

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:09,600

This program is about unsolved mysteries. Whenever possible, the actual family members

2

00:00:09,600 --> 00:00:13,680

and police officials have participated in recreating the events. What you are about

3

00:00:13,680 --> 00:00:20,560

to see is not a news broadcast.

4

00:00:20,560 --> 00:00:25,040

Tonight on Unsolved Mysteries, this peaceful suburban neighborhood in New Jersey concealed

5

00:00:25,040 --> 00:00:29,680

a violent and secretive Colombian cocaine gang. The vicious ringleader of this gang

6

00:00:29,680 --> 00:00:35,600

vanished in 1986, and the FBI wants your help in tracking him down. The sweetheart

7

00:00:35,600 --> 00:00:40,320

swindler is a charming but ruthless con man who preys on unsuspecting women by stealing

8

00:00:40,320 --> 00:00:46,600

their hearts and then their money. In an 11-hour period in March of 1988, a sadistic spree

9

00:00:46,600 --> 00:00:51,840

of violence left four people dead in two different states, and shockingly, the suspects are two

10

00:00:51,920 --> 00:00:59,600

teenage boys. Also, we will present a most unusual and poignant case of kidnapping. In 1944,

11

00:00:59,600 --> 00:01:04,320

two teenage girls told 10-week-old Lawrence Harding Jr. in front of his mother's Chicago

12

00:01:04,320 --> 00:01:09,440

apartment. For over 45 years, his brother Jeffrey has been trying to solve this case.

13

00:01:10,160 --> 00:01:14,080

He is convinced that Lawrence is still alive and may even be watching tonight.

14

00:01:15,040 --> 00:01:21,680

Join me. You may be able to help solve a mystery.

15

00:01:52,160 --> 00:02:10,560

Imagine watching television and suddenly learning you've been kidnapped as an infant and had a

16

00:02:10,560 --> 00:02:15,360

brother and two parents that you never thought existed. Well, somewhere in the United States,

17

00:02:15,360 --> 00:02:21,120

there is a man who in the next few minutes may make this shocking discovery. It all began 37

18

00:02:21,120 --> 00:02:26,480

years ago in 1953 when an eight-year-old boy named Jeffrey Harding was taught by schoolmates about

19

00:02:26,480 --> 00:02:35,280

a brother he never knew. That same day, Jeffrey's mother showed him some scrapbooks stored in the

20

00:02:35,280 --> 00:02:40,560

attic. She explained that he did indeed have a brother, but the boy was kidnapped before Jeffrey

21

00:02:40,560 --> 00:02:49,040

had been born. What was he like? Well, baby, mama really didn't know what he was like. You see,

22

00:02:49,040 --> 00:02:55,520

I didn't get to spend a lot of time with him like I spend with you. I just didn't know what to do.

23

00:02:56,160 --> 00:03:02,240

I felt so empty inside and I felt so so sad for my parents. I could just look in my mother's eyes

24

00:03:02,240 --> 00:03:09,760

and see the pain. These two girls came and they took them and they ran. You'll never see them again?

25

00:03:12,960 --> 00:03:18,480

No. And I also wanted to know what it was like to have a brother and I always felt cheated that I

26

00:03:18,480 --> 00:03:21,600

couldn't communicate with them. I couldn't play with them. I couldn't wrestle with them. Couldn't go

27

00:03:21,600 --> 00:03:26,000

to a ball game with them. I couldn't do anything like everybody else did with their own brother and sister.

28

00:03:28,080 --> 00:03:35,200

This is the article. FBI reported in search for kidnapped baby. The Federal Bureau of Investigation

29

00:03:36,000 --> 00:03:39,920

Jeffrey's mother brought on a baby book and read him clippings she had saved about the

30

00:03:39,920 --> 00:03:47,120

events of June 30th, 1944. The baby was kidnapped eight days ago by two Negro girls. Spends her

31

00:03:47,120 --> 00:03:52,880

date in the Chicago FBI Department decline comment. According to federal law however,

32

00:03:59,200 --> 00:04:02,480

that morning, with 10-week-old Lawrence Jr. in his carriage,

33

00:04:02,480 --> 00:04:05,280

Jeffrey's mother made her customary trip to the corner market.

34

00:04:07,600 --> 00:04:12,160

And while she was in the store, there were two girls there, the teenage girls that didn't look

35

00:04:12,160 --> 00:04:24,720

like they were up to anything bad. Oh, what a doll. You really have a cute baby. Oh, thank you. It's my first.

36

00:04:27,040 --> 00:04:31,520

Margaret didn't recognize the two girls from the neighborhood. They felt that their attention was innocent.

37

00:04:33,760 --> 00:04:38,560

As my mother was coming home from the market, the two girls were following her. But she didn't

38

00:04:38,560 --> 00:04:41,840

think a whole lot of it. She just thought that the two girls were walking down the street as she

39

00:04:41,840 --> 00:04:48,560

was going home. And when she pulled into the yard with the baby carriage, she saw a neighbor

40

00:04:49,120 --> 00:04:56,320

who lived upstairs. Can you mind a little Lawrence for me? Sure, I will. I'm just gonna run these inside.

41

00:04:56,320 --> 00:05:03,280

Okay. The lady who was supposed to be watching my brother didn't keep an eye on him long enough.

42

00:05:04,160 --> 00:05:06,720

She watched him for a little while and then she kind of turned away.

43

00:05:16,960 --> 00:05:27,600

Hey, you two, stop! Margaret! Hey! Come back! My baby! Stop! Wait!

44

00:05:29,440 --> 00:05:32,720

By the time my mother, who was running as fast as she could, got to the alley,

45

00:05:33,280 --> 00:05:37,040

and could run after the girls, could give chase to the girls, the girls were gone.

46

00:05:37,600 --> 00:05:44,560

Lawrence! Lawrence! Lawrence!

47

00:06:04,240 --> 00:06:11,200

Hello? Is this Mrs. Harding? After three agonizing days, the Hardings received a phone call.

48

00:06:13,200 --> 00:06:19,200

You have the baby? The girl on the other end of the line identified herself as one of the people

49

00:06:19,200 --> 00:06:24,720

that took the baby. And the girl said, we're going to bring the baby to you. And my mother said, when?

50

00:06:24,720 --> 00:06:30,000

Will you please bring him home? And as she was waiting for an answer, the girl hung up on her.

51

00:06:30,880 --> 00:06:31,200

When?

52

00:06:35,040 --> 00:06:40,080

She was never asked for ransom, and that was the last contact my mother had with the kidnapers.

53

00:06:41,680 --> 00:06:45,520

The FBI and the Chicago police searched for Lawrence Jr. to no avail.

54

00:06:46,560 --> 00:06:52,640

Finally, after four weeks, the investigation was called off. Lawrence Harding Jr. had vanished into thin air.

55

00:06:54,240 --> 00:06:58,080

45 years ago, because the authorities couldn't help my parents,

56

00:06:58,160 --> 00:07:01,840

and because everyone was advising them that they should try to adjust to the fact that they would

57

00:07:01,840 --> 00:07:07,680

never see their son again, for the last 45 years they've had to do just that. They've had to try

58

00:07:07,680 --> 00:07:14,240

to live in a life, a full life, knowing that they would never see their son again. When one mother

59

00:07:14,240 --> 00:07:19,200

told me what had happened, and I think it was then that a seed was kind of planted inside of me,

60

00:07:19,200 --> 00:07:22,160

that because I love my parents, I wanted to make this right for them.

61

00:07:22,640 --> 00:07:31,680

Jeffrey searched for his missing brother and his one stone wall after another, until August of 1986.

62

00:07:32,720 --> 00:07:37,280

Thanks to the Freedom of Information Act, he was able to secure the original FBI records

63

00:07:37,280 --> 00:07:42,960

pertaining to the case of his brother's disappearance. In these files, Jeffrey found a

64

00:07:42,960 --> 00:07:49,440

startling new lead, and he hired private investigator Paul Riggsby. Together, the two men learned that

65

00:07:49,440 --> 00:07:54,960

in 1944, the FBI had interviewed two railroad porters who told a curious tale.

66

00:08:02,960 --> 00:08:09,680

July 4, 1944, Chicago's main train station, four days after Lawrence Harding Jr.'s disappearance.

67

00:08:12,560 --> 00:08:18,480

The FBI file from Washington that we were able to get a copy of indicated one of the

68

00:08:18,480 --> 00:08:23,600

teenage girls showed up at the train station with a baby meeting the description of Lawrence.

69

00:08:25,120 --> 00:08:28,640

Excuse me, ma'am. Are you going to St. Louis? Yes, I am.

70

00:08:28,640 --> 00:08:31,200

Would you want to hold my baby for a moment? I don't know.

71

00:08:32,000 --> 00:08:36,000

I just have to run to the washroom, and there's really nowhere for me to put him down in there.

72

00:08:36,000 --> 00:08:40,720

Well, I've got to get that train. So you hurry up now. I don't want to be a standee.

73

00:08:40,720 --> 00:08:42,320

Okay, I'll be back in just a moment.

74

00:08:48,800 --> 00:08:54,080

More than likely, the woman was on the platform with the baby. The train is fixing to pull off,

75

00:08:54,080 --> 00:08:57,920

and she's not sure if the teenage girl is on the train or not on the train.

76

00:09:00,720 --> 00:09:04,720

And realized that it was her time to get on the train and was believing the teenage girl

77

00:09:04,720 --> 00:09:11,840

when she had told her not to worry. And more than likely, she got on the train with the child waiting

78

00:09:11,920 --> 00:09:13,440

for the teenage girl to find her.

79

00:09:16,240 --> 00:09:21,760

However, after the train took off, it became obvious that the teenage girl didn't make the train.

80

00:09:29,040 --> 00:09:34,560

When the older woman with the baby arrived at Union Station in St. Louis, she approached two

81

00:09:34,560 --> 00:09:41,440

porters, George Hill and a Charlie McCall, and explained to them how she came by the baby.

82

00:09:41,520 --> 00:09:45,200

Can you help me? Yes, ma'am. I was in the Chicago train station,

83

00:09:45,200 --> 00:09:50,000

and this teenage girl left this child for me to hold. She said she's going to the washroom,

84

00:09:50,000 --> 00:09:54,560

but she never came back out. Have you seen anybody around here looking for a child?

85

00:09:54,560 --> 00:09:57,360

No, ma'am. What was she wearing? I've got to get that child.

86

00:09:57,360 --> 00:10:01,920

She also told them that she was going to Magnolia, Arkansas, but told them that if that

87

00:10:01,920 --> 00:10:05,840

mother decided she wanted the child, she'd be in Magnolia and she could find her there.

88

00:10:06,800 --> 00:10:11,200

I got nine children of my own. I know one more won't hurt me.

89

00:10:11,840 --> 00:10:15,360

Well, I'll keep an eye out for her, ma'am. Thank you. Yes, ma'am.

90

00:10:15,920 --> 00:10:20,800

When Paul first told me about the lady taking my brother all the way to Magnolia, Arkansas,

91

00:10:20,800 --> 00:10:26,400

it made me really feel good. I was really kind of hoping against hope that the lady

92

00:10:26,400 --> 00:10:30,720

had taken him to Magnolia, Arkansas, which is a very small town. Everybody knows each other,

93

00:10:30,800 --> 00:10:36,160

and it would be easy to locate my brother. Hi. Hi. My name is Paul Rigsby. I'm an

94

00:10:36,160 --> 00:10:40,160

independent man. Armed with this promising information, Rigsby immediately went to Magnolia.

95

00:10:40,960 --> 00:10:44,960

He conducted interviews and combed through the town's records, but unfortunately turned

96

00:10:44,960 --> 00:10:50,320

up no trace of the woman or her family. Thank you for your help. When Paul returned from Magnolia,

97

00:10:50,320 --> 00:10:58,080

Arkansas, and he basically came back empty-handed, it was a blow. But it wasn't one that I couldn't

98

00:10:58,080 --> 00:11:03,840

overcome or that Paul and I couldn't overcome. Then Paul theorized, and I do believe this is true,

99

00:11:03,840 --> 00:11:08,720

that more than likely because it was July 4th weekend that this lady returned from Magnolia,

100

00:11:08,720 --> 00:11:13,760

Arkansas, either to Chicago or maybe even to Detroit. And that may be where my brother is today.

101

00:11:15,360 --> 00:11:20,080

The woman at the train station probably thought that the girl didn't want this child.

102

00:11:21,040 --> 00:11:24,080

I believe that this woman was a good Samaritan.

103

00:11:26,080 --> 00:11:32,240

She took care of the child. She did everything she could to let the porters know where she was going,

104

00:11:33,120 --> 00:11:38,240

and in no way, shape, or form, did she have anything to do with the abduction.

105

00:11:39,680 --> 00:11:43,840

Jeffrey Harding will not give up his search until he finds out what happened to his brother.

106

00:11:44,400 --> 00:11:48,880

He is certain that he is alive and probably unaware of his strange past.

107

00:11:49,840 --> 00:11:56,720

If there's anything that I dream about as being the happy ending, it would be finding my brother,

108

00:11:56,720 --> 00:12:02,640

finding out that he was raised in a loving environment, finding out that he would be

109

00:12:02,640 --> 00:12:08,160

willing to accept me and accept my family, and that we could spend our lives together as friends.

110

00:12:10,880 --> 00:12:15,520

Next, the story of how FBI surveillance in a quiet New Jersey suburb revealed a vast

111

00:12:15,520 --> 00:12:18,480

money laundering and cocaine distribution crime ring.

112

00:12:27,200 --> 00:12:32,720

In the summer of 1986, a cat and mouse game between the FBI and the notorious drug dealer

113

00:12:32,720 --> 00:12:37,600

played out in an unusual setting, an affluent suburb of Cliffside Park, New Jersey.

114

00:12:38,320 --> 00:12:41,680

The FBI had managed to trace a money laundering ring to its lair,

115

00:12:41,680 --> 00:12:45,680

and they wanted to track these illegal millions to their source, cocaine.

116

00:12:47,920 --> 00:12:52,800

This quiet, wealthy neighborhood would seem to be an unlikely place to find a criminal gang,

117

00:12:52,800 --> 00:12:57,600

but its isolation and security was exactly what the mastermind of this money laundering ring was

118

00:12:57,600 --> 00:13:07,680

looking for. Pedro Uribe was a 38-year-old Colombian, direct ties to the infamous Medellin

119

00:13:07,680 --> 00:13:11,280

cartel, and he ran his criminal organization with a ruthless hand.

120

00:13:19,360 --> 00:13:25,840

Pedro Uribe ran this organization by fear. Informant information tells us that one of

121

00:13:25,840 --> 00:13:34,800

his couriers lost 75 kilos of cocaine. Uribe, on hearing this, had this individual as well as

122

00:13:34,880 --> 00:13:40,080

his family members' murder. It later turned out that the man was innocent.

123

00:13:40,080 --> 00:13:43,520

This only added to Uribe's reputation for viciousness.

124

00:13:45,280 --> 00:13:52,800

Surveillance site four is ready. Roger, standing by. In May of 1986, the FBI decided to set up

125

00:13:52,800 --> 00:13:59,600

round-the-clock surveillance of several of Uribe's properties. They soon learned that in order to

126

00:13:59,600 --> 00:14:04,400

keep the outward appearance of normalcy, people posing as families were trucked in on weekends.

127

00:14:05,040 --> 00:14:09,680

Ironically, the surveillance showed that these mock families changed from week to week.

128

00:14:12,000 --> 00:14:16,560

In the evenings, in order to make these homes look less suspicious, each was occupied by a

129

00:14:16,560 --> 00:14:23,440

live-in babysitter. Uribe was also careful in selecting the style of how he occupied.

130

00:14:24,800 --> 00:14:29,520

One of the primary features that they looked for when renting these houses was an attached

131

00:14:29,600 --> 00:14:34,240

garage with an automatic garage door opener. And if it didn't have it, they'd install one.

132

00:14:35,040 --> 00:14:41,120

This was done so they could get in and out with different individuals and less chance of being

133

00:14:41,120 --> 00:14:47,280

seen by the neighbors. Using these houses as a base, Uribe had developed a simple and seemingly

134

00:14:47,280 --> 00:14:53,120

foolproof money laundering scheme. Low-level operatives nicknamed smirks by the FBI were

135

00:14:53,120 --> 00:14:57,680

dispatched from the houses to banks throughout the New York metropolitan area. Yes, could I

136

00:14:57,680 --> 00:15:04,480

please have a money order for \$1,980? These smirks would then use small amounts of the illicit

137

00:15:04,480 --> 00:15:10,480

cash to buy legitimate money orders from many different banks. At the height of the operation,

138

00:15:11,040 --> 00:15:19,040

there were seven smirks identified that were money laundering \$50,000 a day. And during five

139

00:15:19,040 --> 00:15:25,040

working days, they could money launder up to \$2 million a week. Though the FBI knew Uribe was a

140

00:15:25,120 --> 00:15:30,080

money launderer, they had yet to prove that he dealt cocaine. But one day, they got lucky.

141

00:15:31,360 --> 00:15:36,480

On September 3, 1986, outside of one of Uribe's safe houses, agents observed the

142

00:15:36,480 --> 00:15:41,920

surreptitious delivery of some mysterious boxes. Gambling that there was cocaine hidden inside

143

00:15:41,920 --> 00:15:50,400

those boxes, the FBI decided to try and catch Uribe red-handed. On the following night, they made

144

00:15:50,400 --> 00:16:13,760

their move. In the search of the house, the FBI found 307 kilos of 95% pure cocaine wrapped in

145

00:16:13,760 --> 00:16:22,960

plastic bags. The total amount of cocaine seized that night would have been worth \$7 million on the

146

00:16:22,960 --> 00:16:30,640

street. FBI agents searched Uribe's other safe houses, and in one home, a specially trained dog

147

00:16:30,640 --> 00:16:42,080

led the FBI directly to a large potted plant. When the plant was examined, the agents got a surprise.

148

00:16:42,080 --> 00:16:47,920

They found \$800,000 in cash, covered with enough traces of cocaine to have attracted the dog's

149

00:16:47,920 --> 00:16:55,040

attention. But unfortunately, Uribe and his henchmen had been tipped off and managed to escape,

150

00:16:55,040 --> 00:17:02,880

and today, he and his associates are wanted men. Pedro Uribe is believed to be regularly

151

00:17:02,880 --> 00:17:08,640

commuting between the United States and Colombia. He was last spotted in 1989 in New Jersey at a

152

00:17:08,640 --> 00:17:14,880

christening ceremony for a relative. Three of Uribe's partners in crime are also Colombian

153

00:17:14,880 --> 00:17:19,920

nationals. They have been identified as Hugo Balbín and two brothers Luis Nevano Arango.

154

00:17:20,480 --> 00:17:25,360

The three fled to Colombia, but the FBI have reason to believe that the Arango brothers are back in

155

00:17:25,360 --> 00:17:32,240

the New York area. Another Uribe henchman, Miguel Villegas, is believed to be in the Los Angeles area.

156

00:17:38,640 --> 00:17:46,160

Recently, law enforcement officials in Utah contacted us with an urgent request.

157

00:17:47,120 --> 00:17:51,520

Police believe they are very close to solving one of the most appalling crimes in the state's history.

158

00:17:52,240 --> 00:17:56,320

They hope that someone watching tonight may be able to supply the final piece of evidence.

159

00:17:57,120 --> 00:18:01,920

They are offering a \$20,000 reward for information leading to a conviction in this case.

160

00:18:02,800 --> 00:18:08,560

On August 26, 1982, three-year-old Rachel Running was abducted from a playground near her home in

161

00:18:08,560 --> 00:18:17,760

Sunset, Utah. 24 days later, Rachel's body was found, partially submerged in a small creek about 20

162

00:18:17,760 --> 00:18:25,840

miles from the playground. Eyewitnesses describe Rachel's abductor as a black male in his 20s

163

00:18:26,560 --> 00:18:35,120

or 30s, approximately six feet tall. Two and a half years later, police discovered a gruesome

164

00:18:35,120 --> 00:18:39,360

message scrawled across a bathroom wall of a local all-night laundry. It read,

165

00:18:40,000 --> 00:18:47,520

Beware, I'm still at large. I killed a little run. Remember, beware. The message was signed with

166

00:18:47,600 --> 00:18:55,760

an upside-down crucifix at the number 666. With the upside-down cross and the triple six,

167

00:18:56,480 --> 00:19:02,800

it indicates to us that there could very well be a satanic cult involved in the kidnapping of Rachel Running.

168

00:19:04,720 --> 00:19:09,600

In recent months, investigators have uncovered even more disturbing information in Rachel's case.

169

00:19:11,200 --> 00:19:16,560

The new information that we have received through an informant leads us to believe that the motive

170

00:19:16,560 --> 00:19:25,520

behind the kidnapping of Rachel Running was done for making a movie of her being tortured and her

171

00:19:25,520 --> 00:19:32,400

being sexually molested and exploited by these people that had kidnapped her and being murdered

172

00:19:32,400 --> 00:19:39,120

on what is commonly known as a snuff movie. In this photograph, Rachel is wearing the same dress

173

00:19:39,120 --> 00:19:44,000

that she had on the day she was abducted. Police speculate that she may also be wearing it in the

174

00:19:44,000 --> 00:19:54,800

film. Next, the story of a cunning Casanova who has used at least 15 different aliases to

175

00:19:54,800 --> 00:20:08,160

build lonely women of their savings. Our next story profiles a particularly devious con man.

176

00:20:08,880 --> 00:20:14,720

Police have nicknamed him the Sweetheart Swindler. He victimizes women, vulnerable divorcee and

177

00:20:14,720 --> 00:20:20,240

widows in their middle years. One of his victims, a woman from Missouri whom we will call Sarah,

178

00:20:20,240 --> 00:20:24,240

has agreed to describe a five-day ill-fated romance with the Sweetheart Swindler.

179

00:20:24,960 --> 00:20:28,320

It all began last August with a phone call.

180

00:20:29,120 --> 00:20:39,760

Hello? Oh, hi. This is Jerry Campbell calling. You remember me?

181

00:20:40,880 --> 00:20:44,640

No. We met last year in a restaurant. You were two friends.

182

00:20:44,640 --> 00:20:52,320

This gentleman called me and he said that he had met me and that he was calling to see if I

183

00:20:52,320 --> 00:20:58,480

would go out and have dinner with him. I was divorced at this time and I wasn't in the habit

184

00:20:58,480 --> 00:21:04,160

of dating. So it sounded kind of pleasant to be able to go out and have dinner at this particular time

185

00:21:04,960 --> 00:21:08,720

and this is one reason why I agreed to go have brunch the next morning.

186

00:21:14,880 --> 00:21:18,960

At brunch, Sarah quickly gave up her effort to remember where she had met Jerry before and

187

00:21:18,960 --> 00:21:24,240

simply enjoyed the conversation. Soon he had completely won her over. I didn't think you

188

00:21:24,240 --> 00:21:28,560

were interested at all. I'm glad we were finally able to get together. Well, I didn't know anything

189

00:21:28,560 --> 00:21:37,360

about you or who you were but I enjoyed the brunch. It was pleasant and we decided to kind of spend

190

00:21:37,360 --> 00:21:44,160

the day together. Jerry told Sarah he was in the jewelry business on the road constantly with a

191

00:21:44,160 --> 00:21:49,200

company car and driver. He said he had sent his driver to make a delivery in another town

192

00:21:49,200 --> 00:21:55,760

that was temporarily without a car. He told Sarah he was a widow and very lonely. He needed someone

193

00:21:55,760 --> 00:22:00,480

to share his life traveling from one luxury hotel to another dining at the best restaurants.

194

00:22:01,280 --> 00:22:04,880

He confessed to Sarah that she was just the type of woman he had been looking for.

195

00:22:07,520 --> 00:22:12,320

I wanted to believe him in all these bright beautiful pictures that he painted.

196

00:22:12,640 --> 00:22:19,120

Life really hasn't been easy for me. You know, it was really nice to think that I maybe would

197

00:22:19,120 --> 00:22:24,880

be able to relax, to travel, to have all these nice things and I wouldn't have to work. To me,

198

00:22:24,880 --> 00:22:32,960

this was appealing. Very appealing. One of the goals I made for myself before I died is to visit

199

00:22:32,960 --> 00:22:38,800

all 50 states. That same evening, Jerry took Sarah and her daughter, Ellen, out to dinner. Ellen was

200

00:22:38,880 --> 00:22:44,240

skeptical. Jerry soon ingratiated himself. He impressed both women when he brought out samples

201

00:22:44,240 --> 00:22:49,760

of the jewelry he said he sold city to city. Look at those rings. Those stones, aren't those gorgeous?

202

00:22:50,960 --> 00:22:53,280

Ellen, here, just try on that little cocktail ring.

203

00:22:55,840 --> 00:22:59,760

That's not so little, I'd say. Well, compared to some of the other stones I have it is.

204

00:23:00,560 --> 00:23:03,920

May I try one more? Sure. Go ahead. That's what Julie's for us to be warned.

205

00:23:04,560 --> 00:23:09,440

Look at that. That's a real diamond. You can't hurt it. It's indestructible. It's a diamond.

206

00:23:13,280 --> 00:23:17,440

Jerry did not make any sexual advances, but the day after he and Sarah met,

207

00:23:17,440 --> 00:23:22,720

he began to plan their wedding. He asked her to go with him on a road trip which would culminate

208

00:23:22,720 --> 00:23:29,120

in their marriage. He was the type of a man that took control. This was something that I liked.

209

00:23:29,120 --> 00:23:31,600

I liked someone to kind of take over, take charge.

210

00:23:36,160 --> 00:23:40,560

Jerry told Sarah that he would soon be receiving several checks and that one would be made out to

211

00:23:40,560 --> 00:23:45,680

her. He wanted her to deposit it in her account so that she could pay her bills before they left.

212

00:23:46,560 --> 00:23:51,520

What Sarah had no way of knowing was that Jerry had stolen the check from one of his former girlfriends

213

00:23:51,520 --> 00:23:53,200

and made it out to Sarah himself.

214

00:23:53,920 --> 00:24:02,160

Late the next afternoon, Jerry rushed Sarah to the bank telling her the check had just arrived.

215

00:24:02,880 --> 00:24:05,920

At the last moment, he asked her to take out cash for him.

216

00:24:07,920 --> 00:24:10,960

I'd like to deposit this and I'd like to withdraw \$3,000.

217

00:24:12,400 --> 00:24:17,840

Ma'am, this is an out-of-state check. Yes. I'm going to have to get my supervisor's approval.

218

00:24:17,840 --> 00:24:24,160

Coming in at that time, East Coast banks are closed. I looked at the check,

219

00:24:24,160 --> 00:24:29,680

saw that it was made to Sarah. She was a good customer and she was insistent the check was

220

00:24:29,680 --> 00:24:35,360

good so I went ahead and okayed the check for her. You have a good day. Thank you. Thanks, Mike.

221

00:24:35,360 --> 00:24:41,120

I appreciate it. Nice meeting you. Okay. Bye. We were immediately going to start traveling.

222

00:24:41,120 --> 00:24:46,160

We were going to Nashville and he was going to get my engagement ring there and then we were going

223

00:24:46,160 --> 00:24:54,160

to go on for the East and when we met up with his daughter and son, then we were going to get married.

224

00:24:55,680 --> 00:25:00,240

He told me he was going to buy me a five carat diamond engagement ring.

225

00:25:02,480 --> 00:25:04,560

That was quite a large engagement ring.

226

00:25:09,280 --> 00:25:12,960

The same afternoon, just four days after they had met, Jerry and Sarah

227

00:25:13,040 --> 00:25:19,200

ran the road to Tennessee in Sarah's car. Jerry had invited Sarah's daughter, Ellen, to go with them.

228

00:25:23,200 --> 00:25:26,800

Mama were five minutes early. Don't worry about it. Okay, now this is the picture.

229

00:25:26,800 --> 00:25:31,280

It's exactly where he said to be. In Memphis, Jerry said he had a business meeting and asked

230

00:25:31,280 --> 00:25:36,800

Sarah and Ellen to meet him in the hotel lobby afterwards. He never showed up. He would be

231

00:25:36,800 --> 00:25:42,240

wonderful. I guess he should be coming. Yeah, right over there by the desk. We waited around the hotel

232

00:25:43,120 --> 00:25:47,120

and after a couple hours, I knew that he wasn't coming.

233

00:25:49,200 --> 00:25:57,760

And as time went along, I realized that we had been taken. I realized we were being made fools right there.

234

00:25:58,320 --> 00:26:02,720

I was angry.

235

00:26:05,120 --> 00:26:09,840

Truly, I was angry. I really didn't know what to do.

236

00:26:12,880 --> 00:26:16,720

Back in Missouri, Sarah found out that the check Jerry had given her was no good.

237

00:26:17,280 --> 00:26:23,360

She had been count out of \$3,000. Sarah finally went to the local police to file a report.

238

00:26:24,320 --> 00:26:29,520

They discovered that Jerry had been practicing the same scam all over the country for at least two years.

239

00:26:31,360 --> 00:26:39,120

Since I started my case, I believe he's a suspect in at least 22 other cases in as many as 15 different states.

240

00:26:39,680 --> 00:26:45,840

Unfortunately, probably only a third of the cases get reported due to the victims being embarrassed.

241

00:26:46,960 --> 00:26:52,880

We think he locates victims primarily through newspaper, articles, or advertisements.

242

00:26:53,920 --> 00:26:58,960

We've known that on occasion he has accessed only Hearts Clubs or Mailers.

243

00:26:59,600 --> 00:27:05,760

You have to understand that that is all he does. He's very, very good at it. That's how he makes his living.

244

00:27:06,320 --> 00:27:11,280

And one shouldn't particularly be embarrassed by being pulled in by this type of scam.

245

00:27:11,280 --> 00:27:16,880

I mean a lot of women in my line of work, but I never know what they're interested in me or they're just after my jewelry.

246

00:27:17,280 --> 00:27:21,760

Well, I'm an attorney. I'd like to see him stopped. I'd like to see him pay for it.

247

00:27:23,360 --> 00:27:29,280

I mean, I know how I feel from all this. It's a very devastating feeling.

248

00:27:30,960 --> 00:27:35,040

Yeah, well, I can understand that. Well, maybe we can get together some other time then.

249

00:27:35,680 --> 00:27:41,440

The sweetheart swindler is still active. He has recently surfaced in Nevada, Colorado, California,

250

00:27:41,440 --> 00:27:47,440

and Washington state using the aliases Jerry Roberto Gamble, Robert J. Colpin, and 15 others.

251

00:27:47,680 --> 00:27:52,720

He left his latest victim in the lurch after she had invited 60 guests to their engagement party.

252

00:27:53,360 --> 00:27:58,160

Police believe he is almost certainly involved in another whirlwind romance at this very moment,

253

00:27:58,160 --> 00:28:02,560

and that the object of his affection should watch her checkbook very carefully.

254

00:28:06,000 --> 00:28:09,200

These are bank surveillance photos of the sweetheart swindler.

255

00:28:10,160 --> 00:28:16,560

He is between 5'5 and 5'8 in height, weighs 150 to 160 pounds, and is around 48 years old.

256

00:28:17,920 --> 00:28:20,960

He has a New York accent and is known to own a .22 revolver.

257

00:28:21,760 --> 00:28:27,440

Today he is made off with a total of \$125,000, all in relatively small amounts.

258

00:28:31,200 --> 00:28:33,920

Update. The sweetheart swindler has been captured.

259

00:28:34,240 --> 00:28:41,520

On March 28, 1991, police in Kenosha, Wisconsin arrested a man calling himself Robert Cook

260

00:28:42,080 --> 00:28:46,080

after he allegedly romanced a woman and then swindled her out of \$10,000.

261

00:28:48,880 --> 00:28:53,360

At the time of Cook's arrest, police recovered a dozen false identification cards,

262

00:28:53,360 --> 00:28:55,920

all issued in different aliases from various states.

263

00:28:56,480 --> 00:29:00,400

They also found black checks apparently stolen from previous victims.

264

00:29:04,720 --> 00:29:24,400

Next, the shocking story of a brutal crime scene that left four people dead in less than 24 hours.

265

00:29:24,400 --> 00:29:37,360

Last March, the FBI asked Unsolved Mist to help them unravel one of the bloodiest and

266

00:29:37,360 --> 00:29:42,000

cruellest crime sprees in the history of Texas and Arkansas. Perhaps the most frightening

267

00:29:42,000 --> 00:29:47,680

thing is that the FBI believes the killers are two teenage boys who on the surface appear innocent

268

00:29:47,680 --> 00:29:55,200

and harmless. Gainesville, Texas, a small bedroom community 30 miles north of Dallas,

269

00:29:55,200 --> 00:30:02,480

close to the Arkansas-Oklahoma border. 10 a.m. March 7, 1988.

270

00:30:03,760 --> 00:30:08,160

Just outside Gainesville, Tommy Matthews and Kenny Davis local electricians

271

00:30:08,160 --> 00:30:11,840

see two teenagers poking around their father-in-law's Lincoln Continental.

272

00:30:12,240 --> 00:30:21,520

When we first seen him, one, the blonde suspect was looking into the white Lincoln like he was

273

00:30:21,520 --> 00:30:28,080

looking for a set of keys or something. We made a U-turn and come back out the drive and we stopped

274

00:30:28,080 --> 00:30:34,880

him in the driveway in front of his house. Is there a problem? Yeah, there's a problem. I

275

00:30:34,880 --> 00:30:40,720

just want to know what you're doing here. Uh, well, we uh, we needed to use a phone and...

276

00:30:40,720 --> 00:30:45,360

Well, there's not a phone in that car. And there's not anyone home, so I think y'all need to get

277

00:30:45,360 --> 00:30:52,960

out of here. Um, okay, no problem. Uh, we'll just use the phone down by the store. Sorry.

278

00:30:56,000 --> 00:31:00,000

They didn't act violent or look violent, you know. They just look like two

279

00:31:01,360 --> 00:31:04,800

kids running around getting in to mischief, you know.

280

00:31:05,280 --> 00:31:13,360

1015. The two boys walked toward the intersection of County Road 131 and Route 6.

281

00:31:19,600 --> 00:31:22,720

Around 11 a.m., just 200 feet away from the intersection,

282

00:31:23,280 --> 00:31:27,520

23-year-old Dina Woodard and her one-year-old son, Cory, return home to their trailer.

283

00:31:34,800 --> 00:31:45,360

Hello? Is there somebody here?

284

00:31:54,240 --> 00:31:54,560

Hello?

285

00:31:54,560 --> 00:31:55,120

Hello?

286

00:32:00,720 --> 00:32:01,440

Is somebody here?

287

00:32:03,840 --> 00:32:05,680

Hello? Hello?

288

00:32:10,560 --> 00:32:17,120

1.10 p.m., Dina Woodard is found dead, brutally stabbed and nearly decapitated with an axe.

289

00:32:17,120 --> 00:32:19,440

Miraculously, her baby is unharmed.

290

00:32:20,400 --> 00:32:25,920

From the appearance of everything out there, there was a struggle inside the, uh, the residence,

291

00:32:25,920 --> 00:32:33,200

and, uh, they killed her. And then stole her two guns and left in her 1981 fever.

292

00:32:35,760 --> 00:32:38,720

Dina Woodard's killers head toward State Highway 82.

293

00:32:41,200 --> 00:32:46,160

They drive 60 miles southeast to the small rural community of Farmersville, Texas.

294

00:32:49,440 --> 00:32:53,840

When you have a situation start developing like this, where the first victim is killed,

295

00:32:53,840 --> 00:32:58,800

then it's panic time. They run to get away, and then it doesn't get any better.

296

00:33:00,640 --> 00:33:06,640

Further down the highway they go, the more involved they become and the more killings that take place.

297

00:33:10,400 --> 00:33:16,560

Mid-afternoon. The killers approach the farmhouse of 85-year-old Cecil Morrison and his 62-year-old

298

00:33:16,640 --> 00:33:18,560

son Cecil Leonard Morrison.

299

00:33:35,840 --> 00:33:40,720

The killers stay in the house for between one and three hours, savagely torturing and beating

300

00:33:40,800 --> 00:33:44,160

the two old men with a weapon stolen from Dina Woodard's car.

301

00:33:45,680 --> 00:33:48,960

They kill both men with a .22 rifle, then leave.

302

00:33:52,960 --> 00:33:59,280

5 p.m. A neighbor sees two teenagers getting into the Morrison's beige 1984 Chevrolet pickup truck.

303

00:34:03,440 --> 00:34:08,960

Shortly after, the boys drive off. Mysteriously, Dina Woodard's blue thunderbird seems to have

304

00:34:08,960 --> 00:34:09,600

disappeared.

305

00:34:15,280 --> 00:34:20,320

It was not just a quick murder. It was over some period of time.

306

00:34:20,320 --> 00:34:27,040

Quite a battle going on in that house. Now why they felt necessary to beat the old men and

307

00:34:27,040 --> 00:34:35,600

torture them like they did? We do not know. 9 p.m. Saratoga, Arkansas. 200 miles away from the

308

00:34:35,680 --> 00:34:40,240

Morrison's farm, the boys drive the stolen pickup truck into the shallow water of a lake,

309

00:34:40,240 --> 00:34:42,240

then throw in Dina Woodard's guns.

310

00:34:47,200 --> 00:34:53,520

9 45 p.m. An eyewitness clearly sees the teenagers three different times as he drives his own

311

00:34:53,520 --> 00:35:05,120

truck back and forth through Saratoga. 10 p.m. The boys walk to the trailer of their fourth victim,

312

00:35:05,120 --> 00:35:10,080

29-year-old Kenneth Older. He is inside with his girlfriend, Brenda Gibson.

313

00:35:12,560 --> 00:35:14,240

Oh, I'll go check that right quick.

314

00:35:19,360 --> 00:35:24,080

May I help you? Uh, yeah. My truck broke down. Do you think you could give us a hand?

315

00:35:27,520 --> 00:35:32,720

Yeah, come on in. Okay, thanks. Kennedy didn't think they was dangerous. He thought they was

316

00:35:32,720 --> 00:35:39,840

really sincere, else he would have never attempted to help them. And when they went out through the

317

00:35:40,400 --> 00:35:42,720

kitchen door, I looked out the window.

318

00:35:49,680 --> 00:35:59,760

And that was the last I saw in a life. 10 15 p.m. The two teenagers drive away with Kenneth Older

319

00:35:59,840 --> 00:36:06,080

in his 1983 Mustang. Unfortunately, Brenda Gibson does not get a look at the boys' faces.

320

00:36:09,680 --> 00:36:13,920

Some time later, they arrive at Millwood Dam, five miles from Olden's trailer.

321

00:36:16,720 --> 00:36:22,640

The truck should be right over there. I think the cables are in the back. Okay, I'll go ahead and give them.

322

00:36:23,440 --> 00:36:34,400

Hey, man. There ain't no truck around here. What's going on?

323

00:36:41,520 --> 00:36:46,400

The two teenagers make their getaway in Kenneth Olden's Mustang, leaving him dead.

324

00:36:47,120 --> 00:36:55,920

9 a.m. The next day, 200 miles west of the spot where Kenneth Olden lies dead,

325

00:36:56,560 --> 00:37:03,040

Oklahoma farmer Bud Sprouse finds Olden's Mustang. He also notices two sets of footprints.

326

00:37:04,080 --> 00:37:10,400

They've done a lot of walking, but the side of the road there, one of them had 11 or 12

327

00:37:11,120 --> 00:37:17,200

tennis shoes. The other one would be about a eight, eight and a half tennis shoe.

328

00:37:18,800 --> 00:37:21,680

In less than 24 hours, the killers have come full circle,

329

00:37:22,640 --> 00:37:28,000

starting in Gainesville, Texas, going southeast to Farmersville, then northeast to Saratoga,

330

00:37:28,000 --> 00:37:34,480

Arkansas. Finally, they return west to Brown Springs, Oklahoma, less than five miles from

331

00:37:34,480 --> 00:37:39,440

where their bloody path started. The big question is, why would they have returned to within five

332

00:37:39,440 --> 00:37:44,640

miles of where they committed the first murder? We felt like we were dealing with something

333

00:37:45,440 --> 00:37:52,000

here in our own neighborhood. After the two killers completed their deadly circle by dumping

334

00:37:52,000 --> 00:37:56,080

Olden's Mustang in the lake, they seem to disappear without a trace.

335

00:37:59,200 --> 00:38:03,920

Four months into the investigation, another important clue turned up. Cecil Morrison's

336

00:38:03,920 --> 00:38:08,640

grandson found an earring that the FBI believes the killers left behind in his grandfather's

337

00:38:08,640 --> 00:38:15,840

pickup truck. This earring picked a skull being carried by a bat, and that was another

338

00:38:15,840 --> 00:38:23,280

key break in this case, the finding of that earring in that truck. We later ran a photograph of that

339

00:38:23,280 --> 00:38:31,360

earring in the Gainesville local paper, and a young man came forward and identified that earring as

340

00:38:31,360 --> 00:38:38,000

belonging to him. Where did you get the earring? I was located a couple of years ago. Okay,

341

00:38:38,000 --> 00:38:44,480

do you still have the earring? No, sir, I don't. What happened to it? I laid it to a friend of mine

342

00:38:44,480 --> 00:38:50,800

a couple of months ago. The boy, Lee Renfrow, was a 16-year-old from Gainesville. He later told

343

00:38:50,800 --> 00:38:55,520

police he had given the earring to another boy named Calwell, who at the time lived in a house

344

00:38:55,520 --> 00:39:02,080

less than 200 yards from Dina Woodard's trailer. A Calwell family had moved out of state one month

345

00:39:02,160 --> 00:39:10,240

before Dina Woodard was murdered. Lee had given me a lot of earrings, and I would borrow or take

346

00:39:10,240 --> 00:39:14,960

some from him every once in a while, like whenever I didn't have one. But as far as that

347

00:39:14,960 --> 00:39:21,120

earring in particular, I have no idea. Just can't remember. On the morning of the murder spree,

348

00:39:21,120 --> 00:39:26,000

witnesses had seen two teenage boys who matched the description of the killers walking away from

349

00:39:26,000 --> 00:39:35,600

the Calwell house. This case has got to be solved. As long as it goes unsolved, there's still that

350

00:39:35,600 --> 00:39:43,280

concern that we in the citizeness community have that there's still some killers out there

351

00:39:44,000 --> 00:39:51,040

walking the streets, and who's to say when they might decide to strike again and go on another crime spree.

352

00:39:56,000 --> 00:40:20,000

Music

353

00:40:20,640 --> 00:40:24,480

Last season, we profiled a bank robber whose clumsy behavior during hold ups her name

354

00:40:24,480 --> 00:40:31,360

an unusual nickname. Authorities call the robber fumbles and believe that he may be

355

00:40:31,360 --> 00:40:37,600

responsible for as many as 33 bank robberies throughout Florida since 1984. They estimate

356

00:40:37,600 --> 00:40:42,480

that fumbles is stolen in excess of \$100,000 in the past five years alone.

357

00:40:45,280 --> 00:40:50,560

Update. The fumbles robber has been captured. Within minutes of our broadcast, the Clearwater

358

00:40:50,800 --> 00:40:55,120

Florida Police Department received a call from one of our viewers who recognized fumbles as

359

00:40:55,120 --> 00:41:03,840

Ross James Preston, a 23 year old student living in Clearwater. On May 24th, 1989, FBI agents,

360

00:41:03,840 --> 00:41:08,320

Clearwater police officers and Pinellas County Sheriff's deputies arrested Preston while he

361

00:41:08,320 --> 00:41:15,440

was test driving a pickup truck. His search by warrant was made of the vehicle Mr. Preston was

362

00:41:15,440 --> 00:41:24,160

driving when he was arrested. Inside the vehicle were found a ball cap with the letters cat on the

363

00:41:24,160 --> 00:41:34,320

cap. Also found were a pair of gardening gloves and a pair of sunglasses and a jacket. These were

364

00:41:34,320 --> 00:41:40,880

very similar to items which were observed being worn by the bank robber we called fumbles.

365

00:41:41,840 --> 00:41:47,760

On August 2nd, Ross James Preston admitted to committing 33 armed bank robberies,

366

00:41:47,760 --> 00:41:52,480

but as part of a plea bargain was charged with only seven of the holdups. He has since been sentenced

367

00:41:52,480 --> 00:41:56,800

to 25 years in prison.

368

00:41:56,800 --> 00:42:12,720

Join me next week for another edition of Unsolved Mysteries.

369

00:42:56,800 --> 00:42:58,080

you