

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 --> 00:00:12,280

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

5

00:00:16,280 --> 00:00:19,480

It was Christmas 45 years ago.

6

00:00:19,480 --> 00:00:22,720

Sympathetic deputies transformed the jail in Henry County,

7

00:00:22,720 --> 00:00:25,960

Illinois into a sanctuary for a destitute mother

8

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

Hill and her son, John.

9

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

The sanctuary for a destitute mother

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

Hill de Cron and her family.

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00:00:31,960 --> 00:00:35,400

But within weeks, the simple act of charity would backfire.

12

00:00:35,400 --> 00:00:38,120

On seven of Hill's nine children were separated

13

00:00:38,120 --> 00:00:41,280

and put up for adoption.

14

00:00:41,280 --> 00:00:44,200

Barbara Pasiak was thrilled when her daughter Paula brought

15

00:00:44,200 --> 00:00:46,400

her boyfriend home for a visit.

16

00:00:46,400 --> 00:00:48,680

Five days later, Paula was dead,

17

00:00:48,680 --> 00:00:53,120

and the boyfriend was on the run, suspected of murder.

18

00:00:53,120 --> 00:00:55,120

Also one of the most fascinating mysteries

19

00:00:55,120 --> 00:00:58,160

of this century, the story of Anastasia,

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00:00:58,160 --> 00:01:01,200

youngest daughter of the last Tsar of Russia.

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00:01:01,200 --> 00:01:03,480

History records that she was executed along

22

00:01:03,480 --> 00:01:06,640

with the rest of her family by Bolshevik revolutionaries

23

00:01:06,640 --> 00:01:08,440

in 1918.

24

00:01:08,440 --> 00:01:11,320

But evidence abounds that history may be wrong.

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00:01:11,320 --> 00:01:14,720

In the 1920s, a mysterious woman turned up in Germany

26

00:01:14,720 --> 00:01:17,200

using the name Anna Anderson and claiming

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00:01:17,200 --> 00:01:20,760

that she was Anastasia.

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00:01:20,760 --> 00:01:23,640

For more than 70 years, the secret of Anna Anderson's

29

00:01:23,640 --> 00:01:27,000

true identity has provoked a tantalizing and often fiery

30

00:01:27,000 --> 00:01:28,440

debate.

31

00:01:28,440 --> 00:01:32,480

Join me as we journey to Russia on this very special edition

32

00:01:32,480 --> 00:01:34,480

of Unsolved Mysteries.

33

00:02:24,640 --> 00:02:26,640

Her name was Anastasia.

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00:02:26,640 --> 00:02:29,640

She was more royal than a princess.

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00:02:29,640 --> 00:02:32,920

She was an imperial grand duchess of Russia, daughter

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00:02:32,920 --> 00:02:38,120

of Tsar Nicholas II, the wealthiest man in the world.

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00:02:38,120 --> 00:02:40,720

Anastasia was born with her father's captivating

38

00:02:40,720 --> 00:02:42,640

azure blue eyes.

39

00:02:42,640 --> 00:02:45,640

But the Tsar already had three daughters.

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00:02:45,640 --> 00:02:48,920

He, along with all of Russia, wanted a boy and heir

41

00:02:48,920 --> 00:02:50,920

to the throne.

42

00:02:51,200 --> 00:02:56,200

Anastasia must have sensed that she was a disappointment.

43

00:02:56,200 --> 00:03:00,200

She grew into an unrepentant tomboy, a jokester,

44

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

the family clown.

45

00:03:02,200 --> 00:03:04,800

Even after her son was finally born,

46

00:03:04,800 --> 00:03:09,800

Anastasia remained the rebel of the imperial Romanov family.

47

00:03:09,800 --> 00:03:13,000

Her impish nature was irrepressible, whether she was

48

00:03:13,000 --> 00:03:15,920

roller skating on the decks of the imperial yacht

49

00:03:15,920 --> 00:03:18,920

or enduring the pomp and panoply of the Russian court.

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00:03:19,920 --> 00:03:24,920

Then on July 17, 1918, Anastasia's fairy tale life came

51

00:03:24,920 --> 00:03:26,920

to a horrible end.

52

00:03:29,920 --> 00:03:33,920

She was just 17 when her entire family was executed,

53

00:03:33,920 --> 00:03:36,920

along with her physician and three servants.

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00:03:40,920 --> 00:03:43,920

Their burial site remained a dark state secret,

55

00:03:43,920 --> 00:03:45,920

and the Russian court was the only one

56

00:03:45,920 --> 00:03:48,920

where the burial site remained a dark state secret.

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00:03:48,920 --> 00:03:52,920

As far as history was concerned, that was the end of Anastasia

58

00:03:52,920 --> 00:03:53,920

and her family.

59

00:03:57,920 --> 00:04:01,920

19 months later, a young woman, nameless and alone,

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00:04:01,920 --> 00:04:05,920

wandered the gloomy damp streets of Berlin, Germany.

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00:04:05,920 --> 00:04:09,920

When she came to Bendler Bridge, spanning a murky city canal,

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00:04:09,920 --> 00:04:12,920

the stage was set for one of the world's great mysteries.

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00:04:16,920 --> 00:04:19,920

Nice! Nice! Nice! Stop!

64

00:04:22,920 --> 00:04:25,920

Eventually, the young woman would take the name Anna Anderson

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00:04:25,920 --> 00:04:30,920

and shock the world by claiming that she was the Grand Duchess Anastasia.

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00:04:30,920 --> 00:04:34,920

The debate over her identity rages to this day.

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00:04:35,920 --> 00:04:39,920

There is absolutely no question in my mind at all

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00:04:40,920 --> 00:04:44,920

that the Grand Duchess Anastasia survived the assassination

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00:04:44,920 --> 00:04:49,920

of the Romanovs in 1918, made it to the West,

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00:04:50,920 --> 00:04:54,920

and died in the United States as Anna Anderson.

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00:04:54,920 --> 00:04:56,920

No question at all.

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00:04:58,920 --> 00:05:01,920

Despite adamant opinions on both sides,

73

00:05:01,920 --> 00:05:04,920

it seemed this was a mystery which would never be solved.

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

Then on July 12, 1991, in this remote field

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00:05:09,920 --> 00:05:12,920

near the Siberian city of Beringburg, Russia,

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00:05:12,920 --> 00:05:15,920

the remains of the Tsar's family were finally unearthed.

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00:05:18,920 --> 00:05:20,920

To the astonishment of almost everyone,

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00:05:20,920 --> 00:05:22,920

two bodies were missing from the grave,

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00:05:22,920 --> 00:05:24,920

and one was Anastasia's.

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00:05:25,920 --> 00:05:28,920

Now using sophisticated DNA technology,

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

scientists may finally be able to answer once and for all

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00:05:31,920 --> 00:05:35,920

the question that has haunted history for nearly 75 years

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00:05:35,920 --> 00:05:39,920

was Anna Anderson, in fact, the Grand Duchess Anastasia,

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00:05:39,920 --> 00:05:42,920

whose name means she who was reborn.

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00:05:44,920 --> 00:05:48,920

Nicholas II faded to be the last Tsar of Russia.

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00:05:48,920 --> 00:05:52,920

In the beginning, his life was the envy of the world,

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00:05:52,920 --> 00:05:55,920

an adoring wife of royal blood, Alexandra,

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00:05:55,920 --> 00:05:58,920

granddaughter of Queen Victoria of England,

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00:05:59,920 --> 00:06:02,920

four beautiful daughters, the Grand Duchess's Olga,

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00:06:02,920 --> 00:06:05,920

Tatiana, Marie, and Anastasia,

91

00:06:05,920 --> 00:06:09,920

and finally a son Alexei, heir to the throne.

92

00:06:11,920 --> 00:06:14,920

Alexei, however, was a hemophiliac.

93

00:06:14,920 --> 00:06:17,920

His disease was kept a tightly held family secret,

94

00:06:17,920 --> 00:06:21,920

and the seven Romanovs drew more and more into themselves.

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00:06:21,920 --> 00:06:24,920

Even their closest relatives saw little of them.

96

00:06:25,920 --> 00:06:28,920

But while the Romanovs lived in grand and increasingly

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00:06:28,920 --> 00:06:32,920

isolated opulence, most of their subjects were starving.

98

00:06:33,920 --> 00:06:36,920

When Nicholas involved his country in World War I,

99

00:06:36,920 --> 00:06:40,920

hundreds of thousands of his soldiers had neither shoes nor rifles.

100

00:06:40,920 --> 00:06:44,920

More than a million men were killed or wounded.

101

00:06:45,920 --> 00:06:48,920

Finally, the people rebelled.

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00:06:48,920 --> 00:06:53,920

In 1917, Nicholas abdicated to a provisional democratic government,

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00:06:53,920 --> 00:06:57,920

but soon after, that government fell to the radical Bolsheviks.

104

00:06:58,920 --> 00:07:02,920

The Tsar's mother and sisters made it safely out of the country,

105

00:07:02,920 --> 00:07:04,920

but the Tsar, his wife and children,

106

00:07:04,920 --> 00:07:07,920

were virtual prisoners in their own palace.

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00:07:10,920 --> 00:07:15,920

On August 13, 1917, the Romanovs were banished in the dead of night

108

00:07:15,920 --> 00:07:19,920

from the summer palace just outside St. Petersburg.

109

00:07:20,920 --> 00:07:24,920

Eleven months later, the entire family was executed,

110

00:07:24,920 --> 00:07:28,920

or so it was thought, until the mysterious young woman

111

00:07:28,920 --> 00:07:32,920

appeared in Germany on February 18, 1920.

112

00:07:37,920 --> 00:07:39,920

After her suicide attempt,

113

00:07:39,920 --> 00:07:42,920

police committed the young woman to Daldorf Asylum,

114

00:07:42,920 --> 00:07:45,920

a mental institution just outside Berlin.

115

00:07:45,920 --> 00:07:48,920

She gave no information about herself.

116

00:07:49,920 --> 00:07:52,920

And was dubbed Miss Unknown,

117

00:07:52,920 --> 00:07:56,920

only much later would she take the name Anna Anderson.

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00:07:58,920 --> 00:08:02,920

At Daldorf, she underwent her first physical examination.

119

00:08:02,920 --> 00:08:05,920

Doctors discovered that her body was covered with scars,

120

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

for which they could find no explanation.

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00:08:10,920 --> 00:08:14,920

She began to reveal her own personality very slowly.

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00:08:15,920 --> 00:08:20,920

For many, many months, she virtually never left her bed.

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00:08:22,920 --> 00:08:25,920

James Blair Lovel, author of Anastasia, The Lost Princess,

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00:08:25,920 --> 00:08:27,920

knew Anna Anderson personally.

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00:08:27,920 --> 00:08:30,920

She was in her mind, in hiding,

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00:08:30,920 --> 00:08:34,920

and the best place to hide was this asylum

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00:08:34,920 --> 00:08:36,920

where no one would come looking for her

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00:08:36,920 --> 00:08:39,920

or suspect that she was who she was.

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00:08:40,920 --> 00:08:43,920

The patient hid her identity successfully,

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00:08:43,920 --> 00:08:45,920

until a woman named Clara Putharth

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00:08:45,920 --> 00:08:50,920

was admitted to the same ward at Daldorf in December of 1921.

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00:08:50,920 --> 00:08:52,920

Clara, good morning. What is it?

133

00:08:52,920 --> 00:08:56,920

I know you. I don't understand.

134

00:08:56,920 --> 00:08:57,920

What are you talking about?

135

00:08:57,920 --> 00:08:59,920

Oh, it is all right, my daughter.

136

00:08:59,920 --> 00:09:03,920

You know, it's such a miracle that you are alive.

137

00:09:03,920 --> 00:09:06,920

Clara Putharth was a devotee,

138

00:09:06,920 --> 00:09:11,920

as were so many people think, of royalty magazines.

139

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

Is that it? Yesterday.

140

00:09:13,920 --> 00:09:17,920

And she began to look at pictures of the Romanovs.

141

00:09:17,920 --> 00:09:19,920

Look at this picture.

142

00:09:19,920 --> 00:09:22,920

And she began to believe that Miss Unknown

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00:09:22,920 --> 00:09:25,920

bore a striking uncanny resemblance

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00:09:25,920 --> 00:09:27,920

to the grand Duchess Tatiana.

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00:09:27,920 --> 00:09:31,920

And then it came to me that it was you.

146

00:09:31,920 --> 00:09:34,920

Miss Unknown either confirmed her identity

147

00:09:34,920 --> 00:09:38,920

or denied Clara Putharth's claim.

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00:09:38,920 --> 00:09:40,920

I can see the resemblance.

149

00:09:40,920 --> 00:09:42,920

Soon Ward reached several members

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00:09:42,920 --> 00:09:44,920

of the Russian nobility exiled in Paris.

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00:09:44,920 --> 00:09:47,920

They sent an official representative,

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00:09:47,920 --> 00:09:50,920

a Madame Tolstoy to Daldorf.

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00:09:50,920 --> 00:09:53,920

We are just here to talk.

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00:09:53,920 --> 00:09:57,920

There is someone I would like for you to meet.

155

00:09:57,920 --> 00:09:59,920

Please go away.

156

00:09:59,920 --> 00:10:03,920

I don't want to see anyone.

157

00:10:04,920 --> 00:10:08,920

Don't be afraid, child.

158

00:10:08,920 --> 00:10:11,920

It's just that I spoke with your friend Clara,

159

00:10:11,920 --> 00:10:15,920

and she has told me so much about you.

160

00:10:15,920 --> 00:10:23,920

I wanted to meet you for myself.

161

00:10:23,920 --> 00:10:26,920

Oh, my God.

162

00:10:26,920 --> 00:10:30,920

She has eyes of Nicholas.

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00:10:30,920 --> 00:10:32,920

Later Tolstoy told people

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00:10:32,920 --> 00:10:35,920

that when she saw those eyes

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00:10:35,920 --> 00:10:38,920

in the context of the rest of the face,

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00:10:38,920 --> 00:10:43,920

she knew she was looking at one of the daughters of the Tsar.

167

00:10:43,920 --> 00:10:46,920

Eventually Anna Anderson told several nurses

168

00:10:46,920 --> 00:10:50,920

she was actually Anastasia, the youngest grand Duchess.

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00:10:50,920 --> 00:10:53,920

Indeed, she did resemble Anastasia facially

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00:10:53,920 --> 00:10:55,920

and in height and age.

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00:10:55,920 --> 00:10:58,920

Apparently several childhood scars and birthmarks

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00:10:58,920 --> 00:11:01,920

were checked out and they two matched.

173

00:11:01,920 --> 00:11:04,920

Now the fresh scars seem to make sense.

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00:11:04,920 --> 00:11:09,920

Perhaps they were remnants of Bolshevik bullets and bayonets.

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00:11:09,920 --> 00:11:12,920

Four years later, in July of 1925,

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00:11:12,920 --> 00:11:15,920

while the young woman was hospitalized for surgery,

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00:11:15,920 --> 00:11:17,920

she received a visitor.

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00:11:17,920 --> 00:11:21,920

Shura Giard, Anastasia's former nanny,

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00:11:21,920 --> 00:11:25,920

had come to see for herself just who Miss Unknown was.

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

Shura recognized the grand Duchess,

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00:11:28,920 --> 00:11:30,920

both by her childhood scars

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00:11:30,920 --> 00:11:34,920

and by a bone deformity on her right foot.

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00:11:34,920 --> 00:11:36,920

Then the young woman beckoned to Shura

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00:11:36,920 --> 00:11:39,920

to massage her forehead with cologne.

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00:11:39,920 --> 00:11:42,920

It had been a favorite childhood ritual of Anastasia's,

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00:11:42,920 --> 00:11:45,920

known only to the two of them.

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00:11:47,920 --> 00:11:50,920

Later, Shura and her husband brought the Tsar's sister Olga

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00:11:50,920 --> 00:11:52,920

to visit.

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00:11:52,920 --> 00:11:54,920

Olga had last seen her niece when Anastasia

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00:11:54,920 --> 00:11:56,920

was a plump, boisterous adolescent,

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00:11:56,920 --> 00:11:58,920

more than a decade earlier.

192

00:11:58,920 --> 00:12:00,920

Isn't she beautiful?

193

00:12:00,920 --> 00:12:03,920

My child, you're so pale.

194

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

Her aunt said that this young woman

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

had lost so much weight that she was unable

196

00:12:12,920 --> 00:12:17,920

to make a positive visual identification of her,

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00:12:17,920 --> 00:12:19,920

and so they talked.

198

00:12:19,920 --> 00:12:22,920

I am so happy, okay?

199

00:12:22,920 --> 00:12:26,920

After Anastasia, Olga then did say,

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00:12:26,920 --> 00:12:29,920

you are my niece, I recognize you.

201

00:12:35,920 --> 00:12:38,920

The next day, in a private visit with Olga,

202

00:12:38,920 --> 00:12:42,920

Anastasia made a revelation about the Tsar's secret bank account,

203

00:12:42,920 --> 00:12:46,920

which would ultimately prove to be her undoing.

204

00:12:46,920 --> 00:12:50,920

You know, we lost every single one we escaped from Russia.

205

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

I don't think you have to worry about me.

206

00:12:53,920 --> 00:12:55,920

Why not?

207

00:12:55,920 --> 00:12:58,920

Because all the money that Nicholas left for us.

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00:12:58,920 --> 00:13:02,920

There was, she believed, in the Bank of England,

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00:13:02,920 --> 00:13:05,920

\$80 million.

210

00:13:05,920 --> 00:13:08,920

This was news to the family,

211

00:13:08,920 --> 00:13:12,920

and that one conversation, that incident,

212

00:13:12,920 --> 00:13:16,920

radically changed the life of Anna Anderson forever.

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00:13:17,920 --> 00:13:20,920

Anastasia was betrayed.

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00:13:20,920 --> 00:13:25,920

\$80 million in 1925 was the equivalent of \$5.6 billion

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00:13:25,920 --> 00:13:27,920

in today's economy.

216

00:13:27,920 --> 00:13:30,920

It was ample motivation for Anastasia's aunt

217

00:13:30,920 --> 00:13:34,920

and the other surviving Romanovs to deny her identity

218

00:13:34,920 --> 00:13:37,920

and therefore her right to any of the money.

219

00:13:37,920 --> 00:13:41,920

In essence, she was once again, misunknown.

220

00:13:41,920 --> 00:13:45,920

However, Anastasia was not abandoned by everyone.

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00:13:46,920 --> 00:13:50,920

In 1927, she took up residence in a German castle

222

00:13:50,920 --> 00:13:54,920

under the protection of a sympathetic Duke and Duchess.

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00:13:54,920 --> 00:13:59,920

That spring, Gleb Botkin, a close childhood friend of Anastasia's,

224

00:13:59,920 --> 00:14:01,920

traveled from his home in the United States

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00:14:01,920 --> 00:14:05,920

to see whether the grand duchess had somehow survived.

226

00:14:05,920 --> 00:14:08,920

Gleb was the youngest child of the Tsar's physician,

227

00:14:08,920 --> 00:14:10,920

Dr. Eugene Botkin.

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00:14:10,920 --> 00:14:14,920

The doctor had been executed along with the imperial family,

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

but Gleb was able to escape from Russia.

230

00:14:18,920 --> 00:14:22,920

One of the childhood games that he and Anastasia had played together was

231

00:14:22,920 --> 00:14:27,920

that Gleb would draw or would paint a watercolor painting

232

00:14:27,920 --> 00:14:33,920

of animals dressed in human clothing and in human-like situations.

233

00:14:33,920 --> 00:14:36,920

Give the picture to the young Anastasia,

234

00:14:36,920 --> 00:14:41,920

and she then would make up a story to explain the action in the picture.

235

00:14:45,920 --> 00:14:47,920

But I would like to see the pictures.

236

00:14:47,920 --> 00:14:49,920

Oh, yes.

237

00:14:49,920 --> 00:14:54,920

He recognized her immediately, and as she leafed through them,

238

00:14:54,920 --> 00:15:00,920

she remembered the stories that she had made up years earlier

239

00:15:00,920 --> 00:15:02,920

to accompany the pictures.

240

00:15:02,920 --> 00:15:09,920

Telling the rat that they were safe, because the cat was caught by a line.

241

00:15:09,920 --> 00:15:14,920

It was the most significant recognition of Anastasia in her lifetime.

242

00:15:14,920 --> 00:15:20,920

And Gleb Botkin became, as she called him, her lifelong champion.

243

00:15:20,920 --> 00:15:23,920

Friend with a lime.

244

00:15:23,920 --> 00:15:27,920

Only later would Anna recount for Gleb what she knew about

245

00:15:27,920 --> 00:15:30,920

the terrible night of July 17, 1918.

246

00:15:31,920 --> 00:15:36,920

How she had been horribly wounded and rendered unconscious during the execution.

247

00:15:36,920 --> 00:15:40,920

How she had been thrown on a truck with the dead bodies of her family.

248

00:15:40,920 --> 00:15:46,920

How the truck lumbered off into the night, heading to a secret grave site.

249

00:15:50,920 --> 00:15:53,920

At some point the truck overheated.

250

00:15:54,920 --> 00:16:00,920

A soldier named Alexander Chikovsky was one of those left to stand guard.

251

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

He realized Anastasia was not dead.

252

00:16:04,920 --> 00:16:08,920

Aided by his brother, Chikovsky spirited her to safety.

253

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

Alexander Chikovsky was later killed in Romania.

254

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

Anastasia eventually made her way to Germany and Bendler Bridge.

255

00:16:23,920 --> 00:16:30,920

20 years after the Tsar's assassination, Gleb Botkin and Anna's lawyer were finally able to go to court.

256

00:16:30,920 --> 00:16:35,920

To claim Anastasia's inheritance and thereby prove Anna Anderson's identity.

257

00:16:35,920 --> 00:16:40,920

That Anna Anderson is the grand duchess Anastasia.

258

00:16:40,920 --> 00:16:43,920

During the course of this entire case, the Romanov family...

259

00:16:43,920 --> 00:16:47,920

None of the principals had ever heard of Anna Anderson.

260

00:16:47,920 --> 00:16:51,920

Anastasia, during the course of this entire case, the Romanov family...

261

00:16:51,920 --> 00:16:55,920

None of the principals had any idea that the case, including several appeals,

262

00:16:55,920 --> 00:16:59,920

would drag on literally from the rest of their lives.

263

00:17:00,920 --> 00:17:05,920

From the beginning, Anna's attorneys based their arguments on the numerous points of similarity

264

00:17:05,920 --> 00:17:08,920

between the grand duchess and Anna Anderson.

265

00:17:09,920 --> 00:17:12,920

Experts analyzed photographs of both women's ears.

266

00:17:12,920 --> 00:17:16,920

The match impressed even Anna's bitterest enemies.

267

00:17:16,920 --> 00:17:19,920

Various scars and birthmarks also matched.

268

00:17:19,920 --> 00:17:23,920

Handwriting samples were analyzed and found virtually identical.

269

00:17:25,920 --> 00:17:28,920

Anna was now 58 years old.

270

00:17:28,920 --> 00:17:32,920

She had become increasingly eccentric and was almost totally uncooperative,

271

00:17:32,920 --> 00:17:35,920

both with her own attorneys and with the courts.

272

00:17:36,920 --> 00:17:39,920

Anna lived in a remote German village near the Black Forest.

273

00:17:39,920 --> 00:17:42,920

Her modest cottage was overgrown with weeds

274

00:17:42,920 --> 00:17:46,920

and overrun by her four dogs and 30 cats.

275

00:17:46,920 --> 00:17:48,920

Good afternoon, Miss Anderson.

276

00:17:48,920 --> 00:17:49,920

What is it?

277

00:17:49,920 --> 00:17:51,920

Can I talk to you?

278

00:17:52,920 --> 00:17:55,920

In 1959, during an appeal of the case,

279

00:17:55,920 --> 00:17:59,920

a judge and two language experts came to ascertain whether Anna,

280

00:17:59,920 --> 00:18:03,920

who almost always spoke German or English, could also speak Russian.

281

00:18:04,920 --> 00:18:06,920

Who are these people?

282

00:18:06,920 --> 00:18:10,920

These are the experts that your attorney agreed upon.

283

00:18:10,920 --> 00:18:14,920

Anastasia refused to allow anyone into her house except the judge.

284

00:18:14,920 --> 00:18:16,920

I never agreed to any such meeting.

285

00:18:16,920 --> 00:18:19,920

And when he extended his hand to shake hers,

286

00:18:19,920 --> 00:18:23,920

she refused to do so, saying that she was afraid of germs.

287

00:18:23,920 --> 00:18:26,920

In fact, she considered it a breach of etiquette

288

00:18:26,920 --> 00:18:30,920

on the part of a lowly German Supreme Court judge

289

00:18:30,920 --> 00:18:33,920

to want to shake the hand of a Russian grand duchess.

290

00:18:33,920 --> 00:18:38,920

I have made my choices, and I am willing to live with them.

291

00:18:38,920 --> 00:18:40,920

She refused to speak Russian to him?

292

00:18:40,920 --> 00:18:41,920

I don't think he understands.

293

00:18:41,920 --> 00:18:45,920

Was totally social, as if this were just a little tea party.

294

00:18:45,920 --> 00:18:47,920

And at the end of 10 minutes, she dismissed him.

295

00:18:47,920 --> 00:18:49,920

But this meeting is over.

296

00:18:51,920 --> 00:18:56,920

Finally in 1967, the German High Court issued a decision.

297

00:18:56,920 --> 00:19:00,920

There was not enough evidence to prove Anna Anderson's claim.

298

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

The court did state, however,

299

00:19:02,920 --> 00:19:05,920

that the death of grand duchess Anastasia

300

00:19:05,920 --> 00:19:09,920

could not be considered a verifiable historical fact.

301

00:19:11,920 --> 00:19:13,920

Despite that small victory,

302

00:19:13,920 --> 00:19:16,920

Anna had had enough of lawyers and courts.

303

00:19:16,920 --> 00:19:18,920

These home movies of Anna Anderson

304

00:19:18,920 --> 00:19:20,920

televised here for the first time

305

00:19:20,920 --> 00:19:23,920

were shot in Germany in 1967.

306

00:19:23,920 --> 00:19:26,920

The following year, Anna moved to Charlottesville, Virginia

307

00:19:26,920 --> 00:19:28,920

where her protector, Gleb Botkin,

308

00:19:28,920 --> 00:19:31,920

introduced her to one of his friends.

309

00:19:31,920 --> 00:19:35,920

On December 23, 1968, Anna married Jack Manahan,

310

00:19:35,920 --> 00:19:38,920

18 years her junior.

311

00:19:38,920 --> 00:19:40,920

One year later, Gleb Botkin died,

312

00:19:40,920 --> 00:19:42,920

never wavering in his belief

313

00:19:42,920 --> 00:19:46,920

that Anna Anderson was Anastasia.

314

00:19:46,920 --> 00:19:50,920

In fact, Anna now called herself Anastasia Manahan.

315

00:19:50,920 --> 00:19:53,920

She and Jack were a quirky, eccentric couple,

316

00:19:53,920 --> 00:19:56,920

the bane of their neighbor's existence.

317

00:19:56,920 --> 00:19:59,920

Over the years, Jack's once beautiful house

318

00:19:59,920 --> 00:20:02,920

became overgrown and full of cats.

319

00:20:04,920 --> 00:20:07,920

Anastasia died in 1984.

320

00:20:07,920 --> 00:20:10,920

Jack in 1990.

321

00:20:11,920 --> 00:20:15,920

Sixteen months later, on July 12, 1991,

322

00:20:15,920 --> 00:20:18,920

the Imperial family skeletons were finally exhumed

323

00:20:18,920 --> 00:20:21,920

near a Katrinburg Russia.

324

00:20:21,920 --> 00:20:25,920

After the execution, the bodies had been buried hodgepodge.

325

00:20:25,920 --> 00:20:28,920

Still, everyone expected to find all seven Romanovs,

326

00:20:28,920 --> 00:20:32,920

as well as four members of the family's entourage.

327

00:20:35,920 --> 00:20:38,920

In the grave, there were supposed to be eleven bodies,

328

00:20:38,920 --> 00:20:41,920

but only nine were there.

329

00:20:41,920 --> 00:20:44,920

Two were missing.

330

00:20:44,920 --> 00:20:47,920

For a whole year, we looked for the two missing skeletons,

331

00:20:47,920 --> 00:20:50,920

but we could never find them.

332

00:20:52,920 --> 00:20:55,920

The middle face has been badly fractured.

333

00:20:55,920 --> 00:20:58,920

In an effort to determine which skeletons were missing,

334

00:20:58,920 --> 00:21:01,920

the Russians invited American forensic expert,

335

00:21:01,920 --> 00:21:04,920

Dr. William Maples, to examine the remains.

336

00:21:04,920 --> 00:21:06,920

It's a shame we don't have a good panoply.

337

00:21:06,920 --> 00:21:09,920

We looked at the remains, we photographed the remains,

338

00:21:09,920 --> 00:21:12,920

we measured the remains,

339

00:21:12,920 --> 00:21:14,920

and for each of the nine skeletons,

340

00:21:14,920 --> 00:21:17,920

we determined age, sex, race.

341

00:21:17,920 --> 00:21:21,920

We determined that the czar was most likely there.

342

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

Bodies seven is the czarina.

343

00:21:24,920 --> 00:21:26,920

We had the family physician, Dr. Botkin,

344

00:21:26,920 --> 00:21:28,920

and we had three of the daughters.

345

00:21:28,920 --> 00:21:30,920

But I don't believe any of the three daughters

346

00:21:30,920 --> 00:21:33,920

could be young enough to be Anastasia,

347

00:21:33,920 --> 00:21:37,920

who was 17 years, one month at the time of the shooting.

348

00:21:37,920 --> 00:21:39,920

Also missing were the remains of Alexei,

349

00:21:39,920 --> 00:21:42,920

the czar's youngest child and only son.

350

00:21:42,920 --> 00:21:45,920

It was the absence of Anastasia's body, however,

351

00:21:45,920 --> 00:21:48,920

which once again fueled the controversy.

352

00:21:48,920 --> 00:21:51,920

Was it possible that Anastasia had somehow

353

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

managed to escape the carnage?

354

00:21:54,920 --> 00:21:56,920

Whether she could have survived that night,

355

00:21:56,920 --> 00:21:58,920

I seriously doubt it.

356

00:21:58,920 --> 00:22:01,920

As a forensic scientist looking at the objective evidence

357

00:22:01,920 --> 00:22:03,920

that we have, we don't have any evidence

358

00:22:03,920 --> 00:22:05,920

that anyone would have survived.

359

00:22:05,920 --> 00:22:09,920

The damage to the remains was pretty profound.

360

00:22:09,920 --> 00:22:16,920

MUSIC

361

00:22:16,920 --> 00:22:19,920

The official Bolshevik account is as follows.

362

00:22:19,920 --> 00:22:23,920

The Romanovs were imprisoned in the former home

363

00:22:23,920 --> 00:22:26,920

of a wealthy Akaterinburg industrialist.

364

00:22:26,920 --> 00:22:28,920

The czar had been ordered by the Bolsheviks

365

00:22:28,920 --> 00:22:30,920

to awaken his family.

366

00:22:30,920 --> 00:22:33,920

There was unrest in the town, and supposedly,

367

00:22:33,920 --> 00:22:36,920

the Romanovs had to be moved for their own protection.

368

00:22:36,920 --> 00:22:43,920

The girls were given half an hour to dress.

369

00:22:43,920 --> 00:22:46,920

They carefully laced on their corsets.

370

00:22:46,920 --> 00:22:48,920

A fortune in precious stones and gems

371

00:22:48,920 --> 00:22:53,920

had been sewn into the linings.

372

00:22:53,920 --> 00:22:56,920

The Romanovs, along with Gleb Batkin's father

373

00:22:56,920 --> 00:23:00,920

and three servants, were led into the cellar.

374

00:23:00,920 --> 00:23:05,920

They had no way of knowing they were about to die.

375

00:23:05,920 --> 00:23:09,920

The Tsarina asked for chairs.

376

00:23:09,920 --> 00:23:12,920

Two were brought.

377

00:23:12,920 --> 00:23:14,920

Then abruptly, Yakov Yurovsky,

378

00:23:14,920 --> 00:23:16,920

the Bolshevik officer in charge,

379

00:23:16,920 --> 00:23:18,920

read the orders of execution.

380

00:23:18,920 --> 00:23:20,920

In the face of the fact that your relatives

381

00:23:20,920 --> 00:23:23,920

continue to attack the Soviet Russia,

382

00:23:23,920 --> 00:23:28,920

the Purall and the Colonel decided to shoot you.

383

00:23:28,920 --> 00:23:29,920

What?

384

00:23:29,920 --> 00:23:34,920

Nicolas, dumbfounded, asked him to repeat.

385

00:23:34,920 --> 00:23:36,920

In the face of the fact that your relatives

386

00:23:36,920 --> 00:23:39,920

continue to attack the Soviet Russia,

387

00:23:39,920 --> 00:23:43,920

the Purall and the Colonel decided to shoot you.

388

00:23:45,920 --> 00:23:48,920

When they began shooting,

389

00:23:48,920 --> 00:23:51,920

the bullets bounced off Grand Duchess

390

00:23:51,920 --> 00:23:54,920

and returned to them.

391

00:23:54,920 --> 00:23:58,920

They didn't know that in corsets of Grand Duchess,

392

00:23:58,920 --> 00:24:02,920

the Tsarina hid their jewels,

393

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

and jewels protected them.

394

00:24:05,920 --> 00:24:08,920

They decided that God protected them,

395

00:24:08,920 --> 00:24:13,920

and they elitted, and they immediately became crazy.

396

00:24:13,920 --> 00:24:17,920

And disorder shooting began.

397

00:24:17,920 --> 00:24:20,920

In the first volley of shots,

398

00:24:20,920 --> 00:24:23,920

Anastasia was not hit.

399

00:24:23,920 --> 00:24:26,920

After everyone else was dead,

400

00:24:26,920 --> 00:24:29,920

even the Bolshevik accounts will tell you

401

00:24:29,920 --> 00:24:32,920

that Anastasia was alive.

402

00:24:32,920 --> 00:24:37,920

One account has her standing up and screaming.

403

00:24:37,920 --> 00:24:43,920

While one of the guards stuck a bayonet through one of her feet

404

00:24:43,920 --> 00:24:45,920

to pin her to the floor,

405

00:24:45,920 --> 00:24:50,920

and the other one clubbed her in the jaw with a rifle butt.

406

00:24:50,920 --> 00:24:53,920

Come on, come on, come on.

407

00:24:53,920 --> 00:24:56,920

Assuming Anastasia was now dead,

408

00:24:56,920 --> 00:25:00,920

Yorovsky's men loaded all the bodies onto a truck.

409

00:25:00,920 --> 00:25:03,920

However en route to the secret burial site,

410

00:25:03,920 --> 00:25:05,920

the truck would get bogged in the mud,

411

00:25:05,920 --> 00:25:12,920

and Yorovsky would decide to dispose of the bodies on the spot.

412

00:25:12,920 --> 00:25:15,920

Yorovsky reported that in order to confuse anyone

413

00:25:15,920 --> 00:25:17,920

who might locate the grave,

414

00:25:17,920 --> 00:25:19,920

he burned two of the bodies,

415

00:25:19,920 --> 00:25:22,920

and disposed of the charred remains right there.

416

00:25:22,920 --> 00:25:27,920

The other nine heroes were buried together a few meters away.

417

00:25:27,920 --> 00:25:30,920

Edward Rodzinski, author of The Last Tsar,

418

00:25:30,920 --> 00:25:32,920

The Life and Death of Nicholas II,

419

00:25:32,920 --> 00:25:35,920

believes that Yorovsky simply invented this scenario

420

00:25:35,920 --> 00:25:40,920

to cover up the fact that he could not account for all the bodies.

421

00:25:40,920 --> 00:25:43,920

They did not see two bodies

422

00:25:43,920 --> 00:25:49,920

when they buried the Romanov in this terrible grave.

423

00:25:49,920 --> 00:25:56,920

And Yorovsky had only one opportunity to explain it.

424

00:25:56,920 --> 00:25:58,920

He wrote,

425

00:25:58,920 --> 00:26:00,920

We burned two bodies.

426

00:26:00,920 --> 00:26:02,920

It was the end.

427

00:26:02,920 --> 00:26:06,920

Not only Anastasia,

428

00:26:06,920 --> 00:26:11,920

but two of the other daughters as well were actually alive.

429

00:26:11,920 --> 00:26:13,920

Michael Medvedev,

430

00:26:13,920 --> 00:26:17,920

whose father was a member of the execution squad, disagrees.

431

00:26:17,920 --> 00:26:20,920

When the soldier began to move the body

432

00:26:20,920 --> 00:26:25,920

from the wall of execution onto some stretchers,

433

00:26:26,920 --> 00:26:31,920

the girls regained consciousness and moaned in pain,

434

00:26:31,920 --> 00:26:35,920

including Anastasia.

435

00:26:35,920 --> 00:26:40,920

And one of the soldiers named Peter Yormakov

436

00:26:40,920 --> 00:26:43,920

killed Anastasia.

437

00:26:44,920 --> 00:26:46,920

And so the great riddle continues.

438

00:26:46,920 --> 00:26:49,920

Is the body of Grand Duchess Anastasia

439

00:26:49,920 --> 00:26:51,920

hidden in a shallow grave

440

00:26:51,920 --> 00:26:54,920

near the spot where the rest of her family was found?

441

00:26:54,920 --> 00:26:58,920

Or did Anastasia somehow survive the assassination,

442

00:26:58,920 --> 00:27:02,920

only to emerge years later as the eccentric Anna Anderson?

443

00:27:02,920 --> 00:27:05,920

Many of those who knew Anna best

444

00:27:05,920 --> 00:27:08,920

believe the truth is undeniable.

445

00:27:08,920 --> 00:27:12,920

Anna Anderson was Anastasia.

446

00:27:12,920 --> 00:27:16,920

All she wanted was for the world to leave her alone

447

00:27:16,920 --> 00:27:19,920

and for her surviving family members

448

00:27:19,920 --> 00:27:22,920

to publicly acknowledge what they privately acknowledged.

449

00:27:22,920 --> 00:27:25,920

And that was simply her identity.

450

00:27:52,920 --> 00:28:03,920

It was December of 1948.

451

00:28:03,920 --> 00:28:05,920

Christmas was just around the corner.

452

00:28:05,920 --> 00:28:09,920

Anna won Illinois seemed like a Norman Rockwell painting.

453

00:28:09,920 --> 00:28:12,920

Wholesome, peaceful, serene.

454

00:28:12,920 --> 00:28:15,920

But while most families were joyfully anticipating

455

00:28:15,920 --> 00:28:17,920

the arrival of the holiday season,

456

00:28:17,920 --> 00:28:21,920

one couple, Frank and Hilda Cron, were visited by disaster.

457

00:28:24,920 --> 00:28:27,920

The Cron's were dirt poor and lived with seven of their children

458

00:28:27,920 --> 00:28:30,920

in a small farmhouse in the outskirts of town.

459

00:28:30,920 --> 00:28:32,920

There was no plumbing or heating.

460

00:28:32,920 --> 00:28:35,920

And every night, the children all crammed into a single bed

461

00:28:35,920 --> 00:28:37,920

to keep warm.

462

00:28:43,920 --> 00:28:44,920

Yes?

463

00:28:44,920 --> 00:28:46,920

Hello, are you Mrs. Hilda Cron?

464

00:28:46,920 --> 00:28:48,920

Yes, I am.

465

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

Is your husband home?

466

00:28:55,920 --> 00:28:58,920

No, I'm sorry. He had to leave early this morning.

467

00:28:58,920 --> 00:29:01,920

Why? Is something wrong?

468

00:29:01,920 --> 00:29:03,920

Well, yes, ma'am. I'm afraid there is.

469

00:29:03,920 --> 00:29:08,920

We have a, uh, an eviction notice here from your landlord.

470

00:29:08,920 --> 00:29:11,920

And I'm afraid we're gonna have to ask you and your family

471

00:29:11,920 --> 00:29:13,920

to vacate the premises.

472

00:29:14,920 --> 00:29:16,920

Hurry, you don't have to wait.

473

00:29:16,920 --> 00:29:18,920

The deputies learned that the Cron's had nowhere to go

474

00:29:18,920 --> 00:29:20,920

and took pity.

475

00:29:20,920 --> 00:29:22,920

They decided they could not let the family spend Christmas

476

00:29:22,920 --> 00:29:24,920

out in the cold.

477

00:29:24,920 --> 00:29:27,920

In the spirit of the season, they took Hilda and the children

478

00:29:27,920 --> 00:29:32,920

to the only available shelter in town, the Henry County Jail.

479

00:29:32,920 --> 00:29:35,920

Raymond Cron was eight years old at the time.

480

00:29:35,920 --> 00:29:37,920

OK, boys. Here we go.

481

00:29:37,920 --> 00:29:40,920

Yeah, they just put us all in the car.

482

00:29:40,920 --> 00:29:44,920

The jail we come with, it was just a place for us to be

483

00:29:44,920 --> 00:29:46,920

in out of the weather.

484

00:29:46,920 --> 00:29:48,920

It's what I kind of remember of as being,

485

00:29:48,920 --> 00:29:51,920

that there was no other place for us.

486

00:29:54,920 --> 00:29:57,920

Suddenly the jail was transformed.

487

00:29:57,920 --> 00:30:00,920

His cold cement walls were now home for a destitute mother

488

00:30:00,920 --> 00:30:04,920

and her seven young children.

489

00:30:04,920 --> 00:30:07,920

The boys and girls are free to roam throughout the jail.

490

00:30:07,920 --> 00:30:09,920

But in a mystery that is still troubling,

491

00:30:09,920 --> 00:30:13,920

their parents were forbidden to see one another.

492

00:30:13,920 --> 00:30:17,920

Well, Dad wasn't allowed to go in to the jail to see mother.

493

00:30:17,920 --> 00:30:20,920

And she wasn't allowed to go out.

494

00:30:20,920 --> 00:30:25,920

And I never understood that either.

495

00:30:25,920 --> 00:30:27,920

Like I say, they let us go wherever we wanted to

496

00:30:27,920 --> 00:30:29,920

and do whatever we wanted to.

497

00:30:29,920 --> 00:30:30,920

Can I open the cell?

498

00:30:30,920 --> 00:30:31,920

Sure you can.

499

00:30:31,920 --> 00:30:33,920

We used to be able to go outside whenever we wanted to.

500

00:30:33,920 --> 00:30:36,920

We used to get down and talk to other prisoners.

501

00:30:36,920 --> 00:30:40,920

We used to play with things that we weren't supposed to.

502

00:30:40,920 --> 00:30:43,920

But I remember the fun place.

503

00:30:43,920 --> 00:30:45,920

Because I was only eight.

504

00:30:45,920 --> 00:30:47,920

I didn't know what was really going on.

505

00:30:47,920 --> 00:30:48,920

Hey, is everybody clear?

506

00:30:48,920 --> 00:30:49,920

Yeah.

507

00:30:58,920 --> 00:31:02,920

Marie Kron was four years old in 1948.

508

00:31:02,920 --> 00:31:05,920

Her memories of jailhouse life are quite different

509

00:31:05,920 --> 00:31:08,920

from what was in her mother's brother's.

510

00:31:08,920 --> 00:31:10,920

One time my mother was giving me a bath

511

00:31:10,920 --> 00:31:13,920

and the police men were walking by.

512

00:31:13,920 --> 00:31:14,920

Good afternoon, ladies.

513

00:31:14,920 --> 00:31:15,920

Hello, Sarah.

514

00:31:15,920 --> 00:31:17,920

And I got really nervous.

515

00:31:17,920 --> 00:31:20,920

I didn't want to be in that tub.

516

00:31:20,920 --> 00:31:24,920

Every time then after that, it was time for me to take a bath.

517

00:31:24,920 --> 00:31:26,920

I didn't want to.

518

00:31:26,920 --> 00:31:29,920

Because I was afraid these men would walk back by again

519

00:31:29,920 --> 00:31:32,920

and see me in that tub.

520

00:31:32,920 --> 00:31:35,920

A week went by, then two.

521

00:31:35,920 --> 00:31:39,920

On December 17, 1948, the family's plight was publicized

522

00:31:39,920 --> 00:31:42,920

in the local newspaper which carried this photograph,

523

00:31:42,920 --> 00:31:46,920

the only family portrait known to exist.

524

00:31:46,920 --> 00:31:51,920

In response, many community members offered assistance.

525

00:31:51,920 --> 00:31:54,920

A well-intentioned social worker hoped to brighten the children's Christmas

526

00:31:54,920 --> 00:31:56,920

by taking them out of jail

527

00:31:56,920 --> 00:31:59,920

and placing them in foster homes for the holidays.

528

00:31:59,920 --> 00:32:00,920

Hello.

529

00:32:00,920 --> 00:32:01,920

Hi.

530

00:32:01,920 --> 00:32:03,920

You must be Frances?

531

00:32:03,920 --> 00:32:04,920

Yes.

532

00:32:04,920 --> 00:32:05,920

And are you Marie?

533

00:32:05,920 --> 00:32:09,920

You girls are going to come with me for a little ride.

534

00:32:09,920 --> 00:32:12,920

I want to.

535

00:32:12,920 --> 00:32:16,920

I remember that Frances and I, neither one wanted to go.

536

00:32:16,920 --> 00:32:18,920

Now come on.

537

00:32:18,920 --> 00:32:20,920

You'll have fun, no more.

538

00:32:20,920 --> 00:32:23,920

We really had never been away from our mother.

539

00:32:23,920 --> 00:32:25,920

We had always been, our mother had always been there

540

00:32:25,920 --> 00:32:27,920

and everything else.

541

00:32:27,920 --> 00:32:29,920

But finally we had to go.

542

00:32:29,920 --> 00:32:33,920

I mean, there was no way that we were going to get to stay there.

543

00:32:33,920 --> 00:32:35,920

Frances!

544

00:32:35,920 --> 00:32:38,920

I felt that she felt that if we went,

545

00:32:38,920 --> 00:32:41,920

that we would have at least a nice Christmas,

546

00:32:41,920 --> 00:32:45,920

one that we had never actually ever had in our life.

547

00:32:48,920 --> 00:32:51,920

And then, like I say, that's the last time

548

00:32:51,920 --> 00:32:54,920

either one of us saw our mother after that.

549

00:32:55,920 --> 00:32:58,920

While her mother remained behind bars,

550

00:32:58,920 --> 00:33:01,920

Marie and Frances replaced in separate homes

551

00:33:01,920 --> 00:33:03,920

and eventually adopted.

552

00:33:03,920 --> 00:33:05,920

To this day, Marie wonders whether her mother

553

00:33:05,920 --> 00:33:08,920

actually consented to give the children away.

554

00:33:08,920 --> 00:33:09,920

Yes, well, come on.

555

00:33:09,920 --> 00:33:11,920

We're going to have to go now.

556

00:33:11,920 --> 00:33:13,920

Let's go this way.

557

00:33:13,920 --> 00:33:16,920

Maybe she couldn't read and if she signed any papers

558

00:33:16,920 --> 00:33:19,920

that was giving us away,

559

00:33:19,920 --> 00:33:21,920

she didn't know what she was signing,

560

00:33:21,920 --> 00:33:26,920

that she was maybe told that she was signing a release form

561

00:33:26,920 --> 00:33:30,920

for us, giving her permission for us to go for over the holidays.

562

00:33:30,920 --> 00:33:32,920

OK, dinner time boys.

563

00:33:32,920 --> 00:33:35,920

Christmas Day finally arrived.

564

00:33:35,920 --> 00:33:37,920

At the Henry County Jail,

565

00:33:37,920 --> 00:33:40,920

it was a day without Santa Claus and stockings,

566

00:33:40,920 --> 00:33:43,920

but not completely without Christmas spirit.

567

00:33:45,920 --> 00:33:47,920

The reason why I know it was Christmas time

568

00:33:47,920 --> 00:33:49,920

is because it was Christmas time

569

00:33:49,920 --> 00:33:52,920

is because when we got our dinner tray,

570

00:33:52,920 --> 00:33:55,920

there was candy bar on it.

571

00:33:55,920 --> 00:33:58,920

It made a impression on me because I probably never had

572

00:33:58,920 --> 00:34:01,920

anything like that for quite a while.

573

00:34:01,920 --> 00:34:05,920

And, uh, or even, you know, anything for Christmas

574

00:34:05,920 --> 00:34:08,920

for a while that I remembered of, you know,

575

00:34:08,920 --> 00:34:12,920

and this, it did stick in my mind and it always will.

576

00:34:14,920 --> 00:34:17,920

Within a month, Raymond and his brothers,

577

00:34:17,920 --> 00:34:20,920

Clarence and Leonard, would be placed in children's homes,

578

00:34:20,920 --> 00:34:22,920

but the fate of their parents,

579

00:34:22,920 --> 00:34:25,920

Frank and Hilda Cron, remains a mystery to this day.

580

00:34:25,920 --> 00:34:28,920

Marie recalls being told that they had been banished

581

00:34:28,920 --> 00:34:30,920

from the state of Illinois.

582

00:34:30,920 --> 00:34:34,920

My adopted mother told me that they were never to return,

583

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

that if they did, they would be arrested.

584

00:34:38,920 --> 00:34:43,920

That I don't, but she never explained why or anything else.

585

00:34:43,920 --> 00:34:46,920

The secrets about her mother and father

586

00:34:46,920 --> 00:34:48,920

plagued Marie throughout childhood.

587

00:34:48,920 --> 00:34:51,920

She and her sister, Frances, now named June,

588

00:34:51,920 --> 00:34:53,920

had been adopted by neighboring families,

589

00:34:53,920 --> 00:34:56,920

who for reasons unknown insisted on keeping

590

00:34:56,920 --> 00:34:59,920

the young girls apart.

591

00:34:59,920 --> 00:35:02,920

I remember that one time I went up to the store

592

00:35:02,920 --> 00:35:05,920

and Frances was up there at the store.

593

00:35:05,920 --> 00:35:08,920

So we walked home together and we talked.

594

00:35:08,920 --> 00:35:10,920

She's a meanest teacher there.

595

00:35:10,920 --> 00:35:13,920

And then her mother came and called her in.

596

00:35:13,920 --> 00:35:15,920

That's nice.

597

00:35:16,920 --> 00:35:17,920

I'll be right back.

598

00:35:17,920 --> 00:35:19,920

OK.

599

00:35:19,920 --> 00:35:21,920

And she told me she'd be back out.

600

00:35:21,920 --> 00:35:23,920

And I waited and waited.

601

00:35:23,920 --> 00:35:26,920

And then finally I went and knocked on the door

602

00:35:26,920 --> 00:35:30,920

and her adopted mother came to the door and says,

603

00:35:30,920 --> 00:35:31,920

she can't come out.

604

00:35:31,920 --> 00:35:32,920

She has things to do.

605

00:35:32,920 --> 00:35:35,920

And then she shut the door and I went home

606

00:35:35,920 --> 00:35:37,920

and I was real upset about it.

607

00:35:37,920 --> 00:35:40,920

Years passed.

608

00:35:40,920 --> 00:35:43,920

Marie never stopped wondering about her brothers and sisters.

609

00:35:43,920 --> 00:35:47,920

Finally in 1966, Marie learned through a mutual friend

610

00:35:47,920 --> 00:35:50,920

that Raymond, whom she had not seen in 18 years,

611

00:35:50,920 --> 00:35:52,920

was living in a nearby community.

612

00:35:52,920 --> 00:35:56,920

I remember driving down the street looking for Raymond's house.

613

00:35:56,920 --> 00:35:59,920

I remember seeing her in the back of the house.

614

00:35:59,920 --> 00:36:02,920

I remember seeing her in the back of the house.

615

00:36:02,920 --> 00:36:05,920

I remember seeing her in the back of the house.

616

00:36:05,920 --> 00:36:08,920

And I keep looking for Raymond's house.

617

00:36:08,920 --> 00:36:11,920

And then I saw this guy standing on the porch.

618

00:36:11,920 --> 00:36:13,920

And I knew right away it was Raymond.

619

00:36:13,920 --> 00:36:16,920

And I stopped the car and jumped out and ran up there.

620

00:36:16,920 --> 00:36:21,920

And it was really wonderful to see him again

621

00:36:21,920 --> 00:36:23,920

after all that time not being together.

622

00:36:23,920 --> 00:36:24,920

Marie!

623

00:36:24,920 --> 00:36:25,920

Raymond!

624

00:36:25,920 --> 00:36:27,920

Oh my god!

625

00:36:27,920 --> 00:36:31,920

The minute she got there, I knew she was my sister.

626

00:36:31,920 --> 00:36:33,920

It's called a crime scene.

627

00:36:33,920 --> 00:36:35,880

I knew it was her.

628

00:36:35,880 --> 00:36:38,800

I hadn't seen her for 18 years.

629

00:36:38,800 --> 00:36:43,320

And it was a real exciting reunion.

630

00:36:43,320 --> 00:36:45,880

You know, I got a little lost on my way here,

631

00:36:45,880 --> 00:36:49,760

but as soon as I saw you on the porch, I knew it was you.

632

00:36:49,760 --> 00:36:52,720

Marie and Raymond spent hours reminiscing and catching up

633

00:36:52,720 --> 00:36:54,840

on the years he had spent apart.

634

00:36:54,840 --> 00:36:57,440

Together, they vowed to find out what had happened

635

00:36:57,440 --> 00:36:58,600

to the rest of their family.

636

00:36:59,040 --> 00:37:03,720

For 18 years, Marie and Raymond suffered

637

00:37:03,720 --> 00:37:07,480

through a series of near misses and false leads.

638

00:37:07,480 --> 00:37:11,760

Finally in 1993, they did locate one sister, Carol.

639

00:37:11,760 --> 00:37:15,000

Then their story aired on Unsolved Mysteries.

640

00:37:15,000 --> 00:37:18,560

Incredibly, within a few hours, two more sisters

641

00:37:18,560 --> 00:37:20,160

and three brothers had been found.

642

00:37:23,600 --> 00:37:27,560

On July 9, 1994, we were at Raymond's house in Houston,

643

00:37:27,560 --> 00:37:30,920

Texas, as the Cron family gathered for their first reunion

644

00:37:30,920 --> 00:37:33,400

in more than 45 years.

645

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

Marie's dream had finally come true.

646

00:37:37,600 --> 00:37:40,080

I've been looking forward to this for a long time,

647

00:37:40,080 --> 00:37:42,480

because I didn't know if I would ever

648

00:37:42,480 --> 00:37:44,680

get to really meet him in person or not.

649

00:37:50,080 --> 00:37:53,120

I feel that the love is still there.

650

00:37:53,120 --> 00:37:56,400

It's never went away.

651

00:37:56,440 --> 00:38:00,120

It's always been there, and I always wondered about him.

652

00:38:00,120 --> 00:38:03,040

And now I'll finally get to find out

653

00:38:03,040 --> 00:38:05,600

what's been going on with their life and everything

654

00:38:05,600 --> 00:38:07,320

and get reacquainted.

655

00:38:11,880 --> 00:38:14,080

For the oldest sister, Betty Jane,

656

00:38:14,080 --> 00:38:17,440

the reunion was particularly emotional.

657

00:38:17,440 --> 00:38:20,120

I knew that was Marie right away.

658

00:38:20,120 --> 00:38:24,560

Just by looking at her, I knew that was Marie.

659

00:38:24,560 --> 00:38:26,360

And that's when the first one I embraced.

660

00:38:29,040 --> 00:38:31,160

I was very happy to see them all.

661

00:38:31,160 --> 00:38:32,720

They all start coming to me, and I

662

00:38:32,720 --> 00:38:34,680

start going to them, hugging them and everything.

663

00:38:34,680 --> 00:38:38,120

So I was very happy, and I feel good.

664

00:38:38,120 --> 00:38:41,040

I really do.

665

00:38:41,040 --> 00:38:44,920

For Raymond, the end of the search meant a new beginning.

666

00:38:44,920 --> 00:38:46,600

I know you're going to be tired real soon.

667

00:38:46,600 --> 00:38:47,080

Yeah.

668

00:38:47,080 --> 00:38:49,560

Oh, we're on.

669

00:38:49,560 --> 00:38:51,000

We got a lot of catching up.

670

00:38:51,000 --> 00:38:53,680

Yeah, we're on.

671

00:38:53,680 --> 00:38:57,680

I always knew that their names and everything,

672

00:38:57,680 --> 00:39:02,560

but I just as I didn't know how to go about finding them

673

00:39:02,560 --> 00:39:05,480

or anything we hunted, and we just got turned down every place

674

00:39:05,480 --> 00:39:07,520

we turned to try to find them.

675

00:39:07,520 --> 00:39:11,120

And then till this came along, it worked.

676

00:39:19,240 --> 00:39:22,000

When we return, authorities need your help

677

00:39:22,000 --> 00:39:24,800

to find a man suspected of killing his girlfriend.

678

00:39:38,080 --> 00:39:40,560

Kissimmee, Florida is a lakeside resort town

679

00:39:40,560 --> 00:39:42,200

about 10 miles south of Orlando.

680

00:39:42,200 --> 00:39:43,080

Paula.

681

00:39:43,080 --> 00:39:44,600

Oh, honey.

682

00:39:44,600 --> 00:39:46,960

Oh, it is so good to see you.

683

00:39:46,960 --> 00:39:49,080

I am so glad that you're here.

684

00:39:49,080 --> 00:39:53,320

On July 9, 1986, 22-year-old Paula Pasek

685

00:39:53,320 --> 00:39:55,400

and her boyfriend, Jerry Gervasoni,

686

00:39:55,400 --> 00:39:58,160

arrived from New Jersey to visit Paula's mother Barbara.

687

00:40:01,640 --> 00:40:05,120

They stayed there about one week.

688

00:40:05,120 --> 00:40:08,560

We all had a good time together.

689

00:40:08,560 --> 00:40:10,640

Paula was as happy as a lot.

690

00:40:10,640 --> 00:40:11,640

The two of them were.

691

00:40:11,640 --> 00:40:13,920

I mean, they were very together.

692

00:40:13,920 --> 00:40:17,320

They were just happy-go-lucky.

693

00:40:19,360 --> 00:40:20,280

Thanks for dinner.

694

00:40:20,280 --> 00:40:21,880

It was really good, wasn't it, Jerry?

695

00:40:21,880 --> 00:40:22,780

Thank you.

696

00:40:22,780 --> 00:40:23,920

During the visit, Paula and Jerry

697

00:40:23,920 --> 00:40:27,200

slept in Barbara's bedroom while she slept on a couch.

698

00:40:27,200 --> 00:40:30,800

So do you guys have any plans for tomorrow or what?

699

00:40:30,800 --> 00:40:34,080

Well, I was thinking maybe go visit my relatives down

700

00:40:34,080 --> 00:40:35,280

in Miami.

701

00:40:35,280 --> 00:40:37,880

On Sunday, four nights after they arrived,

702

00:40:37,880 --> 00:40:39,520

Paula and Jerry told Barbara they

703

00:40:39,520 --> 00:40:42,200

would be leaving the next morning for a short excursion

704

00:40:42,200 --> 00:40:43,600

to another part of Florida.

705

00:40:43,600 --> 00:40:45,440

I'm kind of tired, so I think I'll just

706

00:40:45,440 --> 00:40:46,600

go home and rest a little bit.

707

00:40:46,600 --> 00:40:48,520

I got up the next morning.

708

00:40:48,520 --> 00:40:49,520

Good night.

709

00:40:49,520 --> 00:40:53,560

And I thought I heard them up.

710

00:40:53,560 --> 00:40:55,840

I didn't know whether they were or not,

711

00:40:55,840 --> 00:40:59,000

so I didn't bother to say goodbye.

712

00:41:04,680 --> 00:41:10,240

Maybe if I had, things would have been different.

713

00:41:10,240 --> 00:41:12,160

How long have you been this way?

714

00:41:12,160 --> 00:41:13,880

For a couple of days.

715

00:41:13,880 --> 00:41:16,200

Over the next five days, an odd smell

716

00:41:16,200 --> 00:41:19,160

began to woth through Barbara's mobile home.

717

00:41:19,160 --> 00:41:21,800

However, she and a friend were unable to determine

718

00:41:21,800 --> 00:41:24,640

where it was coming from.

719

00:41:24,640 --> 00:41:28,920

Well, on Saturday morning, I got up,

720

00:41:28,920 --> 00:41:34,080

and by now the odor had really become strong to the point

721

00:41:34,080 --> 00:41:39,600

where I had to search around to see what was causing this.

722

00:41:39,600 --> 00:41:43,560

Barbara searched the entire trailer and found nothing.

723

00:41:43,560 --> 00:41:45,520

The last place she looked was in her own bedroom.

724

00:41:53,920 --> 00:41:57,080

Hidden under the bed, wrapped in a bamboo curtain,

725

00:41:57,080 --> 00:42:00,560

was Paula's body.

726

00:42:00,560 --> 00:42:04,760

At first, I wasn't sure of what I seen.

727

00:42:05,520 --> 00:42:10,400

And we just didn't expect it.

728

00:42:10,400 --> 00:42:16,920

I had to stop and think, is this real, or am I seeing things?

729

00:42:19,360 --> 00:42:22,280

Paula Paseac had been strangled to death and left under the bed

730

00:42:22,280 --> 00:42:25,800

for nearly a week.

731

00:42:25,800 --> 00:42:28,480

The prime suspect was Jerry Gervasone,

732

00:42:28,480 --> 00:42:30,480

but he had dropped from sight.

733

00:42:31,480 --> 00:42:33,240

Less than a month later, authorities

734

00:42:33,240 --> 00:42:36,920

got their first break when they questioned a friend of Jerry's.

735

00:42:36,920 --> 00:42:38,880

Just three days after the murder,

736

00:42:38,880 --> 00:42:42,040

he had picked Jerry up at the Newark, New Jersey airport.

737

00:42:42,040 --> 00:42:45,920

He claimed that Jerry virtually confessed to killing Paula.

738

00:42:45,920 --> 00:42:48,480

What would you say if I told you I killed someone?

739

00:42:51,480 --> 00:42:51,920

I don't know what happened.

740

00:42:51,920 --> 00:42:52,920

I just freaked out.

741

00:42:52,920 --> 00:42:53,920

I lost it.

742

00:42:53,920 --> 00:42:54,920

Over what?

743

00:42:54,920 --> 00:42:55,920

I don't know.

744

00:42:55,920 --> 00:42:56,920

I don't know what happened.

745

00:42:56,920 --> 00:42:57,920

I just freaked out.

746

00:42:57,920 --> 00:42:58,920

I lost it.

747

00:42:58,920 --> 00:43:00,720

Over what?

748

00:43:00,720 --> 00:43:06,200

I need some quick cash, so I swiped the old lady's paycheck.

749

00:43:06,200 --> 00:43:07,100

What are you doing?

750

00:43:07,100 --> 00:43:08,520

Nothing.

751

00:43:08,520 --> 00:43:10,280

Why are you in my mother's storage?

752

00:43:10,280 --> 00:43:13,080

I'm just looking for a lighter.

753

00:43:13,080 --> 00:43:14,080

Wait, wait, wait.

754

00:43:14,080 --> 00:43:15,080

Dave, wait.

755

00:43:15,080 --> 00:43:19,000

These are her papers, and I saw you put something in your pocket.

756

00:43:19,000 --> 00:43:20,200

Are you trying to rip her off?

757

00:43:20,200 --> 00:43:21,100

No.

758

00:43:21,100 --> 00:43:22,280

Then let me see what's in your pocket.

759

00:43:22,280 --> 00:43:23,180

No.

760

00:43:23,180 --> 00:43:24,080

Don't touch me.

761

00:43:24,080 --> 00:43:25,920

Get out of my place.

762

00:43:25,920 --> 00:43:26,920

You liar!

763

00:43:26,920 --> 00:43:29,320

Shut up!

764

00:43:29,320 --> 00:43:30,520

I need to hurt her.

765

00:43:30,520 --> 00:43:31,520

Broke her neck.

766

00:43:31,520 --> 00:43:34,960

Look, man, if you've done something like that,

767

00:43:34,960 --> 00:43:37,080

you're not getting in my car, and you're not

768

00:43:37,080 --> 00:43:38,080

coming back to my place.

769

00:43:38,080 --> 00:43:40,680

Got it?

770

00:43:40,680 --> 00:43:41,680

I scared you.

771

00:43:41,680 --> 00:43:44,680

I'm just kidding.

772

00:43:44,680 --> 00:43:47,120

The witness was very surprised when he learned that Paula had

773

00:43:47,120 --> 00:43:48,120

been murdered.

774

00:43:48,120 --> 00:43:50,560

You should have seen your face.

775

00:43:50,560 --> 00:43:54,480

After seven years, I believe that Jerry has decided

776

00:43:54,840 --> 00:43:58,240

he's no longer wanted, or that we're no longer looking for him,

777

00:43:58,240 --> 00:44:00,480

and he's able to roam the streets freely

778

00:44:00,480 --> 00:44:02,880

without a worry of being arrested.

779

00:44:06,040 --> 00:44:08,560

But the seven years since Paula Paseyac's murder

780

00:44:08,560 --> 00:44:11,640

have been filled with pain for her mother, Barbara.

781

00:44:11,640 --> 00:44:17,520

In that time, Barbara has seen her own life gradually unravel.

782

00:44:17,520 --> 00:44:20,040

I've become a very angry, very hateful person.

783

00:44:20,480 --> 00:44:23,480

All your life is never the same.

784

00:44:23,480 --> 00:44:24,480

Party dies.

785

00:44:28,480 --> 00:44:31,480

Update, British Columbia, Canada.

786

00:44:31,480 --> 00:44:35,400

On October 21, 1993, Jerry Gervisoni

787

00:44:35,400 --> 00:44:38,720

was arrested in a small community of Salt Springs Island,

788

00:44:38,720 --> 00:44:42,760

where he had been living under the assumed name Gordon McIntyre.

789

00:44:42,760 --> 00:44:46,920

When our program aired in Canada, Gervisoni's former landlord

790

00:44:46,960 --> 00:44:50,160

recognized him and immediately called authorities.

791

00:44:50,160 --> 00:44:53,360

I come home and sit down to dinner about 9.30,

792

00:44:53,360 --> 00:44:56,520

quarter to 10, and flip on the TV,

793

00:44:56,520 --> 00:44:58,960

and there was this black and white photo

794

00:44:58,960 --> 00:45:02,560

of Gordon McIntyre, my tenant.

795

00:45:02,560 --> 00:45:05,880

Once in custody, the suspect vehemently insisted

796

00:45:05,880 --> 00:45:08,600

that he truly was Gordon McIntyre,

797

00:45:08,600 --> 00:45:12,000

but fingerprints soon confirmed that he was, in fact,

798

00:45:12,000 --> 00:45:14,000

Gerald Gervisoni.

799

00:45:14,080 --> 00:45:17,880

At the local airport, Gervisoni tried to avoid photographer

800

00:45:17,880 --> 00:45:20,680

as he was hustled onto a waiting airplane.

801

00:45:20,680 --> 00:45:22,880

He was then flown to a deportation

802

00:45:22,880 --> 00:45:25,080

hearing in Victoria, Canada.

803

00:45:25,080 --> 00:45:28,480

Gervisoni will be held there pending extradition to Florida,

804

00:45:28,480 --> 00:45:31,480

where he will face charges in the murder of Paula Paisiac.

805

00:45:31,480 --> 00:45:33,680

Join me next time.

806

00:45:33,680 --> 00:45:36,640

Perhaps you may be able to help me find my ■■ ■■■■■■■■.

807

00:45:36,640 --> 00:45:38,640

■■.)

808

00:45:38,640 --> 00:45:41,300

musimy

809

00:45:41,300 --> 00:45:56,500

Jennifer Huber,

810

00:45:57,580 --> 00:46:00,000

John Greenshot,

811

00:46:00,000 --> 00:46:03,000

you may be able to help solve a mystery.

812

00:46:30,000 --> 00:46:50,000

you