

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 --> 00:00:20,520

In California, a deadly fire ravages a house trailer.

6

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

One 16-year-old girl dies at the scene.

7

00:00:23,120 --> 00:00:26,160

Her injured twin sister succumbs four weeks later.

8

00:00:26,920 --> 00:00:29,600

Then the family suffers another cruel blow,

9

00:00:29,600 --> 00:00:31,600

when the girl's own half-brother becomes

10

00:00:31,600 --> 00:00:37,000

a chief suspect in a bizarre scenario of murder and arson.

11

00:00:37,000 --> 00:00:42,000

1955 was a summer of romance for Maria Bauer and Michael Sable.

12

00:00:42,000 --> 00:00:44,200

While working at a resort near Chicago,

13

00:00:44,200 --> 00:00:46,440

they fell passionately in love.

14

00:00:46,440 --> 00:00:48,800

But when Maria returned to her native Germany,

15

00:00:48,800 --> 00:00:51,240

she returned alone and pregnant.

16

00:00:51,240 --> 00:00:54,080

Nearly 40 years later, her sister

17

00:00:54,640 --> 00:00:58,160

nearly 40 years later, her son Christoph needs your help

18

00:00:58,160 --> 00:01:01,960

to find his birth father, Michael Sable.

19

00:01:01,960 --> 00:01:04,720

When bank executive John Grunhofer arrived at work

20

00:01:04,720 --> 00:01:07,680

on November 19, 1990, he became the target

21

00:01:07,680 --> 00:01:10,000

of a most bizarre kidnapping.

22

00:01:10,000 --> 00:01:13,520

His abductor was overweight, oddly dressed, and clumsy.

23

00:01:13,520 --> 00:01:16,200

But he wielded what appeared to be a homemade bomb

24

00:01:16,200 --> 00:01:20,400

and demanded \$3 million in cash.

25

00:01:20,400 --> 00:01:22,720

In nearly three years, the son likely criminals

26

00:01:22,760 --> 00:01:25,120

managed to elude authorities.

27

00:01:25,120 --> 00:01:29,240

Perhaps someone watching tonight will be able to identify him.

28

00:01:29,240 --> 00:01:33,200

Join me for another intriguing edition of Unsolved Mysteries.

29

00:02:22,840 --> 00:02:27,920

In 1990, the FBI was called in to investigate one

30

00:02:27,920 --> 00:02:31,280

of the most bizarre kidnappings they have ever encountered.

31

00:02:31,280 --> 00:02:33,800

The perpetrator was an overweight middle-aged man

32

00:02:33,800 --> 00:02:36,480

who wore thick glasses and a floppy rain hat,

33

00:02:36,480 --> 00:02:39,480

hardly the profile of a dangerous criminal.

34

00:02:39,480 --> 00:02:42,440

Yet that is exactly what he was, made more dangerous

35

00:02:42,440 --> 00:02:45,280

by the fact that his scheme was flawed from the outset

36

00:02:45,280 --> 00:02:49,000

and bungled at nearly every step along the way.

37

00:02:49,120 --> 00:02:53,600

Minneapolis, Minnesota, November 19, 1990.

38

00:02:53,600 --> 00:02:57,960

At 8.10 AM, John Grunhofer, a wealthy hard-nosed business

39

00:02:57,960 --> 00:02:59,840

executive, was approaching his offices.

40

00:03:03,600 --> 00:03:05,920

Grunhofer was chairman and president of first bank

41

00:03:05,920 --> 00:03:10,640

system, appointed in 1989 with a directive to trim the fat.

42

00:03:10,640 --> 00:03:13,080

He had saved the bank millions by eliminating

43

00:03:13,080 --> 00:03:15,280

the amount of money he had earned.

44

00:03:16,080 --> 00:03:18,560

Grunhofer was a man used to scrutiny.

45

00:03:18,560 --> 00:03:20,480

But as he arrived at work that morning,

46

00:03:20,480 --> 00:03:23,860

he had no idea that his every move was being watched.

47

00:03:34,600 --> 00:03:37,960

John, you're going to have to go with me.

48

00:03:37,960 --> 00:03:38,960

Will you?

49

00:03:38,960 --> 00:03:39,880

No, I won't.

50

00:03:39,880 --> 00:03:41,000

I'll go with you.

51

00:03:41,000 --> 00:03:41,920

I'll go with you.

52

00:03:41,920 --> 00:03:42,800

I'll go with you.

53

00:03:42,800 --> 00:03:43,600

No, I won't.

54

00:03:45,400 --> 00:03:46,400

What do you mean?

55

00:03:46,400 --> 00:03:47,840

Just get back in the car.

56

00:03:47,840 --> 00:03:48,840

Oh, there must be some mistake.

57

00:03:48,840 --> 00:03:50,360

I have no business with you.

58

00:03:50,360 --> 00:03:52,320

I think you do.

59

00:03:52,320 --> 00:03:54,160

Mrs. Carl, I had you are going with me.

60

00:03:54,160 --> 00:03:55,160

What do you want?

61

00:03:55,160 --> 00:03:57,000

Grunhofer kept us cool.

62

00:03:57,000 --> 00:03:59,760

In fact, he was about to spring a surprise of his own.

63

00:04:07,400 --> 00:04:10,200

The commotion soon drew the attention of a witness.

64

00:04:11,200 --> 00:04:13,120

So what are you doing?

65

00:04:13,120 --> 00:04:16,520

I heard shouting, and I looked over and saw two men rolling

66

00:04:16,520 --> 00:04:17,320

on the ground.

67

00:04:17,320 --> 00:04:20,480

And at that point, I thought there was a mugging going on.

68

00:04:20,480 --> 00:04:26,200

So I started to run over there to help whoever was being mugged.

69

00:04:26,200 --> 00:04:28,600

And I got about halfway there when the gentleman had both

70

00:04:28,600 --> 00:04:31,960

gotten up and started to act like they knew each other.

71

00:04:31,960 --> 00:04:35,120

And so I had slowed to a walk.

72

00:04:35,120 --> 00:04:35,640

What's wrong?

73

00:04:35,640 --> 00:04:36,840

Is somebody sick?

74

00:04:36,840 --> 00:04:38,680

You need some help?

75

00:04:38,680 --> 00:04:42,680

Look, you better get out of here.

76

00:04:42,680 --> 00:04:45,920

At first, it seemed so unreal that I almost laughed

77

00:04:45,920 --> 00:04:47,080

at the gentleman.

78

00:04:47,080 --> 00:04:48,640

And then I realized it was real.

79

00:04:48,640 --> 00:04:50,040

And I was in danger.

80

00:04:50,040 --> 00:04:53,160

And at that point, I was terrified that I was going to be shot.

81

00:04:53,160 --> 00:04:54,880

And I then ran to the elevator.

82

00:04:59,000 --> 00:05:03,120

Just back up and get us out of this garage.

83

00:05:03,120 --> 00:05:06,280

The gunman ordered Grunhofer into the car.

84

00:05:06,280 --> 00:05:08,120

It was 8.13 AM.

85

00:05:08,120 --> 00:05:10,560

Just three minutes had passed since Grunhofer

86

00:05:10,560 --> 00:05:12,160

drove into the parking garage.

87

00:05:18,160 --> 00:05:20,440

Now where do you want me to drive?

88

00:05:20,440 --> 00:05:21,160

Just head east.

89

00:05:21,160 --> 00:05:23,000

Just head towards Wisconsin.

90

00:05:26,080 --> 00:05:28,240

Give me your arm.

91

00:05:28,240 --> 00:05:29,120

What do you want with it?

92

00:05:29,120 --> 00:05:33,440

Give me your left arm and shut up.

93

00:05:33,440 --> 00:05:35,400

See, to avoid any further difficulties,

94

00:05:35,400 --> 00:05:37,800

I'm going to attach this dynamite to you.

95

00:05:37,800 --> 00:05:39,280

That way, if you give me any other problems,

96

00:05:39,280 --> 00:05:40,840

all I've got to do is push a button.

97

00:05:45,440 --> 00:05:49,840

I think his intention was to frighten Mr. Grunhofer

98

00:05:49,840 --> 00:05:54,080

sufficiently enough that he would be very compliant

99

00:05:54,080 --> 00:05:57,760

and do what he was told to do.

100

00:05:57,760 --> 00:06:01,000

At virtually that same moment, a passerby in the garage

101

00:06:01,000 --> 00:06:04,080

found what the FBI believes was a cheat sheet for the kid

102

00:06:04,760 --> 00:06:07,760

reminding him exactly what he was going to order Grunhofer

103

00:06:07,760 --> 00:06:09,560

to do.

104

00:06:09,560 --> 00:06:12,520

I believe that the kidnapper is not

105

00:06:12,520 --> 00:06:14,600

really a professional criminal.

106

00:06:14,600 --> 00:06:16,560

It would seem to me that if you're

107

00:06:16,560 --> 00:06:19,560

going to commit that kind of a crime,

108

00:06:19,560 --> 00:06:23,320

that you could basically do it off the top of your head,

109

00:06:23,320 --> 00:06:25,800

if you will.

110

00:06:25,800 --> 00:06:28,680

At around 8.45, Grunhofer and the gunman

111

00:06:28,680 --> 00:06:31,920

were crossing the state line into Wisconsin 35 miles

112

00:06:31,920 --> 00:06:33,280

from Minneapolis.

113

00:06:33,320 --> 00:06:37,960

It was clear that the abductor had done his homework.

114

00:06:37,960 --> 00:06:41,040

Who takes charge when you're not around?

115

00:06:41,040 --> 00:06:44,640

Probably be some vice president.

116

00:06:44,640 --> 00:06:47,600

Scott Taylor takeover?

117

00:06:47,600 --> 00:06:48,880

You know Scott Taylor?

118

00:06:48,880 --> 00:06:49,880

Never mind.

119

00:06:52,680 --> 00:06:55,560

At 8.57, the kidnapper ordered Grunhofer

120

00:06:55,560 --> 00:06:58,120

to pull into a secluded rest area.

121

00:06:58,120 --> 00:07:01,720

They were now 46 miles from Minneapolis.

122

00:07:01,720 --> 00:07:03,000

When they arrived at the wayside,

123

00:07:03,000 --> 00:07:06,480

the kidnapper handed Mr. Grunhofer a note.

124

00:07:06,480 --> 00:07:08,200

Mr. Grunhofer then made a phone call

125

00:07:08,200 --> 00:07:13,920

to his secretary who transcribed the ransom demands.

126

00:07:13,920 --> 00:07:18,520

I am a hostage of a group called Parents Against Drugs.

127

00:07:18,520 --> 00:07:22,040

The demand was for \$3 million in various denominations,

128

00:07:22,040 --> 00:07:26,280

\$100, \$500, and even \$1,000 bills.

129

00:07:26,280 --> 00:07:28,960

Once again, the kidnapper had tipped his hand

130

00:07:28,960 --> 00:07:30,680

about his own inexperience.

131

00:07:30,680 --> 00:07:33,120

\$1 million and \$500, and \$1 million in our thousands.

132

00:07:33,120 --> 00:07:37,520

A professional criminal would never ask for \$1,000 bills.

133

00:07:37,520 --> 00:07:39,520

You don't exactly take \$1,000 bill

134

00:07:39,520 --> 00:07:42,120

and go to a convenience store, buy a cup of coffee,

135

00:07:42,120 --> 00:07:43,640

and ask for change.

136

00:07:43,640 --> 00:07:47,720

There aren't too many people that carry \$1,000 bills with them.

137

00:07:50,880 --> 00:07:52,800

Officials at First Bank system began

138

00:07:52,800 --> 00:07:56,800

preparing the \$3 million ransom.

139

00:07:56,800 --> 00:07:58,800

At around that same time, a gunman

140

00:07:58,800 --> 00:08:01,640

was discovering that he had made a crucial mistake.

141

00:08:01,640 --> 00:08:05,400

He had lost his cheat sheet.

142

00:08:05,400 --> 00:08:07,880

Have you got the note?

143

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

What note?

144

00:08:08,880 --> 00:08:12,520

The note from the parking garage.

145

00:08:12,520 --> 00:08:14,200

I don't know what you're talking about.

146

00:08:14,200 --> 00:08:18,160

I used a note before, written a few things down.

147

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

Are you sure you didn't take it?

148

00:08:20,160 --> 00:08:22,080

I haven't seen this note.

149

00:08:22,080 --> 00:08:24,040

The gunman became more agitated.

150

00:08:24,040 --> 00:08:24,960

Shut up about it.

151

00:08:24,960 --> 00:08:27,920

Let's just go.

152

00:08:27,920 --> 00:08:30,440

He forced Groomhofer to hike down a steep slope

153

00:08:30,440 --> 00:08:31,720

in a remote wooded area.

154

00:08:34,280 --> 00:08:36,120

You got to rest a minute.

155

00:08:36,120 --> 00:08:38,560

The kidnapper was apparently so out of shape

156

00:08:38,560 --> 00:08:40,200

that he struggled to make the descent.

157

00:08:43,800 --> 00:08:45,720

Eventually, the two men reached a spot

158

00:08:45,720 --> 00:08:49,280

where a plastic sack containing a sleeping bag had been left.

159

00:08:49,280 --> 00:08:50,080

Wait.

160

00:08:50,080 --> 00:08:50,960

Wait a minute.

161

00:08:50,960 --> 00:08:52,960

Hold.

162

00:08:52,960 --> 00:08:55,480

Wait right there.

163

00:08:55,520 --> 00:08:58,240

The gunman moved quickly.

164

00:08:58,240 --> 00:09:01,480

He removed the bomb.

165

00:09:01,480 --> 00:09:05,800

He bound Groomhofer's hands with a nylon rope,

166

00:09:05,800 --> 00:09:09,120

forced him into the sleeping bag,

167

00:09:09,120 --> 00:09:10,240

taped his mouth shut.

168

00:09:18,160 --> 00:09:21,200

Groomhofer worked for 20 minutes to free himself.

169

00:09:21,200 --> 00:09:23,880

When he realized that no one was watching, he went for help.

170

00:09:26,000 --> 00:09:29,000

At 10.25, Groomhofer called his office

171

00:09:29,000 --> 00:09:30,880

from a nearby farmhouse.

172

00:09:30,880 --> 00:09:34,560

The ransom was never paid.

173

00:09:34,560 --> 00:09:37,520

The kidnapping made headlines throughout the Midwest.

174

00:09:37,520 --> 00:09:40,240

10 days later, the FBI set up a hotline

175

00:09:40,240 --> 00:09:43,080

and published this composite drawing.

176

00:09:43,080 --> 00:09:44,800

The response was immediate.

177

00:09:44,800 --> 00:09:47,840

A man named John Henderson, who bore a striking resemblance

178

00:09:47,840 --> 00:09:50,720

to the composite, was identified as the kidnapper

179

00:09:50,720 --> 00:09:54,240

by two different callers.

180

00:09:54,280 --> 00:09:57,120

Henderson was a maintenance worker who lived 25 miles

181

00:09:57,120 --> 00:09:58,920

outside of Minneapolis.

182

00:09:58,920 --> 00:10:01,000

He had never worked at first bank system

183

00:10:01,000 --> 00:10:04,400

and had no apparent connection to Groomhofer.

184

00:10:04,400 --> 00:10:07,280

I was stunned when they started questioning me

185

00:10:07,280 --> 00:10:12,960

about a kidnapping case that had just happened.

186

00:10:12,960 --> 00:10:17,040

They wanted to search, and I told them to go ahead.

187

00:10:17,040 --> 00:10:18,960

I had nothing to hide.

188

00:10:18,960 --> 00:10:26,440

And they searched my car and my garage and the house.

189

00:10:26,440 --> 00:10:30,040

The FBI requested that Henderson participate in a lineup,

190

00:10:30,040 --> 00:10:32,480

even though they had found no physical evidence that

191

00:10:32,480 --> 00:10:33,920

connected into the crime.

192

00:10:33,920 --> 00:10:35,560

Step forward and say the line again.

193

00:10:40,320 --> 00:10:44,840

This is Carl, and you are coming with me.

194

00:10:44,840 --> 00:10:46,640

Do you see the man who kidnapped you in the lineup?

195

00:10:49,960 --> 00:10:53,040

It's number three.

196

00:10:53,040 --> 00:10:56,880

I know worries about the lineup because I know I didn't do it.

197

00:10:56,880 --> 00:10:58,920

And you know he identified me.

198

00:10:58,920 --> 00:11:00,120

I know I didn't do it.

199

00:11:02,800 --> 00:11:05,760

Despite Groonhofer's positive identification,

200

00:11:05,760 --> 00:11:08,360

Jeff Rasmus, the eyewitness in the garage,

201

00:11:08,360 --> 00:11:11,880

did not pick Henderson out of the lineup.

202

00:11:11,880 --> 00:11:17,600

Nevertheless, the FBI continued to look for evidence.

203

00:11:17,600 --> 00:11:19,560

A handwriting sample was taken.

204

00:11:19,560 --> 00:11:21,520

It did not match the note.

205

00:11:21,520 --> 00:11:24,040

However, the FBI felt that Henderson's alibi

206

00:11:24,040 --> 00:11:25,960

was less than airtight.

207

00:11:25,960 --> 00:11:29,560

Later, he became the target of a grand jury investigation.

208

00:11:29,560 --> 00:11:34,000

But in the end, no charges were filed.

209

00:11:34,000 --> 00:11:37,560

So far, the FBI hasn't found anything,

210

00:11:37,560 --> 00:11:40,080

and they won't find anything because I didn't do it.

211

00:11:47,600 --> 00:12:02,440

Next, the family is torn apart by accusations

212

00:12:02,440 --> 00:12:03,680

of arson and murder.

213

00:12:11,840 --> 00:12:14,160

The story you're about to see involves a brutal double

214

00:12:14,160 --> 00:12:17,480

homicide which took place several years ago.

215

00:12:17,480 --> 00:12:19,680

To this day, the case remains unsolved,

216

00:12:19,680 --> 00:12:21,120

and a family has been ripped apart

217

00:12:21,120 --> 00:12:24,280

by accusations of arson and murder.

218

00:12:24,280 --> 00:12:27,520

Time may never heal the wounds of this complex case,

219

00:12:27,520 --> 00:12:30,760

but perhaps someone watching may have some small clue that

220

00:12:30,760 --> 00:12:33,880

could help bring the perpetrator or perpetrators to justice.

221

00:12:37,040 --> 00:12:40,200

Wellow Creek, California, population 1,000,

222

00:12:40,200 --> 00:12:42,960

is situated in the heart of the state's timber country,

223

00:12:42,960 --> 00:12:45,800

some 250 miles north of San Francisco.

224

00:12:47,600 --> 00:12:51,680

Hans and Betty Hansen moved to this quiet community in 1971,

225

00:12:51,680 --> 00:12:54,000

three years after they were married.

226

00:12:54,000 --> 00:12:57,280

Hans operated a logging supply business in a warehouse

227

00:12:57,280 --> 00:13:00,400

next to the couple's mobile home.

228

00:13:00,400 --> 00:13:03,080

The Hansen family grew to include four children,

229

00:13:03,080 --> 00:13:05,720

Donnie and Becky, from Betty's prior marriage,

230

00:13:05,720 --> 00:13:09,640

and twin girls, Jill and Julie.

231

00:13:09,640 --> 00:13:12,040

Jill and Julie were good, sensible kids.

232

00:13:12,040 --> 00:13:14,360

They were a little shy, until you got to know them,

233

00:13:14,360 --> 00:13:16,760

but they had real good sense.

234

00:13:16,760 --> 00:13:19,000

It would kind of be more friendly to underdog people,

235

00:13:19,000 --> 00:13:21,560

than they were real popular girls in school.

236

00:13:21,560 --> 00:13:25,200

So if a new person came to school or something,

237

00:13:25,200 --> 00:13:27,960

it wasn't taken in so much by the other people.

238

00:13:27,960 --> 00:13:30,400

They would befriend them.

239

00:13:30,400 --> 00:13:34,000

They seemed to view people from the inside.

240

00:13:34,000 --> 00:13:36,000

It didn't matter what they looked like,

241

00:13:36,000 --> 00:13:39,680

or how much money they had, or who they were.

242

00:13:39,680 --> 00:13:43,320

They were kind to everyone.

243

00:13:43,320 --> 00:13:46,080

For Betty and Hans, life was close to perfect,

244

00:13:46,080 --> 00:13:51,360

until the night of November 14, 1986.

245

00:13:51,360 --> 00:13:54,320

At around 11 PM, the 16-year-old twins

246

00:13:54,320 --> 00:13:58,160

were in their room preparing for bed.

247

00:13:58,160 --> 00:14:00,600

Their half-brother, Donnie, aged 21,

248

00:14:00,600 --> 00:14:04,320

was visiting from the town of Fortuna, 70 miles away.

249

00:14:04,320 --> 00:14:06,400

He would sleep on a couch in the family room.

250

00:14:11,440 --> 00:14:15,320

At around 3 AM, Betty Hansen suddenly awoke.

251

00:14:15,320 --> 00:14:17,320

Hans, get up.

252

00:14:17,320 --> 00:14:19,480

It's a smoke.

253

00:14:19,480 --> 00:14:21,880

Get the kids.

254

00:14:21,880 --> 00:14:22,800

Huh.

255

00:14:22,800 --> 00:14:23,800

Oh, no.

256

00:14:28,760 --> 00:14:30,760

Jill!

257

00:14:30,760 --> 00:14:31,760

Jill!

258

00:14:31,760 --> 00:14:33,480

Julie!

259

00:14:33,480 --> 00:14:35,240

Today, Hans and Betty's memories

260

00:14:35,240 --> 00:14:37,560

are a blur of fragmented images.

261

00:14:37,560 --> 00:14:40,320

But that night, they were struck by several things

262

00:14:40,320 --> 00:14:42,160

that even in the midst of the chaos,

263

00:14:42,160 --> 00:14:43,960

didn't quite make sense.

264

00:14:43,960 --> 00:14:44,960

Julie!

265

00:14:45,400 --> 00:14:47,680

You want to get out of the house?

266

00:14:47,680 --> 00:14:51,400

I shot that fire extinguisher down the hall.

267

00:14:51,400 --> 00:14:52,400

It burnt right back up.

268

00:14:52,400 --> 00:14:56,240

There was a strip in the middle of that hallway burning.

269

00:14:56,240 --> 00:14:58,520

I remember that going through my mind,

270

00:14:58,520 --> 00:15:02,240

that it's real odd that coming back in a strip like that.

271

00:15:02,240 --> 00:15:04,800

And still, I got no response from anybody.

272

00:15:04,800 --> 00:15:07,520

I was yelling all three of their names

273

00:15:07,520 --> 00:15:10,960

and then exited the house.

274

00:15:10,960 --> 00:15:13,240

Because I ran out the door, I kicked the gas can out

275

00:15:13,240 --> 00:15:15,440

of the way, not really thinking much of it

276

00:15:15,440 --> 00:15:18,040

until I got a few steps away.

277

00:15:18,040 --> 00:15:19,520

Thinking that gas can shouldn't have been there.

278

00:15:19,520 --> 00:15:22,600

It was empty, because I felt how it was empty when I kicked it.

279

00:15:22,600 --> 00:15:26,320

I went up the little hallway, and the first person I saw

280

00:15:26,320 --> 00:15:27,960

was Donnie.

281

00:15:27,960 --> 00:15:30,240

And he was standing at the end of the couch,

282

00:15:30,240 --> 00:15:32,240

where I think he had slept that night.

283

00:15:32,240 --> 00:15:33,520

And he didn't see me.

284

00:15:33,520 --> 00:15:35,320

Come here.

285

00:15:35,320 --> 00:15:36,640

Come on here.

286

00:15:36,640 --> 00:15:38,560

And he's screaming in a horrible voice.

287

00:15:38,560 --> 00:15:40,360

He's screaming, get out of here.

288

00:15:40,360 --> 00:15:43,760

Real loud and running, chasing.

289

00:15:43,760 --> 00:15:46,560

And so right away, I was afraid for him

290

00:15:46,560 --> 00:15:50,440

what was happening, who he was chasing out.

291

00:15:50,440 --> 00:15:53,240

Betty ran to the shop where a number of fire extinguishers

292

00:15:53,240 --> 00:15:55,280

were stored.

293

00:15:55,280 --> 00:15:58,960

She was met first by Donnie, then by Hans.

294

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

Hans!

295

00:15:59,960 --> 00:16:00,960

Betty, call the fire department!

296

00:16:00,960 --> 00:16:03,520

When I got to the shop, I got a ladder,

297

00:16:03,520 --> 00:16:07,000

and came up to Jill's room.

298

00:16:07,000 --> 00:16:11,600

You just shove that ladder right through the window.

299

00:16:11,600 --> 00:16:16,040

That room was totally in flames, totally in golden flames.

300

00:16:16,040 --> 00:16:21,160

And I didn't get any response or see anybody.

301

00:16:21,160 --> 00:16:23,280

Hans, Betty, and Donnie continuously

302

00:16:23,280 --> 00:16:26,280

returned to the warehouse for fire extinguishers.

303

00:16:26,280 --> 00:16:27,080

Get the call, fire department.

304

00:16:27,080 --> 00:16:27,840

Yes, I did.

305

00:16:27,840 --> 00:16:28,760

Yes.

306

00:16:28,760 --> 00:16:30,720

Jill and Julie, have you seen Jill and Julie?

307

00:16:30,720 --> 00:16:32,360

No.

308

00:16:32,360 --> 00:16:35,720

I remember asking Donnie as we were chasing back and forth

309

00:16:35,760 --> 00:16:37,440

for fire extinguishers, did you see anybody?

310

00:16:37,440 --> 00:16:39,080

And he said, no, he didn't see anything.

311

00:16:42,120 --> 00:16:45,080

Fire trucks roger the scene within 15 minutes.

312

00:16:45,080 --> 00:16:47,840

But for Hans and Betty, assuming that Jill and Julie

313

00:16:47,840 --> 00:16:50,520

were still inside the trailer, it was an eternity.

314

00:16:59,880 --> 00:17:03,120

Minutes later, the Hans's are both shocked and relieved,

315

00:17:03,160 --> 00:17:05,040

and a neighbor noticed a crumpled figure

316

00:17:05,040 --> 00:17:06,680

and a vacant lot across the road.

317

00:17:10,000 --> 00:17:10,680

Julie?

318

00:17:10,680 --> 00:17:11,600

It's Julie Hansen.

319

00:17:11,600 --> 00:17:12,440

Found one of them.

320

00:17:12,440 --> 00:17:13,240

Julie, what happened?

321

00:17:13,240 --> 00:17:15,520

Julie was nearly dead, bleeding profusely

322

00:17:15,520 --> 00:17:17,880

from a gaping wound in her stomach.

323

00:17:17,880 --> 00:17:19,120

I'm going to go get some help.

324

00:17:19,120 --> 00:17:21,480

When I heard somebody yell from across the street,

325

00:17:21,480 --> 00:17:24,120

we found one of them or something like that.

326

00:17:24,120 --> 00:17:27,400

Then the next thing, Donnie came running up on the deck,

327

00:17:27,400 --> 00:17:29,800

and he said, we found Julie.

328

00:17:29,800 --> 00:17:30,520

Julie's out.

329

00:17:30,520 --> 00:17:32,240

I got her out.

330

00:17:32,240 --> 00:17:35,760

And my first question to him was, how bad is she burnt?

331

00:17:35,760 --> 00:17:36,960

And he didn't give me an answer.

332

00:17:36,960 --> 00:17:40,120

Of course, I didn't stand around.

333

00:17:40,120 --> 00:17:43,080

Hans claims that it was only after Julie was discovered

334

00:17:43,080 --> 00:17:46,720

that Donnie took credit for having pulled her from the fire.

335

00:17:46,720 --> 00:17:48,880

But that apparent discrepancy was quickly

336

00:17:48,880 --> 00:17:50,920

overshadowed by concern for Julie.

337

00:17:53,880 --> 00:17:57,480

When I saw Julie, I thought there was no way she could live.

338

00:17:57,480 --> 00:18:02,080

Her stomach was just open, blown open.

339

00:18:02,120 --> 00:18:03,960

And so I ran back across the street,

340

00:18:03,960 --> 00:18:06,640

and I just went from one fireman to the other one,

341

00:18:06,640 --> 00:18:11,240

begging them to please go in and find Jill, where's Jill.

342

00:18:11,240 --> 00:18:13,800

And then I'd run back across the street

343

00:18:13,800 --> 00:18:16,080

and to see how Julie was doing.

344

00:18:16,080 --> 00:18:18,360

And each time I went back across the street,

345

00:18:18,360 --> 00:18:21,680

I was surprised she was still alive.

346

00:18:21,680 --> 00:18:24,520

Emergency personnel rushed Julie to the hospital.

347

00:18:24,520 --> 00:18:26,560

Believing her stomach injury had been caused

348

00:18:26,560 --> 00:18:30,280

by some kind of fire-related explosion.

349

00:18:30,280 --> 00:18:34,040

But in surgery, doctors made an incredible discovery.

350

00:18:34,040 --> 00:18:36,520

Julie's traumatic wound had absolutely nothing

351

00:18:36,520 --> 00:18:38,200

to do with the fire.

352

00:18:38,200 --> 00:18:40,520

Julie Hansen had been shot in the abdomen,

353

00:18:40,520 --> 00:18:45,280

virtually at point blank range with a 12-gauge shotgun.

354

00:18:45,280 --> 00:18:46,960

Well, I about fell off my chair then,

355

00:18:46,960 --> 00:18:48,760

because that was the first I'd known anything

356

00:18:48,760 --> 00:18:52,640

about any shooting at all.

357

00:18:52,640 --> 00:18:56,240

And I still couldn't figure out why.

358

00:18:56,240 --> 00:18:57,600

Who could have hated this as much

359

00:18:57,600 --> 00:18:59,480

to make an attack on our house like this?

360

00:19:02,120 --> 00:19:05,400

The emerging facts seemed too shocking to be true.

361

00:19:05,400 --> 00:19:08,320

Unknown and unseen, someone had apparently

362

00:19:08,320 --> 00:19:11,080

torched the Hansen home and gunned down Julie.

363

00:19:15,040 --> 00:19:18,280

Daylight brought still more unbearable news.

364

00:19:18,280 --> 00:19:20,440

Jill's body was found in the ruins.

365

00:19:20,440 --> 00:19:23,880

Hey, listen, go around the back, OK?

366

00:19:23,880 --> 00:19:26,760

An autopsy would later confirm that Jill had also

367

00:19:26,760 --> 00:19:29,040

been wounded by shotgun fire.

368

00:19:29,040 --> 00:19:31,840

Unable to flee, she had perished in the flames.

369

00:19:36,240 --> 00:19:38,480

Authorities recovered three shotgun shells

370

00:19:38,480 --> 00:19:41,680

and a second five-gallon gas can from the ashes,

371

00:19:41,680 --> 00:19:44,080

mounting evidence of arson and murder.

372

00:19:48,960 --> 00:19:51,560

The Hansen's warehouse is untouched by the fire,

373

00:19:51,560 --> 00:19:54,520

and investigators examined every square inch for clues.

374

00:19:56,840 --> 00:19:57,760

Hey, George.

375

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

Yeah.

376

00:19:58,760 --> 00:20:00,960

Over here.

377

00:20:00,960 --> 00:20:04,680

Shove behind some boxes, they found a 12-gauge shotgun.

378

00:20:04,680 --> 00:20:07,160

Ballistic tests would later prove it was the weapon

379

00:20:07,160 --> 00:20:09,880

used to shoot Jill and Julie Hansen.

380

00:20:09,880 --> 00:20:10,880

How do you make of that?

381

00:20:13,760 --> 00:20:16,160

The entire Hansen property was cordoned off

382

00:20:16,160 --> 00:20:18,280

and kept under round the clock surveillance.

383

00:20:23,360 --> 00:20:26,000

Two days after the fire, in the early morning,

384

00:20:26,000 --> 00:20:27,920

the officer on duty caught up prowler

385

00:20:27,920 --> 00:20:29,000

outside the warehouse.

386

00:20:33,920 --> 00:20:34,720

Hey!

387

00:20:37,400 --> 00:20:39,320

What are you doing now?

388

00:20:39,320 --> 00:20:40,320

This is my dad's place.

389

00:20:40,320 --> 00:20:41,240

Who works here?

390

00:20:41,240 --> 00:20:42,640

Yeah, what's your dad's name?

391

00:20:42,640 --> 00:20:44,280

Hans Hansen.

392

00:20:44,280 --> 00:20:45,080

You didn't see the police?

393

00:20:45,080 --> 00:20:47,160

Was Hansen Betty's son, Donnie?

394

00:20:47,160 --> 00:20:48,200

You watch the light.

395

00:20:48,200 --> 00:20:49,800

You just stand right there.

396

00:20:49,800 --> 00:20:53,000

Detective George Gatto was called to the scene.

397

00:20:53,000 --> 00:20:56,160

Donnie told Gatto that he had come to feed the family dog.

398

00:20:56,160 --> 00:20:58,000

I'm looking in a window.

399

00:20:58,000 --> 00:21:00,320

Looking in the window.

400

00:21:00,320 --> 00:21:01,160

What are you looking at, son?

401

00:21:04,400 --> 00:21:06,040

I just came out to feed my dog.

402

00:21:06,040 --> 00:21:08,400

Tell us the truth, Donnie.

403

00:21:08,400 --> 00:21:09,320

No, I just wanted to feed my dog.

404

00:21:09,320 --> 00:21:11,400

He knew the dog had been taken to a neighbor's.

405

00:21:11,400 --> 00:21:12,280

Is he a dog around here?

406

00:21:12,280 --> 00:21:13,180

OK.

407

00:21:13,180 --> 00:21:15,480

He knew the dog was not there.

408

00:21:15,480 --> 00:21:17,760

And that's when we figured that the reason he was there,

409

00:21:17,760 --> 00:21:20,200

he was there to get the shotgun.

410

00:21:20,200 --> 00:21:24,360

Because he didn't know we had found it yet.

411

00:21:24,360 --> 00:21:27,080

The case had taken an incredible turn.

412

00:21:27,080 --> 00:21:29,560

Donnie was about to become the prime suspect

413

00:21:29,560 --> 00:21:31,960

in the murder of his own sister.

414

00:21:31,960 --> 00:21:35,000

Investigators soon uncovered circumstantial evidence

415

00:21:35,000 --> 00:21:38,520

that implicated Donnie in the crime.

416

00:21:38,520 --> 00:21:40,560

Three days before the fire, Donnie

417

00:21:40,560 --> 00:21:42,720

had borrowed the shotgun from a friend.

418

00:21:42,720 --> 00:21:45,600

And Donnie admitted keeping it in his car.

419

00:21:45,600 --> 00:21:48,000

Unspent shells found in the car matched

420

00:21:48,000 --> 00:21:50,080

those used in the attack.

421

00:21:50,080 --> 00:21:52,960

Donnie had purchased the ammunition the very evening

422

00:21:52,960 --> 00:21:54,480

Jill and Julie were shot.

423

00:21:57,800 --> 00:21:59,880

This credit card statement verified

424

00:21:59,880 --> 00:22:01,960

that two days before the fire, Donnie

425

00:22:01,960 --> 00:22:06,360

had purchased five gallons of gas at a local station.

426

00:22:06,360 --> 00:22:09,280

Witnesses confirmed that the container Donnie filled

427

00:22:09,280 --> 00:22:13,360

was identical to one of those found at the scene.

428

00:22:13,360 --> 00:22:14,680

So then what happened?

429

00:22:14,680 --> 00:22:16,320

There was only one person who might

430

00:22:16,320 --> 00:22:19,800

be able to confirm the growing suspicions, Julie Hanson.

431

00:22:20,720 --> 00:22:22,920

Approximately two weeks after the fire,

432

00:22:22,920 --> 00:22:25,800

she had recovered enough to tell her parents what had happened.

433

00:22:25,800 --> 00:22:29,120

The girl in the head of grudge, orange oil.

434

00:22:29,120 --> 00:22:31,520

At first, Julie's memories were sketchy.

435

00:22:31,520 --> 00:22:34,520

She recalled being shot but not seeing anyone.

436

00:22:34,520 --> 00:22:37,000

The door.

437

00:22:37,000 --> 00:22:38,760

She said she crawled over her sister, which

438

00:22:38,760 --> 00:22:41,800

saw her sister was still asleep in the bed beside her,

439

00:22:41,800 --> 00:22:44,400

and stepped out of her bedroom door.

440

00:22:44,400 --> 00:22:47,080

And bang, she saw the flash.

441

00:22:47,080 --> 00:22:48,960

And she thought a bomb went off.

442

00:22:48,960 --> 00:22:51,160

And she said she reached down and felt her belly.

443

00:22:51,160 --> 00:22:53,280

It was like a bowl of jello.

444

00:22:55,840 --> 00:22:58,320

As Hanson Betty asked more questions,

445

00:22:58,320 --> 00:23:01,160

Julie had a chilling recollection.

446

00:23:01,160 --> 00:23:03,040

So did you see anything else?

447

00:23:03,040 --> 00:23:05,880

Did you see anybody?

448

00:23:05,880 --> 00:23:09,880

I saw Donnie's face in the flash.

449

00:23:09,880 --> 00:23:12,360

You saw your brother Donnie's face?

450

00:23:12,360 --> 00:23:15,400

However, Julie's statement contradicted what she told her

451

00:23:15,400 --> 00:23:15,800

doctor.

452

00:23:15,800 --> 00:23:18,120

I just saw.

453

00:23:18,160 --> 00:23:22,320

I never found out why she said that she saw Donnie in the flash.

454

00:23:22,320 --> 00:23:24,560

She definitely did not tell me that.

455

00:23:24,560 --> 00:23:28,520

She told me she saw nobody, specifically.

456

00:23:28,520 --> 00:23:31,360

When I questioned her about that situation,

457

00:23:31,360 --> 00:23:34,080

I said, who did you see or did you see anything?

458

00:23:34,080 --> 00:23:36,640

She said, I saw nobody.

459

00:23:36,640 --> 00:23:37,920

Never mentioned seeing Donnie.

460

00:23:40,480 --> 00:23:43,160

On December 2, two weeks after the fire,

461

00:23:43,160 --> 00:23:45,600

Donnie Hanson was met by his mother and sister

462

00:23:45,600 --> 00:23:47,360

at the county courthouse.

463

00:23:47,400 --> 00:23:49,960

He had come in voluntarily for further questioning.

464

00:23:49,960 --> 00:23:50,860

Hi, Betty.

465

00:23:50,860 --> 00:23:52,840

Thanks for coming down.

466

00:23:52,840 --> 00:23:54,720

What are the shells?

467

00:23:54,720 --> 00:23:56,520

The shells, we're outtrap shooting,

468

00:23:56,520 --> 00:23:59,640

and I picked some more up as the store was on the way home.

469

00:23:59,640 --> 00:24:01,880

Don't you think it's kind of funny that you bought the shells

470

00:24:01,880 --> 00:24:02,840

right before the murder?

471

00:24:07,200 --> 00:24:08,000

What about the gun?

472

00:24:11,040 --> 00:24:12,560

Why did you try to hide the gun?

473

00:24:12,560 --> 00:24:13,460

I don't know.

474

00:24:16,160 --> 00:24:17,840

Look, I just got scared, you know?

475

00:24:17,840 --> 00:24:19,600

I panicked.

476

00:24:19,600 --> 00:24:21,160

Tried to hide the gun in the warehouse

477

00:24:21,160 --> 00:24:23,280

because I figured if you found the gun in my car,

478

00:24:23,280 --> 00:24:25,720

that you're just going to assume that I did it.

479

00:24:25,720 --> 00:24:27,000

I don't have a right to assume that.

480

00:24:30,320 --> 00:24:34,800

I'm having trouble believing this whole story.

481

00:24:34,800 --> 00:24:36,840

He kept saying he was innocent.

482

00:24:36,840 --> 00:24:39,240

He fell to polygraph twice.

483

00:24:39,240 --> 00:24:40,720

And when I interviewed him, he just

484

00:24:40,720 --> 00:24:41,880

I don't know why I have to leave you, Donnie.

485

00:24:41,880 --> 00:24:44,680

I could be nine or within a month.

486

00:24:44,680 --> 00:24:49,200

I could say every time was a different story with him.

487

00:24:49,200 --> 00:24:51,840

The interrogation lasted two hours.

488

00:24:51,840 --> 00:24:54,440

When Donnie emerged, he was in handcuffs,

489

00:24:54,440 --> 00:24:57,520

facing trial on charges of arson and murder.

490

00:24:57,520 --> 00:24:58,600

What's going on?

491

00:24:58,600 --> 00:24:59,800

He's under arrest.

492

00:24:59,800 --> 00:25:00,720

On what grounds?

493

00:25:00,720 --> 00:25:02,120

I can't talk to him up there right now.

494

00:25:02,120 --> 00:25:03,680

George, we are trying to cooperate.

495

00:25:03,680 --> 00:25:06,400

That was a pretty low point in my life

496

00:25:06,400 --> 00:25:11,120

to see my son arrested for the murder of my daughter.

497

00:25:11,120 --> 00:25:12,680

It was just unbelievable.

498

00:25:12,680 --> 00:25:15,240

And I kept thinking, when am I going to wake up?

499

00:25:15,240 --> 00:25:18,800

When's this going to end?

500

00:25:18,800 --> 00:25:21,520

It was just, I can't describe it.

501

00:25:21,520 --> 00:25:24,520

There's just no words.

502

00:25:24,520 --> 00:25:26,760

The nightmare was far from over.

503

00:25:26,760 --> 00:25:29,480

On December 19, Julie suddenly died

504

00:25:29,480 --> 00:25:31,800

in a freak medical accident.

505

00:25:31,800 --> 00:25:33,720

An air bubble and entered her bloodstream

506

00:25:33,720 --> 00:25:36,280

through an intravenous tube and stopped her heart.

507

00:25:36,400 --> 00:25:42,200

Julie's death was another devastating blow

508

00:25:42,200 --> 00:25:44,000

to her grieving parents.

509

00:25:44,000 --> 00:25:47,320

It was also a crippling setback to the prosecutors.

510

00:25:47,320 --> 00:25:49,080

Julie's eyewitness statements would now

511

00:25:49,080 --> 00:25:51,360

be inadmissible as evidence, so she could not

512

00:25:51,360 --> 00:25:54,320

be cross-examined by defense attorneys.

513

00:25:54,320 --> 00:25:57,480

When we return, Donnie Hansen tells his story.

514

00:25:57,920 --> 00:26:01,400

In April of 1988, Donnie Hansen went on trial for the murder

515

00:26:01,400 --> 00:26:04,680

of his half-sister, Jill and Julie.

516

00:26:04,680 --> 00:26:06,880

The district attorney was confident enough

517

00:26:06,880 --> 00:26:10,800

to ask for the death penalty.

518

00:26:10,800 --> 00:26:15,960

The defendant, Donald Hansen, brought the gun that was the murder

519

00:26:15,960 --> 00:26:17,520

weapon to the scene.

520

00:26:17,520 --> 00:26:21,360

He brought the shotgun shells that killed those two

521

00:26:21,360 --> 00:26:22,880

and then he killed them.

522

00:26:22,880 --> 00:26:24,920

He was killed in the first place.

523

00:26:24,920 --> 00:26:28,800

He brought the shotgun shells that killed those two girls.

524

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

He hid the murder weapon.

525

00:26:30,800 --> 00:26:33,840

He lied about all of those things.

526

00:26:33,840 --> 00:26:35,960

That was strong evidence.

527

00:26:35,960 --> 00:26:38,720

However, the defense introduced eyewitness testimony

528

00:26:38,720 --> 00:26:42,640

from the Hansen's neighbors across the street.

529

00:26:42,640 --> 00:26:46,200

They claimed to have seen two unidentified men near the trailer

530

00:26:46,200 --> 00:26:48,240

while it was on fire.

531

00:26:48,240 --> 00:26:50,840

Their sighting became the cornerstone of a defense

532

00:26:50,960 --> 00:26:53,720

attorney designed to show that Donnie Hansen was innocent.

533

00:26:56,280 --> 00:27:00,560

There were a tremendous number of unanswered facts

534

00:27:00,560 --> 00:27:03,360

and occurrences that happened that night

535

00:27:03,360 --> 00:27:05,600

that the prosecution couldn't explain

536

00:27:05,600 --> 00:27:11,000

and which were not consistent with Donnie having been involved.

537

00:27:11,000 --> 00:27:15,000

I was able to come up with at least a suggested scenario

538

00:27:15,000 --> 00:27:17,720

that tied all of the unanswered or the majority

539

00:27:17,720 --> 00:27:19,680

of the unanswered factual.

540

00:27:20,840 --> 00:27:22,640

Questions together.

541

00:27:25,320 --> 00:27:27,200

The defense contended that around 3

542

00:27:27,200 --> 00:27:30,800

AM, two intruders, identity and motive unknown,

543

00:27:30,800 --> 00:27:34,680

approached the Hansen's trailer.

544

00:27:34,680 --> 00:27:38,000

The person had found Donnie's shotgun outside

545

00:27:38,000 --> 00:27:40,520

and for whatever reason decided to bring it inside

546

00:27:40,520 --> 00:27:42,320

with some shells.

547

00:27:42,320 --> 00:27:45,040

Pick block came through the sliding glass door.

548

00:27:45,640 --> 00:27:48,280

They just spread the gasoline around the living room area

549

00:27:48,280 --> 00:27:51,960

at the front of the trailer, the kitchen.

550

00:27:51,960 --> 00:27:54,160

He certainly didn't seem to care that people

551

00:27:54,160 --> 00:27:55,280

were asleep in the trailer.

552

00:27:55,280 --> 00:27:58,360

They went throughout the trailer and spread the gasoline.

553

00:28:09,760 --> 00:28:12,440

At some point, the police found Donnie Hansen

554

00:28:12,440 --> 00:28:14,680

and the perpetrator.

555

00:28:14,680 --> 00:28:19,560

At some point, during the activities of the perpetrator,

556

00:28:19,560 --> 00:28:21,400

Julie was awakened.

557

00:28:21,400 --> 00:28:28,320

She comes down the hallway and walks in on the perpetrator,

558

00:28:28,320 --> 00:28:30,920

who then, at that particular point, apparently

559

00:28:30,920 --> 00:28:36,600

was to the left of Donnie as he was lying on the couch

560

00:28:36,600 --> 00:28:39,320

and somewhat behind him.

561

00:28:39,400 --> 00:28:43,040

And he shoots her as she's coming out the hallway.

562

00:28:43,040 --> 00:28:44,320

And she goes down.

563

00:28:44,320 --> 00:28:47,320

That's what wakes Donnie up.

564

00:28:47,320 --> 00:28:51,720

Donnie picks Julie up, takes her out on the front porch,

565

00:28:51,720 --> 00:28:53,440

posits her there.

566

00:28:53,440 --> 00:28:54,080

Julie, OK.

567

00:28:54,080 --> 00:28:54,880

You're out.

568

00:28:54,880 --> 00:28:58,840

If you stay here, I'll go let you help.

569

00:28:58,840 --> 00:29:03,880

If some unnamed, unknown, masked intruders

570

00:29:03,880 --> 00:29:07,880

are in your house killing people and burning the place down

571

00:29:07,920 --> 00:29:09,800

and you're standing right next to them,

572

00:29:09,800 --> 00:29:13,120

that they'd shoot you too, wouldn't you?

573

00:29:13,120 --> 00:29:16,320

They didn't.

574

00:29:16,320 --> 00:29:18,720

According to the defense theory, at least one

575

00:29:18,720 --> 00:29:20,640

of the assailants was still in the trailer

576

00:29:20,640 --> 00:29:23,360

after Hans, Betty, and Donnie escaped.

577

00:29:23,360 --> 00:29:27,280

It was only then that Jill was shot.

578

00:29:27,280 --> 00:29:31,320

And the perpetrator then exited the trailer.

579

00:29:31,320 --> 00:29:35,680

That person put the gun back in the car, threw it back

580

00:29:36,040 --> 00:29:37,960

in the car as he was going, running by.

581

00:29:37,960 --> 00:29:44,920

And those persons ran to their car and jumped in and off

582

00:29:44,920 --> 00:29:47,440

they went.

583

00:29:47,440 --> 00:29:48,520

You're going to commit a murder.

584

00:29:48,520 --> 00:29:51,560

Don't you bring the instruments to do that job?

585

00:29:51,560 --> 00:29:52,640

Don't you bring the gun?

586

00:29:52,640 --> 00:29:53,960

If you're going to burn down the house,

587

00:29:53,960 --> 00:29:55,800

don't you bring the gas?

588

00:29:55,800 --> 00:29:59,440

How convenient for them that both of these items

589

00:29:59,440 --> 00:30:02,280

just happened to be provided by Donald Hansen?

590

00:30:02,280 --> 00:30:04,760

Makes no sense.

591

00:30:04,800 --> 00:30:07,440

However, the jury believed it did make sense.

592

00:30:07,440 --> 00:30:12,080

And they found Donnie Hansen not guilty.

593

00:30:12,080 --> 00:30:15,920

When I first heard the verdict, my initial reaction

594

00:30:15,920 --> 00:30:19,600

was I was really happy to think that he didn't do it.

595

00:30:19,600 --> 00:30:22,600

But when I thought back to everything,

596

00:30:22,600 --> 00:30:27,440

I knew that Donnie's involved, that Donnie knew what happened.

597

00:30:27,440 --> 00:30:30,400

And he knew what went on that night.

598

00:30:30,400 --> 00:30:33,120

And he has all the answers.

599

00:30:33,120 --> 00:30:34,840

This has been a real tragedy to us,

600

00:30:34,840 --> 00:30:40,600

because we have lost three of our four children out of this.

601

00:30:40,600 --> 00:30:44,200

Two of them are dead, and Donnie's dead to me,

602

00:30:44,200 --> 00:30:47,360

because I do feel he was 100% responsible for this,

603

00:30:47,360 --> 00:30:52,080

whether he pulled it off 100% himself or not.

604

00:30:52,080 --> 00:30:54,640

If I know who would have done this,

605

00:30:54,640 --> 00:30:56,560

I would not have put my life on the line

606

00:30:56,560 --> 00:30:59,240

through a jury trial, through a death penalty case

607

00:30:59,240 --> 00:31:01,640

that covered them up for someone that killed my sisters

608

00:31:01,680 --> 00:31:03,160

and I loved.

609

00:31:03,160 --> 00:31:06,880

A statement like that is absolutely ludicrous.

610

00:31:06,880 --> 00:31:09,280

Because of the notoriety surrounding the trial,

611

00:31:09,280 --> 00:31:11,320

Donnie has changed his name.

612

00:31:11,320 --> 00:31:14,320

He asked that we alter his voice and obscure his face

613

00:31:14,320 --> 00:31:16,400

during this exclusive interview.

614

00:31:16,400 --> 00:31:21,040

No, I realize that nothing has been done or has been done

615

00:31:21,040 --> 00:31:25,320

since my acquittal to take steps to solve this case.

616

00:31:25,320 --> 00:31:27,560

I think the only way this case will ever be solved

617

00:31:27,560 --> 00:31:29,520

is if someone's conscience gets to them.

618

00:31:32,160 --> 00:31:35,000

Donnie's account is still the subject of debate.

619

00:31:35,000 --> 00:31:36,800

Although his attorney claimed Donnie was

620

00:31:36,800 --> 00:31:39,920

awakened by the shotgun blast, Donnie now says

621

00:31:39,920 --> 00:31:43,360

he never heard the shot.

622

00:31:43,360 --> 00:31:46,760

No one that was in that trailer that night heard any blast.

623

00:31:46,760 --> 00:31:49,240

So I don't know how I didn't hear it.

624

00:31:49,240 --> 00:31:53,880

I don't know how any of us didn't hear it as a group.

625

00:31:53,880 --> 00:31:55,320

But we're all fairly consistent.

626

00:31:55,320 --> 00:31:56,400

None of us heard anything.

627

00:31:56,960 --> 00:32:00,360

Another nagging question is why Donnie removed the shotgun

628

00:32:00,360 --> 00:32:03,640

from his car before anyone knew that his shotgun had been

629

00:32:03,640 --> 00:32:06,440

involved or even that a crime had been committed.

630

00:32:09,440 --> 00:32:13,640

I don't really know why I moved it.

631

00:32:13,640 --> 00:32:19,400

Other than I didn't want the gun to, someone steal it,

632

00:32:19,400 --> 00:32:22,560

someone fire the gun and blame thinking, I did this.

633

00:32:22,560 --> 00:32:24,720

If it was used in the commission of this case,

634

00:32:24,720 --> 00:32:27,320

I don't know if it was used in the commission of this crime.

635

00:32:27,320 --> 00:32:29,440

At that time, I didn't know if it had been or not.

636

00:32:32,120 --> 00:32:35,560

A third incident was also difficult to reconcile.

637

00:32:35,560 --> 00:32:38,040

Donnie's 5 AM visit to the warehouse

638

00:32:38,040 --> 00:32:41,600

and the explanation he gave police.

639

00:32:41,600 --> 00:32:43,960

It was one of those things in the whole store

640

00:32:43,960 --> 00:32:46,080

where one lie leads into another and they just

641

00:32:46,080 --> 00:32:47,360

start rolling in.

642

00:32:47,360 --> 00:32:49,800

And I said, well, I was coming in to check on my dog,

643

00:32:49,800 --> 00:32:52,000

which I wasn't really checking on the dog.

644

00:32:52,000 --> 00:32:53,720

And I was going back there to get the gun

645

00:32:53,720 --> 00:32:55,760

and that's the story that I told them.

646

00:32:55,760 --> 00:32:59,200

I think that I reacted out of ignorance and out of stupidity

647

00:32:59,200 --> 00:33:00,320

and that's what got me in trouble.

648

00:33:00,320 --> 00:33:01,680

It's about to be my dog.

649

00:33:01,680 --> 00:33:02,720

That was the truth.

650

00:33:02,720 --> 00:33:05,160

The accusations that I know what went on that night

651

00:33:05,160 --> 00:33:08,920

are absolutely ludicrous because I had absolutely everything

652

00:33:08,920 --> 00:33:11,520

to lose and nothing to gain.

653

00:33:11,520 --> 00:33:15,840

You know, and the fact that to let someone get away

654

00:33:15,840 --> 00:33:20,320

with what they did to Jill and Julie tears me up.

655

00:33:20,360 --> 00:33:24,120

It's just makes my life, I guess, you could say.

656

00:33:27,120 --> 00:33:30,800

The whole truth about this hideous crime may never be known.

657

00:33:30,800 --> 00:33:33,280

A jury has acquitted Donnie Henson,

658

00:33:33,280 --> 00:33:37,240

but his mother and stepfather have not.

659

00:33:37,240 --> 00:33:39,840

I believe the insurance policy was part of the motive.

660

00:33:39,840 --> 00:33:40,960

The insurance was on me.

661

00:33:40,960 --> 00:33:44,680

It was Donnie came home that night to wipe our family out.

662

00:33:44,680 --> 00:33:46,920

He brought the gun with him.

663

00:33:46,920 --> 00:33:50,280

He had the gasoline that he'd bought two nights previous.

664

00:33:50,520 --> 00:33:53,160

And I believe the motive was money.

665

00:33:53,160 --> 00:33:55,560

Whether he was by himself or not, I don't know.

666

00:33:56,760 --> 00:33:59,560

You go on, but life is never the same.

667

00:34:00,560 --> 00:34:02,680

And you can build a new house or buy a new car,

668

00:34:02,680 --> 00:34:07,680

but you can't bring back the girls.

669

00:34:08,440 --> 00:34:11,920

And all we have left is memories.

670

00:34:12,920 --> 00:34:17,440

And it's really rough.

671

00:34:21,280 --> 00:34:23,520

Jill and Julie Hansen were 15 years old

672

00:34:23,520 --> 00:34:25,800

when these home movies were taken.

673

00:34:25,800 --> 00:34:28,200

Their parents have never gotten over the brutal crime

674

00:34:28,200 --> 00:34:30,200

that tore their family apart.

675

00:34:43,080 --> 00:34:45,680

When we return, will aging love letters

676

00:34:45,680 --> 00:34:47,840

lead to a long lost father?

677

00:34:47,840 --> 00:34:49,840

Perhaps with your help.

678

00:34:51,280 --> 00:35:04,280

It was the summer of 1955.

679

00:35:04,280 --> 00:35:08,040

Maria Hoffman, a 20-year-old exchange student from Germany,

680

00:35:08,040 --> 00:35:10,080

found work at the Hotel Moraine,

681

00:35:10,080 --> 00:35:13,520

an elegant lakeside resort 26 miles from Chicago.

682

00:35:13,520 --> 00:35:17,680

Maria had just finished a year of study in the United States

683

00:35:17,680 --> 00:35:19,680

and needed money for the passage home.

684

00:35:20,680 --> 00:35:23,680

Sorry, I didn't see you.

685

00:35:23,680 --> 00:35:25,680

I was afraid you'd look at me better.

686

00:35:25,680 --> 00:35:27,680

I'm sorry I didn't see you.

687

00:35:29,680 --> 00:35:31,680

Hey, wait a minute. Are we both saying the same thing?

688

00:35:31,680 --> 00:35:33,680

Yes. Yes.

689

00:35:33,680 --> 00:35:36,680

He surprised me so much. I forgot my English.

690

00:35:36,680 --> 00:35:38,680

I'm sorry. I didn't mean to.

691

00:35:38,680 --> 00:35:41,680

The young man introduced himself as Michael Seymour.

692

00:35:41,680 --> 00:35:43,680

Yes, I'm fine.

693

00:35:43,680 --> 00:35:45,680

Like Maria, he was in his early 20s.

694

00:35:45,680 --> 00:35:47,680

Here, let me help you.

695

00:35:47,680 --> 00:35:49,680

Thank you very kind.

696

00:35:50,080 --> 00:35:52,080

I haven't seen you here before.

697

00:35:52,080 --> 00:35:54,080

Are you new?

698

00:35:54,080 --> 00:35:57,080

The chance encounter quickly blossomed into a summer romance,

699

00:35:57,080 --> 00:35:59,080

but it was a relationship Maria would keep secret

700

00:35:59,080 --> 00:36:01,080

for nearly 30 years.

701

00:36:01,080 --> 00:36:03,080

Welcome.

702

00:36:03,080 --> 00:36:05,080

Until the spring of 1983.

703

00:36:05,080 --> 00:36:07,080

How are you?

704

00:36:07,080 --> 00:36:09,080

It's a bit cold.

705

00:36:09,080 --> 00:36:11,080

In the ensuing years, Maria had returned to Germany,

706

00:36:11,080 --> 00:36:15,080

married, become a mother, and a grandmother.

707

00:36:15,080 --> 00:36:17,080

Her oldest son, Christoph,

708

00:36:17,080 --> 00:36:19,080

was a lieutenant in the German Air Force.

709

00:36:19,480 --> 00:36:21,480

During a weekend visit with him,

710

00:36:21,480 --> 00:36:23,480

Maria made a stunning confession.

711

00:36:23,480 --> 00:36:26,480

Chris, there's something I want to talk to you about.

712

00:36:26,480 --> 00:36:28,480

What is it?

713

00:36:28,480 --> 00:36:30,480

It's very difficult.

714

00:36:30,480 --> 00:36:32,480

Chris, your father is not your real father.

715

00:36:32,480 --> 00:36:34,480

What?

716

00:36:34,480 --> 00:36:36,480

The man who raised you is not your real father.

717

00:36:36,480 --> 00:36:38,480

Mama, are you serious?

718

00:36:38,480 --> 00:36:40,480

Your real father is a man I met

719

00:36:40,480 --> 00:36:42,480

when I was in the United States.

720

00:36:42,480 --> 00:36:44,480

Why haven't you told me this sooner?

721

00:36:44,480 --> 00:36:46,480

What is it?

722

00:36:46,480 --> 00:36:48,480

When my mother first came to Germany,

723

00:36:48,880 --> 00:36:50,880

my mother first told me this.

724

00:36:50,880 --> 00:36:54,880

I felt a little bit anger about her not telling me before.

725

00:36:54,880 --> 00:36:56,880

I'm your son, I have a right to know.

726

00:36:56,880 --> 00:36:58,880

I made a decision right there

727

00:36:58,880 --> 00:37:00,880

that I need to find him.

728

00:37:00,880 --> 00:37:03,880

That I need to find out what kind of man he is.

729

00:37:03,880 --> 00:37:05,880

That I want to see him

730

00:37:05,880 --> 00:37:07,880

and make my own decision,

731

00:37:07,880 --> 00:37:09,880

whether I like him or not,

732

00:37:09,880 --> 00:37:11,880

and whether I want to stay in contact with him or not.

733

00:37:13,880 --> 00:37:15,880

How did it happen?

734

00:37:15,880 --> 00:37:17,880

It was the year after I was in school in America.

735

00:37:18,280 --> 00:37:20,280

Over the next hour,

736

00:37:20,280 --> 00:37:22,280

Christoph learned more about his biological father

737

00:37:22,280 --> 00:37:24,280

and the long secret romance.

738

00:37:27,280 --> 00:37:29,280

For Maria and Michael,

739

00:37:29,280 --> 00:37:31,280

the attraction had been instant and all-consuming.

740

00:37:31,280 --> 00:37:33,280

Together, they spent an enchanted summer.

741

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

My mother told me that he was from Canada,

742

00:37:39,280 --> 00:37:41,280

that he was a very gentle man

743

00:37:41,280 --> 00:37:43,280

and that she fell in love with this man

744

00:37:43,280 --> 00:37:45,280

and she had an affair with him.

745

00:37:48,280 --> 00:37:50,280

But the carefree love affair

746

00:37:50,280 --> 00:37:52,280

was eventually clouded by a very real concern.

747

00:37:52,280 --> 00:37:54,280

Maria Hoffman was pregnant.

748

00:37:57,280 --> 00:37:59,280

She was very worried about the future.

749

00:37:59,280 --> 00:38:01,280

That she was in a foreign country

750

00:38:01,280 --> 00:38:03,280

with basically no fixed income

751

00:38:03,280 --> 00:38:05,280

and her friend, the man she was in love with,

752

00:38:05,280 --> 00:38:07,280

obviously,

753

00:38:07,280 --> 00:38:09,280

was pregnant.

754

00:38:09,280 --> 00:38:11,280

She was very worried about the future.

755

00:38:11,280 --> 00:38:13,280

She was very worried about the future.

756

00:38:13,280 --> 00:38:15,280

She was very worried about the future.

757

00:38:15,280 --> 00:38:17,280

She was very worried about the future.

758

00:38:17,680 --> 00:38:21,680

She obviously didn't have a very high income job either,

759

00:38:21,680 --> 00:38:23,680

so they would have had to struggle a lot.

760

00:38:27,680 --> 00:38:29,680

I also know that they were in love

761

00:38:29,680 --> 00:38:31,680

and that she wanted to be with him.

762

00:38:37,680 --> 00:38:39,680

In October of 1955,

763

00:38:39,680 --> 00:38:41,680

Maria made an agonizing decision.

764

00:38:41,680 --> 00:38:43,680

She would return to Germany

765

00:38:43,680 --> 00:38:45,680

to have her baby

766

00:38:46,080 --> 00:38:48,080

without Michael Sammer.

767

00:38:51,080 --> 00:38:53,080

They separated not in anger.

768

00:38:53,080 --> 00:38:55,080

They separated in a good face

769

00:38:55,080 --> 00:38:57,080

and planned on getting together again later on.

770

00:38:59,080 --> 00:39:01,080

I don't know what to say, Maria.

771

00:39:03,080 --> 00:39:05,080

Lisa, do I?

772

00:39:06,080 --> 00:39:08,080

It's all so confusing.

773

00:39:10,080 --> 00:39:12,080

I know that I'll miss you.

774

00:39:13,080 --> 00:39:15,080

That wasn't an easy way for her,

775

00:39:15,080 --> 00:39:17,080

but it was the best way

776

00:39:17,080 --> 00:39:21,080

because she could go to the security of her family

777

00:39:21,080 --> 00:39:24,080

and had all the support that she needed.

778

00:39:30,080 --> 00:39:32,080

Maria would never again see Michael Sammer.

779

00:39:34,080 --> 00:39:37,080

Christoph was born in Germany on May 22, 1956.

780

00:39:37,080 --> 00:39:39,080

The following year,

781

00:39:39,080 --> 00:39:41,080

Maria married a college professor,

782

00:39:41,080 --> 00:39:44,080

the man Christoph would come to know as his father.

783

00:39:47,080 --> 00:39:49,080

Christoph, sit down.

784

00:39:51,080 --> 00:39:53,080

There is something I have for you.

785

00:39:53,080 --> 00:39:56,080

I have been saving all these years.

786

00:39:56,080 --> 00:40:00,080

These are letters from your father.

787

00:40:04,080 --> 00:40:06,080

Perhaps it will help you to understand

788

00:40:06,080 --> 00:40:09,080

or at least to have more information.

789

00:40:11,080 --> 00:40:13,080

In all there were four letters,

790

00:40:13,080 --> 00:40:15,080

the last written in 1958.

791

00:40:15,080 --> 00:40:18,080

Included were two snapshots of Michael Sammer.

792

00:40:18,080 --> 00:40:21,080

Christoph Bauer at the age of 27

793

00:40:21,080 --> 00:40:24,080

suddenly found himself staring into the face

794

00:40:24,080 --> 00:40:26,080

of his birth father.

795

00:40:29,080 --> 00:40:32,080

Christoph immediately followed up the few clues he had.

796

00:40:32,080 --> 00:40:35,080

He wrote to the four different return addresses

797

00:40:35,080 --> 00:40:36,080

on the envelopes.

798

00:40:36,080 --> 00:40:38,080

He got no response.

799

00:40:39,080 --> 00:40:42,080

Government agencies both in Canada and the United States

800

00:40:42,080 --> 00:40:44,080

had no records of Sammer.

801

00:40:44,080 --> 00:40:46,080

And the Hotel Moraine,

802

00:40:46,080 --> 00:40:48,080

where Christoph's mother and Sammer had met

803

00:40:48,080 --> 00:40:51,080

had long ago burned to the ground.

804

00:40:53,080 --> 00:40:55,080

But there was one ray of hope.

805

00:40:55,080 --> 00:40:57,080

A cousin of Maria's who lived in Chicago

806

00:40:57,080 --> 00:41:00,080

said that Michael Sammer had periodically phoned her

807

00:41:00,080 --> 00:41:02,080

after Maria returned to Germany.

808

00:41:02,080 --> 00:41:04,080

Have you heard from Maria?

809

00:41:04,080 --> 00:41:06,080

Do you know how she's been doing?

810

00:41:06,080 --> 00:41:08,080

To Christoph's amazement,

811

00:41:08,080 --> 00:41:11,080

Michael Sammer's occasional calls had continued

812

00:41:11,080 --> 00:41:13,080

for nearly 20 years.

813

00:41:13,080 --> 00:41:15,080

And Chris, how's he doing?

814

00:41:15,080 --> 00:41:18,080

When I learned that he had checked on me

815

00:41:18,080 --> 00:41:21,080

and that he still was interested in me,

816

00:41:21,080 --> 00:41:25,080

I felt supported in my decision to find him.

817

00:41:27,080 --> 00:41:31,080

1976, this relative moved,

818

00:41:31,080 --> 00:41:34,080

and that was the end of the contact.

819

00:41:37,080 --> 00:41:39,080

These are letters.

820

00:41:39,080 --> 00:41:42,080

One year after her dramatic confession,

821

00:41:42,080 --> 00:41:44,080

Maria Bauer died.

822

00:41:44,080 --> 00:41:46,080

She was 49 years old.

823

00:41:46,080 --> 00:41:48,080

The aging letter she left to Christoph

824

00:41:48,080 --> 00:41:51,080

paint a bittersweet picture of youthful love.

825

00:41:53,080 --> 00:41:57,080

I feel any child of yours would be somebody worthwhile.

826

00:41:57,080 --> 00:42:00,080

I'm happy to be joined to you through it one way or another,

827

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

even if by now or in time to come,

828

00:42:03,080 --> 00:42:06,080

that is all we have between us.

829

00:42:06,080 --> 00:42:09,080

I also want some kind of closer relationship

830

00:42:09,080 --> 00:42:11,080

with our son Christopher.

831

00:42:11,080 --> 00:42:14,080

I think he is the cutest thing I've ever seen.

832

00:42:14,080 --> 00:42:17,080

I receive your last letter with the two pictures of him

833

00:42:17,080 --> 00:42:19,080

on the bicycle and with yourself.

834

00:42:19,080 --> 00:42:21,080

I really treasure them.

835

00:42:26,080 --> 00:42:28,080

Today, Christoph Bauer is a captain

836

00:42:28,080 --> 00:42:30,080

in the German Air Force.

837

00:42:30,080 --> 00:42:33,080

In 1991, he has lived with his family in the United States,

838

00:42:33,080 --> 00:42:36,080

where he is training helicopter pilots for the U.S. Army.

839

00:42:36,080 --> 00:42:39,080

Christoph and his family will be returning to Germany

840

00:42:39,080 --> 00:42:41,080

next year.

841

00:42:41,080 --> 00:42:44,080

Perhaps Michael Samore can be found before they leave,

842

00:42:44,080 --> 00:42:47,080

so he can meet his son and three grandchildren

843

00:42:47,080 --> 00:42:49,080

for the first time.

844

00:42:50,080 --> 00:42:53,080

Recently, Christoph was surprised to learn

845

00:42:53,080 --> 00:42:56,080

that the name Michael Samore is an alias.

846

00:42:56,080 --> 00:42:59,080

Samore's real name is Walter Joseph Anthony Samore.

847

00:43:01,080 --> 00:43:03,080

He was born October 4, 1930

848

00:43:03,080 --> 00:43:05,080

in Pembroke, Ontario, Canada,

849

00:43:05,080 --> 00:43:09,080

and lived in Evanston, Illinois until at least 1970.

850

00:43:20,080 --> 00:43:22,080

On our next Unsolved Mysteries,

851

00:43:22,080 --> 00:43:24,080

the harrowing tale of three young men

852

00:43:24,080 --> 00:43:26,080

who escaped from an Oklahoma jail

853

00:43:26,080 --> 00:43:29,080

and took to the road armed with a truckload of weapons.

854

00:43:29,080 --> 00:43:31,080

After a wild 150-mile chase,

855

00:43:31,080 --> 00:43:33,080

state troopers cornered the fugitives,

856

00:43:33,080 --> 00:43:36,080

but one of them managed to slip away.

857

00:43:37,080 --> 00:43:41,080

The Mona Lisa, one of Leonardo da Vinci's greatest works.

858

00:43:41,080 --> 00:43:43,080

The identity of the model is a mystery

859

00:43:43,080 --> 00:43:47,080

that has intrigued and baffled historians for 500 years.

860

00:43:47,080 --> 00:43:51,080

Now, on unorthodox new theories sparked a heated debate,

861

00:43:51,080 --> 00:43:54,080

could the model have been Leonardo himself?

862

00:43:55,080 --> 00:43:57,080

Join me next time

863

00:43:57,080 --> 00:44:00,080

for another edition of Unsolved Mysteries.