

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,680

This program is about unsolved mysteries.

2

00:00:03,680 --> 00:00:06,360

Whenever possible, the actual family members and police

3

00:00:06,360 --> 00:00:09,400

officials have participated in recreating the events.

4

00:00:09,400 --> 00:00:12,200

What you are about to see is not a news broadcast.

5

00:00:16,600 --> 00:00:20,520

In the 1920s, Edgar Cayce gained widespread notoriety

6

00:00:20,520 --> 00:00:24,200

for his apparent ability to make complex medical diagnoses

7

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

but in a self-induced trance.

8

00:00:26,640 --> 00:00:29,760

Even now, 45 years after Cayce's death,

9

00:00:29,760 --> 00:00:31,560

thousands claimed to have benefited

10

00:00:31,560 --> 00:00:33,760

and been cured by his knowledge.

11

00:00:33,760 --> 00:00:36,560

Some say it is merely a combination of luck

12

00:00:36,560 --> 00:00:39,280

and the power of suggestion.

13

00:00:39,280 --> 00:00:42,480

28-year-old Crystal Spencer was a small town girl

14

00:00:42,480 --> 00:00:44,880

determined to make it big in the movies.

15

00:00:44,880 --> 00:00:46,400

But for Crystal, the road to Stardom

16

00:00:46,400 --> 00:00:48,600

led through Hollywood's seamy underside

17

00:00:48,600 --> 00:00:51,840

and sadly a confusing and mysterious death.

18

00:00:51,840 --> 00:00:55,000

According to her father, the story of Crystal Spencer

19

00:00:55,440 --> 00:00:59,560

according to her family in France, Crystal was murdered.

20

00:00:59,560 --> 00:01:03,560

Easter Sunday, 1990, just outside Coldwater, Michigan,

21

00:01:03,560 --> 00:01:06,080

Ray and Marie Thornton were enjoying their weekly drive

22

00:01:06,080 --> 00:01:07,160

through the country.

23

00:01:07,160 --> 00:01:09,760

Quite by accident, this quiet, Sunday outing

24

00:01:09,760 --> 00:01:11,640

would place the Thorntons at the center

25

00:01:11,640 --> 00:01:14,200

of an unsolved mystery.

26

00:01:14,200 --> 00:01:17,000

These intriguing stories all need one final clue,

27

00:01:17,000 --> 00:01:20,520

one final piece of information before they can be solved.

28

00:01:20,520 --> 00:01:23,120

Perhaps someone watching tonight can help.

29

00:01:23,120 --> 00:01:24,760

Perhaps it's you.

30

00:01:53,120 --> 00:02:06,600

MUSIC

31

00:02:06,600 --> 00:02:14,600

MUSIC

32

00:02:14,600 --> 00:02:19,600

KATHY, you have a condition called optic neuritis.

33

00:02:19,600 --> 00:02:21,920

This is a condition where the optic nerve

34

00:02:21,920 --> 00:02:27,720

in 1986, 27-year-old Kathy Kamor visited her ophthalmologist.

35

00:02:27,720 --> 00:02:29,040

You can sit back now, Kathy.

36

00:02:29,040 --> 00:02:31,000

Kathy thought she had a minor problem,

37

00:02:31,000 --> 00:02:33,760

but the doctor's verdict was horrified.

38

00:02:33,760 --> 00:02:35,360

Kathy might be going blind.

39

00:02:35,360 --> 00:02:39,600

It may return, it may not return.

40

00:02:39,600 --> 00:02:42,160

It was a very frightening experience.

41

00:02:42,160 --> 00:02:45,800

He said I wouldn't run out right away and buy a white cane,

42

00:02:45,800 --> 00:02:47,800

but it's very serious.

43

00:02:47,800 --> 00:02:50,640

And I was scared.

44

00:02:50,640 --> 00:02:53,040

I mean, I suddenly realized that there was a possibility

45

00:02:53,040 --> 00:02:54,440

that I could go blind.

46

00:02:54,440 --> 00:02:58,200

I never, I hadn't taken it seriously all along.

47

00:03:01,440 --> 00:03:04,000

Kathy's trouble had begun one week earlier.

48

00:03:06,520 --> 00:03:10,000

I woke up one morning and I just saw that there was a little area

49

00:03:10,000 --> 00:03:12,560

in my field of vision that I couldn't see out of.

50

00:03:12,560 --> 00:03:16,160

And I just thought there was a speck on my eye

51

00:03:16,160 --> 00:03:19,160

and that I tried to rub it away and nothing happened.

52

00:03:19,280 --> 00:03:21,160

It didn't leave.

53

00:03:21,160 --> 00:03:23,000

I didn't really think too much about it.

54

00:03:23,000 --> 00:03:25,640

I just thought it was unusual.

55

00:03:25,640 --> 00:03:26,720

And I just let it go.

56

00:03:26,720 --> 00:03:29,160

And throughout the day, it didn't disappear.

57

00:03:29,160 --> 00:03:33,640

And the next day, it was a little larger area.

58

00:03:33,640 --> 00:03:35,920

By the end of the week, when I couldn't see it all out

59

00:03:35,920 --> 00:03:38,360

of the eye, I decided this probably isn't normal

60

00:03:38,360 --> 00:03:41,360

and I probably should do something about it.

61

00:03:41,360 --> 00:03:44,120

Kathy consulted two other ophthalmologists.

62

00:03:44,120 --> 00:03:47,800

The diagnosis was unanimous, optic neuritis.

63

00:03:47,800 --> 00:03:50,600

Possible consequence, blindness.

64

00:03:50,600 --> 00:03:52,840

There is no known cure.

65

00:03:52,840 --> 00:03:56,480

Her doctor recommended steroids.

66

00:03:56,480 --> 00:03:59,200

Kathy was strongly opposed to the use of steroids

67

00:03:59,200 --> 00:04:01,800

and was determined to find an alternative.

68

00:04:01,800 --> 00:04:04,000

She consulted a doctor who was well versed

69

00:04:04,000 --> 00:04:06,920

in the mysterious methods of a man named Edgar Cayce.

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00:04:11,280 --> 00:04:15,480

Edgar Cayce became famous in the 1920s as a diagnostician,

71

00:04:15,480 --> 00:04:19,080

even though he had absolutely no medical training.

72

00:04:19,080 --> 00:04:22,840

In his lifetime, Cayce made more than 9,000 diagnoses,

73

00:04:22,840 --> 00:04:26,560

which he called readings, but in a deep, self-induced trance.

74

00:04:29,240 --> 00:04:33,640

In 1937, Cayce did a reading on this 18-year-old woman

75

00:04:33,640 --> 00:04:37,440

who suffered from scleroderma, a disfiguring chronic disease

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00:04:37,440 --> 00:04:41,520

with no cure in which a person's skin hardens.

77

00:04:41,520 --> 00:04:43,560

Cayce prescribed a number of treatments

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00:04:43,560 --> 00:04:47,000

and her scleroderma went into immediate remission.

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00:04:47,000 --> 00:04:49,000

The reading was given in January,

80

00:04:49,000 --> 00:04:52,360

and the readings were followed to the letter.

81

00:04:52,360 --> 00:04:56,120

In an interview 40 years later, the woman gave Edgar Cayce

82

00:04:56,120 --> 00:04:58,000

full credit for her cure.

83

00:04:58,000 --> 00:05:00,520

In June of 1936.

84

00:05:00,520 --> 00:05:04,040

In 1976, six-year-old Andrew Senzon

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00:05:04,040 --> 00:05:06,720

suffered from severe psoriasis.

86

00:05:06,720 --> 00:05:09,880

In desperation, Andrew's mother sought out a doctor who

87

00:05:09,920 --> 00:05:14,840

utilized methods set down by Edgar Cayce 30 years earlier.

88

00:05:14,840 --> 00:05:17,360

Within four months, the psoriasis was gone.

89

00:05:20,880 --> 00:05:23,680

Today, Andrew Senzon is 21 years old

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00:05:23,680 --> 00:05:26,440

and has had only one recurrence, which also

91

00:05:26,440 --> 00:05:28,400

responded to the Cayce treatments.

92

00:05:31,080 --> 00:05:34,360

Some people write off Edgar Cayce's cures as lucky coincidence,

93

00:05:34,360 --> 00:05:38,120

or the power of suggestion acting on psychosomatic illness,

94

00:05:38,120 --> 00:05:40,600

but for those diagnosed with the disease of modern medicine

95

00:05:40,600 --> 00:05:43,920

cannot cure, or in some cases even explain,

96

00:05:43,920 --> 00:05:47,160

Edgar Cayce's methods continue to hold out hope.

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00:05:47,160 --> 00:05:49,800

Cayce died in 1945.

98

00:05:49,800 --> 00:05:52,120

Even so, each year thousands of inquiries

99

00:05:52,120 --> 00:05:54,760

mail over the world pour into Cayce's non-profit center

100

00:05:54,760 --> 00:05:56,920

in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

101

00:05:56,920 --> 00:06:00,440

The thriving center is an unlikely legacy for Edgar Cayce,

102

00:06:00,440 --> 00:06:04,080

a quiet, unpretentious man who came of age in rural Kentucky

103

00:06:04,080 --> 00:06:05,080

at the turn of the century.

104

00:06:09,120 --> 00:06:12,120

My father was a very ordinary person.

105

00:06:12,120 --> 00:06:14,280

He liked to garden, he liked to fish.

106

00:06:14,280 --> 00:06:16,000

We had gardens wherever we lived.

107

00:06:16,000 --> 00:06:18,280

He taught Sunday school.

108

00:06:18,280 --> 00:06:20,800

I mean, in everyday life, you wouldn't know him

109

00:06:20,800 --> 00:06:21,560

from anybody else.

110

00:06:21,560 --> 00:06:23,040

It was only when he was asleep that he

111

00:06:23,040 --> 00:06:24,400

had extraordinary ability.

112

00:06:27,080 --> 00:06:29,680

Edgar Cayce discovered his mysterious ability

113

00:06:29,680 --> 00:06:31,640

when he was 13.

114

00:06:31,640 --> 00:06:33,720

Time for your lessons, young man.

115

00:06:33,720 --> 00:06:37,280

A borderline student, Edgar fell asleep over a spelling book.

116

00:06:38,280 --> 00:06:39,960

When his father quizzed him, Edgar

117

00:06:39,960 --> 00:06:41,840

could spell every word in the book

118

00:06:41,840 --> 00:06:46,080

and even knew the page numbers or each word appeared.

119

00:06:46,080 --> 00:06:46,680

Cattle.

120

00:06:46,680 --> 00:06:48,640

From that time on, all he had to do

121

00:06:48,640 --> 00:06:50,160

was sleep on his books at night.

122

00:06:50,160 --> 00:06:52,800

And he moved along very rapidly, whether it

123

00:06:52,800 --> 00:06:55,160

was spelling or math or history or whatever.

124

00:06:55,160 --> 00:06:57,200

And he became an exceptional student

125

00:06:57,200 --> 00:07:00,240

rather than an average student.

126

00:07:00,240 --> 00:07:03,560

In 1900, when Edgar was 23, he suddenly

127

00:07:03,560 --> 00:07:05,560

lost the power of speech.

128

00:07:05,560 --> 00:07:07,560

For an entire year, physicians were

129

00:07:07,560 --> 00:07:11,920

unable to explain or cure his illness.

130

00:07:11,920 --> 00:07:14,600

Continue to breathe deeply.

131

00:07:14,600 --> 00:07:16,560

As a last resort, Cayce's parents

132

00:07:16,560 --> 00:07:18,960

convinced him to see a hypnotist.

133

00:07:18,960 --> 00:07:22,000

His family physician attended and recorded the session

134

00:07:22,000 --> 00:07:23,200

in minute detail.

135

00:07:26,440 --> 00:07:29,880

Cayce sank into a deep sleep.

136

00:07:29,880 --> 00:07:32,560

Everyone present was stunned when, for the first time

137

00:07:32,560 --> 00:07:35,240

in a year, Edgar Cayce spoke.

138

00:07:39,720 --> 00:07:44,480

Yes, we have the body before us.

139

00:07:44,480 --> 00:07:47,000

Dad never had any form of medical training.

140

00:07:47,000 --> 00:07:50,840

In fact, his educational career stopped

141

00:07:50,840 --> 00:07:52,760

to be equivalent to the ninth grade now.

142

00:07:52,760 --> 00:07:58,880

Due to a paralysis of the interior muscles

143

00:07:58,880 --> 00:08:00,680

of the vocal cords.

144

00:08:00,680 --> 00:08:04,120

He would suggest things and describe things,

145

00:08:04,120 --> 00:08:07,000

the parts of the body, that he had no knowledge of.

146

00:08:07,000 --> 00:08:10,480

This will remove the trouble to the speech.

147

00:08:10,480 --> 00:08:12,760

He started to talk and say, yes, we

148

00:08:12,760 --> 00:08:15,760

have the condition of the constriction to the throat,

149

00:08:15,760 --> 00:08:18,000

some constriction of the blood flow.

150

00:08:18,000 --> 00:08:20,160

So we will correct it.

151

00:08:20,160 --> 00:08:22,280

The body will now awaken.

152

00:08:22,280 --> 00:08:26,240

And when Lane, the hypnotist, told him to wake up,

153

00:08:26,240 --> 00:08:30,040

he set up and coughed up a little blood, and he could talk.

154

00:08:31,680 --> 00:08:35,000

And I think that was probably the first reading,

155

00:08:35,000 --> 00:08:36,760

though it was on himself.

156

00:08:36,760 --> 00:08:37,160

Hello.

157

00:08:39,880 --> 00:08:42,120

Cayce's doctor persuaded him to attempt

158

00:08:42,120 --> 00:08:44,240

diagnoses on other patients who had not

159

00:08:44,240 --> 00:08:46,800

responded to traditional medicine.

160

00:08:46,800 --> 00:08:51,400

Cayce agreed, but the end result left him disillusioned.

161

00:08:51,400 --> 00:08:54,640

The problem developed when, at the end of some of the readings,

162

00:08:54,640 --> 00:08:57,720

people would start asking him questions about who was going

163

00:08:57,720 --> 00:08:59,840

to, what horse was going to win a race,

164

00:08:59,840 --> 00:09:02,200

what was going to happen in the commodities, the stock market,

165

00:09:02,200 --> 00:09:04,760

of the results of a ball game.

166

00:09:04,760 --> 00:09:07,000

And when he found out what had happened,

167

00:09:07,000 --> 00:09:12,480

of what people were doing, he said, I'm giving it up.

168

00:09:12,480 --> 00:09:14,960

Cayce abandoned his psychic readings,

169

00:09:14,960 --> 00:09:17,160

married, and moved to Selma, Alabama,

170

00:09:17,160 --> 00:09:19,320

where he worked as a photographer.

171

00:09:19,320 --> 00:09:25,160

By 1914, he had two sons, Edgar Evans and Hugh Lynn.

172

00:09:25,160 --> 00:09:26,880

When Hugh Lynn was eight years old,

173

00:09:26,880 --> 00:09:31,640

he was terribly injured in a dark room explosion.

174

00:09:31,640 --> 00:09:35,120

A local doctor held out little hope.

175

00:09:35,120 --> 00:09:37,640

How is he doing?

176

00:09:37,640 --> 00:09:42,360

I managed to remove most of the powder from his eyes.

177

00:09:42,360 --> 00:09:45,000

But I found that the damage to the tissue

178

00:09:45,000 --> 00:09:48,640

was so extensive that he may lose his sight.

179

00:09:49,560 --> 00:09:54,600

My brother was playing in the studio and dropped a match

180

00:09:54,600 --> 00:09:57,320

in a partially filled can of flashlight powder,

181

00:09:57,320 --> 00:10:00,920

and it blew up in his face and burned his eyes very badly.

182

00:10:00,920 --> 00:10:03,040

The doctors examined him and said, well,

183

00:10:03,040 --> 00:10:05,480

we think we're going to have to take out one eye.

184

00:10:05,480 --> 00:10:08,400

He's probably going to lose a sight in both of them.

185

00:10:08,400 --> 00:10:14,440

And my brother said, daddy, give me a reading.

186

00:10:14,440 --> 00:10:15,640

Let's go into the parlor.

187

00:10:19,640 --> 00:10:22,480

For Edgar Cayce, it was the ultimate test.

188

00:10:22,480 --> 00:10:25,840

He had not attempted a reading in years.

189

00:10:25,840 --> 00:10:29,520

Could he now save his own son from a life of blindness?

190

00:10:32,520 --> 00:10:37,640

Although tannic acid would not be normally used

191

00:10:37,640 --> 00:10:41,800

under these circumstances for a child,

192

00:10:41,800 --> 00:10:45,160

an application for the eyes that included tannic acid.

193

00:10:45,160 --> 00:10:46,920

Well, that was unheard of at the time,

194

00:10:46,920 --> 00:10:48,760

and the doctors thought it was too strong,

195

00:10:48,760 --> 00:10:50,760

but they thought he was going to lose his eyes anyway.

196

00:10:50,760 --> 00:10:52,600

So they wouldn't hurt to try it.

197

00:10:52,600 --> 00:10:55,400

And when they first put it on, well, you then said,

198

00:10:55,400 --> 00:10:57,040

this must be daddy's medicine.

199

00:10:57,040 --> 00:10:57,600

It doesn't hurt.

200

00:11:00,360 --> 00:11:02,240

It seemed like a miracle.

201

00:11:02,240 --> 00:11:07,320

Within six weeks, Hugh Lynn's sight was completely restored.

202

00:11:07,320 --> 00:11:09,720

Word of the boy's recovery spread.

203

00:11:09,720 --> 00:11:12,720

Edgar Cayce soon became famous.

204

00:11:12,720 --> 00:11:17,200

In 1925, he moved to Virginia Beach, Virginia.

205

00:11:17,200 --> 00:11:20,360

Within five years, Cayce established a center there

206

00:11:20,360 --> 00:11:23,960

to catalog and interpret the readings.

207

00:11:23,960 --> 00:11:25,920

The center received thousands of letters,

208

00:11:25,920 --> 00:11:28,240

most of them requests for readings.

209

00:11:28,240 --> 00:11:31,240

Although Cayce normally did only two readings a day,

210

00:11:31,240 --> 00:11:33,600

he was unable to turn his back on those who

211

00:11:33,600 --> 00:11:37,400

seemed to need him so desperately.

212

00:11:37,400 --> 00:11:39,240

He felt like he couldn't refuse people,

213

00:11:39,240 --> 00:11:42,520

so he started doing two and three and four and five

214

00:11:42,520 --> 00:11:45,960

and he'd got up to understand nine or 10 a day,

215

00:11:45,960 --> 00:11:49,400

and it was just too much for him.

216

00:11:49,400 --> 00:11:51,680

On the brink of exhaustion, Edgar Cayce

217

00:11:51,680 --> 00:11:53,680

suffered a massive stroke.

218

00:11:53,680 --> 00:11:59,800

He died on January 3, 1945, leaving behind more than 120,000

219

00:11:59,800 --> 00:12:02,360

pages of readings, which continued

220

00:12:02,360 --> 00:12:05,920

to serve as a wellspring of hope for those in search of cures

221

00:12:05,920 --> 00:12:08,280

that may have eluded established medicine.

222

00:12:08,720 --> 00:12:12,960

Now, Kathy, an X-ray examination of your neck

223

00:12:12,960 --> 00:12:14,680

shows that you have the deviation.

224

00:12:14,680 --> 00:12:18,560

When Kathy Camorra's optic neuritis was diagnosed in 1986,

225

00:12:18,560 --> 00:12:22,600

she went to Dr. John Pagano, a chiropractor in New Jersey,

226

00:12:22,600 --> 00:12:26,560

who has studied Edgar Cayce's readings for 30 years.

227

00:12:26,560 --> 00:12:30,560

Cayce was very specific on what areas of the spine

228

00:12:30,560 --> 00:12:32,040

to adjust.

229

00:12:32,040 --> 00:12:36,160

The fact that Cayce suggested the certain procedures

230

00:12:36,200 --> 00:12:38,880

for eye problems does not mean that he's specifically

231

00:12:38,880 --> 00:12:40,280

diagnosed it as optic neuritis.

232

00:12:40,280 --> 00:12:43,240

He talked about vision problems, blindness,

233

00:12:43,240 --> 00:12:46,320

and that's what I approached not as optic neuritis.

234

00:12:46,320 --> 00:12:48,960

A person will stretch you out a little bit,

235

00:12:48,960 --> 00:12:50,920

to sort of get the blood circulating.

236

00:12:50,920 --> 00:12:53,560

After I gave her an adjustment, she called me the next day

237

00:12:53,560 --> 00:12:55,760

to tell me there's an improvement.

238

00:12:55,760 --> 00:12:59,240

We continued treatment, and within seven days,

239

00:12:59,240 --> 00:13:02,320

her site was restored.

240

00:13:02,320 --> 00:13:04,280

Dr. Pagano, who was a doctor,

241

00:13:05,240 --> 00:13:08,200

Dr. Pagano believes that Edgar Cayce's treatments,

242

00:13:08,200 --> 00:13:11,160

set forth in several readings given decades earlier,

243

00:13:11,160 --> 00:13:13,480

brought back Kathy Camorra's vision.

244

00:13:13,480 --> 00:13:16,680

Skeptics disagree.

245

00:13:16,680 --> 00:13:18,880

I think much of the Cayce material

246

00:13:18,880 --> 00:13:20,720

is based upon illusion.

247

00:13:20,720 --> 00:13:23,640

And I think there's a placebo effect here at work.

248

00:13:23,640 --> 00:13:27,680

Often, if you believe that someone is going to cure you,

249

00:13:27,680 --> 00:13:29,680

you give them white sugar pills.

250

00:13:29,680 --> 00:13:30,560

They might be cured.

251

00:13:30,560 --> 00:13:33,560

So the power of the mind can have a powerful effect.

252

00:13:33,560 --> 00:13:35,680

I do believe in the power of the mind.

253

00:13:35,680 --> 00:13:40,240

And I tried to will the site back

254

00:13:40,240 --> 00:13:44,680

before I had gone to Dr. Pagano, and it didn't work.

255

00:13:44,680 --> 00:13:46,760

And it was only after I had gone to Dr. Pagano,

256

00:13:46,760 --> 00:13:48,800

and after he had adjusted my neck,

257

00:13:48,800 --> 00:13:52,320

that the site came back.

258

00:13:52,320 --> 00:13:55,960

I don't think that Edgar Cayce had any psychic powers.

259

00:13:55,960 --> 00:13:58,680

I don't think there's such a thing as psychic medicine.

260

00:13:58,680 --> 00:14:02,440

And I think one ought to be very cautious about the claim

261

00:14:02,440 --> 00:14:07,600

that you can diagnose illnesses in some mystical way.

262

00:14:07,600 --> 00:14:11,040

How can the unique life of Edgar Cayce be explained?

263

00:14:11,040 --> 00:14:13,440

He has been denounced as a soothsayer.

264

00:14:13,440 --> 00:14:16,120

He has been heralded as a prophet.

265

00:14:16,120 --> 00:14:20,240

The medical establishment refuses to endorse Cayce's methods.

266

00:14:20,240 --> 00:14:25,680

Yet at the same time, is unwilling to dismiss them.

267

00:14:25,680 --> 00:14:30,000

Before his death, Edgar Cayce wrote to a friend,

268

00:14:30,040 --> 00:14:32,800

In my life and in the lives of many who come in contact

269

00:14:32,800 --> 00:14:36,360

with the readings, there seems to be much that is of help.

270

00:14:36,360 --> 00:14:39,200

But you must judge for yourself.

271

00:14:39,200 --> 00:14:42,160

Facts and results are the only measuring rods.

272

00:14:42,160 --> 00:14:44,880

If this knowledge is to be of any lasting benefit,

273

00:14:44,880 --> 00:14:49,160

it will require open-minded, intelligent research.

274

00:14:49,160 --> 00:14:50,720

Perhaps the readings of Edgar Cayce

275

00:14:50,720 --> 00:14:52,600

are one mystery that will be solved only

276

00:14:52,600 --> 00:14:55,240

through patience, medical evaluation,

277

00:14:55,240 --> 00:14:58,880

and that greatest of all healers, time.

278

00:15:01,000 --> 00:15:03,480

Next, an aspiring actress is found dead

279

00:15:03,480 --> 00:15:05,480

in her Los Angeles apartment.

280

00:15:05,480 --> 00:15:08,560

The coroner ruled her death due to undetermined causes,

281

00:15:08,560 --> 00:15:09,960

but some say it was murder.

282

00:15:19,480 --> 00:15:23,800

Hollywood, California, the dream factory,

283

00:15:23,800 --> 00:15:26,000

the fantasy land of myth and legend fueled

284

00:15:26,000 --> 00:15:28,160

by the tantalizing fable that anyone

285

00:15:28,160 --> 00:15:30,240

can become famous overnight.

286

00:15:31,880 --> 00:15:34,720

Ever since the movies began, beautiful young girls

287

00:15:34,720 --> 00:15:36,960

have flocked to Hollywood, lured by the glamour

288

00:15:36,960 --> 00:15:39,840

of Tinseltown on the promise of startling.

289

00:15:39,840 --> 00:15:42,240

It was this dream which brought 23-year-old

290

00:15:42,240 --> 00:15:45,880

Crystal Spencer to Los Angeles in the summer of 1982.

291

00:15:47,760 --> 00:15:49,720

For as long as she could remember,

292

00:15:49,720 --> 00:15:52,760

Crystal Spencer pictured herself as not just an actress,

293

00:15:52,760 --> 00:15:54,480

but a star.

294

00:15:54,480 --> 00:15:56,400

Sadly, her search for fame and fortune

295

00:15:56,400 --> 00:16:00,120

led only to frustration, failure, and some say murder.

296

00:16:02,680 --> 00:16:05,440

Crystal Lene Spencer was raised in the small Northern

297

00:16:05,440 --> 00:16:07,960

California town of Ucaya.

298

00:16:07,960 --> 00:16:09,960

When she was eight, her father died,

299

00:16:09,960 --> 00:16:12,640

leaving her mother to raise three small children alone.

300

00:16:15,000 --> 00:16:17,440

At 17, Crystal dropped out of high school

301

00:16:17,440 --> 00:16:20,240

and took a job to help support the family.

302

00:16:20,240 --> 00:16:23,640

Soon Hollywood beckoned, and she moved to the Los Angeles area

303

00:16:23,640 --> 00:16:25,240

to actively pursue her dream.

304

00:16:27,400 --> 00:16:29,520

Her early years were a struggle,

305

00:16:29,520 --> 00:16:32,000

resulting only in a few bit parts.

306

00:16:32,000 --> 00:16:35,360

Crystal quickly realized the true stardom was elusive

307

00:16:35,360 --> 00:16:36,840

and perhaps unobtainable.

308

00:16:43,000 --> 00:16:44,800

Within two years of her arrival,

309

00:16:44,800 --> 00:16:47,640

Crystal reluctantly took a job as an exotic dancer

310

00:16:47,640 --> 00:16:49,200

to pay her bills.

311

00:16:49,200 --> 00:16:52,760

On a good night, she cleared up to \$400 in tips.

312

00:16:52,760 --> 00:16:55,160

But Crystal never fully accepted the fact

313

00:16:55,160 --> 00:16:57,200

that in essence, she was a stripper.

314

00:17:01,400 --> 00:17:06,120

Sometimes she would just like start crying,

315

00:17:06,120 --> 00:17:09,840

like she felt degraded about herself, of what she'd done.

316

00:17:12,560 --> 00:17:16,200

In May of 1987, friends invited Crystal to an outdoor

317

00:17:16,200 --> 00:17:17,520

barbecue.

318

00:17:17,520 --> 00:17:19,840

She was eager to mix and mingle with people

319

00:17:19,840 --> 00:17:21,800

who might help further her acting career.

320

00:17:23,800 --> 00:17:24,800

Nice to meet you.

321

00:17:25,560 --> 00:17:27,880

Oh, this is your place, then.

322

00:17:27,880 --> 00:17:30,400

There was something very alluring and compelling

323

00:17:30,400 --> 00:17:35,920

about Crystal that would readily catch your eye.

324

00:17:35,920 --> 00:17:38,800

She knew that she would become not only an actress,

325

00:17:38,800 --> 00:17:41,160

but she would become a very famous actress,

326

00:17:41,160 --> 00:17:44,640

and it was just a matter of time.

327

00:17:44,640 --> 00:17:47,200

Crystal was taken with Anton Klein,

328

00:17:47,200 --> 00:17:51,200

a would-be screenwriter and a PhD candidate in history.

329

00:17:51,200 --> 00:17:53,520

Though they came from totally different backgrounds,

330

00:17:53,560 --> 00:17:56,720

they soon fell in love.

331

00:17:56,720 --> 00:17:58,960

Anton took it upon himself to help Crystal

332

00:17:58,960 --> 00:18:00,880

broaden her horizons.

333

00:18:00,880 --> 00:18:03,320

He introduced her to art galleries, museums,

334

00:18:03,320 --> 00:18:04,480

and concerts.

335

00:18:04,480 --> 00:18:05,560

Crystal was dazzled.

336

00:18:08,480 --> 00:18:09,560

She loved classical music.

337

00:18:09,560 --> 00:18:12,000

She loved fine art.

338

00:18:12,000 --> 00:18:18,440

She wanted to know more about these other wonderful things

339

00:18:18,440 --> 00:18:23,200

of life that she had never been exposed to before.

340

00:18:23,240 --> 00:18:26,520

Anton had no idea how Crystal earned her living.

341

00:18:26,520 --> 00:18:28,760

She walked a precarious tightrope.

342

00:18:28,760 --> 00:18:31,320

Discovering art and culture by day,

343

00:18:31,320 --> 00:18:33,840

immersed in Hollywood's dark side by night.

344

00:18:38,160 --> 00:18:40,800

Crystal loved Anton very much.

345

00:18:40,800 --> 00:18:45,840

She was very scared about him finding out.

346

00:18:45,840 --> 00:18:47,080

She says, well, I better change.

347

00:18:47,080 --> 00:18:50,240

I better quit dancing then before he finds out.

348

00:18:50,240 --> 00:18:54,400

I better quit doing this before he finds out.

349

00:18:54,400 --> 00:18:55,200

I want to get married.

350

00:18:55,200 --> 00:18:56,120

I want to have a future.

351

00:18:56,120 --> 00:18:59,760

I want to start doing something for my life.

352

00:19:02,800 --> 00:19:05,200

Finally, four months after they met,

353

00:19:05,200 --> 00:19:09,560

Anton found out about Crystal's other life.

354

00:19:09,560 --> 00:19:13,560

A neighbor saw her dancing at the club by the airport

355

00:19:13,560 --> 00:19:15,120

where she worked.

356

00:19:15,120 --> 00:19:18,880

And he said, I saw that girl on stage either night

357

00:19:18,880 --> 00:19:20,840

or so.

358

00:19:20,840 --> 00:19:22,080

No, you couldn't have.

359

00:19:22,080 --> 00:19:24,720

He said, that was her.

360

00:19:24,720 --> 00:19:26,640

Of course it was her.

361

00:19:26,640 --> 00:19:30,440

And I was shocked.

362

00:19:30,440 --> 00:19:32,680

He was very upset.

363

00:19:32,680 --> 00:19:35,280

But he said it was OK.

364

00:19:35,280 --> 00:19:39,320

He accepted it, which shocked her.

365

00:19:39,320 --> 00:19:41,960

And she didn't know what to say.

366

00:19:42,960 --> 00:19:44,440

I need to put it right here.

367

00:19:44,440 --> 00:19:45,840

I want so many cold hands on them.

368

00:19:45,840 --> 00:19:46,960

That's my cold.

369

00:19:46,960 --> 00:19:51,200

On Wednesday, May 4, 1988, Crystal was home with a cold.

370

00:19:51,200 --> 00:19:54,120

Anton stopped by, and they talked about a promising offer

371

00:19:54,120 --> 00:19:57,760

she had received to work in the Orient.

372

00:19:57,760 --> 00:19:58,400

Perfect.

373

00:19:58,400 --> 00:19:59,880

So what's happened with your hand?

374

00:19:59,880 --> 00:20:00,880

I don't know.

375

00:20:00,880 --> 00:20:03,440

They haven't called yet.

376

00:20:03,440 --> 00:20:05,120

When are you leaving?

377

00:20:05,120 --> 00:20:10,400

I'm not even sure if I have the job or not yet.

378

00:20:10,400 --> 00:20:11,880

She was very nervous.

379

00:20:11,880 --> 00:20:16,160

But excited about the possibility of traveling to Japan

380

00:20:16,160 --> 00:20:19,320

and seeing a whole different world in which she was accustomed

381

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

to.

382

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

I spoke to Crystal Thursday evening, the next evening,

383

00:20:27,040 --> 00:20:27,680

on the telephone.

384

00:20:27,680 --> 00:20:28,720

How are you doing?

385

00:20:28,720 --> 00:20:29,960

You feeling better?

386

00:20:29,960 --> 00:20:31,480

Much better, thanks.

387

00:20:31,480 --> 00:20:32,400

That's good.

388

00:20:32,400 --> 00:20:35,480

And the conversation lasted for 15 minutes.

389

00:20:35,480 --> 00:20:36,560

I said, I'll be in touch.

390

00:20:36,560 --> 00:20:37,760

And she said, OK.

391

00:20:37,760 --> 00:20:39,800

I hung up the phone.

392

00:20:39,800 --> 00:20:44,000

And that was the last time I ever spoke with her.

393

00:20:44,000 --> 00:20:46,840

Three days later, Anton tried to reach Crystal,

394

00:20:46,840 --> 00:20:49,360

but continuously got a busy signal.

395

00:20:49,360 --> 00:20:52,040

An operator told him the receiver was off the hook.

396

00:21:03,520 --> 00:21:04,520

Good afternoon.

397

00:21:04,520 --> 00:21:06,440

Yeah, I'm looking for Crystal Spencer.

398

00:21:06,440 --> 00:21:08,480

She's not working tonight.

399

00:21:08,520 --> 00:21:10,040

Did she work here last night?

400

00:21:10,040 --> 00:21:11,560

She didn't punch in.

401

00:21:11,560 --> 00:21:15,120

Confused, Anton has seen the Crystal at Lefver, Japan

402

00:21:15,120 --> 00:21:17,360

without saying goodbye.

403

00:21:17,360 --> 00:21:18,840

Have you seen Crystal Spencer?

404

00:21:18,840 --> 00:21:19,520

What?

405

00:21:19,520 --> 00:21:21,200

Have you seen Crystal Spencer?

406

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

No, I haven't seen her in a couple of days.

407

00:21:23,200 --> 00:21:24,240

Do you know where she is?

408

00:21:24,240 --> 00:21:28,720

I was expecting any day to receive a very excited phone

409

00:21:28,720 --> 00:21:33,160

call from a very excited Crystal saying,

410

00:21:33,160 --> 00:21:34,600

it's wonderful here.

411

00:21:34,600 --> 00:21:36,840

It's a whole different world here.

412

00:21:36,840 --> 00:21:39,840

And instead, I got a phone call from the Burbank Police

413

00:21:39,840 --> 00:21:40,320

Department.

414

00:21:43,600 --> 00:21:47,360

Friday, the 13th of May, 1988, police

415

00:21:47,360 --> 00:21:50,600

discovered the decomposed body of Crystal Spencer.

416

00:21:50,600 --> 00:21:52,560

She had been dead for nearly a week.

417

00:21:52,560 --> 00:21:54,880

Hi, Alway.

418

00:21:54,880 --> 00:21:59,840

They at first just said she was found dead in her apartment.

419

00:21:59,840 --> 00:22:02,280

And they wanted to know when I'd last seen her.

420

00:22:02,280 --> 00:22:04,520

And I said I last saw her on Wednesday.

421

00:22:04,520 --> 00:22:05,240

And how was she?

422

00:22:05,240 --> 00:22:07,760

I said, well, she had a cold.

423

00:22:07,760 --> 00:22:13,560

And they said they believed she died of natural causes.

424

00:22:13,560 --> 00:22:16,920

An autopsy revealed no trace of drugs or alcohol

425

00:22:16,920 --> 00:22:18,360

in Crystal's system.

426

00:22:18,360 --> 00:22:22,440

There were no obvious signs of foul play or suicide.

427

00:22:22,440 --> 00:22:24,440

The coroner ruled that her death was

428

00:22:24,440 --> 00:22:27,560

a result of undetermined causes.

429

00:22:27,560 --> 00:22:30,480

The body of Ms. Spencer was in such an advanced state

430

00:22:30,480 --> 00:22:33,000

of decomposition, they were not able to ascribe

431

00:22:33,000 --> 00:22:34,760

the cause of death.

432

00:22:34,760 --> 00:22:37,200

So they have no finding.

433

00:22:37,200 --> 00:22:39,360

I was suspicious because I did not

434

00:22:39,360 --> 00:22:42,680

believe that Crystal Spencer died of illness.

435

00:22:42,680 --> 00:22:48,080

She was not a sick woman when I last saw her or last spoke

436

00:22:48,080 --> 00:22:49,200

with her.

437

00:22:49,200 --> 00:22:52,120

She was a young woman for cold.

438

00:22:52,120 --> 00:22:54,960

I was suspicious because the way I was told the body was

439

00:22:54,960 --> 00:23:00,000

found in an obscure corner of her apartment,

440

00:23:00,000 --> 00:23:02,120

nude from the waist down.

441

00:23:02,120 --> 00:23:05,000

The phone went off the hook for days.

442

00:23:05,000 --> 00:23:08,800

And I became extremely suspicious when

443

00:23:08,800 --> 00:23:13,200

I learned that neighbors had heard terrible screams

444

00:23:13,200 --> 00:23:16,840

and shrills coming from her apartment

445

00:23:16,840 --> 00:23:19,320

that some had described as a sound of torture.

446

00:23:23,360 --> 00:23:26,200

On the night of May 7, two of Crystal's neighbors

447

00:23:26,200 --> 00:23:31,320

had been awakened by a strange intermittent wailing.

448

00:23:31,320 --> 00:23:34,120

Two, three minutes after 4, I remember looking at the clock.

449

00:23:34,120 --> 00:23:37,280

And I heard some moans and some just funny sounds.

450

00:23:37,280 --> 00:23:39,120

And you know how you are when you wake up.

451

00:23:39,120 --> 00:23:42,320

You just don't know what's going on.

452

00:23:42,320 --> 00:23:44,080

Somebody's screaming.

453

00:23:44,080 --> 00:23:45,480

But even before I even woke him up,

454

00:23:45,480 --> 00:23:47,200

I laid there thinking someone's being tortured,

455

00:23:47,200 --> 00:23:50,120

someone's being hurt, something's going on.

456

00:23:50,120 --> 00:23:54,040

I had no past prior experience to what the sounds were

457

00:23:54,040 --> 00:23:56,960

because they were so blood curdling eerie

458

00:23:56,960 --> 00:24:01,080

that they frightened me very much.

459

00:24:01,080 --> 00:24:02,080

Sounds terrible.

460

00:24:02,080 --> 00:24:03,200

Do you think it's going from here?

461

00:24:03,200 --> 00:24:05,000

All I could think about for some reason

462

00:24:05,000 --> 00:24:07,800

was someone taking a cigarette and putting it

463

00:24:07,800 --> 00:24:10,560

against her body, torturing her.

464

00:24:10,560 --> 00:24:15,320

Because we had heard like choking and moaning.

465

00:24:15,320 --> 00:24:19,320

But then when this started, that's all we heard.

466

00:24:19,320 --> 00:24:22,400

The citizen was very adamant about calling the police.

467

00:24:22,400 --> 00:24:26,120

But out of my fear of what I heard,

468

00:24:26,120 --> 00:24:27,560

I didn't want to get involved.

469

00:24:27,560 --> 00:24:30,080

That was my first reaction.

470

00:24:30,080 --> 00:24:33,040

I don't think I'll ever be able to live with the fact

471

00:24:33,040 --> 00:24:35,200

that I didn't call the police.

472

00:24:35,200 --> 00:24:40,560

If I had, maybe she would still be alive.

473

00:24:40,560 --> 00:24:43,360

A week later, Crystal's body was discovered.

474

00:24:43,360 --> 00:24:46,000

And the tailors finally told their story to the police.

475

00:24:46,000 --> 00:24:46,800

You were the witnesses.

476

00:24:46,800 --> 00:24:47,920

You saw or heard something.

477

00:24:47,920 --> 00:24:49,120

About a week ago, about four in the morning.

478

00:24:49,120 --> 00:24:51,280

He just took my statement, took my name,

479

00:24:51,280 --> 00:24:53,600

asked me for my driver's license.

480

00:24:53,600 --> 00:24:54,640

That was it.

481

00:24:54,640 --> 00:24:57,520

It was just very nonchalant about it.

482

00:24:57,520 --> 00:25:03,200

I believe, most sincerely, as does her family,

483

00:25:03,200 --> 00:25:05,600

that Crystal and A. Spencer was murdered

484

00:25:05,600 --> 00:25:11,560

in the early morning hours of May 7, 1988.

485

00:25:11,560 --> 00:25:15,440

Crystal's family requested to view the body several times.

486

00:25:15,440 --> 00:25:17,720

The coroner's office continually refused,

487

00:25:17,720 --> 00:25:21,040

claiming the body was in no condition to be seen.

488

00:25:21,040 --> 00:25:23,600

For months, Anton Klein was denied access

489

00:25:23,600 --> 00:25:25,400

to the police records.

490

00:25:25,400 --> 00:25:27,680

However, in September of 1988, he

491

00:25:27,680 --> 00:25:30,840

was able to obtain the autopsy report.

492

00:25:30,840 --> 00:25:33,640

Anton was shocked by the discrepancies he found.

493

00:25:36,360 --> 00:25:39,520

Crystal Spencer was barely five foot tall.

494

00:25:39,520 --> 00:25:44,240

The autopsy report claims that she's an amazing five foot seven.

495

00:25:44,240 --> 00:25:48,480

Crystal Spencer weighed approximately 105 pounds.

496

00:25:48,480 --> 00:25:49,760

I last saw her.

497

00:25:49,760 --> 00:25:56,640

The autopsy claims the body is a well-nourished 140 pounds.

498

00:25:56,640 --> 00:25:58,080

I was stunned.

499

00:25:58,080 --> 00:26:01,360

I said, this is not the body of Crystal Spencer.

500

00:26:01,360 --> 00:26:04,280

Where is the real body of Crystal Spencer?

501

00:26:04,280 --> 00:26:07,520

You don't grow seven inches and gain 50 to 60 pounds

502

00:26:07,520 --> 00:26:09,040

when you're dead.

503

00:26:09,040 --> 00:26:11,600

The only thing that comes to my mind

504

00:26:11,600 --> 00:26:15,080

is a possible documentary error at the coroner's office.

505

00:26:15,080 --> 00:26:17,000

They are overwhelmed with work.

506

00:26:17,040 --> 00:26:20,800

However, we do have the remains identified

507

00:26:20,800 --> 00:26:23,400

by fingerprints from two different agencies,

508

00:26:23,400 --> 00:26:25,520

as I mentioned before.

509

00:26:25,520 --> 00:26:28,320

And those really eliminate any possibility

510

00:26:28,320 --> 00:26:33,240

of the coroner's autopsy and the wrong remains.

511

00:26:33,240 --> 00:26:38,080

I was told by one law enforcement official,

512

00:26:38,080 --> 00:26:40,880

quote unquote, bad things happen to bad girls.

513

00:26:40,880 --> 00:26:45,600

And I said, you mean bad girls die of natural causes?

514

00:26:45,600 --> 00:26:50,360

And he said, you know what I mean.

515

00:26:50,360 --> 00:26:51,560

And hung up on me on the phone.

516

00:26:54,160 --> 00:26:56,520

Two weeks after the discovery of her body,

517

00:26:56,520 --> 00:26:58,360

Crystal's family and friends gathered

518

00:26:58,360 --> 00:27:02,560

for a private memorial service.

519

00:27:02,560 --> 00:27:04,840

Fittingly, Crystal Spencer's ashes

520

00:27:04,840 --> 00:27:07,520

were scattered beneath the famous Hollywood sign.

521

00:27:08,200 --> 00:27:12,200

I believe the investigation is bungled.

522

00:27:12,200 --> 00:27:17,680

And I am angered that they are attempting now

523

00:27:17,680 --> 00:27:23,800

to suppress the police reports in this case forever.

524

00:27:23,800 --> 00:27:27,800

We need to know what happened to her.

525

00:27:27,800 --> 00:27:31,160

It's important to all of us who cared about her

526

00:27:31,160 --> 00:27:33,040

to learn the truth.

527

00:27:33,040 --> 00:27:34,640

That's all we want to know.

528

00:27:35,160 --> 00:27:36,960

To learn the truth.

529

00:27:36,960 --> 00:27:38,440

That's all we want is the truth.

530

00:27:52,560 --> 00:27:55,000

Next, police need your help to find

531

00:27:55,000 --> 00:27:57,920

a man suspected in the brutal murder of his ex-wife.

532

00:28:05,080 --> 00:28:11,760

Easter Sunday, 1990, a lonely road 12 miles outside

533

00:28:11,760 --> 00:28:14,280

of Coldwater, Michigan.

534

00:28:14,280 --> 00:28:16,960

Ray and Marie Thornton set off on a leisurely drive

535

00:28:16,960 --> 00:28:20,200

in the country as they did every weekend.

536

00:28:20,200 --> 00:28:23,400

But in just a matter of minutes, the routine mundanity

537

00:28:23,400 --> 00:28:26,200

would place this ordinary, orbiting couple

538

00:28:26,200 --> 00:28:30,800

at the center of a strange and ominous mystery.

539

00:28:30,800 --> 00:28:32,200

We were driving the solid time.

540

00:28:33,200 --> 00:28:35,920

We were driving south on the Snow Perry Road.

541

00:28:35,920 --> 00:28:40,520

And all of a sudden a van just on us and passed.

542

00:28:40,520 --> 00:28:42,120

Look at this guy coming around us.

543

00:28:42,120 --> 00:28:44,120

I need sure he's in a hurry.

544

00:28:44,120 --> 00:28:45,600

There he goes.

545

00:28:45,600 --> 00:28:46,480

Geeze.

546

00:28:46,480 --> 00:28:47,480

Geeze.

547

00:28:47,480 --> 00:28:50,400

He must be in a hurry.

548

00:28:50,400 --> 00:28:52,480

One of the things we do when we're out driving around

549

00:28:52,480 --> 00:28:55,320

is we make names out of license plates.

550

00:28:55,320 --> 00:28:58,280

And Marie came up with the G's.

551

00:28:58,280 --> 00:29:00,320

He's really in a hurry because the first two letters

552

00:29:00,360 --> 00:29:02,680

of his license plate were GZ.

553

00:29:02,680 --> 00:29:03,960

And it was just spontaneous.

554

00:29:03,960 --> 00:29:07,400

Really no thought behind it.

555

00:29:07,400 --> 00:29:09,800

Several miles down the road, the Thorntons

556

00:29:09,800 --> 00:29:14,200

came across the man and the van a second time.

557

00:29:14,200 --> 00:29:17,200

As we approached an old schoolhouse,

558

00:29:17,200 --> 00:29:19,280

I saw a man behind it.

559

00:29:19,280 --> 00:29:22,280

And he had what appeared to be a bloody sheet.

560

00:29:22,280 --> 00:29:24,040

Man, that's not a bloody sheet.

561

00:29:24,040 --> 00:29:26,240

He's behind the building.

562

00:29:26,240 --> 00:29:28,440

As we continued passing the school,

563

00:29:28,440 --> 00:29:32,680

I saw the van parked between the building and a big tank.

564

00:29:32,680 --> 00:29:34,640

There's the van that passed us.

565

00:29:34,640 --> 00:29:35,640

Where?

566

00:29:35,640 --> 00:29:36,640

It's right there.

567

00:29:36,640 --> 00:29:38,080

There was the one that passed us?

568

00:29:38,080 --> 00:29:40,080

Yes, I'm sure it was.

569

00:29:40,080 --> 00:29:42,320

The van that passed us.

570

00:29:42,320 --> 00:29:45,440

Minutes later, the van pulled up behind them again

571

00:29:45,440 --> 00:29:48,360

and rode their bumper for nearly two miles.

572

00:29:48,360 --> 00:29:50,760

I'm going to start writing this step down.

573

00:29:50,760 --> 00:29:54,280

Our game really paid off because that helped me remember

574

00:29:54,280 --> 00:29:57,720

the first two letters of his license plate number.

575

00:29:57,720 --> 00:30:00,960

But we wanted to get more if possible.

576

00:30:00,960 --> 00:30:03,920

He's got a white skull cap on right now like mine.

577

00:30:03,920 --> 00:30:08,080

Finally, a nervous Ray Thornton turned off the highway.

578

00:30:08,080 --> 00:30:10,720

When he did, the van pulled to the side of the road.

579

00:30:14,880 --> 00:30:18,440

We decided to turn around and come back and see

580

00:30:18,440 --> 00:30:20,680

if we get a license plate number.

581

00:30:20,680 --> 00:30:22,320

We felt if we could get the license number,

582

00:30:22,320 --> 00:30:23,520

then we could turn into a police.

583

00:30:23,520 --> 00:30:25,360

The guy was acting very suspicious.

584

00:30:25,360 --> 00:30:31,360

And we just felt that authorities should be notified.

585

00:30:31,360 --> 00:30:32,160

There he is.

586

00:30:32,160 --> 00:30:33,160

What is he doing?

587

00:30:33,160 --> 00:30:34,240

No, he's in the back of the van.

588

00:30:34,240 --> 00:30:35,160

He looks like he's changed.

589

00:30:35,160 --> 00:30:35,560

He is.

590

00:30:35,560 --> 00:30:36,240

He's changing plates.

591

00:30:38,840 --> 00:30:43,200

He was behind his van with the passenger front door open.

592

00:30:43,200 --> 00:30:45,160

You see the numbers on that plate?

593

00:30:45,160 --> 00:30:49,720

And I saw that the passenger door was covered with blood.

594

00:30:49,720 --> 00:30:51,320

There's blood all over that door.

595

00:30:51,320 --> 00:30:51,840

What door?

596

00:30:51,840 --> 00:30:53,440

The passenger door.

597

00:30:53,440 --> 00:30:54,760

That guy has done something.

598

00:30:54,760 --> 00:30:56,800

He has.

599

00:30:56,800 --> 00:31:00,360

The Thornton sphere, that something unspeakable had happened.

600

00:31:00,360 --> 00:31:02,800

They returned to the schoolyard to search for the sheet.

601

00:31:05,800 --> 00:31:07,520

Well, I was beginning to get nervous when

602

00:31:07,520 --> 00:31:10,960

we got back to the schoolhouse.

603

00:31:10,960 --> 00:31:13,440

We were very careful about where we walked.

604

00:31:13,440 --> 00:31:14,480

Where'd you see him?

605

00:31:14,480 --> 00:31:16,920

Back over this side.

606

00:31:16,920 --> 00:31:19,080

We tried to find what this white thing was

607

00:31:19,080 --> 00:31:22,000

that he had been carrying.

608

00:31:22,000 --> 00:31:23,080

Look, look.

609

00:31:23,080 --> 00:31:24,560

I see it.

610

00:31:24,560 --> 00:31:26,840

That's probably it.

611

00:31:26,840 --> 00:31:27,840

What is it?

612

00:31:32,840 --> 00:31:35,400

Partially stuffed into a small animal hole

613

00:31:35,400 --> 00:31:37,800

was a blood-soaked blanket.

614

00:31:37,800 --> 00:31:39,800

It's definitely a gland, all right.

615

00:31:39,800 --> 00:31:40,800

Let's go call him, please.

616

00:31:44,760 --> 00:31:47,200

On an otherwise pleasant spring afternoon,

617

00:31:47,200 --> 00:31:49,320

Ray and Marie Thornton had chanced upon evidence

618

00:31:49,320 --> 00:31:52,520

of a shocking crime, a crime which marked

619

00:31:52,520 --> 00:31:56,040

the complete and tragic disintegration of a family.

620

00:31:56,040 --> 00:31:57,760

Unwittingly, the Thorntons were witness

621

00:31:57,760 --> 00:32:00,280

to the final chapter of a bitter heated conflict

622

00:32:00,280 --> 00:32:04,600

between a husband and his wife, which ended in murder.

623

00:32:04,600 --> 00:32:05,720

He needs a man in the open.

624

00:32:05,720 --> 00:32:07,840

He's broke.

625

00:32:07,840 --> 00:32:10,040

Throughout what appearances, Dennis and Marilyn

626

00:32:10,040 --> 00:32:11,800

DePue of Coldwater, Michigan had

627

00:32:11,800 --> 00:32:13,520

a comfortable middle-class life.

628

00:32:13,520 --> 00:32:14,840

Now you be careful.

629

00:32:14,840 --> 00:32:16,880

Both had gratifying careers.

630

00:32:16,880 --> 00:32:19,880

Dennis was a state of Michigan property assessor,

631

00:32:19,920 --> 00:32:23,240

Marilyn, a high school counselor.

632

00:32:23,240 --> 00:32:25,480

Together, they were raising three healthy children.

633

00:32:28,200 --> 00:32:30,640

But beneath the surface, smoldering tensions

634

00:32:30,640 --> 00:32:33,120

threatened to erupt at any moment.

635

00:32:33,120 --> 00:32:37,280

After the children were born, Dennis grew sullen and withdrawn.

636

00:32:37,280 --> 00:32:39,680

He began to isolate himself from the family

637

00:32:39,680 --> 00:32:42,320

and accused Marilyn of turning the children against him.

638

00:32:45,240 --> 00:32:47,440

You know, it's not that they fought all the time,

639

00:32:47,480 --> 00:32:48,600

because they didn't.

640

00:32:48,600 --> 00:32:53,440

It was just, you know, they just didn't really talk.

641

00:32:53,440 --> 00:32:56,680

She would just say in general that she was unhappy.

642

00:32:56,680 --> 00:33:01,400

And when the lawyer or someone else would ask her why

643

00:33:01,400 --> 00:33:04,960

she wanted to get a divorce, she would say because the marriage

644

00:33:04,960 --> 00:33:09,680

is broken up and because there wasn't

645

00:33:09,680 --> 00:33:12,480

a longer marriage there.

646

00:33:12,480 --> 00:33:14,200

You want to make sure that you want to go through it

647

00:33:14,200 --> 00:33:15,000

at this time?

648

00:33:15,000 --> 00:33:17,440

If you do, you've got to sign it on this page

649

00:33:17,440 --> 00:33:19,400

and sign it on the last page.

650

00:33:19,400 --> 00:33:22,760

In 1989, after 18 years of marriage,

651

00:33:22,760 --> 00:33:25,400

Marilyn DePue finally gave up.

652

00:33:25,400 --> 00:33:26,680

Thank you.

653

00:33:26,680 --> 00:33:28,920

Now, do you have any questions at all, Marilyn?

654

00:33:28,920 --> 00:33:31,400

What about him seeing the children, then?

655

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

We have to wait till the hearing a week from Friday.

656

00:33:33,400 --> 00:33:37,360

Marilyn wanted to be more of her own person,

657

00:33:37,360 --> 00:33:40,440

raising her family as she saw fit.

658

00:33:40,440 --> 00:33:44,240

I believe that she felt at that time that Dennis was,

659

00:33:44,240 --> 00:33:47,080

in effect, trying to domineer her, that has run her life

660

00:33:47,080 --> 00:33:48,480

and not allow her to make decisions

661

00:33:48,480 --> 00:33:50,240

that she wanted to make.

662

00:33:50,240 --> 00:33:53,160

He was agreeable to his wife having custody.

663

00:33:53,160 --> 00:33:55,480

As far as property was concerned,

664

00:33:55,480 --> 00:33:59,120

he was very willing to allow his wife

665

00:33:59,120 --> 00:34:03,120

to have almost most of the property that she wanted.

666

00:34:03,120 --> 00:34:05,160

Many times, I had to fight with him

667

00:34:05,160 --> 00:34:07,440

to, you know, get a fair share of the property.

668

00:34:07,440 --> 00:34:11,160

But he was very willing to give her whatever she wanted.

669

00:34:11,160 --> 00:34:13,120

I don't want this thing to happen.

670

00:34:13,120 --> 00:34:14,080

I don't want this divorce.

671

00:34:14,080 --> 00:34:18,240

It's not something I want or want to deal with.

672

00:34:18,240 --> 00:34:21,280

Despite Dennis's attempts to keep the marriage intact,

673

00:34:21,280 --> 00:34:24,360

the divorce became final in December of 1989.

674

00:34:35,200 --> 00:34:37,960

Dennis was granted bi-weekly visitation rights,

675

00:34:37,960 --> 00:34:40,560

but the children were often reluctant to spend time with him.

676

00:34:44,120 --> 00:34:46,760

Dennis was also granted access to the guest house,

677

00:34:46,760 --> 00:34:49,640

which he uses in office and has an excuse

678

00:34:49,640 --> 00:34:51,640

to maintain control over his family.

679

00:34:54,360 --> 00:34:58,920

Marilyn had to change all the locks on the doors.

680

00:34:58,920 --> 00:35:01,880

Even after she changed the locks on the doors,

681

00:35:01,880 --> 00:35:04,840

she would tell me that there were some times when she would

682

00:35:04,840 --> 00:35:08,400

come home, in unlock the house and go in,

683

00:35:08,400 --> 00:35:11,800

and there was Dennis sitting on the couch.

684

00:35:11,840 --> 00:35:15,440

She didn't know how he got in because she had different keys

685

00:35:15,440 --> 00:35:17,920

made and new locks and everything.

686

00:35:17,920 --> 00:35:21,520

And she seemed a little frightened about that.

687

00:35:21,520 --> 00:35:26,040

He sort of out of the blue just indicated to me one day

688

00:35:26,040 --> 00:35:30,400

that he was contemplating suicide and murder.

689

00:35:37,280 --> 00:35:41,360

Easter Sunday, April 15, 1990, Dennis

690

00:35:41,400 --> 00:35:44,240

arrived to pick up two of the children for a visit.

691

00:35:44,240 --> 00:35:46,240

His younger daughter, Julie, had already

692

00:35:46,240 --> 00:35:47,360

refused to go with him.

693

00:35:51,840 --> 00:35:53,720

Come on, Scott, get your things.

694

00:35:53,720 --> 00:35:54,480

Put the game down.

695

00:35:54,480 --> 00:35:54,880

Let's go.

696

00:35:54,880 --> 00:35:56,160

Get your jacket.

697

00:35:56,160 --> 00:35:56,600

No, we can't.

698

00:35:56,600 --> 00:35:58,560

Look, I came here now.

699

00:35:58,560 --> 00:35:59,560

You're going now.

700

00:35:59,560 --> 00:36:00,760

I'm not hanging around here anymore.

701

00:36:00,760 --> 00:36:01,760

But Julie doesn't have to go.

702

00:36:01,760 --> 00:36:02,840

I don't care what Julie says.

703

00:36:02,840 --> 00:36:03,340

Come on.

704

00:36:03,340 --> 00:36:04,240

Dennis, now stop.

705

00:36:04,240 --> 00:36:05,040

Just calm down.

706

00:36:05,040 --> 00:36:06,760

Every time you turn him again, he's

707

00:36:06,760 --> 00:36:08,240

old enough to make his own decisions.

708

00:36:08,240 --> 00:36:09,040

Everything.

709

00:36:09,040 --> 00:36:10,240

He's coming with you.

710

00:36:10,240 --> 00:36:11,200

Leave him alone.

711

00:36:12,000 --> 00:36:13,080

You're making things terrible.

712

00:36:13,080 --> 00:36:14,080

I hate you.

713

00:36:14,080 --> 00:36:15,080

No, stop.

714

00:36:15,080 --> 00:36:16,080

Get out of here.

715

00:36:16,080 --> 00:36:17,060

Get out of here.

716

00:36:17,060 --> 00:36:17,960

No, no.

717

00:36:17,960 --> 00:36:18,840

Don't do it.

718

00:36:18,840 --> 00:36:19,840

Don't do it.

719

00:36:19,840 --> 00:36:22,340

Don't do it.

720

00:36:22,340 --> 00:36:23,720

Betty, help her.

721

00:36:23,720 --> 00:36:24,720

No.

722

00:36:24,720 --> 00:36:25,720

No, stop it.

723

00:36:25,720 --> 00:36:26,720

Don't do it.

724

00:36:26,720 --> 00:36:27,720

No, no, no.

725

00:36:27,720 --> 00:36:29,440

You're hurting her.

726

00:36:29,440 --> 00:36:31,360

The depuse eldest daughter, Jennifer,

727

00:36:31,360 --> 00:36:34,040

ran to a neighbor's house to call the sheriff's office.

728

00:36:34,640 --> 00:36:35,540

Oh.

729

00:36:39,540 --> 00:36:42,800

She wasn't walking completely on her.

730

00:36:42,800 --> 00:36:44,720

We're going to the hospital.

731

00:36:44,720 --> 00:36:46,800

He was like pulling her up.

732

00:36:46,800 --> 00:36:47,800

We're going to the hospital.

733

00:36:47,800 --> 00:36:49,360

You kids stay here.

734

00:36:49,360 --> 00:36:54,320

And when they were walking by, I just said, ma, ma,

735

00:36:54,320 --> 00:36:56,240

she didn't even look at me.

736

00:36:56,240 --> 00:36:59,320

She was just kind of like in a daze.

737

00:36:59,920 --> 00:37:05,440

The depuse never arrived at the hospital.

738

00:37:05,440 --> 00:37:07,720

Sheriff's deputies and the Michigan State Police

739

00:37:07,720 --> 00:37:09,920

immediately began a search for the missing couple.

740

00:37:13,720 --> 00:37:16,600

That same afternoon, Ray and Marie Thornton

741

00:37:16,600 --> 00:37:18,760

found a bloodied blanket in the schoolyard.

742

00:37:23,720 --> 00:37:26,200

The area was quickly cordoned off.

743

00:37:26,200 --> 00:37:28,800

The authorities began to assume the worst.

744

00:37:28,800 --> 00:37:30,920

Maryland depue was probably dead.

745

00:37:35,160 --> 00:37:36,480

How's it look, guys?

746

00:37:36,480 --> 00:37:38,960

Deputies discovered several fresh tire tracks

747

00:37:38,960 --> 00:37:40,880

and a large pool of blood.

748

00:37:40,880 --> 00:37:42,520

Good reproduction here.

749

00:37:42,520 --> 00:37:45,800

The tracks are later matched to Dennis's van.

750

00:37:45,800 --> 00:37:47,480

The blood was Maryland's.

751

00:37:54,560 --> 00:37:56,560

All right.

752

00:37:56,560 --> 00:37:58,120

What time do you get off here?

753

00:37:58,120 --> 00:38:00,360

The next day, a highway worker discovered

754

00:38:00,360 --> 00:38:03,200

Maryland deposed body just off a deserted road,

755

00:38:03,200 --> 00:38:07,080

midway between the schoolhouse and her home.

756

00:38:07,080 --> 00:38:09,760

She had been shot once in the back of the head.

757

00:38:13,720 --> 00:38:20,440

We had a ceiling that had really done something terrible.

758

00:38:20,440 --> 00:38:23,520

It was so brutal and premeditated

759

00:38:23,520 --> 00:38:26,800

that it makes you so angry.

760

00:38:26,800 --> 00:38:29,720

If she had been killed in an automobile accident,

761

00:38:29,720 --> 00:38:32,880

you could get over that, but not this.

762

00:38:38,000 --> 00:38:40,120

Just days after the murder, Dennis

763

00:38:40,120 --> 00:38:42,360

set a series of wild rambling letters

764

00:38:42,360 --> 00:38:45,080

to friends and relatives in which he tried to justify

765

00:38:45,080 --> 00:38:47,000

Maryland's death.

766

00:38:47,000 --> 00:38:50,880

To co-worker Jan Markowski, Dennis wrote,

767

00:38:50,880 --> 00:38:52,760

Maryland had many, many opportunities

768

00:38:52,760 --> 00:38:55,200

to treat me fairly during this divorce.

769

00:38:55,200 --> 00:38:59,840

And she chose to string it out, trick me, lie to me.

770

00:38:59,840 --> 00:39:02,880

And when you lose your wife, children, and home,

771

00:39:02,880 --> 00:39:05,080

there's not much left.

772

00:39:05,080 --> 00:39:08,960

I was too old to start over.

773

00:39:08,960 --> 00:39:12,160

All together, Dennis sent a total of 17 letters,

774

00:39:12,160 --> 00:39:17,480

postmarking Virginia, Iowa, and Oklahoma.

775

00:39:17,480 --> 00:39:20,000

It seemed as if Dennis was trying

776

00:39:20,000 --> 00:39:27,960

to say that those of us who were friends of Maryland

777

00:39:27,960 --> 00:39:32,440

were the ones who caused her death, when in effect it

778

00:39:32,440 --> 00:39:35,240

was Dennis who pulled the trigger.

779

00:39:35,240 --> 00:39:38,920

None of the rest of us did that.

780

00:39:38,920 --> 00:39:43,120

The only closure that we could get out of it

781

00:39:43,120 --> 00:39:45,520

would be to have Dennis caught.

782

00:39:45,520 --> 00:39:46,760

That's the only thing.

783

00:39:49,960 --> 00:39:56,320

I can't think of anything else that would help me.

784

00:39:56,320 --> 00:40:00,760

I think of it day and night, and I will the rest of my life.

785

00:40:00,760 --> 00:40:03,600

And nothing, even Dennis being caught,

786

00:40:03,600 --> 00:40:08,800

will not take this terrible feeling away and loss.

787

00:40:09,200 --> 00:40:10,200

A tooth for a tooth.

788

00:40:14,200 --> 00:40:16,200

An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth,

789

00:40:16,200 --> 00:40:20,200

a lie for a lie, a life for a life.

790

00:40:20,200 --> 00:40:22,200

Three months after the murder, Dennis Tapu

791

00:40:22,200 --> 00:40:24,000

sent copies of this 13-page letter

792

00:40:24,000 --> 00:40:26,280

to a number of friends and relatives.

793

00:40:26,280 --> 00:40:29,840

It reads like a treatise, a chilling 5,000-word rationalization,

794

00:40:29,840 --> 00:40:33,600

which takes liberty from the Bible throughout.

795

00:40:33,600 --> 00:40:36,800

I realize that vengeance is mine, sayeth the Lord.

796

00:40:36,800 --> 00:40:42,080

Sometimes the Lord is too busy doing other things.

797

00:40:42,080 --> 00:40:46,120

Dennis Tapu is six feet tall and weighs 200 pounds.

798

00:40:46,120 --> 00:40:50,120

He has dark brown hair and dark, deep-set eyes.

799

00:40:50,120 --> 00:40:53,960

He was last seen driving a 1984 cream-colored Chevrolet van

800

00:40:53,960 --> 00:40:57,280

with maroon stripes, which may now bear Illinois license plates.

801

00:41:01,720 --> 00:41:04,400

At around 8.30 on the night of our broadcast,

802

00:41:04,400 --> 00:41:07,320

a woman who asked that we call her Mary arrived at her home

803

00:41:07,320 --> 00:41:09,240

outside Dallas, Texas.

804

00:41:09,240 --> 00:41:13,960

Mary's boyfriend, Hank Queen, was already home.

805

00:41:13,960 --> 00:41:17,000

His van was parked in the driveway,

806

00:41:17,000 --> 00:41:20,360

which was out of the ordinary because he usually

807

00:41:20,360 --> 00:41:22,360

kept it inside the garage.

808

00:41:28,560 --> 00:41:32,400

He told me that his mother was very ill,

809

00:41:32,400 --> 00:41:35,760

and that he needed to make an emergency trip home.

810

00:41:35,760 --> 00:41:36,800

And I'm going to drive up here.

811

00:41:36,800 --> 00:41:38,920

Could you make me some sandwiches that I can take on them?

812

00:41:38,920 --> 00:41:40,440

It's a really long drive.

813

00:41:40,440 --> 00:41:43,800

I was sure that something else must really be going on,

814

00:41:43,800 --> 00:41:45,080

but I didn't know what.

815

00:41:48,880 --> 00:41:52,600

He was getting clothes out of the closet,

816

00:41:52,600 --> 00:41:56,440

clothes out of some drawers, gathering up some of his personal

817

00:41:56,440 --> 00:41:59,840

items, at the same time giving me instructions

818

00:41:59,840 --> 00:42:06,600

on preparing some food for him to take on the long trip.

819

00:42:06,600 --> 00:42:07,600

What do you want to drink?

820

00:42:07,600 --> 00:42:08,600

I don't care.

821

00:42:08,600 --> 00:42:09,600

Stop.

822

00:42:09,600 --> 00:42:10,600

Um.

823

00:42:10,600 --> 00:42:11,600

Sodas.

824

00:42:11,600 --> 00:42:12,600

A can of soda would be good.

825

00:42:12,600 --> 00:42:13,600

Everything.

826

00:42:13,600 --> 00:42:14,600

He's coming with you.

827

00:42:14,600 --> 00:42:15,600

Leave me alone.

828

00:42:15,600 --> 00:42:17,600

You're making things damn right.

829

00:42:17,600 --> 00:42:20,600

I hate you.

830

00:42:20,600 --> 00:42:22,600

Aren't you going to give me a hug?

831

00:42:22,600 --> 00:42:27,240

He just gave me a little peck of a kiss,

832

00:42:27,240 --> 00:42:30,240

and I gave him a big hug and said goodbye to him.

833

00:42:34,720 --> 00:42:38,080

I realized that something was troubling him,

834

00:42:38,080 --> 00:42:39,680

and I knew I would never see him again.

835

00:42:44,720 --> 00:42:46,600

Later that night, Mary was shocked

836

00:42:46,600 --> 00:42:48,920

to learn that her boyfriend, Hank Queen,

837

00:42:48,920 --> 00:42:51,440

was really dentist to pew and that he had just

838

00:42:51,440 --> 00:42:53,360

been featured on Unsolved Mysteries.

839

00:42:57,680 --> 00:42:59,800

For nearly a year, dentist to pew's whereabouts

840

00:42:59,800 --> 00:43:04,880

remained a mystery until the night of our broadcast.

841

00:43:04,880 --> 00:43:08,720

Looking back on it now, I'm sure he was watching.

842

00:43:08,720 --> 00:43:12,640

And I think that he was deliberately

843

00:43:12,640 --> 00:43:17,240

keeping my attention distracted in the kitchen

844

00:43:17,240 --> 00:43:19,240

so that I wouldn't see the segment

845

00:43:19,240 --> 00:43:22,480

and so that he could leave.

846

00:43:22,480 --> 00:43:24,680

A friend of Mary's called her telecenter.

847

00:43:25,280 --> 00:43:27,280

A friend of Mary's called her telecenter

848

00:43:27,280 --> 00:43:30,040

and provided authorities with a Texas license plate number

849

00:43:30,040 --> 00:43:32,080

of dentist to pew's van.

850

00:43:32,080 --> 00:43:36,120

Four hours later, the pew's life came to a violent end

851

00:43:36,120 --> 00:43:39,000

just across the Louisiana-Mississippi state border.

852

00:43:42,080 --> 00:43:44,760

When Louisiana state troopers spotted to pew's van,

853

00:43:44,760 --> 00:43:47,960

they attempted to pull him over.

854

00:43:47,960 --> 00:43:50,880

He led police on a 15-mile high-speed chase

855

00:43:50,880 --> 00:43:52,520

and broke through two police barricades.

856

00:43:55,680 --> 00:44:01,280

I told the debit is if the van refused to stop to shoot

857

00:44:01,280 --> 00:44:03,440

a tire off over the front tire.

858

00:44:03,440 --> 00:44:07,200

And they missed the front tire, but they got both back ones.

859

00:44:07,200 --> 00:44:10,280

He traveled about half a mile and just

860

00:44:10,280 --> 00:44:13,120

wouldn't go any further than he stopped.

861

00:44:13,120 --> 00:44:16,120

After firing two shots through his windshield at deputies

862

00:44:16,120 --> 00:44:18,080

and another through an open window,

863

00:44:18,080 --> 00:44:22,640

the pew turned his gun on himself and took his own life.

864

00:44:22,640 --> 00:44:27,280

It was a funny feeling to realize that the night before

865

00:44:27,280 --> 00:44:29,280

that you had been watching this man that he was

866

00:44:29,280 --> 00:44:31,400

wanted for murder someplace.

867

00:44:31,400 --> 00:44:34,760

And then you walk up to the van and you recognize him

868

00:44:34,760 --> 00:44:37,600

as being the person that was on on South Mistress.

869

00:44:37,600 --> 00:44:38,960

It's a funny feeling.

870

00:44:38,960 --> 00:44:41,520

But I think he intended to die whether he had to do it

871

00:44:41,520 --> 00:44:44,440

by his own hands or where he could get us to kill him.

872

00:44:44,440 --> 00:44:46,880

Otherwise, he would have stopped and we'd

873

00:44:46,880 --> 00:44:49,840

gotten him out of the van alive and never been in shots fired.

874

00:44:52,760 --> 00:44:54,960

While living as a fugitive, Dennis DePuce

875

00:44:54,960 --> 00:44:57,000

had a chilling letter to several friends

876

00:44:57,000 --> 00:44:59,840

trying to justify his ex-wife's death.

877

00:44:59,840 --> 00:45:03,480

He wrote, an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth,

878

00:45:03,480 --> 00:45:07,640

a lie for a lie, a life for a life.

879

00:45:07,640 --> 00:45:11,280

At the time, Dennis DePuce had no idea just how prophetic

880

00:45:11,280 --> 00:45:12,280

those words would be.

881

00:45:13,280 --> 00:45:16,280

For every mystery, there is someone, somewhere,

882

00:45:16,280 --> 00:45:19,280

who holds a final piece of the puzzle.

883

00:45:19,280 --> 00:45:23,280

Join me next time for another edition of Unsolved Mysteries.