

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:29,840

Good evening. Tonight we examine the links seen and unseen between twins.

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

Chang and Eng were the original Siamese twins. They were born in 1811 and although they were never actually separated, they led active lives.

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00:00:37,840 --> 00:00:46,840

They married two American sisters and ran two family homes, spending a few days in each. One had 10 children, the other 12.

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00:00:46,840 --> 00:00:53,840

Chang took to drink and Eng had to share the hangovers. They were joined together by a fibrous band at the chest.

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00:00:53,840 --> 00:01:02,840

Nowadays they could easily have been separated. But is there another link between identical twins? A telepathic link that can never be broken.

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00:01:02,840 --> 00:01:07,840

Welcome to Twinsburg 1995!

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00:01:07,840 --> 00:01:16,840

Happy Twins Day!

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00:01:16,840 --> 00:01:25,840

Once a year over 4,000 sets of twins descend on the town of Twinsburg, Ohio. It's the Twins Day Festival and they all arrive two by two.

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00:01:25,840 --> 00:01:33,840

I'm a little more outgoing and proud. I'm more quiet. I'll dress up more as human. Things like that.

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00:01:33,840 --> 00:01:43,840

To the observer, identical twins hold a particular fascination. The exact physical likeness. The same hobbies. The same tastes.

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00:01:43,840 --> 00:01:49,840

In fact, there's one restaurant owned by twins that will only employ twins as waiters.

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00:01:49,840 --> 00:01:54,840

They have to work at the same time. They have to work together. They'll screw up and blame it on the other one.

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00:01:54,840 --> 00:02:00,840

They'll switch their name tags. Can they wear name tags? I'm Juanita, I'm not Shanita. I'm Charlene, not Darlene.

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00:02:00,840 --> 00:02:05,840

So our motto in the restaurant is you can only make a first impression once, we make it twice.

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00:02:05,840 --> 00:02:13,840

But do twins share more than just physical characteristics? Some twins believe they have a closeness that even conventional science can't explain.

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00:02:13,840 --> 00:02:19,840

We call it twin-ship or twin-insight. We've experienced it several times.

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00:02:19,840 --> 00:02:23,840

We've been tested to have a high degree of ESP among each one of us.

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00:02:23,840 --> 00:02:27,840

One of the most outstanding ones that we've had was when I was in the car accident.

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00:02:27,840 --> 00:02:30,840

I was able to direct help to her without knowing where she was,

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00:02:30,840 --> 00:02:33,840

and she was visualizing it in my mind as it was happening.

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00:02:33,840 --> 00:02:36,840

There are many times that I'll answer the telephone and say, Jeff, what do you want?

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00:02:36,840 --> 00:02:43,840

And I'm not sure it's him, but I can tell by the ring or something that it's Jeff. I mean, it's amazing.

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00:02:43,840 --> 00:02:48,840

My first baby, she was down the shore, vacationing. She wasn't due yet. I wasn't due for the baby.

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00:02:48,840 --> 00:02:52,840

She gets up in the morning at 7.30, which she doesn't do on vacation at all.

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00:02:52,840 --> 00:02:53,840

Never.

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00:02:53,840 --> 00:02:54,840

And she's the pain.

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00:02:54,840 --> 00:02:55,840

I couldn't walk.

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00:02:55,840 --> 00:02:58,840

I could not get out of bed. I got out of bed and fell on the floor.

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00:02:58,840 --> 00:03:00,840

I was with my older sister, and she's like, what's with you?

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00:03:00,840 --> 00:03:02,840

And I go, what's the been a bad mattress?

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00:03:02,840 --> 00:03:03,840

Now I'm walking like this.

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

No!

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00:03:05,840 --> 00:03:11,840

We get, now we call. I go, something's wrong. So we call her husband, and he goes, Jill had the baby.

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00:03:11,840 --> 00:03:14,840

I'm like, she didn't have the baby. She's not due yet.

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00:03:14,840 --> 00:03:16,840

And he goes, yes, she did.

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00:03:16,840 --> 00:03:19,840

And she never told me the story. She was in, she felt my labor pain.

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00:03:19,840 --> 00:03:20,840

Yeah. Never told me the story.

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00:03:20,840 --> 00:03:24,840

Now, the second time I got pregnant, I said I'm pregnant, and she looked at me and she goes, not again.

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00:03:24,840 --> 00:03:27,840

For identical twins, this is the moment of creation.

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00:03:27,840 --> 00:03:31,840

The egg splits and two separate fetuses begin to form.

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00:03:31,840 --> 00:03:35,840

Two individuals, but with identical sets of genes.

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00:03:35,840 --> 00:03:40,840

Science maintains that at the moment of separation, all links with the other half are broken.

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00:03:40,840 --> 00:03:43,840

But does an invisible connection remain?

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00:03:43,840 --> 00:03:49,840

Dr. Susan Blackmore, who studied twin behavior, remains unconvinced by tales of twin telepathy.

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00:03:49,840 --> 00:03:52,840

If they're identical twins, they are genetically the same.

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00:03:52,840 --> 00:03:57,840

So their brains are much more similar than most people's, pairs of people's brains would be.

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00:03:57,840 --> 00:04:00,840

And so they think in similar ways.

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00:04:00,840 --> 00:04:04,840

Then there are all the things where twins are brought up together in their own background.

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00:04:04,840 --> 00:04:08,840

And all these things can lead to what appear like the most extraordinary coincidences,

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00:04:08,840 --> 00:04:11,840

but actually they spring from their lives together.

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00:04:11,840 --> 00:04:17,840

But what if twins had never lived together? What if they were separated at birth?

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00:04:17,840 --> 00:04:21,840

It's from this group that some of the most incredible stories have emerged.

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00:04:24,840 --> 00:04:31,840

On the 19th of August, 1939, a woman gave birth to identical twin boys in Bradford, Ohio.

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00:04:31,840 --> 00:04:37,840

Due to family pressure, she was unable to keep them, and she agreed to put them both up for adoption.

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00:04:38,840 --> 00:04:45,840

Four weeks later, Ernest Springer, a maintenance engineer and his wife Sarah, adopted one of the boys.

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00:04:45,840 --> 00:04:51,840

Two weeks after that, Jess Lewis, a boy-lerman and his wife Lucille took the other child away.

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00:04:51,840 --> 00:04:56,840

There was nothing unusual about the adoptions, except for one small coincidence.

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00:04:56,840 --> 00:05:00,840

Both families decided to call their sons James.

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

The twins eventually got married.

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

They were their sons James.

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00:05:06,840 --> 00:05:11,840

The twins, it seemed, have been separated for good, identical in every way,

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00:05:11,840 --> 00:05:15,840

but destined to be strangers for the rest of their lives.

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00:05:18,840 --> 00:05:23,840

Over half a century later, James Lewis is now living in Lima, Ohio.

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00:05:23,840 --> 00:05:26,840

He was six before he learned he had a twin brother.

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00:05:26,840 --> 00:05:30,840

It would take over 33 years of searching to track him down.

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00:05:30,840 --> 00:05:35,840

I took the adoption papers to court where the adoption took place,

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00:05:35,840 --> 00:05:40,840

and I told the judge what I wanted to do, and he said,

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00:05:40,840 --> 00:05:42,840

well, I'll see what I can do for you.

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00:05:43,840 --> 00:05:49,840

Jim Lewis' twin brother, Jim Springer, was also living in Ohio when he received a letter from the adoption agency.

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00:05:49,840 --> 00:05:51,840

It gave him quite a shock.

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00:05:51,840 --> 00:05:54,840

For 39 years, he'd believed that his twin had died at birth.

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00:05:54,840 --> 00:05:58,840

I was very surprised when he ran. I didn't know what to make of it.

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00:05:58,840 --> 00:06:02,840

Whether it was true or it was a hoax.

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00:06:02,840 --> 00:06:10,840

I always kind of had a feeling that he wasn't dead, but yet all the proof was said that he was.

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00:06:10,840 --> 00:06:14,840

Jim Springer decided to phone Jim Lewis.

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00:06:14,840 --> 00:06:16,840

It was the first time the brothers had spoken.

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00:06:16,840 --> 00:06:20,840

Strange, very strange. We didn't know what to say.

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00:06:20,840 --> 00:06:22,840

It was short. It was short.

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00:06:22,840 --> 00:06:29,840

He introduced himself to me, and he told me what he wanted to see me about and everything.

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00:06:29,840 --> 00:06:34,840

But I do remember one thing funny. He asked me what kind of beer I'd drink.

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00:06:34,840 --> 00:06:37,840

Of course, we both liked Miller's light.

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00:06:37,840 --> 00:06:43,840

And pretty soon, I just blew it out and asked Jim for you and my brother.

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00:06:45,840 --> 00:06:46,840

What did you say?

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00:06:46,840 --> 00:06:47,840

Yes.

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00:06:47,840 --> 00:06:54,840

It seemed a cruel twist of fate, but the twins discovered they'd spent most of their lives living only 40 miles apart.

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00:06:54,840 --> 00:07:00,840

After the initial phone call, they arranged their first meeting. It was February 1979.

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00:07:00,840 --> 00:07:03,840

It was like staying there looking at myself.

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00:07:03,840 --> 00:07:07,840

I felt very close to him from the beginning.

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00:07:07,840 --> 00:07:12,840

He wasn't a stranger. He wasn't a stranger at all from the very moment I saw him.

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00:07:12,840 --> 00:07:18,840

It wasn't like meeting somebody, you know, for the first time. I knew him.

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00:07:18,840 --> 00:07:24,840

The story might have ended there. Two brothers separated at birth, happily reunited at middle age.

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00:07:24,840 --> 00:07:30,840

But as the two men began to discuss their lives apart, an extraordinary series of events were revealed.

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00:07:33,840 --> 00:07:38,840

For nearly 40 years, it seemed, the two men had been living parallel lives.

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00:07:38,840 --> 00:07:42,840

The coincidences began in childhood, at school, for example.

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00:07:42,840 --> 00:07:47,840

I never liked spelling. And I never... And I liked math.

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00:07:47,840 --> 00:07:50,840

Math, we liked math. We didn't like spelling.

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00:07:50,840 --> 00:07:54,840

Back home, both boys came up with unusual names for their dogs.

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00:07:54,840 --> 00:07:59,840

Toy. To you or why? I called it toy.

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00:07:59,840 --> 00:08:04,840

Now, why I renamed it that, I don't know. That's the name I gave the dog.

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00:08:04,840 --> 00:08:07,840

The twins left school and there were more coincidences.

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00:08:07,840 --> 00:08:10,840

They discovered they both enrolled as police officers.

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00:08:10,840 --> 00:08:14,840

Jim worked for Miami County, I think, police department.

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00:08:14,840 --> 00:08:16,840

I worked for Shawnee Township Police Department.

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00:08:16,840 --> 00:08:19,840

We were both doing the same job at the same time.

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00:08:19,840 --> 00:08:22,840

The two Jims went on to marry and become fathers.

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00:08:22,840 --> 00:08:25,840

Again, their lives seemed to be running in parallel.

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00:08:25,840 --> 00:08:29,840

My first wife was named Doug Linda.

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00:08:29,840 --> 00:08:31,840

And my second wife was named Betty.

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00:08:31,840 --> 00:08:34,840

Okay, first one was Linda.

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00:08:34,840 --> 00:08:37,840

And then my second wife was Betty.

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00:08:37,840 --> 00:08:41,840

Betty and I have a son. We named him James Allen.

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00:08:41,840 --> 00:08:45,840

When I was married to Betty, we had a first son, was named James Allen.

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00:08:47,840 --> 00:08:51,840

In their spare time, the two men continued to mirror each other's behavior.

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00:08:51,840 --> 00:08:56,840

Both men liked one wind after work by smoking the same brand of cigarettes.

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00:08:56,840 --> 00:08:59,840

And drinking the same make of beer.

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00:09:00,840 --> 00:09:05,840

They both enjoyed woodwork and built basement workshops in their houses.

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00:09:05,840 --> 00:09:09,840

Outside, they had white benches built around the trunk of a tree in their gardens,

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00:09:09,840 --> 00:09:12,840

where Jim Lewis' remains to this day.

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00:09:12,840 --> 00:09:16,840

One of the more astonishing coincidences occurred over holiday plans.

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00:09:16,840 --> 00:09:19,840

There's nothing unusual in going to Florida every year,

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00:09:19,840 --> 00:09:22,840

but Florida has thousands of miles of beaches.

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00:09:22,840 --> 00:09:26,840

And every year, Jim Lewis and Jim Springer would go to exactly the same stretch of beach.

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00:09:26,840 --> 00:09:29,840

Several times I've been to St. Petersburg Beach,

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00:09:29,840 --> 00:09:32,840

at a particular spot about one mile long.

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00:09:32,840 --> 00:09:35,840

And it's got water around it.

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00:09:35,840 --> 00:09:39,840

I got a canal on one side and of course the Gulf on the other.

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00:09:39,840 --> 00:09:42,840

It was very amazing that we never ran across one another,

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00:09:42,840 --> 00:09:47,840

because we had vacationed there a couple of times about the same time.

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00:09:48,840 --> 00:09:54,840

Wives with the same names, same jobs, same hobbies, even the same holiday destination.

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00:09:54,840 --> 00:09:57,840

But one of the biggest surprises came after they met.

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00:09:57,840 --> 00:10:00,840

They were invited to the Minnesota Center for Twins Research,

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00:10:00,840 --> 00:10:02,840

where they took a battery of tests.

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00:10:02,840 --> 00:10:07,840

The results were so similar, the researchers made them take the tests again.

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00:10:07,840 --> 00:10:10,840

Some of the tests that Jim and I took on a multiple choice,

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00:10:10,840 --> 00:10:12,840

they had to do over again,

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00:10:12,840 --> 00:10:18,840

because Jim and I answered almost the same identical questions, the same answer.

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00:10:19,840 --> 00:10:22,840

The lives of the Jim twins seem so incredible,

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00:10:22,840 --> 00:10:25,840

because until very late in life they'd never even met.

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00:10:25,840 --> 00:10:30,840

Were the similarities coincidences or some form of telepathic communication?

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00:10:30,840 --> 00:10:34,840

Their identical genetic makeup would account for some of these similarities,

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00:10:34,840 --> 00:10:38,840

but the names of their wives, sons and even dogs?

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00:10:38,840 --> 00:10:41,840

Skeptics argue that it's easy to be deceived.

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00:10:41,840 --> 00:10:44,840

We start looking for certain types of coincidence.

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00:10:44,840 --> 00:10:48,840

What you don't do is ask, well, what sort of car have they got?

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00:10:48,840 --> 00:10:50,840

What sort of animals have they got?

146

00:10:50,840 --> 00:10:52,840

What sort of music do they like?

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00:10:52,840 --> 00:10:55,840

You don't ask those other questions, which will come not to be coincidences.

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00:10:55,840 --> 00:10:57,840

You just conveniently forget about those.

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00:10:57,840 --> 00:11:02,840

So the process of selection produces an awful lot of amazing-looking coincidences that really aren't.

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00:11:04,840 --> 00:11:07,840

The Jim twins admit their lives aren't perfect mirrors.

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00:11:07,840 --> 00:11:10,840

Jim Lewis divorced Betty and is now married to Sandy,

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00:11:10,840 --> 00:11:13,840

while Jim Springer is still married to his Betty.

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00:11:13,840 --> 00:11:15,840

There is a joke about that.

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00:11:15,840 --> 00:11:18,840

My wife's very afraid of all me to woman named Sandy with these names.

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00:11:19,840 --> 00:11:25,840

But can the twins' story really be put down to a quirk of fate, a series of bizarre coincidences?

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00:11:25,840 --> 00:11:30,840

The chance happenings in the twins' lives seems so unbelievable and so numerous

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00:11:30,840 --> 00:11:33,840

that it's hard not to consider another possibility,

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00:11:33,840 --> 00:11:37,840

that the two men were never completely separated back in 1939

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00:11:37,840 --> 00:11:41,840

and somehow maintained a telepathic link for the rest of their lives.

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00:11:44,840 --> 00:11:47,840

Researchers have now studied the lives of hundreds of identical twins

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00:11:47,840 --> 00:11:52,840

who were separated at birth, but none of them can match the astonishing series of coincidences

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00:11:52,840 --> 00:11:54,840

shown by the Jim twins.

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00:12:05,840 --> 00:12:10,840

According to a recent survey, nearly half the people in this country believe in ghosts

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00:12:10,840 --> 00:12:13,840

and one in seven actually claims to have seen one.

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00:12:13,840 --> 00:12:18,840

If you're among that number, then you may not find tonight's eye-witness accounts all that surprising.

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00:12:18,840 --> 00:12:25,840

But reports of independent witnesses all seeing the same ghost over a short period of time are rare

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00:12:25,840 --> 00:12:27,840

and a further mystery remains.

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00:12:27,840 --> 00:12:31,840

Why was this ghost more upset than the people who spotted her?

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00:12:31,840 --> 00:12:36,840

Flittic Manor has stood in the heart of the Bedfordshire countryside for 300 years.

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00:12:36,840 --> 00:12:40,840

For over half its life, it was the ancestral home of the Brooks family.

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00:12:42,840 --> 00:12:46,840

But at the end of last year, builders moved in to renovate the manor.

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00:12:46,840 --> 00:12:48,840

It's now a hotel.

173

00:12:48,840 --> 00:12:51,840

They stumbled upon a new house,

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00:12:51,840 --> 00:12:54,840

and they found a new house in the middle of the city.

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00:12:54,840 --> 00:12:57,840

The house was built in the year of the late 19th century,

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00:12:57,840 --> 00:12:59,840

and it was the first manor.

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00:12:59,840 --> 00:13:01,840

It's now a hotel.

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00:13:01,840 --> 00:13:04,840

They stumbled upon a secret room in the roof,

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00:13:04,840 --> 00:13:07,840

which had lain undisturbed for decades.

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00:13:07,840 --> 00:13:13,840

We came up to start work on the roof and removed the tiles and then removed the brickwork.

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

We found a small doorway.

182

00:13:22,840 --> 00:13:25,840

Then we found the evidence of a frame in the end of the roof,

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00:13:25,840 --> 00:13:28,840

and at one time there was some sort of attic room here.

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00:13:29,840 --> 00:13:33,840

After that, things started to happen at Flittic Manor.

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00:13:33,840 --> 00:13:38,840

Just three days later, the hotel received an odd complaint from a departing guest.

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00:13:41,840 --> 00:13:44,840

As a hotel receptionist, I have had some odd complaints,

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00:13:44,840 --> 00:13:48,840

but I have to say that I've never had a complaint like this before.

188

00:13:51,840 --> 00:13:53,840

Everything all right for you, sir?

189

00:13:53,840 --> 00:13:55,840

Why? What happened?

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00:13:55,840 --> 00:13:57,840

I think I had a visitor during the night.

191

00:13:57,840 --> 00:13:59,840

Something or someone.

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00:13:59,840 --> 00:14:01,840

I don't know what happened.

193

00:14:01,840 --> 00:14:03,840

I just know I never want to stay in that room again.

194

00:14:03,840 --> 00:14:05,840

I'm sorry I had a comfortable night.

195

00:14:05,840 --> 00:14:07,840

Can I get someone to help you with that?

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00:14:07,840 --> 00:14:09,840

No, it's all right. Thank you very much. Bye-bye.

197

00:14:11,840 --> 00:14:13,840

He seemed slightly nervous then.

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00:14:13,840 --> 00:14:16,840

I didn't really know quite what to say,

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00:14:16,840 --> 00:14:19,840

and basically didn't really take a lot of notice of it.

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00:14:20,840 --> 00:14:23,840

But from then on, various members of staff began to notice

201

00:14:23,840 --> 00:14:26,840

that something had changed at Flittic Manor.

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00:14:29,840 --> 00:14:34,840

Sonja Banks, the hotel manager, was staying on the second floor one night.

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00:14:36,840 --> 00:14:40,840

I had just locked up the hotel, and I was retiring to roommate.

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00:14:49,840 --> 00:14:52,840

Then I heard footsteps walking across the ceiling,

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00:14:52,840 --> 00:14:55,840

and a door slam towards the front of the house,

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00:14:55,840 --> 00:14:57,840

where the little room had been discovered.

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00:14:57,840 --> 00:15:00,840

I must say I was a bit taken aback and surprised at this,

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00:15:00,840 --> 00:15:03,840

because I was the only person in the hotel that night.

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00:15:05,840 --> 00:15:09,840

Sonja is not the only person to have experienced a presence of fear.

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00:15:09,840 --> 00:15:11,840

She was the only person in the hotel that night.

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00:15:11,840 --> 00:15:13,840

I know, isn't she?

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00:15:14,840 --> 00:15:18,840

Sonja is not the only person to have experienced a presence of some kind.

213

00:15:18,840 --> 00:15:22,840

Chef Duncan Poiser also had to sleep at the hotel one night.

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00:15:22,840 --> 00:15:25,840

His bedroom was also on the second floor.

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00:15:27,840 --> 00:15:30,840

I retired to bed at about one o'clock,

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00:15:30,840 --> 00:15:33,840

to lay on my back, gently drifting.

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00:15:35,840 --> 00:15:39,840

When I tried to turn, I couldn't move the bottoms of my legs.

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00:15:39,840 --> 00:15:43,840

It was as if someone or something was sitting on them,

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00:15:43,840 --> 00:15:45,840

but there was no one there.

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00:15:45,840 --> 00:15:47,840

I tried again a second time.

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00:15:48,840 --> 00:15:51,840

The third time, as if the weight lifted up,

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00:15:51,840 --> 00:15:53,840

I was a little bit shocked and startled.

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00:15:54,840 --> 00:15:58,840

It was just a really strange experience, a really strange feeling.

224

00:16:01,840 --> 00:16:04,840

So what could possibly be happening at Flittick Manor?

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00:16:04,840 --> 00:16:08,840

The first paranormal activity came with the help of a man,

226

00:16:08,840 --> 00:16:11,840

who had been in the hotel for a long time.

227

00:16:11,840 --> 00:16:16,840

The first paranormal activity came within days of the opening up of the hidden attic room.

228

00:16:19,840 --> 00:16:22,840

Had the builders released something, some spirit,

229

00:16:22,840 --> 00:16:25,840

which was now returning to its old haunting ground.

230

00:16:32,840 --> 00:16:34,840

One clue may lie with this man.

231

00:16:34,840 --> 00:16:36,840

He's now retired to his farm in Wiltshire,

232

00:16:36,840 --> 00:16:40,840

but 50 years ago, John spent his childhood at the Manor.

233

00:16:40,840 --> 00:16:44,840

My mother used to tell us when we were children,

234

00:16:44,840 --> 00:16:48,840

that when she lay in bed at night,

235

00:16:48,840 --> 00:16:54,840

she would hear a ghost knocking on the bedroom door.

236

00:16:55,840 --> 00:16:59,840

There was also quite a few stories in the village

237

00:16:59,840 --> 00:17:02,840

about the fact that Flittick Manor was haunted.

238

00:17:05,840 --> 00:17:11,840

Those stories have been forgotten in recent times,

239

00:17:11,840 --> 00:17:15,840

until the hurried departure of that hotel guest.

240

00:17:15,840 --> 00:17:19,840

John Hines will never forget his stay at Flittick Manor.

241

00:17:27,840 --> 00:17:31,840

I detected that there was something in the room with me.

242

00:17:31,840 --> 00:17:36,840

I got a feeling that there was a presence there.

243

00:17:36,840 --> 00:17:38,840

I can't describe it.

244

00:17:42,840 --> 00:17:45,840

John Hines had checked into his room at Flittick,

245

00:17:45,840 --> 00:17:47,840

following a business conference.

246

00:17:47,840 --> 00:17:49,840

He went to bed around 1am.

247

00:17:55,840 --> 00:18:00,840

Five minutes later, something very heavy landed on the foot of the bed.

248

00:18:01,840 --> 00:18:04,840

Fumbled around trying to find the light switch.

249

00:18:08,840 --> 00:18:11,840

And there was nothing there, nothing there at all.

250

00:18:14,840 --> 00:18:18,840

All these are crazy, John. You know, I could go back to sleep.

251

00:18:21,840 --> 00:18:23,840

I've tried to settle down again.

252

00:18:31,840 --> 00:18:38,840

A few minutes later, there was a shuffling at the bottom of the bed.

253

00:18:38,840 --> 00:18:43,840

There was a silhouette of a person actually sitting at the foot of the bed.

254

00:18:43,840 --> 00:18:45,840

I froze. I was petrified.

255

00:18:45,840 --> 00:18:48,840

Who are you? What do you want?

256

00:18:48,840 --> 00:18:53,840

No response from her. She just sat there gazing out towards the window.

257

00:18:53,840 --> 00:18:56,840

I thought she was a little bit of a fool.

258

00:18:56,840 --> 00:19:00,840

I consider myself to be a very skeptical person.

259

00:19:00,840 --> 00:19:05,840

And I really can't believe that it was a ghost that I saw.

260

00:19:05,840 --> 00:19:07,840

But I've no other explanation for it.

261

00:19:09,840 --> 00:19:11,840

Is there anything in the history of Flittick Manor

262

00:19:11,840 --> 00:19:14,840

which might explain why he was so scared to turn the lights off?

263

00:19:14,840 --> 00:19:17,840

I consider myself to be a very skeptical person.

264

00:19:17,840 --> 00:19:20,840

And I really can't believe that it was a ghost that I saw.

265

00:19:20,840 --> 00:19:22,840

But I've no other explanation for it.

266

00:19:23,840 --> 00:19:25,840

Is there anything in the history of Flittick Manor

267

00:19:25,840 --> 00:19:28,840

which might explain the apparition?

268

00:19:32,840 --> 00:19:35,840

Richard Morgan is another descendant of the Brooks family

269

00:19:35,840 --> 00:19:38,840

who lived there throughout the 19th century.

270

00:19:38,840 --> 00:19:42,840

He has made a detailed study of his family's history.

271

00:19:43,840 --> 00:19:47,840

The first of the family to live here, John Thomas Brooks, kept a diary.

272

00:19:47,840 --> 00:19:50,840

And that describes the life here.

273

00:19:50,840 --> 00:19:55,840

It's quite clear that the most important event, as far as their diarist was concerned,

274

00:19:55,840 --> 00:20:01,840

was the death of a much-loved only daughter, Mary Ann Brooks, who was only 26.

275

00:20:02,840 --> 00:20:06,840

This is the entry for the 20th of September, 1848.

276

00:20:06,840 --> 00:20:12,840

I sat by her dying bed, watching her with the most intense earnestness and misery.

277

00:20:12,840 --> 00:20:17,840

And at seven o'clock, her breathing having gradually become weaker and weaker,

278

00:20:17,840 --> 00:20:20,840

she gently drew her last breath on earth.

279

00:20:22,840 --> 00:20:24,840

They were all very shocked when the daughter died.

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00:20:24,840 --> 00:20:26,840

It was clearly a terrible shock to them all.

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00:20:26,840 --> 00:20:30,840

And I think the mother in particular, when was picked out as being a tragic figure,

282

00:20:30,840 --> 00:20:33,840

she outlived her husband by 20 years.

283

00:20:33,840 --> 00:20:37,840

She died aged 86 of senile decay.

284

00:20:37,840 --> 00:20:40,840

And I think one has to say that she is rather a sad figure.

285

00:20:41,840 --> 00:20:45,840

Could this woman's personal tragedy be linked to John Hein's ghostly sighting?

286

00:20:45,840 --> 00:20:48,840

Or the events which happened the very next night?

287

00:20:54,840 --> 00:20:58,840

Hotel receptionist Lydia Dawson had a night she'll never forget.

288

00:21:15,840 --> 00:21:18,840

My heart was just beating so fast.

289

00:21:18,840 --> 00:21:22,840

And I was just begging that she'd go away.

290

00:21:46,840 --> 00:21:49,840

My heart was thumping the whole time.

291

00:21:49,840 --> 00:21:51,840

I'd just never seen anything like it.

292

00:21:53,840 --> 00:21:57,840

I came back into the room and I found that all the lights were on.

293

00:21:57,840 --> 00:22:00,840

And I know I hadn't actually put them on myself.

294

00:22:00,840 --> 00:22:05,840

I think the reason that I was actually so upset was I sensed that she was crying.

295

00:22:05,840 --> 00:22:09,840

So she was upset, which was then causing me to feel upset.

296

00:22:10,840 --> 00:22:15,840

And at Flittic Manor, the unexplained happenings continue even today.

297

00:22:17,840 --> 00:22:22,840

Whoever she is, she's totally harmless and we've just got used to having her around.

298

00:22:22,840 --> 00:22:26,840

Perhaps, but the staff don't like to stay over anymore.

299

00:22:27,840 --> 00:22:30,840

Things have now quietened down at the Manor, but it just goes to show.

300

00:22:30,840 --> 00:22:33,840

You ought to think twice before getting the builders in.

301

00:22:33,840 --> 00:22:37,840

I'll be back next week with a special edition of Strange but True.

302

00:22:37,840 --> 00:22:39,840

Until then, good night.

