



SOMEWHERE IN THE SKIES

WITH RYAN SPRAGUE



THEY ARE ALREADY HERE

UFO Culture
and Why We
See Saucers

SARAH SCOLES

Author of Making Contact

1
00:00:35,049 --> 00:00:12,169
this is somewhere in the skies the

2
00:00:40,189 --> 00:00:37,549
welcome to somewhere in the skies I'm

3
00:00:43,040 --> 00:00:40,199
your host Ryan Sprague and today we're

4
00:00:46,579 --> 00:00:43,050
talking to science writer Sarah skulls

5
00:00:51,740 --> 00:00:46,589
about her new book they are already here

6
00:00:54,380 --> 00:00:51,750
UFO culture and why we see saucers this

7
00:00:56,960 --> 00:00:54,390
book which will release on March 3rd is

8
00:00:59,299 --> 00:00:56,970
an anthropological look at the UFO

9
00:01:02,180 --> 00:00:59,309
community told through first-person

10
00:01:05,090 --> 00:01:02,190
experiences with researchers in their

11
00:01:08,289 --> 00:01:05,100
element as they pursue what they see as

12
00:01:11,120 --> 00:01:08,299
a solvable mystery both terrestrial and

13
00:01:13,700 --> 00:01:11,130

cosmic more than half a century since

14
00:01:18,890 --> 00:01:13,710
Roswell UFOs have been making headlines

15
00:01:21,530 --> 00:01:18,900
once again on December 17 2017 the New

16
00:01:24,710 --> 00:01:21,540
York Times ran a front-page story about

17
00:01:26,810 --> 00:01:24,720
an approximately five year program by

18
00:01:29,859 --> 00:01:26,820
the Pentagon called the advanced

19
00:01:32,959 --> 00:01:29,869
aerospace threat identification program

20
00:01:34,969 --> 00:01:32,969
the article hinted and its sources

21
00:01:37,249 --> 00:01:34,979
clearly said in subsequent television

22
00:01:39,679 --> 00:01:37,259
interviews that some of the ships in

23
00:01:42,830 --> 00:01:39,689
question couldn't be linked to any

24
00:01:45,260 --> 00:01:42,840
country the implication of course was

25
00:01:49,099 --> 00:01:45,270
that they might be linked to other solar

26
00:01:51,739 --> 00:01:49,109
systems the UFO community those who had

27
00:01:54,679 --> 00:01:51,749
been thinking about seeing and analyzing

28
00:01:57,529 --> 00:01:54,689
suppose at flying saucers for years was

29
00:02:00,980 --> 00:01:57,539
surprisingly skeptical of the revelation

30
00:02:03,649 --> 00:02:00,990
their incredulity and doubt rippled

31
00:02:06,830 --> 00:02:03,659
across the Internet many of the people

32
00:02:09,650 --> 00:02:06,840
most invested in UFO reality weren't

33
00:02:11,780 --> 00:02:09,660
really buying it and as Sarah did her

34
00:02:14,150 --> 00:02:11,790
own digging she ventured to dark

35
00:02:16,670 --> 00:02:14,160
conspiracy filled corners of the

36
00:02:20,270 --> 00:02:16,680
Internet to a former Paranormal Research

37
00:02:24,020 --> 00:02:20,280
Center in Utah and to the hallways of

38
00:02:25,250 --> 00:02:24,030

the Pentagon in they are already here we

39

00:02:26,160 --> 00:02:25,260

meet the bigwigs

40

00:02:35,460 --> 00:02:26,170

the

41

00:02:37,770 --> 00:02:35,470

cooks of this sprawling community how do

42

00:02:40,290 --> 00:02:37,780

they interact with each other how do

43

00:02:43,020 --> 00:02:40,300

they interact with anomalous phenomenon

44

00:02:46,350 --> 00:02:43,030

and how do they as any group must

45

00:02:49,530 --> 00:02:46,360

reflect the politics and culture of the

46

00:02:51,479 --> 00:02:49,540

larger world around them we'll tackle

47

00:02:55,920 --> 00:02:51,489

this and so much more in our

48

00:02:57,449 --> 00:02:55,930

conversation with Sarah sculls Sarah

49

00:02:59,250 --> 00:02:57,459

thank you so much for joining me today

50

00:03:01,259 --> 00:02:59,260

on somewhere in the skies yeah thank you

51
00:03:02,550 --> 00:03:01,269
so much for having me Ren absolutely

52
00:03:04,680 --> 00:03:02,560
it's such a small world

53
00:03:06,809 --> 00:03:04,690
I had read one of your books a few years

54
00:03:09,870 --> 00:03:06,819
ago and then I would say a few months

55
00:03:12,449 --> 00:03:09,880
ago I I heard you on one of the podcasts

56
00:03:14,880 --> 00:03:12,459
I listened to the mad scientist podcast

57
00:03:16,559 --> 00:03:14,890
and I started doing some digging and I

58
00:03:19,650 --> 00:03:16,569
was like oh my god that's the author of

59
00:03:21,630 --> 00:03:19,660
the book I read that's so cool yeah I

60
00:03:23,430 --> 00:03:21,640
mean it's awesome for me as a writer to

61
00:03:25,199 --> 00:03:23,440
hear that anyone who's read my books so

62
00:03:27,570 --> 00:03:25,209
I'm glad you didn't I'm glad you liked

63
00:03:29,430 --> 00:03:27,580

it and now that I've been on the mad

64

00:03:32,580 --> 00:03:29,440

scientist podcast I listen to it all the

65

00:03:36,180 --> 00:03:32,590

time yeah that tends to happen yep and

66

00:03:38,640 --> 00:03:36,190

yeah you've been pulled into this UFO

67

00:03:40,620 --> 00:03:38,650

subculture which we're gonna get to but

68

00:03:43,259 --> 00:03:40,630

I hope this will be an easier one for

69

00:03:45,539 --> 00:03:43,269

you cuz you know I'm not about the the

70

00:03:46,920 --> 00:03:45,549

hard core belief and woowoo and all that

71

00:03:48,750 --> 00:03:46,930

stuff I like to take a grounded

72

00:03:50,970 --> 00:03:48,760

objective approach with the show and

73

00:03:53,880 --> 00:03:50,980

that's why your work resonated so much

74

00:03:55,770 --> 00:03:53,890

with me so we will definitely talk about

75

00:03:58,140 --> 00:03:55,780

that in your new book they are already

76
00:04:00,120 --> 00:03:58,150
here UFO culture and why we see saucers

77
00:04:02,190 --> 00:04:00,130
but um before we even get to that Sarah

78
00:04:03,720 --> 00:04:02,200
could it's maybe for my audience who's

79
00:04:06,150 --> 00:04:03,730
never heard of you could you give them a

80
00:04:08,580 --> 00:04:06,160
little feel of who you are and what you

81
00:04:11,009 --> 00:04:08,590
do sure yeah I'm a freelance science

82
00:04:13,080 --> 00:04:11,019
journalist and I'm a contributing writer

83
00:04:15,449 --> 00:04:13,090
at Wired magazine in popular science

84
00:04:18,210 --> 00:04:15,459
which is where probably most of my stuff

85
00:04:19,650 --> 00:04:18,220
appears and aside from this book I mean

86
00:04:21,599 --> 00:04:19,660
I don't actually cover you have those

87
00:04:24,000 --> 00:04:21,609
full time I mostly write about space

88
00:04:26,790 --> 00:04:24,010

businesses the satellite industry and

89

00:04:29,520 --> 00:04:26,800

kind of culture within astronomy and

90

00:04:31,469 --> 00:04:29,530

science so that's what I do most of the

91

00:04:34,589 --> 00:04:31,479

time and then other times I go down this

92

00:04:36,149 --> 00:04:34,599

rabbit hole with you yes it's good to

93

00:04:38,850 --> 00:04:36,159

get in and out of that rabbit hole every

94

00:04:39,629 --> 00:04:38,860

now and again but um yeah so like I said

95

00:04:41,700 --> 00:04:39,639

I

96

00:04:44,429 --> 00:04:41,710

first heard about your work through your

97

00:04:46,559 --> 00:04:44,439

book making contact so could you tell us

98

00:04:49,619 --> 00:04:46,569

maybe a little about that book and what

99

00:04:51,899 --> 00:04:49,629

inspired you to to write it sure so this

100

00:04:54,450 --> 00:04:51,909

book making contact it's a biography of

101
00:04:56,700 --> 00:04:54,460
a scientist named Jill tarter she's a

102
00:05:00,809 --> 00:04:56,710
radio astronomer and she has spent the

103
00:05:01,649 --> 00:05:00,819
past self more than 40 years working in

104
00:05:04,860 --> 00:05:01,659
the search for extraterrestrial

105
00:05:07,260 --> 00:05:04,870
intelligence SETI mostly looking for

106
00:05:10,110 --> 00:05:07,270
radio signals from maybe alien

107
00:05:13,050 --> 00:05:10,120
civilizations we should be searching for

108
00:05:15,809 --> 00:05:13,060
life beyond the earth because we want to

109
00:05:18,209 --> 00:05:15,819
understand what the laws of chemistry

110
00:05:21,899 --> 00:05:18,219
and physics have produced in this

111
00:05:24,059 --> 00:05:21,909
universe are we the only life serious

112
00:05:28,559 --> 00:05:24,069
are we the only intelligent species or

113
00:05:30,059 --> 00:05:28,569

are we one of many how do we fit in it's

114

00:05:33,209 --> 00:05:30,069

a very old question

115

00:05:37,860 --> 00:05:33,219

humans have asked it and we want to find

116

00:05:40,709 --> 00:05:37,870

the answer and I first encountered Jill

117

00:05:42,869 --> 00:05:40,719

Tartars work in fictional form she was

118

00:05:46,409 --> 00:05:42,879

the basis for the main character in the

119

00:05:48,360 --> 00:05:46,419

book and movie contact and I saw the

120

00:05:50,790 --> 00:05:48,370

movie contact when I was like 12 years

121

00:05:52,790 --> 00:05:50,800

old and I became totally obsessed with

122

00:05:54,779 --> 00:05:52,800

it I made my parents just rent it from

123

00:05:58,320 --> 00:05:54,789

Blockbuster all the time when

124

00:06:01,079 --> 00:05:58,330

blockbuster was a thing it was worth the

125

00:06:04,740 --> 00:06:01,089

days just imagine if I could have

126

00:06:06,990 --> 00:06:04,750

streamed it when I was 12 every day but

127

00:06:09,029 --> 00:06:07,000

it was the first time I realized a that

128

00:06:11,639 --> 00:06:09,039

radio astronomy existed and I thought it

129

00:06:13,950 --> 00:06:11,649

was so cool that you could get invisible

130

00:06:15,959 --> 00:06:13,960

information from the universe and also

131

00:06:18,450 --> 00:06:15,969

that there were scientists whose job it

132

00:06:20,579 --> 00:06:18,460

was to like ask big questions like are

133

00:06:22,260 --> 00:06:20,589

we alone what else is going on in the

134

00:06:24,389 --> 00:06:22,270

universe what are we doing here and I

135

00:06:27,540 --> 00:06:24,399

just thought that was so so interesting

136

00:06:29,760 --> 00:06:27,550

and it led me in the direction of I

137

00:06:32,010 --> 00:06:29,770

wanted to be a radio astronomer at first

138

00:06:33,749 --> 00:06:32,020

and I did some schooling and internships

139

00:06:36,860 --> 00:06:33,759

in that direction but eventually I got

140

00:06:39,510 --> 00:06:36,870

into writing instead and so then when I

141

00:06:41,850 --> 00:06:39,520

thought hey maybe I want to write a book

142

00:06:44,369 --> 00:06:41,860

I was thinking about you know what is a

143

00:06:46,139 --> 00:06:44,379

subject that I would love enough to

144

00:06:48,839 --> 00:06:46,149

spend enough time on it to write

145

00:06:50,579 --> 00:06:48,849

250 pages or whatever and I went back to

146

00:06:53,020 --> 00:06:50,589

this first thing that had inspired me so

147

00:06:54,700 --> 00:06:53,030

much and I just wrote Jill tarter and

148

00:06:56,440 --> 00:06:54,710

and I said hey you've cut you don't know

149

00:06:59,200 --> 00:06:56,450

me really but you've been my inspiration

150

00:07:01,300 --> 00:06:59,210

for you know a long time and no one's

151
00:07:03,940 --> 00:07:01,310
written your biography maybe I could do

152
00:07:05,770 --> 00:07:03,950
it and she said let's give it a shot

153
00:07:08,560 --> 00:07:05,780
what was it like I mean I would imagine

154
00:07:10,750 --> 00:07:08,570
you you were talking to her all the time

155
00:07:13,960 --> 00:07:10,760
every day the book was so descriptive

156
00:07:16,030 --> 00:07:13,970
and and accurate to her life and it was

157
00:07:18,280 --> 00:07:16,040
very inspirational so what was that like

158
00:07:20,500 --> 00:07:18,290
did you ever meet her in person yeah I

159
00:07:22,690 --> 00:07:20,510
actually I was working at a strong Emmy

160
00:07:24,700 --> 00:07:22,700
magazine at the time when I first got

161
00:07:27,280 --> 00:07:24,710
the idea and I actually quit that job

162
00:07:29,710 --> 00:07:27,290
just to move to California and be able

163
00:07:30,250 --> 00:07:29,720

to be around her and interview her all

164

00:07:32,230 --> 00:07:30,260

the time

165

00:07:33,850 --> 00:07:32,240

so that's when I started freelancing and

166

00:07:35,230 --> 00:07:33,860

I would just go over to her house and in

167

00:07:37,210 --> 00:07:35,240

Berkeley and we would go through her

168

00:07:40,570 --> 00:07:37,220

photo albums and she actually had this

169

00:07:43,120 --> 00:07:40,580

list of her 100 top moments in life so

170

00:07:45,550 --> 00:07:43,130

we kind of just went through her 100 top

171

00:07:46,870 --> 00:07:45,560

moments and figured out you know what

172

00:07:48,850 --> 00:07:46,880

what the search for extraterrestrial

173

00:07:50,800 --> 00:07:48,860

intelligence had been up to for the past

174

00:07:52,450 --> 00:07:50,810

40 years because she was the person who

175

00:07:53,800 --> 00:07:52,460

had kind of been there the whole time

176

00:07:55,720 --> 00:07:53,810

and we're definitely we're gonna revisit

177

00:07:58,150 --> 00:07:55,730

SETI I think a little bit in this

178

00:08:00,940 --> 00:07:58,160

conversation but um yeah that was so

179

00:08:03,430 --> 00:08:00,950

exciting so then this led to your second

180

00:08:05,470 --> 00:08:03,440

book they are already here UFO culture

181

00:08:07,960 --> 00:08:05,480

and why we see saucers so you move to

182

00:08:09,940 --> 00:08:07,970

this you move from making contact SETI a

183

00:08:12,430 --> 00:08:09,950

lot of us in the UFO field no matter

184

00:08:16,480 --> 00:08:12,440

your thoughts on SETI know what it is

185

00:08:20,460 --> 00:08:16,490

what it represents but then the new book

186

00:08:23,530 --> 00:08:20,470

came and it started with your own

187

00:08:25,360 --> 00:08:23,540

admittance to a UFO sighting which you

188

00:08:27,940 --> 00:08:25,370

know I can attest you to when I first

189

00:08:30,070 --> 00:08:27,950

wrote my UFO book I was very hesitant to

190

00:08:31,390 --> 00:08:30,080

include my own story in the book I

191

00:08:33,490 --> 00:08:31,400

didn't know how people would feel about

192

00:08:34,900 --> 00:08:33,500

it but you know I went full steam ahead

193

00:08:36,820 --> 00:08:34,910

and said look if I'm gonna write a book

194

00:08:39,850 --> 00:08:36,830

about people having UFO sightings I

195

00:08:41,650 --> 00:08:39,860

gotta talk about my own otherwise you

196

00:08:43,450 --> 00:08:41,660

know what's the point so would you mind

197

00:08:45,130 --> 00:08:43,460

maybe telling us a little about the

198

00:08:47,380 --> 00:08:45,140

experience that you relay in the

199

00:08:49,300 --> 00:08:47,390

beginning of your new book sure yeah it

200

00:08:52,120 --> 00:08:49,310

starts with the solar eclipse that

201
00:08:54,580 --> 00:08:52,130
happened a few years ago and I went out

202
00:08:57,400 --> 00:08:54,590
to Wyoming I live in Colorado so he just

203
00:09:01,180 --> 00:08:57,410
drove up north kind of near Jackson Hole

204
00:09:03,370 --> 00:09:01,190
in Wyoming and my friends and I didn't

205
00:09:05,170 --> 00:09:03,380
want to pay like \$5,000 a night for

206
00:09:06,560 --> 00:09:05,180
somebody's air B&B and so we were just

207
00:09:08,900 --> 00:09:06,570
camping out

208
00:09:11,390 --> 00:09:08,910
the National Forest and we you know

209
00:09:12,800 --> 00:09:11,400
hiked up to the top of a mountain saw

210
00:09:14,480 --> 00:09:12,810
the whole solar eclipse which was

211
00:09:18,140 --> 00:09:14,490
incredible I'm sure some of your

212
00:09:19,520 --> 00:09:18,150
listeners saw it too and it was just we

213
00:09:22,250 --> 00:09:19,530

all talked about it like it was kind of

214

00:09:24,410 --> 00:09:22,260

like being on a different planet to see

215

00:09:26,360 --> 00:09:24,420

something like that happened and for the

216

00:09:29,480 --> 00:09:26,370

earth to change so much so we did that

217

00:09:31,370 --> 00:09:29,490

we hiked back down and as we did every

218

00:09:33,830 --> 00:09:31,380

night on this trip we went stargazing

219

00:09:35,930 --> 00:09:33,840

right before we went to bed and as we

220

00:09:37,700 --> 00:09:35,940

were doing that we saw this thing that

221

00:09:39,830 --> 00:09:37,710

looked like it looked like a satellite

222

00:09:41,540 --> 00:09:39,840

it was moving like a satellite across

223

00:09:43,280 --> 00:09:41,550

the sky and we were watching it and then

224

00:09:45,950 --> 00:09:43,290

as we were watching it this beam of

225

00:09:48,920 --> 00:09:45,960

light just kind of swept down from it

226

00:09:51,890 --> 00:09:48,930

and then came to focus right on us for a

227

00:09:54,380 --> 00:09:51,900

second and then went away and none of us

228

00:09:56,630 --> 00:09:54,390

said anything as it was going on because

229

00:09:58,280 --> 00:09:56,640

we were just kind of in awe like what is

230

00:10:02,270 --> 00:09:58,290

going on what is happening how does this

231

00:10:04,550 --> 00:10:02,280

thing know we're here and we were just

232

00:10:05,930 --> 00:10:04,560

very perplexed for a few minutes and we

233

00:10:08,020 --> 00:10:05,940

you know we threw out the alien

234

00:10:10,550 --> 00:10:08,030

hypothesis maybe this is the time that

235

00:10:12,820 --> 00:10:10,560

something something truly mysterious

236

00:10:14,810 --> 00:10:12,830

really is happening to us and then

237

00:10:16,880 --> 00:10:14,820

eventually after a few minutes we

238

00:10:18,850 --> 00:10:16,890

realized that it was actually an Iridium

239

00:10:22,400 --> 00:10:18,860

flair for one of the Iridium

240

00:10:23,510 --> 00:10:22,410

communications satellites but that that

241

00:10:26,000 --> 00:10:23,520

sighting even though we eventually

242

00:10:29,240 --> 00:10:26,010

figured out what it was it really gave

243

00:10:32,390 --> 00:10:29,250

me a sense of what it's like to have a

244

00:10:33,860 --> 00:10:32,400

UFO sighting and what it means to see a

245

00:10:36,170 --> 00:10:33,870

mystery and this guy and to think like

246

00:10:37,610 --> 00:10:36,180

just even even just for a second even

247

00:10:39,080 --> 00:10:37,620

though we've figured it out there's

248

00:10:42,050 --> 00:10:39,090

truly some mystery up there and like

249

00:10:43,790 --> 00:10:42,060

something cares that I'm here I like

250

00:10:46,730 --> 00:10:43,800

that yeah and I mean you know no matter

251
00:10:48,230 --> 00:10:46,740
what the the answer to a UFO sighting is

252
00:10:50,180 --> 00:10:48,240
even if it's something conventional

253
00:10:52,880 --> 00:10:50,190
prosaic whether or not only what have

254
00:10:54,710 --> 00:10:52,890
you um that doesn't take away any of the

255
00:10:56,630 --> 00:10:54,720
extraordinary power behind it I feel

256
00:10:58,700 --> 00:10:56,640
either I mean there's so many things

257
00:11:01,010 --> 00:10:58,710
here on earth that continue to mystify

258
00:11:04,640 --> 00:11:01,020
us that probably aren't alien or

259
00:11:06,680 --> 00:11:04,650
probably normal so that's pretty cool it

260
00:11:09,170 --> 00:11:06,690
was kind of like your origin story and

261
00:11:10,670 --> 00:11:09,180
to him the UFO world so I was happy to

262
00:11:13,070 --> 00:11:10,680
hear about that in the beginning of the

263
00:11:14,720 --> 00:11:13,080

book something really hard to hit us

264

00:11:18,240 --> 00:11:14,730

with at the beginning so that was great

265

00:11:21,300 --> 00:11:18,250

yeah I guess from that

266

00:11:23,760 --> 00:11:21,310

what compelled you to to write this book

267

00:11:26,520 --> 00:11:23,770

specifically on UFOs and sort of the

268

00:11:28,980 --> 00:11:26,530

culture that's born from this topic what

269

00:11:32,730 --> 00:11:28,990

what made you go from making contact to

270

00:11:33,720 --> 00:11:32,740

this yeah I think a lot of people would

271

00:11:37,470 --> 00:11:33,730

like the answer to that question

272

00:11:39,420 --> 00:11:37,480

especially maybe Jill tarter yeah but

273

00:11:41,460 --> 00:11:39,430

yeah it really started a few months

274

00:11:46,230 --> 00:11:41,470

after that that sighting and the solar

275

00:11:48,330 --> 00:11:46,240

eclipse in December 2017 like for a lot

276

00:11:50,970 --> 00:11:48,340

of people I read the New York Times

277

00:11:54,030 --> 00:11:50,980

article about the advanced aerospace

278

00:11:55,800 --> 00:11:54,040

threat identification program earlier

279

00:11:57,930 --> 00:11:55,810

this week the New York Times in Politico

280

00:12:00,810 --> 00:11:57,940

revealed the existence of a secret

281

00:12:02,970 --> 00:12:00,820

government program to investigate UFO

282

00:12:05,010 --> 00:12:02,980

sightings it was especially focused on

283

00:12:08,130 --> 00:12:05,020

encounters by members of the military

284

00:12:10,410 --> 00:12:08,140

the program began in 2007 and ended five

285

00:12:12,480 --> 00:12:10,420

years later but it's former head Luis

286

00:12:14,580 --> 00:12:12,490

Elizondo is convinced that something

287

00:12:16,650 --> 00:12:14,590

compelling is out there what we are

288

00:12:18,780 --> 00:12:16,660

seeing is something that is is not

289

00:12:21,720 --> 00:12:18,790

traditional aircraft it's not a drone

290

00:12:24,120 --> 00:12:21,730

it's not something that we can easily

291

00:12:25,470 --> 00:12:24,130

say oh that's an airplane or that

292

00:12:28,770 --> 00:12:25,480

belongs to this country or that country

293

00:12:31,079 --> 00:12:28,780

in fact my submission is that what we

294

00:12:33,780 --> 00:12:31,089

are looking at is truly by definition

295

00:12:36,329 --> 00:12:33,790

exotic technologies beyond beyond

296

00:12:38,550 --> 00:12:36,339

next-generation technologies it seemed

297

00:12:41,550 --> 00:12:38,560

to me to be making incredible claims

298

00:12:43,050 --> 00:12:41,560

that would be you know one of the

299

00:12:47,070 --> 00:12:43,060

biggest stories in history of what it

300

00:12:49,170 --> 00:12:47,080

was implying was true and since my job

301
00:12:51,600 --> 00:12:49,180
as a journalist is to go you know

302
00:12:53,520 --> 00:12:51,610
investigate and confirm things when my

303
00:12:55,020 --> 00:12:53,530
editor asked like hey do you want to go

304
00:12:57,270 --> 00:12:55,030
look into this thing many are times

305
00:13:00,300 --> 00:12:57,280
published I said yeah sure so I just I

306
00:13:02,460 --> 00:13:00,310
started following up on what was in that

307
00:13:04,710 --> 00:13:02,470
article about the Pentagon's UFO

308
00:13:06,270 --> 00:13:04,720
research and the videos that I'm sure

309
00:13:08,280 --> 00:13:06,280
lots of your listeners are familiar with

310
00:13:09,660 --> 00:13:08,290
I'm just kind of going through point by

311
00:13:13,260 --> 00:13:09,670
point and seeing what I could find out

312
00:13:15,390 --> 00:13:13,270
and that's a whole other story but I

313
00:13:17,850 --> 00:13:15,400

guess the gist of it is that you know I

314

00:13:20,100 --> 00:13:17,860

was super new to the UFO field and there

315

00:13:21,690 --> 00:13:20,110

are people like you and others who have

316

00:13:25,260 --> 00:13:21,700

been in it for years and years and know

317

00:13:26,760 --> 00:13:25,270

a whole lot more than I do and so you

318

00:13:28,800 --> 00:13:26,770

know when you're a reporter you have the

319

00:13:31,620 --> 00:13:28,810

benefit of just being able to ask people

320

00:13:32,040 --> 00:13:31,630

about their knowledge so that you don't

321

00:13:34,440 --> 00:13:32,050

have to

322

00:13:37,680 --> 00:13:34,450

it from the ground up so I I got to know

323

00:13:40,050 --> 00:13:37,690

just UFO researchers who had a much

324

00:13:43,320 --> 00:13:40,060

bigger background Infirmary context of

325

00:13:45,420 --> 00:13:43,330

what was going on and they you know they

326

00:13:48,210 --> 00:13:45,430

weren't who I expected them to be I had

327

00:13:54,690 --> 00:13:48,220

a lot of ideas about who cared about

328

00:13:56,400 --> 00:13:54,700

UFOs and they weren't all flattering and

329

00:13:58,230 --> 00:13:56,410

so because of that I was like surprised

330

00:13:59,340 --> 00:13:58,240

to meet people who were doing who I

331

00:14:00,630 --> 00:13:59,350

thought we're doing really great work

332

00:14:03,210 --> 00:14:00,640

who were doing a better job

333

00:14:05,430 --> 00:14:03,220

investigating than I was and it made me

334

00:14:07,500 --> 00:14:05,440

just want to get to know more about you

335

00:14:09,509 --> 00:14:07,510

know their world and what fascinated

336

00:14:11,550 --> 00:14:09,519

them about this and then also kind of

337

00:14:13,350 --> 00:14:11,560

understand why this New York Times story

338

00:14:16,650 --> 00:14:13,360

and a tip we're hitting such a cultural

339

00:14:18,780 --> 00:14:16,660

nerve right now yeah it is it's very

340

00:14:21,750 --> 00:14:18,790

timely and we'll definitely get to a tip

341

00:14:23,790 --> 00:14:21,760

and Tom DeLonge and what you're doing

342

00:14:25,880 --> 00:14:23,800

whether people think it's good or bad

343

00:14:29,730 --> 00:14:25,890

for the UFO community or the UFO topic

344

00:14:31,590 --> 00:14:29,740

overall but um yes you you started the

345

00:14:34,860 --> 00:14:31,600

book you went into the belly of the

346

00:14:36,360 --> 00:14:34,870

beast the UFO Congress know this is

347

00:14:36,690 --> 00:14:36,370

something that is near and dear to my

348

00:14:40,319 --> 00:14:36,700

heart

349

00:14:42,480 --> 00:14:40,329

I spent God how many years volunteering

350

00:14:44,340 --> 00:14:42,490

at this event every year I would fly out

351
00:14:46,560 --> 00:14:44,350
to Arizona from New York just to

352
00:14:48,960 --> 00:14:46,570
volunteer go backstage work the sound

353
00:14:51,000 --> 00:14:48,970
I'll clean the toilets if you want me to

354
00:14:53,100 --> 00:14:51,010
I don't care but get me to the UFO

355
00:14:55,550 --> 00:14:53,110
Congress the biggest UFO convention

356
00:15:00,290 --> 00:14:55,560
pretty much in North America and it is

357
00:15:03,360 --> 00:15:00,300
it's an experience as I'm sure you so

358
00:15:06,840 --> 00:15:03,370
what did you take from going to this

359
00:15:09,150 --> 00:15:06,850
event Sara and yeah yeah how was it

360
00:15:11,010 --> 00:15:09,160
going to the International UFO Congress

361
00:15:12,600 --> 00:15:11,020
for the first time I feel like I should

362
00:15:15,269 --> 00:15:12,610
have volunteered to clean toilets I

363
00:15:18,750 --> 00:15:15,279

might explain something also but yeah I

364

00:15:21,360 --> 00:15:18,760

was a couple months in to working on

365

00:15:22,590 --> 00:15:21,370

some stories for Wired about this and so

366

00:15:26,550 --> 00:15:22,600

I just thought you know I haven't

367

00:15:28,560 --> 00:15:26,560

actually met any UFO people for lack of

368

00:15:31,170 --> 00:15:28,570

a better term and I haven't interacted

369

00:15:32,460 --> 00:15:31,180

with anyone in person and you know this

370

00:15:33,810 --> 00:15:32,470

conference is happening and maybe I

371

00:15:36,389 --> 00:15:33,820

should just go so I just got a

372

00:15:39,090 --> 00:15:36,399

last-minute ticket to Arizona and a very

373

00:15:41,910 --> 00:15:39,100

cheap hotel room and flew out kind of on

374

00:15:44,670 --> 00:15:41,920

a whim and I wanted to get a sense of

375

00:15:45,140 --> 00:15:44,680

like the scope of the community and the

376

00:15:47,960 --> 00:15:45,150

variety

377

00:15:50,740 --> 00:15:47,970

of interests and and also see how people

378

00:15:53,240 --> 00:15:50,750

were talking about the these new UFO

379

00:15:55,070 --> 00:15:53,250

revelations so the chapter is mostly in

380

00:15:56,570 --> 00:15:55,080

a just an account of what it was like to

381

00:15:58,790 --> 00:15:56,580

be at the conference and I think my

382

00:16:00,940 --> 00:15:58,800

biggest takeaway which I'm sure you

383

00:16:04,070 --> 00:16:00,950

found going there also is just the huge

384

00:16:07,820 --> 00:16:04,080

spectrum of beliefs and interest that

385

00:16:09,020 --> 00:16:07,830

people have so I guess like like one of

386

00:16:12,140 --> 00:16:09,030

the first talks I went to when I was

387

00:16:15,080 --> 00:16:12,150

there was by researcher named Cheryl

388

00:16:17,780 --> 00:16:15,090

Kosta November 4 2012 there's a little

389

00:16:20,630 --> 00:16:17,790

article says UFOs have been declining

390

00:16:23,330 --> 00:16:20,640

since the 1980s maybe they were always

391

00:16:25,760 --> 00:16:23,340

just an urban legend and being well-read

392

00:16:27,500 --> 00:16:25,770

I said that doesn't sound right so I

393

00:16:29,600 --> 00:16:27,510

went out to the national UFO Reporting

394

00:16:31,520 --> 00:16:29,610

Center and I looked up the year of me

395

00:16:33,410 --> 00:16:31,530

numbers and the chart went up like this

396

00:16:35,510 --> 00:16:33,420

and I'm thinking the first question I

397

00:16:38,180 --> 00:16:35,520

thought to myself this is baloney this

398

00:16:40,310 --> 00:16:38,190

is misinformation surely after that I

399

00:16:42,320 --> 00:16:40,320

started reading some of these reports on

400

00:16:44,750 --> 00:16:42,330

the national databases from New York

401

00:16:46,070 --> 00:16:44,760

State very very amazing stories she

402

00:16:48,110 --> 00:16:46,080

everybody had been told up until that

403

00:16:50,360 --> 00:16:48,120

point only coops and crackpots log these

404

00:16:53,120 --> 00:16:50,370

things and I found it was mostly people

405

00:16:55,250 --> 00:16:53,130

who saw something amazing and wanted to

406

00:16:56,720 --> 00:16:55,260

tell the story and say god this is what

407

00:16:58,910 --> 00:16:56,730

I saw I didn't believe in this stuff

408

00:17:02,030 --> 00:16:58,920

until I saw this thing so I went to a

409

00:17:04,880 --> 00:17:02,040

couple of editors in 2013 and pitched

410

00:17:06,949 --> 00:17:04,890

the idea of doing up like a weekly UFO

411

00:17:09,199 --> 00:17:06,959

column for New York State and I got

412

00:17:10,790 --> 00:17:09,209

thrown out a couple offices left out of

413

00:17:13,610 --> 00:17:10,800

a couple offices finally I found an

414

00:17:15,470 --> 00:17:13,620

editor at Syracuse New Times and he said

415

00:17:16,940 --> 00:17:15,480

let's try this so we tried it for a

416

00:17:19,310 --> 00:17:16,950

month he calls me in I figured he can

417

00:17:20,960 --> 00:17:19,320

take me off he says none we're not

418

00:17:22,640 --> 00:17:20,970

taking you down you're doing better than

419

00:17:25,040 --> 00:17:22,650

all the rest of the columnist combined

420

00:17:28,340 --> 00:17:25,050

who had done a statistical analysis of a

421

00:17:32,540 --> 00:17:28,350

bunch of sightings and kind of affirmed

422

00:17:34,370 --> 00:17:32,550

some some ideas and had had interesting

423

00:17:35,780 --> 00:17:34,380

information about like who sees UFOs

424

00:17:37,190 --> 00:17:35,790

which are people who have dogs and

425

00:17:38,420 --> 00:17:37,200

people who smoke because they're outside

426

00:17:41,950 --> 00:17:38,430

and they know what it looks like in this

427

00:17:44,090 --> 00:17:41,960

guy and then found other things

428

00:17:45,800 --> 00:17:44,100

contradictory to what people think like

429

00:17:48,050 --> 00:17:45,810

that there aren't more UFO sightings

430

00:17:49,850 --> 00:17:48,060

around nuclear sites and things like

431

00:17:53,900 --> 00:17:49,860

that but then there were other people

432

00:17:56,660 --> 00:17:53,910

like speaking about more dubious things

433

00:17:58,610 --> 00:17:56,670

like a secret space program or showing

434

00:17:59,450 --> 00:17:58,620

documents that had already been proven

435

00:18:00,889 --> 00:17:59,460

to be

436

00:18:02,539 --> 00:18:00,899

hoaxes and I just I found it really

437

00:18:04,310 --> 00:18:02,549

fascinating all of these different

438

00:18:06,440 --> 00:18:04,320

people kind of along different lines of

439

00:18:08,360 --> 00:18:06,450

evidence I've gotten together at the

440

00:18:11,960 --> 00:18:08,370

same place and we're sharing all their

441

00:18:14,690 --> 00:18:11,970

information and yeah it took me a while

442

00:18:17,330 --> 00:18:14,700

to try to make sense of that but at the

443

00:18:20,450 --> 00:18:17,340

end of the conference I went to a talk

444

00:18:23,680 --> 00:18:20,460

that Robbie Graham gave which yeah which

445

00:18:26,230 --> 00:18:23,690

was kind of about a little bit about how

446

00:18:30,980 --> 00:18:26,240

UFO culture is a little bit like

447

00:18:32,779 --> 00:18:30,990

religion and that that made me go get a

448

00:18:34,279 --> 00:18:32,789

book that he'd edited called reframing

449

00:18:36,200 --> 00:18:34,289

the debate which kind of talks about

450

00:18:38,750 --> 00:18:36,210

talks about that and the different

451
00:18:40,340 --> 00:18:38,760
spectrums of belief and how people treat

452
00:18:42,799 --> 00:18:40,350
stuff and then that led me to a bunch of

453
00:18:45,409 --> 00:18:42,809
academic papers from religious scholars

454
00:18:47,120 --> 00:18:45,419
and anthropologists and then yeah then I

455
00:18:52,610 --> 00:18:47,130
was in the middle of writing a book when

456
00:18:54,049 --> 00:18:52,620
I didn't mean to be the the UFO Congress

457
00:18:56,720 --> 00:18:54,059
is definitely The Breakfast Club of

458
00:19:01,789 --> 00:18:56,730
ethology you do have every sort of

459
00:19:04,460 --> 00:19:01,799
belief there and and type of person or

460
00:19:06,289 --> 00:19:04,470
topic it's it's interesting it's it's

461
00:19:08,720 --> 00:19:06,299
definitely a cultural or a sociological

462
00:19:11,330 --> 00:19:08,730
study in itself I'm happy to hear you

463
00:19:13,909 --> 00:19:11,340

say she'll cost us she for a lot of

464

00:19:15,500 --> 00:19:13,919

people who don't know she actually was

465

00:19:17,720 --> 00:19:15,510

the focal point of an article that came

466

00:19:20,180 --> 00:19:17,730

out in the New York Times months before

467

00:19:22,700 --> 00:19:20,190

the New York Times quote-unquote you

468

00:19:25,159 --> 00:19:22,710

know bombshell broke with a tip and

469

00:19:27,710 --> 00:19:25,169

everything so we truly do have show

470

00:19:29,060 --> 00:19:27,720

acosta to thank for getting the topic

471

00:19:31,070 --> 00:19:29,070

out to the mainstream in the new york

472

00:19:33,919 --> 00:19:31,080

times months before that robbie graham

473

00:19:35,600 --> 00:19:33,929

also i did contribute a chapter to that

474

00:19:37,580 --> 00:19:35,610

book reframing the debate and this is

475

00:19:41,149 --> 00:19:37,590

another instance where you have someone

476
00:19:43,610 --> 00:19:41,159
asking new questions of UFOs instead of

477
00:19:46,279 --> 00:19:43,620
like you said these documents that have

478
00:19:48,039 --> 00:19:46,289
been proven to be phony or hoaxes many

479
00:19:50,510 --> 00:19:48,049
many years ago yet people are still

480
00:19:53,120 --> 00:19:50,520
touting these and sticking to their

481
00:19:54,889 --> 00:19:53,130
beliefs and it's tough it's tough when

482
00:19:57,200 --> 00:19:54,899
you're dealing with people and their

483
00:19:59,960 --> 00:19:57,210
belief systems because we know even

484
00:20:01,700 --> 00:19:59,970
mostly in today's world yeah you're not

485
00:20:02,960 --> 00:20:01,710
going to change many people's minds if

486
00:20:05,419 --> 00:20:02,970
they're passionate enough about

487
00:20:07,310 --> 00:20:05,429
something but to know that there are

488
00:20:10,279 --> 00:20:07,320

people out there like you not only

489

00:20:13,260 --> 00:20:10,289

studying the phenomenon but the people

490

00:20:15,330 --> 00:20:13,270

who follow it who believe in it

491

00:20:17,790 --> 00:20:15,340

I think it's very important we do have

492

00:20:20,790 --> 00:20:17,800

to put that mirror back on ourselves if

493

00:20:24,810 --> 00:20:20,800

we ever truly want answers and you did

494

00:20:26,480 --> 00:20:24,820

mention a tip earlier and this kind of

495

00:20:29,610 --> 00:20:26,490

bleeds into chapter 2 of your book

496

00:20:35,970 --> 00:20:29,620

titled the black vault versus the rock

497

00:20:39,630 --> 00:20:35,980

star just get Whittier and Whittier is

498

00:20:42,090 --> 00:20:39,640

it go on but yeah you follow this all

499

00:20:44,010 --> 00:20:42,100

through throughout the first chapter

500

00:20:45,420 --> 00:20:44,020

through the lens of john greenwald

501
00:20:47,370 --> 00:20:45,430
the black vault a lot about really

502
00:20:50,370 --> 00:20:47,380
centers know him he's been on the show a

503
00:20:52,380 --> 00:20:50,380
few times he has the world's biggest you

504
00:20:54,770 --> 00:20:52,390
know database of declassified documents

505
00:20:57,570 --> 00:20:54,780
for the government pertaining to ufos

506
00:21:00,000 --> 00:20:57,580
other top-secret projects everything you

507
00:21:02,820 --> 00:21:00,010
could possibly think of so what was your

508
00:21:06,510 --> 00:21:02,830
biggest takeaway I guess when it comes

509
00:21:09,210 --> 00:21:06,520
to this narrative that TTS a to the

510
00:21:11,520 --> 00:21:09,220
Stars Academy seems to be pushing and

511
00:21:14,790 --> 00:21:11,530
the company they've created when it

512
00:21:16,860 --> 00:21:14,800
comes to UFOs yeah I I struggled a lot

513
00:21:20,190 --> 00:21:16,870

with this chapter actually because there

514

00:21:23,250 --> 00:21:20,200

were so many ups and downs and changes

515

00:21:25,230 --> 00:21:23,260

and contradictions and spin from all

516

00:21:26,700 --> 00:21:25,240

sides like even as I was writing it and

517

00:21:29,520 --> 00:21:26,710

up to the very last minute before it

518

00:21:31,890 --> 00:21:29,530

went to the printer that just trying to

519

00:21:34,970 --> 00:21:31,900

get the a tip story and the TTS a story

520

00:21:37,770 --> 00:21:34,980

just down in a comprehensive way for a

521

00:21:41,010 --> 00:21:37,780

general person who isn't familiar with

522

00:21:42,960 --> 00:21:41,020

any of this probably it was really hard

523

00:21:46,670 --> 00:21:42,970

and actually that ended up being my

524

00:21:49,710 --> 00:21:46,680

biggest takeaway was that that it's

525

00:21:54,150 --> 00:21:49,720

complicated and confusing and that I

526

00:21:56,130 --> 00:21:54,160

think that that is on purpose so so TTS

527

00:21:59,070 --> 00:21:56,140

a right now is kind of pushing the

528

00:22:01,350 --> 00:21:59,080

narrative you know you IPS are here

529

00:22:02,850 --> 00:22:01,360

they're a national security threat here

530

00:22:05,760 --> 00:22:02,860

are these videos we've been studying

531

00:22:07,610 --> 00:22:05,770

them and the the government was so

532

00:22:10,080 --> 00:22:07,620

dismissive of them that we've had to go

533

00:22:12,720 --> 00:22:10,090

to the private sector and bring this

534

00:22:15,150 --> 00:22:12,730

information to you through this company

535

00:22:19,050 --> 00:22:15,160

that also publishes you know books and

536

00:22:21,810 --> 00:22:19,060

movies and music and they they give

537

00:22:23,670 --> 00:22:21,820

everybody like just enough evidence to

538

00:22:25,260 --> 00:22:23,680

believe whatever they already want to

539

00:22:26,620 --> 00:22:25,270

believe and not enough evidence to

540

00:22:28,630 --> 00:22:26,630

actually prove anything

541

00:22:30,790 --> 00:22:28,640

finite of one way or the other a lot of

542

00:22:32,020 --> 00:22:30,800

people will probably disagree with me

543

00:22:34,570 --> 00:22:32,030

about that but that's that's where I

544

00:22:37,930 --> 00:22:34,580

stand on it and then on the other hand

545

00:22:40,960 --> 00:22:37,940

the the Pentagon is in a lot of ways

546

00:22:42,910 --> 00:22:40,970

doing this a similar thing

547

00:22:45,160 --> 00:22:42,920

they've gone back and forth changed

548

00:22:48,910 --> 00:22:45,170

their story given confusing statements

549

00:22:51,400 --> 00:22:48,920

been cagey about the UAP videos where

550

00:22:53,860 --> 00:22:51,410

they come from and it's it's just kind

551
00:22:55,810 --> 00:22:53,870
of impossible for the third not just the

552
00:22:59,800 --> 00:22:55,820
average person but for people who

553
00:23:02,590 --> 00:22:59,810
actually investigate UFOs full-time or

554
00:23:04,440 --> 00:23:02,600
as is really serious hobby to know from

555
00:23:07,210 --> 00:23:04,450
the outside what's actually going on and

556
00:23:10,240 --> 00:23:07,220
so I guess my main conclusion was that

557
00:23:12,670 --> 00:23:10,250
it must be in everybody's interests on

558
00:23:14,290 --> 00:23:12,680
all sides somehow to only provide

559
00:23:16,900 --> 00:23:14,300
limited information and kind of let

560
00:23:19,870 --> 00:23:16,910
people run with whatever interpretation

561
00:23:22,450 --> 00:23:19,880
that they already kind of like and I

562
00:23:24,340 --> 00:23:22,460
think if anyone is on UFO Twitter they

563
00:23:29,140 --> 00:23:24,350

see that happen basically every single

564

00:23:32,140 --> 00:23:29,150

day there yeah as with any I guess you

565

00:23:34,660 --> 00:23:32,150

know subculture community we if we have

566

00:23:37,750 --> 00:23:34,670

our our squabbles that's for damn sure

567

00:23:39,760 --> 00:23:37,760

um well yeah I mean moving moving away

568

00:23:42,070 --> 00:23:39,770

from that and kind of um you mentioned

569

00:23:45,010 --> 00:23:42,080

the Pentagon no chapter three the

570

00:23:47,080 --> 00:23:45,020

government's closet this stuff is deep

571

00:23:48,460 --> 00:23:47,090

into the government's roi and UFO

572

00:23:50,290 --> 00:23:48,470

studies and investigation you know

573

00:23:51,850 --> 00:23:50,300

covering everything from projects I

574

00:23:53,710 --> 00:23:51,860

encourage Blue Book all these things

575

00:23:59,530 --> 00:23:53,720

that all of us in the UFO field know

576
00:24:02,680 --> 00:23:59,540
probably too much about but it resulted

577
00:24:04,900 --> 00:24:02,690
in the Condon committee reports and this

578
00:24:07,780 --> 00:24:04,910
was pretty interesting the government

579
00:24:09,010 --> 00:24:07,790
flat-out came out and said UFOs posed no

580
00:24:10,510 --> 00:24:09,020
threat to national security

581
00:24:13,810 --> 00:24:10,520
which kind of goes against everything a

582
00:24:15,820 --> 00:24:13,820
tip is saying now and there's no true

583
00:24:18,700 --> 00:24:15,830
scientific examination that could be

584
00:24:20,620 --> 00:24:18,710
done any further with it so this left a

585
00:24:24,010 --> 00:24:20,630
lot of UFO people out there not

586
00:24:25,750 --> 00:24:24,020
believing the government and starting to

587
00:24:27,700 --> 00:24:25,760
really mistrust the government I would

588
00:24:30,520 --> 00:24:27,710

say this is one of the first times we

589

00:24:32,140 --> 00:24:30,530

really saw this happen when we we

590

00:24:34,840 --> 00:24:32,150

started to lose trust in the people who

591

00:24:37,060 --> 00:24:34,850

govern us so how did you feel after

592

00:24:40,450 --> 00:24:37,070

looking deeper into how the government

593

00:24:42,930 --> 00:24:40,460

itself this all-encompassing

594

00:24:45,970 --> 00:24:42,940

government does it were a capital G and

595

00:24:47,410 --> 00:24:45,980

doing the UFO issue and how they've

596

00:24:49,240 --> 00:24:47,420

handled it throughout the years I guess

597

00:24:50,770 --> 00:24:49,250

yeah it's funny that you say the

598

00:24:52,660 --> 00:24:50,780

government capital G because I've been

599

00:24:54,430 --> 00:24:52,670

saying it a lot now that I'm talking

600

00:24:57,250 --> 00:24:54,440

about the book and it makes me feel like

601
00:24:58,600 --> 00:24:57,260
I am a conspiracy theorist on the

602
00:24:59,740 --> 00:24:58,610
sidewalk spouting things about the

603
00:25:03,400 --> 00:24:59,750
government but if there's really no

604
00:25:05,890 --> 00:25:03,410
other way to say it yeah yeah I came

605
00:25:09,130 --> 00:25:05,900
away with the impression that it's it's

606
00:25:11,020 --> 00:25:09,140
really reasonable for UFO buffs to to

607
00:25:13,780 --> 00:25:11,030
not trust the government because in the

608
00:25:17,040 --> 00:25:13,790
past it's really proven itself to be

609
00:25:19,890 --> 00:25:17,050
pretty unreliable and not transparent

610
00:25:22,570 --> 00:25:19,900
about the subject I think there's a CIA

611
00:25:24,550 --> 00:25:22,580
historian whose report I quote in the

612
00:25:27,490 --> 00:25:24,560
chapter who says something like that the

613
00:25:29,890 --> 00:25:27,500

the way the the CIA and other agencies

614

00:25:33,060 --> 00:25:29,900

behaved kind of in the mid 20th century

615

00:25:36,190 --> 00:25:33,070

really sowed the seeds of mistrust by

616

00:25:39,250 --> 00:25:36,200

kind of conducting UFO programs in bad

617

00:25:41,110 --> 00:25:39,260

faith keeping a lot of information from

618

00:25:45,190 --> 00:25:41,120

the public like it's it's studies on the

619

00:25:49,030 --> 00:25:45,200

psychological impacts of UFO slaps and

620

00:25:51,430 --> 00:25:49,040

things like that and then you know

621

00:25:53,830 --> 00:25:51,440

things like Roswell which I think we

622

00:25:58,960 --> 00:25:53,840

might talk about later but you know

623

00:26:01,870 --> 00:25:58,970

spreading bad information and in in John

624

00:26:04,570 --> 00:26:01,880

Greenwald's book that came out fairly

625

00:26:06,820 --> 00:26:04,580

recently he documents really well with

626

00:26:09,010 --> 00:26:06,830

archival materials ways that the you

627

00:26:12,370 --> 00:26:09,020

that the government has covered up

628

00:26:14,950 --> 00:26:12,380

information about UFOs and its interest

629

00:26:16,450 --> 00:26:14,960

in them more specifically and so for me

630

00:26:18,820 --> 00:26:16,460

that I mean that kind of gives us no

631

00:26:20,380 --> 00:26:18,830

reason to think it wouldn't be doing the

632

00:26:22,360 --> 00:26:20,390

same thing now like if we know one thing

633

00:26:24,640 --> 00:26:22,370

about the way people and governments

634

00:26:25,810 --> 00:26:24,650

behave it's that mostly you know past as

635

00:26:28,210 --> 00:26:25,820

present and if they did it before

636

00:26:29,920 --> 00:26:28,220

they're probably doing it now so I mean

637

00:26:31,750 --> 00:26:29,930

I guess do I think that in itself is

638

00:26:35,650 --> 00:26:31,760

evidence that the you know they have an

639

00:26:39,040 --> 00:26:35,660

alien spaceship in area 51 no but I

640

00:26:42,280 --> 00:26:39,050

think the the capital G government is

641

00:26:44,140 --> 00:26:42,290

secretive about a lot of things you know

642

00:26:46,450 --> 00:26:44,150

if you talk to you national security

643

00:26:48,130 --> 00:26:46,460

specialists or people in the military

644

00:26:50,590 --> 00:26:48,140

and intelligence communities they'll

645

00:26:51,970 --> 00:26:50,600

talk a lot about over-classification and

646

00:26:54,460 --> 00:26:51,980

just that anything that could be a

647

00:26:57,100 --> 00:26:54,470

little tiny bit secret will be

648

00:27:00,279 --> 00:26:57,110

classified and that it doesn't actually

649

00:27:03,669 --> 00:27:00,289

need to be so to me a lot of this could

650

00:27:06,070 --> 00:27:03,679

just be the government acting the way it

651

00:27:08,130 --> 00:27:06,080

always does so it's hard to draw any

652

00:27:10,299 --> 00:27:08,140

conclusions from that in my opinion

653

00:27:13,180 --> 00:27:10,309

absolutely yeah some things never change

654

00:27:15,730 --> 00:27:13,190

and yeah and we have to stress you know

655

00:27:18,610 --> 00:27:15,740

when we say government the government is

656

00:27:20,799 --> 00:27:18,620

made up of many many people with

657

00:27:23,500 --> 00:27:20,809

different belief systems different

658

00:27:25,450 --> 00:27:23,510

agendas motives so we got to keep that

659

00:27:26,980 --> 00:27:25,460

in mind to when we say when is the

660

00:27:30,880 --> 00:27:26,990

government going to disclose the truth

661

00:27:33,039 --> 00:27:30,890

about UFOs well what does that mean we

662

00:27:35,139 --> 00:27:33,049

see it as this you know umbrella dark

663

00:27:38,350 --> 00:27:35,149

syndicate like the x-files would have us

664

00:27:40,510 --> 00:27:38,360

believe but um no it's just a poorly run

665

00:27:42,669 --> 00:27:40,520

bureaucratic thing like most things out

666

00:27:44,710 --> 00:27:42,679

there so yeah actually when I talk to

667

00:27:46,539 --> 00:27:44,720

friends who work in like the aerospace

668

00:27:48,220 --> 00:27:46,549

parts of government and I say hey here's

669

00:27:50,409 --> 00:27:48,230

here's my crazy idea do you think that

670

00:27:52,060 --> 00:27:50,419

this is the thing that's going on they

671

00:27:54,399 --> 00:27:52,070

they kind of say like it would be really

672

00:27:56,110 --> 00:27:54,409

cool if we had that the capability to

673

00:27:58,960 --> 00:27:56,120

pull something like that off but our

674

00:28:00,190 --> 00:27:58,970

bureaucracy is just as much of a mess as

675

00:28:02,580 --> 00:28:00,200

anything else and we're too disorganized

676

00:28:08,860 --> 00:28:02,590

to have a cool project like that yeah

677

00:28:10,180 --> 00:28:08,870

right hey y'all Ryan Sprague here as you

678

00:28:13,180 --> 00:28:10,190

all know this somewhere in the skies

679

00:28:15,760 --> 00:28:13,190

podcast is always free to consume but it

680

00:28:17,139 --> 00:28:15,770

isn't free to create that's why I've

681

00:28:19,870 --> 00:28:17,149

started this somewhere in the skies

682

00:28:21,850 --> 00:28:19,880

patreon campaign you on a monthly basis

683

00:28:23,590 --> 00:28:21,860

you give what you think the show is

684

00:28:26,320 --> 00:28:23,600

worth you'll be helping the show

685

00:28:29,019 --> 00:28:26,330

continue grow and to be something truly

686

00:28:31,600 --> 00:28:29,029

communal and remember there are rewards

687

00:28:34,269 --> 00:28:31,610

for each level of contribution and the

688

00:28:36,669 --> 00:28:34,279

list is only grown so please help

689

00:28:39,010 --> 00:28:36,679

somewhere in the skies now by becoming a

690

00:28:49,610 --> 00:28:39,020

patron to contribute and to learn more

691

00:28:55,159 --> 00:28:52,250

well maybe the sort of organizations

692

00:28:59,210 --> 00:28:55,169

your chapter four title the patron saint

693

00:29:01,519 --> 00:28:59,220

or something of UFOs this is a guy we

694

00:29:04,340 --> 00:29:01,529

know very well in the field we call him

695

00:29:06,200 --> 00:29:04,350

big Bobby Bigelow but well we'll talk

696

00:29:08,779 --> 00:29:06,210

about him in his real name here Robert

697

00:29:11,630 --> 00:29:08,789

Bigelow and his connection to UFOs and

698

00:29:13,610 --> 00:29:11,640

also the mysterious skinwalker ranch so

699

00:29:15,380 --> 00:29:13,620

you kinda in this chapter cover

700

00:29:18,019 --> 00:29:15,390

everything this guy's been involved with

701
00:29:20,330 --> 00:29:18,029
and when it comes to the worlds we study

702
00:29:21,889 --> 00:29:20,340
on a day to day basis so would you mind

703
00:29:23,539 --> 00:29:21,899
maybe running us through a little of

704
00:29:25,519 --> 00:29:23,549
what compelled you to write about this

705
00:29:27,950 --> 00:29:25,529
whole affair and what your personal

706
00:29:30,289 --> 00:29:27,960
experience was driving up to the

707
00:29:34,850 --> 00:29:30,299
skinwalker ranch this is crazy

708
00:29:38,480 --> 00:29:34,860
yeah actually like a year or two before

709
00:29:40,190 --> 00:29:38,490
all of this happened just because one of

710
00:29:42,080 --> 00:29:40,200
his inflatable space modules from

711
00:29:44,360 --> 00:29:42,090
Bigelow Aerospace was going to the the

712
00:29:47,029 --> 00:29:44,370
International Space Station and I just

713
00:29:48,889 --> 00:29:47,039

wrote a news story about that and when I

714

00:29:50,690 --> 00:29:48,899

was doing that my editor said you should

715

00:29:52,250 --> 00:29:50,700

read this this feature story that

716

00:29:54,649 --> 00:29:52,260

someone wrote a few years ago kind of

717

00:29:56,690 --> 00:29:54,659

profiling Robert Bigelow and that's that

718

00:29:59,899 --> 00:29:56,700

is when I learned about his interest in

719

00:30:01,610 --> 00:29:59,909

in UFOs do you believe in aliens I am

720

00:30:04,519 --> 00:30:01,620

absolutely convinced that's all there is

721

00:30:06,710 --> 00:30:04,529

to it do you also believe that UFOs have

722

00:30:09,350 --> 00:30:06,720

come to earth there has been an is an

723

00:30:10,940 --> 00:30:09,360

existing presence in eating presses and

724

00:30:13,430 --> 00:30:10,950

I spent millions and millions I probably

725

00:30:15,440 --> 00:30:13,440

spent more as an individual than anybody

726
00:30:17,960 --> 00:30:15,450
else in United States has ever spent on

727
00:30:20,029 --> 00:30:17,970
this subject is it risky for you to say

728
00:30:21,500 --> 00:30:20,039
you know in public that you believe I

729
00:30:23,930 --> 00:30:21,510
don't give you an ozonator

730
00:30:25,549 --> 00:30:23,940
I don't care you don't worry that some

731
00:30:27,980 --> 00:30:25,559
people will say did you hear that guy

732
00:30:28,370 --> 00:30:27,990
sounds like he's crazy I don't care why

733
00:30:36,169 --> 00:30:28,380
not

734
00:30:38,389 --> 00:30:36,179
do you imagine that in our space travels

735
00:30:40,490 --> 00:30:38,399
we will encounter other forms of

736
00:30:44,240 --> 00:30:40,500
intelligent life you don't have to go

737
00:30:45,740 --> 00:30:44,250
anywhere you can find it here yeah but I

738
00:30:48,380 --> 00:30:45,750

didn't I didn't really think about it

739

00:30:49,970 --> 00:30:48,390

anymore right away after that I just

740

00:30:52,820 --> 00:30:49,980

thought oh you know another eccentric

741

00:30:56,120 --> 00:30:52,830

billionaire big deal and then I started

742

00:30:57,919 --> 00:30:56,130

doing this UFO reporting and pretty

743

00:31:00,680 --> 00:30:57,929

quickly I ran across an article that

744

00:31:02,630 --> 00:31:00,690

noted skeptic Robert Shafer wrote called

745

00:31:04,100 --> 00:31:02,640

I think it was called Bigelow saucer

746

00:31:06,590 --> 00:31:04,110

Emporium

747

00:31:09,229 --> 00:31:06,600

and it just kind of laid out all of the

748

00:31:11,299 --> 00:31:09,239

different initiatives that Bigelow had

749

00:31:13,389 --> 00:31:11,309

funded over the years and all of the

750

00:31:15,950 --> 00:31:13,399

different research programs and

751
00:31:18,739 --> 00:31:15,960
investigation collaborations that he had

752
00:31:21,350 --> 00:31:18,749
had his hands in and I thought wow I had

753
00:31:23,119 --> 00:31:21,360
no idea this guy was so pervasive in the

754
00:31:27,619 --> 00:31:23,129
field and so I started trying to look at

755
00:31:29,590 --> 00:31:27,629
those connections myself and and that

756
00:31:32,210 --> 00:31:29,600
was when I learned more about his

757
00:31:34,669 --> 00:31:32,220
paranormal research group the National

758
00:31:37,489 --> 00:31:34,679
Institute for discovery science knits

759
00:31:39,739 --> 00:31:37,499
and then I learned more about skinwalker

760
00:31:41,509 --> 00:31:39,749
ranch in anyway what happened was

761
00:31:44,389 --> 00:31:41,519
actually not that far from the time when

762
00:31:46,070 --> 00:31:44,399
I went to the UFO Congress I had a free

763
00:31:48,499 --> 00:31:46,080

weekend and I kind of lived within a

764

00:31:50,419 --> 00:31:48,509

long day's Drive of the ranch so I

765

00:31:52,519 --> 00:31:50,429

thought you know what what the hell

766

00:31:56,060 --> 00:31:52,529

let's go see what this let's go see what

767

00:31:58,159 --> 00:31:56,070

this place is about and so I mean this

768

00:32:00,619 --> 00:31:58,169

story for people don't know is that this

769

00:32:03,499 --> 00:32:00,629

is kind of a hotbed of paranormal and

770

00:32:05,570 --> 00:32:03,509

UFO activity and Bigelow bought this

771

00:32:07,310 --> 00:32:05,580

ranch to do some kind of systematic

772

00:32:09,739 --> 00:32:07,320

investigation of what was going on there

773

00:32:12,109 --> 00:32:09,749

and you know I didn't expect to see

774

00:32:14,779 --> 00:32:12,119

anything when I went out there not not

775

00:32:16,669 --> 00:32:14,789

just because I was dubious about the the

776
00:32:18,019 --> 00:32:16,679
supposed to vent but also because I was

777
00:32:19,430 --> 00:32:18,029
only going to be there for a night and

778
00:32:22,159 --> 00:32:19,440
what what are the chances that you'll

779
00:32:24,139 --> 00:32:22,169
see anything on any given night I just

780
00:32:26,659 --> 00:32:24,149
kind of wanted to get a sense of the

781
00:32:30,289 --> 00:32:26,669
sense of the place so on the way out

782
00:32:31,909 --> 00:32:30,299
there I listened to the audio book hunt

783
00:32:36,680 --> 00:32:31,919
for the skinwalker which kind of

784
00:32:38,169 --> 00:32:36,690
detailed his attempt to to do the

785
00:32:42,470 --> 00:32:38,179
scientific research on these

786
00:32:43,879 --> 00:32:42,480
traditionally unscientific topics and my

787
00:32:45,289 --> 00:32:43,889
main takeaway was like these are very

788
00:32:46,999 --> 00:32:45,299

interesting stories but none of these

789

00:32:49,549 --> 00:32:47,009

people after all this effort were able

790

00:32:52,039 --> 00:32:49,559

to get any evidence and the conclusion

791

00:32:54,379 --> 00:32:52,049

was this phenomenon is slippery and we

792

00:32:58,039 --> 00:32:54,389

won't be able to find it and I didn't

793

00:33:00,649 --> 00:32:58,049

find that to be very compelling but

794

00:33:03,109 --> 00:33:00,659

anyway I drove out there and just kind

795

00:33:06,379 --> 00:33:03,119

of waited hung out it hung out at the

796

00:33:08,479 --> 00:33:06,389

gate saw the security no guys with guns

797

00:33:11,570 --> 00:33:08,489

this time just a big camera and some

798

00:33:13,190 --> 00:33:11,580

gates but and then stood on a spot

799

00:33:17,140 --> 00:33:13,200

overlooking the branch for a few hours

800

00:33:20,810 --> 00:33:17,150

and waited for something to happen and

801

00:33:23,990 --> 00:33:20,820

- yes yeah have you been out there I

802

00:33:26,600 --> 00:33:24,000

have been in the area once or twice but

803

00:33:28,250 --> 00:33:26,610

I also have never had an experience out

804

00:33:29,900 --> 00:33:28,260

there but you know what that's kind of

805

00:33:32,510 --> 00:33:29,910

how it goes sometimes when you seek

806

00:33:35,180 --> 00:33:32,520

these things out that's the time that

807

00:33:36,500 --> 00:33:35,190

they don't show themselves that and when

808

00:33:38,120 --> 00:33:36,510

I say they I have absolutely no idea

809

00:33:40,790 --> 00:33:38,130

what I'm actually saying because we

810

00:33:42,590 --> 00:33:40,800

don't know what's going on or all the

811

00:33:44,870 --> 00:33:42,600

government leads the government let's go

812

00:33:46,610 --> 00:33:44,880

back to that capital G as you feel but

813

00:33:49,940 --> 00:33:46,620

yeah some really interesting ties

814

00:33:51,860 --> 00:33:49,950

between Bigelow and skinwalker ranch and

815

00:33:54,650 --> 00:33:51,870

a tip and everything that we're now

816

00:33:58,250 --> 00:33:54,660

really starting to connect the dots with

817

00:34:01,070 --> 00:33:58,260

but um you also in Chapter five you

818

00:34:04,850 --> 00:34:01,080

return to something that all of us know

819

00:34:06,110 --> 00:34:04,860

about and that is MUFON and for anyone

820

00:34:08,330 --> 00:34:06,120

who has listened to my show I've been

821

00:34:11,180 --> 00:34:08,340

very honest and vocal about my opinions

822

00:34:13,879 --> 00:34:11,190

on move on but it seemed like you had a

823

00:34:16,430 --> 00:34:13,889

rather positive experience with one or

824

00:34:18,490 --> 00:34:16,440

several of the field investigators which

825

00:34:22,490 --> 00:34:18,500

I've experienced as well there's many

826
00:34:24,710 --> 00:34:22,500
amazing people within MUFON but as an

827
00:34:27,860 --> 00:34:24,720
organization it has its problems as many

828
00:34:29,149 --> 00:34:27,870
volunteer organizations do but could you

829
00:34:31,820 --> 00:34:29,159
maybe tell us a little about your

830
00:34:35,030 --> 00:34:31,830
thoughts on organizations like this like

831
00:34:37,460 --> 00:34:35,040
MUFON civilian run groups who who

832
00:34:39,649 --> 00:34:37,470
investigate UFOs what was it like going

833
00:34:42,169 --> 00:34:39,659
into the whole new fun part of all this

834
00:34:43,760 --> 00:34:42,179
yeah I started out actually my plan was

835
00:34:46,879 --> 00:34:43,770
to go get certified as a field

836
00:34:49,340 --> 00:34:46,889
investigator myself and see what that

837
00:34:51,440 --> 00:34:49,350
was like but I talked to the I met up

838
00:34:53,540 --> 00:34:51,450

with the director of the Colorado

839

00:34:55,399 --> 00:34:53,550

chapter and he was like don't do that

840

00:34:57,860 --> 00:34:55,409

it's too much effort it's too much money

841

00:34:59,870 --> 00:34:57,870

you should just you know follow us

842

00:35:02,810 --> 00:34:59,880

around a little bit and so I took his

843

00:35:04,370 --> 00:35:02,820

advice and so I hung out with him some

844

00:35:06,620 --> 00:35:04,380

and then another another of their field

845

00:35:08,990 --> 00:35:06,630

investigators named Katie Grabovski and

846

00:35:11,210 --> 00:35:09,000

I kind of felt like like any big

847

00:35:13,490 --> 00:35:11,220

organization and especially like you

848

00:35:16,280 --> 00:35:13,500

mentioned a volunteer organization you

849

00:35:19,040 --> 00:35:16,290

know MUFON contains multitudes it

850

00:35:21,920 --> 00:35:19,050

certainly has its problems at the top

851
00:35:23,600 --> 00:35:21,930
and has had its share of scandals but I

852
00:35:25,430 --> 00:35:23,610
was mostly interacting with people at

853
00:35:27,860 --> 00:35:25,440
the local level like going to the the

854
00:35:30,200 --> 00:35:27,870
chapter meetings and and meeting with

855
00:35:30,650 --> 00:35:30,210
people one-on-one and I found everyone I

856
00:35:32,809 --> 00:35:30,660
met

857
00:35:35,029 --> 00:35:32,819
to be you know really genuine and and

858
00:35:37,819 --> 00:35:35,039
kind and dedicated to what they were

859
00:35:41,440 --> 00:35:37,829
what they were doing and the the

860
00:35:43,670 --> 00:35:41,450
meanings to me you know they they had

861
00:35:46,969 --> 00:35:43,680
presentations about research that people

862
00:35:49,489 --> 00:35:46,979
were doing but they also had a time for

863
00:35:51,319 --> 00:35:49,499

people to share their own experiences

864

00:35:54,380 --> 00:35:51,329

and ask questions of each other and I

865

00:35:57,559 --> 00:35:54,390

kind of came to see it as like a little

866

00:35:58,969 --> 00:35:57,569

bit like group group therapy in a good

867

00:36:01,880 --> 00:35:58,979

way where it's just like here's a space

868

00:36:04,249 --> 00:36:01,890

where people who have had incredible

869

00:36:06,410 --> 00:36:04,259

experiences can share them in a way that

870

00:36:09,829 --> 00:36:06,420

they maybe couldn't with people outside

871

00:36:13,609 --> 00:36:09,839

who wouldn't understand and so I I came

872

00:36:15,529 --> 00:36:13,619

to see it was valuable that way the

873

00:36:17,529 --> 00:36:15,539

question though is you know is that

874

00:36:19,759 --> 00:36:17,539

scientific are the investigations

875

00:36:24,410 --> 00:36:19,769

scientific which is a totally different

876

00:36:26,900 --> 00:36:24,420

question and for that I talked to James

877

00:36:31,249 --> 00:36:26,910

carrion who was a former director at

878

00:36:32,229 --> 00:36:31,259

MUFON and he pointed out to me a lot of

879

00:36:34,700 --> 00:36:32,239

the ways that you know field

880

00:36:36,469 --> 00:36:34,710

investigations were kind of uneven and

881

00:36:38,599 --> 00:36:36,479

how rigorous they were and that was

882

00:36:40,430 --> 00:36:38,609

something he tried to to fix by

883

00:36:42,469 --> 00:36:40,440

standardizing protocols and things like

884

00:36:44,630 --> 00:36:42,479

that and then he talked about how

885

00:36:46,700 --> 00:36:44,640

confirmation bias sometimes gets in the

886

00:36:49,849 --> 00:36:46,710

way because people usually join MUFON

887

00:36:51,829 --> 00:36:49,859

because they they're interested in UFOs

888

00:36:53,930 --> 00:36:51,839

and a lot of people come with you know

889

00:36:58,249 --> 00:36:53,940

preconceived notions of what they are

890

00:37:00,890 --> 00:36:58,259

and so those are some problems and as

891

00:37:02,870 --> 00:37:00,900

far as civilian run organizations in

892

00:37:05,390 --> 00:37:02,880

general I mean I feel like ufology

893

00:37:07,219 --> 00:37:05,400

really has no choice because it's

894

00:37:09,499 --> 00:37:07,229

outside of it's outside of mainstream

895

00:37:12,079 --> 00:37:09,509

academic science and so it makes sense

896

00:37:13,459 --> 00:37:12,089

that people who lay people who are

897

00:37:15,049 --> 00:37:13,469

interested in it would go do this

898

00:37:16,339 --> 00:37:15,059

investigation themselves because no-one

899

00:37:18,890 --> 00:37:16,349

else is doing that

900

00:37:20,779 --> 00:37:18,900

but there is a reason that you know

901
00:37:23,749 --> 00:37:20,789
people go to ten years of school after

902
00:37:24,950 --> 00:37:23,759
high school and then to postdocs and and

903
00:37:26,299 --> 00:37:24,960
whatever before they're full-fledged

904
00:37:27,920 --> 00:37:26,309
scientists and it's because they're

905
00:37:29,779 --> 00:37:27,930
there are things you learned about

906
00:37:31,489 --> 00:37:29,789
dealing with evidence and critical

907
00:37:33,079 --> 00:37:31,499
analysis and stuff that it's it's not

908
00:37:35,539 --> 00:37:33,089
impossible to get from the outside but

909
00:37:37,039 --> 00:37:35,549
it but it's hard and so but I don't I

910
00:37:39,019 --> 00:37:37,049
don't know what other option there is

911
00:37:41,660 --> 00:37:39,029
yeah you know it is one of those things

912
00:37:43,249 --> 00:37:41,670
where the UFO quote-unquote UFO

913
00:37:43,790 --> 00:37:43,259

community had to take things into their

914

00:37:45,470 --> 00:37:43,800

own head

915

00:37:47,600 --> 00:37:45,480

a lot of scientists weren't gonna take

916

00:37:49,640 --> 00:37:47,610

it seriously we had to do it ourselves

917

00:37:52,190 --> 00:37:49,650

and like you said that's when you get

918

00:37:55,820 --> 00:37:52,200

the the scrappy passionate people with

919

00:37:58,190 --> 00:37:55,830

all different belief systems and you

920

00:38:00,350 --> 00:37:58,200

know baggage and again it's gonna be a

921

00:38:02,780 --> 00:38:00,360

mixture of of something that you can't

922

00:38:06,320 --> 00:38:02,790

really narrow in on and have one way of

923

00:38:08,570 --> 00:38:06,330

doing it yes MUFON has a a manual as to

924

00:38:11,060 --> 00:38:08,580

how to investigate but you know I mean

925

00:38:13,790 --> 00:38:11,070

that's gonna change from case to case

926

00:38:16,220 --> 00:38:13,800

and whoever is investigating itself it

927

00:38:18,770 --> 00:38:16,230

is it's it's it's an interesting sort of

928

00:38:22,160 --> 00:38:18,780

facet to the entire UFO subculture are

929

00:38:25,430 --> 00:38:22,170

these civilian run UFO groups I don't

930

00:38:27,410 --> 00:38:25,440

know if they will ever solve the UFO

931

00:38:29,930 --> 00:38:27,420

mystery or even be a big part of that

932

00:38:32,090 --> 00:38:29,940

but they have tried and they continue to

933

00:38:34,280 --> 00:38:32,100

try so I guess we can only wish them

934

00:38:37,340 --> 00:38:34,290

luck and hopefully they will find those

935

00:38:39,470 --> 00:38:37,350

answers they're looking for but you you

936

00:38:42,740 --> 00:38:39,480

went on the road in the next chapter

937

00:38:44,300 --> 00:38:42,750

Sara to the odd on the et Highway and

938

00:38:48,650 --> 00:38:44,310

this is at area 51

939

00:38:52,520 --> 00:38:48,660

no all of us know the area 51 mythos Bob

940

00:38:54,230 --> 00:38:52,530

Lazar nine saucers all this stuff but um

941

00:38:55,760 --> 00:38:54,240

you went out there yourself

942

00:38:58,430 --> 00:38:55,770

you know you again boots on the ground

943

00:38:59,930 --> 00:38:58,440

you got out there to actually look at

944

00:39:02,360 --> 00:38:59,940

this stuff and you've had some pretty

945

00:39:04,670 --> 00:39:02,370

interesting experiences so what really

946

00:39:06,980 --> 00:39:04,680

resonated with your trip out there and

947

00:39:09,320 --> 00:39:06,990

what do you make of the whole area 51

948

00:39:12,320 --> 00:39:09,330

site and all the stories behind it yeah

949

00:39:13,400 --> 00:39:12,330

I I loved going to area 51 I want to go

950

00:39:16,340 --> 00:39:13,410

there all the time

951

00:39:18,530 --> 00:39:16,350

now when I I went out there with my

952

00:39:21,440 --> 00:39:18,540

sister and and a friend and kind of as

953

00:39:24,200 --> 00:39:21,450

soon as we pulled into the area we

954

00:39:26,480 --> 00:39:24,210

started seeing what we later found out

955

00:39:28,700 --> 00:39:26,490

were flare exercises but just these like

956

00:39:30,680 --> 00:39:28,710

hovering orbs in the sky and weird

957

00:39:32,720 --> 00:39:30,690

shapes and it was just it was really

958

00:39:34,880 --> 00:39:32,730

thrilling even though I thought there

959

00:39:36,680 --> 00:39:34,890

was a conventional explanation to be

960

00:39:38,630 --> 00:39:36,690

like I'm seeing I'm something I'm not

961

00:39:40,970 --> 00:39:38,640

supposed to see and it looks really cool

962

00:39:43,130 --> 00:39:40,980

and it looks like a flying saucer and

963

00:39:46,760 --> 00:39:43,140

you know after that later in the night

964

00:39:49,910 --> 00:39:46,770

we saw like kind of a quarter of the sky

965

00:39:52,790 --> 00:39:49,920

was taken up by this big matrix of just

966

00:39:55,340 --> 00:39:52,800

white dots that kind of all moved in

967

00:39:57,620 --> 00:39:55,350

unison and we never found out what those

968

00:39:59,809 --> 00:39:57,630

were we had the guards come and try

969

00:40:02,690 --> 00:39:59,819

intimidate us we went up to all the

970

00:40:06,589 --> 00:40:02,700

gates and I guess what was compelling to

971

00:40:08,359 --> 00:40:06,599

me about all of it is just like I said

972

00:40:10,430 --> 00:40:08,369

seeing something you're not supposed to

973

00:40:12,349 --> 00:40:10,440

see and the whole area has this aura

974

00:40:14,690 --> 00:40:12,359

that it's hiding something from you

975

00:40:18,230 --> 00:40:14,700

which it is and it made me understand

976
00:40:20,029 --> 00:40:18,240
why people keep going back there which I

977
00:40:21,710 --> 00:40:20,039
think at least if they're anything like

978
00:40:23,990 --> 00:40:21,720
me was to just catch a glimpse of

979
00:40:25,579 --> 00:40:24,000
something really mysterious and secret

980
00:40:27,259 --> 00:40:25,589
whatever you think that secret is if you

981
00:40:30,259 --> 00:40:27,269
think it's reverse engineering a

982
00:40:32,240 --> 00:40:30,269
spaceship or classified technology we'd

983
00:40:35,150 --> 00:40:32,250
like to fly over Russia like no matter

984
00:40:37,779 --> 00:40:35,160
what it's mysterious and you know I

985
00:40:41,660 --> 00:40:37,789
don't find the bob was our story very

986
00:40:43,609 --> 00:40:41,670
convincing myself but what I did learn

987
00:40:44,990 --> 00:40:43,619
out there is you know if you go you

988
00:40:47,900 --> 00:40:45,000

might see something and it would be

989

00:40:50,930 --> 00:40:47,910

really cool and if you're if you're into

990

00:40:52,700 --> 00:40:50,940

the alien hypothesis then you're likely

991

00:40:54,620 --> 00:40:52,710

to interpret it through that kind of

992

00:40:56,870 --> 00:40:54,630

lens and if not I don't know I think

993

00:40:58,579 --> 00:40:56,880

classified military technology being

994

00:40:59,029 --> 00:40:58,589

tested in front of your eyes is pretty

995

00:41:01,730 --> 00:40:59,039

cool

996

00:41:03,920 --> 00:41:01,740

and so yeah I need another road trip I

997

00:41:07,190 --> 00:41:03,930

did go down for the storm area 51 event

998

00:41:11,240 --> 00:41:07,200

- although that's not the movie I got

999

00:41:13,430 --> 00:41:11,250

asked what was that experience there so

1000

00:41:14,150 --> 00:41:13,440

you're one of those to survive and tell

1001
00:41:15,950 --> 00:41:14,160
the story

1002
00:41:21,609 --> 00:41:15,960
yeah when all the way inside learned all

1003
00:41:27,079 --> 00:41:24,349
no it was it was it was fun you know it

1004
00:41:29,779 --> 00:41:27,089
was a it was more of a festival than

1005
00:41:31,670 --> 00:41:29,789
anything else and it was one of the few

1006
00:41:33,170 --> 00:41:31,680
places I've been recently where I was

1007
00:41:36,109 --> 00:41:33,180
one of the oldest people there even

1008
00:41:38,690 --> 00:41:36,119
though I'm not very old and it was a lot

1009
00:41:40,730 --> 00:41:38,700
a lot of young people filming and taking

1010
00:41:43,400 --> 00:41:40,740
pictures of themselves to put on the

1011
00:41:45,620 --> 00:41:43,410
Internet of being at area 51 which is in

1012
00:41:48,740 --> 00:41:45,630
keeping with the origin of the event as

1013
00:41:51,380 --> 00:41:48,750

a facebook joke but it was actually it

1014

00:41:53,509 --> 00:41:51,390

was actually pretty cool they had police

1015

00:41:55,789 --> 00:41:53,519

from all over kind of all over the West

1016

00:41:56,990 --> 00:41:55,799

come out and actually they were I think

1017

00:41:58,069 --> 00:41:57,000

they were trying to keep it low-key

1018

00:41:59,870 --> 00:41:58,079

because they would have kind of

1019

00:42:01,999 --> 00:41:59,880

encouraged people to go right up to the

1020

00:42:03,380 --> 00:42:02,009

gate and just make chitchat and I think

1021

00:42:04,999 --> 00:42:03,390

they were trying to make it seem not

1022

00:42:07,640 --> 00:42:05,009

mysterious so that people wouldn't do

1023

00:42:09,410 --> 00:42:07,650

anything crazy I had a good time yeah

1024

00:42:10,940 --> 00:42:09,420

and you know what if that's what

1025

00:42:11,480 --> 00:42:10,950

everyone took hermit just a good time

1026
00:42:13,340 --> 00:42:11,490
out and

1027
00:42:15,830 --> 00:42:13,350
that's all you can really ask for

1028
00:42:17,570 --> 00:42:15,840
whether it moved the needle in terms of

1029
00:42:19,850 --> 00:42:17,580
like you know the public's perception of

1030
00:42:21,230 --> 00:42:19,860
area 51 probably not because we probably

1031
00:42:24,500 --> 00:42:21,240
will never know what's going on inside

1032
00:42:26,770 --> 00:42:24,510
there but it is a mysterious place and

1033
00:42:29,330 --> 00:42:26,780
I'm sure there's some pretty cool

1034
00:42:31,880 --> 00:42:29,340
classified stuff going on there and I

1035
00:42:34,520 --> 00:42:31,890
always tell people you know yes we want

1036
00:42:37,040 --> 00:42:34,530
answers and we want to know the truth

1037
00:42:39,170 --> 00:42:37,050
about what's there but end of the day

1038
00:42:41,510 --> 00:42:39,180

it's there for probably our national

1039

00:42:43,940 --> 00:42:41,520

security purposes and I am NOT someone

1040

00:42:45,920 --> 00:42:43,950

who would say go storm that gate and see

1041

00:42:48,230 --> 00:42:45,930

what's going on because it's secret for

1042

00:42:50,450 --> 00:42:48,240

a reason well okay so we move on to

1043

00:42:53,150 --> 00:42:50,460

chapter seven in the book the moguls of

1044

00:42:56,990 --> 00:42:53,160

Roswell New Mexico the mother lode of

1045

00:43:01,010 --> 00:42:57,000

UFOs Roswell again you went out to

1046

00:43:03,170 --> 00:43:01,020

Roswell to do this chapter and you cover

1047

00:43:05,690 --> 00:43:03,180

the entire mythos surrounding the town

1048

00:43:07,700 --> 00:43:05,700

the stories that have arisen throughout

1049

00:43:09,830 --> 00:43:07,710

the years some were pretty credible

1050

00:43:11,960 --> 00:43:09,840

others not so much I'd say in terms of

1051
00:43:14,120 --> 00:43:11,970
what they contributed to the overall UFO

1052
00:43:16,190 --> 00:43:14,130
conversation but what did you welcome we

1053
00:43:18,890 --> 00:43:16,200
thinking of the entire Roswell affair

1054
00:43:21,380 --> 00:43:18,900
and its place in ufology I guess I

1055
00:43:23,750 --> 00:43:21,390
started out you know knowing very little

1056
00:43:25,340 --> 00:43:23,760
about Roswell other than what probably

1057
00:43:27,950 --> 00:43:25,350
people just in the general public know

1058
00:43:29,900 --> 00:43:27,960
and so when I started kind of going to

1059
00:43:32,000 --> 00:43:29,910
the original source material what was

1060
00:43:34,280 --> 00:43:32,010
honestly most amazing to me was how

1061
00:43:35,960 --> 00:43:34,290
little there was at the origin of the

1062
00:43:37,190 --> 00:43:35,970
story and obviously you know people have

1063
00:43:39,470 --> 00:43:37,200

talked to witnesses who have come

1064

00:43:41,450 --> 00:43:39,480

forward since then but if we're talking

1065

00:43:43,730 --> 00:43:41,460

about just when it occurred there was

1066

00:43:46,700 --> 00:43:43,740

very little information and and there's

1067

00:43:50,180 --> 00:43:46,710

this whole complex that spawned from it

1068

00:43:53,300 --> 00:43:50,190

like Roswell is the alien town and it's

1069

00:43:55,340 --> 00:43:53,310

anonymous with with this crash and so it

1070

00:43:59,480 --> 00:43:55,350

was really just amazing to me how much

1071

00:44:00,980 --> 00:43:59,490

had come out of that and what really put

1072

00:44:03,200 --> 00:44:00,990

it in perspective for me was reading

1073

00:44:06,560 --> 00:44:03,210

this book that to anthropologists and a

1074

00:44:08,240 --> 00:44:06,570

physicist wrote analyzing the mutation

1075

00:44:11,240 --> 00:44:08,250

of Roswell from that pretty small

1076

00:44:14,720 --> 00:44:11,250

original story and tracing it through

1077

00:44:18,440 --> 00:44:14,730

time as it changed and evolved headline

1078

00:44:20,270 --> 00:44:18,450

edition July 8 1947 the Army Air Forces

1079

00:44:22,010 --> 00:44:20,280

has announced that a flying disc has

1080

00:44:24,100 --> 00:44:22,020

been found and is now in the possession

1081

00:44:26,290 --> 00:44:24,110

of the army army officers say

1082

00:44:28,870 --> 00:44:26,300

found sometime last week has been

1083

00:44:30,520 --> 00:44:28,880

inspected at Roswell New Mexico and sent

1084

00:44:34,030 --> 00:44:30,530

to Wright Field Ohio for further

1085

00:44:35,950 --> 00:44:34,040

inspection new people came forward and

1086

00:44:40,360 --> 00:44:35,960

new people wrote books and they looked

1087

00:44:42,280 --> 00:44:40,370

at it as as a modern myth and kind of

1088

00:44:45,310 --> 00:44:42,290

looking at it through the scholarship of

1089

00:44:47,320 --> 00:44:45,320

mythology and how myths evolve and what

1090

00:44:50,560 --> 00:44:47,330

elements they hang on to and and what

1091

00:44:52,990 --> 00:44:50,570

they don't and it was pretty amazing how

1092

00:44:56,590 --> 00:44:53,000

it just followed the path of pretty much

1093

00:44:58,650 --> 00:44:56,600

any myth in human history but why I

1094

00:45:02,500 --> 00:44:58,660

think it's important to you follow G is

1095

00:45:04,390 --> 00:45:02,510

because it it it shows the capital G

1096

00:45:06,640 --> 00:45:04,400

government actually spreading false

1097

00:45:08,320 --> 00:45:06,650

information you know saying this thing

1098

00:45:11,170 --> 00:45:08,330

crashed it was a flying saucer

1099

00:45:14,530 --> 00:45:11,180

sike it was a weather balloon sike it

1100

00:45:17,200 --> 00:45:14,540

was this you know nuclear test detector

1101
00:45:19,570 --> 00:45:17,210
and whatever you think of that chain of

1102
00:45:22,990 --> 00:45:19,580
events no matter whether your conclusion

1103
00:45:26,950 --> 00:45:23,000
is it was a nuclear test detector or it

1104
00:45:29,160 --> 00:45:26,960
was a crashed spaceship regardless there

1105
00:45:32,710 --> 00:45:29,170
was misinformation put there on purpose

1106
00:45:34,420 --> 00:45:32,720
by the capital G government to divert

1107
00:45:37,060 --> 00:45:34,430
attention somewhere else and I think

1108
00:45:38,980 --> 00:45:37,070
that that is you know critical to the

1109
00:45:42,010 --> 00:45:38,990
way we think about UFOs today bringing

1110
00:45:44,590 --> 00:45:42,020
up the idea of a mythology is also very

1111
00:45:46,810 --> 00:45:44,600
important the town of Roswell without

1112
00:45:49,300 --> 00:45:46,820
this event who knows where it would be

1113
00:45:52,990 --> 00:45:49,310

now in terms of even its sheer existence

1114

00:45:54,460 --> 00:45:53,000

and yeah we there's so many towns like

1115

00:45:57,370 --> 00:45:54,470

this look at Point Pleasant with the

1116

00:45:59,620 --> 00:45:57,380

Mothman without these events drawing

1117

00:46:01,480 --> 00:45:59,630

people in look at Roswell has a festival

1118

00:46:04,420 --> 00:46:01,490

every year that brings in thousands and

1119

00:46:06,340 --> 00:46:04,430

thousands of people and it it kind of is

1120

00:46:07,420 --> 00:46:06,350

the only money keeping the place of why

1121

00:46:09,220 --> 00:46:07,430

you have to be honest

1122

00:46:12,550 --> 00:46:09,230

so it is interesting that these events

1123

00:46:15,670 --> 00:46:12,560

often have a commercial value to the

1124

00:46:18,220 --> 00:46:15,680

places it took placing yeah I mean Bravo

1125

00:46:19,300 --> 00:46:18,230

to the Roswell Tourism Board they know

1126

00:46:21,340 --> 00:46:19,310

what they're doing I think they've

1127

00:46:24,670 --> 00:46:21,350

recently changed their like official

1128

00:46:26,350 --> 00:46:24,680

logo to don't like a UFO so Roswell's

1129

00:46:29,020 --> 00:46:26,360

not going anywhere and we may never

1130

00:46:30,940 --> 00:46:29,030

truly know what happened but like you

1131

00:46:32,780 --> 00:46:30,950

said it is interesting tracing the

1132

00:46:34,940 --> 00:46:32,790

mythology as it changes

1133

00:46:37,220 --> 00:46:34,950

and unfortunately any first-hand witness

1134

00:46:38,630 --> 00:46:37,230

involved is long gone at this point so

1135

00:46:42,650 --> 00:46:38,640

we'll probably never know the truth but

1136

00:46:45,110 --> 00:46:42,660

it did create I would say that in the

1137

00:46:48,560 --> 00:46:45,120

Kenneth Arnold sighting of 1947 it

1138

00:46:51,020 --> 00:46:48,570

created the UFO conversation UFO

1139

00:46:53,270 --> 00:46:51,030

phenomenon in the eyes of many Americans

1140

00:46:54,680 --> 00:46:53,280

so it is a fascinating place for sure

1141

00:46:56,780 --> 00:46:54,690

and I'm so happy you got to go there

1142

00:46:57,830 --> 00:46:56,790

yeah I highly recommend the festival

1143

00:47:01,160 --> 00:46:57,840

it's a very good time

1144

00:47:04,280 --> 00:47:01,170

it is a trip ok so chapter 8 to the

1145

00:47:06,710 --> 00:47:04,290

stars above telescope towns now this is

1146

00:47:08,990 --> 00:47:06,720

a an incident that happened that I don't

1147

00:47:11,150 --> 00:47:09,000

think a lot of people really remember

1148

00:47:13,780 --> 00:47:11,160

even I was like oh yeah I forgot about

1149

00:47:15,980 --> 00:47:13,790

this and this was the the sunspot

1150

00:47:18,440 --> 00:47:15,990

observatory it's sort of faded into

1151

00:47:20,600 --> 00:47:18,450

obscurity after the story came out so I

1152

00:47:22,550 --> 00:47:20,610

was wondering Sarah would you mind maybe

1153

00:47:25,520 --> 00:47:22,560

painting us a picture of what we know

1154

00:47:27,560 --> 00:47:25,530

that happened there and the conspiracies

1155

00:47:29,690 --> 00:47:27,570

that arose from the secrets possibly

1156

00:47:33,740 --> 00:47:29,700

being held in this area

1157

00:47:36,110 --> 00:47:33,750

sure so sunspot is a town in rural New

1158

00:47:40,460 --> 00:47:36,120

Mexico not far from Alamogordo New

1159

00:47:42,170 --> 00:47:40,470

Mexico and it is home to a solar

1160

00:47:45,320 --> 00:47:42,180

observatory with a bunch of telescopes

1161

00:47:48,350 --> 00:47:45,330

that that watched the Sun in one day one

1162

00:47:51,020 --> 00:47:48,360

fall day a couple years ago the site

1163

00:47:54,080 --> 00:47:51,030

shut down they evacuated the whole town

1164

00:47:55,820 --> 00:47:54,090

and the FBI was there no one including

1165

00:47:57,530 --> 00:47:55,830

law enforcement knew what was going on

1166

00:47:59,870 --> 00:47:57,540

and it was shut down for something like

1167

00:48:01,940 --> 00:47:59,880

two weeks and no one was allowed to go

1168

00:48:05,900 --> 00:48:01,950

back and no one not the telescope

1169

00:48:07,670 --> 00:48:05,910

operators or the FBI would say what was

1170

00:48:10,550 --> 00:48:07,680

going on so the FBI is investigating

1171

00:48:12,880 --> 00:48:10,560

this one it all started with staff and

1172

00:48:15,200 --> 00:48:12,890

the public being evacuated last Thursday

1173

00:48:17,090 --> 00:48:15,210

there's no word when they can get back

1174

00:48:20,300 --> 00:48:17,100

into the observatory and the FBI is

1175

00:48:23,000 --> 00:48:20,310

keeping very quiet so of course the

1176

00:48:25,070 --> 00:48:23,010

Internet is positive it must be alien

1177

00:48:27,320 --> 00:48:25,080

definitely alien yes go on

1178

00:48:29,480 --> 00:48:27,330

well this is weird because the employees

1179

00:48:31,670 --> 00:48:29,490

at that Observatory are not federal

1180

00:48:33,710 --> 00:48:31,680

employees they're just like you or me

1181

00:48:35,690 --> 00:48:33,720

checking out the Stars for a living and

1182

00:48:38,270 --> 00:48:35,700

so when the feds show up they gave them

1183

00:48:39,770 --> 00:48:38,280

no information and so obviously we're

1184

00:48:42,410 --> 00:48:39,780

gonna speculate about it let's look at

1185

00:48:43,640 --> 00:48:42,420

some tweets Charles Pierce he's verified

1186

00:48:45,680 --> 00:48:43,650

so you know that what he's saying is

1187

00:48:46,460 --> 00:48:45,690

true right I'm definitely not saying

1188

00:48:47,960 --> 00:48:46,470

it's aliens

1189

00:48:50,750 --> 00:48:47,970

but something weird is happening at a

1190

00:48:52,790 --> 00:48:50,760

solar observatory in New Mexico let's

1191

00:48:54,680 --> 00:48:52,800

see what DJ has to say he's not verified

1192

00:48:56,420 --> 00:48:54,690

so he can say whatever he wants what in

1193

00:48:58,220 --> 00:48:56,430

the world is going on in sunspot New

1194

00:48:59,839 --> 00:48:58,230

Mexico why I have this Observatory -

1195

00:49:03,200 --> 00:48:59,849

post offices and nearby homes been

1196

00:49:05,960 --> 00:49:03,210

evacuated for a full week now FBI and

1197

00:49:08,839 --> 00:49:05,970

Blackhawk choppers just saying guys the

1198

00:49:10,849 --> 00:49:08,849

aliens are coming and so people started

1199

00:49:13,370 --> 00:49:10,859

to speculate as they should

1200

00:49:15,320 --> 00:49:13,380

any time the FBI evacuates an entire

1201
00:49:17,690 --> 00:49:15,330
town which to be fair it's a very small

1202
00:49:21,650 --> 00:49:17,700
town that is just dedicated to these

1203
00:49:25,010 --> 00:49:21,660
telescopes but you know people people on

1204
00:49:26,810 --> 00:49:25,020
above top-secret and and the reddit the

1205
00:49:29,870 --> 00:49:26,820
subreddit conspiracy and things like

1206
00:49:32,810 --> 00:49:29,880
that started to talk about what what

1207
00:49:34,370 --> 00:49:32,820
might be happening things like you know

1208
00:49:35,089 --> 00:49:34,380
maybe some of the installed spy

1209
00:49:37,460 --> 00:49:35,099
equipment

1210
00:49:39,710 --> 00:49:37,470
to look down on White Sands Missile

1211
00:49:42,140 --> 00:49:39,720
Range which is just below where this is

1212
00:49:44,570 --> 00:49:42,150
maybe there was a spy on the inside who

1213
00:49:46,760 --> 00:49:44,580

was stealing some kind of data

1214

00:49:49,700 --> 00:49:46,770

maybe there was a mercury leak in the

1215

00:49:53,270 --> 00:49:49,710

telescope but then what within the media

1216

00:49:55,280 --> 00:49:53,280

my people took from took from this was

1217

00:49:57,980 --> 00:49:55,290

maybe there's been an alien invasion

1218

00:49:59,540 --> 00:49:57,990

maybe these solar telescopes saw aliens

1219

00:50:01,670 --> 00:49:59,550

which doesn't really make any sense

1220

00:50:05,599 --> 00:50:01,680

because why would the aliens be on the

1221

00:50:07,609 --> 00:50:05,609

Sun ice nevertheless that's that's what

1222

00:50:09,770 --> 00:50:07,619

people thought and and because no one

1223

00:50:11,990 --> 00:50:09,780

would say anything these conspiracies

1224

00:50:15,170 --> 00:50:12,000

just got to keep on growing and and

1225

00:50:17,060 --> 00:50:15,180

spreading and I went out there I get

1226

00:50:19,250 --> 00:50:17,070

living in Colorado lots of things are

1227

00:50:22,099 --> 00:50:19,260

within a day's drive so I went out there

1228

00:50:24,200 --> 00:50:22,109

and kind of snuck on sight by hiking

1229

00:50:25,730 --> 00:50:24,210

around back and you know there was no

1230

00:50:27,859 --> 00:50:25,740

one there the FBI wasn't there the

1231

00:50:30,920 --> 00:50:27,869

police weren't there no one was stopping

1232

00:50:33,620 --> 00:50:30,930

me and it was just truly a mystery and

1233

00:50:36,530 --> 00:50:33,630

it was driving me crazy trying to figure

1234

00:50:40,810 --> 00:50:36,540

out what was going on but anyway what

1235

00:50:44,480 --> 00:50:40,820

what what the story is now is that

1236

00:50:47,420 --> 00:50:44,490

someone was distributing child

1237

00:50:51,050 --> 00:50:47,430

pornography from the wireless network

1238

00:50:52,730 --> 00:50:51,060

that was associated with the observatory

1239

00:50:54,320 --> 00:50:52,740

no one's been arrested that person

1240

00:50:57,230 --> 00:50:54,330

hasn't been arrested there's not been a

1241

00:50:59,329 --> 00:50:57,240

trial there's some holes I think in in

1242

00:51:01,460 --> 00:50:59,339

that story that make it pretty

1243

00:51:03,349 --> 00:51:01,470

unconvincing to me but what I found

1244

00:51:05,599 --> 00:51:03,359

interesting was the ways that we form

1245

00:51:07,579 --> 00:51:05,609

conspiracies around telescopes which are

1246

00:51:09,410 --> 00:51:07,589

like our window our window onto the

1247

00:51:10,970 --> 00:51:09,420

universe and how those connects to

1248

00:51:12,859 --> 00:51:10,980

aliens there's there's some kind of

1249

00:51:15,140 --> 00:51:12,869

alien conspiracy associated with most

1250

00:51:17,570 --> 00:51:15,150

telescopes and I thought this was a cool

1251
00:51:19,940 --> 00:51:17,580
way to witness one just being born out

1252
00:51:22,250 --> 00:51:19,950
of nothing that is really interesting

1253
00:51:25,700 --> 00:51:22,260
unfortunately you know the truth is

1254
00:51:29,000 --> 00:51:25,710
often harder to take than fiction we

1255
00:51:31,220 --> 00:51:29,010
weave in our heads so it's you know

1256
00:51:33,950 --> 00:51:31,230
that's the reality of the situation and

1257
00:51:36,980 --> 00:51:33,960
at least we know what was going on there

1258
00:51:39,710 --> 00:51:36,990
and although it still remains a mystery

1259
00:51:42,410 --> 00:51:39,720
of why it was going on there but yeah

1260
00:51:44,960 --> 00:51:42,420
like you said it says a lot about the

1261
00:51:47,359 --> 00:51:44,970
conspiracies we create or the mythos we

1262
00:51:49,700 --> 00:51:47,369
create when we're not given the answers

1263
00:51:51,859 --> 00:51:49,710

to things so really a really interesting

1264

00:51:54,560 --> 00:51:51,869

chapter I really enjoyed that one and

1265

00:51:55,370 --> 00:51:54,570

then in your final chapter all along the

1266

00:51:58,010 --> 00:51:55,380

watchtower

1267

00:52:00,680 --> 00:51:58,020

so I'm gearing up actually for a trip

1268

00:52:02,900 --> 00:52:00,690

out to the San Luis Valley in a few

1269

00:52:04,940 --> 00:52:02,910

weeks and going to the UFO Watchtower

1270

00:52:07,220 --> 00:52:04,950

and not many people really know about it

1271

00:52:09,109 --> 00:52:07,230

or the lore behind the area where it's

1272

00:52:10,760 --> 00:52:09,119

located so could you maybe tell us a

1273

00:52:13,130 --> 00:52:10,770

little about what you know of the San

1274

00:52:15,710 --> 00:52:13,140

Luis Valley and what you took away from

1275

00:52:17,900 --> 00:52:15,720

visiting this place yeah the San Luis

1276

00:52:21,500 --> 00:52:17,910

Valley is one of my favorite places in

1277

00:52:23,180 --> 00:52:21,510

in the West it's this big huge high

1278

00:52:26,180 --> 00:52:23,190

altitude valley that's sandwiched

1279

00:52:28,339 --> 00:52:26,190

between two mountain ranges one is where

1280

00:52:31,849 --> 00:52:28,349

the Rio Grande starts and the other is

1281

00:52:33,589 --> 00:52:31,859

this extremely rugged sub montón range

1282

00:52:36,829 --> 00:52:33,599

of the Rocky Mountains called the Sangre

1283

00:52:40,370 --> 00:52:36,839

de Cristo Mountains and at the base of

1284

00:52:42,500 --> 00:52:40,380

those mountains is are these like 700

1285

00:52:44,599 --> 00:52:42,510

foot tall sand dunes that just built up

1286

00:52:47,450 --> 00:52:44,609

there so you have this very desert e

1287

00:52:49,540 --> 00:52:47,460

valley random sand dunes giant Rocky

1288

00:52:51,470 --> 00:52:49,550

Mountains and it just looks like three

1289

00:52:51,950 --> 00:52:51,480

Geographic things that don't belong

1290

00:52:55,220 --> 00:52:51,960

together

1291

00:52:58,640 --> 00:52:55,230

we're smashed into this place and it's

1292

00:53:01,190 --> 00:52:58,650

at some point in some pole it was a the

1293

00:53:03,500 --> 00:53:01,200

place with the most UFO sightings per

1294

00:53:05,120 --> 00:53:03,510

capita and although we should note

1295

00:53:07,340 --> 00:53:05,130

there's not a lot of per capita there

1296

00:53:09,740 --> 00:53:07,350

it's a pretty sparsely populated valley

1297

00:53:11,190 --> 00:53:09,750

but if you know you can see forever it's

1298

00:53:15,030 --> 00:53:11,200

very dark

1299

00:53:17,849 --> 00:53:15,040

and there is a guy named Chris O'Brien

1300

00:53:20,310 --> 00:53:17,859

who spent I think 10 years investigating

1301
00:53:22,890 --> 00:53:20,320
alleged events of high strangeness out

1302
00:53:24,390 --> 00:53:22,900
there and wrote three books I think the

1303
00:53:27,300 --> 00:53:24,400
most famous is of which is called the

1304
00:53:29,430 --> 00:53:27,310
mysterious valley and so it kind of had

1305
00:53:31,700 --> 00:53:29,440
this lore oh it was also the place where

1306
00:53:35,099 --> 00:53:31,710
one of the first may be the actual first

1307
00:53:38,069 --> 00:53:35,109
animal mutilation took place of snippy

1308
00:53:40,079 --> 00:53:38,079
the horse yeah yeah

1309
00:53:43,319 --> 00:53:40,089
and so there's there's this woman named

1310
00:53:45,000 --> 00:53:43,329
Judy methylene who had heard about these

1311
00:53:47,010 --> 00:53:45,010
events she lived out there she'd

1312
00:53:48,569 --> 00:53:47,020
recently bought a ranch and she didn't

1313
00:53:50,310 --> 00:53:48,579

believe any of this stuff but she was

1314

00:53:52,079 --> 00:53:50,320

having trouble making her mortgage

1315

00:53:54,839 --> 00:53:52,089

payments so she decided to build this

1316

00:53:58,950 --> 00:53:54,849

tourist attraction for people to come

1317

00:54:01,319 --> 00:53:58,960

watch UFO sightings and eventually she

1318

00:54:04,050 --> 00:54:01,329

came to be a believer herself and now

1319

00:54:06,020 --> 00:54:04,060

there's like a mini Museum of people

1320

00:54:08,750 --> 00:54:06,030

sightings there and a kind of shrine

1321

00:54:11,550 --> 00:54:08,760

area where people leave behind their own

1322

00:54:13,980 --> 00:54:11,560

objects and you can kind of camp out go

1323

00:54:17,069 --> 00:54:13,990

up on this platform look for UFOs it's

1324

00:54:20,670 --> 00:54:17,079

um I like it out there but what what

1325

00:54:24,240 --> 00:54:20,680

what I took from it especially since so

1326

00:54:27,750 --> 00:54:24,250

much of UFO culture is you know kind of

1327

00:54:29,970 --> 00:54:27,760

very corporate big big commercial

1328

00:54:32,819 --> 00:54:29,980

operations big conferences this is a

1329

00:54:36,270 --> 00:54:32,829

really grassroots kind of off the radar

1330

00:54:38,970 --> 00:54:36,280

piece of piece of piece of place I guess

1331

00:54:43,770 --> 00:54:38,980

and you know it brings together people

1332

00:54:45,569 --> 00:54:43,780

who are hardcore UFO buffs who have seen

1333

00:54:47,099 --> 00:54:45,579

a lot of things and then just people who

1334

00:54:48,690 --> 00:54:47,109

are casually passing by on the highway

1335

00:54:49,410 --> 00:54:48,700

and brings them together to interact

1336

00:54:51,270 --> 00:54:49,420

with each other

1337

00:54:52,740 --> 00:54:51,280

brings the community together because

1338

00:54:54,960 --> 00:54:52,750

there's not a lot else in the San Luis

1339

00:54:56,640 --> 00:54:54,970

Valley and I I don't know I found it to

1340

00:55:01,260 --> 00:54:56,650

be a very heartening place I liked it

1341

00:55:03,960 --> 00:55:01,270

yeah it definitely has a magnetism to it

1342

00:55:06,420 --> 00:55:03,970

and intrigue and it's it's beautiful too

1343

00:55:08,130 --> 00:55:06,430

I mean it's just endless endless land

1344

00:55:08,750 --> 00:55:08,140

where God knows what's going on out

1345

00:55:12,210 --> 00:55:08,760

there

1346

00:55:14,339 --> 00:55:12,220

yeah really interesting um and that kind

1347

00:55:15,690 --> 00:55:14,349

of wraps to the book Sarah no I don't

1348

00:55:17,609 --> 00:55:15,700

want to give away any of your

1349

00:55:19,349 --> 00:55:17,619

conclusions or closing remarks or

1350

00:55:21,660 --> 00:55:19,359

anything like that and we really only

1351

00:55:24,539 --> 00:55:21,670

scratched the surface of each chapter

1352

00:55:26,849 --> 00:55:24,549

but I'd love to maybe hear a

1353

00:55:29,549 --> 00:55:26,859

about what you learned in writing the

1354

00:55:33,269 --> 00:55:29,559

book and did it change your thoughts or

1355

00:55:35,789 --> 00:55:33,279

your opinions on UFOs or the subculture

1356

00:55:38,160 --> 00:55:35,799

that kind of came out of that what did

1357

00:55:40,919 --> 00:55:38,170

you learn in this whole process that's a

1358

00:55:45,179 --> 00:55:40,929

good and hard question I think I mean I

1359

00:55:47,759 --> 00:55:45,189

come from the sciences and I also I was

1360

00:55:50,400 --> 00:55:47,769

raised really religious and then left

1361

00:55:53,130 --> 00:55:50,410

religion and so I started out the book

1362

00:55:54,599 --> 00:55:53,140

kind of having a lot of resistance to

1363

00:55:56,400 --> 00:55:54,609

other people's beliefs and not

1364

00:55:58,769 --> 00:55:56,410

understanding why there were so many

1365

00:56:00,599 --> 00:55:58,779

people who believed so many things that

1366

00:56:03,539 --> 00:56:00,609

I thought had so little evidence behind

1367

00:56:05,370 --> 00:56:03,549

them but I I mean I discovered that a a

1368

00:56:07,739 --> 00:56:05,380

lot of people who are interested in UFOs

1369

00:56:10,049 --> 00:56:07,749

don't have those beliefs they're just

1370

00:56:12,089 --> 00:56:10,059

interested in them and see like a fun

1371

00:56:13,949 --> 00:56:12,099

problem to try to solve and they want to

1372

00:56:16,709 --> 00:56:13,959

get to the bottom of it kind of

1373

00:56:19,949 --> 00:56:16,719

agnostically and that's cool and then

1374

00:56:22,079 --> 00:56:19,959

see I also came to feel like you know

1375

00:56:24,380 --> 00:56:22,089

what do I care if people believe things

1376

00:56:26,999 --> 00:56:24,390

that seem strange to me that's ok

1377

00:56:30,299 --> 00:56:27,009

everybody good to believe what they want

1378

00:56:32,189 --> 00:56:30,309

and I could be wrong they could be right

1379

00:56:34,439 --> 00:56:32,199

we all get to live our own lives and

1380

00:56:36,120 --> 00:56:34,449

it's oh I mean not to be a hallmark

1381

00:56:39,689 --> 00:56:36,130

about it but I feel like it made me a

1382

00:56:41,880 --> 00:56:39,699

more empathetic person like a better a

1383

00:56:45,539 --> 00:56:41,890

better human being

1384

00:56:49,079 --> 00:56:45,549

and it well I won't say that like I

1385

00:56:50,339 --> 00:56:49,089

don't think that UFOs are alien

1386

00:56:52,559 --> 00:56:50,349

spaceships visiting earth

1387

00:56:54,239 --> 00:56:52,569

but whereas at the beginning of the book

1388

00:56:55,769 --> 00:56:54,249

I would have said yeah I probably know

1389

00:56:59,130 --> 00:56:55,779

that for certain

1390

00:57:00,870 --> 00:56:59,140

I think the way it changed them from me

1391

00:57:02,489 --> 00:57:00,880

was like you can't actually know

1392

00:57:04,919 --> 00:57:02,499

anything for certain and it's really

1393

00:57:06,269 --> 00:57:04,929

arrogant of me to say that and even if

1394

00:57:09,719 --> 00:57:06,279

it's a point zero zero one percent

1395

00:57:13,140 --> 00:57:09,729

chance that it's true like that's that's

1396

00:57:14,939 --> 00:57:13,150

not that's and yeah so I guess I guess I

1397

00:57:17,009 --> 00:57:14,949

came away more open-minded although my

1398

00:57:19,229 --> 00:57:17,019

overall opinion didn't change well there

1399

00:57:21,089 --> 00:57:19,239

you go I mean we look at someone like J

1400

00:57:23,640 --> 00:57:21,099

Allen Hynek the astronomer who worked

1401
00:57:25,949 --> 00:57:23,650
for a project Bluebook and you know he

1402
00:57:28,499 --> 00:57:25,959
sort of turned around he was sent in to

1403
00:57:30,959 --> 00:57:28,509
debunk UFOs and he came out on the other

1404
00:57:33,059 --> 00:57:30,969
side as his son would tell me as an

1405
00:57:35,780 --> 00:57:33,069
acceptor of the phenomenon not a

1406
00:57:37,970 --> 00:57:35,790
believer which I think there's a huge if

1407
00:57:41,420 --> 00:57:37,980
I'm glad to hear you say that the door

1408
00:57:43,970 --> 00:57:41,430
is still slightly open that it could be

1409
00:57:46,430 --> 00:57:43,980
alien or it could be a million other

1410
00:57:50,210 --> 00:57:46,440
explanations just to say there's just

1411
00:57:51,830 --> 00:57:50,220
one answer to any of this so I'm glad to

1412
00:57:53,240 --> 00:57:51,840
hear you say that that you're still at

1413
00:57:55,310 --> 00:57:53,250

least willing to entertain the

1414

00:57:57,650 --> 00:57:55,320

possibility that's all we can ask really

1415

00:58:00,050 --> 00:57:57,660

from those who are more on the skeptical

1416

00:58:02,300 --> 00:58:00,060

side especially those in the hard

1417

00:58:04,730 --> 00:58:02,310

sciences or the scientific field in

1418

00:58:07,040 --> 00:58:04,740

general so that's that's really good to

1419

00:58:13,580 --> 00:58:07,050

hear I'm glad there was there is still a

1420

00:58:14,540 --> 00:58:13,590

glimmer of hope also interesting and

1421

00:58:17,600 --> 00:58:14,550

like you said it's probably a

1422

00:58:19,580 --> 00:58:17,610

combination of them but you know if it's

1423

00:58:21,680 --> 00:58:19,590

classified military aircraft that do

1424

00:58:23,660 --> 00:58:21,690

crazy things like I also I think that's

1425

00:58:25,820 --> 00:58:23,670

pretty interesting too yeah totally I

1426

00:58:29,450 --> 00:58:25,830

agree with you and you know sometimes I

1427

00:58:32,210 --> 00:58:29,460

I wonder if it is aliens that are what

1428

00:58:33,740 --> 00:58:32,220

are in control of these UFOs that's

1429

00:58:39,380 --> 00:58:33,750

actually probably one of the most boring

1430

00:58:41,000 --> 00:58:39,390

answers but yeah I guess we'll maybe

1431

00:58:43,100 --> 00:58:41,010

we'll see the answer in our lifetime but

1432

00:58:45,260 --> 00:58:43,110

I wouldn't hold my breath but um you

1433

00:58:45,950 --> 00:58:45,270

recently came out with an article over

1434

00:58:48,500 --> 00:58:45,960

at Wired

1435

00:58:51,470 --> 00:58:48,510

that kind of ties both of your books

1436

00:58:53,600 --> 00:58:51,480

together when it comes to SETI and the

1437

00:58:55,640 --> 00:58:53,610

scientists and then the alien hunter

1438

00:58:57,770 --> 00:58:55,650

says you coined them so this kind of

1439

00:58:59,930 --> 00:58:57,780

mixing the worlds together of the two

1440

00:59:01,280 --> 00:58:59,940

book projects that you've done so could

1441

00:59:03,410 --> 00:59:01,290

you maybe tell us a little about the

1442

00:59:05,840 --> 00:59:03,420

article and how it relates to the work

1443

00:59:09,050 --> 00:59:05,850

you did on this book and beyond

1444

00:59:11,780 --> 00:59:09,060

sure yeah it takes a look at three

1445

00:59:15,830 --> 00:59:11,790

groups astrobiologists who mostly look

1446

00:59:18,650 --> 00:59:15,840

for biochemical and geological and you

1447

00:59:21,140 --> 00:59:18,660

know hard data evidence of potential

1448

00:59:24,890 --> 00:59:21,150

microbial life on other planets

1449

00:59:26,540 --> 00:59:24,900

and study scientists who look for these

1450

00:59:30,560 --> 00:59:26,550

transmissions from alien civilizations

1451
00:59:32,240 --> 00:59:30,570
and then UFO hunters who as I specified

1452
00:59:33,440 --> 00:59:32,250
in the article we're not this is

1453
00:59:35,330 --> 00:59:33,450
specifically talking about the

1454
00:59:37,130 --> 00:59:35,340
extra-terrestrial hypothesis version of

1455
00:59:38,750 --> 00:59:37,140
that not that not the other ones and it

1456
00:59:40,880 --> 00:59:38,760
kind of compares the way that

1457
00:59:43,280 --> 00:59:40,890
astrobiologists think of SETI

1458
00:59:45,620 --> 00:59:43,290
astronomers to the way SETI astronomers

1459
00:59:47,900 --> 00:59:45,630
think of you follow just where they each

1460
00:59:49,760 --> 00:59:47,910
think each of the others is a little bit

1461
00:59:53,690 --> 00:59:49,770
less legitimate

1462
00:59:55,730 --> 00:59:53,700
and it's it's asking the scientists

1463
00:59:58,400 --> 00:59:55,740

themselves I guess are just pointing out

1464

01:00:00,320 --> 00:59:58,410

to the reader that the lines we draw

1465

01:00:02,570 --> 01:00:00,330

about what what is legitimate science

1466

01:00:07,400 --> 01:00:02,580

and what is not our a little bit

1467

01:00:09,320 --> 01:00:07,410

arbitrary and cultural and change over

1468

01:00:11,630 --> 01:00:09,330

time and that the reasons that

1469

01:00:13,460 --> 01:00:11,640

astrobiologists say study scientists

1470

01:00:15,140 --> 01:00:13,470

aren't legitimate are some of the same

1471

01:00:18,200 --> 01:00:15,150

reasons study scientists a ufologist

1472

01:00:19,790 --> 01:00:18,210

aren't legitimate and so I guess the

1473

01:00:21,260 --> 01:00:19,800

takeaway is maybe we should all just be

1474

01:00:25,100 --> 01:00:21,270

a little bit easier on each other

1475

01:00:27,200 --> 01:00:25,110

yep work together it isn't any simpler

1476

01:00:30,859 --> 01:00:27,210

than that well people can read that over

1477

01:00:34,160 --> 01:00:30,869

at wired.com and Sarah where can we find

1478

01:00:36,440 --> 01:00:34,170

the book and when can we find the book

1479

01:00:39,050 --> 01:00:36,450

and everything else here up to the book

1480

01:00:42,500 --> 01:00:39,060

comes out March 3rd you can pre-order it

1481

01:00:45,590 --> 01:00:42,510

right now on Amazon or Barnes & Noble or

1482

01:00:48,950 --> 01:00:45,600

a website called Indy bound IND ie bound

1483

01:00:52,160 --> 01:00:48,960

and I put all my work on my website

1484

01:00:56,240 --> 01:00:52,170

which is Sara skulls comm and then i am

1485

01:00:58,340 --> 01:00:56,250

on twitter at skulls sarah this has been

1486

01:01:00,830 --> 01:00:58,350

awesome it's so refreshing to see a

1487

01:01:03,980 --> 01:01:00,840

writer out there who can see both signs

1488

01:01:07,280 --> 01:01:03,990

of the UFO coin as it were you know the

1489

01:01:09,050 --> 01:01:07,290

phenomenon and the study of it so I got

1490

01:01:10,670 --> 01:01:09,060

a thank you for writing this book first

1491

01:01:12,380 --> 01:01:10,680

and foremost and also for coming on

1492

01:01:16,420 --> 01:01:12,390

somewhere in the skies yeah thank you

1493

01:01:20,720 --> 01:01:18,890

that's it for this week's episode again

1494

01:01:23,780 --> 01:01:20,730

be sure to grab the book they are

1495

01:01:24,590 --> 01:01:23,790

already here on March 3rd wherever books

1496

01:01:26,780 --> 01:01:24,600

are sold

1497

01:01:28,910 --> 01:01:26,790

speaking of books check out my book

1498

01:01:31,820 --> 01:01:28,920

somewhere in the skies a human approach

1499

01:01:35,570 --> 01:01:31,830

to an alien phenomenon available on

1500

01:01:37,700 --> 01:01:35,580

Amazon in print and ebook I'll also be

1501

01:01:41,210 --> 01:01:37,710

selling books at contact in the desert

1502

01:01:44,000 --> 01:01:41,220

this spring so if you're in Indian Wells

1503

01:01:48,200 --> 01:01:44,010

California or in California in general

1504

01:01:50,180 --> 01:01:48,210

join us May 29th through June 1st to

1505

01:01:52,480 --> 01:01:50,190

learn more and to purchase tickets visit

1506

01:01:54,910 --> 01:01:52,490

contact in the desert

1507

01:01:58,180 --> 01:01:54,920

check out the official store with merch

1508

01:02:00,579 --> 01:01:58,190

at T public calm and just search for

1509

01:02:03,040 --> 01:02:00,589

somewhere in the skies you can follow us

1510

01:02:06,400 --> 01:02:03,050

on Twitter at summer skies and Instagram

1511

01:02:08,680 --> 01:02:06,410

at summer skies pod if you have a UFO

1512

01:02:10,599 --> 01:02:08,690

story you'd like to share and to contact

1513

01:02:12,880 --> 01:02:10,609

me personally about guests in topic

1514

01:02:14,790 --> 01:02:12,890

suggestions please reach out by using

1515

01:02:18,460 --> 01:02:14,800

the contact app on the official website

1516

01:02:21,070 --> 01:02:18,470

somewhere in the skies calm thanks to

1517

01:02:24,310 --> 01:02:21,080

the e one podcast network rogue planet

1518

01:02:26,320 --> 01:02:24,320

TV pegasus books and especially to you

1519

01:02:28,839 --> 01:02:26,330

for listening I'll see you here next

1520

01:02:31,870 --> 01:02:28,849

week and remember keep your feet on the

1521

01:03:13,380 --> 01:02:31,880

ground but never stop searching similar

1522

01:03:17,620 --> 01:03:15,850

somewhere in the skies is produced by

1523

01:03:19,540 --> 01:03:17,630

Third Kind productions in association

1524

01:03:21,310 --> 01:03:19,550

with the entertainment one podcast