



LIVING IN THE HEART OF
BIGFOOT COUNTRY

PART I

by **Dennis Daryl**

**Fiction? Or merely
stranger than?**

BXP

1
00:00:05,710 --> 00:00:04,580
[Music]

2
00:00:10,540 --> 00:00:05,720
[Applause]

3
00:00:12,890 --> 00:00:10,550
[Music]

4
00:00:17,830 --> 00:00:12,900
[Applause]

5
00:00:21,990 --> 00:00:19,670
welcome to the best of first person

6
00:00:24,870 --> 00:00:22,000
episodes of phantoms and monsters

7
00:00:25,429 --> 00:00:24,880
please like subscribe and hit the bell

8
00:00:28,830 --> 00:00:25,439
icon

9
00:00:42,970 --> 00:00:28,840
so you'll be notified of all future

10
00:00:42,980 --> 00:00:51,670
[Music]

11
00:00:56,069 --> 00:00:53,750
living in the heart of bigfoot country

12
00:00:58,069 --> 00:00:56,079
it was in the summer of 64 that my life

13
00:00:59,830 --> 00:00:58,079

would make an abrupt change forever

14

00:01:02,069 --> 00:00:59,840

i would forever leave my childhood

15

00:01:03,670 --> 00:01:02,079

behind at six years old and meet strange

16

00:01:04,789 --> 00:01:03,680

new people and creatures that would

17

00:01:06,870 --> 00:01:04,799

touch my life

18

00:01:10,070 --> 00:01:06,880

that summer i was six years old being

19

00:01:11,990 --> 00:01:10,080

born march 5th 1958 in fairview oklahoma

20

00:01:13,910 --> 00:01:12,000

fairview was a small southern town made

21

00:01:15,190 --> 00:01:13,920

up of russian immigrants and ex-german

22

00:01:16,870 --> 00:01:15,200

prisoners of war

23

00:01:19,030 --> 00:01:16,880

it was a safe place where a kid could

24

00:01:20,870 --> 00:01:19,040

play and be friends with the whole town

25

00:01:23,109 --> 00:01:20,880

my dad had another life that he kept

26
00:01:24,870 --> 00:01:23,119
hidden from everyone including my mother

27
00:01:27,109 --> 00:01:24,880
he was the average type of father and

28
00:01:28,950 --> 00:01:27,119
husband until friday's came around

29
00:01:30,710 --> 00:01:28,960
then he would be gone until monday and

30
00:01:31,749 --> 00:01:30,720
pretending to have been on a fishing or

31
00:01:33,670 --> 00:01:31,759
hunting trip

32
00:01:35,590 --> 00:01:33,680
from the airline tags attached to his

33
00:01:36,310 --> 00:01:35,600
suitcases we all knew it wasn't the

34
00:01:38,710 --> 00:01:36,320
truth

35
00:01:40,390 --> 00:01:38,720
my dad was malvin leroy chamblin and my

36
00:01:41,270 --> 00:01:40,400
mother's maiden name was wanda mae

37
00:01:42,950 --> 00:01:41,280
simpson

38
00:01:44,550 --> 00:01:42,960

one day while me and my brother merle

39

00:01:46,630 --> 00:01:44,560

were playing with our next-door neighbor

40

00:01:48,789 --> 00:01:46,640

pamela cohen in the backyard two men in

41

00:01:50,550 --> 00:01:48,799

hats and dark sunglasses woke up and

42

00:01:52,069 --> 00:01:50,560

carried me and my brother away

43

00:01:54,389 --> 00:01:52,079

they locked us up in a cellar in the

44

00:01:55,190 --> 00:01:54,399

country when my dad paid the ransom to

45

00:01:56,789 --> 00:01:55,200

the mobsters

46

00:01:58,230 --> 00:01:56,799

they gave directions to where me and

47

00:02:00,149 --> 00:01:58,240

merle were stashed

48

00:02:02,630 --> 00:02:00,159

instead of letting the mobsters go they

49

00:02:04,389 --> 00:02:02,640

received a little vigilante justice

50

00:02:06,550 --> 00:02:04,399

dad and the local businessmen from

51
00:02:07,109 --> 00:02:06,560
around fairview decided the mobster's

52
00:02:08,710 --> 00:02:07,119
fate

53
00:02:10,949 --> 00:02:08,720
they put them in an old electric chair

54
00:02:11,910 --> 00:02:10,959
that was on displayed insurance agency

55
00:02:13,990 --> 00:02:11,920
and fried them

56
00:02:15,270 --> 00:02:14,000
my uncle john warren chamblin had taken

57
00:02:17,750 --> 00:02:15,280
the emeril to the car

58
00:02:19,830 --> 00:02:17,760
so we wouldn't see the execution some of

59
00:02:22,229 --> 00:02:19,840
these men had been nazi war prisoners

60
00:02:24,309 --> 00:02:22,239
and the nazis were tough on crime in a

61
00:02:26,710 --> 00:02:24,319
few weeks dad moved us to a farm five

62
00:02:28,470 --> 00:02:26,720
miles northeast of colony oklahoma

63
00:02:30,390 --> 00:02:28,480

my great-grandpa james chamblin had

64

00:02:31,589 --> 00:02:30,400

built it many years earlier when he was

65

00:02:33,910 --> 00:02:31,599

in the brick business

66

00:02:35,190 --> 00:02:33,920

hiring the local indians at first i

67

00:02:36,949 --> 00:02:35,200

hated it until dad

68

00:02:38,949 --> 00:02:36,959

explained that living here would keep us

69

00:02:40,630 --> 00:02:38,959

safe from his business enemies

70

00:02:43,030 --> 00:02:40,640

the house didn't have running water

71

00:02:45,030 --> 00:02:43,040

telephone service for electricity

72

00:02:46,869 --> 00:02:45,040

mother and my big sisters would cry

73

00:02:49,190 --> 00:02:46,879

almost every day we lived here

74

00:02:50,790 --> 00:02:49,200

it was hard work pumping water for bait

75

00:02:53,030 --> 00:02:50,800

washing and the garden

76
00:02:55,030 --> 00:02:53,040
that summer the wind seldom blowed so we

77
00:02:57,110 --> 00:02:55,040
spent hours pumping water because the

78
00:02:59,110 --> 00:02:57,120
windmill didn't turn very often

79
00:03:01,270 --> 00:02:59,120
in july a small tornado carried me and

80
00:03:02,470 --> 00:03:01,280
the outhouse into the sky and deposited

81
00:03:04,229 --> 00:03:02,480
me into the road

82
00:03:06,070 --> 00:03:04,239
thank heaven the outhouse had a wooden

83
00:03:08,309 --> 00:03:06,080
floor and a strong latch

84
00:03:10,070 --> 00:03:08,319
i was unharmed this is when i first

85
00:03:11,030 --> 00:03:10,080
began roaming the countryside and

86
00:03:13,270 --> 00:03:11,040
exploring

87
00:03:15,430 --> 00:03:13,280
we had many relatives in the colony area

88
00:03:16,710 --> 00:03:15,440

and tarzan was the television show that

89

00:03:18,790 --> 00:03:16,720

i loved the most

90

00:03:20,470 --> 00:03:18,800

at the time we couldn't watch television

91

00:03:21,670 --> 00:03:20,480

of our house because of the lack of

92

00:03:23,509 --> 00:03:21,680

electricity

93

00:03:25,509 --> 00:03:23,519

i started school here and had a great

94

00:03:27,270 --> 00:03:25,519

teacher named mrs russinger

95

00:03:28,710 --> 00:03:27,280

she taught the first and second grades

96

00:03:30,309 --> 00:03:28,720

in the same classroom

97

00:03:32,550 --> 00:03:30,319

later when i was in the fifth grade

98

00:03:34,149 --> 00:03:32,560

colony in corn schools consolidated and

99

00:03:35,830 --> 00:03:34,159

became rashida heights

100

00:03:38,070 --> 00:03:35,840

our school was leased from the indian

101
00:03:38,789 --> 00:03:38,080
tribe it was part of seekers indian

102
00:03:40,630 --> 00:03:38,799
school

103
00:03:42,550 --> 00:03:40,640
here was the ideal educational and

104
00:03:43,830 --> 00:03:42,560
industrial school where children of the

105
00:03:46,229 --> 00:03:43,840
forest and the plains

106
00:03:47,990 --> 00:03:46,239
who were strangers to civilized life his

107
00:03:48,869 --> 00:03:48,000
parents knew nothing but the chase in

108
00:03:50,869 --> 00:03:48,879
the warpath

109
00:03:52,949 --> 00:03:50,879
and who had no conception of farming and

110
00:03:55,350 --> 00:03:52,959
industry were taught to be useful

111
00:03:57,030 --> 00:03:55,360
self-supporting members of society the

112
00:03:59,110 --> 00:03:57,040
work was done by the students who were

113
00:04:01,110 --> 00:03:59,120

given a share in all crops grown

114

00:04:02,949 --> 00:04:01,120

the farming was planned and all work was

115

00:04:03,670 --> 00:04:02,959

done under the supervision of john h

116

00:04:05,429 --> 00:04:03,680

seeger

117

00:04:07,350 --> 00:04:05,439

riding the school bus was terrible

118

00:04:09,030 --> 00:04:07,360

because the high school boys would fist

119

00:04:09,910 --> 00:04:09,040

the little kids in the back and twist

120

00:04:12,229 --> 00:04:09,920

our arms

121

00:04:13,990 --> 00:04:12,239

so each day i dreaded going to school

122

00:04:15,830 --> 00:04:14,000

but just as soon as the school bus

123

00:04:17,670 --> 00:04:15,840

dumped me off i would run across the

124

00:04:18,310 --> 00:04:17,680

peanut field while stripping off my

125

00:04:19,990 --> 00:04:18,320

clothes

126

00:04:22,150 --> 00:04:20,000

so i could become tarzan lord of the

127

00:04:23,749 --> 00:04:22,160

jungle i would pretend the fields and

128

00:04:25,590 --> 00:04:23,759

pastures were africa

129

00:04:28,070 --> 00:04:25,600

gradually our bikes and toys become

130

00:04:29,670 --> 00:04:28,080

missing mother blamed it on the [h__\h]

131

00:04:31,270 --> 00:04:29,680

yue brother named edmund who lived

132

00:04:33,270 --> 00:04:31,280

between us in ghost mount

133

00:04:35,110 --> 00:04:33,280

his brother alfred was his guardian and

134

00:04:36,870 --> 00:04:35,120

worked for the city of weatherford

135

00:04:38,310 --> 00:04:36,880

neither one ever married yet always

136

00:04:40,070 --> 00:04:38,320

managed to be happy

137

00:04:42,150 --> 00:04:40,080

one day i went walking down the road

138

00:04:43,990 --> 00:04:42,160

looking for my bike and army toys and

139

00:04:44,469 --> 00:04:44,000

something big and harry ran across the

140

00:04:46,469 --> 00:04:44,479

road

141

00:04:47,909 --> 00:04:46,479

i didn't know what it was yet it scared

142

00:04:50,390 --> 00:04:47,919

me lots at the time

143

00:04:52,390 --> 00:04:50,400

so i quit wandering around after dark a

144

00:04:53,909 --> 00:04:52,400

few weeks later something began pulling

145

00:04:55,670 --> 00:04:53,919

parts from our chickens

146

00:04:57,909 --> 00:04:55,680

dad thought it might be an enemy sending

147

00:04:58,710 --> 00:04:57,919

us threats so he moved us a year later

148

00:05:00,469 --> 00:04:58,720

to a house

149

00:05:02,950 --> 00:05:00,479

that was a mile and a half north of

150

00:05:03,830 --> 00:05:02,960

colony that taught us to always be aware

151

00:05:06,150 --> 00:05:03,840

of what was around

152

00:05:07,189 --> 00:05:06,160

us never walk any place looking at the

153

00:05:09,270 --> 00:05:07,199

street road

154

00:05:11,670 --> 00:05:09,280

i was sure happy to live once again in a

155

00:05:13,830 --> 00:05:11,680

house filled with modern conveniences

156

00:05:16,310 --> 00:05:13,840

now that i was seven years old dad began

157

00:05:18,550 --> 00:05:16,320

dumping ever more responsibilities on me

158

00:05:20,469 --> 00:05:18,560

each morning i had to feed the livestock

159

00:05:22,310 --> 00:05:20,479

and work in the fields for eight hours

160

00:05:24,870 --> 00:05:22,320

along with my sisters malva faye and

161

00:05:27,029 --> 00:05:24,880

ladonna gail when i was 8 i was expected

162

00:05:27,670 --> 00:05:27,039

to move irrigation pipe along with my

163

00:05:29,990 --> 00:05:27,680

sisters

164

00:05:31,189 --> 00:05:30,000

and then worked 10 hours in the fields

165

00:05:32,950 --> 00:05:31,199

at the end of a hard day

166

00:05:34,710 --> 00:05:32,960

there were always the heavy irrigation

167

00:05:35,430 --> 00:05:34,720

pipes to move across the peanuts and

168

00:05:37,189 --> 00:05:35,440

cotton

169

00:05:38,950 --> 00:05:37,199

me and my brother got to sleep in the

170

00:05:40,790 --> 00:05:38,960

upstairs part of the house

171

00:05:43,029 --> 00:05:40,800

there were some of the famous nazi old

172

00:05:43,830 --> 00:05:43,039

uniforms hanging in the closet two pairs

173

00:05:46,070 --> 00:05:43,840

of his boots

174

00:05:48,390 --> 00:05:46,080

his engraved rifles and swords and a

175

00:05:50,150 --> 00:05:48,400

chest full of his personal effects

176
00:05:52,390 --> 00:05:50,160
mother wasn't sure if they belonged to

177
00:05:53,270 --> 00:05:52,400
dad or pew lastly the house's former

178
00:05:54,870 --> 00:05:53,280
resident

179
00:05:56,710 --> 00:05:54,880
one of the two moms that probably

180
00:05:57,749 --> 00:05:56,720
brought them back from germany as war

181
00:05:59,749 --> 00:05:57,759
souvenirs

182
00:06:01,590 --> 00:05:59,759
my dad's military record showed he got

183
00:06:04,710 --> 00:06:01,600
to watch as the first atom bomb was

184
00:06:06,309 --> 00:06:04,720
exploded in new mexico july 1945 while

185
00:06:08,629 --> 00:06:06,319
he watched in the distance

186
00:06:10,710 --> 00:06:08,639
he was one of the few survivors i took

187
00:06:12,870 --> 00:06:10,720
the papers to school for show and tell

188
00:06:14,710 --> 00:06:12,880

and the principal alerted the army they

189

00:06:15,590 --> 00:06:14,720

came to school and took the classified

190

00:06:17,189 --> 00:06:15,600

papers

191

00:06:19,430 --> 00:06:17,199

said they had sent them to dad by

192

00:06:20,790 --> 00:06:19,440

mistake now all his records have been

193

00:06:22,710 --> 00:06:20,800

sealed permanently

194

00:06:24,790 --> 00:06:22,720

so as a kid i wondered if his famous

195

00:06:25,830 --> 00:06:24,800

german had maybe survived and was living

196

00:06:27,590 --> 00:06:25,840

in america

197

00:06:29,670 --> 00:06:27,600

mom cleared the german stuff from our

198

00:06:32,629 --> 00:06:29,680

room after about two weeks

199

00:06:33,990 --> 00:06:32,639

when i was 11 me and my brother found 47

200

00:06:35,590 --> 00:06:34,000

sheets of gold coins

201
00:06:37,189 --> 00:06:35,600
under each was a description in a

202
00:06:39,510 --> 00:06:37,199
language we could not read

203
00:06:41,510 --> 00:06:39,520
there were about 20 coins on each sheet

204
00:06:43,510 --> 00:06:41,520
whoever brought the nazi stuff probably

205
00:06:45,430 --> 00:06:43,520
stole these coins from a museum or

206
00:06:47,430 --> 00:06:45,440
millionaire's collection in europe

207
00:06:49,029 --> 00:06:47,440
when we showed dad the coins he zipped

208
00:06:50,629 --> 00:06:49,039
out the door with them and said he was

209
00:06:51,749 --> 00:06:50,639
returning them to build lastly the

210
00:06:53,510 --> 00:06:51,759
rightful owner

211
00:06:54,950 --> 00:06:53,520
me and my brother kept one sheet for

212
00:06:55,589 --> 00:06:54,960
herselves and buried them in the

213
00:06:57,589 --> 00:06:55,599

backyard

214

00:06:59,350 --> 00:06:57,599

after making a treasure map when we

215

00:07:00,870 --> 00:06:59,360

moved from there in 69

216

00:07:03,110 --> 00:07:00,880

me and my brother couldn't find the

217

00:07:05,830 --> 00:07:03,120

coins of course we didn't have a metal

218

00:07:07,909 --> 00:07:05,840

detector because i was only 11 years old

219

00:07:09,909 --> 00:07:07,919

my great-grandpa was the first white man

220

00:07:10,710 --> 00:07:09,919

to settle in western oklahoma among the

221

00:07:12,710 --> 00:07:10,720

indians

222

00:07:14,550 --> 00:07:12,720

i was seven years old when i joined cub

223

00:07:16,469 --> 00:07:14,560

scouts in colony oklahoma

224

00:07:18,230 --> 00:07:16,479

our dead masters were herschel and glenn

225

00:07:19,830 --> 00:07:18,240

rhodes plus clifford ping

226

00:07:22,230 --> 00:07:19,840

they took turns having the meetings in

227

00:07:24,070 --> 00:07:22,240

their homes jack mcclummer was in charge

228

00:07:25,990 --> 00:07:24,080

of the much older boy scouts

229

00:07:28,070 --> 00:07:26,000

a year later the cobbling boy scouts had

230

00:07:30,309 --> 00:07:28,080

a joint camping trip to penslake

231

00:07:31,350 --> 00:07:30,319

we all had a great time until bedtime

232

00:07:33,029 --> 00:07:31,360

rolled around

233

00:07:35,350 --> 00:07:33,039

since there were twice as many boy

234

00:07:37,350 --> 00:07:35,360

scouts as cub scouts they decided to put

235

00:07:38,230 --> 00:07:37,360

each cup scout in a tent with two boy

236

00:07:39,909 --> 00:07:38,240

scouts

237

00:07:41,909 --> 00:07:39,919

i was having none of this because big

238

00:07:42,550 --> 00:07:41,919

boys beat me up on the school bus every

239

00:07:44,309 --> 00:07:42,560

day

240

00:07:46,309 --> 00:07:44,319

so is the rest of the scouts went to

241

00:07:48,150 --> 00:07:46,319

sleep i wandered around the lake

242

00:07:50,710 --> 00:07:48,160

clifford payne stayed up and fed the

243

00:07:51,909 --> 00:07:50,720

campfire he kept a watchful eye on me in

244

00:07:53,670 --> 00:07:51,919

my flashlight

245

00:07:55,830 --> 00:07:53,680

every hour or so he yelled at me to go

246

00:07:57,510 --> 00:07:55,840

to bed before long he jumped in his

247

00:07:59,350 --> 00:07:57,520

pickup and went for my dad

248

00:08:01,909 --> 00:07:59,360

so angry his wheels were spinning in the

249

00:08:03,830 --> 00:08:01,919

deep sand clifford died in his 40s

250

00:08:05,589 --> 00:08:03,840

because acting as a deputy sheriff

251
00:08:07,670 --> 00:08:05,599
he entered a drug dealer's house in the

252
00:08:09,510 --> 00:08:07,680
middle of the night and got shot

253
00:08:11,510 --> 00:08:09,520
he should have identified himself as law

254
00:08:13,749 --> 00:08:11,520
enforcement after he left

255
00:08:15,510 --> 00:08:13,759
i felt it safe to climb twin mound which

256
00:08:17,189 --> 00:08:15,520
is located beside the lake

257
00:08:19,110 --> 00:08:17,199
it was easy because there was a full

258
00:08:20,309 --> 00:08:19,120
moon as i was scanning the lake and

259
00:08:22,150 --> 00:08:20,319
pastures around me

260
00:08:24,390 --> 00:08:22,160
i noticed movement near the lake strain

261
00:08:26,390 --> 00:08:24,400
below the dam it looked as if two tall

262
00:08:27,749 --> 00:08:26,400
bears were noodling catfish from under

263
00:08:29,589 --> 00:08:27,759

the stream's banks

264

00:08:31,110 --> 00:08:29,599

after a while i hurried to the road as

265

00:08:32,949 --> 00:08:31,120

dads pick a pulled up

266

00:08:34,230 --> 00:08:32,959

he scolded me and said i could sleep in

267

00:08:35,990 --> 00:08:34,240

the truck that night

268

00:08:38,230 --> 00:08:36,000

when i got back to camp clifford

269

00:08:39,670 --> 00:08:38,240

insisted that dad use his belt on me for

270

00:08:42,149 --> 00:08:39,680

being a spoiled baby

271

00:08:43,670 --> 00:08:42,159

dad got shamed and beat me so bad i had

272

00:08:45,829 --> 00:08:43,680

welts on me for a week

273

00:08:47,750 --> 00:08:45,839

said no shambling in history ever showed

274

00:08:48,550 --> 00:08:47,760

any fear and i was a miserable little

275

00:08:49,910 --> 00:08:48,560

coward

276

00:08:51,590 --> 00:08:49,920

from that day forward i fought

277

00:08:53,910 --> 00:08:51,600

vigorously anyone who heard me

278

00:08:56,230 --> 00:08:53,920

no matter how big or old they were never

279

00:08:58,150 --> 00:08:56,240

wanting my dad to feel ashamed of them

280

00:08:59,990 --> 00:08:58,160

that's how i got my nickname rooster

281

00:09:00,790 --> 00:09:00,000

ready to swing my fist to the moment's

282

00:09:02,630 --> 00:09:00,800

notice

283

00:09:04,150 --> 00:09:02,640

and to fight long and hard until there

284

00:09:06,070 --> 00:09:04,160

was nothing left in me

285

00:09:08,230 --> 00:09:06,080

riley was so furious because he thought

286

00:09:09,350 --> 00:09:08,240

i made the bear story up to cover up for

287

00:09:11,590 --> 00:09:09,360

not minding him

288

00:09:14,150 --> 00:09:11,600

the next week i went to the encyclopedia

289

00:09:16,070 --> 00:09:14,160

and found our bears only live in forests

290

00:09:18,230 --> 00:09:16,080

trees are in short supply in western

291

00:09:20,230 --> 00:09:18,240

oklahoma wind breaks or shelter bolts

292

00:09:22,389 --> 00:09:20,240

were planted in a variety of settings

293

00:09:23,990 --> 00:09:22,399

such as on cropland pasture and

294

00:09:26,790 --> 00:09:24,000

rangeland along roads

295

00:09:28,470 --> 00:09:26,800

farmsteads feedless and in urban areas

296

00:09:30,470 --> 00:09:28,480

they were established to protect or

297

00:09:31,110 --> 00:09:30,480

shelter nearby areas from troublesome

298

00:09:32,870 --> 00:09:31,120

winds

299

00:09:34,790 --> 00:09:32,880

they were put in after the dust bowl and

300

00:09:35,350 --> 00:09:34,800

trees growing around lakes creeks and

301
00:09:37,590 --> 00:09:35,360
rivers

302
00:09:38,630 --> 00:09:37,600
and that's a barrel this was my first

303
00:09:41,030 --> 00:09:38,640
bigfoot sighting

304
00:09:42,949 --> 00:09:41,040
unknown to me at the time i call them

305
00:09:44,389 --> 00:09:42,959
bears like the ones i had seen at the

306
00:09:46,230 --> 00:09:44,399
oklahoma city zoo

307
00:09:49,030 --> 00:09:46,240
the hairy animal that crossed the road

308
00:09:50,949 --> 00:09:49,040
when i was six most likely was a bigfoot

309
00:09:52,230 --> 00:09:50,959
it also probably stole our toys and

310
00:09:54,150 --> 00:09:52,240
heard our chickens

311
00:09:56,389 --> 00:09:54,160
the next year when i was nine years old

312
00:09:58,389 --> 00:09:56,399
my mother hosted a family reunion

313
00:10:00,949 --> 00:09:58,399

after just about everyone had done gone

314

00:10:02,870 --> 00:10:00,959

home me and my cousin cheryl renee goss

315

00:10:04,870 --> 00:10:02,880

continued to play under the huge native

316

00:10:06,069 --> 00:10:04,880

elm tree which was about a quarter mile

317

00:10:07,990 --> 00:10:06,079

north of the house

318

00:10:09,829 --> 00:10:08,000

i was the first one to notice the bare

319

00:10:10,710 --> 00:10:09,839

looking animals running towards us from

320

00:10:12,550 --> 00:10:10,720

the west

321

00:10:14,710 --> 00:10:12,560

they probably had been dining on prairie

322

00:10:16,470 --> 00:10:14,720

dogs just over the hill i figured

323

00:10:18,310 --> 00:10:16,480

because there was a bunch of them

324

00:10:20,310 --> 00:10:18,320

i didn't scream bears if my cousin would

325

00:10:20,710 --> 00:10:20,320

not have moved just begin arguing with

326

00:10:22,389 --> 00:10:20,720

me

327

00:10:25,030 --> 00:10:22,399

since she knew bears weren't in these

328

00:10:26,389 --> 00:10:25,040

parts so a yell pack of wild dogs at the

329

00:10:28,630 --> 00:10:26,399

top of my lungs

330

00:10:29,590 --> 00:10:28,640

this scenery racing up the tree and me

331

00:10:31,350 --> 00:10:29,600

falling behind

332

00:10:32,790 --> 00:10:31,360

just to make certain she climbed high

333

00:10:34,710 --> 00:10:32,800

enough and out of reach

334

00:10:36,550 --> 00:10:34,720

as the bears came running at high speed

335

00:10:37,750 --> 00:10:36,560

under the tree i covered renee's mouth

336

00:10:39,430 --> 00:10:37,760

and eyes to shutter up

337

00:10:40,949 --> 00:10:39,440

or else they would know our location in

338

00:10:42,550 --> 00:10:40,959

the heavily leafed tree

339

00:10:44,310 --> 00:10:42,560

because of the tree branches i couldn't

340

00:10:46,710 --> 00:10:44,320

get a good look at the bears who ran on

341

00:10:47,269 --> 00:10:46,720

two legs beneath us after they crossed

342

00:10:49,110 --> 00:10:47,279

the road

343

00:10:51,190 --> 00:10:49,120

they began eating on richard humberger's

344

00:10:51,910 --> 00:10:51,200

peanut vines and later went into his

345

00:10:54,150 --> 00:10:51,920

creek

346

00:10:55,110 --> 00:10:54,160

renee was crying hysterical as we walked

347

00:10:57,110 --> 00:10:55,120

back to the house

348

00:10:59,110 --> 00:10:57,120

and soon both my big sisters came

349

00:11:01,190 --> 00:10:59,120

running to see what was the matter

350

00:11:02,389 --> 00:11:01,200

when i was nine dads mobster friends

351
00:11:04,790 --> 00:11:02,399
began hanging around

352
00:11:05,990 --> 00:11:04,800
trying to catch a few words with him my

353
00:11:08,069 --> 00:11:06,000
dad was really rude

354
00:11:09,750 --> 00:11:08,079
and seldom said a word to the mobsters

355
00:11:11,590 --> 00:11:09,760
mom ignored them entirely

356
00:11:13,590 --> 00:11:11,600
it was awkward watching television in

357
00:11:14,630 --> 00:11:13,600
silence for people who had come so far

358
00:11:15,750 --> 00:11:14,640
to do business

359
00:11:18,230 --> 00:11:15,760
knowing they were going to be

360
00:11:18,550 --> 00:11:18,240
disappointed so i decided to entertain

361
00:11:22,310 --> 00:11:18,560
them

362
00:11:23,670 --> 00:11:22,320
fishing at worth richmond's lake about a

363
00:11:26,150 --> 00:11:23,680

half mile north of us

364

00:11:27,269 --> 00:11:26,160

and a quarter my lease the men seemed to

365

00:11:29,190 --> 00:11:27,279

enjoy our fishing

366

00:11:31,509 --> 00:11:29,200

and i enjoyed hearing about far away

367

00:11:34,550 --> 00:11:31,519

places like chicago new york city

368

00:11:35,350 --> 00:11:34,560

boston houston moscow london paris and

369

00:11:37,190 --> 00:11:35,360

berlin

370

00:11:39,430 --> 00:11:37,200

they were ever so anxious to take part

371

00:11:41,030 --> 00:11:39,440

in my dad's business enterprises

372

00:11:42,710 --> 00:11:41,040

however dad didn't want any more

373

00:11:44,710 --> 00:11:42,720

business partners he said

374

00:11:46,470 --> 00:11:44,720

dad made contracts with companies to

375

00:11:48,230 --> 00:11:46,480

deliver goods the goods never got

376

00:11:49,829 --> 00:11:48,240

delivered and he would split the money

377

00:11:51,670 --> 00:11:49,839

with top management

378

00:11:54,069 --> 00:11:51,680

i figured this out from reading dad's

379

00:11:55,190 --> 00:11:54,079

mail he also forced people to sell him

380

00:11:57,590 --> 00:11:55,200

their mineral rights

381

00:11:59,350 --> 00:11:57,600

refineries to buy stolen crude oil and

382

00:12:01,350 --> 00:11:59,360

ranchers to sell him their cattle and

383

00:12:04,310 --> 00:12:01,360

tractors for cents on the dollar

384

00:12:06,069 --> 00:12:04,320

at one point dad had over 200 oil wells

385

00:12:08,790 --> 00:12:06,079

some of the locals got to calling him

386

00:12:10,710 --> 00:12:08,800

j.r ewing like the tv show dallas

387

00:12:12,550 --> 00:12:10,720

ever since i was small i raised many

388

00:12:13,190 --> 00:12:12,560

breeds of chickens and sold hatching

389

00:12:15,110 --> 00:12:13,200

eggs

390

00:12:16,710 --> 00:12:15,120

my goal has always been to save the rare

391

00:12:18,389 --> 00:12:16,720

breeds from extinction

392

00:12:19,990 --> 00:12:18,399

that only cared about is fighting

393

00:12:21,110 --> 00:12:20,000

chickens which he fought in countries

394

00:12:22,949 --> 00:12:21,120

throughout the world

395

00:12:24,389 --> 00:12:22,959

i was in charge of the breeding program

396

00:12:26,629 --> 00:12:24,399

for all the chickens

397

00:12:28,870 --> 00:12:26,639

it was a huge responsibility because dad

398

00:12:30,949 --> 00:12:28,880

wagered a huge amount of money on them

399

00:12:32,710 --> 00:12:30,959

he sold his brute [h__\h] for ten thousand

400

00:12:33,509 --> 00:12:32,720

dollar minus twenty five thousand

401
00:12:35,269 --> 00:12:33,519
dollars

402
00:12:36,870 --> 00:12:35,279
and the battle stacks sold for two

403
00:12:38,150 --> 00:12:36,880
thousand five hundred dollar four

404
00:12:40,069 --> 00:12:38,160
thousand 000

405
00:12:42,230 --> 00:12:40,079
over the years i got better at selecting

406
00:12:43,750 --> 00:12:42,240
breeding stock and our roosters almost

407
00:12:45,590 --> 00:12:43,760
never lost in the gaff

408
00:12:47,670 --> 00:12:45,600
in the long night float plays a large

409
00:12:49,990 --> 00:12:47,680
role so the better rooster can lose

410
00:12:51,990 --> 00:12:50,000
because the weapons are so lethal that

411
00:12:53,430 --> 00:12:52,000
for lots of means for between one and

412
00:12:55,430 --> 00:12:53,440
five million dollars

413
00:12:57,509 --> 00:12:55,440

i never attended the fights because dad

414

00:12:59,509 --> 00:12:57,519

didn't want me taking up gambling

415

00:13:01,030 --> 00:12:59,519

we moved to the ghost mound area when i

416

00:13:03,110 --> 00:13:01,040

started the sixth grade

417

00:13:04,790 --> 00:13:03,120

men who became business partners with my

418

00:13:06,230 --> 00:13:04,800

dad soon became broke

419

00:13:08,710 --> 00:13:06,240

so they began mailing threatening

420

00:13:10,870 --> 00:13:08,720

letters to the house mom and dad felt

421

00:13:13,190 --> 00:13:10,880

the move was the safest thing to do

422

00:13:14,870 --> 00:13:13,200

besides my family had plans to take over

423

00:13:16,790 --> 00:13:14,880

horse racing and pro sports

424

00:13:18,710 --> 00:13:16,800

both of which would have a big impact on

425

00:13:19,350 --> 00:13:18,720

gambling if you knew who was going to

426

00:13:21,269 --> 00:13:19,360

win

427

00:13:23,190 --> 00:13:21,279

my mother's parents melvin and alta

428

00:13:24,550 --> 00:13:23,200

simpson were mostly into importing

429

00:13:26,790 --> 00:13:24,560

cocaine from colombia

430

00:13:29,269 --> 00:13:26,800

and heroin from karachi pakistan by the

431

00:13:30,949 --> 00:13:29,279

times ulta sponsored these poor kids

432

00:13:32,470 --> 00:13:30,959

through church organizations

433

00:13:34,389 --> 00:13:32,480

when they became old enough she turned

434

00:13:36,389 --> 00:13:34,399

them into mules around the world

435

00:13:37,910 --> 00:13:36,399

both sides of my family were heavily

436

00:13:39,430 --> 00:13:37,920

into organized crime

437

00:13:41,430 --> 00:13:39,440

i think on the herring side of the

438

00:13:42,790 --> 00:13:41,440

family in corsica they have been crooks

439

00:13:44,550 --> 00:13:42,800

for generations

440

00:13:46,870 --> 00:13:44,560

me and my siblings could all read and

441

00:13:48,550 --> 00:13:46,880

write by the time we were five years old

442

00:13:51,189 --> 00:13:48,560

we all represented our schools and

443

00:13:52,870 --> 00:13:51,199

competitions starting school at hydro in

444

00:13:54,389 --> 00:13:52,880

the sixth grade was okay

445

00:13:56,150 --> 00:13:54,399

none of the high school boys on the

446

00:13:56,870 --> 00:13:56,160

school bus wanted to fight the younger

447

00:13:59,269 --> 00:13:56,880

boys

448

00:14:00,470 --> 00:13:59,279

had a great teacher mrs opal hargrove

449

00:14:02,150 --> 00:14:00,480

besides school work

450

00:14:04,790 --> 00:14:02,160

she had us growing plants and making

451
00:14:06,230 --> 00:14:04,800
ceramics my dad tried his best so that

452
00:14:08,550 --> 00:14:06,240
we kept a low profile

453
00:14:09,990 --> 00:14:08,560
so nobody would report him to the feds

454
00:14:11,750 --> 00:14:10,000
in the seventh grade he quit letting

455
00:14:13,590 --> 00:14:11,760
mobster associates visit

456
00:14:14,790 --> 00:14:13,600
we were required to attend church every

457
00:14:16,870 --> 00:14:14,800
sunday and wednesday

458
00:14:18,710 --> 00:14:16,880
so we wouldn't turn out like my dad

459
00:14:20,870 --> 00:14:18,720
however many people in the area still

460
00:14:22,949 --> 00:14:20,880
knew about my dad's wicked ways

461
00:14:24,870 --> 00:14:22,959
many sundays we had to hear the sermons

462
00:14:27,189 --> 00:14:24,880
about my dad's sinful ways

463
00:14:28,470 --> 00:14:27,199

it was in 1970 that i learned about my

464

00:14:30,710 --> 00:14:28,480

dad's other marriages

465

00:14:33,030 --> 00:14:30,720

from a friend at school seems he had

466

00:14:35,030 --> 00:14:33,040

five wives prior to my mother and never

467

00:14:36,870 --> 00:14:35,040

messed with divorcing any of them

468

00:14:39,110 --> 00:14:36,880

he was 30 and mother 19 when they

469

00:14:41,829 --> 00:14:39,120

married i kept the information secret

470

00:14:42,870 --> 00:14:41,839

from mother until dad died in 1999 from

471

00:14:45,030 --> 00:14:42,880

lung cancer

472

00:14:47,509 --> 00:14:45,040

living one half mile east and a half

473

00:14:49,189 --> 00:14:47,519

mile north from ghost mound was a blast

474

00:14:51,590 --> 00:14:49,199

each day nearly me and my brother would

475

00:14:53,590 --> 00:14:51,600

climb it and look over the countryside

476

00:14:55,350 --> 00:14:53,600

sometimes we would see the bears walking

477

00:14:56,150 --> 00:14:55,360

upright across the cotton and peanut

478

00:14:57,990 --> 00:14:56,160

fields

479

00:14:59,430 --> 00:14:58,000

this didn't keep me from playing tarzan

480

00:15:00,870 --> 00:14:59,440

and running nude along the creek's

481

00:15:02,870 --> 00:15:00,880

fields and pastures

482

00:15:04,310 --> 00:15:02,880

animals got to know me from my roaming

483

00:15:06,310 --> 00:15:04,320

and leaving food for them

484

00:15:07,910 --> 00:15:06,320

each day i chopped up five gallons of

485

00:15:10,310 --> 00:15:07,920

fruits vegetables and meat

486

00:15:11,670 --> 00:15:10,320

and scattered them along my paths soon

487

00:15:14,310 --> 00:15:11,680

some of the animals began

488

00:15:16,230 --> 00:15:14,320

following me and i felt just like tartan

489

00:15:18,629 --> 00:15:16,240

i carry a long spears i ran

490

00:15:19,509 --> 00:15:18,639

just in case any mean cowabu wanted to

491

00:15:22,230 --> 00:15:19,519

chase me

492

00:15:24,389 --> 00:15:22,240

near thanksgiving of 1970 when i was 12

493

00:15:26,629 --> 00:15:24,399

years old me and my brother just go off

494

00:15:27,910 --> 00:15:26,639

the hydro school bus and was putting our

495

00:15:29,590 --> 00:15:27,920

school books away

496

00:15:31,030 --> 00:15:29,600

when through the front door a man walked

497

00:15:32,790 --> 00:15:31,040

in carrying a pistol

498

00:15:34,949 --> 00:15:32,800

he told me and my brother to get into

499

00:15:37,269 --> 00:15:34,959

the deep freeze it was a new one

500

00:15:39,590 --> 00:15:37,279

mother had just began to use so there

501
00:15:41,670 --> 00:15:39,600
was plenty of room in the chest freezer

502
00:15:43,670 --> 00:15:41,680
the keys were still in the lock guests

503
00:15:45,110 --> 00:15:43,680
who wanted to have my parents discover

504
00:15:46,870 --> 00:15:45,120
two frozen suns

505
00:15:48,470 --> 00:15:46,880
we tried very hard to break the lock

506
00:15:50,310 --> 00:15:48,480
using our legs and back

507
00:15:51,990 --> 00:15:50,320
when we ran out of oxygen we took

508
00:15:54,069 --> 00:15:52,000
breaths through the drainage hole which

509
00:15:55,430 --> 00:15:54,079
i cleared by pushing the pencil i found

510
00:15:58,069 --> 00:15:55,440
in my pocket through

511
00:15:59,910 --> 00:15:58,079
eventually the lock broke and we escaped

512
00:16:01,749 --> 00:15:59,920
that was the second time we had almost

513
00:16:03,829 --> 00:16:01,759

been killed by dad's enemies

514

00:16:05,829 --> 00:16:03,839

i prayed he would quit cheating people

515

00:16:07,829 --> 00:16:05,839

rex bottom told my mother that i had

516

00:16:10,310 --> 00:16:07,839

been running the creeks like a wild boar

517

00:16:11,910 --> 00:16:10,320

not even wearing any clothes i thought i

518

00:16:12,710 --> 00:16:11,920

was careful not to be seen by the

519

00:16:15,509 --> 00:16:12,720

neighbors

520

00:16:17,350 --> 00:16:15,519

so august 1970 my days of pretending to

521

00:16:19,430 --> 00:16:17,360

be tarzan ended with shame

522

00:16:21,509 --> 00:16:19,440

dad made me any my sister's practice

523

00:16:23,509 --> 00:16:21,519

using the guns every tuesday night

524

00:16:27,829 --> 00:16:23,519

he was always afraid somebody would harm

525

00:16:31,269 --> 00:16:30,389

this is lon strickler if you like this

526
00:16:33,030 --> 00:16:31,279
program

527
00:16:34,389 --> 00:16:33,040
it would help us if you would give it a

528
00:16:37,269 --> 00:16:34,399
thumbs up

529
00:16:39,189 --> 00:16:37,279
then subscribe and click the bell icon

530
00:16:39,829 --> 00:16:39,199
so you'll get notification when we

531
00:16:42,790 --> 00:16:39,839
upload

532
00:16:43,509 --> 00:16:42,800
new first-person encounters we have many

533
00:16:46,550 --> 00:16:43,519
more to come

534
00:16:47,749 --> 00:16:46,560
very soon and by the way if you have a

535
00:16:50,150 --> 00:16:47,759
suggestion