

1

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 --> 00:00:20,560

to see is not a news broadcast.

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00:00:20,560 --> 00:00:27,320

Christmas Day 1985. Relaxed, joyful holiday for 28-year-old Debbie Wolfender family. Seven

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00:00:27,320 --> 00:00:32,880

days later, Debbie's body was found submerged in an oil can in a pond behind her home. The

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00:00:32,880 --> 00:00:37,320

police say she drowned accidentally. Her mother says it was murder.

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00:00:37,320 --> 00:00:43,440

80 years ago, a young mother, Conradina Olson, boarded a train in Brookfield, Wisconsin and

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00:00:43,440 --> 00:00:48,560

vanished. Now Conradina's grandmother has uncovered a string of bizarre clues leading

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00:00:48,560 --> 00:00:53,280

to an unmarked grave and more unanswered questions.

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00:00:53,280 --> 00:01:00,400

1959. Fidel Castro seizes power in Cuba. Four years later, former Air Force pilot Jeffrey

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00:01:00,400 --> 00:01:05,840

Sullivan undertakes a clandestine mission with anti-Castrol forces and disappears somewhere

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00:01:05,840 --> 00:01:10,640

over the Caribbean Sea. Sullivan's daughter has uncovered evidence that her father may

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00:01:10,640 --> 00:01:14,640

have been imprisoned in Cuba.

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00:01:14,640 --> 00:01:19,840

Also tonight, we will update our recent story of a daring prison escape. Thanks to our viewers,

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00:01:19,920 --> 00:01:24,400

a female prison gardener, jailhouse lover, were tracked down to a motel in Canada and

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00:01:24,400 --> 00:01:29,400

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

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00:02:19,840 --> 00:02:25,580

Debbie Wolfe, a 28-year-old nurse from Fayetteville, North Carolina, disappeared. Her family became

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00:02:25,580 --> 00:02:32,080

understandably concerned. It began as a tragic but uncomplicated missing persons case, but

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00:02:32,080 --> 00:02:37,240

a number of unanswered questions hinted at a darker secret. For Debbie's family and

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00:02:37,240 --> 00:02:41,400

friends, a police investigation appeared flawed.

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00:02:41,400 --> 00:02:46,200

Debbie thought that helping people was the best thing in the world she could do. She thought

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00:02:46,200 --> 00:02:52,200

that if she could be a nurse and she could pay back some of the kindness and some of

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00:02:52,200 --> 00:02:57,000

the consideration that had been given to her during her short lifetime, that maybe she

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00:02:57,000 --> 00:03:01,840

would make her own mark. And I think she did.

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00:03:01,840 --> 00:03:07,720

On Wednesday, December 25th, 1985, Debbie celebrated a typical family Christmas at her mother's

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00:03:07,720 --> 00:03:12,720

home, a day devoted to close friends and goodwill.

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00:03:13,240 --> 00:03:19,560

4 p.m., the day after Christmas. Upon completing her shift at the hospital, Debbie Wolfe left

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00:03:19,560 --> 00:03:24,520

work, presumably heading home.

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00:03:24,520 --> 00:03:28,760

The next morning, Debbie should have been at work. She had to be at work at 8. Debbie

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00:03:28,760 --> 00:03:34,240

did not go to work. Debbie did not answer her telephone. It wasn't like Debbie at all.

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00:03:34,240 --> 00:03:39,080

She never missed work. She would call in if she was even going to be a few minutes late.

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00:03:39,080 --> 00:03:42,680

She would call in and let them know, but they had had no word from Debbie, and I had had

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00:03:42,680 --> 00:03:46,680

no word from Debbie.

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00:03:46,680 --> 00:03:52,600

December 27th, the day after Debbie disappeared, Jenny Edwards drove to Debbie's home with

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00:03:52,600 --> 00:03:58,000

her husband, John, and a family friend, Kevin Gorton. Debbie lived in an isolated cabin

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00:03:58,000 --> 00:04:03,840

seven miles outside of Fayetteville. Because Debbie was unusually neat and meticulous,

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00:04:03,840 --> 00:04:07,360

they were surprised by what they found in and around the cabin.

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00:04:07,360 --> 00:04:14,360

Debbie's car was not parked where she always parked. We looked around and we saw beer cans

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00:04:15,360 --> 00:04:21,360

laying in the yard, and it was definitely a brand of beer that Debbie did not drink.

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00:04:21,360 --> 00:04:28,360

Her dogs were running loose, as they normally did, but they had not been fed.

41

00:04:28,360 --> 00:04:34,360

Debbie! Debbie, are you home, honey?

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00:04:34,360 --> 00:04:39,360

I'm here. There were small things that were out of place that Debbie would not have put

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00:04:39,360 --> 00:04:46,360

where they were placed. There was a uniform laying on the floor in the kitchen, things

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00:04:46,360 --> 00:04:51,360

thrown in the kitchen on the floor, like maybe she took them off. It's a uniform. John!

45

00:04:51,360 --> 00:04:54,360

Yeah. John!

46

00:04:54,360 --> 00:04:58,360

Kevin Gorton found Debbie's purse shoved back under her bed.

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00:04:58,360 --> 00:05:00,360

Hey guys, I think I found Debbie's purse.

48

00:05:00,360 --> 00:05:04,360

Found what? Purs. Purs? It is.

49

00:05:04,360 --> 00:05:06,360

There's a way up underneath the bed.

50

00:05:06,360 --> 00:05:08,360

Who had missed you here at work today?

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00:05:08,360 --> 00:05:14,360

There was also an odd message on Debbie's answering machine, recorded earlier that day, before Jenny arrived.

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00:05:14,360 --> 00:05:22,360

You've been out a lot of days making me worry when you miss another one. Just want to make sure you're okay.

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00:05:22,360 --> 00:05:29,360

What concerned me about his message was that he said that she had missed a lot of days at work, and she hadn't.

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00:05:29,360 --> 00:05:36,360

In fact, she had only missed a few hours at work at the time that he put the message on the answering machine.

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00:05:36,360 --> 00:05:46,360

Fifty feet from the cabin was a pond. They searched the entire area and found no trace of Debbie.

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00:05:46,360 --> 00:05:53,360

Jenny Edwards called the Sheriff's office. She was told that law enforcement would become involved only after 72 hours had elapsed

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00:05:53,360 --> 00:06:01,360

from the time of the disappearance. On Tuesday, December 31st, the Sheriff's Department finally conducted a full-scale search.

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00:06:01,360 --> 00:06:04,360

Five days after Debbie had last been seen.

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00:06:04,360 --> 00:06:12,360

They searched the cabin. Later that afternoon they brought the bloodhounds out, which they could find nothing at all.

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00:06:12,360 --> 00:06:20,360

They then walked around the edge of the pond. I was there for that. And they looked across it.

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00:06:20,360 --> 00:06:26,360

Granted, it's a small pond, but it's deep in some places and it's not that small.

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00:06:26,360 --> 00:06:33,360

I asked if they were going to put a boat into the water and at least paddle across it.

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00:06:33,360 --> 00:06:39,360

They said they didn't know. It was getting too late and that they would let me know the next day.

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00:06:39,360 --> 00:06:48,360

Of course, some of the individuals there that were friends of the family had been there a couple of days prior, had done some searching on their own.

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00:06:48,360 --> 00:06:54,360

And I think it was mentioned that they had already looked in the pond. There was no use for us to look in the pond.

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00:06:54,360 --> 00:07:00,360

So I don't think we did a dive of the pond or a complete search of the pond on that day. No, we did not.

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00:07:00,360 --> 00:07:10,360

At that time I asked him if it would be all right then if I got my own divers to go into the pond. And he said certainly.

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00:07:11,360 --> 00:07:21,360

New Year's Day 1986. Debbie Wolf had now been missing for six days. Kevin Gorton and another friend, Gordon Childress, returned to the pond.

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00:07:21,360 --> 00:07:29,360

Both men were familiar with rescue work. Gordon dragged the pond looking for evidence.

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00:07:29,360 --> 00:07:38,360

He was in the water approximately two minutes when he called out to me and told me that he had found what looked like a set of foot prints in the drag mark.

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00:07:38,360 --> 00:07:46,360

As he continued to zigzag back and forth across the pond, he continued to come over these tracks.

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00:07:46,360 --> 00:07:55,360

Two sets of foot prints were found along with the drag marks. These prints remained in the mud for weeks.

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00:07:55,360 --> 00:08:07,360

I went out and went under and following the trail was maybe six inches from the bottom and just kind of like coasting along the bottom after a good hard kick.

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00:08:07,360 --> 00:08:10,360

I hit something and my mask flooded.

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00:08:21,360 --> 00:08:26,360

Looks like a body down here. Are you sure? Let me double check.

76

00:08:27,360 --> 00:08:34,360

I went back down and confirmed the hole. Spent more time looking. Didn't touch or disturb anything.

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00:08:34,360 --> 00:08:44,360

I couldn't see above mid-drift because it was inside of a, it looked like a burn barrel. It was a rusty 55 gallon oil drum type thing with holes in it.

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00:08:46,360 --> 00:08:54,360

The police were called to the scene. The dead woman was identified as Debbie Wolf.

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00:08:57,360 --> 00:09:05,360

An autopsy revealed no trace of drugs or alcohol in Debbie's system. There were no obvious signs of foul play.

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00:09:05,360 --> 00:09:11,360

The coroner ruled the cause of death is drowning but was unable to determine exactly when Debbie had died.

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00:09:11,360 --> 00:09:18,360

A number of discrepancies soon surfaced which led Debbie's family and friends to believe Debbie had not drowned.

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00:09:20,360 --> 00:09:21,360

Kevin.

83

00:09:21,360 --> 00:09:23,360

Why don't you come over here and identify the body?

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00:09:23,360 --> 00:09:30,360

A typical co-order of drowning will be eyes open, mouth open, hands and arms in a very clawed state.

85

00:09:30,360 --> 00:09:36,360

You know, just a fight for life which was quite on contrary to the way that Debbie was.

86

00:09:36,360 --> 00:09:44,360

The eyes were closed, the mouth was closed, arms weren't a relaxed state, just her whole body was relaxed. She looked like she was asleep.

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00:09:45,360 --> 00:09:53,360

We theorize that if it was an accidental drowning, that at that point she may have been out around the pond.

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00:09:53,360 --> 00:09:58,360

Her dogs were running loose when the family members and the Sheriff's Department personnel were there.

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00:09:58,360 --> 00:10:02,360

Possibly she was playing with the dogs and fell in.

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00:10:06,360 --> 00:10:10,360

Another thing that struck me funny was the fact that Debbie was clean.

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

The clothes were clean. You know, her face was not carrying a lot of silt.

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00:10:15,360 --> 00:10:28,360

The day that me and Gordy went into the water and spent maybe 20 minutes, it took us both about three days to wash our dive suits out from just the accumulation of the silt and mud that was in the bottom of that pond.

93

00:10:29,360 --> 00:10:34,360

Police also began to deny that the body had been found inside of a barrel.

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00:10:35,360 --> 00:10:45,360

After the body was retrieved and dispatched to a local hospital, I walked away from the pond up to the cabin.

95

00:10:45,360 --> 00:10:51,360

As I was walking away, they were discussing how to mark the barrel and how to bring it out.

96

00:10:51,360 --> 00:10:54,360

I thought surely they would do that.

97

00:10:55,360 --> 00:11:00,360

I walked back out of the cabin about 10 minutes later and saw all their cars leaving.

98

00:11:00,360 --> 00:11:05,360

And I asked one of our friends who were there, I said, what happened? Do they have the barrel?

99

00:11:05,360 --> 00:11:10,360

And they said, no, they decided to leave it there. They'll get it in the morning.

100

00:11:12,360 --> 00:11:17,360

The next day they went back to get the barrel. It seems that the barrel was gone.

101

00:11:17,360 --> 00:11:23,360

All of a sudden it didn't exist, the same barrel that had been there the night before.

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00:11:24,360 --> 00:11:32,360

In my opinion, and the opinions of some of the investigators, what appeared to be a barrel to some of the divers

103

00:11:32,360 --> 00:11:41,360

could have been the field jacket, which may have ballooned out as she was laying at that angle at the bottom of the pond.

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00:11:41,360 --> 00:11:46,360

There was never a barrel touched by any of the divers, according to their statements.

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00:11:46,360 --> 00:11:49,360

Most definitely by none of our divers did we ever touch a barrel.

106

00:11:49,360 --> 00:11:55,360

There was no doubt, my mind, 100% positive that it was an old burn barrel or something of that nature.

107

00:11:55,360 --> 00:12:01,360

Metal rusted 55 gallon type drum that the body was in.

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00:12:02,360 --> 00:12:08,360

I remembered the barrel that was sitting by Debbie's cabin. This is known here as an oil barrel.

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00:12:08,360 --> 00:12:15,360

It's a big round metal drum. Farmers use it for burning trash. However, she didn't use it for that.

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00:12:15,360 --> 00:12:19,360

Instead we used it for target practice when we were out there shooting pistols.

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00:12:19,360 --> 00:12:27,360

When after I had called, law enforcement, that we had located a body, I went over to the spot where the barrel was

112

00:12:27,360 --> 00:12:34,360

and the barrel was gone. The indentation of the barrel was still there on the ground, but the barrel was no longer there.

113

00:12:38,360 --> 00:12:42,360

A few months later, Jenny discovered another inconsistency.

114

00:12:43,360 --> 00:12:51,360

When I got a chance to examine the clothes that were on Debbie's body, I looked at them very carefully

115

00:12:51,360 --> 00:12:57,360

and realized that those were not Debbie's clothes. The pants were very, very much too long for Debbie.

116

00:12:57,360 --> 00:13:03,360

The field jacket, Debbie had owned a field jacket that had belonged to her brother, and that is a totally different field jacket

117

00:13:03,360 --> 00:13:10,360

than what was found on the body. The bra was cup size, three sizes too large for her.

118

00:13:10,360 --> 00:13:22,360

Around size, it would be two sizes too large for her. The shoes, Debbie wore a lady's size seven, and these were a men's size six,

119

00:13:22,360 --> 00:13:25,360

which winds up being about three sizes larger.

120

00:13:25,360 --> 00:13:29,360

I don't know why it's loading and belonging to Debbie or why it didn't belong to Debbie, of course.

121

00:13:29,360 --> 00:13:36,360

Her mother would probably know that information or have that information and know more about what belonged to her

122

00:13:36,360 --> 00:13:41,360

than we would, of course, investigators. All we can do is ask questions and try to get some answers.

123

00:13:41,360 --> 00:13:48,360

We do know, for a fact, through our investigation that the tennis shoes she had on were her tennis shoes.

124

00:13:48,360 --> 00:13:55,360

We have photographs of her with those tennis shoes on prior to her death, and that's as much as I want to comment on the clothing.

125

00:13:56,360 --> 00:14:00,360

Jenny Edwards became convinced that Debbie had been murdered.

126

00:14:02,360 --> 00:14:03,360

Hi, how are you today?

127

00:14:03,360 --> 00:14:08,360

Among her duties at work, Debbie was assigned to coordinating the hospital volunteers.

128

00:14:12,360 --> 00:14:13,360

Come on, I want to go out.

129

00:14:13,360 --> 00:14:15,360

I don't want to go out with you. I told you to go out.

130

00:14:15,360 --> 00:14:21,360

One volunteer in particular seemed to bother her quite a bit because he had a history of psychiatric illnesses.

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00:14:21,360 --> 00:14:22,360

You wait here. Wait here.

132

00:14:27,360 --> 00:14:31,360

According to Jenny, the volunteer obtained Debbie's home phone number.

133

00:14:33,360 --> 00:14:36,360

Hello. Hello. It's me.

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00:14:36,360 --> 00:14:39,360

Look, I told you I don't want you calling me here anymore.

135

00:14:39,360 --> 00:14:40,360

I want to come over.

136

00:14:41,360 --> 00:14:43,360

You don't even know where I live.

137

00:14:43,360 --> 00:14:49,360

Oh, yeah. I know where you live. I'm coming over now.

138

00:14:49,360 --> 00:14:51,360

Look, I wouldn't come over here without you.

139

00:14:51,360 --> 00:14:57,360

He was investigated by the insurance department the night that the body was brought to the surface.

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00:14:57,360 --> 00:15:02,360

However, he provided an alibi and refused to take a polygraph.

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00:15:02,360 --> 00:15:05,360

So he wasn't questioned any longer.

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00:15:05,360 --> 00:15:08,360

He left several days after that to go out of state.

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

The second man suspected by Jenny Edwards was also a hospital volunteer.

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00:15:17,360 --> 00:15:23,360

There was another volunteer at the hospital at the same time that wanted to become romantically involved with Debbie.

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00:15:23,360 --> 00:15:28,360

Debbie discussed this with everyone, including him and told him that she would be his friend but nothing else.

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00:15:28,360 --> 00:15:32,360

She was interested in someone else totally away from the hospital.

147

00:15:32,360 --> 00:15:34,360

You know I've got a boyfriend.

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00:15:35,360 --> 00:15:39,360

Jenny is convinced that this was the man who called Debbie the day after she disappeared,

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00:15:39,360 --> 00:15:43,360

expressing concern that she'd been missing from work for days.

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00:15:43,360 --> 00:15:47,360

You've been out a lot of days. You make me worried when you miss another one.

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00:15:47,360 --> 00:15:50,360

The second suspect was also questioned by police.

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00:15:51,360 --> 00:15:55,360

Anyone in the family requested that we talk to her in a view.

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00:15:55,360 --> 00:15:57,360

We tried to interview.

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00:15:57,360 --> 00:16:02,360

Of course, through the information we received, through these interviews,

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00:16:02,360 --> 00:16:10,360

there was nothing there that we could use in any criminal prosecution

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00:16:10,360 --> 00:16:16,360

or there was nothing there that would indicate to us that this was a homicide.

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

What really happened to Debbie Wolfe?

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00:16:19,360 --> 00:16:23,360

Her mother believes she was taken hostage by one of the two suspects,

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00:16:23,360 --> 00:16:26,360

kept alive for several days and finally killed.

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00:16:31,360 --> 00:16:35,360

Later she believes someone returned to the pond to remove the barrel

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00:16:35,360 --> 00:16:38,360

so that a rooting of foul play would be dismissed.

162

00:16:42,360 --> 00:16:45,360

There are people out there who know what happened to Debbie.

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00:16:45,360 --> 00:16:50,360

They know who's responsible and I'm hoping that they will come forward

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00:16:50,360 --> 00:16:52,360

and finally say something.

165

00:16:54,360 --> 00:17:00,360

Debbie was a lovely person and she was loved by very, very many people

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00:17:00,360 --> 00:17:07,360

and I think that she has a right to be put to rest finally

167

00:17:07,360 --> 00:17:09,360

and I'd like to do that.

168

00:17:10,360 --> 00:17:15,360

Next, how viewer tips in Canada led to the capture of a woman

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00:17:15,360 --> 00:17:18,360

who allegedly helped her lover escape from prison.

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00:17:26,360 --> 00:17:30,360

Last month we profiled the case of a corrections officer from Maryland

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00:17:30,360 --> 00:17:32,360

whose secret love affair with a prison inmate

172

00:17:32,360 --> 00:17:36,360

changed her from a devoted mother into a wanted fugitive on the run.

173

00:17:36,360 --> 00:17:39,360

Tonight a dramatic update to the story.

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00:17:41,360 --> 00:17:45,360

For ten years, 46-year-old Sandra K. Beeman worked as a prison matron

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00:17:45,360 --> 00:17:49,360

at a maximum security facility in Cumberland, Maryland.

176

00:17:50,360 --> 00:17:53,360

Thirty-year-old Edgar Kearns was being held at the Cumberland prison

177

00:17:53,360 --> 00:17:56,360

while waiting sentencing on charges of check fraud.

178

00:17:58,360 --> 00:18:00,360

Come on Eddie, hurry up!

179

00:18:00,360 --> 00:18:04,360

On August 29, 1990, Edgar Kearns and another Indian, James Barnes,

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00:18:04,360 --> 00:18:06,360

made a daring escape.

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00:18:06,360 --> 00:18:09,360

It appeared that they had taken K. Beeman hostage.

182

00:18:11,360 --> 00:18:13,360

Authorities were shocked when they later learned

183

00:18:13,360 --> 00:18:16,360

that K. Beeman had actually helped with the escape

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00:18:16,360 --> 00:18:18,360

and that she was in love with Edgar Kearns.

185

00:18:19,360 --> 00:18:21,360

Have you ever complained, have I?

186

00:18:21,360 --> 00:18:23,360

No, you're not really much of a complainer.

187

00:18:23,360 --> 00:18:28,360

I guess you maybe fall in love with somebody and you do some strange things

188

00:18:28,360 --> 00:18:32,360

but K's pretty well lost about everything that she ever had

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00:18:32,360 --> 00:18:34,360

over this one incident.

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00:18:36,360 --> 00:18:39,360

Up to just six hours after our broadcast,

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00:18:39,360 --> 00:18:43,360

Sandra K. Beeman and Edgar Kearns were captured in Canada.

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00:18:45,360 --> 00:18:48,360

On September 10, 12 days after the escape,

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00:18:48,360 --> 00:18:52,360

Beeman and Kearns checked into the Beach Motor Motel in Hamilton, Canada.

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00:18:52,360 --> 00:18:54,360

They registered as husband and wife

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00:18:54,360 --> 00:18:57,360

under the assumed names Fred and Sandy Smith.

196

00:18:58,360 --> 00:19:03,360

I was watching TV and all of a sudden this lady's picture come on.

197

00:19:05,360 --> 00:19:08,360

So I called my wife and she was out in the kitchen ironing

198

00:19:08,360 --> 00:19:10,360

and I said, do you recognize this lady?

199

00:19:10,360 --> 00:19:14,360

And she said, yes, she's the lady that's living in room 12.

200

00:19:15,360 --> 00:19:20,360

And by this time, the gentleman come on and I said, uh-oh, he also lives in there.

201

00:19:21,360 --> 00:19:26,360

So I reached over immediately and picked up the phone and called the police.

202

00:19:27,360 --> 00:19:29,360

When we got to the Beach Motor Hotel,

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00:19:29,360 --> 00:19:35,360

the information from the Mitchells was the effect that they hadn't left the room

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00:19:35,360 --> 00:19:38,360

and it wasn't their policy to leave the room during the evening.

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00:19:38,360 --> 00:19:40,360

We were convinced they were still inside the room.

206

00:19:41,360 --> 00:19:46,360

The officers at the emergency response unit, which is equivalent to a SWAT team,

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00:19:46,360 --> 00:19:49,360

forced the door open and the room was found to be vacated.

208

00:19:51,360 --> 00:19:55,360

A witness later told authorities that he had seen the fugitive couple

209

00:19:55,360 --> 00:19:57,360

getting into a taxi cab earlier that evening.

210

00:19:59,360 --> 00:20:02,360

We were able to determine the name of the cab

211

00:20:02,360 --> 00:20:05,360

and a check with the cab company revealed the driver.

212

00:20:05,360 --> 00:20:09,360

I picked them up at the Beach Strip and that just up from the motel

213

00:20:09,360 --> 00:20:15,360

and I asked them where they were going and they said the Red Rose Motel.

214

00:20:16,360 --> 00:20:20,360

When we got to the motel, the cab driver said he had taken

215

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

one of our officers was able to determine from the office register at that location

216

00:20:25,360 --> 00:20:30,360

that they had in fact booked in and that current's in fact that uses his right name.

217

00:20:31,360 --> 00:20:35,360

A few minutes later, the emergency response unit moved in.

218

00:20:38,360 --> 00:20:41,360

Three or four officers of the emergency response

219

00:20:41,360 --> 00:20:43,360

approached the front door of the motel room.

220

00:20:43,360 --> 00:20:48,360

It was at that point that someone from the inside of the room looked out through the drapes.

221

00:20:49,360 --> 00:20:52,360

The officers then forced open the door and heard the rum.

222

00:20:55,360 --> 00:21:00,360

Kerns, he was forced to the floor of the motel room and held in a position of safety.

223

00:21:01,360 --> 00:21:05,360

The female in the room was in the bed and her hands were handcuffed

224

00:21:05,360 --> 00:21:07,360

above her head to the headboard.

225

00:21:08,360 --> 00:21:10,360

At that point there, both persons were arrested.

226

00:21:11,360 --> 00:21:15,360

Kerns was removed by my partner and myself and transported to the Central Station.

227

00:21:19,360 --> 00:21:22,360

He wanted to know how we had learned of his whereabouts.

228

00:21:23,360 --> 00:21:26,360

We asked him if he had ever seen the program before.

229

00:21:27,360 --> 00:21:28,360

He said yes, he had.

230

00:21:29,360 --> 00:21:32,360

We told him that he was on it tonight and he was astounded.

231

00:21:35,360 --> 00:21:40,360

On October 30th, 1990, Sandra K. Beeman and Edgar Kerns were returned to Maryland.

232

00:21:48,360 --> 00:22:07,360

Next, a woman's search for her missing grandmother collides with a mysterious legend of murder.

233

00:22:18,360 --> 00:22:24,360

Amid the windswept prairie near the small town of Ellis, Missouri lays a lonely unmarked grave.

234

00:22:27,360 --> 00:22:33,360

Legend has it that this is a resting place of an unknown woman found murdered near the railroad tracks years ago.

235

00:22:37,360 --> 00:22:41,360

For as long as anyone can remember, the grave has been maintained by railroad workers,

236

00:22:42,360 --> 00:22:44,360

adorned with flowers every Memorial Day.

237

00:22:49,360 --> 00:22:52,360

In the past three years, we have featured many stories of lost loves.

238

00:22:53,360 --> 00:22:59,360

Our next story also concerns a missing loved one, but with an odd twist, the woman disappeared 80 years ago.

239

00:23:00,360 --> 00:23:06,360

This is a story of a granddaughter's relentless search that has brought her face to face with a mysterious legend of murder in a small town,

240

00:23:07,360 --> 00:23:10,360

and dark family secrets kept hushed for nearly a hundred years.

241

00:23:11,360 --> 00:23:17,360

Brookfield, Wisconsin, the early 1900s, 38-year-old Conradina Olson said goodbye to her four children.

242

00:23:18,360 --> 00:23:19,360

Now let me be good.

243

00:23:21,360 --> 00:23:22,360

And guess I'll see you tomorrow.

244

00:23:24,360 --> 00:23:28,360

She told them she was going to Milwaukee for a doctor's appointment and would return the following day.

245

00:23:32,360 --> 00:23:33,360

Are you sure you don't want to come along?

246

00:23:34,360 --> 00:23:35,360

No, I'd rather stay here.

247

00:23:35,360 --> 00:23:36,360

Goodbye, children.

248

00:23:43,360 --> 00:23:45,360

Conradina Olson's family never saw her again.

249

00:23:49,360 --> 00:23:55,360

For the rest of his life, Conradina's eldest son, Edwin, would regret not getting on the train that morning.

250

00:23:56,360 --> 00:24:00,360

He felt that if he had went with her, she would have been back.

251

00:24:00,360 --> 00:24:01,360

She would have come back to them.

252

00:24:02,360 --> 00:24:05,360

My father, he suffered for this all of his life.

253

00:24:06,360 --> 00:24:10,360

He couldn't accept why and how she went away.

254

00:24:11,360 --> 00:24:14,360

He never knew why she went away and didn't come back.

255

00:24:16,360 --> 00:24:21,360

In 1983, Geneva Foxer began investigating her grandmother's disappearance,

256

00:24:22,360 --> 00:24:25,360

hoping to find answers to the questions that haunted her father.

257

00:24:25,360 --> 00:24:32,360

She learned that in 1891, 20-year-old Conradina Hypeman married 30-year-old Carl Olson, a railroad coachman.

258

00:24:33,360 --> 00:24:37,360

By all accounts, Carl and Conradina's marriage was not a happy one.

259

00:24:39,360 --> 00:24:40,360

You listen to me when I'm talking to you.

260

00:24:42,360 --> 00:24:47,360

In all of my research, I found out that my grandfather was a young woman.

261

00:24:48,360 --> 00:24:49,360

He was a young woman.

262

00:24:49,360 --> 00:24:58,360

In all of my research, I found out that my grandfather was, I don't know if he was abusive physically to my grandmother,

263

00:24:59,360 --> 00:25:02,360

but I did understand that he was not good to her.

264

00:25:07,360 --> 00:25:13,360

Back in those days, when there was a bad marriage, people didn't get a divorce.

265

00:25:14,360 --> 00:25:17,360

One of the people just walked away from the marriage.

266

00:25:18,360 --> 00:25:23,360

And this is actually what I had thought for many years that had happened to her.

267

00:25:24,360 --> 00:25:25,360

But now I don't.

268

00:25:26,360 --> 00:25:27,360

I feel she was taken.

269

00:25:28,360 --> 00:25:30,360

Something bad had to have happened to her.

270

00:25:33,360 --> 00:25:38,360

In September of 1985, while working at her gift shop in South Sioux City, Nebraska,

271

00:25:39,360 --> 00:25:41,360

Geneva had a bizarre encounter with one of her customers.

272

00:25:42,360 --> 00:25:46,360

From this chance meeting, a startling possibility began to emerge.

273

00:25:47,360 --> 00:25:48,360

This was a quiet day.

274

00:25:49,360 --> 00:25:53,360

And oh, I suppose around noon, this lady come into my store.

275

00:25:54,360 --> 00:25:55,360

I knew there was something different about her.

276

00:25:57,360 --> 00:25:58,360

But I couldn't grasp what it was.

277

00:25:59,360 --> 00:26:00,360

And she walked around a bit.

278

00:26:01,360 --> 00:26:04,360

I usually let people walk around my store so I don't, you know, I don't bug them.

279

00:26:08,360 --> 00:26:12,360

And so she come up around the counter and we got to talk.

280

00:26:13,360 --> 00:26:14,360

And she told me her name was Susanna.

281

00:26:15,360 --> 00:26:16,360

I'm looking for Pegasus.

282

00:26:17,360 --> 00:26:18,360

And she says, well, I'm a psychic.

283

00:26:19,360 --> 00:26:20,360

Well, no, I'm a psychic.

284

00:26:21,360 --> 00:26:26,360

And just out of a clear blue sky, she said, you want to ask me about your grandmother, don't you?

285

00:26:27,360 --> 00:26:28,360

And I was amazed.

286

00:26:29,360 --> 00:26:30,360

I said, yes.

287

00:26:31,360 --> 00:26:33,360

And she said, do you have anything of your grandmothers here?

288

00:26:34,360 --> 00:26:36,360

And I said, yes, I have a marriage license and I have their wedding picture.

289

00:26:37,360 --> 00:26:38,360

And she closed her eyes and she says, not on talk.

290

00:26:39,360 --> 00:26:40,360

I'm very quiet.

291

00:26:42,360 --> 00:26:45,360

And then all of a sudden she said, I can see her boarding a train.

292

00:26:45,360 --> 00:26:46,360

I can see children crying.

293

00:26:47,360 --> 00:26:48,360

I can see her being beaten.

294

00:26:49,360 --> 00:26:52,360

And I feel that your grandfather knows what happened to her.

295

00:26:55,360 --> 00:26:58,360

It just kind of sent shivers down my spine.

296

00:27:00,360 --> 00:27:02,360

I was flabbergasted.

297

00:27:03,360 --> 00:27:04,360

I thought, I don't believe this.

298

00:27:05,360 --> 00:27:06,360

How could she know?

299

00:27:07,360 --> 00:27:08,360

How could she know this about my grandmother?

300

00:27:10,360 --> 00:27:14,360

Later, Susanna's office, Geneva was given more possible clues about her grandmother.

301

00:27:15,360 --> 00:27:19,360

Susanna told Geneva that she would soon be receiving a packet of old letters.

302

00:27:20,360 --> 00:27:23,360

The letters would pinpoint the year the Geneva's grandmother disappeared.

303

00:27:24,360 --> 00:27:28,360

I want to bring up, Ellis has something to do about where she is at this point.

304

00:27:29,360 --> 00:27:33,360

She also told Geneva that the name Ellis was somehow connected to the disappearance

305

00:27:34,360 --> 00:27:36,360

and that her grandmother was buried in an unmarked grave.

306

00:27:37,360 --> 00:27:38,360

I do feel that she got on the train.

307

00:27:39,360 --> 00:27:44,360

And she says, also I see within a year or so, she says, you know,

308

00:27:45,360 --> 00:27:50,360

in the first time you will be getting a letter from an unknown source yet not heard from,

309

00:27:51,360 --> 00:27:55,360

somebody you don't even know of, that is going to tell you where this grave is.

310

00:27:56,360 --> 00:28:01,360

Incredibly, several weeks later, Susanna's first predictions seemed to come true.

311

00:28:03,360 --> 00:28:04,360

Thank you.

312

00:28:05,360 --> 00:28:09,360

Within two months time, I did get a packet of old letters and pictures also.

313

00:28:10,360 --> 00:28:15,360

There was many of them from 18 in the 1800s.

314

00:28:17,360 --> 00:28:22,360

And within these old letters, it states there was some dissension in the marriage

315

00:28:23,360 --> 00:28:29,360

and it also states that the last known from her was around 1910.

316

00:28:31,360 --> 00:28:36,360

Encouraged by this new information, Geneva sent a letter detailing her search to a Midwestern newspaper.

317

00:28:37,360 --> 00:28:40,360

The editors found the story interesting and printed the letter.

318

00:28:41,360 --> 00:28:51,360

I got in contact with Geneva when I read a piece in a monthly magazine that she was looking for her grandmother.

319

00:28:52,360 --> 00:28:57,360

Bill Carpenter wrote to Geneva and told her of the unmarked grave near Ellis, Missouri.

320

00:28:58,360 --> 00:29:01,360

He says there's quite a story about this death.

321

00:29:01,360 --> 00:29:06,360

And he says it is an unmarked grave and it's along the railroad right away.

322

00:29:06,360 --> 00:29:10,360

And when he said it's along the railroad right away, I couldn't believe it.

323

00:29:10,360 --> 00:29:13,360

I just tears come to my eyes. I just wanted to cry.

324

00:29:13,360 --> 00:29:17,360

Now this was another prediction of Susanna's that came true.

325

00:29:19,360 --> 00:29:23,360

At the turn of the century, Ellis, Missouri was a small farming town.

326

00:29:23,360 --> 00:29:28,360

According to local legend, a fashionably dressed woman got off the train at Ellis.

327

00:29:29,360 --> 00:29:31,360

How dare you!

328

00:29:31,360 --> 00:29:33,360

She was seen arguing with a man.

329

00:29:33,360 --> 00:29:39,360

Witnesses reported that it appeared to be a lover's quarrel with a couple storm east down the tracks.

330

00:29:41,360 --> 00:29:44,360

The man was later seen returning to the station alone.

331

00:29:44,360 --> 00:29:47,360

He boarded another train and left town.

332

00:29:48,360 --> 00:29:52,360

Three days later, the woman's body was discovered alongside the train tracks.

333

00:29:52,360 --> 00:29:54,360

She had been murdered.

334

00:29:55,360 --> 00:29:59,360

It was nothing to identify the woman or reveal where she had come from.

335

00:30:02,360 --> 00:30:08,360

According to the legend, railroad workers buried the woman in a field a few yards from where she was found.

336

00:30:10,360 --> 00:30:13,360

I want to think this is my grandmother's grave.

337

00:30:13,360 --> 00:30:16,360

In my heart, I think it is.

338

00:30:17,360 --> 00:30:19,360

And I don't know what else could have happened to my grandmother.

339

00:30:19,360 --> 00:30:23,360

I think with all my research, I would have found out something.

340

00:30:23,360 --> 00:30:24,360

Anything.

341

00:30:24,360 --> 00:30:26,360

But this is what it has led to.

342

00:30:26,360 --> 00:30:29,360

And all of these predictions have all come here.

343

00:30:29,360 --> 00:30:31,360

They've all... how could this not be my grandmother?

344

00:30:32,360 --> 00:30:37,360

I certainly wish her well in finding her grandmother, but I remain rather skeptical about the story

345

00:30:37,360 --> 00:30:42,360

because of the fact that we have newspaper articles about the unknown grave

346

00:30:42,360 --> 00:30:46,360

dating from before 1910 when her grandmother apparently disappeared.

347

00:30:47,360 --> 00:30:51,360

This newspaper article does seem to discount Geneva's conclusion.

348

00:30:51,360 --> 00:30:56,360

It was published in 1888, 22 years before Conradina Olsen disappeared.

349

00:30:56,360 --> 00:31:00,360

It describes a dead woman as being less than 20 years old.

350

00:31:00,360 --> 00:31:03,360

Conradina Olsen was 38 when she vanished.

351

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

40 years ago, I talked to an 85-year-old man that had worked for the railroad all of his life.

352

00:31:14,360 --> 00:31:22,360

And he said that the lady that they found along the tracks was approximately in her 30s.

353

00:31:22,360 --> 00:31:25,360

I feel that it is her grandmother.

354

00:31:25,360 --> 00:31:27,360

That's my feeling.

355

00:31:27,360 --> 00:31:32,360

If a woman found murdered alongside the railroad tracks was Conradina Olsen,

356

00:31:32,360 --> 00:31:36,360

then who was the man seen arguing with her at the Ellis train station?

357

00:31:36,360 --> 00:31:39,360

At the time, my grandmother disappeared.

358

00:31:39,360 --> 00:31:44,360

I've always heard the story that my grandfather also went away for a period of time.

359

00:31:44,360 --> 00:31:48,360

I don't want to believe that my grandfather did anything with her.

360

00:31:48,360 --> 00:31:51,360

I don't believe he did. I don't want to believe it.

361

00:31:51,360 --> 00:31:57,360

But the way this is all coming about, I don't know what to think about it.

362

00:31:58,360 --> 00:32:07,360

Until I find for sure this is my grandmother, I will always have that doubt of not knowing and I want to know.

363

00:32:07,360 --> 00:32:11,360

Not only for myself, but for my father.

364

00:32:12,360 --> 00:32:14,360

I'm going to find her.

365

00:32:14,360 --> 00:32:19,360

I feel that there's somebody out there that knows what happened to her and I just want to know.

366

00:32:23,360 --> 00:32:29,360

When we return, the disappearance of an American pilot, apparently on an anti-Castro mission in Latin America,

367

00:32:29,360 --> 00:32:33,360

one eyewitness claims he was imprisoned in Cuba.

368

00:32:37,360 --> 00:32:50,360

September 23, 1963, Waterbury, Connecticut.

369

00:32:50,360 --> 00:32:54,360

28-year-old Jeffrey Sullivan, a former Air Force pilot,

370

00:32:54,360 --> 00:32:58,360

prepared to depart on a mysterious covert mission.

371

00:33:00,360 --> 00:33:02,360

The way my mom relates it.

372

00:33:02,360 --> 00:33:05,360

My father was supposed to come back in five days.

373

00:33:05,360 --> 00:33:07,360

Get it all packed.

374

00:33:07,360 --> 00:33:09,360

Give you a call as soon as I get a chance to.

375

00:33:09,360 --> 00:33:16,360

I don't know if he was nervous, but he gave her his St. Christopher Medal, which he wore all the time.

376

00:33:16,360 --> 00:33:21,360

He explained to her that this would be his last trip.

377

00:33:21,360 --> 00:33:22,360

I'm going to miss you.

378

00:33:22,360 --> 00:33:23,360

Miss you too.

379

00:33:23,360 --> 00:33:30,360

And not because he wasn't coming back, but because he didn't want to be involved in this type of operation anymore.

380

00:33:31,360 --> 00:33:37,360

He took off that morning and that was the last time she ever saw me.

381

00:33:37,360 --> 00:33:39,360

He never came back.

382

00:33:42,360 --> 00:33:46,360

Four days later, Jeffrey Sullivan disappeared over the Caribbean.

383

00:33:46,360 --> 00:33:51,360

The mystery of what happened during those four days still haunts his daughter.

384

00:33:54,360 --> 00:33:58,360

Sherry Sullivan was seven years old when she lost her father.

385

00:33:59,360 --> 00:34:03,360

Today, Sherry is a private investigator living in Bangor, Maine.

386

00:34:03,360 --> 00:34:08,360

For the past six years, she has sifted through a labyrinth of bureaucratic red tape and false leaves,

387

00:34:08,360 --> 00:34:12,360

hoping to uncover the truth of her father's fate.

388

00:34:13,360 --> 00:34:17,360

No one wanted to say he wasn't coming back.

389

00:34:17,360 --> 00:34:21,360

As it rolled into the years, it was the kind of thing that just wasn't talked about.

390

00:34:21,360 --> 00:34:23,360

I mean, no one knew what to say.

391

00:34:23,360 --> 00:34:27,360

And none of us were ever allowed to go through a grieving process

392

00:34:27,360 --> 00:34:30,360

because as far as we were concerned, he wasn't dead.

393

00:34:33,360 --> 00:34:36,360

Jeffrey Sullivan enlisted in the Air Force when he was 18.

394

00:34:36,360 --> 00:34:39,360

In 1957, he earned his wings.

395

00:34:39,360 --> 00:34:43,360

Two years later, Sullivan received an honorable discharge

396

00:34:43,360 --> 00:34:45,360

and became a freelance commercial pilot.

397

00:34:46,360 --> 00:34:51,360

Last same year, the Del Castro's revolution tramped in Cuba.

398

00:34:51,360 --> 00:34:55,360

The communist threat was now only 90 miles from American shores.

399

00:34:55,360 --> 00:35:00,360

Almost overnight, both U.S. government-backed and independent covert operations

400

00:35:00,360 --> 00:35:04,360

were launched to undermine Castro's regime.

401

00:35:07,360 --> 00:35:11,360

One of the men involved in these operations was 37-year-old Alex Rourke,

402

00:35:11,360 --> 00:35:14,360

a journalist and photographer from New York.

403

00:35:14,360 --> 00:35:17,360

By writing a series of articles about Cuban exiles,

404

00:35:17,360 --> 00:35:21,360

Rourke became active in the campaign to overthrow Castro's new government.

405

00:35:25,360 --> 00:35:26,360

Jeffrey?

406

00:35:26,360 --> 00:35:28,360

Hi, Alex. Nice to meet you.

407

00:35:28,360 --> 00:35:32,360

In 1961, Jeffrey Sullivan and Alex Rourke met.

408

00:35:32,360 --> 00:35:38,360

Rourke soon hired Sullivan as a pilot for his clandestine anti-Castro activities.

409

00:35:39,360 --> 00:35:44,360

When Jeffrey Sullivan shook hands with Alex Rourke, he sealed his own fate.

410

00:35:44,360 --> 00:35:48,360

After the Cuban Revolution, a staggering array of anti-Castro operations

411

00:35:48,360 --> 00:35:50,360

sprung up in the United States.

412

00:35:50,360 --> 00:35:53,360

Many of them were organized by shadowy characters.

413

00:35:53,360 --> 00:35:56,360

It was a murky underworld of these clandestine operations

414

00:35:56,360 --> 00:35:59,360

in which Jeffrey Sullivan became caught up.

415

00:36:02,360 --> 00:36:04,360

March 1961.

416

00:36:05,360 --> 00:36:07,360

March 1961.

417

00:36:07,360 --> 00:36:12,360

U.S.-backed Cuban exiles prepared to invade Cuba at the Bay of Pigs.

418

00:36:12,360 --> 00:36:15,360

On April 17, they were defeated in less than a day

419

00:36:15,360 --> 00:36:19,360

because the U.S. government failed to supply air support.

420

00:36:20,360 --> 00:36:25,360

In October of 1962, Soviet missile silos were discovered in Cuba.

421

00:36:25,360 --> 00:36:29,360

For seven days, the world was on the brink of nuclear war.

422

00:36:30,360 --> 00:36:37,360

After the missile crisis, operations against Cuba were still carried on by the U.S. government.

423

00:36:37,360 --> 00:36:40,360

But they were trying to be more discreet about it,

424

00:36:40,360 --> 00:36:46,360

and they did shed some of the more loose cannon operations,

425

00:36:46,360 --> 00:36:51,360

and I think Alex Rourke could have been classified as such.

426

00:36:51,360 --> 00:36:58,360

There was a public order to men like Alexander Rourke and Jeffrey Sullivan

427

00:36:58,360 --> 00:37:02,360

to stop their operations against Cuba altogether.

428

00:37:06,360 --> 00:37:11,360

On September 23, 1963, eight days after the official warning was issued,

429

00:37:11,360 --> 00:37:14,360

Jeffrey Sullivan left Waterbury, Connecticut.

430

00:37:14,360 --> 00:37:19,360

The next day, he resurfaced in Fort Lauderdale, Florida with Alex Rourke.

431

00:37:22,360 --> 00:37:26,360

In Fort Lauderdale, Sullivan and Rourke met with two men.

432

00:37:26,360 --> 00:37:30,360

One of them was Frank Sturges, who had also been named in the public warning.

433

00:37:30,360 --> 00:37:35,360

Years later, Sturges had become well-known for his role in the Watergate scandal.

434

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

Rourke told me he did buy a B-25 bomber,

435

00:37:40,360 --> 00:37:45,360

and he wanted to take the B-25 to Nicaragua.

436

00:37:45,360 --> 00:37:48,360

He wanted to sit down and talk with General Samosa

437

00:37:48,360 --> 00:37:53,360

in order to have a base of operations in Nicaragua

438

00:37:53,360 --> 00:38:00,360

and to ask the general to fit out the B-25 for bombing missions inside of Cuba.

439

00:38:00,360 --> 00:38:05,360

Sturges convinced Rourke that they should first meet personally with Nicaraguan officials.

440

00:38:05,360 --> 00:38:10,360

The four men rented an airplane and agreed to depart for Nicaragua the following morning.

441

00:38:14,360 --> 00:38:19,360

The next day, Rourke's wife drove him to Opalaca Airport in Fort Lauderdale.

442

00:38:20,360 --> 00:38:22,360

How you doing? How come what time?

443

00:38:22,360 --> 00:38:23,360

Nice to see you, guys.

444

00:38:23,360 --> 00:38:25,360

On the way, they picked up another man.

445

00:38:25,360 --> 00:38:26,360

This is my wife, Jackie.

446

00:38:26,360 --> 00:38:27,360

Hi, Jackie.

447

00:38:27,360 --> 00:38:28,360

This is Kiki.

448

00:38:28,360 --> 00:38:30,360

Mrs. Rourke didn't know who this gentleman was.

449

00:38:30,360 --> 00:38:31,360

I spoke to the pilot today.

450

00:38:31,360 --> 00:38:33,360

She spoke broken English,

451

00:38:33,360 --> 00:38:37,360

but she drove the both of them to the airport where my father was

452

00:38:37,360 --> 00:38:39,360

and dropped them off.

453

00:38:40,360 --> 00:38:45,360

At approximately 8 a.m., a travel-air twin-engine plane took off from Fort Lauderdale.

454

00:38:46,360 --> 00:38:50,360

On board were Jeffrey Sullivan, Alex Rourke and the stranger.

455

00:38:50,360 --> 00:38:54,360

Curiously, Frank Sturges and his associate were left behind.

456

00:38:56,360 --> 00:39:01,360

What transpired during the next 48 hours remains a jumbled maze of unanswered questions.

457

00:39:05,360 --> 00:39:10,360

According to the official FAA report, Sullivan's flight activities were highly unusual.

458

00:39:11,360 --> 00:39:15,360

He returned to Fort Lauderdale three times with very little explanation.

459

00:39:16,360 --> 00:39:20,360

On his third return to the airport, the plane's landing gear remained retracted.

460

00:39:20,360 --> 00:39:22,360

Your landing gear appeared to be up.

461

00:39:22,360 --> 00:39:25,360

Side step to the right and go around.

462

00:39:27,360 --> 00:39:31,360

Sullivan did not attempt to land at Fort Lauderdale again.

463

00:39:32,360 --> 00:39:37,360

Five hours later, he arrived at North Perry Airport just 30 miles away.

464

00:39:39,360 --> 00:39:43,360

The plane made a short puddle hop over to Hollywood, Florida,

465

00:39:43,360 --> 00:39:46,360

which is a very short distance away,

466

00:39:46,360 --> 00:39:51,360

and told the people there to refuel.

467

00:39:51,360 --> 00:39:52,360

It's a pull-null.

468

00:39:52,360 --> 00:39:53,360

All right.

469

00:39:53,360 --> 00:39:58,360

And the operator of the flying service said that it hardly took any gasoline

470

00:39:58,360 --> 00:40:01,360

to refuel it.

471

00:40:01,360 --> 00:40:05,360

What should have been a 20-minute flight had taken nearly five hours.

472

00:40:05,360 --> 00:40:08,360

No one knows where the plane was during that time.

473

00:40:14,360 --> 00:40:18,360

At 1.30 p.m., Sullivan and his companions departed North Perry.

474

00:40:18,360 --> 00:40:23,360

The official flight plan listed to go seek out Bahamdurus as their final destination.

475

00:40:29,360 --> 00:40:33,360

Sullivan next contacted the tower at Miami International Airport.

476

00:40:33,360 --> 00:40:40,360

At 3.43 p.m., he filed a revised flight plan listing Tukum and Panama as his destination.

477

00:40:44,360 --> 00:40:47,360

Sullivan attempted to file a flight plan for a destination

478

00:40:47,360 --> 00:40:51,360

that was some two hours beyond the normal range of his aircraft.

479

00:40:51,360 --> 00:40:56,360

When he was informed of this by the air traffic controller on duty,

480

00:40:56,360 --> 00:40:59,360

he then changed his destination.

481

00:40:59,360 --> 00:41:06,360

However, this destination was also well beyond the range of the aircraft he was flying.

482

00:41:07,360 --> 00:41:12,360

Seven hours passed, again with no accounting for the plane's whereabouts.

483

00:41:13,360 --> 00:41:18,360

At 10.22 p.m., Sullivan contacted the Miami Tower once more.

484

00:41:18,360 --> 00:41:22,360

This time, he filed a flight plan for Belize British Honduras.

485

00:41:23,360 --> 00:41:29,360

The official FAA report states that he refueled just after midnight in Cozumel, Mexico.

486

00:41:29,360 --> 00:41:32,360

This was the last official sighting of the plane.

487

00:41:33,360 --> 00:41:37,360

Jeffrey Sullivan and his companions were assumed lost at sea.

488

00:41:42,360 --> 00:41:47,360

Despite a massive search, no trace of Jeffrey Sullivan or Alex Rourke was ever found.

489

00:41:48,360 --> 00:41:52,360

23 years later,

490

00:41:52,360 --> 00:41:55,360

Sherri Sullivan and her attorney, Carl McHugh,

491

00:41:55,360 --> 00:41:59,360

petitioned the United States government for information concerning Sherri's father.

492

00:41:59,360 --> 00:42:05,360

To date, they have received over 5,000 pages of documentation from 14 federal agencies,

493

00:42:05,360 --> 00:42:08,360

including the FBI and the CIA.

494

00:42:08,360 --> 00:42:11,360

Okay, that's the national security.

495

00:42:11,360 --> 00:42:16,360

Very shortly after we initiated our Freedom of Information Act request to the FBI,

496

00:42:16,360 --> 00:42:23,360

my attorney spoke with an FBI agent on the phone who wanted to question him about

497

00:42:23,360 --> 00:42:27,360

whether he really wanted to get involved in this type of thing.

498

00:42:27,360 --> 00:42:30,360

It's suggesting that maybe we'd be better off if we didn't.

499

00:42:30,360 --> 00:42:35,360

He indicated that we were opening a can of worms as he put it.

500

00:42:38,360 --> 00:42:42,360

More than a third of the 800 pages received from the FBI were censored.

501

00:42:46,360 --> 00:42:50,360

According to Sherri Sullivan, information found in these documents

502

00:42:50,360 --> 00:42:53,360

indicated at least another 400 pages exist,

503

00:42:53,360 --> 00:42:57,360

but were withheld for national security reasons.

504

00:42:57,360 --> 00:43:00,360

It made me more curious.

505

00:43:00,360 --> 00:43:05,360

It was almost really the confirmation we were looking for in a way, saying there is something here.

506

00:43:07,360 --> 00:43:12,360

In the FBI documents, Sherri found the name Floyd Park.

507

00:43:12,360 --> 00:43:16,360

When she reached Park by telephone, he told Sherri he had seen her father

508

00:43:16,360 --> 00:43:20,360

two days after he reportedly disappeared.

509

00:43:23,360 --> 00:43:31,360

Floyd Park indicated that he had seen my father and Alex and the Spanish fellow in Belize.

510

00:43:31,360 --> 00:43:38,360

We have not been able to verify the identity of Floyd Park, who he is really,

511

00:43:38,360 --> 00:43:43,360

what he was involved in in the 60s, and how my father would have known him,

512

00:43:43,360 --> 00:43:46,360

why they would have stopped to see him.

513

00:43:46,360 --> 00:43:50,360

We weren't really able to get those answers from him.

514

00:43:50,360 --> 00:43:53,360

Sherri Sullivan only talked to Floyd Park once.

515

00:43:53,360 --> 00:43:56,360

She's been unable to locate him since,

516

00:43:56,360 --> 00:44:02,360

but Park did tell Sherri that her father and Alex Rourke might have been taken prisoner in Cuba.

517

00:44:03,360 --> 00:44:07,360

I think it's a very good chance that they ended up in Cuba.

518

00:44:07,360 --> 00:44:11,360

I mean, they have been involved in clandestine operations in and out of Cuba.

519

00:44:11,360 --> 00:44:17,360

Fidel Castro, from what I've heard, had a bounty out on my father and Alex,

520

00:44:17,360 --> 00:44:19,360

because he knew what they were involved in.

521

00:44:19,360 --> 00:44:21,360

He knew they were going in and out of his country.

522

00:44:21,360 --> 00:44:26,360

So this very good possibility that they could have ended up in Cuba.

523

00:44:26,360 --> 00:44:31,360

Probably some way they landed in Cuba.

524

00:44:31,360 --> 00:44:38,360

In 1986, Sherri spoke with Marty Casey, who had been in Cuba two years after her father disappeared.

525

00:44:40,360 --> 00:44:46,360

I was with two Cuban exiles from Miami, and they met a fellow that they knew from the area.

526

00:44:46,360 --> 00:44:48,360

He was working in the compound.

527

00:44:52,360 --> 00:44:56,360

He recognized my American accent. I was speaking Spanish, and he asked me,

528

00:44:56,360 --> 00:45:00,360

you know, Rourke? And I said, what do you mean, O'Rourke?

529

00:45:00,360 --> 00:45:03,360

No, Rourke. The pilot.

530

00:45:03,360 --> 00:45:04,360

No, el piloto es Suleyman.

531

00:45:04,360 --> 00:45:10,360

No, no, the other guy was the pilot, Suleyman, which would be the way to pronounce it in Spanish.

532

00:45:10,360 --> 00:45:12,360

And I said, well, how do you know them?

533

00:45:12,360 --> 00:45:16,360

And he said, I was in jail here with him two years ago.

534

00:45:18,360 --> 00:45:21,360

I have no reason whatsoever to doubt it,

535

00:45:21,360 --> 00:45:27,360

because I was the one that thought that Rourke was O'Rourke.

536

00:45:27,360 --> 00:45:31,360

And I thought that Rourke was a pilot, and he was the one who corrected me.

537

00:45:31,360 --> 00:45:33,360

He knew I didn't.

538

00:45:36,360 --> 00:45:41,360

Another name Sherri found in the FBI documents was Enrique Molina Garcia,

539

00:45:41,360 --> 00:45:45,360

allegedly a double agent for Castro's government.

540

00:45:46,360 --> 00:45:50,360

Sherri believes Garcia was a mysterious third man on the plane,

541

00:45:50,360 --> 00:45:54,360

and that he tricked her father and Alex Rourke into flying to Cuba.

542

00:45:54,360 --> 00:46:01,360

Unconfirmed reports do place Garcia in Havana years after Sherri's father disappeared.

543

00:46:01,360 --> 00:46:19,360

When I was little, I used to go over to my grandmother's house and wind up his watch all the time.

544

00:46:19,360 --> 00:46:24,360

And that was my way of keeping him alive, I think.

545

00:46:24,360 --> 00:46:26,360

He was in that watch.

546

00:46:26,360 --> 00:46:29,360

If I kept the watch going, he'd still be living, you know?

547

00:46:29,360 --> 00:46:35,880

And of course, I'm not little anymore, but the little girl inside me, the little seven-year-old

548

00:46:35,880 --> 00:46:40,400

girl that never gave up hoping thinks he's alive.

549

00:46:59,360 --> 00:47:12,080

For every mystery there is someone, somewhere who knows the truth.

550

00:47:12,080 --> 00:47:14,120

Perhaps that someone is watching.

551

00:47:14,120 --> 00:47:14,480

Perhaps it's you.