> 00:04:05,910
since like what 2006 2006 yeah we just

102
00:04:10,039 --> 00:04:08,280
celebrated our 30th birthday and through

103
00:04:14,330 --> 00:04:10,049
the year through the month of October

104
00:04:19,759 --> 00:04:14,340
yes you did it 24 hour forecast Athan

105
00:04:23,750 --> 00:04:19,769
third 13 hour but yeah as soon as we

106
00:04:26,960 --> 00:04:23,760
have that idea and I say we because um

107
00:04:28,100 --> 00:04:26,970
I've got I've got three employees now

108
00:04:30,390 --> 00:04:28,110
here it's capital

109
00:04:32,550 --> 00:04:30,400
they work on fundraising they don't work

110
00:04:35,280 --> 00:04:32,560
on the content side but as soon as we

111
00:04:38,190 --> 00:04:35,290
had that idea to do this 13 our video

112
00:04:39,960 --> 00:04:38,200
marathon I you know initially I thought

113
00:04:42,990 --> 00:04:39,970

oh great that'll be lots of fun and then

114

00:04:45,390 --> 00:04:43,000

it sounds like okay how's my voice gonna

115

00:04:48,390 --> 00:04:45,400

hold up for 30 hours that's a low it's

116

00:04:50,010 --> 00:04:48,400

looking it's a lot of talking yeah so it

117

00:04:50,700 --> 00:04:50,020

was it was brutal but it was fun and

118

00:04:53,400 --> 00:04:50,710

well worth it

119

00:04:54,930 --> 00:04:53,410

yeah so you you you need you invited a

120

00:04:56,880 --> 00:04:54,940

bunch of people and I was one of the

121

00:04:59,160 --> 00:04:56,890

people you invited but when I went to

122

00:05:00,570 --> 00:04:59,170

sign up for the thing the only thing

123

00:05:02,490 --> 00:05:00,580

that was left I think was something like

124

00:05:06,150 --> 00:05:02,500

3:00 in the morning my time so it was

125

00:05:08,040 --> 00:05:06,160

yeah job I I should have been inviting

126

00:05:11,040 --> 00:05:08,050

people in waves according to their time

127

00:05:13,340 --> 00:05:11,050

zones and I I didn't do that and I it's

128

00:05:17,160 --> 00:05:13,350

the people they were like my my

129

00:05:18,780 --> 00:05:17,170

second-tier invitees many of whom I

130

00:05:21,060 --> 00:05:18,790

realized oh gosh they really should have

131

00:05:27,690 --> 00:05:21,070

been my first you ended up offending a

132

00:05:29,000 --> 00:05:27,700

number of my friends I guess you over

133

00:05:32,550 --> 00:05:29,010

the years you must have a lot of friends

134

00:05:35,700 --> 00:05:32,560

like you know we get to sceptical

135

00:05:38,660 --> 00:05:35,710

conferences it's interesting like the

136

00:05:42,690 --> 00:05:38,670

the community the skeptical community

137

00:05:44,520 --> 00:05:42,700

how do you kind of feel yourself fitting

138

00:05:47,460 --> 00:05:44,530

into the skeptical community like things

139

00:05:49,140 --> 00:05:47,470

like yes icon and the old the amazing

140

00:05:54,660 --> 00:05:49,150

meetings and things like that is that

141

00:05:56,730 --> 00:05:54,670

you know I hope your people it is I mean

142

00:05:59,780 --> 00:05:56,740

I'm brie Embry you know every blue

143

00:06:02,040 --> 00:05:59,790

people has that's sort of one of my

144

00:06:04,890 --> 00:06:02,050

ongoing theme that seems to get

145

00:06:08,400 --> 00:06:04,900

reinforced for me all the time so when I

146

00:06:10,020 --> 00:06:08,410

when I go to the conferences typically I

147

00:06:11,340 --> 00:06:10,030

only go to the conference if I'm if I'm

148

00:06:13,650 --> 00:06:11,350

working there I'm if I'm either a

149

00:06:15,810 --> 00:06:13,660

speaker or if we have a table for

150

00:06:18,120 --> 00:06:15,820

skeptoid or something I I rarely go to

151
00:06:19,980 --> 00:06:18,130
conferences just as an attendee for fun

152
00:06:22,590 --> 00:06:19,990
but if I did the reason would be just to

153
00:06:25,950 --> 00:06:22,600
see friends really yeah as you point out

154
00:06:28,110 --> 00:06:25,960
I've met a ton of people in 13 years of

155
00:06:32,100 --> 00:06:28,120
doing this pretty much everyone in our

156
00:06:35,220 --> 00:06:32,110
world of sort of the skeptical end of

157
00:06:37,170 --> 00:06:35,230
science communication and you know

158
00:06:38,580 --> 00:06:37,180
science communication blurs off into so

159
00:06:40,050 --> 00:06:38,590
many different genres you know that's

160
00:06:41,610 --> 00:06:40,060
got the whole science fiction it's got

161
00:06:43,260 --> 00:06:41,620
the whole cosplay the make

162
00:06:46,080 --> 00:06:43,270
community and I know people in all of

163
00:06:48,120 --> 00:06:46,090

these worlds and that's really been the

164

00:06:50,760 --> 00:06:48,130

most rewarding and funnest part of this

165

00:06:55,469 --> 00:06:50,770

is getting to make so many extraordinary

166

00:06:57,030 --> 00:06:55,479

friendships so it's a blast yeah yeah

167

00:06:58,890 --> 00:06:57,040

now this is gonna reason I enjoy going

168

00:07:00,390 --> 00:06:58,900

to the conference's I missed this this

169

00:07:03,300 --> 00:07:00,400

last si si con because I have something

170

00:07:05,189 --> 00:07:03,310

else going on but it look like fun and I

171

00:07:07,050 --> 00:07:05,199

kind of regretted not not going there

172

00:07:08,400 --> 00:07:07,060

and seeing it already again are you

173

00:07:09,960 --> 00:07:08,410

going to tell us anything about what

174

00:07:11,520 --> 00:07:09,970

that was because there was there was

175

00:07:19,110 --> 00:07:11,530

speculation and there was there was

176
00:07:22,260 --> 00:07:19,120
discussion uh no I was just meeting some

177
00:07:26,129 --> 00:07:22,270
people in New York for something which

178
00:07:27,990 --> 00:07:26,139
might be revealed in the future okay

179
00:07:32,129 --> 00:07:28,000
top secret top secret meeting with the

180
00:07:34,050 --> 00:07:32,139
Illuminati or something that's there

181
00:07:35,430 --> 00:07:34,060
were some top secret things going on in

182
00:07:37,320 --> 00:07:35,440
Vegas as well

183
00:07:38,400 --> 00:07:37,330
Kenny Biddle was doing some stuff I mean

184
00:07:41,219 --> 00:07:38,410
I don't know if you'd want me to say

185
00:07:42,719 --> 00:07:41,229
anything so I won't but yeah I was like

186
00:07:46,740 --> 00:07:42,729
the only person not involved in anything

187
00:07:47,820 --> 00:07:46,750
Tufts barely I guess that means that

188
00:07:50,629 --> 00:07:47,830

you're not actually a member of the

189

00:07:52,320 --> 00:07:50,639

Illuminati is that you know that type of

190

00:07:53,969 --> 00:07:52,330

accusation you know that you're a

191

00:07:56,580 --> 00:07:53,979

government skill is that something

192

00:07:59,550 --> 00:07:56,590

you've you still get I'm shooting is

193

00:08:04,080 --> 00:07:59,560

amazing yeah yeah daily literally daily

194

00:08:06,390 --> 00:08:04,090

mmm if I look at my if I look at my I

195

00:08:08,430 --> 00:08:06,400

have a number of Twitter accounts one

196

00:08:10,409 --> 00:08:08,440

that I can just look at that's totally

197

00:08:13,740 --> 00:08:10,419

unfiltered and everything and when I

198

00:08:15,600 --> 00:08:13,750

look at that I realized wow 15 people

199

00:08:17,310 --> 00:08:15,610

called me a government skill today here

200

00:08:18,930 --> 00:08:17,320

whatever I don't see it on my normal

201

00:08:20,490 --> 00:08:18,940

Twitter feed because it's all it has a

202

00:08:24,180 --> 00:08:20,500

million people muted I don't block

203

00:08:28,080 --> 00:08:24,190

anyone but I knew tons of people so yeah

204

00:08:30,029 --> 00:08:28,090

it's incredible because you know with

205

00:08:32,010 --> 00:08:30,039

with with skeptoid with the podcast

206

00:08:34,260 --> 00:08:32,020

covering such a diverse range of topics

207

00:08:36,600 --> 00:08:34,270

you know everything from all the hard

208

00:08:38,279 --> 00:08:36,610

sciences to all the urban legends and

209

00:08:40,949 --> 00:08:38,289

everything it's all these very many

210

00:08:42,959 --> 00:08:40,959

genres and for each of them there's

211

00:08:45,660 --> 00:08:42,969

people who believe I'm some paid shill

212

00:08:48,810 --> 00:08:45,670

I'm a paid shill for Monsanto if I talk

213

00:08:51,960 --> 00:08:48,820

about GMOs I'm a paid shill for big

214

00:08:54,480 --> 00:08:51,970

pharma if I talk about homeopathy I'm a

215

00:08:55,380 --> 00:08:54,490

paid shell from the government if I talk

216

00:09:00,420 --> 00:08:55,390

about the alien

217

00:09:05,510 --> 00:09:00,430

at area 51 Minh you look at the logic of

218

00:09:08,280 --> 00:09:05,520

that so I'm doing an episode on on

219

00:09:10,200 --> 00:09:08,290

Holocaust denial of course I was a paid

220

00:09:14,370 --> 00:09:10,210

shill for the State of Israel or

221

00:09:17,070 --> 00:09:14,380

whatever it was the Zionists and I think

222

00:09:19,740 --> 00:09:17,080

okay does that make sense that they

223

00:09:22,260 --> 00:09:19,750

would be so desperate for PR that they

224

00:09:26,040 --> 00:09:22,270

would hire someone to do a podcast about

225

00:09:28,170 --> 00:09:26,050

Bigfoot and stuff for 13 years just to

226

00:09:31,890 --> 00:09:28,180

have them slip in one episode about

227

00:09:33,750 --> 00:09:31,900

Holocaust denial just kind of just a

228

00:09:35,430 --> 00:09:33,760

fart in the breeze of this whole giant

229

00:09:38,070 --> 00:09:35,440

stream of content would that be worth

230

00:09:39,120 --> 00:09:38,080

what it would cost to hire me for 13

231

00:09:41,970 --> 00:09:39,130

years yeah

232

00:09:43,260 --> 00:09:41,980

the logic I don't quite follow yeah it

233

00:09:44,730 --> 00:09:43,270

doesn't really make sense of course it

234

00:09:46,200 --> 00:09:44,740

could be that all these different people

235

00:09:50,840 --> 00:09:46,210

are paying you at different times like

236

00:09:56,760 --> 00:09:54,090

but eggs ology has to keep Bigfoot

237

00:10:00,090 --> 00:09:56,770

suppressed oh yeah rent money there's

238

00:10:02,700 --> 00:10:00,100

kind of a thing in skepticism called

239

00:10:04,550 --> 00:10:02,710

Bigfoot scepticism which is kind of like

240

00:10:07,800 --> 00:10:04,560

a derogatory term that people use for

241

00:10:10,020 --> 00:10:07,810

like looking at things like Bigfoot or

242

00:10:12,660 --> 00:10:10,030

UFOs when they feel like you should be

243

00:10:15,120 --> 00:10:12,670

looking at things like like I don't know

244

00:10:17,580 --> 00:10:15,130

alternative medicine or political

245

00:10:20,310 --> 00:10:17,590

conspiracies how do you feel about about

246

00:10:23,220 --> 00:10:20,320

that criticism it's that's that's a

247

00:10:24,930 --> 00:10:23,230

theme that comes up a lot and I just did

248

00:10:28,500 --> 00:10:24,940

an episode last week I think it comes

249

00:10:31,320 --> 00:10:28,510

out next week on a particular ghost ship

250

00:10:33,990 --> 00:10:31,330

this old legend about a ghost ship that

251
00:10:36,000 --> 00:10:34,000
there's probably nobody who you know is

252
00:10:38,340 --> 00:10:36,010
passionate about this their belief in

253
00:10:40,110 --> 00:10:38,350
this ghost ship to the point that they

254
00:10:42,450 --> 00:10:40,120
go insane on the internet about it it's

255
00:10:43,590 --> 00:10:42,460
it's a relatively unimportant topic as

256
00:10:46,770 --> 00:10:43,600
you and you could say the same thing

257
00:10:48,480 --> 00:10:46,780
about Bigfoot so why why waste time

258
00:10:52,620 --> 00:10:48,490
talking about something like that that's

259
00:10:54,450 --> 00:10:52,630
obviously fake and the reason as I often

260
00:10:56,430 --> 00:10:54,460
point out on the show when I do these

261
00:10:59,220 --> 00:10:56,440
episodes is that these it's the same

262
00:11:01,230 --> 00:10:59,230
thought processes that lead to belief in

263
00:11:04,170 --> 00:11:01,240

Bigfoot that lead to belief in

264

00:11:07,290 --> 00:11:04,180

alternative medicine 9/11 true thing etc

265

00:11:08,540 --> 00:11:07,300

etc etc and so no matter who the

266

00:11:11,090 --> 00:11:08,550

listener is

267

00:11:13,550 --> 00:11:11,100

they can find an episode of skeptoid

268

00:11:15,590 --> 00:11:13,560

that does not challenge any of their

269

00:11:18,230 --> 00:11:15,600

cherished beliefs I don't go after any

270

00:11:20,480 --> 00:11:18,240

of their sacred cows but it still

271

00:11:23,240 --> 00:11:20,490

teaches them the lessons that they need

272

00:11:24,860 --> 00:11:23,250

to learn and understand so that they can

273

00:11:28,100 --> 00:11:24,870

come to challenge their sacred cows on

274

00:11:29,750 --> 00:11:28,110

their own and so I think that there's

275

00:11:33,050 --> 00:11:29,760

always going to be a place for for

276

00:11:34,700 --> 00:11:33,060

Bigfoot skepticism plus it's fun it's

277

00:11:37,070 --> 00:11:34,710

just fun to talk about some of these

278

00:11:38,180 --> 00:11:37,080

these urban legends that that you know

279

00:11:41,300 --> 00:11:38,190

maybe we heard about when we were kids

280

00:11:44,900 --> 00:11:41,310

or read about or saw on Leonard Nimoy's

281

00:11:47,240 --> 00:11:44,910

show or you know it's it's fun it is

282

00:11:50,870 --> 00:11:47,250

yeah and that's yeah I guess the reason

283

00:11:53,810 --> 00:11:50,880

a lot of people you know do skepticism

284

00:11:57,920 --> 00:11:53,820

in that area and let UFOs and things

285

00:11:59,870 --> 00:11:57,930

what we you into this as a child like

286

00:12:01,940 --> 00:11:59,880

what were your kind of the childhood

287

00:12:05,420 --> 00:12:01,950

interest like UFOs and things like that

288

00:12:08,300 --> 00:12:05,430

usually I had all the books on Bigfoot

289

00:12:10,250 --> 00:12:08,310

all the books on UFOs all the books on

290

00:12:12,770 --> 00:12:10,260

ghosts and hauntings and everything I

291

00:12:15,470 --> 00:12:12,780

watched all the TV shows I believed

292

00:12:17,960 --> 00:12:15,480

every word of it every word of it and I

293

00:12:21,260 --> 00:12:17,970

would go about my daily life being

294

00:12:22,850 --> 00:12:21,270

amazed that the adults around me didn't

295

00:12:25,010 --> 00:12:22,860

seem to care that there's these huge

296

00:12:31,070 --> 00:12:25,020

hairy monsters running around in forests

297

00:12:32,480 --> 00:12:31,080

and the so you know and of course when

298

00:12:34,340 --> 00:12:32,490

you're into that you seem to always be

299

00:12:36,920 --> 00:12:34,350

into science fiction - that seems to be

300

00:12:38,690 --> 00:12:36,930

the the other common thread and you say

301

00:12:40,670 --> 00:12:38,700

you grow up with a group of people in

302

00:12:42,710 --> 00:12:40,680

this group of people just we all tend to

303

00:12:45,110 --> 00:12:42,720

go into the sciences in some way shape

304

00:12:46,790 --> 00:12:45,120

or form and so I was just kind of along

305

00:12:48,260 --> 00:12:46,800

that journey I was you know floating in

306

00:12:49,550 --> 00:12:48,270

that River along with everyone and it

307

00:12:50,870 --> 00:12:49,560

took me to the same place it takes

308

00:12:54,200 --> 00:12:50,880

everyone on this path which is

309

00:12:56,390 --> 00:12:54,210

eventually coming to just love science

310

00:12:59,090 --> 00:12:56,400

and and love the idea of doing research

311

00:13:01,940 --> 00:12:59,100

and finding the answers to difficult

312

00:13:05,590 --> 00:13:01,950

questions solving mysteries

313

00:13:08,450 --> 00:13:05,600

I've solved mysteries on skeptoid that

314

00:13:10,340 --> 00:13:08,460

blew my mind when I was a child

315

00:13:15,260 --> 00:13:10,350

hmm and that's giving myself a present

316

00:13:17,620 --> 00:13:15,270

after you know 40 years so I just I I

317

00:13:20,630 --> 00:13:17,630

cannot enjoy it more than than what I do

318

00:13:24,199 --> 00:13:20,640

what would you say is the best mystery

319

00:13:31,910 --> 00:13:30,439

I always go back to I'm spacing on the

320

00:13:36,079 --> 00:13:31,920

name of the house the most haunted house

321

00:13:37,910 --> 00:13:36,089

in England Borle rectory alright I I'd

322

00:13:42,609 --> 00:13:37,920

read all the books about Borle rectory

323

00:13:46,009 --> 00:13:42,619

and about the the the the the biggest

324

00:13:47,929 --> 00:13:46,019

the biggest thing that that blew my mind

325

00:13:50,179 --> 00:13:47,939

and that was the automatic writing

326

00:13:53,090 --> 00:13:50,189

appearing on the walls and the book even

327

00:13:55,400 --> 00:13:53,100

had photographs of this writing on walls

328

00:13:58,039 --> 00:13:55,410

that was said to have appeared while

329

00:14:00,019 --> 00:13:58,049

people watched so here you got you know

330

00:14:03,710 --> 00:14:00,029

photograph of the wall and there in this

331

00:14:06,579 --> 00:14:03,720

wallpaper and you see what did it say it

332

00:14:12,829 --> 00:14:06,589

said maryann get help things like that

333

00:14:14,960 --> 00:14:12,839

and to me that was beyond skepticism

334

00:14:19,239 --> 00:14:14,970

people were watching as the words

335

00:14:22,160 --> 00:14:19,249

appeared and I thought there could be no

336

00:14:24,199 --> 00:14:22,170

no none paranormal explanation to that

337

00:14:25,939 --> 00:14:24,209

mhm and when I finally did the research

338

00:14:28,129 --> 00:14:25,949

on that I learned two things first of

339

00:14:30,499 --> 00:14:28,139

all all the books on Borle rectory were

340

00:14:34,189 --> 00:14:30,509

written by this one guy Harry price who

341

00:14:38,949 --> 00:14:34,199

was a career basically PT Barnum making

342

00:14:41,210 --> 00:14:38,959

stuff up and then I in in somewhere else

343

00:14:44,150 --> 00:14:41,220

some other skeptical work that had been

344

00:14:46,789 --> 00:14:44,160

published before I found a detailed

345

00:14:49,910 --> 00:14:46,799

description of the seance in which this

346

00:14:53,359 --> 00:14:49,920

automatic writing had appeared and it

347

00:14:55,369 --> 00:14:53,369

wasn't on a wall it was on wallpaper but

348

00:14:57,319 --> 00:14:55,379

simply because a roll of wallpaper was

349

00:14:58,819 --> 00:14:57,329

the biggest convenient roll of paper

350

00:15:02,679 --> 00:14:58,829

that they had available they rolled it

351

00:15:04,879 --> 00:15:02,689

out on a table and they were using a

352

00:15:06,350 --> 00:15:04,889

planchette basically the Ouija board

353

00:15:08,659 --> 00:15:06,360

failure they all put their hands on it

354

00:15:10,669 --> 00:15:08,669

and was holding the pencil and that was

355

00:15:11,409 --> 00:15:10,679

when the writing appeared while people

356

00:15:13,699 --> 00:15:11,419

walked

357

00:15:15,650 --> 00:15:13,709

that's very generally kind of left out

358

00:15:19,280 --> 00:15:15,660

that detail in the Harry Price version

359

00:15:22,009 --> 00:15:19,290

of the book and somewhere along the line

360

00:15:23,989 --> 00:15:22,019

that detail got lost and now when you

361

00:15:26,780 --> 00:15:23,999

read any any modern account written

362

00:15:28,999 --> 00:15:26,790

about Borle rectory it it doesn't make

363

00:15:30,559 --> 00:15:29,009

that connection it made the same mistake

364

00:15:32,900 --> 00:15:30,569

that I made when I was a kid which is

365

00:15:35,539 --> 00:15:32,910

that this wall the writing appeared on a

366

00:15:35,900 --> 00:15:35,549

wall automatically while people were

367

00:15:37,520 --> 00:15:35,910

watching

368

00:15:39,740 --> 00:15:37,530

with no hand holding a pencil or

369

00:15:43,670 --> 00:15:39,750

anything so that that difference between

370

00:15:45,470 --> 00:15:43,680

wall and wallpaper was was really the

371

00:15:47,270 --> 00:15:45,480

key and that's that's the thing that

372

00:15:50,390 --> 00:15:47,280

I've enjoyed the most that's the single

373

00:15:52,370 --> 00:15:50,400

biggest wow moment for me in all the

374

00:15:54,860 --> 00:15:52,380

years of skeptoid yeah it's fascinating

375

00:15:56,870 --> 00:15:54,870

I think it's very interesting how it

376

00:15:58,640 --> 00:15:56,880

shows that these stories kind of grow

377

00:16:02,270 --> 00:15:58,650

over time and they change over time and

378

00:16:05,450 --> 00:16:02,280

that's yeah you're people's memories of

379

00:16:09,620 --> 00:16:05,460

them change over time you know one thing

380

00:16:11,750 --> 00:16:09,630

with all these stories they get recycled

381

00:16:13,640 --> 00:16:11,760

a lot and every time they get recycled

382

00:16:14,630 --> 00:16:13,650

it's like someone writes a new article

383

00:16:16,430 --> 00:16:14,640

on this and they're just kind of

384

00:16:18,260 --> 00:16:16,440

incorporating older articles and then

385

00:16:21,320 --> 00:16:18,270

the new article becomes the more

386

00:16:24,260 --> 00:16:21,330

authoritative one and then it kind of it

387

00:16:27,020 --> 00:16:24,270

morphs and evolves I guess and the more

388

00:16:29,900 --> 00:16:27,030

popular ones survive and the more

389

00:16:31,640 --> 00:16:29,910

popular ones that might be the ones that

390

00:16:33,110 --> 00:16:31,650

have the more interesting features in

391

00:16:34,910 --> 00:16:33,120

them like writing on some wallpaper

392

00:16:36,830 --> 00:16:34,920

isn't interesting but writing appearing

393

00:16:39,770 --> 00:16:36,840

on a wall it's fascinating so that story

394

00:16:42,290 --> 00:16:39,780

dies and then this story carries on I

395

00:16:43,700 --> 00:16:42,300

love that that particular detail I'm

396

00:16:46,190 --> 00:16:43,710

sure was an honest mistake

397

00:16:47,570 --> 00:16:46,200

yeah because in Summit County said the

398

00:16:49,940 --> 00:16:47,580

writing was appeared on the wallpaper

399

00:16:51,920 --> 00:16:49,950

and to any normal person reading that

400

00:16:53,540 --> 00:16:51,930

you assume that the wallpaper is mounted

401
00:16:55,220 --> 00:16:53,550
on a wall right you would yeah the next

402
00:16:58,010 --> 00:16:55,230
author just said wall instead of

403
00:16:59,900 --> 00:16:58,020
wallpaper but yeah as you say all of

404
00:17:02,510 --> 00:16:59,910
these stories the way they get copied

405
00:17:04,820 --> 00:17:02,520
and pasted and and and rewritten it's

406
00:17:07,220 --> 00:17:04,830
just this giant game of telephone going

407
00:17:09,410 --> 00:17:07,230
over the decades the story changes and

408
00:17:12,610 --> 00:17:09,420
changes a little bit each time so few

409
00:17:16,520 --> 00:17:12,620
people are doing original research now

410
00:17:18,380 --> 00:17:16,530
this ghost the ghost ship episode that I

411
00:17:22,750 --> 00:17:18,390
mentioned that I just finished working

412
00:17:24,980 --> 00:17:22,760
on it's popular in the Bermuda Triangle

413
00:17:27,800 --> 00:17:24,990

literature and that that's essentially

414

00:17:30,290 --> 00:17:27,810

the only place you find it now and when

415

00:17:32,480 --> 00:17:30,300

I found the actual route that this ship

416

00:17:35,240 --> 00:17:32,490

took it went straight across the North

417

00:17:37,670 --> 00:17:35,250

Atlantic you know basically kind of

418

00:17:39,770 --> 00:17:37,680

going north from England and been coming

419

00:17:42,260 --> 00:17:39,780

down south to New York it never went

420

00:17:44,540 --> 00:17:42,270

remotely near the Bermuda Triangle

421

00:17:47,750 --> 00:17:44,550

it's just what nobody thought to check

422

00:17:49,360 --> 00:17:47,760

that yeah I guess it sounds it sounds

423

00:17:52,890 --> 00:17:49,370

good though it sounds like a fit so

424

00:17:57,100 --> 00:17:52,900

that will take it it's one of ours yeah

425

00:17:59,680 --> 00:17:57,110

yeah so yeah I like what you were saying

426
00:18:01,060 --> 00:17:59,690
about the culture of types of people who

427
00:18:03,550 --> 00:18:01,070
get into this thing I mean it's kind of

428
00:18:05,050 --> 00:18:03,560
like like nerd culture really for want

429
00:18:08,800 --> 00:18:05,060
of a better thing you're talking about

430
00:18:10,120 --> 00:18:08,810
things like you know makers and cosplay

431
00:18:12,130 --> 00:18:10,130
and things like that this is the type of

432
00:18:16,450 --> 00:18:12,140
things you would see on the Big Bang

433
00:18:19,300 --> 00:18:16,460
Theory and very much yeah yeah it's it's

434
00:18:22,500 --> 00:18:19,310
funny how there's such a there's such an

435
00:18:27,480 --> 00:18:22,510
intersection between straight-up

436
00:18:30,940 --> 00:18:27,490
sci-fi fantasy fiction and hard science

437
00:18:32,500 --> 00:18:30,950
would you go to going to Dragon Con I

438
00:18:34,360 --> 00:18:32,510

think is a great example of that because

439

00:18:37,660 --> 00:18:34,370

that is where you will see some of your

440

00:18:41,740 --> 00:18:37,670

favorite hard scientists disguised as

441

00:18:44,290 --> 00:18:41,750

some character from a video game it's

442

00:18:46,330 --> 00:18:44,300

it's really a fun angle that a lot of

443

00:18:48,310 --> 00:18:46,340

people that either would appreciate more

444

00:18:50,440 --> 00:18:48,320

if they knew more about it yeah I think

445

00:18:52,840 --> 00:18:50,450

a lot of people who grew up reading

446

00:18:54,820 --> 00:18:52,850

science fiction go into the sciences

447

00:18:56,650 --> 00:18:54,830

because of that I mean I know I my

448

00:19:00,040 --> 00:18:56,660

interest in science now is very much

449

00:19:02,410 --> 00:19:00,050

rooted in reading science fiction as a

450

00:19:03,790 --> 00:19:02,420

as a young young boy essentially what my

451
00:19:06,880 --> 00:19:03,800
dad had a big collection of science

452
00:19:08,890 --> 00:19:06,890
fiction books it's kind of older stuff

453
00:19:12,160 --> 00:19:08,900
as well like back from the fifties and

454
00:19:16,240 --> 00:19:12,170
sixties and reading that canopy fly

455
00:19:20,800 --> 00:19:16,250
interest and yeah then again watching

456
00:19:23,850 --> 00:19:20,810
stuff like Doctor Who on TV was was was

457
00:19:26,650 --> 00:19:23,860
a very very important part of my youth

458
00:19:30,310 --> 00:19:26,660
who among us was not in love with Sarah

459
00:19:35,980 --> 00:19:30,320
Jane Smith for its way for decades yeah

460
00:19:42,610 --> 00:19:35,990
indeed yes the I was looking over your

461
00:19:44,380 --> 00:19:42,620
your last 700 episodes on skeptoid and I

462
00:19:47,370 --> 00:19:44,390
start looking over your your YouTube

463
00:19:50,890 --> 00:19:47,380

channel yeah you only have about 60

464

00:19:52,180 --> 00:19:50,900

videos do you do you like I suppose it

465

00:19:54,610 --> 00:19:52,190

takes a lot more work to do the videos

466

00:19:56,800 --> 00:19:54,620

is that why there is it does and and

467

00:20:00,990 --> 00:19:56,810

it's it's a lot more work as you point

468

00:20:03,220 --> 00:20:01,000

out it's it's a lot more expensive and I

469

00:20:06,130 --> 00:20:03,230

really don't have time

470

00:20:09,370 --> 00:20:06,140

or it so what I do is those are all

471

00:20:12,789 --> 00:20:09,380

crowdfunded and I only produce one after

472

00:20:14,409 --> 00:20:12,799

the thermometer is filled and you know

473

00:20:18,100 --> 00:20:14,419

there's a lot of video content on

474

00:20:19,600 --> 00:20:18,110

YouTube and it's it's it's something

475

00:20:22,720 --> 00:20:19,610

that I just really never hit critical

476

00:20:24,960 --> 00:20:22,730

mass on I still produce them there's

477

00:20:28,060 --> 00:20:24,970

still valuable resources to be out there

478

00:20:29,890 --> 00:20:28,070

and part of the reason we're going to

479

00:20:31,270 --> 00:20:29,900

continue doing that and continue doing

480

00:20:32,919 --> 00:20:31,280

them better because you know there's

481

00:20:35,320 --> 00:20:32,929

been quality issues with a lot of them

482

00:20:37,659 --> 00:20:35,330

and things like that it's because that

483

00:20:40,570 --> 00:20:37,669

we're a non-profit at skeptoid media and

484

00:20:43,150 --> 00:20:40,580

everything that we do what we promise to

485

00:20:45,789 --> 00:20:43,160

our donors is that we provide it as

486

00:20:48,400 --> 00:20:45,799

educational material to teachers as part

487

00:20:50,110 --> 00:20:48,410

of these free material packages so if

488

00:20:52,299 --> 00:20:50,120

why don't we make a video and if it gets

489

00:20:55,180 --> 00:20:52,309

15 views on YouTube that's fine I don't

490

00:20:56,770 --> 00:20:55,190

really care because it's it's it's real

491

00:20:59,890 --> 00:20:56,780

purpose is being provided as part of

492

00:21:03,310 --> 00:20:59,900

this educational package so everything

493

00:21:06,010 --> 00:21:03,320

we do ideally always working toward this

494

00:21:08,140 --> 00:21:06,020

better and better is is dual purpose

495

00:21:09,760 --> 00:21:08,150

it's intended to be fun and entertaining

496

00:21:11,350 --> 00:21:09,770

for the general public and it's also

497

00:21:14,169 --> 00:21:11,360

intended to be part of a formalized

498

00:21:16,090 --> 00:21:14,179

education package yeah that's great and

499

00:21:19,840 --> 00:21:16,100

it's I think it's really good to have

500

00:21:21,340 --> 00:21:19,850

resources available like that for some

501
00:21:24,159 --> 00:21:21,350
of the more obscure stuff cussing course

502
00:21:27,700 --> 00:21:24,169
like on on YouTube it used to be a bit

503
00:21:29,350 --> 00:21:27,710
of a dark pit of of nonsense and they've

504
00:21:31,419 --> 00:21:29,360
kind of cleaned it up a bit recently and

505
00:21:34,180 --> 00:21:31,429
I think there's kind of been down

506
00:21:37,659 --> 00:21:34,190
ranking some of the didn't your videos

507
00:21:40,120 --> 00:21:37,669
get taken down because it's a yeah one

508
00:21:42,640 --> 00:21:40,130
day line that's that's happened a lot

509
00:21:46,240 --> 00:21:42,650
lately when they started they really

510
00:21:49,120 --> 00:21:46,250
ratcheted up their their automated yeah

511
00:21:52,210 --> 00:21:49,130
taking down in videos and they really

512
00:21:57,280 --> 00:21:52,220
just go by the title so my video on

513
00:21:59,610 --> 00:21:57,290

Holocaust denial got taken down and my

514

00:22:02,080 --> 00:21:59,620

whole channel got demonetized

515

00:22:03,669 --> 00:22:02,090

because of the titles of a number of

516

00:22:05,500 --> 00:22:03,679

these episodes now there's no human

517

00:22:07,330 --> 00:22:05,510

being actually involved in the process

518

00:22:09,580 --> 00:22:07,340

you know you can you can appeal the

519

00:22:13,510 --> 00:22:09,590

process and in a few days they almost

520

00:22:15,070 --> 00:22:13,520

always reverse that but I was able to

521

00:22:17,149 --> 00:22:15,080

get most of it taken care of through

522

00:22:19,460 --> 00:22:17,159

just kind of a back-channel connect

523

00:22:21,769 --> 00:22:19,470

with a friend with friends in high

524

00:22:23,509 --> 00:22:21,779

places who said none another skeptoid

525

00:22:26,509 --> 00:22:23,519

channel really needs to be whitelisted

526

00:22:29,659 --> 00:22:26,519

and and that's helped basically solve

527

00:22:32,659 --> 00:22:29,669

the problem the only thing now is when

528

00:22:35,960 --> 00:22:32,669

there's episodes like debunking 9/11

529

00:22:38,749 --> 00:22:35,970

truth advertisers don't necessarily want

530

00:22:41,599 --> 00:22:38,759

their ads on that content whether it's

531

00:22:43,039 --> 00:22:41,609

pro science or not it's just a subject

532

00:22:46,580 --> 00:22:43,049

that want to avoid so a number of those

533

00:22:48,769 --> 00:22:46,590

episodes are demonetized which is which

534

00:22:50,989 --> 00:22:48,779

it's fine I mean we make you know a

535

00:22:53,539 --> 00:22:50,999

matter of hundreds of dollars a month on

536

00:22:55,460 --> 00:22:53,549

YouTube it's not it's not a major source

537

00:22:59,019 --> 00:22:55,470

of income for us it's mostly just to

538

00:23:01,219 --> 00:22:59,029

have the content out there yeah yes I

539

00:23:03,729 --> 00:23:01,229

don't say it's all on one page your

540

00:23:06,739 --> 00:23:03,739

video say it's interesting kind of see

541

00:23:08,769 --> 00:23:06,749

how styles and shirts have changed over

542

00:23:11,749 --> 00:23:08,779

the last 10 years

543

00:23:14,359 --> 00:23:11,759

you seem to have got better fitting

544

00:23:16,479 --> 00:23:14,369

shirts over the years I would say that

545

00:23:20,810 --> 00:23:16,489

that's the biggest comment I get on my

546

00:23:22,759 --> 00:23:20,820

2008 video my god he goes 2008 now that

547

00:23:24,560 --> 00:23:22,769

video I did called here be dragons which

548

00:23:26,619 --> 00:23:24,570

is a 40 minute video I made the whole

549

00:23:31,430 --> 00:23:26,629

thing myself with a camera on a tripod

550

00:23:33,619 --> 00:23:31,440

and scripts taped to the camera yeah it

551
00:23:35,389 --> 00:23:33,629
was like a zero resource production but

552
00:23:40,609 --> 00:23:35,399
the most common comment is how I'm

553
00:23:42,560 --> 00:23:40,619
wearing a different shirt really that's

554
00:23:42,919 --> 00:23:42,570
what you're focusing on okay fine lesson

555
00:23:45,409 --> 00:23:42,929
learned

556
00:23:47,830 --> 00:23:45,419
always the same shirt yeah I guess it

557
00:23:52,989 --> 00:23:47,840
could be a distraction for people thank

558
00:23:56,769 --> 00:23:52,999
ya so let's talk about your book

559
00:23:59,180 --> 00:23:56,779
conspiracies Declassified this is like

560
00:24:00,529 --> 00:23:59,190
it's kind of like a skeptoid style thing

561
00:24:02,149 --> 00:24:00,539
and that you do like a whole bunch of

562
00:24:05,629 --> 00:24:02,159
different things and you do a nice neat

563
00:24:07,700 --> 00:24:05,639

kind of explanation of each one there's

564

00:24:09,409 --> 00:24:07,710

a trying to reach for my copy there's my

565

00:24:11,539 --> 00:24:09,419

dog-eared copy the one that I had to do

566

00:24:12,820 --> 00:24:11,549

whenever I have an author's reading or

567

00:24:14,869 --> 00:24:12,830

something I take this it's got all my

568

00:24:18,379 --> 00:24:14,879

writing and scribbles throughout it

569

00:24:21,349 --> 00:24:18,389

but yeah so this this was something that

570

00:24:23,570 --> 00:24:21,359

just kind of came to me out of the blue

571

00:24:26,749 --> 00:24:23,580

Simon and Schuster called and said hey

572

00:24:28,609 --> 00:24:26,759

we're doing this series of 50 of this 50

573

00:24:29,950 --> 00:24:28,619

of that and we want to do 50 conspiracy

574

00:24:31,840 --> 00:24:29,960

theories

575

00:24:36,010 --> 00:24:31,850

do you think you can think of 50

576

00:24:39,280 --> 00:24:36,020

conspiracy theories laughs I did an

577

00:24:41,140 --> 00:24:39,290

export from the skeptoid database with

578

00:24:43,480 --> 00:24:41,150

the conspiracy theory category and it

579

00:24:46,210 --> 00:24:43,490

was about 200 different trades I had

580

00:24:48,310 --> 00:24:46,220

already done so it became a matter of

581

00:24:52,360 --> 00:24:48,320

whittling it down to the the most

582

00:24:54,400 --> 00:24:52,370

popular 50 it was it was a lot of fun it

583

00:24:57,480 --> 00:24:54,410

was you know I'd already done all of the

584

00:25:00,160 --> 00:24:57,490

research so I really just had to rewrite

585

00:25:02,560 --> 00:25:00,170

episodes reformat them change it because

586

00:25:05,170 --> 00:25:02,570

each chapter in this book is it's like

587

00:25:08,140 --> 00:25:05,180

you know what's what's the what's the

588

00:25:10,840 --> 00:25:08,150

theory what's the truth what's the the

589

00:25:13,210 --> 00:25:10,850

explanation so I'd to break it all down

590

00:25:16,180 --> 00:25:13,220

into these sections for the one on

591

00:25:17,890 --> 00:25:16,190

flatter thing for the explanation I

592

00:25:21,280 --> 00:25:17,900

wanted just one sentence I just want to

593

00:25:23,050 --> 00:25:21,290

say the world is round it's gonna be the

594

00:25:25,840 --> 00:25:23,060

shortest chapter of the book and they

595

00:25:29,110 --> 00:25:25,850

wouldn't let me do that so it's

596

00:25:30,460 --> 00:25:29,120

interesting cuz I hey I said okay main

597

00:25:31,630 --> 00:25:30,470

issue you have with the plot surface is

598

00:25:34,030 --> 00:25:31,640

that it's very difficult to take them

599

00:25:36,010 --> 00:25:34,040

seriously because they're yeah they're

600

00:25:37,330 --> 00:25:36,020

obviously so obviously wrong but then I

601
00:25:39,610 --> 00:25:37,340
guess you could say the same thing about

602
00:25:42,550 --> 00:25:39,620
a lot of things like the supernatural

603
00:25:44,710 --> 00:25:42,560
stuff yeah no that's a good point and

604
00:25:47,650 --> 00:25:44,720
I've sort of modified my opinion on that

605
00:25:49,240 --> 00:25:47,660
because it makes sense to treat it

606
00:25:51,070 --> 00:25:49,250
seriously in the same way that you do

607
00:25:54,270 --> 00:25:51,080
like the the Bigfoot subjects that we're

608
00:25:57,280 --> 00:25:54,280
talking about so it actually does have

609
00:26:00,670 --> 00:25:57,290
fascinating sociology behind it it has

610
00:26:03,130 --> 00:26:00,680
really interesting history into how and

611
00:26:05,080 --> 00:26:03,140
when the theory you know appeared and

612
00:26:08,170 --> 00:26:05,090
then disappeared was gone for decades

613
00:26:10,510 --> 00:26:08,180

and then reappeared in what was it 2005

614

00:26:12,760 --> 00:26:10,520

I think was sort of the cases around

615

00:26:15,640 --> 00:26:12,770

that this guy that made a YouTube video

616

00:26:17,800 --> 00:26:15,650

and and a PDF document that this

617

00:26:20,680 --> 00:26:17,810

released at the same time and you look

618

00:26:24,010 --> 00:26:20,690

in Google Trends and Flat Earth was 0

619

00:26:25,900 --> 00:26:24,020

for decades until suddenly boom and then

620

00:26:28,360 --> 00:26:25,910

you can see each of those early videos

621

00:26:30,750 --> 00:26:28,370

appearing on YouTube and the huge spike

622

00:26:34,020 --> 00:26:30,760

in search terms for Flat Earth and

623

00:26:37,510 --> 00:26:34,030

that's the way kind of all these stories

624

00:26:39,850 --> 00:26:37,520

appear and get spread and so it's not a

625

00:26:41,860 --> 00:26:39,860

matter of gee don't people have any

626

00:26:43,000 --> 00:26:41,870

science education it's a matter of how

627

00:26:44,950 --> 00:26:43,010

does misinformation

628

00:26:46,930 --> 00:26:44,960

spread in society and that is an

629

00:26:49,300 --> 00:26:46,940

important subject that's worthy of

630

00:26:50,620 --> 00:26:49,310

worthy of study so I don't laugh at the

631

00:26:53,380 --> 00:26:50,630

flatterer thing anymore it's it's

632

00:26:55,450 --> 00:26:53,390

something that's you know obviously you

633

00:26:58,450 --> 00:26:55,460

laugh at the idea of it but as far as a

634

00:27:00,790 --> 00:26:58,460

subject for skeptical analysis it's very

635

00:27:05,350 --> 00:27:00,800

valid here I went for the same process

636

00:27:06,790 --> 00:27:05,360

myself like I originally posters a long

637

00:27:08,350 --> 00:27:06,800

kind of explanation of why I thought it

638

00:27:10,360 --> 00:27:08,360

was ridiculous leap and talk about it

639

00:27:13,060 --> 00:27:10,370

and this was I think maybe like four or

640

00:27:14,710 --> 00:27:13,070

five years ago I did this and then kind

641

00:27:15,910 --> 00:27:14,720

of it just kind of crept in and you

642

00:27:18,610 --> 00:27:15,920

realized that more and more people

643

00:27:20,560 --> 00:27:18,620

actually do believe it it wasn't just

644

00:27:22,420 --> 00:27:20,570

people like joking around even though

645

00:27:24,640 --> 00:27:22,430

there's a lot of that in there there's

646

00:27:26,080 --> 00:27:24,650

there's people who you know for some

647

00:27:27,820 --> 00:27:26,090

reason and they can't wrap their heads

648

00:27:29,470 --> 00:27:27,830

around the idea that the earth is

649

00:27:31,840 --> 00:27:29,480

actually round and that the scientists

650

00:27:33,730 --> 00:27:31,850

have it right and you know it is

651
00:27:36,100 --> 00:27:33,740
actually worth worth addressing and now

652
00:27:39,250 --> 00:27:36,110
I now I have this huge section of my

653
00:27:42,880 --> 00:27:39,260
forums I think it's also it's kind of

654
00:27:44,140 --> 00:27:42,890
fascinating too nerdy types because you

655
00:27:47,650 --> 00:27:44,150
get to do all this fun little bits of

656
00:27:49,660 --> 00:27:47,660
geometry and like working out the math

657
00:27:52,870 --> 00:27:49,670
on things and you think you think you

658
00:27:54,100 --> 00:27:52,880
can explain it to people but it's it's

659
00:27:57,160 --> 00:27:54,110
very very difficult because they don't

660
00:27:58,660 --> 00:27:57,170
really understand the math so it's it's

661
00:27:59,560 --> 00:27:58,670
kind of like bashing your head against a

662
00:28:02,970 --> 00:27:59,570
brick wall it's gonna frustrate

663
00:28:06,880 --> 00:28:02,980

frustrating do you remember there was a

664

00:28:08,980 --> 00:28:06,890

there was a theory or a guess or

665

00:28:10,600 --> 00:28:08,990

something that that the Flat Earth

666

00:28:12,550 --> 00:28:10,610

Society and the people who believe in

667

00:28:14,470 --> 00:28:12,560

the Flat Earth they don't really think

668

00:28:17,470 --> 00:28:14,480

that they're just doing it as a sort of

669

00:28:19,960 --> 00:28:17,480

logical rhetorical exercise yeah I never

670

00:28:22,870 --> 00:28:19,970

found any any evidence that that ever

671

00:28:25,210 --> 00:28:22,880

existed I heard plenty people say that

672

00:28:27,880 --> 00:28:25,220

or proposed that but I don't recall ever

673

00:28:30,160 --> 00:28:27,890

coming across anyone actually treating

674

00:28:32,740 --> 00:28:30,170

it that way there was a Canadian Flat

675

00:28:36,780 --> 00:28:32,750

Earth Society which I think was in the

676
00:28:39,520 --> 00:28:36,790
seventies otherwise which was actually

677
00:28:41,890 --> 00:28:39,530
thought to do that it was like some some

678
00:28:43,900 --> 00:28:41,900
guy like a philosopher and he set up

679
00:28:45,760 --> 00:28:43,910
this organization he didn't really

680
00:28:47,770 --> 00:28:45,770
believe it but he wanted to make people

681
00:28:51,970 --> 00:28:47,780
like question science and things like

682
00:28:55,750 --> 00:28:51,980
that so that one was actually that and I

683
00:28:57,480 --> 00:28:55,760
think I was the guy that tried to pick

684
00:28:59,800 --> 00:28:57,490
up from

685
00:29:01,240 --> 00:28:59,810
I'm forgetting their name the elderly

686
00:29:03,880 --> 00:29:01,250
couple that lived in the California

687
00:29:06,940 --> 00:29:03,890
desert that their house Noel me I'm not

688
00:29:10,000 --> 00:29:06,950

sure if it was but it's it's in it's in

689

00:29:12,550 --> 00:29:10,010

that the book you know beer what was it

690

00:29:15,430 --> 00:29:12,560

like the history of a dangerous idea the

691

00:29:17,260 --> 00:29:15,440

Flat Earth book yeah yeah but it wasn't

692

00:29:19,570 --> 00:29:17,270

that but it was that's the book you're

693

00:29:21,520 --> 00:29:19,580

talking about yeah yeah come on where

694

00:29:24,130 --> 00:29:21,530

it's cool anyways but yeah it's the that

695

00:29:26,890 --> 00:29:24,140

have actually been people who did it for

696

00:29:28,480 --> 00:29:26,900

philosophical reasons and some people

697

00:29:32,230 --> 00:29:28,490

you know they start out with this this

698

00:29:35,830 --> 00:29:32,240

philosophy of is the Texas ism which is

699

00:29:37,240 --> 00:29:35,840

you know terrible word no yes it a poor

700

00:29:40,360 --> 00:29:37,250

podcasting workers no one can pronounce

701
00:29:43,930 --> 00:29:40,370
it's a test ISM no never mind without

702
00:29:45,280 --> 00:29:43,940
that word and that you know they they

703
00:29:47,620 --> 00:29:45,290
don't believe in anything basically

704
00:29:51,400 --> 00:29:47,630
unless they can prove it for themselves

705
00:29:53,080 --> 00:29:51,410
so there's a long history over it was

706
00:29:55,150 --> 00:29:53,090
the name of the Australian skeptics

707
00:29:57,280 --> 00:29:55,160
magazine for a long time the Zeit etic

708
00:30:04,120 --> 00:29:57,290
yeah okay I can't imagine a worse name

709
00:30:05,740 --> 00:30:04,130
back off the shelf in interest I thought

710
00:30:07,930 --> 00:30:05,750
actually the original skeptical Inquirer

711
00:30:11,740 --> 00:30:07,940
was was called that either that or

712
00:30:14,110 --> 00:30:11,750
skeptic magazine in in America okay

713
00:30:17,500 --> 00:30:14,120

that's maybe the Australian one hmm yeah

714

00:30:20,680 --> 00:30:17,510

but yeah it's is it splatter earth is a

715

00:30:21,760 --> 00:30:20,690

very extreme thing and you know I didn't

716

00:30:23,710 --> 00:30:21,770

do it at first

717

00:30:25,990 --> 00:30:23,720

are there any conspiracies now that you

718

00:30:28,810 --> 00:30:26,000

think are kind of beyond the pale that

719

00:30:33,700 --> 00:30:28,820

you wouldn't you don't talk about it but

720

00:30:36,010 --> 00:30:33,710

I don't talk about like I don't know

721

00:30:38,470 --> 00:30:36,020

lizard people did you talk about that

722

00:30:41,830 --> 00:30:38,480

one I you know I did I did an episode on

723

00:30:45,340 --> 00:30:41,840

the lizard people very early on in in

724

00:30:49,060 --> 00:30:45,350

skeptoid and with you know there's a

725

00:30:52,360 --> 00:30:49,070

certain amount you can say about David

726

00:30:55,210 --> 00:30:52,370

lcke and you know looking at the blurry

727

00:30:57,430 --> 00:30:55,220

lines the video artifacts and a VHS tape

728

00:30:58,960 --> 00:30:57,440

you know we don't really have that sort

729

00:31:00,880 --> 00:30:58,970

of video artifacting anymore with my

730

00:31:03,840 --> 00:31:00,890

technologists I don't hear that so much

731

00:31:07,270 --> 00:31:03,850

so my episode focused more on the the

732

00:31:09,010 --> 00:31:07,280

genesis of this idea of lizard people

733

00:31:11,380 --> 00:31:09,020

living in underground

734

00:31:14,760 --> 00:31:11,390

cities particularly underneath Los

735

00:31:18,130 --> 00:31:14,770

Angeles and underneath Mount Shasta and

736

00:31:20,200 --> 00:31:18,140

I did come up with a with a really

737

00:31:23,980 --> 00:31:20,210

interesting history going all the way

738

00:31:26,200 --> 00:31:23,990

back to as far as I could tell the first

739

00:31:29,520 --> 00:31:26,210

time that that became a thing which was

740

00:31:34,090 --> 00:31:29,530

in in the gold rush days in Los Angeles

741

00:31:36,970 --> 00:31:34,100

a guy who was he got a lot of press in

742

00:31:38,290 --> 00:31:36,980

the in in the whatever if the newspaper

743

00:31:40,030 --> 00:31:38,300

was still called the Los Angeles Times

744

00:31:43,390 --> 00:31:40,040

and I don't remember he got a lot of

745

00:31:45,790 --> 00:31:43,400

newspaper press with his theory and he

746

00:31:48,520 --> 00:31:45,800

produced a map of all these tunnels

747

00:31:51,940 --> 00:31:48,530

underneath Los Angeles that and

748

00:31:54,940 --> 00:31:51,950

locations of big caches of gold stored

749

00:31:59,050 --> 00:31:54,950

in these tunnels and he had found these

750

00:32:01,270 --> 00:31:59,060

all using his his x-ray photography

751

00:32:03,970 --> 00:32:01,280

camera or something like that which

752

00:32:05,380 --> 00:32:03,980

turned out to be a dowsing pendulum that

753

00:32:07,740 --> 00:32:05,390

he just held and for some reason he

754

00:32:11,860 --> 00:32:07,750

called out an x-ray photography device

755

00:32:13,830 --> 00:32:11,870

and where he got this information this

756

00:32:18,820 --> 00:32:13,840

story about the people who built this

757

00:32:21,430 --> 00:32:18,830

underground tunnel came from a guy who

758

00:32:24,160 --> 00:32:21,440

as far as I can tell was pretending to

759

00:32:26,710 --> 00:32:24,170

have been from the Navajo Nation I was

760

00:32:30,520 --> 00:32:26,720

able to track down the Navajo Nation

761

00:32:32,410 --> 00:32:30,530

actually has a fascinatingly accessible

762

00:32:36,520 --> 00:32:32,420

public database of birth and death

763

00:32:38,680 --> 00:32:36,530

records going back as far as they've

764

00:32:41,260 --> 00:32:38,690

been able to go and and I was able to

765

00:32:43,510 --> 00:32:41,270

try and find verify that no such person

766

00:32:45,130 --> 00:32:43,520

as this guy had ever been in those

767

00:32:47,710 --> 00:32:45,140

databases I think he said he was an

768

00:32:49,510 --> 00:32:47,720

Apache and I believe that's included in

769

00:32:52,690 --> 00:32:49,520

the Navajo Nation archives I hope I'm

770

00:32:55,540 --> 00:32:52,700

remembering that correctly and he had a

771

00:32:58,570 --> 00:32:55,550

story about an ancient Native American

772

00:33:00,640 --> 00:32:58,580

belief and I went to the relevant Native

773

00:33:02,740 --> 00:33:00,650

American texts talking about all of

774

00:33:04,120 --> 00:33:02,750

their folklore and found no mention of

775

00:33:06,910 --> 00:33:04,130

anything remotely like what he was

776

00:33:10,660 --> 00:33:06,920

talking about so I believe that that

777

00:33:14,380 --> 00:33:10,670

ended up being sort of case zero for the

778

00:33:16,060 --> 00:33:14,390

the idea of the lizard clan living

779

00:33:18,340 --> 00:33:16,070

underneath Los Angeles and Mount Shasta

780

00:33:21,670 --> 00:33:18,350

so that was that was a really fun really

781

00:33:22,810 --> 00:33:21,680

fun episode yeah that's that's

782

00:33:25,299 --> 00:33:22,820

interesting

783

00:33:29,620 --> 00:33:25,309

quickly Mount Shasta and Los Angeles

784

00:33:31,029 --> 00:33:29,630

Manchester is kind of like I Drive past

785

00:33:33,070 --> 00:33:31,039

Mount Shasta a lot because I Drive up to

786

00:33:33,840 --> 00:33:33,080

Southern Oregon because I have family

787

00:33:36,759 --> 00:33:33,850

there

788

00:33:39,009 --> 00:33:36,769

and I never like in the Shasta area it's

789

00:33:41,169 --> 00:33:39,019

a very alternative culture area lots of

790

00:33:43,419 --> 00:33:41,179

kind of thinking of hippie types and

791

00:33:44,529 --> 00:33:43,429

new-age types and a lot of people who

792

00:33:47,620 --> 00:33:44,539

believe in the chemtrail conspiracy

793

00:33:50,320 --> 00:33:47,630

theory only that snow probably

794

00:33:52,180 --> 00:33:50,330

influenced by the presence of local

795

00:33:54,070 --> 00:33:52,190

underground aliens or my aliens just

796

00:33:55,539 --> 00:33:54,080

lizards I haven't actually heard that

797

00:33:56,799 --> 00:33:55,549

though from just from Shasta I think

798

00:34:01,269 --> 00:33:56,809

maybe it's something that they forgotten

799

00:34:04,869 --> 00:34:01,279

about they're in there with the with the

800

00:34:06,340 --> 00:34:04,879

Lemurians and the of course there's that

801
00:34:07,930 --> 00:34:06,350
there's the Bigfoot and then there's an

802
00:34:10,809 --> 00:34:07,940
invisible race and then there's a race

803
00:34:12,760 --> 00:34:10,819
of of like tiny gnomes and then there's

804
00:34:15,010 --> 00:34:12,770
the Nordic aliens Mount Shasta

805
00:34:19,450 --> 00:34:15,020
apparently is just full of full of

806
00:34:21,129 --> 00:34:19,460
beings yeah like a lot of this book it's

807
00:34:23,950 --> 00:34:21,139
quite a dramatic mountain if you've ever

808
00:34:26,109 --> 00:34:23,960
driven by it it's you can imagine that

809
00:34:28,419 --> 00:34:26,119
people people would definitely think

810
00:34:30,869 --> 00:34:28,429
it's a magical place but unless speaking

811
00:34:33,760 --> 00:34:30,879
of chemtrails like I was looking through

812
00:34:35,250 --> 00:34:33,770
skeptoid for episodes on chemtrails I

813
00:34:38,290 --> 00:34:35,260

think there's any there's anyone

814

00:34:40,629 --> 00:34:38,300

chemtrail episode I typically don't

815

00:34:42,579 --> 00:34:40,639

repeat episodes yeah and I haven't

816

00:34:44,169 --> 00:34:42,589

there's so many basic subjects I still

817

00:34:47,649 --> 00:34:44,179

haven't covered yet that I don't I don't

818

00:34:49,599 --> 00:34:47,659

go back and do a new one so I do updates

819

00:34:53,500 --> 00:34:49,609

and things like that and occasionally

820

00:34:56,379 --> 00:34:53,510

I'll put updates on a transcript but you

821

00:34:57,940 --> 00:34:56,389

know yeah often aren't it's like it's

822

00:35:01,960 --> 00:34:57,950

not like there's no new science about

823

00:35:04,210 --> 00:35:01,970

chemtrails it's true I haven't Ashley

824

00:35:06,099 --> 00:35:04,220

yeah I wrote loads about chemtrails as I

825

00:35:09,670 --> 00:35:06,109

have this contrails science web so yeah

826

00:35:10,839 --> 00:35:09,680

yeah and I I haven't updated it for a

827

00:35:12,670 --> 00:35:10,849

long time and haven't really written

828

00:35:15,160 --> 00:35:12,680

very much about them on on meta bank

829

00:35:18,430 --> 00:35:15,170

because nothing's really happening it's

830

00:35:20,200 --> 00:35:18,440

almost like it's run its course in a way

831

00:35:21,849 --> 00:35:20,210

and kind of settle down into this steady

832

00:35:23,470 --> 00:35:21,859

state where it's just going to become

833

00:35:25,809 --> 00:35:23,480

this conspiracy that some people believe

834

00:35:27,190 --> 00:35:25,819

in but nothing's really happening

835

00:35:30,309 --> 00:35:27,200

there was one what part of it like

836

00:35:31,870 --> 00:35:30,319

speaking about Shasta is that the one of

837

00:35:33,849 --> 00:35:31,880

the guys behind there the conspiracy

838

00:35:35,690 --> 00:35:33,859

theory had this idea that there was all

839

00:35:37,579 --> 00:35:35,700

this UV radiation coming down

840

00:35:39,470 --> 00:35:37,589

burning up all the trees and all the

841

00:35:40,940 --> 00:35:39,480

trees were gonna die over the next few

842

00:35:42,710 --> 00:35:40,950

years and he pointed to some trees that

843

00:35:45,289 --> 00:35:42,720

like we're dead and said this tree has

844

00:35:47,240 --> 00:35:45,299

been killed and he was like this very

845

00:35:49,460 --> 00:35:47,250

popular guy promoting the Kentrell

846

00:35:51,109 --> 00:35:49,470

theory and he made this kind of a

847

00:35:52,880 --> 00:35:51,119

prediction I guess like like three years

848

00:35:55,039 --> 00:35:52,890

ago saying that all the trees are gonna

849

00:35:56,569 --> 00:35:55,049

die without was during the droughts and

850

00:35:58,099 --> 00:35:56,579

then like the last year or two if had

851

00:36:00,260 --> 00:35:58,109

we've had pretty good rains over the

852

00:36:02,690 --> 00:36:00,270

winter and then I drove through Chester

853

00:36:04,819 --> 00:36:02,700

like a few weeks ago and it's just

854

00:36:07,039 --> 00:36:04,829

beautiful verdant green everywhere and

855

00:36:08,450 --> 00:36:07,049

there's no problem whatsoever so he must

856

00:36:09,710 --> 00:36:08,460

be seeing this every day I mean if

857

00:36:12,200 --> 00:36:09,720

there's any kind of cognitive dissonance

858

00:36:13,880 --> 00:36:12,210

going on there with or with that but you

859

00:36:16,250 --> 00:36:13,890

know I think I think like some

860

00:36:19,910 --> 00:36:16,260

conspiracy theorists do do run their

861

00:36:22,819 --> 00:36:19,920

course and they kind of like yeah just

862

00:36:24,829 --> 00:36:22,829

become like JFK for example did you have

863

00:36:26,750 --> 00:36:24,839

you ever written about JFK like this yes

864

00:36:28,460 --> 00:36:26,760

I did that was one that I resisted to

865

00:36:31,760 --> 00:36:28,470

answer your earlier question I resisted

866

00:36:35,120 --> 00:36:31,770

that for years yeah you know that's

867

00:36:37,280 --> 00:36:35,130

Bugliosi x' book on that is mmm 1600

868

00:36:39,440 --> 00:36:37,290

pages I think you know it's a it's

869

00:36:41,329 --> 00:36:39,450

literally that thick and I'm going how

870

00:36:43,609 --> 00:36:41,339

am I going to distill that into a 15

871

00:36:47,030 --> 00:36:43,619

minute podcast I just thought there's

872

00:36:50,569 --> 00:36:47,040

just no way to do it and so I when I

873

00:36:53,240 --> 00:36:50,579

finally did my episode on JFK I did not

874

00:36:54,980 --> 00:36:53,250

attempt to specifically debunk any of

875

00:36:58,010 --> 00:36:54,990

the claims because their countless

876

00:37:00,950 --> 00:36:58,020

there's hundreds hundreds of of these

877

00:37:02,660 --> 00:37:00,960

JFK conspiracy theories instead I just

878

00:37:04,309 --> 00:37:02,670

talked about the general you know the

879

00:37:05,960 --> 00:37:04,319

general phenomenon of how and why they

880

00:37:07,670 --> 00:37:05,970

appear I felt that was really the only

881

00:37:10,789 --> 00:37:07,680

the only way I could do any sort of

882

00:37:14,000 --> 00:37:10,799

justice to that topic yeah I I don't

883

00:37:15,200 --> 00:37:14,010

talk about JFK at all or really

884

00:37:16,789 --> 00:37:15,210

investigate it there's a couple of

885

00:37:19,670 --> 00:37:16,799

things on that event but it there's so

886

00:37:21,380 --> 00:37:19,680

much being written about it you know the

887

00:37:23,839 --> 00:37:21,390

book he mentioned and the case closed

888

00:37:25,490 --> 00:37:23,849

book I could be just yeah or you could

889

00:37:27,880 --> 00:37:25,500

read either one of those books and you

890

00:37:32,599 --> 00:37:27,890

get a great overview of what's going on

891

00:37:35,089 --> 00:37:32,609

but you mentioned we're talking about

892

00:37:37,970 --> 00:37:35,099

the new information coming up I was

893

00:37:40,940 --> 00:37:37,980

about to do an episode on the the Tom

894

00:37:43,400 --> 00:37:40,950

shoed case the Somerton Man because

895

00:37:45,829 --> 00:37:43,410

people have been repeatedly asking for

896

00:37:47,450 --> 00:37:45,839

that over the years which was you know

897

00:37:49,010 --> 00:37:47,460

it was a body that washed up on the

898

00:37:49,470 --> 00:37:49,020

beach in Australia

899

00:37:52,560 --> 00:37:49,480

where

900

00:37:56,070 --> 00:37:52,570

and he had like a weird encoded thing in

901
00:37:57,359 --> 00:37:56,080
his in his pond and you know I I don't I

902
00:37:59,970 --> 00:37:57,369
don't remember too much about it because

903
00:38:02,430 --> 00:37:59,980
I haven't done an episode on it and I

904
00:38:04,590 --> 00:38:02,440
was just about to do that episode when

905
00:38:06,420 --> 00:38:04,600
suddenly boom up pops in my Google

906
00:38:09,960 --> 00:38:06,430
Alerts there's new news on that now

907
00:38:12,720 --> 00:38:09,970
after decades some researcher has gotten

908
00:38:15,480 --> 00:38:12,730
permission to get his body exhumed so

909
00:38:16,620 --> 00:38:15,490
they can do DNA testing because the main

910
00:38:18,120 --> 00:38:16,630
part of mystery is that he's totally

911
00:38:21,120 --> 00:38:18,130
unidentified there's no one he could

912
00:38:23,099 --> 00:38:21,130
possibly be so they might actually crack

913
00:38:25,650 --> 00:38:23,109

that case so I'm kind of glad that I

914

00:38:27,300 --> 00:38:25,660

didn't do an episode on that yet yeah

915

00:38:29,010 --> 00:38:27,310

but that's rare that's about the only

916

00:38:33,720 --> 00:38:29,020

case I can think of where you take an

917

00:38:37,200 --> 00:38:33,730

old old you know cold case and all of a

918

00:38:38,760 --> 00:38:37,210

sudden the episode becomes screwed up

919

00:38:40,440 --> 00:38:38,770

because there's actually new information

920

00:38:42,120 --> 00:38:40,450

that's just it just doesn't happen yeah

921

00:38:43,560 --> 00:38:42,130

I think you can happen with Bigfoot

922

00:38:44,640 --> 00:38:43,570

they're not gonna find a Bigfoot you

923

00:38:46,200 --> 00:38:44,650

know they're not gonna catch a ghost

924

00:38:49,050 --> 00:38:46,210

they're not I'm not worried about most

925

00:38:51,120 --> 00:38:49,060

of the episodes something people ask me

926

00:38:53,640 --> 00:38:51,130

a lot is like you know what are you

927

00:38:55,740 --> 00:38:53,650

gonna do when when it's UFOs are

928

00:38:59,820 --> 00:38:55,750

disclosed how are you gonna feel when

929

00:39:02,340 --> 00:38:59,830

you prove to be wrong

930

00:39:04,440 --> 00:39:02,350

suppose people tell you about that tell

931

00:39:06,720 --> 00:39:04,450

you that about every single topic that

932

00:39:08,730 --> 00:39:06,730

you that you cover which must be a lot

933

00:39:10,349 --> 00:39:08,740

of a lot of egg on your face when

934

00:39:13,890 --> 00:39:10,359

finally everything is revealed to be

935

00:39:15,990 --> 00:39:13,900

true I'm one guy challenged me to drink

936

00:39:18,270 --> 00:39:16,000

a drink a six-pack of Diet Coke

937

00:39:21,300 --> 00:39:18,280

every day for a month and see if you're

938

00:39:23,310 --> 00:39:21,310

still alive I said not Diet Coke but

939

00:39:25,440 --> 00:39:23,320

diet dr. pepper is pretty much my fuel

940

00:39:28,830 --> 00:39:25,450

I've been doing at least 10 a day for 10

941

00:39:30,599 --> 00:39:28,840

years yeah I used to drink probably at

942

00:39:34,170 --> 00:39:30,609

least a six-pack of diet coke every day

943

00:39:36,210 --> 00:39:34,180

I stopped just because it was kind of

944

00:39:38,220 --> 00:39:36,220

pointless really it was just kind of get

945

00:39:39,870 --> 00:39:38,230

a habit I was doing but yeah I had a

946

00:39:41,099 --> 00:39:39,880

private Ridge full of Diet Coke and I

947

00:39:43,650 --> 00:39:41,109

would be going there and drinking diet

948

00:39:45,630 --> 00:39:43,660

coke all the time I actually it became

949

00:39:47,190 --> 00:39:45,640

like a motif in some of my 9/11

950

00:39:49,770 --> 00:39:47,200

debunking videos because I always used

951
00:39:51,599 --> 00:39:49,780
these diet coke cans to simulate various

952
00:39:53,490 --> 00:39:51,609
aspects so I would build like little

953
00:39:55,290 --> 00:39:53,500
towers a diet coke counter or stand on

954
00:39:56,730 --> 00:39:55,300
them and say this represents World Trade

955
00:39:58,520 --> 00:39:56,740
Center 7 but now I've stopped drinking

956
00:40:01,040 --> 00:39:58,530
diet coke so

957
00:40:03,380 --> 00:40:01,050
I have to I had the I to stock up on

958
00:40:05,630 --> 00:40:03,390
empty Diet Coke and before I gave it up

959
00:40:07,610 --> 00:40:05,640
so I've got enough to continue my my

960
00:40:13,730 --> 00:40:07,620
candy experiments in the future so what

961
00:40:15,320 --> 00:40:13,740
did you switch to water I can't can't

962
00:40:17,750 --> 00:40:15,330
seem to get through with just water no

963
00:40:20,690 --> 00:40:17,760

you just you just could have like get

964

00:40:22,700 --> 00:40:20,700

used to it it's uh I was inspired to do

965

00:40:24,590 --> 00:40:22,710

this by Stephen Fry indirectly because

966

00:40:26,960 --> 00:40:24,600

he and in one of his books he said like

967

00:40:29,120 --> 00:40:26,970

the way to give up sugar in coffee is

968

00:40:31,430 --> 00:40:29,130

just simply don't do it for a week and

969

00:40:32,780 --> 00:40:31,440

then you get used to it which which

970

00:40:34,220 --> 00:40:32,790

worked I tried I used that I should

971

00:40:36,500 --> 00:40:34,230

agree my coffee all the time and then I

972

00:40:37,910 --> 00:40:36,510

you know stopped it and got used to it

973

00:40:40,520 --> 00:40:37,920

and then I did the same thing with with

974

00:40:41,780 --> 00:40:40,530

with diet coke that took longer I must

975

00:40:43,610 --> 00:40:41,790

say it was probably like a couple of

976
00:40:46,610 --> 00:40:43,620
months before the cravings for another

977
00:40:48,860 --> 00:40:46,620
diet coke actually went away but now now

978
00:40:50,660 --> 00:40:48,870
they're gone well it was a long time ago

979
00:40:52,700 --> 00:40:50,670
that I switched from regular dr. pepper

980
00:40:54,770 --> 00:40:52,710
to diet dr. pepper and that was a hard

981
00:40:57,380 --> 00:40:54,780
change to make because it was disgusting

982
00:41:00,260 --> 00:40:57,390
but it didn't take long at all before a

983
00:41:02,720 --> 00:41:00,270
regular dr. pepper is just disgustingly

984
00:41:05,600 --> 00:41:02,730
sickly sweet I couldn't drink one I

985
00:41:07,550 --> 00:41:05,610
couldn't force one down yeah yeah yes

986
00:41:09,650 --> 00:41:07,560
it's an interesting thing like the human

987
00:41:10,970 --> 00:41:09,660
brain does get used to things and this

988
00:41:12,260 --> 00:41:10,980

that kind of bringing it back to the

989

00:41:14,870 --> 00:41:12,270

whole conspiracy theory thing like

990

00:41:16,490 --> 00:41:14,880

something yeah some advice that people

991

00:41:18,500 --> 00:41:16,500

give to people is to take a break from

992

00:41:20,060 --> 00:41:18,510

conspiracy theories like a lot of people

993

00:41:22,280 --> 00:41:20,070

I think because they do it over and over

994

00:41:24,200 --> 00:41:22,290

again they're consuming my YouTube

995

00:41:26,150 --> 00:41:24,210

videos just the same way I consume Diet

996

00:41:30,590 --> 00:41:26,160

Coke you get used to having that little

997

00:41:32,510 --> 00:41:30,600

fix of of conspiracism and if you can

998

00:41:34,550 --> 00:41:32,520

get someone just to take a break from it

999

00:41:35,990 --> 00:41:34,560

for more like even just a week you can

1000

00:41:38,840 --> 00:41:36,000

actually really help them kind of move

1001
00:41:39,500 --> 00:41:38,850
away from from that type of thing that's

1002
00:41:41,210 --> 00:41:39,510
a good idea

1003
00:41:44,720 --> 00:41:41,220
get out into the world you know meet

1004
00:41:47,360 --> 00:41:44,730
some friends at the pub don't different

1005
00:41:51,310 --> 00:41:47,370
friends yeah

1006
00:41:56,150 --> 00:41:51,320
so speaking of friends like your

1007
00:41:59,810 --> 00:41:56,160
documentary science friction this yeah

1008
00:42:02,180 --> 00:41:59,820
you you previewed it at a saikhan last

1009
00:42:06,220 --> 00:42:02,190
week we did we had we had about a 45

1010
00:42:09,680 --> 00:42:06,230
minute 48 minute cut which is about

1011
00:42:12,140 --> 00:42:09,690
probably half or so what its final

1012
00:42:14,990 --> 00:42:12,150
length will be

1013
00:42:15,620 --> 00:42:15,000

it was a rough cut but it held together

1014

00:42:17,450 --> 00:42:15,630

really well

1015

00:42:19,339 --> 00:42:17,460

and it gave the the audience we had

1016

00:42:22,190 --> 00:42:19,349

about 110 people in the room were mostly

1017

00:42:24,620 --> 00:42:22,200

people who had donated to the film so we

1018

00:42:26,150 --> 00:42:24,630

really wanted to you know it's been in

1019

00:42:27,260 --> 00:42:26,160

production for so long we really wanted

1020

00:42:28,670 --> 00:42:27,270

to give them something say here look

1021

00:42:32,150 --> 00:42:28,680

here we are doing what you what you're

1022

00:42:34,490 --> 00:42:32,160

paying is to do and the the reception

1023

00:42:36,770 --> 00:42:34,500

was fantastic it was but you know I'm

1024

00:42:39,079 --> 00:42:36,780

like one of the creators of it so I've

1025

00:42:40,849 --> 00:42:39,089

got this you know hyper critical vision

1026
00:42:42,410 --> 00:42:40,859
of it and everything I hate everything

1027
00:42:45,200 --> 00:42:42,420
about it oh this all needs to be better

1028
00:42:46,339 --> 00:42:45,210
so I don't I see that but the audience

1029
00:42:49,069 --> 00:42:46,349
didn't see that at all they were they

1030
00:42:51,799 --> 00:42:49,079
loved it and I was super pleased at the

1031
00:42:56,089 --> 00:42:51,809
reception that it got and even even in

1032
00:42:58,220 --> 00:42:56,099
its dramatically uncompleted state it's

1033
00:43:00,230 --> 00:42:58,230
going to be such a great film the the

1034
00:43:03,940 --> 00:43:00,240
interviewees that we have are so

1035
00:43:07,640 --> 00:43:03,950
fantastic and their stories are so good

1036
00:43:08,809 --> 00:43:07,650
yeah so these and just we didn't great

1037
00:43:11,539 --> 00:43:08,819
mentioned what these actually owed out

1038
00:43:13,940 --> 00:43:11,549

which is the point I will mention what

1039

00:43:16,059 --> 00:43:13,950

it's about it's is it's all interviews

1040

00:43:19,069 --> 00:43:16,069

with scientists who have been

1041

00:43:21,829 --> 00:43:19,079

misrepresented on television basically

1042

00:43:23,990 --> 00:43:21,839

they go on a Shark Week show and they

1043

00:43:26,329 --> 00:43:24,000

get edited to make it sound like yes

1044

00:43:29,210 --> 00:43:26,339

scientists do believe that the monster

1045

00:43:30,950 --> 00:43:29,220

shark does still exist and and many of

1046

00:43:32,690 --> 00:43:30,960

these cases are dramatic where they'll

1047

00:43:34,700 --> 00:43:32,700

just they'll make these little razor

1048

00:43:36,260 --> 00:43:34,710

blade edits and someone's sentenced to

1049

00:43:38,150 --> 00:43:36,270

make it sound like they said the exact

1050

00:43:39,950 --> 00:43:38,160

opposite of what they said and they'll

1051

00:43:44,029 --> 00:43:39,960

cover it with these little video edits

1052

00:43:47,779 --> 00:43:44,039

so we got we've got all kinds of cases

1053

00:43:51,859 --> 00:43:47,789

from going back a couple of decades in

1054

00:43:54,769 --> 00:43:51,869

some of these and even from today there

1055

00:43:58,069 --> 00:43:54,779

is a series running right now I won't

1056

00:44:02,390 --> 00:43:58,079

say which which has a number of experts

1057

00:44:05,059 --> 00:44:02,400

and experts in in each episode and two

1058

00:44:06,920 --> 00:44:05,069

of them that are running this season we

1059

00:44:09,079 --> 00:44:06,930

had our own hidden camera and hidden

1060

00:44:11,329 --> 00:44:09,089

microphones set up to record what was

1061

00:44:13,430 --> 00:44:11,339

actually said so part of my job is

1062

00:44:15,650 --> 00:44:13,440

watching every episode of this show as

1063

00:44:17,539 --> 00:44:15,660

it drops each week scrolling through

1064

00:44:18,650 --> 00:44:17,549

finding our experts and listening

1065

00:44:21,140 --> 00:44:18,660

carefully to how they're being

1066

00:44:23,570 --> 00:44:21,150

represented and so far they've been

1067

00:44:25,370 --> 00:44:23,580

honestly represented this season

1068

00:44:27,020 --> 00:44:25,380

but it's happened to both of them in the

1069

00:44:29,020 --> 00:44:27,030

past hoping it's going to happen to them

1070

00:44:31,670 --> 00:44:29,030

this season because we've got great

1071

00:44:33,590 --> 00:44:31,680

backup video and backup audio of what

1072

00:44:36,560 --> 00:44:33,600

was actually said to compare with in the

1073

00:44:38,420 --> 00:44:36,570

film and I should point out we always do

1074

00:44:39,950 --> 00:44:38,430

this in accordance with state laws for

1075

00:44:41,330 --> 00:44:39,960

recording people with or without their

1076

00:44:46,280 --> 00:44:41,340

knowledge we have to follow that very

1077

00:44:48,980 --> 00:44:46,290

carefully and you've got got people like

1078

00:44:52,760 --> 00:44:48,990

do you know Ken fader the archaeologist

1079

00:44:55,580 --> 00:44:52,770

no he is probably the most animated fun

1080

00:44:57,350 --> 00:44:55,590

speaker you'll ever encounter for his

1081

00:44:59,990 --> 00:44:57,360

interview we just set up the camera and

1082

00:45:02,150 --> 00:45:00,000

said go Ken and sat back and I think

1083

00:45:05,270 --> 00:45:02,160

it's an 11 minute long clip in the film

1084

00:45:07,550 --> 00:45:05,280

it's just telling this one story and

1085

00:45:09,650 --> 00:45:07,560

it's really the highlight of the film so

1086

00:45:13,010 --> 00:45:09,660

that's got some great personalities in

1087

00:45:15,770 --> 00:45:13,020

it with some great stories so it's being

1088

00:45:19,220 --> 00:45:15,780

a feature film it's gonna it is intended

1089

00:45:20,570 --> 00:45:19,230

for a commercial release it probably

1090

00:45:23,300 --> 00:45:20,580

won't be in theaters but it'll probably

1091

00:45:24,350 --> 00:45:23,310

be on Showtime HBO something like that

1092

00:45:27,530 --> 00:45:24,360

and then it'll know to the streaming

1093

00:45:29,930 --> 00:45:27,540

services so we're just trying to bring

1094

00:45:32,570 --> 00:45:29,940

The Skeptical message to a broader

1095

00:45:35,840 --> 00:45:32,580

audience and it's kind of what great

1096

00:45:37,160 --> 00:45:35,850

that we're all about here and and get it

1097

00:45:40,340 --> 00:45:37,170

off the internet and get it out into the

1098

00:45:41,870 --> 00:45:40,350

world yeah I you know I've had similar

1099

00:45:43,220 --> 00:45:41,880

experiences myself like being

1100

00:45:44,330 --> 00:45:43,230

interviewed and obviously they cut

1101
00:45:45,920 --> 00:45:44,340
things down because they interview you

1102
00:45:48,200 --> 00:45:45,930
for like an hour and then they use you

1103
00:45:52,430 --> 00:45:48,210
for like like a couple of seconds

1104
00:45:55,070 --> 00:45:52,440
sometimes do you like from from doing

1105
00:45:56,570 --> 00:45:55,080
all this research for the film do you

1106
00:45:59,120 --> 00:45:56,580
have like advice for people who are

1107
00:46:00,410 --> 00:45:59,130
going to be on one of these show is like

1108
00:46:03,800 --> 00:46:00,420
how they should act and what they should

1109
00:46:08,120 --> 00:46:03,810
what they should say well obviously you

1110
00:46:11,990 --> 00:46:08,130
need to be very careful I did a sting

1111
00:46:14,060 --> 00:46:12,000
myself for this show where I said nobody

1112
00:46:18,440 --> 00:46:14,070
believes this but and I gave the editor

1113
00:46:20,210 --> 00:46:18,450

of pause you know blah blah blah some BS

1114

00:46:22,070 --> 00:46:20,220

idea and then I gave the editor of pause

1115

00:46:24,770 --> 00:46:22,080

and then I said and of course that's not

1116

00:46:28,490 --> 00:46:24,780

true because of this trying to bait them

1117

00:46:30,500 --> 00:46:28,500

to use that but you can do that without

1118

00:46:32,150 --> 00:46:30,510

leaving the pauses for the editor as

1119

00:46:34,490 --> 00:46:32,160

long as you're just very careful about

1120

00:46:36,260 --> 00:46:34,500

how you phrase every sentence and as you

1121

00:46:38,120 --> 00:46:36,270

know from your experience

1122

00:46:40,069 --> 00:46:38,130

the director is gonna sit there and

1123

00:46:42,799 --> 00:46:40,079

prompt you can you say it this way can

1124

00:46:45,020 --> 00:46:42,809

you say it that way yes would it be

1125

00:46:46,670 --> 00:46:45,030

valid to say this and he'll just keep

1126
00:46:48,710 --> 00:46:46,680
making you answer the same question the

1127
00:46:51,260 --> 00:46:48,720
same sentence a hundred times until he

1128
00:46:55,160 --> 00:46:51,270
gets something he thinks he can use so

1129
00:46:58,490 --> 00:46:55,170
you can do that you can you can ask them

1130
00:47:01,010 --> 00:46:58,500
if you can record your own audio I did

1131
00:47:03,470 --> 00:47:01,020
it once you they typically don't like

1132
00:47:04,970 --> 00:47:03,480
that but I did it once and hey this is

1133
00:47:09,740 --> 00:47:04,980
for my own real I'm trying to expand my

1134
00:47:11,990 --> 00:47:09,750
real do you mind if I set this up so ask

1135
00:47:14,540 --> 00:47:12,000
if you can do that you know them you

1136
00:47:17,900 --> 00:47:14,550
expect not tell them that you expect not

1137
00:47:19,609 --> 00:47:17,910
to be edited out of context and be very

1138
00:47:22,970 --> 00:47:19,619

upset about it if you are tell them that

1139

00:47:25,670 --> 00:47:22,980

after the you do the interview yeah I

1140

00:47:28,190 --> 00:47:25,680

think I got you it gives you an

1141

00:47:29,720 --> 00:47:28,200

interesting perspective like having been

1142

00:47:32,150 --> 00:47:29,730

on these shows when you see how the

1143

00:47:34,640 --> 00:47:32,160

sausage is made it kind of in a way not

1144

00:47:36,440 --> 00:47:34,650

you know we can almost ruins like that

1145

00:47:38,150 --> 00:47:36,450

type of show for me now because now you

1146

00:47:39,650 --> 00:47:38,160

can tell when someone says something

1147

00:47:41,030 --> 00:47:39,660

that there's a producer just off to the

1148

00:47:42,770 --> 00:47:41,040

side who's prompted them to say

1149

00:47:44,270 --> 00:47:42,780

something in a certain way yeah this

1150

00:47:46,130 --> 00:47:44,280

this really amazing thing looks like

1151

00:47:46,970 --> 00:47:46,140

it's coming out of the ocean you know

1152

00:47:48,859 --> 00:47:46,980

that's not what they're actually

1153

00:47:51,440 --> 00:47:48,869

thinking that's something that the

1154

00:47:54,289 --> 00:47:51,450

producer is somehow contrived for them

1155

00:47:56,390 --> 00:47:54,299

to actually say and it's a you know it's

1156

00:47:57,400 --> 00:47:56,400

uh it gives you a very different

1157

00:48:00,170 --> 00:47:57,410

perspective

1158

00:48:02,150 --> 00:48:00,180

another thing that it's done is when

1159

00:48:05,329 --> 00:48:02,160

when we're watching these shows now and

1160

00:48:07,490 --> 00:48:05,339

there's someone who briefly appears with

1161

00:48:09,230 --> 00:48:07,500

to say something you don't know who this

1162

00:48:11,030 --> 00:48:09,240

person is anymore because no matter what

1163

00:48:13,849 --> 00:48:11,040

they're saying they could be a scientist

1164

00:48:15,680 --> 00:48:13,859

who actually knows what's going on who

1165

00:48:17,990 --> 00:48:15,690

is just being you know kind of

1166

00:48:20,180 --> 00:48:18,000

deceptively edited or just using a

1167

00:48:23,270 --> 00:48:20,190

corner of one sentence or it could be a

1168

00:48:25,280 --> 00:48:23,280

total lowest person it's kind of broken

1169

00:48:28,010 --> 00:48:25,290

down the barrier between who's an expert

1170

00:48:31,039 --> 00:48:28,020

and who's not it's democratized

1171

00:48:33,380 --> 00:48:31,049

expertise oh yeah and the little of the

1172

00:48:35,270 --> 00:48:33,390

titles they give you I think I've had

1173

00:48:37,670 --> 00:48:35,280

like three different titles I had like

1174

00:48:40,280 --> 00:48:37,680

like I think well chemtrail expert

1175

00:48:45,319 --> 00:48:40,290

contrail expert aviation expert and

1176
00:48:49,309 --> 00:48:45,329
video expert maybe like I'm a chem trail

1177
00:48:49,940 --> 00:48:49,319
expert but I got to tell you my favorite

1178
00:48:55,700 --> 00:48:49,950
my face

1179
00:48:57,140 --> 00:48:55,710
story from this I was doing I was

1180
00:48:58,700 --> 00:48:57,150
talking one of these shows these

1181
00:49:01,540 --> 00:48:58,710
producers we're talking to me they

1182
00:49:06,200 --> 00:49:01,550
wanted to come and interview me for I

1183
00:49:08,390 --> 00:49:06,210
don't even remember what it was and we

1184
00:49:10,940 --> 00:49:08,400
were all set up to do it and they were

1185
00:49:12,740 --> 00:49:10,950
they missed a couple of calls that we

1186
00:49:14,690 --> 00:49:12,750
had and I called them up and said hey

1187
00:49:16,130 --> 00:49:14,700
you know my schedules filling up did you

1188
00:49:18,170 --> 00:49:16,140

still want to do this or not and they

1189

00:49:19,730 --> 00:49:18,180

said well I'll be honest with you

1190

00:49:21,050 --> 00:49:19,740

everyone knows about science friction

1191

00:49:24,880 --> 00:49:21,060

nobody will touch you with a 10-foot

1192

00:49:27,050 --> 00:49:24,890

Pole and on the one hand I said great

1193

00:49:30,290 --> 00:49:27,060

great that everyone knows about science

1194

00:49:32,270 --> 00:49:30,300

friction first of all but the other

1195

00:49:35,500 --> 00:49:32,280

thing that happened is that then about a

1196

00:49:38,960 --> 00:49:35,510

week after that call I see on Twitter

1197

00:49:40,400 --> 00:49:38,970

somebody says hey my favorite guy Brian

1198

00:49:46,460 --> 00:49:40,410

Dunning is on mysteries at the museum

1199

00:49:48,589 --> 00:49:46,470

right now I go on the streets so I do a

1200

00:49:50,839 --> 00:49:48,599

little searching online I find the

1201

00:49:54,230 --> 00:49:50,849

episode and downloaded they had an actor

1202

00:49:57,859 --> 00:49:54,240

portray me they had some guy sitting at

1203

00:49:58,790 --> 00:49:57,869

a desk and then who's the narrator on

1204

00:50:02,930 --> 00:49:58,800

mysteries at the museum

1205

00:50:06,859 --> 00:50:02,940

what's his name whoever he is great guy

1206

00:50:09,410 --> 00:50:06,869

I like him he's a science writer Brian

1207

00:50:11,720 --> 00:50:09,420

Dunning did some research and he found

1208

00:50:14,120 --> 00:50:11,730

this out and they keep cutting back to

1209

00:50:16,849 --> 00:50:14,130

this guy and it's a some guy who doesn't

1210

00:50:20,030 --> 00:50:16,859

look anything like me of course with his

1211

00:50:21,890 --> 00:50:20,040

Windows PC and his dial telephone and

1212

00:50:25,400 --> 00:50:21,900

all these things that are exactly my

1213

00:50:26,780 --> 00:50:25,410

desk and his bright pink shirt they keep

1214

00:50:28,700 --> 00:50:26,790

cutting back to him and easting outgoing

1215

00:50:30,020 --> 00:50:28,710

aha guy try this is so difficult to

1216

00:50:34,870 --> 00:50:30,030

figure out where he's talking on the

1217

00:50:37,190 --> 00:50:34,880

phone it was it was comical I love ya

1218

00:50:39,410 --> 00:50:37,200

did they did they put like a little

1219

00:50:41,809 --> 00:50:39,420

reenactment thing at the bottom of the

1220

00:50:43,430 --> 00:50:41,819

screen and and I believe I am unique

1221

00:50:45,380 --> 00:50:43,440

among all of my friends in science

1222

00:50:47,960 --> 00:50:45,390

communication that I have been now

1223

00:50:52,880 --> 00:50:47,970

portrayed by an actor that's very

1224

00:50:54,950 --> 00:50:52,890

impressive so they can't claim that must

1225

00:50:56,540 --> 00:50:54,960

be misquoted with me well I guess in the

1226

00:50:58,040 --> 00:50:56,550

future they could they could make a deep

1227

00:51:02,250 --> 00:50:58,050

fake every well they could prob'ly do

1228

00:51:03,599 --> 00:51:02,260

that now yeah which would have been less

1229

00:51:05,550 --> 00:51:03,609

yeah what do you say what do you think

1230

00:51:09,359 --> 00:51:05,560

about deep fakes and like it's gonna be

1231

00:51:17,130 --> 00:51:09,369

a big thing in the future four four four

1232

00:51:19,349 --> 00:51:17,140

bunk production it it it is but most

1233

00:51:21,960 --> 00:51:19,359

of the most of the best research that I

1234

00:51:25,490 --> 00:51:21,970

have the best research materials when

1235

00:51:28,770 --> 00:51:25,500

I'm doing a subject are from books

1236

00:51:30,470 --> 00:51:28,780

especially books and articles written at

1237

00:51:34,250 --> 00:51:30,480

the time when the event occurred and

1238

00:51:38,609 --> 00:51:34,260

watching the story grow and change

1239

00:51:40,260 --> 00:51:38,619

through documentary research that's not

1240

00:51:41,520 --> 00:51:40,270

going to be impacted at all by deep

1241

00:51:46,080 --> 00:51:41,530

fakes

1242

00:51:48,380 --> 00:51:46,090

kind of the same influence that we're

1243

00:51:50,820 --> 00:51:48,390

getting right now by you know the

1244

00:51:53,070 --> 00:51:50,830

Russian articles on Facebook and that

1245

00:51:54,990 --> 00:51:53,080

kind of thing it's going to continue to

1246

00:51:58,140 --> 00:51:55,000

cause rifts but I don't think it's going

1247

00:52:02,010 --> 00:51:58,150

to have any historical impact I don't

1248

00:52:04,410 --> 00:52:02,020

think it's gonna have any any it

1249

00:52:06,090 --> 00:52:04,420

wouldn't throw me off the track for a

1250

00:52:08,730 --> 00:52:06,100

skeptoid episode I don't think I've ever

1251

00:52:11,670 --> 00:52:08,740

used a video quote of something someone

1252

00:52:13,080 --> 00:52:11,680

said as you know evidence of what

1253

00:52:14,280 --> 00:52:13,090

actually took place in some particular

1254

00:52:15,690 --> 00:52:14,290

urban legend

1255

00:52:17,190 --> 00:52:15,700

I don't know I'm probably wrong about

1256

00:52:18,840 --> 00:52:17,200

that I think there's a lot about that

1257

00:52:21,450 --> 00:52:18,850

that we can't really predict what what

1258

00:52:24,150 --> 00:52:21,460

sort of impact it's going to have yeah I

1259

00:52:26,760 --> 00:52:24,160

don't know what do you think it's gonna

1260

00:52:28,470 --> 00:52:26,770

be way more prevalent I think it's gonna

1261

00:52:31,260 --> 00:52:28,480

be kind of a period where people of

1262

00:52:33,900 --> 00:52:31,270

transition between you know trusting

1263

00:52:35,340 --> 00:52:33,910

video of people to not trusting video of

1264

00:52:37,620 --> 00:52:35,350

people and in between there's gonna be

1265

00:52:41,760 --> 00:52:37,630

all this confusion right before like

1266

00:52:44,910 --> 00:52:41,770

people would trust photographs and tell

1267

00:52:46,830 --> 00:52:44,920

they photoshop and editing photographs

1268

00:52:48,599 --> 00:52:46,840

became so easy for people to do that

1269

00:52:50,970 --> 00:52:48,609

everyone was automatically saying you

1270

00:52:53,340 --> 00:52:50,980

know this is fake as is photoshopped so

1271

00:52:56,820 --> 00:52:53,350

there might be a period of confusion but

1272

00:53:00,090 --> 00:52:56,830

it could and no it's it's gonna be

1273

00:53:02,450 --> 00:53:00,100

tricky because people do base things on

1274

00:53:05,370 --> 00:53:02,460

on videos and if you have these

1275

00:53:06,870 --> 00:53:05,380

impossible to detect fakes it's gonna

1276

00:53:08,880 --> 00:53:06,880

kind of change the landscape a bit

1277

00:53:11,400 --> 00:53:08,890

versus it's hard to say I don't I don't

1278

00:53:13,680 --> 00:53:11,410

really know I think perhaps AI might be

1279

00:53:15,840 --> 00:53:13,690

in general might be a bigger thing and

1280

00:53:19,010 --> 00:53:15,850

that you can have a

1281

00:53:21,270 --> 00:53:19,020

that will act like actual people and

1282

00:53:23,790 --> 00:53:21,280

pretends to be people and then we can

1283

00:53:27,090 --> 00:53:23,800

pretend to be videos of people and you

1284

00:53:29,850 --> 00:53:27,100

know I could be talking to you right now

1285

00:53:31,530 --> 00:53:29,860

as an AI I can say I didn't know 10-15

1286

00:53:32,880 --> 00:53:31,540

years time and you will be

1287

00:53:34,530 --> 00:53:32,890

indistinguishable from the real thing

1288

00:53:37,020 --> 00:53:34,540

even down to everything we're actually

1289

00:53:37,890 --> 00:53:37,030

saying and a little laughs and jokes and

1290

00:53:39,180 --> 00:53:37,900

things like that

1291

00:53:42,720 --> 00:53:39,190

a lot of people say I'm already

1292

00:53:45,090 --> 00:53:42,730

indistinguishable for yeah I get that I

1293

00:53:46,500 --> 00:53:45,100

get that sometimes I think there's

1294

00:53:48,210 --> 00:53:46,510

definitely gonna be an interesting arms

1295

00:53:50,910 --> 00:53:48,220

race though between detection

1296

00:53:54,660 --> 00:53:50,920

technologies and and and the faking

1297

00:53:56,850 --> 00:53:54,670

technologies that you know that never

1298

00:53:59,790 --> 00:53:56,860

really we kept seeing stuff when

1299

00:54:01,590 --> 00:53:59,800

Photoshop became bigger and bigger and

1300

00:54:06,210 --> 00:54:01,600

manipulation of photos we kept seeing

1301
00:54:08,130 --> 00:54:06,220
news about detection technologies and I

1302
00:54:09,510 --> 00:54:08,140
assume they're still out there but I

1303
00:54:11,220 --> 00:54:09,520
don't hear news about it anymore

1304
00:54:14,460 --> 00:54:11,230
yeah they're mean there are certain

1305
00:54:16,740 --> 00:54:14,470
tools you can use kind of detects if a

1306
00:54:18,960 --> 00:54:16,750
photo has been edited but there's also

1307
00:54:21,330 --> 00:54:18,970
ways around them like a lot of the stuff

1308
00:54:23,100 --> 00:54:21,340
you do is degrading the photograph yeah

1309
00:54:25,170 --> 00:54:23,110
so it can have averages everything out

1310
00:54:28,350 --> 00:54:25,180
yeah and this is these techniques going

1311
00:54:30,750 --> 00:54:28,360
work yeah yeah and some of the you know

1312
00:54:32,760 --> 00:54:30,760
the techniques now like the the the AI

1313
00:54:35,730 --> 00:54:32,770

techniques the deep neural networks that

1314

00:54:37,100 --> 00:54:35,740

they have for kind of faking scenes can

1315

00:54:38,850 --> 00:54:37,110

be used to make it so it's almost

1316

00:54:41,040 --> 00:54:38,860

indistinguishable from the real thing

1317

00:54:43,380 --> 00:54:41,050

you've got a eyes now that can take a

1318

00:54:46,110 --> 00:54:43,390

photo of a landscape in summer and

1319

00:54:47,850 --> 00:54:46,120

change it to the same photo in winter in

1320

00:54:51,270 --> 00:54:47,860

a way that's almost indistinguishable

1321

00:54:53,940 --> 00:54:51,280

both from reality well it's it's

1322

00:54:57,360 --> 00:54:53,950

knowledge of what what landscape looked

1323

00:54:59,880 --> 00:54:57,370

like in winter and summer so yeah I

1324

00:55:02,220 --> 00:54:59,890

don't think well the arms race is

1325

00:55:04,320 --> 00:55:02,230

actually going to keep up with with that

1326
00:55:05,730 --> 00:55:04,330
type of thing I suppose like AI doing it

1327
00:55:09,060 --> 00:55:05,740
will be a big thing

1328
00:55:10,410 --> 00:55:09,070
ai debunking is I think something is

1329
00:55:12,660 --> 00:55:10,420
going to be in the future as well like

1330
00:55:15,210 --> 00:55:12,670
yeah I'm hoping to get like eventually

1331
00:55:16,950 --> 00:55:15,220
AI robots like scouring Twitter and

1332
00:55:18,360 --> 00:55:16,960
Facebook and finding people saying

1333
00:55:20,550 --> 00:55:18,370
things that are wrong and then gently

1334
00:55:22,460 --> 00:55:20,560
explaining to them in a nice tone of

1335
00:55:24,900 --> 00:55:22,470
voice that you know why they are wrong

1336
00:55:27,870 --> 00:55:24,910
doing doing you know doing what I do but

1337
00:55:29,790 --> 00:55:27,880
but it's scale but we'll see let's go

1338
00:55:32,220 --> 00:55:29,800

the future you know more about this that

1339

00:55:34,620 --> 00:55:32,230

do you think it's possible that there

1340

00:55:37,320 --> 00:55:34,630

could be something like like a an

1341

00:55:39,510 --> 00:55:37,330

originality key some encrypted key

1342

00:55:40,640 --> 00:55:39,520

embedded in original video that's that's

1343

00:55:43,500 --> 00:55:40,650

authentic

1344

00:55:44,730 --> 00:55:43,510

yeah and they you know fake videos

1345

00:55:46,350 --> 00:55:44,740

wouldn't have that and a lot of real

1346

00:55:48,600 --> 00:55:46,360

videos didn't have that also but at

1347

00:55:51,060 --> 00:55:48,610

least be able to prove originality

1348

00:55:52,590 --> 00:55:51,070

yeah and that there are actually things

1349

00:55:54,690 --> 00:55:52,600

that do that I mean there's there's like

1350

00:56:00,240 --> 00:55:54,700

copyright things that people can embed

1351
00:56:02,250 --> 00:56:00,250
in videos that's that's you could detect

1352
00:56:03,900 --> 00:56:02,260
straight away without having to look at

1353
00:56:05,940 --> 00:56:03,910
the actual content you can kind of get

1354
00:56:08,940 --> 00:56:05,950
these little little modulations of

1355
00:56:11,550 --> 00:56:08,950
things in the video so to embed a key

1356
00:56:15,690 --> 00:56:11,560
you can certainly have something in the

1357
00:56:17,340 --> 00:56:15,700
camera that will sign a video file so

1358
00:56:19,050 --> 00:56:17,350
that if it's edited then it will it will

1359
00:56:20,460 --> 00:56:19,060
know that it's being edited but problem

1360
00:56:22,380 --> 00:56:20,470
with that is that when people take video

1361
00:56:24,210 --> 00:56:22,390
take photos they're always taking very

1362
00:56:26,100 --> 00:56:24,220
large photographs and then they have to

1363
00:56:28,320 --> 00:56:26,110

compress them down to a smaller one and

1364

00:56:30,410 --> 00:56:28,330

edit them somehow so you'd have to have

1365

00:56:32,430 --> 00:56:30,420

some kind of chain of custody of keys

1366

00:56:34,350 --> 00:56:32,440

going through that which could be a

1367

00:56:36,720 --> 00:56:34,360

difficult thing couldn't no one's doing

1368

00:56:39,720 --> 00:56:36,730

it now it's it's the adoption of that

1369

00:56:43,860 --> 00:56:39,730

isn't going to really happen so possible

1370

00:56:46,580 --> 00:56:43,870

but not not likely to happen in the

1371

00:56:50,880 --> 00:56:46,590

future I would say imagine a blockchain

1372

00:56:54,660 --> 00:56:50,890

for every image that anyone takes from

1373

00:56:58,080 --> 00:56:54,670

their iPhone yes I would never get quite

1374

00:57:00,470 --> 00:56:58,090

large so what do you what are you doing

1375

00:57:04,350 --> 00:57:00,480

next what's your next project after uh

1376
00:57:07,710 --> 00:57:04,360
science fiction so that's something that

1377
00:57:10,680 --> 00:57:07,720
we're talking a lot about I'm I'm most

1378
00:57:13,500 --> 00:57:10,690
eager to get into producing public

1379
00:57:16,470 --> 00:57:13,510
broadcasting programming mm-hmm so we're

1380
00:57:17,790 --> 00:57:16,480
up here in Central Oregon and OPB Oregon

1381
00:57:20,430 --> 00:57:17,800
Public Broadcasting's actually the

1382
00:57:26,160 --> 00:57:20,440
second largest producer of public

1383
00:57:28,200 --> 00:57:26,170
television after WGBH Boston and it's

1384
00:57:32,640 --> 00:57:28,210
something we don't know a lot of a lot

1385
00:57:34,740 --> 00:57:32,650
about yet and we don't have a good

1386
00:57:36,690 --> 00:57:34,750
concept for what that show would be yet

1387
00:57:38,940 --> 00:57:36,700
but it's something that my my

1388
00:57:41,760 --> 00:57:38,950

fundraising team is pretty well plugged

1389

00:57:42,490 --> 00:57:41,770

into the public broadcasting scene up

1390

00:57:44,890 --> 00:57:42,500

here and we're

1391

00:57:47,320 --> 00:57:44,900

we're just starting to dip our toe in

1392

00:57:50,290 --> 00:57:47,330

and get our feet wet you know doing a

1393

00:57:52,390 --> 00:57:50,300

podcast is not it's not a business model

1394

00:57:54,970 --> 00:57:52,400

for our company and it's not a career

1395

00:57:56,349 --> 00:57:54,980

for a person so you know I've always

1396

00:57:58,030 --> 00:57:56,359

known that we need to move on to bigger

1397

00:58:00,130 --> 00:57:58,040

and better things the movie is is

1398

00:58:04,089 --> 00:58:00,140

obviously one big step in that direction

1399

00:58:05,589 --> 00:58:04,099

science friction and I just want to

1400

00:58:07,960 --> 00:58:05,599

looking for the next thing that's going

1401

00:58:11,349 --> 00:58:07,970

to be a little bit more sustainable on

1402

00:58:14,950 --> 00:58:11,359

an ongoing basis and PBS programming is

1403

00:58:17,349 --> 00:58:14,960

kind of my my big goal right now yeah

1404

00:58:21,099 --> 00:58:17,359

that'd be great yeah it's a great

1405

00:58:24,010 --> 00:58:21,109

platform and an audience which is just

1406

00:58:26,020 --> 00:58:24,020

good yeah and it has it has long legs I

1407

00:58:29,140 --> 00:58:26,030

mean not that programming gets you know

1408

00:58:33,250 --> 00:58:29,150

rebroadcast for decades yeah yeah

1409

00:58:35,410 --> 00:58:33,260

there's the long tail of PBS yeah well

1410

00:58:38,440 --> 00:58:35,420

that's a great very interesting stuff

1411

00:58:39,510 --> 00:58:38,450

and how can people find you on the

1412

00:58:41,920 --> 00:58:39,520

Internet

1413

00:58:44,410 --> 00:58:41,930

best places just to come to skeptoid

1414

00:58:46,599 --> 00:58:44,420

calm that's sort of the home base for

1415

00:58:49,420 --> 00:58:46,609

the podcast and for for everything else

1416

00:58:50,620 --> 00:58:49,430

that we do it's that's where to dive in

1417

00:58:53,609 --> 00:58:50,630

and of course I'm on all the social

1418

00:58:57,220 --> 00:58:53,619

media Brian Dunning and skeptoid both

1419

00:58:59,230 --> 00:58:57,230

yeah so yes I highly recommend skeptoid

1420

00:59:00,790 --> 00:58:59,240

very interesting set of things you can

1421

00:59:02,680 --> 00:59:00,800

just go there look at the full list of

1422

00:59:05,079 --> 00:59:02,690

episodes and just scroll down the whole

1423

00:59:08,140 --> 00:59:05,089

list that's just endless endlessly

1424

00:59:10,150 --> 00:59:08,150

fascinating stuff to look at for pretty

1425

00:59:12,940 --> 00:59:10,160

insane and the nice nice little chunks

1426

00:59:15,160 --> 00:59:12,950

they're like like 12 15 minutes chunks

1427

00:59:17,140 --> 00:59:15,170

which are very very digestible and and

1428

00:59:18,520 --> 00:59:17,150

yet they cover everything and in

1429

00:59:21,670 --> 00:59:18,530

sufficient detail for you to get a good

1430

00:59:23,079 --> 00:59:21,680

overview so I highly recommend it thank

1431

00:59:26,380 --> 00:59:23,089

you all right Brian well thank you very