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

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

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

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

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00:00:13,680 --> 00:00:15,920

to see is not a news broadcast.

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00:00:15,920 --> 00:00:26,400

April 1986. A raging house fire set by an arsonist takes the life of a wealthy widow

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00:00:26,400 --> 00:00:31,800

in Aurora, Missouri. Five days later, Johnny Lee Wilson, a young retarded man, confesses

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

to the crime and is sent to prison. Two years later, another man claims to have been present

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00:00:36,800 --> 00:00:42,640

at the murder and insists that Wilson is innocent. Today, the controversy has divided the town.

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00:00:42,640 --> 00:00:46,560

Is Johnny Lee Wilson a killer or a victim?

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00:00:46,560 --> 00:00:50,680

In Edmore, North Dakota, Kenneth Engie and Curtis Hack came to blows over a woman in

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00:00:50,680 --> 00:00:56,320

the bar fight. The next day, Engie is found dead. The police call it an accident. Kenneth

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00:00:56,320 --> 00:00:58,760

Engie's family thinks otherwise.

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00:00:58,760 --> 00:01:04,800

We will also introduce you to a most unusual artist, an Englishwoman who seems to have

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00:01:04,800 --> 00:01:10,440

the ability to create life-like portraits of people she has never seen. In fact, people

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00:01:10,440 --> 00:01:16,080

who have been dead for years. Incredibly, many witnesses swear to the uncanny accuracy

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00:01:16,080 --> 00:01:21,080

of her drawings. Join me for another edition of Unsolved Mysteries.

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00:01:46,080 --> 00:01:53,080

I've got a young lad here who went to spirit very suddenly. I don't know quite how many

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00:02:16,520 --> 00:02:23,080

people in Clarksville, Indiana paid \$15 a piece for a demonstration by Coral Poles,

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00:02:23,080 --> 00:02:30,080

a British artist with an unusual vision. He doesn't actually tell me how he was killed.

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00:02:31,800 --> 00:02:36,520

For years, audiences from around the world have been mystified by Coral's work and often

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00:02:36,520 --> 00:02:43,520

touched by the results. Her drawings are simple portraits, nothing fancy, but he's

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00:02:46,160 --> 00:02:47,080

got a lot of work to do.

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00:02:47,080 --> 00:02:53,080

Coral's subjects are otherworldly, people who have been dead for years.

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00:02:53,080 --> 00:02:54,080

He had no real sense of responsibility. That's the big problem.

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00:02:54,080 --> 00:03:01,080

I don't actually see these people. I don't hear them. And I honestly don't quite know

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00:03:01,080 --> 00:03:08,080

how I do it. I just sense them. Also, there is an element of what we call automatic control,

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00:03:09,080 --> 00:03:16,080

as if somebody takes over my hand and gives me a certain amount of help in getting the

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00:03:18,960 --> 00:03:25,960

drawings accurate. With good results, obviously it's not always good, but when we do get

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00:03:28,360 --> 00:03:35,360

good results, we get quite nice likenesses of people's relatives who have passed into

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00:03:35,760 --> 00:03:41,640

the world of spirit.

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00:03:41,640 --> 00:03:46,920

Today Coral Poles lives in a small town in England. For the last 40 years, she has possessed

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00:03:46,920 --> 00:03:52,280

and been possessed by her unusual ability.

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00:03:52,280 --> 00:03:58,160

The concept of life after death has fascinated mankind for centuries. It is a fascination

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00:03:58,160 --> 00:04:02,800

ripe for exploitation by mediums and clairvoyants who claim the power to communicate with the

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00:04:02,800 --> 00:04:08,800

spirit world. Some are obvious shoddings, but others display gifts which seem to defy

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00:04:08,800 --> 00:04:14,800

explanation. During the past four decades, Coral Poles has drawn more than 100,000 eerie

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00:04:14,800 --> 00:04:19,800

portraits. It could be argued that she is nothing more than a keen observer of faces,

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00:04:19,800 --> 00:04:24,800

but her drawings of people she could never have known or seen are uncannily accurate

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00:04:24,800 --> 00:04:31,800

and have convinced some skeptics that her powers could be real.

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00:04:32,800 --> 00:04:38,800

In 1984, photographer Peter Cook went to Coral Poles' home in Surrey, England. Peter was on

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00:04:38,800 --> 00:04:41,800

assignment for a national newspaper.

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00:04:41,800 --> 00:04:48,800

I've always been a pretty open minded kind of person and I was a bit skeptical. I had

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00:04:50,200 --> 00:04:56,200

heard about people speaking with the dead and through the dead, but when it came to

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00:04:56,200 --> 00:04:59,200

the truth, it was a different matter.

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00:04:59,200 --> 00:05:03,200

Do you have any drawings that you've done that I can talk with you about?

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00:05:03,200 --> 00:05:05,200

Yes, but I think it might be better if I...

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00:05:05,200 --> 00:05:11,200

Peter and Coral had never met before. He had no idea he was about to become Coral's subject.

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00:05:11,200 --> 00:05:15,200

We'll sit down and we'll see what we can get for you.

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00:05:15,200 --> 00:05:22,200

And Coral just simply asked me to sit down next to her and I did. And she came up with

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00:05:22,200 --> 00:05:25,200

really astounding pictures.

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00:05:25,200 --> 00:05:32,200

Now I've got a little elderly lady here coming through. She brings me a...

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00:05:32,200 --> 00:05:37,200

The first of the pictures that she started drawing was my grandmother.

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00:05:37,200 --> 00:05:40,200

Rounded cheeks and a sort of...

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00:05:40,200 --> 00:05:45,200

As it took shape, I could see that it was going to be somebody that I recognised.

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00:05:45,200 --> 00:05:51,200

And my stomach was beginning to churn just a little because it was my first experience

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00:05:51,200 --> 00:05:56,200

with anybody talking about my grandmother or any other relationship in that kind of manner.

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00:05:56,200 --> 00:06:02,200

A beautiful rosy complexion. In fact, she might even be called rosy.

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00:06:02,200 --> 00:06:11,200

I keep getting the word rosy, but she's smiling very much what I'd call a country complexion.

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00:06:11,200 --> 00:06:19,200

And what she's showing me now definitely confirms that it's a little waterbuck where she probably

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

gets her drinking water from.

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00:06:24,200 --> 00:06:35,200

According to Peter, his grandmother's name was Minnie Rose. She did have rosy cheeks and her drinking water came from a rain barrel.

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00:06:35,200 --> 00:06:42,200

It wasn't so much the picture that she drew that I recognised so much as the description she was giving.

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00:06:42,200 --> 00:06:50,200

And the names and the people that were near her. And they were pretty astonishing.

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00:06:50,200 --> 00:06:53,200

Are we making any sense to your people?

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00:06:53,200 --> 00:07:00,200

Anybody who's a skeptic, really, I mean, they better open their eyes because I believe it.

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00:07:00,200 --> 00:07:10,200

Minnie Rose died in 1962. Peter Cook is positive that Coral had no way of knowing what she looked

like.

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00:07:10,200 --> 00:07:17,200

In the same sitting, Coral also drew Peter Cook's mother Emily, who died in 1978.

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00:07:17,200 --> 00:07:32,200

Coral certainly has a special gift. I don't understand why. And I have to say that Coral really has sparked me off to investigating in some depth as to the possibility of life after death.

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00:07:40,200 --> 00:07:47,200

Coral became aware of her gift just after World War II. Her mother suffered from severe arthritis.

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00:07:47,200 --> 00:07:52,200

When nothing else could ease her mother's pain, Coral took her to a spiritualist.

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00:07:52,200 --> 00:07:59,200

I must admit I nearly died of fright on the spot because the medium came to me and said, do you know you're a psychic artist?

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00:07:59,200 --> 00:08:05,200

Which I didn't. I didn't even know what she meant. And she said, well, you are an artist, which was

true.

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00:08:05,200 --> 00:08:11,200

And she told me one day I'd be a very famous medium. And I must admit I thought she was completely barmy.

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00:08:13,200 --> 00:08:23,200

And so I began to sit to try and develop the gift and eventually within two or three years was getting psychic drawings.

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00:08:23,200 --> 00:08:33,200

I gave up counting how many we'd ever done. When I got to 100,000, it just goes on. And I don't have time to keep records.

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00:08:36,200 --> 00:08:44,200

A lady almost held her head up so straight. You're drawing my aunt. Not Aunt Hesse, we would just...

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00:08:44,200 --> 00:08:52,200

Lorraine Piranha was another witness to Coral's powers. Coral drew this portrait of Lorraine's aunt who died when Lorraine was six.

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00:08:53,200 --> 00:09:06,200

I have photos that they're exactly the same. It's quite remarkable. I have never met Coral in my life.

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00:09:06,200 --> 00:09:17,200

It's the first time I've heard of her, never mind me. And I'm devastated, shattered. I just couldn't believe what I saw.

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00:09:18,200 --> 00:09:26,200

When people come to me for sittings, some come out of curiosity, some come because they're desperate for evidence.

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00:09:26,200 --> 00:09:35,200

And I hope that I can prove to them that there is a life after death. It doesn't always work, but we try.

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00:09:36,200 --> 00:09:48,200

Is Coral Poge truly gifted? Or is she merely a talented artist with extraordinary powers of perception?

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00:09:51,200 --> 00:09:58,200

For those who believe, Coral Poge's drawings provide comfort and reassurance that there may be life after death.

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00:09:59,200 --> 00:10:10,200

Well, I don't find it mysterious at all. I've come to a stage where, to me, it's so normal, so ordinary.

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00:10:10,200 --> 00:10:20,200

And I find that life becomes more beautiful. One would not hasten going into the world of spirit,

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00:10:20,200 --> 00:10:30,200

but it's a beautiful thought that one day we're all going to be reunited with those people we've loved and temporarily been parted from.

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00:10:33,200 --> 00:10:42,200

In a moment, an investigation of a fiery murder of a wealthy 79-year-old widow, two different men have confessed to the same crime.

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00:10:50,200 --> 00:10:56,200

Every week, hundreds of calls are received here in our telecenter, but he was suggestions for stories.

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00:10:56,200 --> 00:11:02,200

Several months ago, one of our producers received a startling telephone call from a man in prison.

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00:11:02,200 --> 00:11:09,200

From his cell, he told us that before his imprisonment, he'd been involved in a murder for which another man had been convicted.

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00:11:09,200 --> 00:11:18,200

His call led us into the disquieting case of Johnny Lee Wilson, a mildly retarded young man serving a life sentence for the murder of an elderly woman.

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00:11:18,200 --> 00:11:26,200

What makes this case so intriguing is that Wilson had confessed to the crime, a confession, as proponents say, was coerced.

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00:11:26,200 --> 00:11:30,200

And now, the final appeal of Johnny Lee Wilson.

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00:11:33,200 --> 00:11:37,200

Aurora, Missouri, population 7,000.

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00:11:39,200 --> 00:11:44,200

A typical middle American small town where everyone knows everyone else.

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00:11:45,200 --> 00:11:57,200

And everyone in Aurora knew Johnny Wilson, a mildly retarded 20-year-old with an IQ of 71, who according to psychologists had the emotional development of a fourth grader.

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00:11:59,200 --> 00:12:03,200

Johnny was raised in Aurora by his mother and grandmother.

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00:12:03,200 --> 00:12:05,200

I'm going down to Ramey's for some pop.

98

00:12:05,200 --> 00:12:07,200

OK. Take care of her, honey.

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00:12:08,200 --> 00:12:16,200

Johnny was a quiet boy. He was a homeboy. He never did cause us any trouble.

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00:12:16,200 --> 00:12:19,200

But he had problems learning disability.

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00:12:19,200 --> 00:12:23,200

And we had to have special education for him.

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00:12:23,200 --> 00:12:30,200

And a lot of the kids we thought in school didn't treat him, you know, so good.

103

00:12:30,200 --> 00:12:35,200

But really, Johnny has always been a happy boy.

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00:12:35,200 --> 00:12:39,200

Even when we knew things maybe were kind of bad sometime, he was happy.

105

00:12:44,200 --> 00:12:50,200

On school days, Johnny left his bicycle with Mrs. Pauline Marks because his classmates were often vandalized.

106

00:12:50,200 --> 00:12:51,200

All right, if I leave my bike here.

107

00:12:51,200 --> 00:12:53,200

My, you know it is.

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00:12:53,200 --> 00:12:56,200

Mrs. Marks was a close friend of Johnny's grandmother.

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00:12:56,200 --> 00:12:57,200

See you then.

110

00:12:57,200 --> 00:13:04,200

At 79, she was the last surviving member of the wealthiest family in Aurora and owned the town's largest business.

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00:13:10,200 --> 00:13:18,200

April 13, 1986, at 8 p.m. in the evening, the fire and rescue squads rushed to the home of Pauline Marks.

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00:13:19,200 --> 00:13:23,200

By the time they arrived, the house was in Gulf-ton Flames.

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00:13:27,200 --> 00:13:32,200

When firemen were finally able to search the wreckage, they found the charred body of Pauline

Marks.

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00:13:34,200 --> 00:13:39,200

The official cause of death was smoke inhalation, but the fire was not an accident.

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00:13:39,200 --> 00:13:43,200

Mrs. Marks had been bound in gag with rope and duct tape.

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00:13:43,200 --> 00:13:47,200

Investigators concluded the fire was deliberately set.

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00:13:47,200 --> 00:13:49,200

It started with gasoline.

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00:13:51,200 --> 00:13:53,200

There was an immediate public outcry.

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00:13:53,200 --> 00:13:57,200

Pauline Marks had been one of Aurora's most beloved citizens.

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00:13:58,200 --> 00:14:01,200

Five days later, anger turned to shock.

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00:14:01,200 --> 00:14:04,200

The police picked up Johnny Wilson for questioning.

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00:14:04,200 --> 00:14:10,200

Interrogated him for nearly four hours and finally arrested him after he had confessed to the crime.

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00:14:10,200 --> 00:14:13,200

A confession he would later recant.

124

00:14:15,200 --> 00:14:21,200

I just, I just made the mistake of confessing to it when I didn't do it.

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00:14:22,200 --> 00:14:26,200

To this day, I don't know why that I said I did it, you know.

126

00:14:26,200 --> 00:14:29,200

It just, it just happened.

127

00:14:29,200 --> 00:14:32,200

I didn't want it to happen, but it did.

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00:14:32,200 --> 00:14:38,200

It was just a mistake on my part, you know, saying that I did it when I really didn't.

129

00:14:38,200 --> 00:14:40,200

It was a mistake on my part.

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00:14:43,200 --> 00:14:47,200

For the past four years, the Johnny Wilson case has divided the small town of Aurora.

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00:14:47,200 --> 00:14:50,200

Many believe Johnny is innocent.

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00:14:50,200 --> 00:14:53,200

Law enforcement officials disagree.

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00:14:53,200 --> 00:14:58,200

When we requested interviews with Lawrence County Sheriff's Department and the District Attorney's Office,

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00:14:58,200 --> 00:15:03,200

they insisted they had put the right man behind bars and declined to participate in the broadcast.

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00:15:03,200 --> 00:15:08,200

The recreations of court proceedings and Johnny Wilson's interrogation and confession

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00:15:08,200 --> 00:15:12,200

have been filmed word for word from official transcripts.

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00:15:15,200 --> 00:15:18,200

Sunday, April 13th, 1986.

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00:15:19,200 --> 00:15:24,200

On the day of the fire, Johnny spent the early afternoon at home taping records with a friend.

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00:15:24,200 --> 00:15:27,200

Later, he mowed a neighbor's lawn.

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00:15:27,200 --> 00:15:30,200

When Johnny was finished, his mother drove him home.

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00:15:31,200 --> 00:15:37,200

She and his grandmother claim he could not possibly have been at Pauline Martz's house when the fire was set.

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00:15:38,200 --> 00:15:43,200

They didn't get home until about five o'clock, and as soon as they got home,

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00:15:43,200 --> 00:15:49,200

the neighbor boy came back over again to tape, and he stayed until nearly seven.

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00:15:49,200 --> 00:15:53,200

And then when they left at seven, Johnny and I put up nine posters in his bedroom.

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00:15:53,200 --> 00:16:00,200

And then when that was done, then we, about 25 to eight, we left and went and mowed two letters.

146

00:16:00,200 --> 00:16:05,200

Went up to Rameys, got some things, and then when we came out, that's when we heard the sirens.

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00:16:06,200 --> 00:16:13,200

We heard the sirens, so we went over by and saw that this Pauline's house, the back of the house,

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00:16:13,200 --> 00:16:15,200

was in the Dofton Flames.

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00:16:21,200 --> 00:16:24,200

Hey Johnny, how's it going? Not bad, how about you?

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00:16:24,200 --> 00:16:27,200

18-year-old Gary Wall was also mildly retarded.

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00:16:27,200 --> 00:16:29,200

I'm running my grandma.

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00:16:29,200 --> 00:16:33,200

He and Johnny were both enrolled in a special education program at the local high school.

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00:16:33,200 --> 00:16:35,200

See you later. Bye.

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00:16:36,200 --> 00:16:42,200

Basically I just said hi, Howard, and you know, bye, you know, and then I went back to the car and,

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00:16:42,200 --> 00:16:46,200

and I'm setting the back seat, and that was it.

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00:16:48,200 --> 00:16:50,200

Hey Johnny. Hey.

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00:16:50,200 --> 00:16:53,200

The next morning, Gary Wall was questioned by police.

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00:16:53,200 --> 00:16:55,200

No.

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00:16:55,200 --> 00:16:59,200

He gave them a completely different version of his conversation with Johnny.

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00:17:00,200 --> 00:17:02,200

Mrs. Marks is in there.

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00:17:03,200 --> 00:17:05,200

Well, how do you know?

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00:17:05,200 --> 00:17:07,200

She tied up.

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00:17:08,200 --> 00:17:10,200

Well, you sound like you know something about this.

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00:17:10,200 --> 00:17:13,200

You tell anybody and I'm gonna beat you up.

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00:17:13,200 --> 00:17:15,200

Okay, Charlie.

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00:17:15,200 --> 00:17:18,200

Gary Wall later took a total of six lie detector tests.

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00:17:18,200 --> 00:17:21,200

He failed all but one.

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00:17:22,200 --> 00:17:24,200

The morning after Johnny's arrest,

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00:17:24,200 --> 00:17:28,200

Sheriff's deputies went to the Wilson home to search for evidence.

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00:17:29,200 --> 00:17:34,200

They came to search the house and said they had a warrant.

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00:17:34,200 --> 00:17:41,200

I gave them permission to search because I didn't think they'd find anything to see.

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00:17:41,200 --> 00:17:43,200

But they did.

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00:17:43,200 --> 00:17:45,200

I mean, they thought they did.

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00:17:45,200 --> 00:17:48,200

They went to his room and just started searching.

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00:17:48,200 --> 00:17:53,200

They did. They went to his room and just started taking things out of drawers

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00:17:53,200 --> 00:17:56,200

and cabinets and things that was in there.

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00:17:57,200 --> 00:18:01,200

The authorities believed that Johnny had sexually assaulted Mrs. Marks.

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00:18:02,200 --> 00:18:06,200

Deputies found women's underwear in a bureau in Johnny's room.

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00:18:06,200 --> 00:18:10,200

However, the family said the bureau and clothing belonged to Johnny's mother.

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00:18:12,200 --> 00:18:16,200

In Johnny's confession, he admitted to stealing jewelry.

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00:18:16,200 --> 00:18:21,200

The deputies also took costume jewelry which Johnny's grandmother said she used for sewing.

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00:18:23,200 --> 00:18:28,200

Finally, they found a nearly empty gas can which investigators would later say

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00:18:28,200 --> 00:18:30,200

was used to start the fire.

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00:18:34,200 --> 00:18:37,200

Johnny Wilson was charged with first-degree murder.

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00:18:37,200 --> 00:18:40,200

Because of his diminished mental faculties,

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00:18:40,200 --> 00:18:44,200

Johnny was examined to determine if he was fit to stand trial.

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00:18:45,200 --> 00:18:47,200

What did you like about high school?

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00:18:48,200 --> 00:18:51,200

I was a manager for the football team.

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00:18:51,200 --> 00:18:53,200

They gave me a jacket and everything.

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00:18:53,200 --> 00:18:56,200

Alright. Do you have any friends in school?

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00:18:56,200 --> 00:19:00,200

When you're asked to evaluate someone's fitness to stand trial,

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00:19:00,200 --> 00:19:05,200

you look at first whether they understand what the charges are against them.

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00:19:05,200 --> 00:19:12,200

And then second, are they able to reason and make their own decisions about whether to enter a plea?

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00:19:13,200 --> 00:19:18,200

Are they able to decide whether they want to testify on their own behalf at a trial?

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00:19:18,200 --> 00:19:24,200

Are they able to help their attorney by giving him a consistent account of what happened?

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00:19:24,200 --> 00:19:27,200

How about a job? Do you ever have a job?

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00:19:27,200 --> 00:19:31,200

And in those particular range of skills, I did not think Johnny was constant to stand trial.

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00:19:31,200 --> 00:19:33,200

I used to work at the hardware store.

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00:19:33,200 --> 00:19:39,200

Johnny, when the police arrested you, did they ask you anything about Miranda rights?

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00:19:40,200 --> 00:19:42,200

Yeah, I think so.

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00:19:42,200 --> 00:19:44,200

Do you know what Miranda rights are?

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00:19:44,200 --> 00:19:46,200

Yeah.

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00:19:46,200 --> 00:19:48,200

What are they?

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00:19:48,200 --> 00:19:51,200

Well, that's the difference between right and wrong.

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00:19:55,200 --> 00:19:59,200

Johnny was ultimately examined by two psychiatrists and a psychologist.

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00:19:59,200 --> 00:20:04,200

Two of the three judged that he was incapable of understanding the court proceedings.

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00:20:05,200 --> 00:20:10,200

However, the third, the court appointed psychiatrist determined that he was fit to stand trial.

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00:20:14,200 --> 00:20:17,200

Johnny told his court appointed attorneys he was innocent.

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00:20:17,200 --> 00:20:23,200

However, based upon his confession, a testimony of Gary Wall and other evidence,

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00:20:23,200 --> 00:20:27,200

his attorneys advised him to plead guilty to avoid the death penalty.

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00:20:28,200 --> 00:20:32,200

By pleading guilty, Johnny lost his right to a trial by jury.

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00:20:34,200 --> 00:20:42,200

Because he had given a confession, his attorneys told him that it would be very likely that he would get convicted if this went to trial.

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00:20:42,200 --> 00:20:50,200

And they also told him that this judge was very likely to give him the death penalty based on prior cases that had gone before this judge.

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00:20:50,200 --> 00:20:55,200

And so what he understood was if he went to trial and he was found guilty that he would die.

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00:20:56,200 --> 00:21:00,200

What is your understanding of why you're here this afternoon?

216

00:21:00,200 --> 00:21:02,200

Plead guilty.

217

00:21:02,200 --> 00:21:05,200

Why are you pleading guilty, Johnny?

218

00:21:05,200 --> 00:21:07,200

I don't know.

219

00:21:07,200 --> 00:21:08,200

Pardon?

220

00:21:08,200 --> 00:21:13,200

This recreation of Johnny's hearing has taken verbatim from court transcripts.

221

00:21:13,200 --> 00:21:16,200

Just a first degree murder.

222

00:21:16,200 --> 00:21:18,200

But that's what you're pleading guilty to.

223

00:21:18,200 --> 00:21:21,200

Why are you wanting to enter such a plea?

224

00:21:22,200 --> 00:21:24,200

I don't know.

225

00:21:24,200 --> 00:21:30,200

The so-called plea of guilty should have been stopped about 60 seconds after it started.

226

00:21:30,200 --> 00:21:34,200

The judge asked Johnny if he knew what he was doing.

227

00:21:34,200 --> 00:21:36,200

And Johnny Wilson said no.

228

00:21:36,200 --> 00:21:38,200

I don't understand why I'm here.

229

00:21:38,200 --> 00:21:40,200

I don't understand what's going on.

230

00:21:40,200 --> 00:21:42,200

And the judge said, do you want to plead guilty to this charge?

231

00:21:42,200 --> 00:21:44,200

And Johnny said no.

232

00:21:44,200 --> 00:21:46,200

I don't want to plead guilty to it.

233

00:21:46,200 --> 00:21:50,200

At that point, the circuit judge should have said gentlemen, courts adjourned.

234

00:21:50,200 --> 00:21:52,200

This case will be set for trial in two weeks.

235

00:21:52,200 --> 00:21:54,200

I expect everyone to be here and be ready for trial.

236

00:21:54,200 --> 00:21:57,200

I'm not going to take this plea of guilty.

237

00:21:57,200 --> 00:21:58,200

But he didn't.

238

00:21:58,200 --> 00:22:01,200

The judge went further, continued to cross-examine Johnny,

239

00:22:01,200 --> 00:22:04,200

and finally accepted the plea of guilty.

240

00:22:04,200 --> 00:22:08,200

It was voluntarily entered and will accept your plea and pronounce sentence.

241

00:22:08,200 --> 00:22:14,200

Upon your plea of guilty in this cause, the court sentences you to life imprisonment

242

00:22:14,200 --> 00:22:17,200

in the custody of the Missouri Department of Corrections.

243

00:22:17,200 --> 00:22:19,200

Court stands adjourned.

244

00:22:20,200 --> 00:22:24,200

Johnny Wilson was immediately remanded to the Missouri State Penitentiary.

245

00:22:25,200 --> 00:22:32,200

Ten months later, at a prison in Kansas, this man confessed that he knew who killed Pauline Martz.

246

00:22:33,200 --> 00:22:35,200

And it wasn't Johnny Wilson.

247

00:22:36,200 --> 00:22:42,200

When we return, he will examine evidence which has led many to believe that Johnny Lee Wilson is innocent.

248

00:22:43,200 --> 00:22:48,200

In 1986, Johnny Lee Wilson, a mildly retarded 20-year-old,

249

00:22:48,200 --> 00:22:53,200

confessed to the murder of Pauline Martz and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

250

00:22:56,200 --> 00:22:59,200

Two years later, on February 11, 1988,

251

00:22:59,200 --> 00:23:04,200

convicted felon Chris Brownfield confessed to participating in the same crime.

252

00:23:05,200 --> 00:23:09,200

Brownfield was and still is serving a life sentence.

253

00:23:09,200 --> 00:23:12,200

Once I found out that they had a retarded boy,

254

00:23:12,200 --> 00:23:16,200

that they had forced him to confess him to the crime and stuff,

255

00:23:16,200 --> 00:23:19,200

I just kind of got the feeling sorry for him.

256

00:23:19,200 --> 00:23:23,200

And then I found out he was raised by his grandmother and mother,

257

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

you know, and I was raised by my grandmother.

258

00:23:26,200 --> 00:23:30,200

So I had a lot of feelings toward probably what they felt.

259

00:23:30,200 --> 00:23:32,200

And it was distasteful.

260

00:23:32,200 --> 00:23:36,200

And I was just so happy that I was able to get to the crime.

261

00:23:36,200 --> 00:23:39,200

And I was just so happy that they felt.

262

00:23:39,200 --> 00:23:42,200

And it was just such a situation.

263

00:23:42,200 --> 00:23:45,200

To me, it was so cut and dried that they had the wrong man.

264

00:23:45,200 --> 00:23:48,200

I just thought there shouldn't be any problem.

265

00:23:48,200 --> 00:23:52,200

You know, to tell them they got the wrong man, look at it and release the boy.

266

00:23:55,200 --> 00:23:58,200

According to Chris Brownfield, he and an unnamed accomplice

267

00:23:58,200 --> 00:24:02,200

had been tipped off that Pauline Martz kept a great deal of money in her home.

268

00:24:07,200 --> 00:24:09,200

They broke into the house.

269

00:24:13,200 --> 00:24:15,200

Chicken.

270

00:24:18,200 --> 00:24:20,200

Hey, it's all right, man. Just relax, all right?

271

00:24:20,200 --> 00:24:22,200

What happened?

272

00:24:22,200 --> 00:24:24,200

Come on, just watch her.

273

00:24:29,200 --> 00:24:31,200

Where's your money at, lady, huh?

274

00:24:31,200 --> 00:24:35,200

According to Brownfield, they ransacked the house.

275

00:24:37,200 --> 00:24:40,200

Mrs. Martz was bound and gagged.

276

00:24:45,200 --> 00:24:48,200

Brownfield and his accomplice decided to burn down the house

277

00:24:48,200 --> 00:24:51,200

so that no evidence would be left at the scene.

278

00:24:55,200 --> 00:24:59,200

Brownfield says he was outside when his accomplice started the fire.

279

00:25:00,200 --> 00:25:03,200

Hey, where's the lady? She's still in the house.

280

00:25:03,200 --> 00:25:05,200

I thought we were going to get out of here.

281

00:25:05,200 --> 00:25:07,200

She's got to pretend we're looking. Let's get out of here.

282

00:25:07,200 --> 00:25:09,200

Hey, let's go on back, see if we can get her out.

283

00:25:09,200 --> 00:25:13,200

Brownfield claims he later tried to go back inside to save Mrs. Martz.

284

00:25:16,200 --> 00:25:18,200

It was too late.

285

00:25:20,200 --> 00:25:22,200

Two men fled the scene.

286

00:25:30,200 --> 00:25:33,200

When the news of Chris Brownfield's confession was made public,

287

00:25:33,200 --> 00:25:36,200

the town of Aurora was thrown into turmoil.

288

00:25:37,200 --> 00:25:41,200

One group of citizens banded together and erected this billboard.

289

00:25:41,200 --> 00:25:45,200

Shortly thereafter, it was firebombed by an unknown party.

290

00:25:47,200 --> 00:25:50,200

The sheriff believed Chris Brownfield's confession

291

00:25:50,200 --> 00:25:53,200

was part of an elaborate escape plan and discounted it.

292

00:25:55,200 --> 00:25:58,200

Chris Brownfield is a member of the Brownfield Police

293

00:25:58,200 --> 00:26:01,200

and Brownfield is a co-blooded murderer.

294

00:26:01,200 --> 00:26:06,200

He has killed senior citizens before using the exact M.O.

295

00:26:06,200 --> 00:26:10,200

in the same manner that Mrs. Martz was killed.

296

00:26:12,200 --> 00:26:14,200

Noted Missouri attorney, D. Wampler,

297

00:26:14,200 --> 00:26:17,200

was hired to represent Johnny and reopen the case.

298

00:26:17,200 --> 00:26:21,200

Wampler became convinced that Johnny's confession had been coerced.

299

00:26:21,200 --> 00:26:25,200

It's the first time the state of Missouri has ever put a third grader on trial for murder.

300

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

Okay, thank you very much.

301

00:26:26,200 --> 00:26:31,200

Johnny Lee Wilson was at a movie theater on the night that he supposedly confessed,

302

00:26:31,200 --> 00:26:35,200

and they tricked him into going with them to the police headquarters.

303

00:26:35,200 --> 00:26:38,200

He had lost a billfold several days earlier,

304

00:26:38,200 --> 00:26:41,200

and they came and asked him to go to the police station,

305

00:26:41,200 --> 00:26:45,200

and he thought that he was going because they had found his billfold.

306

00:26:45,200 --> 00:26:46,200

Johnny, did you lose a wallet?

307

00:26:46,200 --> 00:26:47,200

Yeah.

308

00:26:47,200 --> 00:26:50,200

We found it. We got it down at the police station.

309

00:26:50,200 --> 00:26:53,200

If you come down and identify it, you can pick it up, take it on home.

310

00:26:53,200 --> 00:26:54,200

Okay.

311

00:26:54,200 --> 00:26:55,200

Come over here.

312

00:26:55,200 --> 00:27:00,200

His mother and grandmother were not told that they were going to question him that evening.

313

00:27:01,200 --> 00:27:05,200

John, is there any possibility that you are involved in this?

314

00:27:05,200 --> 00:27:07,200

No.

315

00:27:07,200 --> 00:27:09,200

What if I told you I thought you was?

316

00:27:09,200 --> 00:27:15,200

The police interrogation began at 8.30 p.m. and was concluded just after midnight.

317

00:27:15,200 --> 00:27:18,200

What if I told you you were seeing that fire before it started?

318

00:27:18,200 --> 00:27:20,200

Oh, I'd say I wasn't.

319

00:27:20,200 --> 00:27:25,200

The words spoken in these scenes are taken verbatim from transcripts of a police tape recording.

320

00:27:25,200 --> 00:27:30,200

What would you do if we brought in a witness in here, in this chair,

321

00:27:30,200 --> 00:27:33,200

and he sat here and looked you right in the eye and said,

322

00:27:33,200 --> 00:27:36,200

John, you was there before that fire started.

323

00:27:36,200 --> 00:27:40,200

They kept on saying, well, we know you did it.

324

00:27:40,200 --> 00:27:46,200

We know we got a witness saying that you told him you did it,

325

00:27:46,200 --> 00:27:54,200

and after that, you know, I just, I remained, maintained my innocence.

326

00:27:54,200 --> 00:27:58,200

I said, I didn't, I didn't do it.

327

00:27:58,200 --> 00:28:00,200

I don't know who did. I didn't do it.

328

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

Murders what you're in here for.

329

00:28:02,200 --> 00:28:07,200

They started, you know, started yelling saying, well, we know you did it.

330

00:28:07,200 --> 00:28:09,200

You're going to tell us that you did it.

331

00:28:09,200 --> 00:28:12,200

So we just get this all wrapped up so we know to go home.

332

00:28:12,200 --> 00:28:14,200

You didn't know she was tied up.

333

00:28:14,200 --> 00:28:16,200

How'd that information get out?

334

00:28:16,200 --> 00:28:21,200

There's a whole bunch of people out there that night that came up with information that she was tied up.

335

00:28:21,200 --> 00:28:23,200

The language used was so aggressive.

336

00:28:23,200 --> 00:28:27,200

What an ordinary individual might have done at that point was to end the interviewer,

337

00:28:27,200 --> 00:28:35,200

asked for their attorney, but being a fairly young, young man who was limited intellectually

338

00:28:35,200 --> 00:28:38,200

and no prior experience of the criminal justice system

339

00:28:38,200 --> 00:28:42,200

and the emotional stability of her an eight or nine year old,

340

00:28:42,200 --> 00:28:44,200

they're not going to know.

341

00:28:44,200 --> 00:28:47,200

Just say, get out of my face, stop talking to me.

342

00:28:47,200 --> 00:28:52,200

You know, I didn't do it and, you know, I've already told you that I want to end this.

343

00:28:52,200 --> 00:28:54,200

He didn't think he had the permission to end this.

344

00:28:54,200 --> 00:28:56,200

He didn't know he could end the interrogation.

345

00:28:56,200 --> 00:28:58,200

I went with him five miles of that house.

346

00:28:58,200 --> 00:29:01,200

You know too much. Why'd Gary make up something like that on you?

347

00:29:01,200 --> 00:29:03,200

He mad at you.

348

00:29:03,200 --> 00:29:08,200

At the end of the interrogation, he forced my head back and that's when I said,

349

00:29:08,200 --> 00:29:13,200

okay, okay, I did it, but when I really did, that's when I lied.

350

00:29:13,200 --> 00:29:15,200

What besides a rope was around her ankles.

351

00:29:15,200 --> 00:29:17,200

The interrogation continued.

352

00:29:17,200 --> 00:29:19,200

The deputies pressed for details.

353

00:29:19,200 --> 00:29:24,200

You know, and I know, just think.

354

00:29:24,200 --> 00:29:26,200

Come on, John.

355

00:29:26,200 --> 00:29:28,200

Thank you.

356

00:29:28,200 --> 00:29:31,200

What are some of the things that could be used?

357

00:29:31,200 --> 00:29:33,200

Handcuffs, I think.

358

00:29:33,200 --> 00:29:36,200

No, no, wrong guess.

359

00:29:36,200 --> 00:29:41,200

If you're a scared kid, you know, sometimes you lie to get out of trouble

360

00:29:41,200 --> 00:29:46,200

and essentially when he gave this confession, I think he may have been lying to get out of trouble.

361

00:29:46,200 --> 00:29:51,200

The immediate trouble at the moment, which was a couple of angry detectives,

362

00:29:51,200 --> 00:29:54,200

you know, questioning him pretty vigorously.

363

00:29:54,200 --> 00:29:59,200

They just simply said, if you'll tell us what we want to know, we can all go home.

364

00:29:59,200 --> 00:30:04,200

And he was just acting like a child that has brain damage

365

00:30:04,200 --> 00:30:08,200

and he thought, okay, I'll tell them what they want to know and then we'll all go home.

366

00:30:10,200 --> 00:30:12,200

But Johnny did not go home.

367

00:30:15,200 --> 00:30:20,200

At the end of the confession, they slapped the handcuffs on me and walked me out the door

368

00:30:20,200 --> 00:30:23,200

and drove me to Mount Vernon and locked me up.

369

00:30:23,200 --> 00:30:32,200

That's when I thought, no, I ain't going home over something that I think just run my life.

370

00:30:32,200 --> 00:30:38,200

I'd set my jail cell, you know, just thinking, I didn't do this, you know.

371

00:30:38,200 --> 00:30:44,200

Bottom line, you know, I just want to go home.

372

00:30:46,200 --> 00:30:50,200

Former Sheriff's Deputy Dustin Toller began studying the evidence on his own.

373

00:30:50,200 --> 00:30:53,200

He came to Johnny's defense.

374

00:30:53,200 --> 00:31:00,200

As I got into the reports, I observed that what was being said about Johnny Wilson

375

00:31:00,200 --> 00:31:03,200

by the Sheriff's Department and other investigative agencies

376

00:31:03,200 --> 00:31:08,200

and what was substantiated by evidence were not the same thing.

377

00:31:08,200 --> 00:31:13,200

Toller discovered that the costume jewelry taken by investigators from the Wilson home

378

00:31:13,200 --> 00:31:17,200

belonged to Johnny's grandmother.

379

00:31:17,200 --> 00:31:21,200

The underwear they found belonged to Johnny's mother.

380

00:31:21,200 --> 00:31:27,200

And there was another gas can found at the crime scene which was never entered into evidence.

381

00:31:27,200 --> 00:31:31,200

The more I observed, the less evidence I could find.

382

00:31:31,200 --> 00:31:36,200

I never did find anything that could tie Johnny Wilson to the case.

383

00:31:36,200 --> 00:31:41,200

One surprising piece of evidence which was discovered at the crime scene

384

00:31:41,200 --> 00:31:43,200

was a battery operated stun gun.

385

00:31:43,200 --> 00:31:45,200

No, I haven't. That's a stun gun.

386

00:31:45,200 --> 00:31:46,200

A stun gun.

387

00:31:46,200 --> 00:31:48,200

Yeah, go ahead and push the trigger.

388

00:31:48,200 --> 00:31:53,200

In his confession, Chris Brownfield mentioned losing a stun gun during the robbery.

389

00:31:53,200 --> 00:31:58,200

The weapon which he described was identical to the one found at the scene.

390

00:31:58,200 --> 00:32:05,200

It had never been publicized that a stun gun had been used in this crime.

391

00:32:05,200 --> 00:32:11,200

Chris Brownfield in his confession was the first one who ever mentioned the stun gun.

392

00:32:11,200 --> 00:32:18,200

He described the stun gun and drew a picture of it that was identical to the stun gun

393

00:32:18,200 --> 00:32:21,200

that was eventually found at the crime scene.

394

00:32:21,200 --> 00:32:24,200

Johnny Lee Wilson didn't even know what a stun gun was.

395

00:32:24,200 --> 00:32:26,200

He was asked about it.

396

00:32:26,200 --> 00:32:30,200

He thought a stun gun was an electric razor.

397

00:32:33,200 --> 00:32:38,200

On May 8th, 1989, D. Womper presented a motion in circuit court

398

00:32:38,200 --> 00:32:43,200

requesting that Johnny Wilson be given a jury trial.

399

00:32:43,200 --> 00:32:47,200

The motion was denied.

400

00:32:47,200 --> 00:32:50,200

The judge ruled that Johnny was competent when he pled guilty

401

00:32:50,200 --> 00:32:54,200

and that Chris Brownfield was not a credible witness.

402

00:32:54,200 --> 00:32:59,200

Brownfield had refused to testify in person at the hearing.

403

00:32:59,200 --> 00:33:04,200

How would the state of Missouri suffer from giving this poor little boy a trial?

404

00:33:04,200 --> 00:33:07,200

It probably would only take two or three days.

405

00:33:07,200 --> 00:33:09,200

I couldn't see that there's any harm or damage in it

406

00:33:09,200 --> 00:33:13,200

and he should have been given a trial in my opinion.

407

00:33:14,200 --> 00:33:20,200

Today Johnny Wilson is still serving his life sentence.

408

00:33:20,200 --> 00:33:25,200

He has been placed in protective custody because prison officials believe

409

00:33:25,200 --> 00:33:30,200

he would not be able to protect himself from the general prison population.

410

00:33:30,200 --> 00:33:35,200

Johnny will be eligible for parole when he is 70 years old.

411

00:33:37,200 --> 00:33:42,200

Justice has been very difficult to find in the Johnny Wilson case.

412

00:33:42,200 --> 00:33:47,200

It's one of those cases, perhaps there's only one in a thousand

413

00:33:47,200 --> 00:33:51,200

where an innocent man is doing time in the penitentiary

414

00:33:51,200 --> 00:33:56,200

and Johnny Lee Wilson is innocent and if he had a trial he would probably be acquitted.

415

00:33:56,200 --> 00:34:01,200

I don't think the jury would deliberate more than an hour before they acquitted him

416

00:34:01,200 --> 00:34:06,200

and it's a shame that he never got a chance to prove his innocence.

417

00:34:06,200 --> 00:34:13,200

All I want is somebody to believe me, you know, just that I didn't do this.

418

00:34:15,200 --> 00:34:20,200

In September of 1990 an appeal was heard before the Missouri Appellate Court.

419

00:34:20,200 --> 00:34:24,200

Johnny's appeal for a trial was denied once again.

420

00:34:37,200 --> 00:34:43,200

When we return a man is found dead in his garage the morning after a bar room brawl.

421

00:34:43,200 --> 00:34:46,200

An accident or foul play.

422

00:34:58,200 --> 00:35:01,200

October 4th 1988, 3.30 p.m.

423

00:35:02,200 --> 00:35:05,200

What did you find when you pushed came through the door?

424

00:35:05,200 --> 00:35:11,200

Police in Edmore North Dakota began an investigation into the death of a local auto repairman.

425

00:35:12,200 --> 00:35:19,200

An hour earlier the body of 27 year old Kenneth Inge had been discovered in his own garage by his uncle.

426

00:35:19,200 --> 00:35:23,200

The cause of death, massive carbon monoxide poisoning.

427

00:35:23,200 --> 00:35:27,200

Initial indications pointed to a probable suicide.

428

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

Kenny had too much going for him to be committing suicide, you know, that was way too far.

429

00:35:35,200 --> 00:35:40,200

You know, he didn't have any trouble so would rather him that much.

430

00:35:42,200 --> 00:35:47,200

Almost immediately bits of evidence began to cast doubt on the suicide theory.

431

00:35:47,200 --> 00:35:51,200

A fully loaded .22 caliber rifle was lying six feet from Inge.

432

00:35:51,200 --> 00:35:56,200

There was a small pool of blood on the floor but no marks on the body and no sign of a struggle.

433

00:35:56,200 --> 00:36:03,200

Even more puzzling, the fuel tank of the truck and the garage was nearly full and the ignition had been turned off.

434

00:36:03,200 --> 00:36:11,200

If Kenneth Inge had in fact committed suicide by inhaling carbon monoxide, then who turned off the truck's engine?

435

00:36:15,200 --> 00:36:18,200

The investigation into Kenneth Inge's death was stifling.

436

00:36:18,200 --> 00:36:22,200

His family vehemently insisted that suicide was out of the question.

437

00:36:22,200 --> 00:36:28,200

But if there was foul play involved, who could have had a motive and the opportunity to commit the crime?

438

00:36:28,200 --> 00:36:34,200

Within 12 hours the police found a potential suspect who had both motive and opportunity.

439

00:36:37,200 --> 00:36:41,200

2 a.m. Conkels Bar on the main street of Edmore.

440

00:36:41,200 --> 00:36:44,200

By closing time only two customers remain.

441

00:36:44,200 --> 00:36:48,200

Kenneth Inge and Curtis Heck another auto repairman.

442

00:36:48,200 --> 00:36:51,200

Kenny look I'm closing up you gotta go.

443

00:36:51,200 --> 00:36:52,200

I'm taking you home tonight.

444

00:36:52,200 --> 00:36:53,200

I gotta right.

445

00:36:53,200 --> 00:36:54,200

Who you going with?

446

00:36:54,200 --> 00:36:55,200

Curtis.

447

00:36:55,200 --> 00:36:57,200

You really are a tramp aren't you?

448

00:36:57,200 --> 00:36:58,200

Now.

449

00:36:58,200 --> 00:36:59,200

I wanna talk to you.

450

00:36:59,200 --> 00:37:00,200

She's going home with me.

451

00:37:00,200 --> 00:37:01,200

Get your hands off me.

452

00:37:02,200 --> 00:37:04,200

Neither one of us are Muhammad Ali.

453

00:37:04,200 --> 00:37:08,200

I mean, it was rolling around on the floor rassling and a bunch of dumb stuff.

454

00:37:08,200 --> 00:37:12,200

There was some punches thrown back and forth but nobody really got hurt.

455

00:37:12,200 --> 00:37:19,200

And at one point I got him down on the floor and I held him down there and I told him I'm going to let you up.

456

00:37:19,200 --> 00:37:23,200

And I said when I let you up I want you to just walk out the door.

457

00:37:23,200 --> 00:37:27,200

And I let him up and then he did go out the door.

458

00:37:27,200 --> 00:37:29,200

Moment's later Kenneth Inge retaliated.

459

00:37:36,200 --> 00:37:42,200

I heard the crash out out front and I knew what it was as soon as I heard it.

460

00:37:42,200 --> 00:37:44,200

And I seen my pickup out there.

461

00:37:44,200 --> 00:37:46,200

It had been broadsided.

462

00:37:46,200 --> 00:37:51,200

I thought about it and I thought about it and I thought about it and I thought about it.

463

00:37:51,200 --> 00:37:56,200

Me and Kenny were both body men and he had just annihilated my pickup.

464

00:37:56,200 --> 00:38:02,200

So I thought if I'm going to have to fix my vehicle then he's going to have to fix his.

465

00:38:06,200 --> 00:38:11,200

Approximately one hour later, Hecken the barmaid arrived at Inge's house and he was in the car.

466

00:38:11,200 --> 00:38:13,200

He was in the car and he was in the car.

467

00:38:13,200 --> 00:38:15,200

He was in the car and he was in the car.

468

00:38:15,200 --> 00:38:17,200

He was in the car and he was in the car.

469

00:38:17,200 --> 00:38:21,200

Approximately one hour later, Hecken the barmaid arrived at Inge's home.

470

00:38:21,200 --> 00:38:24,200

Inge's truck was parked in the driveway.

471

00:38:41,200 --> 00:38:44,200

I heard a noise coming from the garage.

472

00:38:44,200 --> 00:38:46,200

It's a groaning sound.

473

00:38:46,200 --> 00:38:51,200

So I went around to the back door and I opened up the door and I went in.

474

00:38:52,200 --> 00:38:55,200

You know you told my truck don't you?

475

00:39:01,200 --> 00:39:04,200

I should have realized you know that there was something wrong with him.

476

00:39:04,200 --> 00:39:05,200

But I didn't.

477

00:39:05,200 --> 00:39:07,200

I was mad at him anyway.

478

00:39:07,200 --> 00:39:13,200

Any other time if I'd seen somebody on the floor moaning and groaning I certainly wouldn't have left him there.

479

00:39:13,200 --> 00:39:17,200

But you know the guy just smashed my pickup all the pieces and I...

480

00:39:18,200 --> 00:39:23,200

I figured he was sick from drinking so I figured go ahead and spend the night on the garage floor.

481

00:39:24,200 --> 00:39:30,200

According to the official police report, this is the last time Kenneth Inge was seen alive.

482

00:39:31,200 --> 00:39:36,200

I believe that Kenneth Inge when he was in the garage and it became cool,

483

00:39:36,200 --> 00:39:41,200

started the vehicle, sat there and waited for Curtis Heck to come to the garage

484

00:39:41,200 --> 00:39:44,200

for the confrontation that was bound to happen.

485

00:39:45,200 --> 00:39:52,200

Realizing that something is happening to him, at this point I believe he turned the vehicle off that was in the garage, a pickup,

486

00:39:53,200 --> 00:39:59,200

started to head for the door and didn't quite make it to the door before he collapsed.

487

00:40:00,200 --> 00:40:06,200

Time passed and he died waiting for Curtis Heck.

488

00:40:10,200 --> 00:40:13,200

Inge's uncle Richard Nygaard disagrees with the police.

489

00:40:14,200 --> 00:40:21,200

I think Kenny was a little bit smarter than that to start a vehicle up and leave it running in the garage while he was still in there.

490

00:40:22,200 --> 00:40:29,200

He might have started it up just so he could move it and probably run his own vehicle in and run that one out.

491

00:40:33,200 --> 00:40:36,200

Nygaard believes that Inge heard Heck kicking his truck.

492

00:40:42,200 --> 00:40:46,200

He feels that the two men had another confrontation inside the garage.

493

00:40:46,200 --> 00:41:02,200

He fell down and probably was knocked unconscious and Curtis shut the door and walked away and then realized the truck was running and came back and went in and shut it off.

494

00:41:10,200 --> 00:41:15,200

With a sealed garage there was still enough carbon monoxide fumes in there to still do somebody in.

495

00:41:17,200 --> 00:41:22,200

The autopsy does not indicate that there was any assault on that body and I don't believe there was.

496

00:41:23,200 --> 00:41:28,200

It doesn't make me very happy to know that I was the last person to see him alive and walked out the door and left him there.

497

00:41:29,200 --> 00:41:37,200

But I had absolutely no reason to think that there was any carbon monoxide involved because there was a vehicle in his garage.

498

00:41:37,200 --> 00:41:46,200

There was a friend of his pickup in the garage but it wasn't running and I don't remember seeing any smoke in the garage.

499

00:41:47,200 --> 00:41:49,200

I don't remember. I think I would have noticed that.

500

00:41:51,200 --> 00:41:54,200

Several puzzling questions continued a loom over this case.

501

00:41:55,200 --> 00:41:59,200

Did Kenneth Inge start at the truck to keep warm until the inevitable arrival of Curtis Heck?

502

00:42:00,200 --> 00:42:09,200

Inge was a trained mechanic and certainly knew the lethal possibilities of running an engine in a small enclosed space unless alcohol had completely impaired his judgment.

503

00:42:10,200 --> 00:42:21,200

But if a drunken Inge did start the truck and was overcome by fumes, how could he have had the clarity of mind to cut the ignition but be unable to reach the door just 15 feet away?

504

00:42:22,200 --> 00:42:29,200

And finally, if it was not Inge who turned off the ignition, then who did and left him on the floor to die?

505

00:42:31,200 --> 00:42:40,200

We believe that the death occurred from a lethal dose of carbon monoxide and that there was no criminal foul play involved.

506

00:42:41,200 --> 00:42:49,200

The family wants to continue the investigation as to theories which they're certainly entitled to but law enforcement has officially closed this case.

507

00:42:50,200 --> 00:43:04,200

There just doesn't seem to be a clear cut answer to it and there's been a lot of stories and rumors and it's been in just, it's been hell on everybody is what it's been and I'd like to see an answer to it some place.

508

00:43:05,200 --> 00:43:15,200

I don't think they'll ever have a, you know, a final that says this is exactly what happened. I don't think they ever will, you know.

509

00:43:15,200 --> 00:43:20,200

There's just, there's too many loose ends.

510

00:43:45,200 --> 00:43:54,200

Join me next week for another edition of Unsolved Mysteries.

511

00:44:45,200 --> 00:44:47,200

you