

1

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

This program is about unsolved mysteries.

2

00:00:03,680 --> 00:00:06,280

Whenever possible, the actual family members and police

3

00:00:06,280 --> 00:00:09,280

officials have participated in recreating the events.

4

00:00:09,280 --> 00:00:11,880

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

5

00:00:16,880 --> 00:00:20,720

An unknown killer stalks a family in Denver, Colorado.

6

00:00:20,720 --> 00:00:24,320

In 1985, Roger Dean was gunned down in cold blood

7

00:00:24,320 --> 00:00:25,800

in his own house.

8

00:00:25,800 --> 00:00:29,960

Five years later, he was killed in a car crash

9

00:00:30,720 --> 00:00:32,680

and a killer contacted Dean's widow

10

00:00:32,680 --> 00:00:34,360

and threatened to kill her daughter

11

00:00:34,360 --> 00:00:37,800

unless he was paid extortion money.

12

00:00:37,800 --> 00:00:41,480

December 7, 1941, a Japanese sneak attack

13

00:00:41,480 --> 00:00:43,760

devastates Pearl Harbor.

14

00:00:43,760 --> 00:00:46,640

Nearly 40 years later, a woman under hypnosis

15

00:00:46,640 --> 00:00:49,960

provided a detailed first-hand account of that infamous day,

16

00:00:49,960 --> 00:00:54,760

which occurred a full 10 years before she was born.

17

00:00:54,760 --> 00:00:57,600

In Las Vegas, an eccentric, beautiful con artist named

18

00:00:57,600 --> 00:01:00,840

Liza Montgomery went on a wild two-day Christmas shopping

19

00:01:00,840 --> 00:01:05,480

spree and gobbled up \$150,000 worth of jewelry, furs,

20

00:01:05,480 --> 00:01:08,520

and other luxury items.

21

00:01:08,520 --> 00:01:09,560

Join me.

22

00:01:09,560 --> 00:01:12,160

Perhaps you may be able to help solve a mystery.

23

00:01:57,600 --> 00:02:10,760

December 7, 1941, 738 AM, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

24

00:02:10,760 --> 00:02:12,720

For those who were there and survived,

25

00:02:12,720 --> 00:02:15,840

it was indeed a day that will live in infamy.

26

00:02:15,840 --> 00:02:19,320

Their memories are as vivid today as they were 50 years ago.

27

00:02:22,320 --> 00:02:23,320

You spoke.

28

00:02:23,320 --> 00:02:24,320

Come on.

29

00:02:24,320 --> 00:02:26,320

Come on.

30

00:02:26,320 --> 00:02:27,320

I'm not done with it.

31

00:02:31,320 --> 00:02:34,320

Those are our planes.

32

00:02:34,320 --> 00:02:36,320

They're firing at us.

33

00:02:36,320 --> 00:02:38,320

We just keep coming.

34

00:02:38,320 --> 00:02:42,320

We've got to get them.

35

00:02:42,320 --> 00:02:45,320

We've got to get them done.

36

00:02:45,320 --> 00:02:48,320

There's no way to finish it.

37

00:02:48,320 --> 00:02:50,320

We don't have any ambition.

38

00:02:53,320 --> 00:02:57,320

They're just bombing everybody.

39

00:02:57,320 --> 00:02:59,080

The narrative you have just heard

40

00:02:59,080 --> 00:03:02,440

was related by a woman under hypnosis.

41

00:03:02,440 --> 00:03:07,320

She was born in 1952, 11 years after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

42

00:03:11,320 --> 00:03:13,640

The woman claims no more than a passing knowledge

43

00:03:13,640 --> 00:03:16,520

of the events of that fateful Sunday morning.

44

00:03:16,520 --> 00:03:18,920

Yet much of her account is filled with specific names

45

00:03:18,920 --> 00:03:20,760

and details, which lead some to believe

46

00:03:20,760 --> 00:03:25,960

that she was actually present during the attack in a past life.

47

00:03:25,960 --> 00:03:28,480

Others, however, are convinced that her memories are no more

48

00:03:28,480 --> 00:03:31,600

than a byproduct of hypnotic suggestion.

49

00:03:31,600 --> 00:03:33,400

In either case, the details of the story

50

00:03:33,400 --> 00:03:35,880

defy logical explanation.

51

00:03:35,880 --> 00:03:38,520

The woman at the center of this baffling mystery of the mind

52

00:03:38,520 --> 00:03:40,560

is asked to remain anonymous.

53

00:03:40,560 --> 00:03:42,320

We shall call her Sharon Johnson.

54

00:03:43,320 --> 00:03:47,320

Just step right this way, if you would, please.

55

00:03:47,320 --> 00:03:52,080

In 1979, Sharon Johnson first visited hypnotherapist Frank

56

00:03:52,080 --> 00:03:56,040

Baranowsky because she wanted help losing weight.

57

00:03:56,040 --> 00:03:58,240

In 20 years of practice, Baranowsky

58

00:03:58,240 --> 00:04:01,720

has placed thousands of patients under hypnosis.

59

00:04:01,720 --> 00:04:03,200

Ever been hypnotized before?

60

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

No.

61

00:04:04,200 --> 00:04:06,400

When Sharon was hypnotized, she began

62

00:04:06,400 --> 00:04:09,560

to experience a recurring nightmare of smoke and fire,

63

00:04:09,600 --> 00:04:12,200

which had plagued her since childhood.

64

00:04:12,200 --> 00:04:15,440

Three, four, four years old, no, Sharon.

65

00:04:19,440 --> 00:04:21,800

Water's on fire.

66

00:04:21,800 --> 00:04:22,800

Water's burning.

67

00:04:27,040 --> 00:04:27,720

All right, Sharon.

68

00:04:27,720 --> 00:04:28,880

All right, relax.

69

00:04:28,880 --> 00:04:29,800

Relax.

70

00:04:29,800 --> 00:04:30,880

Deeper, relax now.

71

00:04:30,880 --> 00:04:34,440

I don't have dreams like that as much as I used to.

72

00:04:34,440 --> 00:04:36,760

You know, just periodically.

73

00:04:36,760 --> 00:04:39,160

The dream started when I was very small.

74

00:04:39,160 --> 00:04:42,720

I always remember having the dreams about fires and explosions.

75

00:04:47,320 --> 00:04:52,200

Sharon lost 30 pounds, but the dream remained unexplained.

76

00:04:52,200 --> 00:04:55,680

Six months later, she visited Hawaii for the first time

77

00:04:55,680 --> 00:04:58,600

on a group tour with Frank Baranowsky and some of his friends.

78

00:05:01,680 --> 00:05:04,320

It was strange when I was there because there were places

79

00:05:04,320 --> 00:05:05,880

that I went to.

80

00:05:05,880 --> 00:05:08,760

When I was there, then it was like I've been here before.

81

00:05:08,760 --> 00:05:09,760

I've seen this.

82

00:05:09,760 --> 00:05:16,560

I knew where things were that I couldn't have known about.

83

00:05:16,560 --> 00:05:19,280

Sharon's visit to the Battleship Arizona Memorial

84

00:05:19,280 --> 00:05:21,920

at Pearl Harbor triggered the same anxiety

85

00:05:21,920 --> 00:05:24,120

as her recurring nightmare.

86

00:05:24,120 --> 00:05:28,400

She returned to her hotel room and asked Frank to hypnotize her.

87

00:05:28,400 --> 00:05:31,920

During the session, Sharon began to speak as never before,

88

00:05:31,920 --> 00:05:34,280

and a new persona emerged.

89

00:05:34,280 --> 00:05:37,760

His name was John Gillespie.

90

00:05:37,760 --> 00:05:40,760

OK, so we take her to the time when she's now Sharon Johnson.

91

00:05:40,760 --> 00:05:44,080

We go back to age 12, age 10, age 5, down to birth,

92

00:05:44,080 --> 00:05:47,160

and then I ask her to start recalling something that happened.

93

00:05:47,160 --> 00:05:49,000

I say, when I reach the count of 12,

94

00:05:49,000 --> 00:05:52,120

you'll be in the 12th season of your life.

95

00:05:52,120 --> 00:05:54,800

OK, and suddenly when she's there,

96

00:05:54,800 --> 00:05:56,200

she's talking like a 12-year-old.

97

00:05:56,200 --> 00:05:57,040

What's your name?

98

00:05:57,040 --> 00:05:58,320

John.

99

00:05:58,320 --> 00:05:59,640

John Gillespie.

100

00:05:59,640 --> 00:06:01,040

I'm a junior.

101

00:06:01,040 --> 00:06:02,640

Oh, where are you at?

102

00:06:02,640 --> 00:06:04,200

On the farm.

103

00:06:04,200 --> 00:06:05,000

What farm?

104

00:06:05,000 --> 00:06:06,120

I says, where are you at?

105

00:06:06,160 --> 00:06:08,280

This is Omaha.

106

00:06:08,280 --> 00:06:09,280

Omaha?

107

00:06:09,280 --> 00:06:12,000

Well, Omaha, Nebraska.

108

00:06:12,000 --> 00:06:14,680

I'm stintosic.

109

00:06:14,680 --> 00:06:17,120

As the session continued, a chilling account

110

00:06:17,120 --> 00:06:22,040

of the surprised Japanese attack began to emerge.

111

00:06:22,040 --> 00:06:23,680

These bombs dropping everywhere.

112

00:06:23,680 --> 00:06:25,080

They're everywhere.

113

00:06:25,080 --> 00:06:26,040

It's playing simple.

114

00:06:26,040 --> 00:06:27,360

Well, the bomb is with it.

115

00:06:32,640 --> 00:06:34,920

In the account, several men were named

116

00:06:34,920 --> 00:06:38,200

who were on board the Nevada at the time of the attack.

117

00:06:38,200 --> 00:06:41,640

Among them, a Captain Stan, a Paymaster Cooper,

118

00:06:41,640 --> 00:06:42,840

and an ensign Tosick.

119

00:06:42,840 --> 00:06:44,360

Don't wave on me.

120

00:06:44,360 --> 00:06:45,240

Take him forward.

121

00:06:45,240 --> 00:06:46,040

Take him forward.

122

00:06:46,040 --> 00:06:47,320

I'm scared of the main guns.

123

00:06:47,320 --> 00:06:48,240

They're going to be blasted.

124

00:06:48,240 --> 00:06:51,480

In Sharon's memory, Tosick was particularly prominent.

125

00:06:51,480 --> 00:06:53,400

He was apparently the son of an admiral

126

00:06:53,400 --> 00:06:54,600

and was badly injured.

127

00:06:54,600 --> 00:07:05,600

A few minutes later, the story came to an abrupt end.

128

00:07:11,080 --> 00:07:14,200

With great pain, Sharon realized that John Gillespie

129

00:07:14,200 --> 00:07:16,160

had been killed.

130

00:07:16,160 --> 00:07:18,800

Very good.

131

00:07:18,800 --> 00:07:20,600

Deeper relax for me.

132

00:07:20,600 --> 00:07:26,640

Up to that point, I had not had a past life regression.

133

00:07:26,640 --> 00:07:28,960

I wanted to know more about what had happened

134

00:07:28,960 --> 00:07:31,480

and who the person was that I felt

135

00:07:31,480 --> 00:07:36,040

I was in this traumatic experience I just had.

136

00:07:36,040 --> 00:07:37,000

How about your grandfather?

137

00:07:37,000 --> 00:07:38,440

What's his name?

138

00:07:38,440 --> 00:07:40,680

They call him Rad.

139

00:07:40,680 --> 00:07:42,360

Over the next few months, Sharon

140

00:07:42,360 --> 00:07:45,800

underwent regressive hypnosis 20 more times.

141

00:07:45,800 --> 00:07:48,080

Frank recorded the details of these sessions

142

00:07:48,080 --> 00:07:51,040

and then set out to see if the story of John Gillespie

143

00:07:51,040 --> 00:07:54,120

could be documented.

144

00:07:54,120 --> 00:07:57,840

In one hypnosis session, Sharon, speaking as John Gillespie,

145

00:07:57,840 --> 00:08:02,040

listed the names of nine men serving on the USS Nevada.

146

00:08:02,040 --> 00:08:04,440

She also gave John Gillespie's serial number.

147

00:08:07,440 --> 00:08:10,440

Frank Baranowski turned to the office of Congressman John

148

00:08:10,440 --> 00:08:12,160

Rhodes for help.

149

00:08:12,160 --> 00:08:14,560

Bob Scanlon, senior aide to the Congressman,

150

00:08:14,560 --> 00:08:16,000

was assigned the case.

151

00:08:16,000 --> 00:08:16,900

Have a chair.

152

00:08:16,900 --> 00:08:17,880

Thank you.

153

00:08:17,880 --> 00:08:20,820

When he first asked for our help and briefed me

154

00:08:20,820 --> 00:08:23,420

on the problem, I was pretty skeptical.

155

00:08:23,420 --> 00:08:26,300

I thought, you know, we get a lot of strange requests

156

00:08:26,300 --> 00:08:29,060

and this has to be one of the strangest.

157

00:08:29,060 --> 00:08:32,100

I know it's rather incredible, but she gives me names, dates,

158

00:08:32,100 --> 00:08:33,700

and places of people.

159

00:08:33,700 --> 00:08:34,820

I have no way of checking.

160

00:08:34,820 --> 00:08:35,500

Here.

161

00:08:35,500 --> 00:08:38,500

When I heard the story and listened to the tapes,

162

00:08:38,500 --> 00:08:40,460

I figured that our office in Washington

163

00:08:40,460 --> 00:08:43,620

certainly should be able to get into naval archives

164

00:08:43,620 --> 00:08:46,700

and either prove or disprove what this young lady had said.

165

00:08:48,620 --> 00:08:51,060

Using congressional privileges, Scanlon

166

00:08:51,060 --> 00:08:53,180

obtained the Nevada's roster of officers

167

00:08:53,180 --> 00:08:55,540

from the National Archives in Washington, DC.

168

00:08:58,260 --> 00:09:02,100

Amazingly, eight of the nine men Sharon mentioned were listed.

169

00:09:04,580 --> 00:09:07,980

I remember when I received that and first read it,

170

00:09:07,980 --> 00:09:10,460

I told my secretary that I don't know whether to point

171

00:09:10,460 --> 00:09:12,220

with pride or view with alarm.

172

00:09:12,220 --> 00:09:16,860

This was a strange result that I really didn't expect.

173

00:09:16,880 --> 00:09:18,640

However, the Ensign Tossick, who had

174

00:09:18,640 --> 00:09:21,880

placed such a prominent part in Sharon's past life memory,

175

00:09:21,880 --> 00:09:25,160

was not included on the list.

176

00:09:25,160 --> 00:09:29,560

Ensign Tossick was originally shown in all naval records

177

00:09:29,560 --> 00:09:31,360

to have been in Long Beach, California,

178

00:09:31,360 --> 00:09:34,400

the morning of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

179

00:09:34,400 --> 00:09:37,040

When, in fact, he was onboard the Nevada

180

00:09:37,040 --> 00:09:41,440

and was tragically injured that morning.

181

00:09:41,440 --> 00:09:43,960

In fact, I think as we found later,

182

00:09:43,980 --> 00:09:46,780

he lost a leg due to the attack on Pearl Harbor.

183

00:09:49,540 --> 00:09:53,140

Unsolved mysteries contact at Robert Tossick, a former Ensign

184

00:09:53,140 --> 00:09:55,260

in the United States Navy.

185

00:09:55,260 --> 00:09:57,700

Tossick declined to be interviewed on camera,

186

00:09:57,700 --> 00:10:02,260

but incredibly confirmed many details of Sharon's account.

187

00:10:02,260 --> 00:10:04,660

He was onboard the Nevada that day

188

00:10:04,660 --> 00:10:06,860

and, in fact, had to have his leg amputated.

189

00:10:09,780 --> 00:10:12,340

The name John Gillespie does not appear on any

190

00:10:12,360 --> 00:10:13,520

of the ship's rosters.

191

00:10:16,080 --> 00:10:18,720

The Navy admits the only records that they carried

192

00:10:18,720 --> 00:10:20,880

were the Paymasters' records on board that ship.

193

00:10:20,880 --> 00:10:24,160

The fires raged incessantly for two days.

194

00:10:24,160 --> 00:10:27,080

Oh, that was destroyed.

195

00:10:27,080 --> 00:10:29,280

Fire would also frustrate any attempt

196

00:10:29,280 --> 00:10:32,760

to verify the serial number of John Gillespie.

197

00:10:32,760 --> 00:10:37,200

In 1973, flames ravaged the Naval Warehouse in St. Louis,

198

00:10:37,200 --> 00:10:39,840

destroying the service records of thousands of seamen

199

00:10:39,840 --> 00:10:40,920

from World War II.

200

00:10:42,400 --> 00:10:44,640

How about your grandmother?

201

00:10:44,640 --> 00:10:47,560

Sharon's past life memory also included information

202

00:10:47,560 --> 00:10:50,560

about John Gillespie's personal life.

203

00:10:50,560 --> 00:10:54,000

Under hypnosis, she stated that he was born in 1921

204

00:10:54,000 --> 00:10:57,840

in Omaha, Nebraska, the son of John Gillespie Sr.

205

00:10:57,840 --> 00:11:01,200

and grandson of Harry Gillespie.

206

00:11:01,200 --> 00:11:04,280

In Census records, 1899, Frank found

207

00:11:04,280 --> 00:11:09,160

what he believes is proof that John Gillespie did exist.

208

00:11:09,160 --> 00:11:12,940

When we came across this frame, we found it, Harry Gillespie,

209

00:11:12,940 --> 00:11:16,900

wife, Ida May, son, Benjamin, son, John,

210

00:11:16,900 --> 00:11:20,340

and that John was John Gillespie's father.

211

00:11:20,340 --> 00:11:21,860

And he would have been 24 years old

212

00:11:21,860 --> 00:11:24,360

when John was born, exactly the right age.

213

00:11:25,580 --> 00:11:27,300

Yes, you can read about Nebraska,

214

00:11:27,300 --> 00:11:28,980

you can read about the farmlands,

215

00:11:28,980 --> 00:11:31,260

you can read about Omaha and Lincoln

216

00:11:31,260 --> 00:11:32,820

and all of those places,

217

00:11:32,820 --> 00:11:35,580

but unless you have experienced something,

218

00:11:35,720 --> 00:11:39,320

where do you get specific names, specific places?

219

00:11:39,320 --> 00:11:40,200

I mean, your history.

220

00:11:40,200 --> 00:11:44,400

How valid are Sharon's so-called past life experiences?

221

00:11:44,400 --> 00:11:46,440

At least one expert feels that Sharon

222

00:11:46,440 --> 00:11:48,720

may have absorbed details from books

223

00:11:48,720 --> 00:11:50,640

from the power of hypnotic suggestion.

224

00:11:53,760 --> 00:11:55,880

Well, the information about TOSC

225

00:11:55,880 --> 00:12:01,440

is easily available to anyone who looks for it

226

00:12:01,440 --> 00:12:03,120

in a book that tells a story.

227

00:12:03,180 --> 00:12:06,900

The events at Pearl Harbor

228

00:12:06,900 --> 00:12:10,900

have probably been as a written about

229

00:12:10,900 --> 00:12:13,860

as any incident in this century.

230

00:12:13,860 --> 00:12:16,460

No, she never did any reading about Pearl Harbor.

231

00:12:16,460 --> 00:12:19,420

It was one of those things that she just didn't care for.

232

00:12:19,420 --> 00:12:20,460

When somebody would mention to you,

233

00:12:20,460 --> 00:12:22,700

just shut her out and just walk away.

234

00:12:22,700 --> 00:12:26,700

He asks leading questions of his subjects.

235

00:12:28,620 --> 00:12:32,940

He seems to take control of the subject

236

00:12:33,880 --> 00:12:38,880

rather than allowing the person involved

237

00:12:39,160 --> 00:12:43,440

to be in control and to volunteer information.

238

00:12:46,000 --> 00:12:47,920

In an attempt to refute the critics,

239

00:12:47,920 --> 00:12:49,880

both Frank and Sharon agreed to undergo

240

00:12:49,880 --> 00:12:52,440

polygraph tests with Glen White side,

241

00:12:52,440 --> 00:12:54,640

a polygraph examiner for 20 years

242

00:12:54,640 --> 00:12:57,240

who has been board certified in four states.

243

00:12:59,040 --> 00:13:01,240

In my opinion, Sharon and Frank

244

00:13:01,340 --> 00:13:05,420

absolutely are not conducting a hoax.

245

00:13:05,420 --> 00:13:09,740

They did not get their information out of records books.

246

00:13:09,740 --> 00:13:14,740

They are not using mind conditioning

247

00:13:17,780 --> 00:13:19,740

or hypnotic suggestion.

248

00:13:19,740 --> 00:13:22,620

They are not perpetrating a hoax in any way.

249

00:13:24,940 --> 00:13:27,700

Under hypnosis, Sharon revealed that John Gillespie

250

00:13:27,700 --> 00:13:30,580

had a Hawaiian girlfriend named Sugar.

251

00:13:30,580 --> 00:13:33,920

This composite was made from Sharon's description.

252

00:13:33,920 --> 00:13:37,120

John met Sugar while he was stationed at Pearl Harbor.

253

00:13:37,120 --> 00:13:40,720

If she exists, Sugar would today be 70 years old.

254

00:13:44,000 --> 00:13:46,240

For most of us, the incredible facts of this story

255

00:13:46,240 --> 00:13:47,500

seem hard to accept.

256

00:13:48,480 --> 00:13:51,280

How could a woman living today have such vivid memories

257

00:13:51,280 --> 00:13:53,960

of someone else's life and death at Pearl Harbor

258

00:13:53,960 --> 00:13:55,880

50 years ago?

259

00:13:55,880 --> 00:13:58,320

Is there any way to prove the details of Sharon's account

260

00:13:58,340 --> 00:14:00,500

beyond a shout of a doubt?

261

00:14:00,500 --> 00:14:02,020

Probably not.

262

00:14:02,020 --> 00:14:04,560

But for believers, there is no need to.

263

00:14:07,780 --> 00:14:11,100

Next, a killer has returned to torment the family

264

00:14:11,100 --> 00:14:12,440

of the man he murdered.

265

00:14:12,940 --> 00:14:18,940

Littleton, Colorado is an affluent suburb 15 miles from Denver.

266

00:14:19,740 --> 00:14:21,820

Its residents are, for the most part,

267

00:14:21,820 --> 00:14:23,780

business and professional people.

268

00:14:25,140 --> 00:14:27,020

Roger Dean was typical.

269

00:14:27,020 --> 00:14:30,980

He and his wife, DJ, had lived in Littleton for 15 years.

270

00:14:32,180 --> 00:14:34,020

He was a very good person.

271

00:14:34,020 --> 00:14:35,860

He was a very good person.

272

00:14:35,860 --> 00:14:37,860

He was a very good person.

273

00:14:37,860 --> 00:14:39,860

He was a very good person.

274

00:14:40,080 --> 00:14:43,360

Littleton, Colorado, was a very good person for 15 years.

275

00:14:45,360 --> 00:14:49,600

November 21st, 1985 seemed like an ordinary Wednesday morning,

276

00:14:49,600 --> 00:14:52,120

except for the car nobody recognized parked

277

00:14:52,120 --> 00:14:54,160

outside the Dean home.

278

00:14:54,960 --> 00:14:57,360

Some remembered it as a 68 Pontiac.

279

00:14:57,360 --> 00:14:59,800

Others as a 76 Oldsmobile.

280

00:14:59,800 --> 00:15:02,200

But all agreed on one thing.

281

00:15:02,200 --> 00:15:06,040

They had never before seen the lone man who sat inside.

282

00:15:06,040 --> 00:15:08,640

At the time, they thought nothing of it.

283

00:15:08,780 --> 00:15:10,940

Roger Dean was still alive.

284

00:15:12,300 --> 00:15:13,580

DJ, come out here.

285

00:15:16,100 --> 00:15:20,180

At approximately 7 AM, Roger Dean called his wife, DJ,

286

00:15:20,180 --> 00:15:21,140

into the bedroom.

287

00:15:21,140 --> 00:15:22,180

DJ, come out here.

288

00:15:23,300 --> 00:15:24,580

What is it, Roger?

289

00:15:24,580 --> 00:15:25,340

All right, lady.

290

00:15:25,340 --> 00:15:26,620

Shut up and get on the bed.

291

00:15:26,620 --> 00:15:27,420

Oh!

292

00:15:27,420 --> 00:15:28,260

Roger!

293

00:15:28,260 --> 00:15:29,060

Get on the bed.

294

00:15:29,060 --> 00:15:29,980

Shut up!

295

00:15:29,980 --> 00:15:31,260

Oh, God!

296

00:15:31,260 --> 00:15:32,580

Tie her hands.

297

00:15:32,580 --> 00:15:36,260

The masked intruder forced Roger to tie him blindfold DJ.

298

00:15:37,200 --> 00:15:39,120

Then he took Roger into another room.

299

00:15:41,680 --> 00:15:44,240

As DJ lay bound helplessly on her bed,

300

00:15:44,240 --> 00:15:46,520

she could hear Roger and the gunman talking,

301

00:15:46,520 --> 00:15:48,280

but she could not tell what they were saying.

302

00:15:52,120 --> 00:15:53,320

You had enough time to think about it?

303

00:15:53,320 --> 00:15:55,520

How much money have you got in your savings account?

304

00:15:55,520 --> 00:15:56,320

I don't know.

305

00:15:56,320 --> 00:15:58,960

How much money have you got in your savings account?

306

00:15:58,960 --> 00:15:59,760

I don't know!

307

00:16:00,500 --> 00:16:01,400

Oh!

308

00:16:01,400 --> 00:16:02,300

Oh!

309

00:16:02,300 --> 00:16:03,200

Oh!

310

00:16:03,200 --> 00:16:04,100

Oh!

311

00:16:04,100 --> 00:16:07,980

DJ heard the gunman rifling through drawers.

312

00:16:07,980 --> 00:16:10,260

Then a loud noise made him bolt from the room.

313

00:16:10,260 --> 00:16:11,160

Shut up!

314

00:16:11,160 --> 00:16:13,660

I don't want to get into your place.

315

00:16:13,660 --> 00:16:14,660

I don't know.

316

00:16:14,660 --> 00:16:16,220

How much money do you have in your savings account?

317

00:16:16,220 --> 00:16:17,380

I have \$30,000.

318

00:16:17,380 --> 00:16:19,540

I want it, and I want it now!

319

00:16:19,540 --> 00:16:20,740

It's not here.

320

00:16:20,740 --> 00:16:21,940

All right, we're going to the bank.

321

00:16:21,940 --> 00:16:22,620

Let's go.

322

00:16:22,620 --> 00:16:23,420

All right, I'll give you the money.

323

00:16:23,420 --> 00:16:25,620

Go!

324

00:16:25,620 --> 00:16:28,460

Suddenly, the gunman fired.

325

00:16:28,480 --> 00:16:33,160

The bullet ricocheted, striking Roger Dean in the arm.

326

00:16:33,160 --> 00:16:36,120

At the front door, he fired again five times

327

00:16:36,120 --> 00:16:37,320

at point blank range.

328

00:16:37,320 --> 00:16:38,220

Go!

329

00:16:45,640 --> 00:16:50,600

Roger Dean died before paramedics could be summoned.

330

00:16:50,600 --> 00:16:53,040

After I started hearing the gunshots,

331

00:16:53,040 --> 00:16:58,280

I made my way down the steps, and I did get out.

332

00:16:58,280 --> 00:17:01,140

I was on the outside.

333

00:17:01,140 --> 00:17:04,620

And from there, things were a little blur.

334

00:17:04,620 --> 00:17:06,980

I think someone that was driving by

335

00:17:06,980 --> 00:17:10,540

must have come by and taken my blindfold off.

336

00:17:10,540 --> 00:17:13,460

I'm really not even sure of that.

337

00:17:13,460 --> 00:17:18,060

I just knew that Roger, I saw Roger went over to him,

338

00:17:18,060 --> 00:17:20,940

and he was lying in the street.

339

00:17:20,940 --> 00:17:25,100

And then he was taken away, and I was taken to the neighbors.

340

00:17:28,580 --> 00:17:29,980

From the start, authorities were

341

00:17:29,980 --> 00:17:32,980

struck by several oddities in the case.

342

00:17:32,980 --> 00:17:36,500

Roger had twine fiber embedded in only one wrist.

343

00:17:36,500 --> 00:17:38,140

It appeared that Roger had never actually

344

00:17:38,140 --> 00:17:39,460

been tied up by the gunman.

345

00:17:42,500 --> 00:17:45,740

Also, Roger was wearing contact lenses when he was shot.

346

00:17:45,740 --> 00:17:47,220

Look at these glasses here.

347

00:17:47,220 --> 00:17:49,340

Yet strangely, in an upstairs bedroom,

348

00:17:49,340 --> 00:17:53,660

his eyeglasses were found covered with duct tape.

349

00:17:53,660 --> 00:17:56,460

Police began to theorize that the twine and the glasses

350

00:17:56,480 --> 00:17:59,360

were both red herrings, planted to give the impression

351

00:17:59,360 --> 00:18:04,120

that Roger had been blindfolded and bound.

352

00:18:04,120 --> 00:18:06,160

We believe that Roger hired an individual

353

00:18:06,160 --> 00:18:10,800

to come over to basically kidnap him,

354

00:18:10,800 --> 00:18:16,880

take him to his bank, withdraw \$30,000 from their account,

355

00:18:16,880 --> 00:18:20,440

and then obviously drop Roger off someplace

356

00:18:20,440 --> 00:18:22,560

so Roger could report a robbery.

357

00:18:22,580 --> 00:18:25,340

And he would have that \$30,000 to himself.

358

00:18:28,020 --> 00:18:32,420

During the investigation, two other unusual facts emerged.

359

00:18:32,420 --> 00:18:34,380

In the year prior to his death, Roger

360

00:18:34,380 --> 00:18:37,380

Dean had taken nearly \$30,000 from his business

361

00:18:37,380 --> 00:18:39,620

and deposited the money in a private account

362

00:18:39,620 --> 00:18:40,940

unbeknownst to his wife.

363

00:18:44,420 --> 00:18:46,820

Also, on the day of his murder, Roger

364

00:18:46,820 --> 00:18:50,500

was seen sipping coffee in his garage at 7 AM.

365

00:18:50,500 --> 00:18:56,480

On most weekdays, Roger left the house no later than 6.15.

366

00:18:56,480 --> 00:18:59,560

What we make of that timing is that he was waiting

367

00:18:59,560 --> 00:19:03,480

for this individual to come and meet him at his house.

368

00:19:03,480 --> 00:19:05,640

We also believe that the individual was probably

369

00:19:05,640 --> 00:19:09,440

sitting in his car when Roger left the garage door, which

370

00:19:09,440 --> 00:19:12,280

was a signal for this individual to get out of his car

371

00:19:12,280 --> 00:19:15,480

and walk over to Roger's home.

372

00:19:15,480 --> 00:19:19,720

This is the man that I was married to for 26 years.

373

00:19:19,780 --> 00:19:24,700

And yes, there had been personal problems

374

00:19:24,700 --> 00:19:28,220

in the last few years, especially

375

00:19:28,220 --> 00:19:31,460

since the death of our son.

376

00:19:31,460 --> 00:19:34,740

But I knew the man too well.

377

00:19:34,740 --> 00:19:36,780

In my heart, I cannot believe that Roger

378

00:19:36,780 --> 00:19:38,820

had anything to do with this.

379

00:19:42,780 --> 00:19:46,180

Tragedy was not new to DJ Dean.

380

00:19:46,180 --> 00:19:47,780

Two years earlier, her son had been

381

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

killed in an automobile accident.

382

00:19:50,840 --> 00:19:52,560

Within a few months, another accident

383

00:19:52,560 --> 00:19:55,120

took the lives of her parents.

384

00:19:55,120 --> 00:19:57,400

DJ and her daughter Tammy tried desperately

385

00:19:57,400 --> 00:19:59,480

to rebuild their lives.

386

00:19:59,480 --> 00:20:02,160

Then five years after Roger Dean's murder,

387

00:20:02,160 --> 00:20:05,200

DJ received a chilling, anonymous letter.

388

00:20:05,200 --> 00:20:08,400

Its author claimed to be the man who had killed her husband.

389

00:20:12,640 --> 00:20:16,840

The letter arrived on July 21, 1990.

390

00:20:16,900 --> 00:20:19,620

It demanded \$100,000.

391

00:20:19,620 --> 00:20:22,020

If Roger's murder did not get the money,

392

00:20:22,020 --> 00:20:24,580

he planned to kill again.

393

00:20:24,580 --> 00:20:26,860

Do you know that I've met your daughter, Tammy,

394

00:20:26,860 --> 00:20:29,060

on a few occasions?

395

00:20:29,060 --> 00:20:33,140

She is a very attractive blonde and a very good model.

396

00:20:33,140 --> 00:20:35,940

Do not make me kill her.

397

00:20:35,940 --> 00:20:37,260

Your son is dead.

398

00:20:37,260 --> 00:20:39,100

Your husband is dead.

399

00:20:39,100 --> 00:20:40,900

Do not risk your daughter.

400

00:20:40,900 --> 00:20:44,700

She is the last one left.

401

00:20:44,700 --> 00:20:48,680

I was in total shock.

402

00:20:48,680 --> 00:20:52,080

I mean, this was like something that doesn't happen to you.

403

00:20:52,080 --> 00:20:54,280

This only happens in the movies.

404

00:20:54,280 --> 00:20:55,760

It makes me angry that we had just

405

00:20:55,760 --> 00:20:59,280

started to get on with our lives and put the past in the past.

406

00:20:59,280 --> 00:21:01,600

And it's all brought up to you again.

407

00:21:01,600 --> 00:21:03,360

This person isn't letting us continue,

408

00:21:03,360 --> 00:21:06,160

and we never did anything to deserve this.

409

00:21:08,920 --> 00:21:12,960

DJ and Tammy notify the local authorities and the FBI.

410

00:21:12,980 --> 00:21:15,700

The FBI had no doubt that the extortionist was

411

00:21:15,700 --> 00:21:18,980

who he claimed to be, Roger Dean's killer.

412

00:21:18,980 --> 00:21:21,740

DJ and Tammy were given round the clock protection.

413

00:21:25,260 --> 00:21:27,100

The killer had told DJ that he would

414

00:21:27,100 --> 00:21:31,060

telephone her on July 27, 1990.

415

00:21:31,060 --> 00:21:36,420

FBI agents moved into DJ's home and set up a wiretap operation.

416

00:21:37,400 --> 00:21:38,880

Wait for the second ring now.

417

00:21:42,720 --> 00:21:44,120

OK, DJ, pick it up.

418

00:21:46,720 --> 00:21:47,600

Hello?

419

00:21:47,600 --> 00:21:51,920

Listen, your husband owns me money, and I want my money.

420

00:21:51,920 --> 00:21:54,400

If my husband owed you money, I'll pay you what he owed you.

421

00:21:54,400 --> 00:21:56,160

I want my money.

422

00:21:56,160 --> 00:21:57,360

I'll give it to you.

423

00:21:57,360 --> 00:22:00,160

The FBI traced the call to a phone booth in Denver.

424

00:22:00,160 --> 00:22:01,160

All right, I'll call you tomorrow,

425

00:22:01,160 --> 00:22:03,640

and I'll tell you where to take it, except for you.

426

00:22:03,640 --> 00:22:05,280

But before they could get there,

427

00:22:05,340 --> 00:22:06,740

the killer had disappeared.

428

00:22:09,540 --> 00:22:12,660

I don't believe my husband owed anyone this money,

429

00:22:12,660 --> 00:22:15,900

but that was what he said.

430

00:22:15,900 --> 00:22:19,500

And the phone calls continued and continued and continued.

431

00:22:22,860 --> 00:22:24,700

After nearly a dozen phone calls,

432

00:22:24,700 --> 00:22:27,660

the extortionist told DJ to drive to a supermarket

433

00:22:27,660 --> 00:22:33,060

20 miles north of her home and wait for further instructions.

434

00:22:33,060 --> 00:22:34,780

OK, DJ, be calm.

435

00:22:36,260 --> 00:22:39,740

With an FBI agent hidden in her car and surveillance trucks

436

00:22:39,740 --> 00:22:42,580

in a SWAT team for backup, DJ attempted

437

00:22:42,580 --> 00:22:44,740

to lure the killer into a trap.

438

00:22:44,740 --> 00:22:46,340

OK, she's out of the car.

439

00:22:49,100 --> 00:22:51,580

And she's headed across the parking lot now.

440

00:22:51,580 --> 00:22:54,140

She's headed towards the phone booths.

441

00:22:59,740 --> 00:23:04,180

I waited, and I waited, and I waited.

442

00:23:04,200 --> 00:23:06,240

I could not believe I was really

443

00:23:06,240 --> 00:23:08,640

having to go through this terror.

444

00:23:11,560 --> 00:23:16,840

And then finally, when I did get a call,

445

00:23:16,840 --> 00:23:21,880

I was given instructions as to which streets to take

446

00:23:21,880 --> 00:23:23,320

and where to make the drop.

447

00:23:26,320 --> 00:23:30,280

The extortionist told DJ to leave \$100,000 in an alley

448

00:23:30,300 --> 00:23:34,900

behind an apartment complex in downtown Denver.

449

00:23:34,900 --> 00:23:40,420

At 10 PM on August 19, 1990, DJ left the money once again

450

00:23:40,420 --> 00:23:41,620

shadowed by the FBI.

451

00:23:53,780 --> 00:23:54,380

Hello?

452

00:23:54,380 --> 00:23:56,260

You haven't followed instructions.

453

00:23:56,260 --> 00:23:57,060

Yes, we have.

454

00:23:57,060 --> 00:23:58,020

No, you haven't.

455

00:23:58,020 --> 00:23:59,500

You haven't followed instructions,

456

00:23:59,560 --> 00:24:01,400

and now I'm going to hurt you.

457

00:24:01,400 --> 00:24:04,200

He called about, it seemed like forever,

458

00:24:04,200 --> 00:24:08,400

but a couple of hours later and was using a lot of profanity

459

00:24:08,400 --> 00:24:12,640

and said that she had basically not followed his instructions,

460

00:24:12,640 --> 00:24:15,280

had not done what he had told her to do,

461

00:24:15,280 --> 00:24:20,320

and that now he was going to do what he had said

462

00:24:20,320 --> 00:24:21,680

that he would do to me.

463

00:24:21,680 --> 00:24:25,360

Because of that, he would hurt me.

464

00:24:25,380 --> 00:24:29,780

The FBI kept the bundle of cash under surveillance until dawn.

465

00:24:29,780 --> 00:24:32,380

It was never picked up.

466

00:24:32,380 --> 00:24:35,340

Whether or not he spotted something,

467

00:24:35,340 --> 00:24:38,060

whether or not he just took for granted

468

00:24:38,060 --> 00:24:40,900

that the law enforcement was involved,

469

00:24:40,900 --> 00:24:43,580

or whether or not he got cold feet,

470

00:24:43,580 --> 00:24:46,900

and although he didn't detect any type of law enforcement,

471

00:24:46,900 --> 00:24:51,740

he just was too scared to actually make the pick up.

472

00:24:51,740 --> 00:24:53,620

I think all those are possibilities.

473

00:24:53,620 --> 00:24:56,080

When he didn't pick it up, I was devastated

474

00:24:56,080 --> 00:24:58,160

because I thought this is not over.

475

00:24:59,280 --> 00:25:01,720

I was totally devastated.

476

00:25:01,720 --> 00:25:04,320

There's nothing more that either one of us want

477

00:25:04,320 --> 00:25:06,840

than for this to be solved,

478

00:25:06,840 --> 00:25:09,640

and for whoever murdered my dad to be caught.

479

00:25:10,640 --> 00:25:15,280

And at the same time, for him to be also caught

480

00:25:15,280 --> 00:25:17,960

for the fact that he's still terrorizing us.

481

00:25:17,960 --> 00:25:20,520

He is still making us live a nightmare

482

00:25:20,520 --> 00:25:23,120

that continues on and on all the time.

483

00:25:24,520 --> 00:25:27,280

In his last call, the extortionist told Tammy

484

00:25:27,280 --> 00:25:29,520

he still planned to kill her, and that he would strike

485

00:25:29,520 --> 00:25:31,760

when she least expected it.

486

00:25:31,760 --> 00:25:34,960

Authorities know only the suspect is about six feet tall

487

00:25:34,960 --> 00:25:37,760

and uses an extensive vocabulary.

488

00:25:37,760 --> 00:25:40,160

Interestingly, they feel that the extortion letters

489

00:25:40,160 --> 00:25:43,360

are written by a man and a woman working in conjunction.

490

00:25:53,620 --> 00:26:10,040

In the past four years, 68 wanted fugitives, profile,

491

00:26:10,040 --> 00:26:12,440

and unsolved mysteries have been captured,

492

00:26:12,440 --> 00:26:16,340

thanks to vital information provided by you, our viewers.

493

00:26:16,340 --> 00:26:18,920

One recent case is out of a convicted con man

494

00:26:18,920 --> 00:26:20,920

wanted by Nevada police for murder.

495

00:26:21,420 --> 00:26:23,580

Joe, come on out, Joe.

496

00:26:23,580 --> 00:26:26,420

On October 6, 1990, Henderson, Nevada police

497

00:26:26,420 --> 00:26:29,620

entered the home of 50-year-old Joe Weldon Smith.

498

00:26:29,620 --> 00:26:32,220

Inside the house, they found the bodies of Smith's wife,

499

00:26:32,220 --> 00:26:35,660

Judith, and his two stepdaughters.

500

00:26:35,660 --> 00:26:39,300

All three victims had been strangled and bludgeoned to death.

501

00:26:43,300 --> 00:26:44,200

Hello?

502

00:26:44,200 --> 00:26:46,600

Two hours after the bodies were discovered,

503

00:26:46,600 --> 00:26:49,140

Joe Smith telephoned his wife's daughter-in-law.

504

00:26:49,760 --> 00:26:52,140

He denied any involvement in the murders.

505

00:26:52,140 --> 00:26:53,800

Joe, what's going on?

506

00:26:53,800 --> 00:26:55,200

She called her on the phone and told her

507

00:26:55,200 --> 00:26:59,200

that he had killed one of the people that did the killing

508

00:26:59,200 --> 00:27:01,040

and knew who the other ones were.

509

00:27:01,040 --> 00:27:02,480

I'm going to find the guys who did it.

510

00:27:02,480 --> 00:27:06,240

I know who they are, and I'm going to kill them.

511

00:27:06,240 --> 00:27:09,480

In my opinion, it was a ruse by Mr. Smith

512

00:27:09,480 --> 00:27:13,520

to get support from Judith Smith's family members

513

00:27:13,520 --> 00:27:16,520

and make them believe that he was not involved in the killings.

514

00:27:19,800 --> 00:27:22,240

Joe Weldon Smith was charged with three counts

515

00:27:22,240 --> 00:27:23,840

of first-degree murder.

516

00:27:23,840 --> 00:27:25,880

His whereabouts remained a mystery

517

00:27:25,880 --> 00:27:27,680

until the night of our broadcast.

518

00:27:31,320 --> 00:27:33,880

Just minutes after we profiled Smith's case,

519

00:27:33,880 --> 00:27:36,080

an anonymous viewer called our telecenter

520

00:27:36,080 --> 00:27:39,120

to report that the fugitive was living near Los Angeles,

521

00:27:39,120 --> 00:27:41,520

California.

522

00:27:41,520 --> 00:27:43,800

Smith was hiding out at this motel

523

00:27:43,800 --> 00:27:48,300

but managed to escape before he could be apprehended.

524

00:27:48,320 --> 00:27:50,320

Once we established that Joe Weldon Smith was

525

00:27:50,320 --> 00:27:53,200

in the Los Angeles area, we focused our attention

526

00:27:53,200 --> 00:27:57,040

to his brother, who we knew that he had close contact with.

527

00:27:57,040 --> 00:27:59,400

After five days of surveilling this brother,

528

00:27:59,400 --> 00:28:04,100

we established where the suspect was residing.

529

00:28:04,100 --> 00:28:06,540

20 minutes later, Joe Weldon Smith

530

00:28:06,540 --> 00:28:09,880

was arrested at another local motel where he was registered

531

00:28:09,880 --> 00:28:10,980

under an assumed name.

532

00:28:13,780 --> 00:28:16,820

Inside Smith's room, detectives recovered several credit

533

00:28:16,840 --> 00:28:18,780

and identification cards.

534

00:28:18,780 --> 00:28:22,020

Smith told police that he was in the process of creating

535

00:28:22,020 --> 00:28:24,380

a new identity.

536

00:28:24,380 --> 00:28:26,580

At the time of his arrest, Joe Smith indicated to me

537

00:28:26,580 --> 00:28:28,900

that he had seen the last hearing of the Unsolved Mystery

538

00:28:28,900 --> 00:28:29,900

Program.

539

00:28:29,900 --> 00:28:33,700

He also told me that it was very tough being a fugitive

540

00:28:33,700 --> 00:28:35,860

and he always knew that someone would be knocking

541

00:28:35,860 --> 00:28:38,500

at the door one day is kind of glad it's all over at this point.

542

00:28:38,500 --> 00:28:50,820

Next, a beautiful young con artist

543

00:28:50,820 --> 00:28:52,860

embarks on a wild shopping spree.

544

00:28:52,860 --> 00:29:02,100

The city of light in the desert, a seductive town of high rollers

545

00:29:02,100 --> 00:29:07,460

and big spenders where money flows quickly and easily.

546

00:29:07,460 --> 00:29:10,380

On the weekend shortly before Christmas 1990,

547

00:29:10,380 --> 00:29:13,300

an eccentric young woman named Liza Montgomery

548

00:29:13,300 --> 00:29:15,300

was arrested for her murder.

549

00:29:15,300 --> 00:29:17,300

She was a victim of a murder.

550

00:29:17,300 --> 00:29:19,300

She was a victim of a murder.

551

00:29:19,500 --> 00:29:21,860

On the weekend after Christmas 1990,

552

00:29:21,860 --> 00:29:24,380

an eccentric young woman named Liza Montgomery

553

00:29:24,380 --> 00:29:27,980

began a bizarre and most unusual shopping spree,

554

00:29:27,980 --> 00:29:30,780

remarkable even in freewheeling Las Vegas.

555

00:29:35,620 --> 00:29:38,100

On Friday afternoon, December 21st,

556

00:29:38,100 --> 00:29:41,820

Liza, dressed to the nines, visited local businessman Mark

557

00:29:41,820 --> 00:29:43,940

Hughesby.

558

00:29:43,940 --> 00:29:45,700

She was responding to his newspaper

559

00:29:45,700 --> 00:29:48,620

full length mink coat and a two carat diamond ring.

560

00:29:51,620 --> 00:29:52,520

Hello.

561

00:29:52,520 --> 00:29:53,460

Hi, Liza. How are you?

562

00:29:53,460 --> 00:29:54,360

Come on in.

563

00:29:54,360 --> 00:29:55,260

Oh, thank you.

564

00:29:55,260 --> 00:30:00,100

Liza's personality was like that of a excited schoolgirl.

565

00:30:00,100 --> 00:30:01,700

Here is your cashier's check.

566

00:30:01,700 --> 00:30:02,660

My god, there it is.

567

00:30:02,660 --> 00:30:04,060

And there's the ring.

568

00:30:04,060 --> 00:30:05,860

Liza, I told you to bring cash.

569

00:30:05,860 --> 00:30:08,300

I know, but the bank was closing enough.

570

00:30:08,300 --> 00:30:09,420

Anyway, that's just as good.

571

00:30:09,420 --> 00:30:10,460

I mean, don't worry about it.

572

00:30:10,460 --> 00:30:11,460

And it's a good check.

573

00:30:11,460 --> 00:30:13,660

Well, can I see your ID, please?

574

00:30:13,660 --> 00:30:14,540

Oh, sure.

575

00:30:14,540 --> 00:30:16,300

I asked to see her identification,

576

00:30:16,300 --> 00:30:19,380

because I had told her when she came to the home here

577

00:30:19,380 --> 00:30:20,300

that I did want cash.

578

00:30:20,300 --> 00:30:23,020

But I settled for the cashier's check.

579

00:30:23,020 --> 00:30:24,580

Well, let me walk you to the car.

580

00:30:24,580 --> 00:30:25,620

Oh, all right.

581

00:30:25,620 --> 00:30:27,300

Thank you.

582

00:30:27,300 --> 00:30:30,180

As I was saying goodbye to Liza,

583

00:30:30,180 --> 00:30:32,860

and I walked her out to her car, it

584

00:30:32,860 --> 00:30:35,380

seemed very unusual to me that she, how she treated

585

00:30:35,380 --> 00:30:37,260

the mink coat.

586

00:30:37,260 --> 00:30:40,500

She just literally shoved it in the car,

587

00:30:40,500 --> 00:30:42,220

as if it meant nothing to her.

588

00:30:42,220 --> 00:30:43,860

Have a nice Christmas.

589

00:30:43,860 --> 00:30:46,140

You too.

590

00:30:46,140 --> 00:30:48,620

Liza's shopping marathon was just beginning.

591

00:30:48,620 --> 00:30:50,260

Oh, hello.

592

00:30:50,260 --> 00:30:52,420

That same evening, she purchased two rings

593

00:30:52,420 --> 00:30:54,660

which she had selected the previous week.

594

00:30:54,660 --> 00:30:58,420

She paid with a cashier's check in excess of \$39,000.

595

00:30:58,420 --> 00:30:59,340

Cashier's check?

596

00:30:59,340 --> 00:31:00,860

And here are your rings.

597

00:31:00,860 --> 00:31:02,100

Oh, thank you.

598

00:31:02,100 --> 00:31:03,620

They're just beautiful.

599

00:31:03,620 --> 00:31:06,260

Liza had been coming to us for about three months.

600

00:31:06,260 --> 00:31:08,660

She was always well-dressed, so we

601

00:31:08,660 --> 00:31:10,180

had never had a problem believing whether or not

602

00:31:10,180 --> 00:31:12,220

she could actually afford anything she wanted to.

603

00:31:12,220 --> 00:31:13,260

That's good.

604

00:31:13,260 --> 00:31:15,820

You know, you're very fortunate to get both of these diamonds

605

00:31:15,820 --> 00:31:17,220

at this price.

606

00:31:17,220 --> 00:31:19,900

Well, that's why they call me lucky.

607

00:31:19,900 --> 00:31:21,620

Here's your cashier's check.

608

00:31:21,620 --> 00:31:22,520

Oh, great.

609

00:31:22,520 --> 00:31:23,420

This looks fine.

610

00:31:23,420 --> 00:31:25,340

The next day, Liza continued her rounds,

611

00:31:25,340 --> 00:31:27,820

clad in the mink coat she had bought from Mark Huseby,

612

00:31:27,820 --> 00:31:30,220

and driving an old battered moving van.

613

00:31:30,220 --> 00:31:31,900

Honey, if you could just write down that number.

614

00:31:31,900 --> 00:31:35,340

She purchased what she called a surprise gift for her husband,

615

00:31:35,340 --> 00:31:37,860

\$23,000 worth of furniture.

616

00:31:38,380 --> 00:31:45,060

Throughout the weekend, Liza continued her seemingly endless

617

00:31:45,060 --> 00:31:49,180

Christmas shopping, always paying with cashier's checks.

618

00:31:49,180 --> 00:31:50,880

At nine different stores, she picked up

619

00:31:50,880 --> 00:31:55,900

an additional \$100,000 worth of jewelry, furs, and luxury items.

620

00:31:55,900 --> 00:31:58,420

All along the way, Liza made a big impression

621

00:31:58,420 --> 00:32:00,700

and raised quite a few eyebrows.

622

00:32:00,700 --> 00:32:04,260

People were becoming suspicious, starting with businessman

623

00:32:04,260 --> 00:32:06,180

Mark Huseby.

624

00:32:06,180 --> 00:32:07,080

Wonderful.

625

00:32:07,520 --> 00:32:08,600

Very Christmas.

626

00:32:08,600 --> 00:32:11,040

Oh.

627

00:32:11,040 --> 00:32:13,600

Shortly after selling Liza the mink coat and ring,

628

00:32:13,600 --> 00:32:18,320

Huseby began to question where the Liza's check was good.

629

00:32:18,320 --> 00:32:20,600

He drove to an exclusive gated community,

630

00:32:20,600 --> 00:32:24,760

looking for the address printed on Liza's identification card.

631

00:32:24,760 --> 00:32:25,660

Hi.

632

00:32:25,660 --> 00:32:27,960

Do you have a Liza Montgomery living here at 2901

633

00:32:27,960 --> 00:32:29,320

Rancho Billaire Drive?

634

00:32:29,320 --> 00:32:30,720

No, sir.

635

00:32:30,720 --> 00:32:31,640

Are you sure?

636

00:32:31,640 --> 00:32:35,520

I'm positive that address doesn't even exist.

637

00:32:35,520 --> 00:32:40,840

Huseby immediately returned home and called the police.

638

00:32:40,840 --> 00:32:44,240

I explained to him that unless or until the bank received

639

00:32:44,240 --> 00:32:46,640

that check and officially notified him

640

00:32:46,640 --> 00:32:49,000

that it was counterfeit or somehow forged,

641

00:32:49,000 --> 00:32:51,240

there was really nothing we could do at that point.

642

00:32:51,240 --> 00:32:52,680

Even if we were able to find her,

643

00:32:52,680 --> 00:32:54,840

we'd have no authority to detain her simply

644

00:32:54,840 --> 00:32:58,000

because the address on a cashier's check was somehow

645

00:32:58,000 --> 00:33:01,480

an error and that we couldn't detain her just based on that.

646

00:33:01,480 --> 00:33:02,520

Be careful with that.

647

00:33:02,520 --> 00:33:04,480

Meanwhile, back at the furniture store,

648

00:33:04,520 --> 00:33:06,840

Liza was having difficulty squeezing everything

649

00:33:06,840 --> 00:33:08,280

she had bought into the van.

650

00:33:08,280 --> 00:33:09,080

This is all going to fit.

651

00:33:09,080 --> 00:33:10,480

If you want, you can borrow one of our trucks

652

00:33:10,480 --> 00:33:11,880

and we can follow you over there.

653

00:33:11,880 --> 00:33:12,960

No, thank you.

654

00:33:12,960 --> 00:33:13,360

Are you sure?

655

00:33:13,360 --> 00:33:14,600

I mean, after you surprised your husband,

656

00:33:14,600 --> 00:33:16,400

I'd be glad to help you set up some of the furniture.

657

00:33:16,400 --> 00:33:17,400

I don't care what you have to do.

658

00:33:17,400 --> 00:33:18,520

Just get it in there.

659

00:33:18,520 --> 00:33:20,600

Just get it in.

660

00:33:20,600 --> 00:33:22,200

OK.

661

00:33:22,200 --> 00:33:25,480

The store owner was troubled by her belligerent attitude.

662

00:33:25,480 --> 00:33:27,240

Once a van was loaded, he decided

663

00:33:27,240 --> 00:33:30,200

to follow in his own car just to see where Liza would go.

664

00:33:35,240 --> 00:33:37,640

Before leaving, the amateur sleuth gave his wife

665

00:33:37,640 --> 00:33:39,920

a walkie-talkie and took one for himself.

666

00:33:43,120 --> 00:33:45,360

She's turning away from Ratchel Valair.

667

00:33:45,360 --> 00:33:46,960

I knew she was lying.

668

00:33:46,960 --> 00:33:47,860

I call the police.

669

00:33:47,860 --> 00:33:49,160

I'm going to keep following her.

670

00:33:49,160 --> 00:33:50,060

OK.

671

00:33:52,200 --> 00:33:54,880

We learned from dispatch that the check had already

672

00:33:54,880 --> 00:33:57,440

been passed at the furniture store

673

00:33:57,440 --> 00:33:59,920

and that it was in the name of Liza Montgomery, which

674

00:33:59,920 --> 00:34:02,760

was the exact same name that Mark Usby had given us.

675

00:34:02,760 --> 00:34:04,240

Based on that information, we felt

676

00:34:04,240 --> 00:34:06,520

that there was enough corroboration now,

677

00:34:06,520 --> 00:34:08,520

since there were two checks floating around,

678

00:34:08,520 --> 00:34:12,960

that she needed to at least be stopped and identified.

679

00:34:12,960 --> 00:34:14,880

Sounds like it only took about 10 minutes away, maybe?

680

00:34:14,880 --> 00:34:17,160

Six if we hurry.

681

00:34:17,160 --> 00:34:19,720

The furniture store owner followed Liza's van

682

00:34:19,720 --> 00:34:23,160

to a residential neighborhood five miles away.

683

00:34:23,160 --> 00:34:26,360

He described each event as it unfolded.

684

00:34:26,360 --> 00:34:28,320

She just pulled over onto a residential street

685

00:34:28,320 --> 00:34:30,520

and met up with a man standing next to her red convertible.

686

00:34:33,720 --> 00:34:35,520

Now, he's getting into the truck.

687

00:34:35,520 --> 00:34:36,640

She's getting into the car.

688

00:34:39,640 --> 00:34:42,960

They're leaving together and heading north on Jones.

689

00:34:42,960 --> 00:34:44,360

OK.

690

00:34:44,360 --> 00:34:46,760

My husband says that the woman made contact with the man.

691

00:34:46,760 --> 00:34:49,520

The store owner's wife attempted to keep authorities abreast

692

00:34:49,520 --> 00:34:50,600

of her husband's whereabouts.

693

00:34:50,600 --> 00:34:52,800

We can advise the store owner to try and keep up with the vehicle

694

00:34:52,800 --> 00:34:55,240

if he can, and we'll be there momentarily.

695

00:34:55,240 --> 00:34:56,160

Within two or three minutes.

696

00:34:59,520 --> 00:35:01,960

The van and the red convertible headed south.

697

00:35:01,960 --> 00:35:03,840

The store owner remained on their heels.

698

00:35:07,360 --> 00:35:09,080

When the vehicles reached an intersection

699

00:35:09,080 --> 00:35:10,800

on the outskirts of town, the van

700

00:35:10,800 --> 00:35:14,760

made an illegal right turn and sped away.

701

00:35:14,760 --> 00:35:16,320

She stopped her car.

702

00:35:16,320 --> 00:35:18,760

Well, I better get out of here.

703

00:35:18,760 --> 00:35:19,760

What is he doing?

704

00:35:22,200 --> 00:35:24,520

The store owner was fearful that this angry woman

705

00:35:24,520 --> 00:35:27,040

in a white-mink coat might be carrying a weapon.

706

00:35:27,040 --> 00:35:29,720

He sped off with a convertible in hot pursuit.

707

00:35:32,800 --> 00:35:35,360

After nearly a three-mile chase, the store owner

708

00:35:35,360 --> 00:35:37,160

pulled to the side of the road.

709

00:35:37,160 --> 00:35:39,160

Liza whizzed by and disappeared.

710

00:35:42,160 --> 00:35:45,520

The police were just minutes away, but it was too late.

711

00:35:45,520 --> 00:35:48,360

They combed a five-mile area searching for Liza

712

00:35:48,360 --> 00:35:49,480

and her accomplice.

713

00:35:49,480 --> 00:35:52,080

They ran checks on various garages and warehouses,

714

00:35:52,080 --> 00:35:54,360

hoping to recover the stolen goods.

715

00:35:54,360 --> 00:35:56,960

But the perpetrators and the property were gone.

716

00:35:57,960 --> 00:36:01,920

In summary, she hit at least 12 places that we're aware of,

717

00:36:01,920 --> 00:36:06,920

and the amount of loss to all of those in total

718

00:36:06,920 --> 00:36:09,120

was over \$150,000.

719

00:36:09,120 --> 00:36:14,880

The last of the places she hit was a gaming supply store,

720

00:36:14,880 --> 00:36:17,160

at which time she bought three slot machines,

721

00:36:17,160 --> 00:36:19,360

almost as if she wanted to take a souvenir of Las Vegas

722

00:36:19,360 --> 00:36:20,320

with her out of town.

723

00:36:22,760 --> 00:36:25,360

Eventually, the van was taken to the next store.

724

00:36:26,160 --> 00:36:29,080

Eventually, the van and the convertible were recovered.

725

00:36:29,080 --> 00:36:32,280

Liza had rented both vehicles at local agencies.

726

00:36:32,280 --> 00:36:34,360

In each case, she persuaded the rental clerk

727

00:36:34,360 --> 00:36:38,360

to accept a \$500 cash deposit in lieu of a credit card.

728

00:36:38,360 --> 00:36:40,080

The cash was never reclaimed.

729

00:36:44,080 --> 00:36:47,240

Usually, we only find this type of skill

730

00:36:47,240 --> 00:36:50,480

amongst people who are going to get involved in a scam that's

731

00:36:50,480 --> 00:36:52,720

worth thousands upon thousands of dollars.

732

00:36:52,720 --> 00:36:57,520

For the most part, some of these nickel and dime con games

733

00:36:57,520 --> 00:37:00,920

fall through when the victim looks straight through the suspect

734

00:37:00,920 --> 00:37:03,080

and is able to see that it is a con game.

735

00:37:03,080 --> 00:37:04,760

But when we talk about big money like this,

736

00:37:04,760 --> 00:37:06,160

if they're going to get away with it,

737

00:37:06,160 --> 00:37:07,560

they're going to have to be very good.

738

00:37:07,560 --> 00:37:10,360

And Liza was one of the best.

739

00:37:10,360 --> 00:37:13,240

Liza Montgomery did leave behind one significant piece

740

00:37:13,240 --> 00:37:14,320

of evidence.

741

00:37:14,320 --> 00:37:16,000

When she rented the van, the clerk

742

00:37:16,000 --> 00:37:18,440

made this copy of her state ID card.

743

00:37:22,720 --> 00:37:44,000

When we return, an intriguing eyewitness account

744

00:37:44,000 --> 00:37:47,000

may help solve a string of bizarre disappearances.

745

00:37:52,720 --> 00:38:05,920

February 4, 1990, 4.30 AM.

746

00:38:05,920 --> 00:38:08,000

Sheriff's deputies responded to a call

747

00:38:08,000 --> 00:38:12,440

at a convenience store in Orlando, Florida.

748

00:38:12,440 --> 00:38:14,680

Two customers had found the all night market

749

00:38:14,680 --> 00:38:18,000

open but curiously unattended.

750

00:38:18,000 --> 00:38:19,680

No one was minding the store.

751

00:38:22,720 --> 00:38:24,160

And she wasn't here.

752

00:38:24,160 --> 00:38:25,320

I don't know where she is.

753

00:38:25,320 --> 00:38:28,840

She's kind of disappeared.

754

00:38:28,840 --> 00:38:30,960

Deputies immediately searched for any signs

755

00:38:30,960 --> 00:38:34,000

of the missing clerk.

756

00:38:34,000 --> 00:38:36,960

Behind the counter, they found a worksmark neatly folded.

757

00:38:39,740 --> 00:38:41,680

The cash register was locked and there

758

00:38:41,680 --> 00:38:42,960

was no evidence of a robbery.

759

00:38:46,000 --> 00:38:47,920

The store appeared to be just abandoned.

760

00:38:48,920 --> 00:38:51,720

There was absolutely no signs of any struggle.

761

00:38:51,720 --> 00:38:53,640

Nothing appeared to be missing from the store

762

00:38:53,640 --> 00:38:57,000

with the exception of the store clerk.

763

00:38:57,000 --> 00:39:00,640

The missing clerk was 26-year-old Deborah Deanne Poe,

764

00:39:00,640 --> 00:39:02,400

who worked days at a local newspaper

765

00:39:02,400 --> 00:39:03,800

and nights at the store.

766

00:39:06,880 --> 00:39:09,480

Deborah had moved to Orlando just four months earlier

767

00:39:09,480 --> 00:39:13,560

with her friend and roommate, Lori Tillman.

768

00:39:13,560 --> 00:39:16,160

The devi and I were more likely to be in the store

769

00:39:16,160 --> 00:39:18,600

and the devi and I were more like sisters

770

00:39:18,600 --> 00:39:21,480

than I am with my own sister.

771

00:39:21,480 --> 00:39:23,640

We had a very unusual friendship.

772

00:39:23,640 --> 00:39:25,240

We could fight like sisters do.

773

00:39:25,240 --> 00:39:27,360

We could ignore each other like sisters do.

774

00:39:27,360 --> 00:39:29,000

But we were there for each other.

775

00:39:29,000 --> 00:39:31,640

If we ever needed anything, we could count on one another.

776

00:39:31,640 --> 00:39:33,080

Good evening, sir.

777

00:39:33,080 --> 00:39:34,080

That's the dollar a yard.

778

00:39:34,080 --> 00:39:36,800

The most dangerous time for convenience store employees

779

00:39:36,800 --> 00:39:39,000

is the graveyard shift.

780

00:39:39,000 --> 00:39:40,240

This was Deborah's shift.

781

00:39:40,560 --> 00:39:44,440

Five nights a week from 11 PM to 7 AM,

782

00:39:44,440 --> 00:39:46,240

she was behind the counter alone.

783

00:39:49,160 --> 00:39:50,800

Oh, you're all doing treatment late nights

784

00:39:50,800 --> 00:39:52,200

on a Saturday night?

785

00:39:52,200 --> 00:39:53,120

There you go.

786

00:39:53,120 --> 00:39:55,320

She needed to work and get the money

787

00:39:55,320 --> 00:39:57,440

she had a brand new car to pay for.

788

00:39:57,440 --> 00:40:01,160

She wanted to buy a house and she wanted to start a business.

789

00:40:01,160 --> 00:40:02,840

So if it meant working two full-time jobs

790

00:40:02,840 --> 00:40:04,680

that she really didn't like, that's what she'd do.

791

00:40:05,680 --> 00:40:08,080

Just after 11 o'clock on the night she disappeared,

792

00:40:08,080 --> 00:40:10,360

a friend of Deborah's dropped by to discuss some house

793

00:40:10,360 --> 00:40:11,960

plans with her.

794

00:40:11,960 --> 00:40:12,960

This house here?

795

00:40:12,960 --> 00:40:13,760

It's cool.

796

00:40:13,760 --> 00:40:14,560

That's what I want.

797

00:40:14,560 --> 00:40:15,760

I don't know if I can afford it.

798

00:40:15,760 --> 00:40:18,160

Police verified that Deborah waited on customers

799

00:40:18,160 --> 00:40:21,440

from the time her friend left until 3.05 AM.

800

00:40:21,440 --> 00:40:22,440

I got to take care of her.

801

00:40:22,440 --> 00:40:23,360

I'm sorry.

802

00:40:23,360 --> 00:40:24,160

OK.

803

00:40:24,160 --> 00:40:26,880

When her friend returned at 3.50 AM,

804

00:40:26,880 --> 00:40:29,120

Deborah was nowhere to be found.

805

00:40:29,120 --> 00:40:31,120

She was in a car accident.

806

00:40:31,120 --> 00:40:33,080

She was in a car accident.

807

00:40:33,760 --> 00:40:35,100

She was on the road.

808

00:40:39,520 --> 00:40:43,400

Her vehicle was parked where she parked it that night

809

00:40:43,400 --> 00:40:46,720

when she came to work.

810

00:40:46,720 --> 00:40:47,520

Had not been disturbed.

811

00:40:47,520 --> 00:40:49,120

It was locked.

812

00:40:49,120 --> 00:40:53,640

And her purse was sitting on the back seat.

813

00:40:53,640 --> 00:40:55,800

Investigators concluded the Deborah Poe

814

00:40:55,800 --> 00:40:57,400

had probably been abducted.

815

00:40:57,400 --> 00:41:00,440

Looks to be about \$25 cash in here.

816

00:41:00,440 --> 00:41:02,120

They soon discovered that Deborah was not

817

00:41:02,160 --> 00:41:04,720

in Florida to disappear on the graveyard shift.

818

00:41:07,640 --> 00:41:11,080

Six months earlier, on August 6, 1989,

819

00:41:11,080 --> 00:41:13,480

29-year-old Donna Callahan disappeared

820

00:41:13,480 --> 00:41:16,960

from a convenience store in Gulf Breeze, Florida.

821

00:41:16,960 --> 00:41:19,400

As in Deborah's case, there were no signs of struggle

822

00:41:19,400 --> 00:41:21,080

at the scene.

823

00:41:21,080 --> 00:41:22,920

Donna was three months pregnant and left

824

00:41:22,920 --> 00:41:24,560

behind a two-year-old daughter.

825

00:41:27,120 --> 00:41:29,600

Five weeks later, on September 18,

826

00:41:29,640 --> 00:41:32,880

36-year-old Darlene Messer was abducted from a Lake City

827

00:41:32,880 --> 00:41:34,760

convenience store.

828

00:41:34,760 --> 00:41:37,000

Two days later, Darlene's body was

829

00:41:37,000 --> 00:41:38,720

found in a nearby creek.

830

00:41:38,720 --> 00:41:40,160

She had been bludgeoned to death.

831

00:41:42,920 --> 00:41:46,720

Three victims, all single females in their 20s or 30s,

832

00:41:46,720 --> 00:41:50,400

all had vanished while working the graveyard shift alone.

833

00:41:50,400 --> 00:41:52,480

Investigators believed that the cases were linked

834

00:41:52,480 --> 00:41:54,360

but had no suspect.

835

00:41:54,360 --> 00:41:56,720

Then three days after Deborah Poe's disappearance,

836

00:41:56,720 --> 00:41:59,280

authorities were contacted by a young woman

837

00:41:59,280 --> 00:42:01,800

read about the case in a local paper.

838

00:42:01,800 --> 00:42:04,120

She came forward after realizing that she may have

839

00:42:04,120 --> 00:42:06,800

stood face to face with Deborah Poe's abductor.

840

00:42:11,040 --> 00:42:13,960

I stopped by a convenience store, about 3.30,

841

00:42:13,960 --> 00:42:15,600

to pick up a pack of cigarettes.

842

00:42:15,600 --> 00:42:18,240

And there was only one person in the store.

843

00:42:18,240 --> 00:42:19,520

And it appeared to be the clerk.

844

00:42:22,960 --> 00:42:26,280

Looking back on it, he didn't know where the cigarettes were,

845

00:42:26,280 --> 00:42:30,520

which isn't that uncommon if it's a new clerk.

846

00:42:30,520 --> 00:42:33,120

And I had to point out which ones I wanted.

847

00:42:33,120 --> 00:42:35,680

No, the regular ones up top over there.

848

00:42:35,680 --> 00:42:38,360

He had long, stringy hair.

849

00:42:38,360 --> 00:42:40,200

He was wearing an earring of a cross.

850

00:42:40,200 --> 00:42:42,240

He really seemed smoky.

851

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

And a skulls ring.

852

00:42:44,120 --> 00:42:45,720

Yeah, right.

853

00:42:45,720 --> 00:42:50,320

And he had a rock t-shirt and the name Mega Death

854

00:42:50,320 --> 00:42:51,040

across the top.

855

00:42:51,640 --> 00:42:53,200

We cannot locate anyone else that

856

00:42:53,200 --> 00:42:56,440

has been able to tell us whether or not

857

00:42:56,440 --> 00:42:57,880

this individual was in the store

858

00:42:57,880 --> 00:43:00,480

and when they were in the store.

859

00:43:00,480 --> 00:43:02,520

He might have been a customer that walked in

860

00:43:02,520 --> 00:43:05,320

and was walking around looking for the clerk.

861

00:43:05,320 --> 00:43:07,160

He might have been an individual who

862

00:43:07,160 --> 00:43:11,560

was taking an opportunity to shoplift or steal some things.

863

00:43:11,560 --> 00:43:14,680

Or he might be responsible, or in part responsible,

864

00:43:14,680 --> 00:43:16,040

for the abduction of Deborah Poe.

865

00:43:16,160 --> 00:43:18,440

There's a good possibility that we're dealing

866

00:43:18,440 --> 00:43:22,480

with an individual who is a serial type of person

867

00:43:22,480 --> 00:43:25,680

who abducts these people.

868

00:43:25,680 --> 00:43:29,000

Deborah Poe is officially listed as missing.

869

00:43:29,000 --> 00:43:32,160

She is 26 years old, 5 feet 2 inches tall,

870

00:43:32,160 --> 00:43:37,040

and weighs approximately 105 pounds.

871

00:43:37,040 --> 00:43:41,120

If we don't find her alive, then we can at least

872

00:43:41,120 --> 00:43:46,200

put her to rest, give her a decent service, go after her killer.

873

00:44:11,120 --> 00:44:23,120

Join me next time for an all new edition of Unsolved Mysteries.