

1

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

I had a home that was everything to me.

2

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

We really had no idea of the things that we would discover in the house.

3

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

We had never seen anything that violent.

4

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

It was like someone were saying, I'm here.

5

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

I'm here. I'm here.

6

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

There's somebody there.

7

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

As much as I wanted her to not be there, she was there.

8

00:00:58,000 --> 00:01:04,000

There's nothing here.

9

00:01:04,000 --> 00:01:06,000

No, I mean, come on.

10

00:01:06,000 --> 00:01:09,000

This would be a huge move for me.

11

00:01:09,000 --> 00:01:15,000

In 2005, I was given the opportunity to interview for the Dean's Ship of the School of Arts and Humanities

12

00:01:15,000 --> 00:01:19,000

at the University of Arkansas in Washington, New York.

13

00:01:19,000 --> 00:01:25,000

In 2005, I was given the opportunity to interview for the Dean's Ship of the School of Arts and Humanities

14

00:01:25,000 --> 00:01:28,000

at the University of Arkansas in Monticello.

15

00:01:28,000 --> 00:01:30,000

Let me just hear them out.

16

00:01:30,000 --> 00:01:34,000

My wife, Rebecca, was wary of moving away from Oklahoma.

17

00:01:34,000 --> 00:01:41,000

When Mark first started applying for jobs, I told him I would move anywhere but Alaska or Arkansas.

18

00:01:41,000 --> 00:01:44,000

And so he puts me in the car to go to Arkansas.

19

00:01:44,000 --> 00:01:46,000

I'm a city girl.

20

00:01:47,000 --> 00:01:54,000

Rebecca and I turned down North Main Street, and immediately we were impressed by this beautiful,

21

00:01:54,000 --> 00:01:59,000

circa 1900 Victorian mansions.

22

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

When we came to one in particular that caused us to stop the car.

23

00:02:08,000 --> 00:02:10,000

It was love at first sight.

24

00:02:11,000 --> 00:02:20,000

I just said, Mark, I will only move to this town if you buy me that house.

25

00:02:20,000 --> 00:02:31,000

I knew that I would only be happy in such an isolated location if I had a home that was everything to me.

26

00:02:33,000 --> 00:02:39,000

We really had no idea of the things that we would discover in the house.

27

00:02:41,000 --> 00:02:52,000

We moved to Monticello in the summer of 2005.

28

00:02:54,000 --> 00:02:58,000

We really were fulfilling our desires.

29

00:02:58,000 --> 00:02:59,000

Thanks.

30

00:02:59,000 --> 00:03:00,000

Let's go, let's go.

31

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

And now we have the house of our dreams.

32

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

That wasn't the fairy tale image that I took from it.

33

00:03:11,000 --> 00:03:17,000

I didn't feel so much like a princess as I did a scared little kid.

34

00:03:21,000 --> 00:03:26,000

The house is enormous and you feel very vulnerable to it.

35

00:03:27,000 --> 00:03:32,000

I felt mesmerized, I felt very spellbound.

36

00:03:32,000 --> 00:03:40,000

I just laid down on the floor on my back and just had that moment for myself of, wow, I own it.

37

00:03:56,000 --> 00:04:01,000

I'm going to take these and move over.

38

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

They are, just rearrange them how you want, okay?

39

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

A little after we had just moved in, we had decided to sort of rearrange the house.

40

00:04:26,000 --> 00:04:48,000

Out of the corner of my eye, I caught the record spinning.

41

00:04:49,000 --> 00:04:56,000

And it was going faster and faster.

42

00:04:56,000 --> 00:04:59,000

I mean, just as fast as it could go.

43

00:04:59,000 --> 00:05:04,000

I hadn't cranked the record player, Rebecca hadn't cranked it.

44

00:05:08,000 --> 00:05:13,000

There was no explanation for why the record could possibly be spinning.

45

00:05:18,000 --> 00:05:31,000

It just stopped spinning instantly.

46

00:05:31,000 --> 00:05:33,000

That was very, very strange.

47

00:05:33,000 --> 00:05:37,000

It didn't make any sense.

48

00:05:38,000 --> 00:05:47,000

Seeing something like this really set in my uneasy feeling about the house.

49

00:05:48,000 --> 00:06:13,000

One of the things that the kids and I have always done for recreation or in the weekends is to get out our metal detector.

50

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

Okay, hey, slow down now.

51

00:06:16,000 --> 00:06:23,000

And to go around and see whether we could find anything in the ground.

52

00:06:23,000 --> 00:06:30,000

I was out by the front sidewalk. I was listening to music.

53

00:06:30,000 --> 00:06:32,000

Josh, where are you? Back there?

54

00:06:32,000 --> 00:06:37,000

As I approached one of the big old rose bushes.

55

00:06:37,000 --> 00:06:40,000

Oh, wait. Hey, over here, guys. Tell us something.

56

00:06:40,000 --> 00:06:44,000

The metal detector started making its high pitched beeping sound.

57

00:06:44,000 --> 00:06:46,000

Come here. Go ahead, doc.

58

00:06:46,000 --> 00:06:48,000

Sit down there with your... There you go.

59

00:06:54,000 --> 00:06:57,000

The music just all of a sudden stopped.

60

00:06:57,000 --> 00:06:59,000

Oh, what is that?

61

00:06:59,000 --> 00:07:04,000

As we broke apart the soil, we discovered an old penny from 1948.

62

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

Let's see if there's something else in there.

63

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

And we found a little pill box.

64

00:07:12,000 --> 00:07:15,000

Wow, this is something else.

65

00:07:15,000 --> 00:07:17,000

Oh, look at that.

66

00:07:17,000 --> 00:07:19,000

Wow.

67

00:07:19,000 --> 00:07:22,000

And we found an old lipstick case.

68

00:07:27,000 --> 00:07:29,000

Rebecca!

69

00:07:30,000 --> 00:07:34,000

I heard someone, a woman's voice, say, Rebecca.

70

00:07:34,000 --> 00:07:38,000

I felt this strong sense that someone was watching me,

71

00:07:38,000 --> 00:07:40,000

and I turned and looked up at the house.

72

00:07:46,000 --> 00:07:50,000

I thought I saw something in the shape of a woman in the window.

73

00:07:56,000 --> 00:07:58,000

And then the music started again.

74

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

I felt that the house itself had its own presence, I guess.

75

00:08:21,000 --> 00:08:25,000

We had been in the house maybe a month, and we decided to have a yard sale.

76

00:08:25,000 --> 00:08:29,000

And my friend Desi said she had some things she wanted to get rid of, too.

77

00:08:31,000 --> 00:08:33,000

I was just walking up the stairs.

78

00:08:33,000 --> 00:08:37,000

As I got closer and closer to the house, I looked out,

79

00:08:37,000 --> 00:08:40,000

and in the bedroom window, I saw Rebecca.

80

00:08:45,000 --> 00:08:47,000

Hey, Destiny.

81

00:08:47,000 --> 00:08:51,000

There was no way that she could have made it from upstairs in the bedroom to the door,

82

00:08:51,000 --> 00:08:54,000

and, you know, a matter of just a few seconds.

83

00:08:54,000 --> 00:08:56,000

I just saw you in the window.

84

00:08:56,000 --> 00:08:58,000

No, it's just me in the house right now.

85

00:08:58,000 --> 00:09:00,000

And I said, well, I wasn't upstairs.

86

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

I've been at the back of the house pricing these items for a yard sale.

87

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

There was no doubt in my mind that I knew what I saw.

88

00:09:13,000 --> 00:09:16,000

I started taking my boxes into the foyer.

89

00:09:18,000 --> 00:09:19,000

I saw Rebecca.

90

00:09:19,000 --> 00:09:22,000

Hey, Rebecca, could you use your help getting some of that stuff?

91

00:09:22,000 --> 00:09:26,000

It's not a whole lot, but could you use some help with some big boxes and everything?

92

00:09:27,000 --> 00:09:28,000

And then so I just walked out.

93

00:09:28,000 --> 00:09:30,000

I expected her to follow me.

94

00:09:31,000 --> 00:09:32,000

She wasn't there.

95

00:09:32,000 --> 00:09:35,000

I was like, well, I guess she maybe didn't hear me.

96

00:09:40,000 --> 00:09:42,000

I walked back into the house with my second little boxes.

97

00:09:42,000 --> 00:09:44,000

Rebecca was still just standing there.

98

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

Can you use some help, please?

99

00:09:45,000 --> 00:09:47,000

I'm like, hey, did you not hear me?

100

00:09:47,000 --> 00:09:48,000

Rebecca?

101

00:09:48,000 --> 00:09:49,000

No.

102

00:09:50,000 --> 00:09:53,000

You know, I spoke to her, but she never spoke back to me.

103

00:09:54,000 --> 00:09:56,000

And I was like, OK, whatever, you know.

104

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

Rebecca comes in from the back of the house.

105

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

I mean, I was so confused.

106

00:10:13,000 --> 00:10:14,000

Then I'm very upset.

107

00:10:14,000 --> 00:10:16,000

Rebecca, why have you been ignoring me?

108

00:10:17,000 --> 00:10:21,000

I was practically begging for you to help me come get some of this stuff out.

109

00:10:21,000 --> 00:10:23,000

Desi, when did you ask me for help?

110

00:10:23,000 --> 00:10:25,000

I don't know who you're talking to.

111

00:10:27,000 --> 00:10:30,000

At this time, I was just like, uh, you know, what's going on?

112

00:10:32,000 --> 00:10:35,000

I'm just wondering if I'm losing my mind.

113

00:10:36,000 --> 00:10:37,000

I believed her.

114

00:10:37,000 --> 00:10:42,000

I believed that she saw me somewhere in the house, and I wasn't really there.

115

00:10:47,000 --> 00:10:49,000

I'm just wondering if I'm losing my mind.

116

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

Something odd occurred.

117

00:11:10,000 --> 00:11:13,000

There was a broken glass in the kitchen counter.

118

00:11:16,000 --> 00:11:18,000

It wasn't on the floor. It wasn't in the sink.

119

00:11:28,000 --> 00:11:32,000

I thought that maybe one of the kids had broken the glass.

120

00:11:32,000 --> 00:11:35,000

Didn't any of you break a glass this morning, last night?

121

00:11:35,000 --> 00:11:36,000

No.

122

00:11:36,000 --> 00:11:39,000

But the kids said they had broken a glass.

123

00:11:39,000 --> 00:11:42,000

And I really didn't have any reason not to believe them.

124

00:11:45,000 --> 00:11:50,000

The glass seemed to have broken overnight when everybody was sleeping.

125

00:11:51,000 --> 00:11:54,000

And then every day that week, when I went down to the kitchen,

126

00:11:55,000 --> 00:11:58,000

there was a broken glass on the counter.

127

00:11:59,000 --> 00:12:01,000

It was strange that it kept repeating itself.

128

00:12:01,000 --> 00:12:02,000

Just every day.

129

00:12:02,000 --> 00:12:04,000

But each day it was the same thing.

130

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

One night, I was just walking down the hallway.

131

00:12:17,000 --> 00:12:20,000

I heard footsteps coming from the attic.

132

00:12:21,000 --> 00:12:23,000

I heard footsteps coming from the attic.

133

00:12:24,000 --> 00:12:26,000

I heard footsteps coming from the attic.

134

00:12:27,000 --> 00:12:29,000

I heard footsteps coming from the attic.

135

00:12:29,000 --> 00:12:31,000

I heard footsteps coming from the attic.

136

00:12:38,000 --> 00:12:40,000

Everyone was asleep but me.

137

00:12:43,000 --> 00:12:47,000

I did not dare look up into the attic.

138

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

I went back into my bedroom and closed the door.

139

00:12:59,000 --> 00:13:01,000

I was just standing there.

140

00:13:02,000 --> 00:13:04,000

I was just standing there.

141

00:13:06,000 --> 00:13:08,000

I was just standing there.

142

00:13:11,000 --> 00:13:15,000

I heard ice cubes clinking against glass.

143

00:13:19,000 --> 00:13:23,000

As if someone were walking down the hallway and had just gotten a drink from the kitchen.

144

00:13:29,000 --> 00:13:33,000

There was no way that it was my little brothers, my dad or my stepmom.

145

00:13:34,000 --> 00:13:37,000

They were just across the hall asleep in their beds.

146

00:13:43,000 --> 00:13:46,000

Then I felt there was company in the room.

147

00:13:51,000 --> 00:13:53,000

And the fan turns off.

148

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

And then it turns back on again.

149

00:14:09,000 --> 00:14:11,000

I was petrified.

150

00:14:15,000 --> 00:14:20,000

I could see the buttons being pushed in as if someone were pushing them.

151

00:14:22,000 --> 00:14:24,000

But there was no one there.

152

00:14:24,000 --> 00:14:28,000

Click. Click. Click.

153

00:14:29,000 --> 00:14:33,000

It was like someone were saying, I'm here. I'm here. I'm here.

154

00:14:45,000 --> 00:14:47,000

I was terrified.

155

00:14:47,000 --> 00:14:50,000

I knew for a fact that there was something in the house.

156

00:14:53,000 --> 00:14:55,000

Ronte didn't want to be in the house.

157

00:14:57,000 --> 00:14:59,000

So we decided to go on vacation.

158

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

She told me on more than one occasion about things that were happening in her room.

159

00:15:08,000 --> 00:15:10,000

I have to go to the house.

160

00:15:11,000 --> 00:15:13,000

I have to go to the house.

161

00:15:13,000 --> 00:15:16,000

I have to go to the house in her room.

162

00:15:17,000 --> 00:15:22,000

I have to admit that I wasn't terribly worried about it.

163

00:15:23,000 --> 00:15:25,000

You know, she's a 11-year-old girl.

164

00:15:26,000 --> 00:15:29,000

And I thought that it was probably just her imagination working overtime.

165

00:15:31,000 --> 00:15:36,000

We never leave the house alone, so we invited one of Mark's students,

166

00:15:37,000 --> 00:15:40,000

Reagan, to come and house it for us and watch the animals while we were gone.

167

00:15:40,000 --> 00:15:44,000

The Spencer's are a very lovely family and I'd grown quite close to them.

168

00:15:45,000 --> 00:15:47,000

And I was approached to house it for them that summer.

169

00:15:52,000 --> 00:15:56,000

I wanted her to feel comfortable to come in the house and stay in the house as much as possible.

170

00:15:57,000 --> 00:16:01,000

I didn't tell Reagan specifically anything that had happened in the house.

171

00:16:11,000 --> 00:16:18,000

I was trying to figure out why would they put this picture in there and then...

172

00:16:22,000 --> 00:16:27,000

Rebecca calls me and she asked me if I wouldn't mind going upstairs to the attic

173

00:16:28,000 --> 00:16:31,000

to make sure that the roof wasn't leaking, make sure the buckets weren't overflowing.

174

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

Okay, yeah, sure. Okay, bye.

175

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

So I thought to myself, I really don't want to go up there.

176

00:16:38,000 --> 00:16:40,000

Sorry, Javi.

177

00:16:40,000 --> 00:16:42,000

But I would do anything for the Spencer's.

178

00:17:09,000 --> 00:17:12,000

I grabbed a chair and propped it up against the door.

179

00:17:13,000 --> 00:17:16,000

It helped to leave that door open to get more illumination.

180

00:17:16,000 --> 00:17:20,000

As I walked up the stairs, I could hear that the rain was hitting pretty hard.

181

00:17:46,000 --> 00:17:50,000

There were some buckets that were about to overflow.

182

00:18:16,000 --> 00:18:23,000

I was too nervous to look too far because it was just a spooky old Victorian attic.

183

00:18:41,000 --> 00:18:42,000

Howdy.

184

00:18:44,000 --> 00:18:45,000

Howdy.

185

00:18:46,000 --> 00:18:48,000

Howdy. Howdy.

186

00:18:49,000 --> 00:18:50,000

Come on, boy.

187

00:18:52,000 --> 00:18:53,000

Howdy, where are you?

188

00:18:57,000 --> 00:18:59,000

This door slammed shut.

189

00:18:59,000 --> 00:19:01,000

It made me and the dog in total darkness.

190

00:19:12,000 --> 00:19:13,000

Come on, boy.

191

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

Howdy, where are you?

192

00:19:29,000 --> 00:19:32,000

I just felt this overwhelming sense of panic.

193

00:19:32,000 --> 00:19:35,000

I feel like I got to run down, you know, try to get out of the attic,

194

00:19:35,000 --> 00:19:37,000

but at the same time, I've still got this dog up here.

195

00:19:43,000 --> 00:19:44,000

Howdy.

196

00:19:52,000 --> 00:19:53,000

Come on.

197

00:19:56,000 --> 00:19:58,000

Come on. Howdy.

198

00:20:03,000 --> 00:20:04,000

Howdy.

199

00:20:06,000 --> 00:20:07,000

Howdy.

200

00:20:07,000 --> 00:20:08,000

Howdy.

201

00:20:08,000 --> 00:20:09,000

Come on.

202

00:20:13,000 --> 00:20:14,000

Howdy.

203

00:20:17,000 --> 00:20:18,000

Please, howdy.

204

00:20:26,000 --> 00:20:30,000

I grabbed the dog and I just ran for the stairs.

205

00:20:34,000 --> 00:20:36,000

I slipped over. I was terrified.

206

00:20:38,000 --> 00:20:40,000

I needed to get out of the attic immediately.

207

00:20:44,000 --> 00:20:47,000

The chair had moved.

208

00:20:59,000 --> 00:21:02,000

I see this person going to the doorway of Mark's study.

209

00:21:13,000 --> 00:21:14,000

Mark.

210

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

There's somebody there.

211

00:21:44,000 --> 00:21:48,000

As much as I wanted her to not be there, she was there.

212

00:21:54,000 --> 00:21:56,000

I ran to my car for dear life.

213

00:22:06,000 --> 00:22:10,000

I threw the door open and got out of there as fast as I could.

214

00:22:14,000 --> 00:22:15,000

I was scared.

215

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

Reagan called me and said that she'd had a really weird, strange experience in the house.

216

00:22:24,000 --> 00:22:27,000

Someone else in the house having another strange experience

217

00:22:27,000 --> 00:22:31,000

makes you feel like maybe it's not all in your head.

218

00:22:37,000 --> 00:22:41,000

I decided to go and do historical research about the original homeowners.

219

00:22:44,000 --> 00:22:47,000

The Allens were a particularly prominent family.

220

00:22:47,000 --> 00:22:51,000

Jolie Allen was the president of a bank.

221

00:22:51,000 --> 00:22:55,000

And they had three daughters, Lani, Ladelle, and Louis.

222

00:22:55,000 --> 00:22:58,000

And he really built the house for them.

223

00:23:01,000 --> 00:23:03,000

Ladelle was the middle daughter.

224

00:23:03,000 --> 00:23:09,000

Ladelle quickly emerged as a particularly interesting figure in the Allen family.

225

00:23:13,000 --> 00:23:20,000

Ladelle was a woman who had a lot of heartache, a lot of tragedy surrounding her life.

226

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

She found herself in a bad marriage.

227

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

She got divorced in 1927.

228

00:23:29,000 --> 00:23:34,000

And then her only child died of pneumonia in his 20s.

229

00:23:35,000 --> 00:23:40,000

And then we discovered that Ladelle died in the house.

230

00:23:43,000 --> 00:23:50,000

There was the mystery as to why she had died, because it seemed that nobody knew why.

231

00:23:51,000 --> 00:23:55,000

So I decided to go ahead and order her death certificate.

232

00:23:57,000 --> 00:24:02,000

With all of the strange and unusual things that were happening, I wanted to see if I could link them to Ladelle.

233

00:24:10,000 --> 00:24:11,000

We were both skeptics.

234

00:24:11,000 --> 00:24:12,000

Hey.

235

00:24:12,000 --> 00:24:19,000

But I was beginning to embrace the idea that there might be something more to it than we knew or we could explain.

236

00:24:19,000 --> 00:24:22,000

I'm beginning to wonder about these things.

237

00:24:22,000 --> 00:24:28,000

And she actually broached the subject of bringing in paranormal investigators.

238

00:24:28,000 --> 00:24:32,000

And I was a little flabbergasted that she even mentioned this.

239

00:24:34,000 --> 00:24:37,000

I felt that I had a professional reputation to protect.

240

00:24:37,000 --> 00:24:41,000

I was the dean of the largest school at a university.

241

00:24:41,000 --> 00:24:44,000

Rebecca, there's nothing going on in this house.

242

00:24:45,000 --> 00:24:49,000

I mean, I was all about rational explanations of everything.

243

00:24:57,000 --> 00:25:00,000

You can never underestimate the power of denial.

244

00:25:02,000 --> 00:25:03,000

Okay.

245

00:25:03,000 --> 00:25:06,000

I didn't want them to come in and tell me that what I was seeing was real.

246

00:25:06,000 --> 00:25:10,000

I wanted them to come in and say it wasn't haunted.

247

00:25:12,000 --> 00:25:13,000

I'm sorry.

248

00:25:15,000 --> 00:25:20,000

A lot of people we work with kind of want to prove their house is haunted.

249

00:25:20,000 --> 00:25:21,000

But Mark and Rebecca did not.

250

00:25:21,000 --> 00:25:24,000

They didn't want this stuff to be going on.

251

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

Wow.

252

00:25:27,000 --> 00:25:30,000

We take a great deal of equipment with us.

253

00:25:30,000 --> 00:25:36,000

Digital tape recorders, electromagnetic field meters, infrared cameras.

254

00:25:36,000 --> 00:25:37,000

Up in the corner there, one there.

255

00:25:37,000 --> 00:25:40,000

We run those cameras in the dark.

256

00:25:40,000 --> 00:25:41,000

Oh.

257

00:25:46,000 --> 00:25:49,000

We sent the children to friends' houses for the night.

258

00:25:50,000 --> 00:25:52,000

We decided that we were just sort of in the way.

259

00:25:52,000 --> 00:25:54,000

And I said, we're going to go see a movie.

260

00:25:54,000 --> 00:25:56,000

And they said, that's great.

261

00:25:58,000 --> 00:26:04,000

I honestly didn't expect them to find any evidence whatsoever of paranormal activity.

262

00:26:04,000 --> 00:26:05,000

Bye.

263

00:26:05,000 --> 00:26:07,000

The house is all yours.

264

00:26:07,000 --> 00:26:08,000

Good luck.

265

00:26:10,000 --> 00:26:11,000

Bye.

266

00:26:24,000 --> 00:26:28,000

We get ready to turn all the lights out because these are infrared cameras.

267

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

But they see better in the dark.

268

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

I said, has everybody got their stuff?

269

00:26:32,000 --> 00:26:33,000

Everybody ready?

270

00:26:33,000 --> 00:26:35,000

About two minutes.

271

00:26:40,000 --> 00:26:42,000

One minute.

272

00:26:52,000 --> 00:26:56,000

At one point, we smelled a very distinct odor of cigar smoke.

273

00:26:56,000 --> 00:26:57,000

Peter?

274

00:26:57,000 --> 00:26:59,000

Yeah.

275

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

And we actually smelled the furniture to see if the cigar smoke was in the fabric.

276

00:27:05,000 --> 00:27:07,000

Couldn't really smell anything.

277

00:27:07,000 --> 00:27:10,000

And it was gone very quickly.

278

00:27:14,000 --> 00:27:15,000

Right.

279

00:27:15,000 --> 00:27:18,000

On my cue, turn the lights out.

280

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

Five, four, three.

281

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

And the light went out.

282

00:27:31,000 --> 00:27:32,000

And we didn't turn it out.

283

00:27:32,000 --> 00:27:34,000

What was that?

284

00:27:34,000 --> 00:27:37,000

There was this horrible sound in the backyard.

285

00:27:40,000 --> 00:27:44,000

We just see these blue sparks flying everywhere.

286

00:28:05,000 --> 00:28:08,000

We could see absolutely nothing out the window.

287

00:28:08,000 --> 00:28:10,000

It was pitch black.

288

00:28:10,000 --> 00:28:12,000

Y'all got our flashlights.

289

00:28:12,000 --> 00:28:15,000

We all went out the door to find out what's going on.

290

00:28:15,000 --> 00:28:17,000

Oh my God.

291

00:28:20,000 --> 00:28:23,000

We're barely down the street when the phone rang.

292

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

Hello?

293

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

And Rebecca said, all right, we're coming back.

294

00:28:34,000 --> 00:28:52,000

There's this huge tree limb that had violently ripped one end of the power line out of the transformer.

295

00:28:52,000 --> 00:28:58,000

And this was a big leafy limb from a completely healthy tree.

296

00:28:58,000 --> 00:29:00,000

It wasn't dead.

297

00:29:00,000 --> 00:29:02,000

It hadn't been cut or sawn.

298

00:29:02,000 --> 00:29:04,000

It was pulled off.

299

00:29:04,000 --> 00:29:09,000

The way you would see a tree limb pulled off in a storm, although there wasn't any storm.

300

00:29:09,000 --> 00:29:12,000

Something started happening to me.

301

00:29:12,000 --> 00:29:15,000

I started to doubt what I believed.

302

00:29:15,000 --> 00:29:21,000

I started to think, well, maybe there's something here.

303

00:29:21,000 --> 00:29:25,000

Something in that house was a little bit of a mess.

304

00:29:26,000 --> 00:29:33,000

Something in that house made that happen to stop that investigation.

305

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

We had never seen anything that violent.

306

00:29:37,000 --> 00:29:44,000

I mean, ripping a limb off a tree, that takes an awful lot of power and energy.

307

00:29:46,000 --> 00:29:50,000

If it can do that, what else can it do?

308

00:29:55,000 --> 00:30:07,000

It was the middle of the day, and I was in the master dressing room.

309

00:30:17,000 --> 00:30:24,000

I just heard these very heavy, distinct footsteps above me in the attic.

310

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

I didn't think that it was a ghost.

311

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

For me, I was very clear in my mind, I knew absolutely that there was a man in the attic.

312

00:30:45,000 --> 00:30:48,000

I'm in my office. I pick up the phone and Rebecca says,

313

00:30:48,000 --> 00:30:50,000

There's a man in the attic.

314

00:30:50,000 --> 00:30:54,000

And I said, what do you mean there's somebody in the attic? Who's in the attic?

315

00:30:54,000 --> 00:30:57,000

I heard the son's police come home.

316

00:30:57,000 --> 00:31:01,000

I was thinking that it was maybe a squirrel.

317

00:31:01,000 --> 00:31:06,000

No, I know what I heard. There it is again.

318

00:31:06,000 --> 00:31:10,000

At the same time, though, I am concerned because Rebecca seems so convinced.

319

00:31:10,000 --> 00:31:12,000

Quick, hurry.

320

00:31:12,000 --> 00:31:15,000

And Rebecca's not somebody to get scared off of.

321

00:31:24,000 --> 00:31:31,000

I thought that if I could possibly lock the person in the attic,

322

00:31:31,000 --> 00:31:34,000

that they would still be there when Mark got back,

323

00:31:34,000 --> 00:31:37,000

and we could confront the person about why they were in the house.

324

00:31:54,000 --> 00:32:01,000

If there was a man up there, the only way he would have gotten out of the attic was through the door.

325

00:32:01,000 --> 00:32:04,000

Because you can't just shimmy down this house.

326

00:32:10,000 --> 00:32:12,000

Mark!

327

00:32:12,000 --> 00:32:14,000

Shhh!

328

00:32:14,000 --> 00:32:16,000

Shhh!

329

00:32:16,000 --> 00:32:18,000

Shhh!

330

00:32:18,000 --> 00:32:20,000

Shhh!

331

00:32:20,000 --> 00:32:22,000

Shhh!

332

00:32:22,000 --> 00:32:24,000

Shhh!

333

00:32:24,000 --> 00:32:26,000

She was agitated.

334

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

I wasn't used to seeing her like that because Rebecca's a very strong, secure woman.

335

00:32:52,000 --> 00:33:02,000

I went up the attic stairs with some weariness. I was, you know, some caution.

336

00:33:02,000 --> 00:33:12,000

I went up the attic stairs with some weariness. I was, you know, some caution.

337

00:33:12,000 --> 00:33:16,000

Hello?

338

00:33:16,000 --> 00:33:18,000

Hello?

339

00:33:18,000 --> 00:33:20,000

Hello?

340

00:33:24,000 --> 00:33:26,000

Anybody here?

341

00:33:40,000 --> 00:33:44,000

There was absolutely no sign of a break-in.

342

00:33:44,000 --> 00:33:50,000

I found nothing. There's nothing in the attic.

343

00:34:14,000 --> 00:34:27,000

I smelled cigar smoke, and I could smell it very strong.

344

00:34:27,000 --> 00:34:33,000

I'm just thinking, I know no one in the house smokes anything, much less cigars.

345

00:34:33,000 --> 00:34:49,000

I couldn't figure out why part of what I was looking at wasn't there. It was just blacked out.

346

00:34:53,000 --> 00:34:58,000

I realized that what I was looking at was a dark figure in the shape of a man.

347

00:34:58,000 --> 00:35:03,000

And he had a cowboy hat on the top of his head.

348

00:35:03,000 --> 00:35:10,000

And it was very scary. I mean, I was frozen with shock.

349

00:35:10,000 --> 00:35:17,000

Suddenly I noticed the shadow of a person, and I was the only person in the attic.

350

00:35:17,000 --> 00:35:23,000

I couldn't believe it.

351

00:35:23,000 --> 00:35:30,000

It was as though somebody was leading me.

352

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

I see a brown piece of paper.

353

00:35:53,000 --> 00:35:57,000

It was gone.

354

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

Both Reagan and Desi has seen a woman in the house.

355

00:36:02,000 --> 00:36:08,000

I thought it was very odd that I wasn't seeing a woman, I was seeing a man.

356

00:36:08,000 --> 00:36:12,000

I wanted to know who this man was.

357

00:36:12,000 --> 00:36:17,000

They're scattered are all these letters.

358

00:36:17,000 --> 00:36:22,000

And these letters are addressed to Lutdell.

359

00:36:22,000 --> 00:36:31,000

These were letters from a man named Prentice Savage in 1948.

360

00:36:31,000 --> 00:36:40,000

I realized that this is a love letter written to Lutdell a couple of months before she died.

361

00:36:40,000 --> 00:36:51,000

I thought that these letters that I held in my hands were possibly the answer to that mystery, that question.

362

00:36:51,000 --> 00:36:57,000

Why did Lutdell die?

363

00:36:57,000 --> 00:37:03,000

In March 1948, Prentice is visiting Monticello.

364

00:37:03,000 --> 00:37:08,000

He and Lutdell had known each other, and they had even dated.

365

00:37:08,000 --> 00:37:12,000

But they ended up marrying other people.

366

00:37:12,000 --> 00:37:16,000

And then they don't see each other for 35 years.

367

00:37:16,000 --> 00:37:21,000

And he writes in one of his letters about what he's thinking.

368

00:37:21,000 --> 00:37:32,000

He's wondering whether she's as beautiful as she was when she was younger.

369

00:37:32,000 --> 00:37:38,000

And he writes that he wasn't disappointed.

370

00:37:38,000 --> 00:37:47,000

So in March 1948, Lutdell and Prentice rekindle their romance.

371

00:37:47,000 --> 00:37:52,000

His letters become truly passionate.

372

00:37:52,000 --> 00:37:58,000

These last five days were living my memory always.

373

00:37:58,000 --> 00:38:02,000

As the happiest ones in my entire life.

374

00:38:02,000 --> 00:38:08,000

I love you. Don't ever forget, I'm thinking of you all my life.

375

00:38:08,000 --> 00:38:14,000

He insists in his letters that he's going to divorce his wife.

376

00:38:14,000 --> 00:38:22,000

When I got to October of 1948, I noticed a shift in the tone.

377

00:38:22,000 --> 00:38:31,000

He was frustrated with Lutdell pressuring him to make progress.

378

00:38:31,000 --> 00:38:37,000

Then he wrote that last letter.

379

00:38:37,000 --> 00:38:47,000

And he said that he didn't know when, if ever, he was going to be able to free himself of his marriage.

380

00:38:47,000 --> 00:38:52,000

No!

381

00:39:00,000 --> 00:39:03,000

And there was silence.

382

00:39:03,000 --> 00:39:09,000

Lutdell's death certificate arrived.

383

00:39:12,000 --> 00:39:16,000

The word suicide seemed so large on the page.

384

00:39:16,000 --> 00:39:22,000

The feeling that I had when I read that on the death certificate was just incredible.

385

00:39:22,000 --> 00:39:27,000

It was just incredibly sad.

386

00:39:27,000 --> 00:39:30,000

Well, I was in the attic by myself.

387

00:39:30,000 --> 00:39:37,000

I looked up and I saw a woman coming toward me.

388

00:39:37,000 --> 00:39:40,000

She was looking right at me.

389

00:39:47,000 --> 00:39:53,000

I was startled.

390

00:39:53,000 --> 00:39:58,000

I look again.

391

00:39:58,000 --> 00:40:02,000

And it's Rebecca.

392

00:40:02,000 --> 00:40:06,000

You need to take a look at this.

393

00:40:06,000 --> 00:40:10,000

Rebecca showed me Lutdell's death certificate.

394

00:40:10,000 --> 00:40:14,000

My immediate reaction was horror.

395

00:40:14,000 --> 00:40:20,000

The death certificate stated that she died by mercury cyanide poisoning.

396

00:40:20,000 --> 00:40:27,000

I noticed that it was right at Christmas.

397

00:40:27,000 --> 00:40:32,000

From doing my research, I knew her mother always threw a Christmas party.

398

00:40:32,000 --> 00:40:36,000

I was so surprised.

399

00:40:36,000 --> 00:40:43,000

On Christmas night, 1948, Lutdell attended her mother's Christmas party.

400

00:40:43,000 --> 00:40:52,000

Princess promised in more than one of his letters that they would be together at Christmas.

401

00:40:52,000 --> 00:40:56,000

I was so surprised.

402

00:40:56,000 --> 00:41:00,000

I was so surprised.

403

00:41:01,000 --> 00:41:08,000

Christmas game and Princess didn't show up.

404

00:41:08,000 --> 00:41:15,000

And I believe that that was the thing that pushed her over the edge.

405

00:41:15,000 --> 00:41:20,000

Christmas is coming.

406

00:41:20,000 --> 00:41:25,000

Christmas is coming.

407

00:41:25,000 --> 00:41:30,000

Christmas is coming.

408

00:41:30,000 --> 00:41:35,000

Late in the evening, she prepared herself a glass of punch.

409

00:41:45,000 --> 00:41:52,000

She used the punch to mask the taste of the mercury cyanide tablets.

410

00:41:52,000 --> 00:41:57,000

I felt sad for her.

411

00:41:57,000 --> 00:42:02,000

I felt someone should have reached out to her and done something.

412

00:42:02,000 --> 00:42:07,000

I felt sad for her.

413

00:42:07,000 --> 00:42:12,000

I felt someone should have reached out to her and done something.

414

00:42:12,000 --> 00:42:16,000

I felt sad for her.

415

00:42:16,000 --> 00:42:22,000

I felt someone should have reached out to her and done something.

416

00:42:22,000 --> 00:42:31,000

I have personally gone from not believing in spirits at all to being completely convinced.

417

00:42:31,000 --> 00:42:34,000

I think Lutdell wanted me to find those letters.

418

00:42:34,000 --> 00:42:40,000

I think Lutdell, in essence, showed me where they were.

419

00:42:40,000 --> 00:42:47,000

I think she was ready for her story to be told.

420

00:42:47,000 --> 00:42:54,000

I would like to hope that by sharing her story, she can finally feel at peace.