

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 --> 00:00:18,880

He fights crime by performing autopsies,

6

00:00:18,880 --> 00:00:21,360

and his legendary skills have led some to call him

7

00:00:21,360 --> 00:00:23,760

a modern-day Sherlock Holmes.

8

00:00:23,760 --> 00:00:27,000

He is forensic pathologist Dr. Cyril Reis.

9

00:00:27,760 --> 00:00:31,040

He is forensic pathologist Dr. Cyril Wecht.

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00:00:31,040 --> 00:00:32,880

And tonight, we'll accompany Dr. Wecht

11

00:00:32,880 --> 00:00:36,000

as he investigates the mysterious and controversial death

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00:00:36,000 --> 00:00:39,040

of a young college student.

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00:00:39,040 --> 00:00:42,200

You will also meet three very unusual investigators,

14

00:00:42,200 --> 00:00:45,320

genealogists, who claim that while researching their family

15

00:00:45,320 --> 00:00:49,360

trees, they were guided by an unexplained psychic force.

16

00:00:49,360 --> 00:00:51,760

It may seem unbelievable, but all three

17

00:00:51,760 --> 00:00:54,360

are convinced that the spirits of their ancestors

18

00:00:54,360 --> 00:00:58,400

reached out to them from beyond the grave.

19

00:00:58,400 --> 00:00:59,200

Join me.

20

00:00:59,200 --> 00:01:02,320

Perhaps you may be able to help solve a mystery.

21

00:01:55,360 --> 00:01:57,840

This poor little girl died as a result

22

00:01:57,840 --> 00:02:01,920

of being overcome by the flames and carbon monoxide.

23

00:02:01,920 --> 00:02:03,040

And that's what killed her.

24

00:02:03,040 --> 00:02:05,160

There is no evidence whatsoever to indicate

25

00:02:05,160 --> 00:02:07,160

that she had been cut on her throat.

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00:02:07,160 --> 00:02:09,240

He has been called a real-life Quincy

27

00:02:09,240 --> 00:02:11,520

in a modern-day Sherlock Holmes.

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00:02:11,520 --> 00:02:15,080

But by any name, Dr. Cyril Wecht is undeniably one

29

00:02:15,080 --> 00:02:17,760

of the country's top forensic pathologists.

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00:02:17,760 --> 00:02:21,720

In court, it is Wecht's testimony that often tips the balance.

31

00:02:24,520 --> 00:02:28,640

To solve a murder and have that case defined,

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00:02:28,640 --> 00:02:31,800

to prove that something was not a murder when somebody

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00:02:31,800 --> 00:02:34,320

is thought to have committed a murder,

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00:02:34,320 --> 00:02:38,800

the intellectual challenge is fantastic.

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00:02:38,800 --> 00:02:42,360

The gratification comes from helping people

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00:02:42,360 --> 00:02:43,400

in a very real sense.

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00:02:45,880 --> 00:02:49,160

In 1993, Seth Floyd was found hanging by the neck

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00:02:49,160 --> 00:02:50,480

in his jail cell.

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00:02:50,480 --> 00:02:52,480

The authorities called it suicide.

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00:02:52,520 --> 00:02:56,960

Dr. Wecht proved it was murder.

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00:02:56,960 --> 00:03:01,040

Louis DeNicola spent five years in prison for a triple murder.

42

00:03:01,040 --> 00:03:03,880

Dr. Wecht proved the deaths were accidental.

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00:03:03,880 --> 00:03:08,040

And DeNicola went home a free man.

44

00:03:08,040 --> 00:03:10,600

Eight-year-old Tanya Palmer accidentally drowned

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00:03:10,600 --> 00:03:12,280

in her own bathtub.

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00:03:12,280 --> 00:03:15,320

At least that's what her mother's boyfriend told police.

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00:03:15,320 --> 00:03:18,400

Dr. Wecht helped prove that, in fact, the boyfriend

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00:03:18,400 --> 00:03:19,920

had murdered Tanya Palmer.

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00:03:23,480 --> 00:03:25,840

In law enforcement circles, Cyril Wecht

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00:03:25,840 --> 00:03:28,160

has become something of a legend.

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00:03:28,160 --> 00:03:30,800

But one case continues to haunt him.

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00:03:30,800 --> 00:03:33,400

The mysterious death of a 20-year-old college student

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

near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

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00:03:35,400 --> 00:03:38,880

Perhaps tonight, you can provide the clue that helps Dr. Wecht

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00:03:38,880 --> 00:03:41,200

finally solve this controversial mystery.

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00:03:47,400 --> 00:03:51,440

It was on a Wednesday evening, the 21st of October, 1987,

57

00:03:51,480 --> 00:03:56,600

that authorities found the body of Jack Davis, Jr.

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00:03:56,600 --> 00:03:59,720

Davis was sprawled at the bottom of a 20-step stairwell

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00:03:59,720 --> 00:04:05,480

on the campus of Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

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00:04:05,480 --> 00:04:08,440

Jack had last been seen the previous Friday night.

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00:04:08,440 --> 00:04:11,400

He attended a party with some of his fraternity brothers,

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00:04:11,400 --> 00:04:15,840

then made the rounds at a few local bars.

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00:04:15,840 --> 00:04:19,480

Jack's body was autopsied by a local pathologist.

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00:04:19,480 --> 00:04:21,920

A toxicology report, a routine check

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00:04:21,920 --> 00:04:24,120

for unnatural substances in the body,

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00:04:24,120 --> 00:04:26,760

was completed at a lamb out of state.

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00:04:26,760 --> 00:04:29,320

The autopsy and test results were forwarded to County

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00:04:29,320 --> 00:04:31,320

Corner Thomas Streams.

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00:04:31,320 --> 00:04:34,920

He ruled that Jack's death was accidental.

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00:04:34,920 --> 00:04:39,360

The body was not in disarray from a fight.

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00:04:39,360 --> 00:04:42,320

There was no signs of defensive wounds.

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00:04:42,320 --> 00:04:44,600

As a struggle, there were no drag marks.

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00:04:44,600 --> 00:04:48,120

There was just nothing unremarkably about the body.

74

00:04:50,120 --> 00:04:54,640

The scenario was that Mr. Davis wandered down

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00:04:54,640 --> 00:04:57,520

into the stairwell in a intoxicated state,

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00:04:57,520 --> 00:05:01,960

perhaps to urinate, collapsed in an unconscious state,

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00:05:01,960 --> 00:05:05,200

vomited and heaved the vomitus into his lungs,

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00:05:05,200 --> 00:05:07,040

which therefore then subsequently caused his death.

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00:05:09,920 --> 00:05:12,360

The official report concluded that Jack Davis

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00:05:12,360 --> 00:05:14,680

died at about 2 AM Saturday morning,

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00:05:14,680 --> 00:05:17,280

several hours after he disappeared.

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00:05:17,400 --> 00:05:22,880

His body apparently lay in the stairwell for nearly five days.

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00:05:22,880 --> 00:05:25,320

I couldn't believe or comprehend

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00:05:25,320 --> 00:05:27,800

that he could have died that way.

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00:05:27,800 --> 00:05:32,760

And I was told that that was a common occurrence.

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00:05:32,760 --> 00:05:34,120

I found it hard to believe.

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00:05:36,720 --> 00:05:38,960

Jack's mother, father, and stepmother

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00:05:38,960 --> 00:05:41,360

took him home to Penn Hills, Pennsylvania

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00:05:41,360 --> 00:05:43,800

and laid him to rest.

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00:05:43,800 --> 00:05:46,160

Even as Jack's family agreed, their doubts

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00:05:46,160 --> 00:05:48,880

about the official findings began to grow.

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00:05:48,880 --> 00:05:51,840

But for more than two years, they pushed aside their concerns.

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00:05:54,800 --> 00:05:57,600

Then a local reporter began to publicly question

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00:05:57,600 --> 00:05:59,160

the coroner's ruling.

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00:05:59,160 --> 00:06:03,200

Finally, Jack's family turned to Dr. Wect.

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00:06:03,200 --> 00:06:04,560

Thanks for coming down.

97

00:06:04,560 --> 00:06:07,800

I'm sorry to meet you under these circumstances.

98

00:06:07,800 --> 00:06:09,800

Before I got into the medical aspects of the case,

99

00:06:09,800 --> 00:06:12,720

I was just puzzled as a matter of common sense.

100

00:06:12,760 --> 00:06:16,200

How could a body have been lying outside on the college

101

00:06:16,200 --> 00:06:20,280

campus in the early fall for five or more days,

102

00:06:20,280 --> 00:06:24,400

unseen, unnoticed by anybody?

103

00:06:24,400 --> 00:06:27,800

The other thing that puzzled me was,

104

00:06:27,800 --> 00:06:30,400

I thought, gee, why would a young man,

105

00:06:30,400 --> 00:06:36,040

in the early hours of the morning, walk 15 steps

106

00:06:36,040 --> 00:06:40,000

and a landing and another five steps to urinate?

107

00:06:40,000 --> 00:06:42,240

I remember when I went to college.

108

00:06:42,240 --> 00:06:44,880

And I remember what young men will

109

00:06:44,880 --> 00:06:48,360

do if they have to urinate, especially if they are inebriated

110

00:06:48,360 --> 00:06:52,520

and it's the wee hours of the morning and nobody is around.

111

00:06:52,520 --> 00:06:56,480

Not too many people have that kind of discretion

112

00:06:56,480 --> 00:06:59,280

and personal sensitivity.

113

00:06:59,280 --> 00:07:02,440

So you see, that did not fit either.

114

00:07:02,440 --> 00:07:06,160

We've managed to get a copy of the toxicology report.

115

00:07:06,160 --> 00:07:09,040

And we need you to look at this and tell us.

116

00:07:09,040 --> 00:07:10,080

You have that with you?

117

00:07:10,080 --> 00:07:10,680

Yes, I do.

118

00:07:10,680 --> 00:07:13,800

Almost immediately, Dr. Wecht found glaring discrepancies

119

00:07:13,800 --> 00:07:15,240

in the report.

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00:07:15,240 --> 00:07:17,080

Although by all accounts, Jack Davis

121

00:07:17,080 --> 00:07:20,240

had been drinking heavily on the night he supposedly died,

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00:07:20,240 --> 00:07:25,360

absolutely no alcohol was found in his blood.

123

00:07:25,360 --> 00:07:26,880

There was no doubt that he had been drinking.

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00:07:26,880 --> 00:07:28,880

Nobody challenged that.

125

00:07:28,880 --> 00:07:32,360

In order for him to have wound up with no alcohol in his blood

126

00:07:32,360 --> 00:07:33,920

at the time of his death, he would

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00:07:33,920 --> 00:07:37,000

have had to have been alive for about 30 hours.

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00:07:37,000 --> 00:07:41,280

The fact then that there was no alcohol in his blood

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00:07:41,280 --> 00:07:47,480

indicates to me that he did not die at that time.

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00:07:47,480 --> 00:07:51,760

You know, when they theorized, he had fallen down the steps.

131

00:07:51,760 --> 00:07:53,880

Dr. Wecht found other evidence that argued

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00:07:53,880 --> 00:07:56,160

against a Saturday morning death.

133

00:07:56,160 --> 00:07:58,520

Jack Davis was clean shaven Friday night

134

00:07:58,520 --> 00:08:00,120

when he was last seen.

135

00:08:00,120 --> 00:08:02,280

But when Jack's body was found, there

136

00:08:02,280 --> 00:08:06,320

was heavy beard stubble on his face.

137

00:08:06,320 --> 00:08:09,440

There was one final discrepancy, the autopsy slides

138

00:08:09,440 --> 00:08:11,240

of Jack's lungs.

139

00:08:11,240 --> 00:08:13,960

They provided stunning evidence that the presumed cause

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00:08:13,960 --> 00:08:16,680

of death choking on regurgitated food

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00:08:16,680 --> 00:08:20,640

was nothing short of impossible.

142

00:08:20,640 --> 00:08:22,920

If you're going to list that as a cause of death,

143

00:08:22,920 --> 00:08:27,000

you've got to find food particles deep down inside

144

00:08:27,000 --> 00:08:29,720

the small terminal air passageways,

145

00:08:29,720 --> 00:08:32,320

and that wasn't present.

146

00:08:32,320 --> 00:08:35,240

The other thing about the autopsy

147

00:08:35,280 --> 00:08:43,360

that really stood out for me and made me quiver with excitement

148

00:08:43,360 --> 00:08:47,520

was the fact that the head had not been examined.

149

00:08:47,520 --> 00:08:50,680

The pathologist who did the autopsy

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00:08:50,680 --> 00:08:54,440

had not opened up the cranial vault.

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00:08:54,440 --> 00:08:57,480

The pathologist who performed the first autopsy

152

00:08:57,480 --> 00:09:00,240

went as far as he felt he had to go to find

153

00:09:00,240 --> 00:09:03,280

a conclusive cause of death.

154

00:09:03,280 --> 00:09:05,960

And when he opened up Jack Davis' chest

155

00:09:05,960 --> 00:09:08,160

and examined the internal organs,

156

00:09:08,160 --> 00:09:11,320

he noticed, apparently noticed, the aspiration

157

00:09:11,320 --> 00:09:13,920

of stomach contents in the lungs.

158

00:09:13,920 --> 00:09:16,360

And therefore, he felt that was an independent and conclusive

159

00:09:16,360 --> 00:09:19,880

cause of death and did not open to skull.

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00:09:19,880 --> 00:09:24,240

At that time, we all agreed as a family and with Dr. Wacht

161

00:09:24,240 --> 00:09:28,040

that the body needed to be exhumed.

162

00:09:28,040 --> 00:09:29,240

You can see the discoloration here.

163

00:09:29,240 --> 00:09:33,120

It was the only way we would find out the true cause of death.

164

00:09:33,120 --> 00:09:36,480

Look, Joe, look at that sub-gay-o-hemorrhage.

165

00:09:36,480 --> 00:09:40,240

When I opened up the skull, I found three fractures.

166

00:09:40,240 --> 00:09:44,240

Three areas of skull fracture with significant bleeding

167

00:09:44,240 --> 00:09:45,720

overlying the brain.

168

00:09:45,720 --> 00:09:46,600

It's a blood clot.

169

00:09:46,600 --> 00:09:48,920

It's a pulling of blood.

170

00:09:48,920 --> 00:09:52,080

And that was the cause of death, which

171

00:09:52,080 --> 00:09:54,200

had never been appreciated because the head hadn't

172

00:09:54,200 --> 00:09:56,160

been examined in the first autopsy.

173

00:09:56,160 --> 00:09:58,840

And now we knew the cause of death it was then

174

00:09:58,840 --> 00:10:01,080

and is today, of course, unequivocal.

175

00:10:01,080 --> 00:10:02,080

Come in on the front street.

176

00:10:03,080 --> 00:10:06,840

Slides and lab work can only tell part of the story.

177

00:10:06,840 --> 00:10:09,200

With a university official, Dr. Wacht

178

00:10:09,200 --> 00:10:13,360

visited the stairwell where Jack's body was found.

179

00:10:13,360 --> 00:10:16,640

Was some students saw him first then and reported him

180

00:10:16,640 --> 00:10:18,240

through the campus?

181

00:10:18,240 --> 00:10:21,560

I realized that that body could not

182

00:10:21,560 --> 00:10:26,320

have accidentally fallen or been thrown from high up

183

00:10:26,320 --> 00:10:30,560

because he would have had eggshell, depressed type fractures.

184

00:10:30,560 --> 00:10:33,880

Similarly, it did not appear that he had stumbled down

185

00:10:33,880 --> 00:10:40,120

the steps because there was no pattern of abrasions

186

00:10:40,120 --> 00:10:42,320

and bruises, contusions.

187

00:10:42,320 --> 00:10:44,240

And so that did not fit.

188

00:10:44,240 --> 00:10:46,520

I wonder, Ms. Montgomery, if we could possibly

189

00:10:46,520 --> 00:10:50,080

get into the building and see from that second floor

190

00:10:50,080 --> 00:10:52,440

or even the third and fourth floors

191

00:10:52,440 --> 00:10:54,600

whether one can look out.

192

00:10:54,600 --> 00:10:57,240

And then if one did, whether you would

193

00:10:57,240 --> 00:11:00,000

be able to look down here.

194

00:11:00,520 --> 00:11:03,240

Yeah, you can see very clearly.

195

00:11:03,240 --> 00:11:06,120

And if you should look down, you certainly

196

00:11:06,120 --> 00:11:09,840

can see directly there an average height.

197

00:11:09,840 --> 00:11:12,240

Approximately 200 students were in rooms

198

00:11:12,240 --> 00:11:14,240

overlooking the stairwell during the days

199

00:11:14,240 --> 00:11:16,720

Jack supposedly lay below.

200

00:11:16,720 --> 00:11:19,720

However, not one person reported seeing the body.

201

00:11:22,480 --> 00:11:25,600

There was one final problem with the official scenario,

202

00:11:25,600 --> 00:11:26,840

the weather.

203

00:11:26,840 --> 00:11:29,800

During the two days before Jack's body was found,

204

00:11:29,840 --> 00:11:33,120

heavy rain fell on the campus.

205

00:11:33,120 --> 00:11:37,040

Jack's clothes were not wet.

206

00:11:37,040 --> 00:11:39,600

We had a real problem in explaining

207

00:11:39,600 --> 00:11:44,080

how Jack could have been lying there for all those days

208

00:11:44,080 --> 00:11:47,800

in rainwater with dry clothes.

209

00:11:47,800 --> 00:11:51,160

Well, how can that be?

210

00:11:51,160 --> 00:11:56,560

I would say it is more likely that Jack Davis died elsewhere

211

00:11:56,560 --> 00:12:00,240

or was injured elsewhere or was dying elsewhere

212

00:12:00,240 --> 00:12:02,600

and then was placed at the bottom of those steps.

213

00:12:02,600 --> 00:12:06,120

I base this upon the known facts.

214

00:12:06,120 --> 00:12:08,920

Dr. Weck's critical findings convinced authorities

215

00:12:08,920 --> 00:12:13,760

to reopen the case in October of 1990.

216

00:12:13,760 --> 00:12:16,200

Really nothing new came of it.

217

00:12:16,200 --> 00:12:21,160

And at that point, the investigation was closed again.

218

00:12:21,160 --> 00:12:23,880

Personally, I still go along with the fact

219

00:12:23,920 --> 00:12:27,160

that he fell from up above.

220

00:12:27,160 --> 00:12:31,920

Dr. Weck's comments about the egg shelling effect,

221

00:12:31,920 --> 00:12:35,360

I'm not too sure that he couldn't have hit the side of the wall

222

00:12:35,360 --> 00:12:40,440

to begin with and broken the fall somewhat.

223

00:12:40,440 --> 00:12:42,840

And I've seen very strange things with drunks anyway,

224

00:12:42,840 --> 00:12:49,960

so nothing would be unbelievable to me.

225

00:12:49,960 --> 00:12:51,920

Some critics of the official findings

226

00:12:51,920 --> 00:12:54,560

believe Jack's death was no accident.

227

00:12:54,560 --> 00:12:56,840

Reporter Marlene Brennan theorizes

228

00:12:56,840 --> 00:12:59,640

that Jack may have been caught up in a feud between two

229

00:12:59,640 --> 00:13:02,440

rival fraternities.

230

00:13:02,440 --> 00:13:05,640

Some students report that there were up to five fights

231

00:13:05,640 --> 00:13:06,760

that night.

232

00:13:06,760 --> 00:13:09,560

And it could be possible that he was involved in one of them

233

00:13:09,560 --> 00:13:10,840

and he was injured.

234

00:13:10,840 --> 00:13:14,160

And someone didn't know what to do with him,

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00:13:14,160 --> 00:13:17,360

so they kept him somewhere thinking that he might get better

236

00:13:17,360 --> 00:13:19,280

or whatever, and he didn't.

237

00:13:19,280 --> 00:13:21,520

And then they moved him to the stairwell.

238

00:13:21,520 --> 00:13:23,720

I believe somebody out there does know something,

239

00:13:23,720 --> 00:13:28,760

and I'm hoping that perhaps with continuing inquiries

240

00:13:28,760 --> 00:13:31,760

by the family and friends, perhaps

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00:13:31,760 --> 00:13:34,760

through the presentation of this show and so on,

242

00:13:34,760 --> 00:13:37,280

who knows that somebody may step forward.

243

00:13:40,720 --> 00:13:42,720

At eleven, Jack Davis would have graduated

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00:13:42,720 --> 00:13:46,080

with 2,700 other students in the class of 1989

245

00:13:46,080 --> 00:13:49,440

at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

246

00:13:49,440 --> 00:13:51,160

Cyril Wecht is convinced that among them

247

00:13:51,160 --> 00:13:53,280

is at least one person who knows what really

248

00:13:53,280 --> 00:13:56,920

happened to Jack Davis Jr. Perhaps the time has finally

249

00:13:56,920 --> 00:14:00,840

come to set the record straight.

250

00:14:00,840 --> 00:14:04,360

Next, a remarkable tale of psychic communication

251

00:14:04,360 --> 00:14:05,520

from beyond the grave.

252

00:14:14,480 --> 00:14:18,080

You're about to meet three very unusual investigators,

253

00:14:18,120 --> 00:14:21,320

genealogists who spent years digging through dusty old books

254

00:14:21,320 --> 00:14:25,280

and papers, trying to piece together their family histories.

255

00:14:25,280 --> 00:14:27,680

It may sound dry, but these three claim

256

00:14:27,680 --> 00:14:29,280

that in the course of their research,

257

00:14:29,280 --> 00:14:32,160

they were guided by mysterious forces.

258

00:14:32,160 --> 00:14:35,600

Perhaps the spirits of their ancestors, long dead

259

00:14:35,600 --> 00:14:36,520

and long forgotten.

260

00:14:36,520 --> 00:14:49,960

On a rainy afternoon in 1948, curiosity

261

00:14:49,960 --> 00:14:54,040

got the best of an eight-year-old boy named Hank Jones.

262

00:14:54,040 --> 00:14:57,040

His basement held a most tempting mystery,

263

00:14:57,040 --> 00:14:59,880

an old steamer trunk filled with unknown relics.

264

00:15:07,120 --> 00:15:10,600

I opened the lid, and inside was just a treasure trove

265

00:15:10,600 --> 00:15:12,920

of material on our family.

266

00:15:12,920 --> 00:15:17,600

Old photographs, old letters, documents, old wills and deeds.

267

00:15:20,240 --> 00:15:23,400

I never knew any of my grandparents, except my mother's

268

00:15:23,400 --> 00:15:26,240

mother, and in a sense, by seeing their pictures,

269

00:15:26,240 --> 00:15:29,160

by reading their diaries, by looking at their letters,

270

00:15:29,160 --> 00:15:30,440

they came alive to me.

271

00:15:30,440 --> 00:15:32,800

They became the grandparents I never knew.

272

00:15:32,800 --> 00:15:34,800

And I don't know what it was, but it

273

00:15:34,800 --> 00:15:36,760

lit a spark inside me at the age of eight.

274

00:15:36,760 --> 00:15:39,360

And ever since that time, I've been climbing the family tree,

275

00:15:39,360 --> 00:15:41,640

trying to find out as much as I could about my ancestry.

276

00:15:44,320 --> 00:15:47,840

On that chilly day, when he first peered into the old trunk,

277

00:15:47,840 --> 00:15:50,640

Hank had no idea he had just set the course

278

00:15:50,640 --> 00:15:53,840

for the rest of his life.

279

00:15:53,840 --> 00:15:56,760

Today, some 46 years later, Hank Jones

280

00:15:56,760 --> 00:15:58,920

is the author of a book, *Psychic Roots*,

281

00:15:58,960 --> 00:16:01,600

and one of the country's leading genealogists,

282

00:16:01,600 --> 00:16:06,560

devoted to piecing together long lost family trees.

283

00:16:06,560 --> 00:16:08,360

Tracing his own family has proved

284

00:16:08,360 --> 00:16:10,960

one of the most difficult challenges.

285

00:16:10,960 --> 00:16:13,960

Hank is descended from a hearty band of German immigrants

286

00:16:13,960 --> 00:16:17,120

known as Palatines.

287

00:16:17,120 --> 00:16:19,320

The Palatines were one of the biggest immigrations

288

00:16:19,320 --> 00:16:20,840

we've ever had to the New World.

289

00:16:20,840 --> 00:16:22,440

And this one little branch of mine

290

00:16:22,440 --> 00:16:24,640

started out for the New World, but they ended up in Ireland

291

00:16:24,640 --> 00:16:25,640

in 1760.

292

00:16:25,640 --> 00:16:27,720

And they ended up in the United States,

293

00:16:27,720 --> 00:16:30,160

ended up in Ireland in 1789, rather than coming onto New

294

00:16:30,160 --> 00:16:33,360

York with all the rest of them.

295

00:16:33,360 --> 00:16:36,120

Although his own ancestors had gone to Ireland,

296

00:16:36,120 --> 00:16:39,360

Hank found himself intrigued by a man named Johan Dietrich

297

00:16:39,360 --> 00:16:43,840

Schneider, who belonged to a group of 847 other Palatine

298

00:16:43,840 --> 00:16:47,560

families who had journeyed to New York.

299

00:16:47,560 --> 00:16:50,800

I don't know why, but I felt this almost obsession

300

00:16:50,800 --> 00:16:52,640

to find out more about them.

301

00:16:52,640 --> 00:16:55,400

So I hired a lady named Carla Middelsted Kubicek

302

00:16:55,400 --> 00:16:57,480

to go village to village for me, looking for all these

303

00:16:57,480 --> 00:16:58,880

families in Germany.

304

00:16:58,880 --> 00:17:00,160

But we had to start somewhere, and I

305

00:17:00,160 --> 00:17:02,160

didn't know where to really tell her to start.

306

00:17:02,160 --> 00:17:05,400

And so just off the top of my head, I said, Carla,

307

00:17:05,400 --> 00:17:06,000

I don't care.

308

00:17:06,000 --> 00:17:07,600

I have no vested interest in any of them.

309

00:17:07,600 --> 00:17:10,320

But I've always been interested in a man named Dietrich Schneider,

310

00:17:10,320 --> 00:17:12,400

who came in this group to New York from Germany.

311

00:17:12,400 --> 00:17:14,720

Go look for him first.

312

00:17:14,720 --> 00:17:17,320

In a remarkable turn of events, Hank later

313

00:17:17,320 --> 00:17:19,280

learned that he had picked the one person out

314

00:17:19,280 --> 00:17:24,840

of the entire migration who was actually related to him.

315

00:17:24,840 --> 00:17:26,360

I don't know how to explain that,

316

00:17:26,360 --> 00:17:30,160

but it was just the beginning of a bunch of strange coincidences,

317

00:17:30,160 --> 00:17:32,440

strange occurrences that started happening to me

318

00:17:32,440 --> 00:17:35,080

as I was studying these Palatine Germans.

319

00:17:35,080 --> 00:17:37,160

I was starting to dream about them, for instance.

320

00:17:40,840 --> 00:17:43,320

At first, the dreams were more about visions

321

00:17:43,320 --> 00:17:45,520

of the Palatine's lifestyle.

322

00:17:45,520 --> 00:17:47,280

I used to dream about them coming to America,

323

00:17:47,280 --> 00:17:48,200

and I could see the ships.

324

00:17:48,200 --> 00:17:50,600

I could see them landing, things like that.

325

00:17:50,600 --> 00:17:53,720

And then I started dreaming about particular home villages

326

00:17:53,720 --> 00:17:55,200

of certain immigrants I was looking for,

327

00:17:55,200 --> 00:17:56,680

but I hadn't found yet.

328

00:17:56,680 --> 00:18:00,280

So I decided to write down some of the places where the dreams

329

00:18:00,280 --> 00:18:01,840

suggested I look.

330

00:18:01,840 --> 00:18:05,680

And lo and behold, we found about five to seven of those families

331

00:18:05,680 --> 00:18:07,560

exactly where the dreams said they

332

00:18:07,560 --> 00:18:08,840

would be located overseas.

333

00:18:11,720 --> 00:18:13,920

Could the spirits of Hank's ancestors

334

00:18:13,920 --> 00:18:16,600

have somehow reached through the mists of time

335

00:18:16,600 --> 00:18:19,800

to lead him to places he would never have fought to investigate?

336

00:18:20,480 --> 00:18:23,240

Hank became convinced that was precisely the case.

337

00:18:23,240 --> 00:18:25,520

He sent out letters to other genealogists

338

00:18:25,520 --> 00:18:28,280

to see if anyone else had had a similar experience.

339

00:18:31,880 --> 00:18:35,400

Well, I got 200 responses, and practically every response

340

00:18:35,400 --> 00:18:37,960

started with, I know what you mean.

341

00:18:37,960 --> 00:18:41,760

Or yes, yes, you struck a familiar chord.

342

00:18:41,760 --> 00:18:44,640

And then they would relate these unbelievable experiences

343

00:18:44,640 --> 00:18:47,160

that had happened to them when they were doing their genealogies.

344

00:18:47,960 --> 00:18:49,360

One of the most intriguing responses

345

00:18:49,360 --> 00:18:52,800

came from Dr. David Fox, a forensic psychologist

346

00:18:52,800 --> 00:18:55,440

in Ontario, Canada.

347

00:18:55,440 --> 00:18:57,600

In studying his bloodlines, David

348

00:18:57,600 --> 00:19:00,720

became fascinated by his great-great-grandfather,

349

00:19:00,720 --> 00:19:03,000

Charles Fox.

350

00:19:03,000 --> 00:19:05,360

David learned that Charles had been a sergeant of the British

351

00:19:05,360 --> 00:19:09,200

Army in the mid-1800s during the great colonial campaigns

352

00:19:09,200 --> 00:19:12,360

in India and Pakistan.

353

00:19:12,360 --> 00:19:13,920

Despite unknown circumstances, he

354

00:19:13,960 --> 00:19:16,640

had no idea what his great-great-grandfather might

355

00:19:16,640 --> 00:19:19,280

have looked like until he began to have

356

00:19:19,280 --> 00:19:22,720

a strange, recurring vision.

357

00:19:22,720 --> 00:19:25,320

First of all, I pictured him.

358

00:19:25,320 --> 00:19:29,720

I pictured him in his military uniform, his red coat,

359

00:19:29,720 --> 00:19:32,680

the buttons, and perhaps medals.

360

00:19:32,680 --> 00:19:35,880

And then the picture, over time, started

361

00:19:35,880 --> 00:19:39,880

to include his what-is-his-name, his bloodline,

362

00:19:39,880 --> 00:19:42,840

his bloodline, his bloodline.

363

00:19:43,400 --> 00:19:48,760

His wife and his child, who would be my great-grandfather.

364

00:19:48,760 --> 00:19:51,840

And I thought, well, this is very strange,

365

00:19:51,840 --> 00:19:56,160

because the probability of such a picture existing

366

00:19:56,160 --> 00:19:59,160

is so remote, so infinitesimal, you might as well

367

00:19:59,160 --> 00:20:03,120

say zero probability.

368

00:20:03,120 --> 00:20:06,360

In 1987, David and a friend traveled to England

369

00:20:06,360 --> 00:20:08,080

in search of additional information

370

00:20:08,080 --> 00:20:10,040

about David's ancestors.

371

00:20:10,040 --> 00:20:12,120

I want to go look at those figurines.

372

00:20:12,120 --> 00:20:12,760

Right.

373

00:20:12,760 --> 00:20:14,800

I'll see you outside in half an hour.

374

00:20:14,800 --> 00:20:17,200

OK.

375

00:20:17,200 --> 00:20:20,520

Towards the end of the trip, they stopped at the Norwich Castle,

376

00:20:20,520 --> 00:20:24,400

a popular museum and art gallery in Charles Fox's hometown.

377

00:20:27,720 --> 00:20:30,360

I just wandered from room to room in the castle,

378

00:20:30,360 --> 00:20:32,600

aimlessly, I thought.

379

00:20:32,600 --> 00:20:36,040

And just as I was entering the doorway to one room,

380

00:20:36,040 --> 00:20:39,680

I noticed ahead of me was a very, very large portrait that

381

00:20:39,720 --> 00:20:42,320

just stood out almost three-dimensional.

382

00:20:42,320 --> 00:20:43,640

I was awestruck.

383

00:20:43,640 --> 00:20:45,960

It was like the little hairs on the nape of my neck

384

00:20:45,960 --> 00:20:48,960

were just standing up.

385

00:20:48,960 --> 00:20:52,000

I had pictured an item somewhat similar to this,

386

00:20:52,000 --> 00:20:53,520

or very similar to this.

387

00:20:53,520 --> 00:20:58,520

And there, there it was, right before my eyes.

388

00:20:58,520 --> 00:21:00,760

Incredibly, David says the painting

389

00:21:00,760 --> 00:21:03,400

was a same family portrait in his recurring vision.

390

00:21:06,200 --> 00:21:08,520

The painting was completed by one Frederick

391

00:21:08,520 --> 00:21:12,640

Sandys in the year 1860.

392

00:21:12,640 --> 00:21:16,400

And my great-grandfather, being born in 1857,

393

00:21:16,400 --> 00:21:18,880

would have been three in 1860.

394

00:21:18,880 --> 00:21:20,600

The woman in the picture was very much

395

00:21:20,600 --> 00:21:22,680

younger than the older soldier.

396

00:21:22,680 --> 00:21:27,200

And I knew that Sergeant Charles Fox's wife

397

00:21:27,200 --> 00:21:29,800

was 13 years his junior.

398

00:21:29,800 --> 00:21:34,040

And the old gentleman was a sergeant.

399

00:21:34,040 --> 00:21:36,800

There were three stripes on his right arm.

400

00:21:36,800 --> 00:21:39,320

And most curiously and interestingly,

401

00:21:39,320 --> 00:21:43,960

he had three ribbons on his left breast.

402

00:21:43,960 --> 00:21:46,800

And I realized that my own ancestor probably

403

00:21:46,800 --> 00:21:49,920

did win a number of medals when he was overseas.

404

00:21:49,920 --> 00:21:54,880

But at that point, I didn't know which ones.

405

00:21:54,880 --> 00:21:56,960

When David returned home, he immediately

406

00:21:56,960 --> 00:22:00,240

began searching for confirmation that the man in the portrait

407

00:22:00,240 --> 00:22:01,760

was indeed his ancestor.

408

00:22:04,440 --> 00:22:06,440

David learned that the medals in the painting

409

00:22:06,480 --> 00:22:10,720

had been awarded for the Sutledge Campaign, the Punjab Campaign,

410

00:22:10,720 --> 00:22:14,320

and for long service and good conduct.

411

00:22:14,320 --> 00:22:17,800

Those same three medals had been awarded to David's great-great

412

00:22:17,800 --> 00:22:21,800

grandfather, Sergeant Charles Fox.

413

00:22:21,800 --> 00:22:24,920

It's almost as if my head became fuzzy at that time,

414

00:22:24,920 --> 00:22:29,680

because I thought, this is quite incredible.

415

00:22:29,680 --> 00:22:32,680

I had an image, the image in mind,

416

00:22:32,680 --> 00:22:35,640

that was translated into something there, something

417

00:22:35,640 --> 00:22:37,360

three-dimensional.

418

00:22:37,360 --> 00:22:40,760

And again, to have the fantasy and reality merge in this way,

419

00:22:40,760 --> 00:22:44,000

I find most exceedingly curious.

420

00:22:44,000 --> 00:22:45,920

The best thing about it is that you

421

00:22:45,920 --> 00:22:49,040

have a feeling that your ancestors care about you,

422

00:22:49,040 --> 00:22:50,520

that they really want to be found.

423

00:22:50,520 --> 00:22:54,280

It's a sense of reuniting.

424

00:22:54,280 --> 00:22:58,240

Carol Montrose of New Albany, Ohio would certainly agree.

425

00:22:58,240 --> 00:23:00,160

While researching her family tree,

426

00:23:00,160 --> 00:23:02,040

Carol became particularly intrigued

427

00:23:02,040 --> 00:23:04,800

with a woman named Catherine Reddish Stegmeier, who

428

00:23:04,800 --> 00:23:07,680

she believed might be her great-great aunt.

429

00:23:07,680 --> 00:23:11,040

But Carol was unable to find the date of Catherine's death

430

00:23:11,040 --> 00:23:14,160

or her final resting place.

431

00:23:14,160 --> 00:23:15,760

Gino, hurry, look.

432

00:23:15,760 --> 00:23:18,800

Then in the fall of 1988, Carol and her son

433

00:23:18,800 --> 00:23:21,960

were searching through cemeteries in Northwestern Ohio

434

00:23:21,960 --> 00:23:25,040

when they came upon a hot air balloon in flight.

435

00:23:25,040 --> 00:23:26,040

Can we follow it?

436

00:23:26,040 --> 00:23:26,540

Sure.

437

00:23:29,480 --> 00:23:31,320

Let's go over that way.

438

00:23:31,320 --> 00:23:33,600

So all of a sudden, there was a road on my right,

439

00:23:33,600 --> 00:23:36,960

and I turned, and we're sort of following the balloon

440

00:23:36,960 --> 00:23:38,080

at this point.

441

00:23:38,080 --> 00:23:40,800

And it came down so low that it actually

442

00:23:40,800 --> 00:23:43,320

clipped the top of the trees.

443

00:23:43,320 --> 00:23:45,760

And all of a sudden, I saw this church

444

00:23:45,760 --> 00:23:47,760

with a cemetery across the street,

445

00:23:47,760 --> 00:23:50,160

and the balloon appeared to be landing in the back

446

00:23:50,160 --> 00:23:52,600

behind the church.

447

00:23:52,600 --> 00:23:53,120

Gino, look.

448

00:23:53,120 --> 00:23:57,160

I think it's going to land over by that church.

449

00:23:57,160 --> 00:24:00,560

But instead of landing, the balloon took flight again.

450

00:24:00,560 --> 00:24:03,440

Carol now believes that the spirit of her great-great aunt

451

00:24:03,480 --> 00:24:06,880

had guided her to follow the balloon to this remote church

452

00:24:06,880 --> 00:24:08,920

150 miles from her home.

453

00:24:14,120 --> 00:24:15,680

I'll be right back.

454

00:24:15,680 --> 00:24:18,640

I thought that it wouldn't hurt to check the cemetery,

455

00:24:18,640 --> 00:24:23,280

even though I had never really considered any of the family

456

00:24:23,280 --> 00:24:26,640

having been buried there.

457

00:24:26,640 --> 00:24:30,040

Almost at the front row was Frederick Stegmeier,

458

00:24:30,040 --> 00:24:32,120

a child of Kate.

459

00:24:32,120 --> 00:24:33,640

And I was ecstatic.

460

00:24:33,640 --> 00:24:37,200

I mean, I knew that I was in, at least, in the right area.

461

00:24:41,640 --> 00:24:44,640

Carol ventured farther into the cemetery.

462

00:24:44,640 --> 00:24:49,720

There on the back row was the grave she had been looking for.

463

00:24:49,720 --> 00:24:53,400

It was so amazing, so strange.

464

00:24:53,400 --> 00:24:55,600

I can't say for sure Kate was trying to help me,

465

00:24:55,600 --> 00:24:57,480

but I sure feel like she was.

466

00:24:58,160 --> 00:25:03,120

I believe it's very possible that the spirits of our ancestors,

467

00:25:03,120 --> 00:25:05,520

in some way, are directing us in our searches.

468

00:25:05,520 --> 00:25:07,000

They want to be found.

469

00:25:07,000 --> 00:25:08,120

They want to be found.

470

00:25:08,120 --> 00:25:09,960

And they may give us little subtle clues

471

00:25:09,960 --> 00:25:11,320

along the way of how to do it.

472

00:25:11,320 --> 00:25:14,160

They may somehow open some doors for us

473

00:25:14,160 --> 00:25:15,880

as we do our genealogy.

474

00:25:15,880 --> 00:25:17,160

I'm very open to that.

475

00:25:20,600 --> 00:25:23,760

Did mysterious psychic forces somehow lead Hank, David,

476

00:25:23,760 --> 00:25:25,720

and Carol to their ancestors' graves?

477

00:25:26,160 --> 00:25:28,800

Or is it all just a coincidence?

478

00:25:28,800 --> 00:25:32,080

Whatever the case, if you happen to be studying your family

479

00:25:32,080 --> 00:25:35,760

tree and you get that odd feeling to visit one more library

480

00:25:35,760 --> 00:25:39,640

or open one last book, or even follow a hot air balloon,

481

00:25:39,640 --> 00:25:41,120

take heed.

482

00:25:41,120 --> 00:25:43,520

Perhaps you are being guided by the spirit

483

00:25:43,520 --> 00:25:45,000

of one of your ancestors.

484

00:25:50,160 --> 00:25:53,120

When we return, a young woman has

485

00:25:53,200 --> 00:25:55,920

disappeared and may be hitchhiking around the country

486

00:25:55,920 --> 00:25:56,800

lost and alone.

487

00:26:04,480 --> 00:26:06,840

OK, take it out.

488

00:26:06,840 --> 00:26:11,640

August 10, 1993, just east of Mendocino, California,

489

00:26:11,640 --> 00:26:16,200

in a remote corner of Redwood Forest, an incongruous site.

490

00:26:16,200 --> 00:26:19,400

A shiny red car has been found stuck in the mud.

491

00:26:20,400 --> 00:26:22,400

The car radio has been ripped out.

492

00:26:22,400 --> 00:26:24,760

There are minute traces of blood on the dashboard

493

00:26:24,760 --> 00:26:29,560

in the front seat, along with shredded identification papers.

494

00:26:29,560 --> 00:26:33,240

A few torn up photographs are scattered nearby.

495

00:26:33,240 --> 00:26:36,560

The scene appears to bear all the earmarks of foul play,

496

00:26:36,560 --> 00:26:39,680

but in this case, nothing is as it appears.

497

00:26:43,360 --> 00:26:46,560

The shredded IDs were traced to 22 years ago.

498

00:26:47,520 --> 00:26:51,040

The shredded IDs were traced to 22-year-old Christy Krebs,

499

00:26:51,040 --> 00:26:53,520

an aspiring chef who worked at two different restaurants

500

00:26:53,520 --> 00:26:57,000

in Fort Bragg, California, seven miles from the spot

501

00:26:57,000 --> 00:26:59,160

where her car was found.

502

00:26:59,160 --> 00:27:01,400

Christy lived with her parents and two younger brothers

503

00:27:01,400 --> 00:27:02,960

in Fort Bragg.

504

00:27:02,960 --> 00:27:05,760

And for Christy's parents, the entire scenario

505

00:27:05,760 --> 00:27:07,440

had an eerily familiar ring.

506

00:27:11,920 --> 00:27:15,200

Christy Krebs graduated from high school in 1989

507

00:27:15,240 --> 00:27:19,880

and went to work full-time in a local restaurant.

508

00:27:19,880 --> 00:27:23,000

She was cheerful and upbeat and worked tirelessly.

509

00:27:23,000 --> 00:27:25,840

But she also developed an unrealistic obsession

510

00:27:25,840 --> 00:27:27,560

about a married man she worked with.

511

00:27:32,640 --> 00:27:35,240

On April 30, 1990, Christy became

512

00:27:35,240 --> 00:27:39,760

unnaturally euphoric, fantasizing, and imaginary wedding.

513

00:27:39,760 --> 00:27:42,920

She drove aimlessly for hours and lost her way on a country

514

00:27:42,920 --> 00:27:43,960

road.

515

00:27:43,960 --> 00:27:47,000

The car she was driving became hopelessly stuck in the mud.

516

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

I have to get out of here.

517

00:28:10,840 --> 00:28:12,320

Why are you doing this again?

518

00:28:14,400 --> 00:28:15,360

Oh, no.

519

00:28:15,360 --> 00:28:16,340

Oh, no.

520

00:28:16,340 --> 00:28:17,320

Oh, my god.

521

00:28:17,320 --> 00:28:18,220

Oh, my god.

522

00:28:18,220 --> 00:28:18,720

Oh, my god.

523

00:28:18,720 --> 00:28:19,700

Oh, my god.

524

00:28:35,200 --> 00:28:38,840

When Christy's car was found, it looked like this.

525

00:28:38,840 --> 00:28:42,480

The interior had been totally destroyed by flames.

526

00:28:43,040 --> 00:28:46,000

The fire was an almost unheard of freak occurrence, which

527

00:28:46,000 --> 00:28:49,240

apparently triggered in Christy a traumatic mental breakdown.

528

00:28:54,000 --> 00:28:56,600

The morning after the incident, railroad workers

529

00:28:56,600 --> 00:29:00,080

were alarmed by the sight of a dazed and disoriented young woman

530

00:29:00,080 --> 00:29:02,520

wandering along the tracks.

531

00:29:02,520 --> 00:29:04,800

One of the workmen recognized Christy

532

00:29:04,800 --> 00:29:06,720

and telephoned her mother and father,

533

00:29:06,720 --> 00:29:10,320

who immediately picked her up.

534

00:29:10,320 --> 00:29:13,320

Initially, we thought things were OK.

535

00:29:13,320 --> 00:29:16,040

But as we were driving back into town,

536

00:29:16,040 --> 00:29:19,960

the behavior we were getting from her was very bizarre,

537

00:29:19,960 --> 00:29:24,920

chanting and patting her, doing very weird things.

538

00:29:24,920 --> 00:29:27,680

And I just looked at my wife and said, we're not going home.

539

00:29:27,680 --> 00:29:28,680

We're going to the hospital.

540

00:29:31,320 --> 00:29:32,720

I remember in the examining room,

541

00:29:32,720 --> 00:29:35,640

she was still acting very, very strange.

542

00:29:35,640 --> 00:29:41,080

And for the first week to 10 days, at least,

543

00:29:41,080 --> 00:29:42,560

she was really incoherent.

544

00:29:47,120 --> 00:29:51,800

We wondered if she was ever going to be the same again.

545

00:29:51,800 --> 00:29:55,280

At first, they thought that she might have been on drugs,

546

00:29:55,280 --> 00:29:58,960

but they were able to test her and see

547

00:29:58,960 --> 00:30:03,480

that there were no drugs in her system.

548

00:30:03,480 --> 00:30:04,280

Hi, kiddo.

549

00:30:04,280 --> 00:30:05,280

Hi, Christy.

550

00:30:05,320 --> 00:30:06,840

Over the next few months, Christy

551

00:30:06,840 --> 00:30:10,440

was in and out of the hospital four different times.

552

00:30:10,440 --> 00:30:13,080

Eventually, she was diagnosed as having experienced

553

00:30:13,080 --> 00:30:16,360

a psychotic trauma-related break.

554

00:30:16,360 --> 00:30:16,760

What?

555

00:30:16,760 --> 00:30:17,640

Why are you doing that?

556

00:30:17,640 --> 00:30:18,240

My car.

557

00:30:18,240 --> 00:30:19,120

My keys.

558

00:30:19,120 --> 00:30:20,040

Your car's OK.

559

00:30:20,040 --> 00:30:21,800

It's all right, Christy.

560

00:30:21,800 --> 00:30:24,160

Christy's parents feared the worst.

561

00:30:24,160 --> 00:30:25,920

But after therapy and drug treatment,

562

00:30:25,920 --> 00:30:28,080

Christy made rapid progress.

563

00:30:28,080 --> 00:30:30,080

She was released from the hospital for good

564

00:30:30,080 --> 00:30:32,760

some six months after the car fire.

565

00:30:32,760 --> 00:30:34,920

An occupational therapist had recommended

566

00:30:34,960 --> 00:30:37,160

the Christy work, but only part-time.

567

00:30:37,160 --> 00:30:38,560

And good luck to all of you.

568

00:30:38,560 --> 00:30:41,240

Stay.

569

00:30:41,240 --> 00:30:43,560

I think it was suggested she worked 20 hours a week

570

00:30:43,560 --> 00:30:44,720

to start with.

571

00:30:44,720 --> 00:30:46,840

And she did incredibly well.

572

00:30:46,840 --> 00:30:48,360

And she was very proud of herself.

573

00:30:48,360 --> 00:30:51,840

And she got herself a second job at a local fast food

574

00:30:51,840 --> 00:30:52,960

restaurant.

575

00:30:52,960 --> 00:30:55,560

Both jobs were calling her in more and more.

576

00:30:55,560 --> 00:30:58,360

And there were often days when she would work five or six

577

00:30:58,360 --> 00:31:00,240

hours at each job.

578

00:31:00,240 --> 00:31:04,120

And that would get her anywhere from a 10 to a 12-hour day,

579

00:31:04,120 --> 00:31:06,440

plus in between the two jobs, she was often

580

00:31:06,440 --> 00:31:08,280

going to the health club and exercising

581

00:31:08,280 --> 00:31:09,680

and trying to keep her weight down.

582

00:31:12,400 --> 00:31:14,360

Three years went by.

583

00:31:14,360 --> 00:31:18,320

Christy's parents became very concerned about her manic pace.

584

00:31:18,320 --> 00:31:20,800

Yet Christy insisted she was OK.

585

00:31:20,800 --> 00:31:24,240

Right up to the night, she disappeared.

586

00:31:24,240 --> 00:31:25,160

Here you go.

587

00:31:25,160 --> 00:31:25,960

Great.

588

00:31:25,960 --> 00:31:26,960

Thank you.

589

00:31:26,960 --> 00:31:29,120

The manager of the pizza parlor indicated

590

00:31:29,120 --> 00:31:33,280

that she was extremely hyper, was extremely happy,

591

00:31:33,280 --> 00:31:36,560

much, much happier than she'd been in a long time.

592

00:31:36,560 --> 00:31:38,720

And at one point, the manager of the pizza parlor

593

00:31:38,720 --> 00:31:41,880

had asked her why she was so happy, which was somewhat

594

00:31:41,880 --> 00:31:43,240

unusual.

595

00:31:43,240 --> 00:31:47,720

And Christy apparently responded that it's not what you think

596

00:31:47,720 --> 00:31:48,840

and went on about her work.

597

00:31:51,560 --> 00:31:55,280

That night, August 9, 1993, Christy left work

598

00:31:55,280 --> 00:31:57,080

still in high spirits.

599

00:31:57,080 --> 00:31:59,560

She said she was going straight home.

600

00:31:59,560 --> 00:32:01,440

But she was next seen in the parking lot

601

00:32:01,440 --> 00:32:03,400

of a nearby public beach.

602

00:32:03,400 --> 00:32:05,920

Her arranger spoke to her about 15 minutes

603

00:32:05,920 --> 00:32:07,400

before closing time.

604

00:32:07,400 --> 00:32:08,760

Is everything OK?

605

00:32:08,760 --> 00:32:12,600

Yeah, I just came for more to relax here, if that's OK.

606

00:32:12,600 --> 00:32:13,880

Yeah, that's fine.

607

00:32:13,880 --> 00:32:16,600

I just wanted to make sure you knew this wasn't an overnight

608

00:32:16,600 --> 00:32:18,080

lot.

609

00:32:18,080 --> 00:32:18,760

Yeah.

610

00:32:18,760 --> 00:32:21,840

Is it OK if I stay here for a while?

611

00:32:21,840 --> 00:32:24,440

The ranger was the last person to see Christy

612

00:32:24,440 --> 00:32:26,560

before she disappeared.

613

00:32:26,560 --> 00:32:28,040

Thanks.

614

00:32:28,040 --> 00:32:31,920

He said that she seemed fairly normal.

615

00:32:31,920 --> 00:32:34,600

She then went from there back, apparently back

616

00:32:34,600 --> 00:32:37,760

through Fort Bragg, traveling south,

617

00:32:37,760 --> 00:32:41,720

and headed toward the town of Mendocino.

618

00:32:41,720 --> 00:32:44,960

At some point, Christy turned onto a small country road

619

00:32:44,960 --> 00:32:47,520

and then veered onto a dirt road.

620

00:32:47,520 --> 00:32:50,040

She ended up here, just seven miles

621

00:32:50,040 --> 00:32:53,720

from a spot where the car fire had occurred, once again,

622

00:32:53,720 --> 00:32:57,200

deep in the redwoods, once again, stuck in the mud.

623

00:32:59,040 --> 00:33:09,200

I think that she probably had flashbacks to 1990.

624

00:33:09,200 --> 00:33:11,600

It was like reliving that nightmare.

625

00:33:11,600 --> 00:33:16,320

And all of that, I think, just overloaded all the circuits.

626

00:33:16,320 --> 00:33:18,280

Ah, ah, ah.

627

00:33:18,280 --> 00:33:19,280

Ah, ah, ah.

628

00:33:19,720 --> 00:33:21,200

Ah, ah, ah.

629

00:33:25,840 --> 00:33:28,240

Christy's father believes that his daughter suffered

630

00:33:28,240 --> 00:33:31,000

another psychotic break, perhaps even

631

00:33:31,000 --> 00:33:33,720

wandering into a creek as she tried desperately

632

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

to deal with a bizarre repetition of her earlier trauma.

633

00:33:40,240 --> 00:33:42,040

In my mind, the last thing she did,

634

00:33:42,040 --> 00:33:44,760

she went through her wallet in total frustration,

635

00:33:44,760 --> 00:33:47,240

whether she's looking at pictures of family and friends.

636

00:33:47,240 --> 00:33:48,240

She ripped them all up.

637

00:33:48,240 --> 00:33:50,960

She whipped them up and scattered them around.

638

00:33:50,960 --> 00:33:52,400

Whether she was destroying her pass

639

00:33:52,400 --> 00:33:55,720

and trying to get away from it, I really don't know.

640

00:34:01,400 --> 00:34:04,160

The next morning, a full-scale search was launched,

641

00:34:04,160 --> 00:34:07,280

but no trace of Christy Krebs could be found.

642

00:34:07,280 --> 00:34:09,120

Over the next few months, however,

643

00:34:09,120 --> 00:34:12,680

several sightings were reported from Texas to Salt Lake City,

644

00:34:12,680 --> 00:34:14,160

Utah.

645

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

One sighting in California seemed extremely promising.

646

00:34:18,880 --> 00:34:27,320

On June 30, 1994, an off-duty highway worker named Mike Case

647

00:34:27,320 --> 00:34:31,080

stopped to pick up a hitchhiker near Visalia, California,

648

00:34:31,080 --> 00:34:34,800

300 miles south of the spot where Christy's car was abandoned.

649

00:34:41,400 --> 00:34:44,000

It seemed to me that she didn't have it all there.

650

00:34:44,000 --> 00:34:49,200

At first, I thought possibly she was on some type of drugs.

651

00:34:49,200 --> 00:34:53,240

But talking with her a little bit at the beginning,

652

00:34:53,240 --> 00:35:01,240

I knew that possibly she was in a world of her own.

653

00:35:01,240 --> 00:35:03,320

What happened to your wrist there?

654

00:35:03,320 --> 00:35:05,880

I did happen to notice that on her wrist,

655

00:35:05,880 --> 00:35:08,920

there was two slash marks on her wrist.

656

00:35:08,920 --> 00:35:13,440

And I asked her directly, what happened there?

657

00:35:13,480 --> 00:35:14,800

And she said I had a breakdown.

658

00:35:17,600 --> 00:35:19,240

I had a boyfriend.

659

00:35:19,240 --> 00:35:21,080

It wasn't very nice.

660

00:35:21,080 --> 00:35:23,040

Over the course of 90 minutes, the girl

661

00:35:23,040 --> 00:35:25,080

talked about several things which would later

662

00:35:25,080 --> 00:35:27,400

ring true to Christy's parents.

663

00:35:27,400 --> 00:35:30,360

A boyfriend who seemed fiction, a desire

664

00:35:30,360 --> 00:35:33,440

to visit San Jose where she once had relatives,

665

00:35:33,440 --> 00:35:35,280

and especially her love of the ocean.

666

00:35:38,240 --> 00:35:39,960

In fact, Mike Case dropped her off

667

00:35:39,960 --> 00:35:42,320

at an intersection near Hanford, California,

668

00:35:42,320 --> 00:35:44,480

where she could easily hitchhike to the beach.

669

00:35:50,120 --> 00:35:53,560

A week later, Mike Case read an article in a Truckers magazine

670

00:35:53,560 --> 00:35:56,080

about Christy Krebs' disappearance.

671

00:35:56,080 --> 00:35:59,040

He contacted Christy's parents, and they immediately

672

00:35:59,040 --> 00:36:00,040

sent photographs.

673

00:36:03,040 --> 00:36:05,240

I went through several of the pictures.

674

00:36:05,240 --> 00:36:08,520

And in my personal feeling, that was the girl

675

00:36:08,520 --> 00:36:10,760

I picked up on the freeway.

676

00:36:10,760 --> 00:36:13,360

I'm positive that is her.

677

00:36:13,360 --> 00:36:14,680

I'm positive.

678

00:36:14,680 --> 00:36:15,840

And I can say that now.

679

00:36:15,840 --> 00:36:18,920

I can say it's positive.

680

00:36:18,920 --> 00:36:21,400

I believe that Christy is out there somewhere

681

00:36:21,400 --> 00:36:26,000

and that she's alive because Christy is a survivor.

682

00:36:26,000 --> 00:36:27,720

She has a lot of strength.

683

00:36:27,720 --> 00:36:29,640

She's very friendly.

684

00:36:29,640 --> 00:36:32,560

I believe that she would not be a loner,

685

00:36:32,560 --> 00:36:34,480

that she would hook up with someone,

686

00:36:34,480 --> 00:36:38,000

and that she would make sure that she got through this.

687

00:36:38,000 --> 00:36:41,240

And I really believe that she has that ability.

688

00:36:41,240 --> 00:36:44,280

We want her back home because we know that with our help,

689

00:36:44,280 --> 00:36:46,760

she can once again recover from whatever it

690

00:36:46,760 --> 00:36:48,720

is that she's going through.

691

00:36:48,720 --> 00:36:52,600

And we really hope somebody out there knows where she is

692

00:36:52,600 --> 00:36:53,880

and can help her get home.

693

00:36:53,880 --> 00:36:54,780

Here.

694

00:37:06,920 --> 00:37:09,880

When we return, the discovery of a hidden birth

695

00:37:09,880 --> 00:37:13,240

certificate prompts a man to search for his long lost brother.

696

00:37:13,240 --> 00:37:17,880

Mom and Dad's Secret Papers.

697

00:37:17,880 --> 00:37:19,840

As children, most of us knew that our parents kept

698

00:37:19,840 --> 00:37:22,400

a treasure trove of mysterious and forbidden items

699

00:37:22,400 --> 00:37:25,400

tucked away in a special box, or just out of reach

700

00:37:25,400 --> 00:37:27,080

in a bureau drawer.

701

00:37:27,080 --> 00:37:30,920

For a man named Walter Thomas, this was just such a box.

702

00:37:30,920 --> 00:37:33,880

The object of decades of curiosity.

703

00:37:33,880 --> 00:37:36,960

Just a few days after his father's death in 1999,

704

00:37:36,960 --> 00:37:39,480

the man was found in a small box.

705

00:37:39,480 --> 00:37:41,480

He was found in a small box.

706

00:37:41,480 --> 00:37:44,400

Just a few days after his father's death in 1993,

707

00:37:44,400 --> 00:37:46,840

Walter finally peeked inside and stumbled

708

00:37:46,840 --> 00:37:49,240

on a surprising unsolved mystery.

709

00:37:53,560 --> 00:37:56,440

It is a ritual that has been repeated by sons and daughters

710

00:37:56,440 --> 00:37:58,080

through the ages.

711

00:37:58,080 --> 00:38:00,000

Walter gathered the family together

712

00:38:00,000 --> 00:38:03,040

and opened his father's stash of private papers.

713

00:38:03,040 --> 00:38:08,400

It was a driver's license in 1933.

714

00:38:08,400 --> 00:38:12,080

Certificate on birth registration, for who?

715

00:38:12,080 --> 00:38:15,280

John Philip, John Thomas.

716

00:38:15,280 --> 00:38:17,920

Who the heck filtered John Thomas?

717

00:38:17,920 --> 00:38:21,720

When we came across his birth certificate,

718

00:38:21,720 --> 00:38:25,080

that was the most, it was unreal.

719

00:38:25,080 --> 00:38:27,040

I couldn't, I can't think of a word to put into it.

720

00:38:27,040 --> 00:38:28,400

It was unreal.

721

00:38:28,400 --> 00:38:29,600

I can't believe this.

722

00:38:29,600 --> 00:38:31,760

Daddy never kept anything from me.

723

00:38:31,760 --> 00:38:34,040

It was an extraordinary revelation,

724

00:38:34,040 --> 00:38:37,120

one that took Walter back to his childhood in the 1940s.

725

00:38:38,640 --> 00:38:41,160

Growing up, he had never heard so much as a whisper

726

00:38:41,160 --> 00:38:43,000

about a younger brother named Philip.

727

00:38:51,200 --> 00:38:54,440

The Thomas family made their home in West Chilly, Rhode Island.

728

00:38:54,440 --> 00:38:56,280

Dad worked in a textile mill.

729

00:38:56,280 --> 00:38:58,720

Mom looked after Walter, his younger sister,

730

00:38:58,720 --> 00:38:59,800

and younger twin brothers.

731

00:39:03,080 --> 00:39:07,040

Grandma was a frequent visitor.

732

00:39:07,080 --> 00:39:10,600

We didn't have much, but in those days, you didn't expect much.

733

00:39:10,600 --> 00:39:13,680

You just did what you had to do just to get by.

734

00:39:13,680 --> 00:39:16,360

I want to try a bottle.

735

00:39:16,360 --> 00:39:19,640

Mom was the sweetest woman you ever did meet.

736

00:39:19,640 --> 00:39:21,720

She had a heart of gold.

737

00:39:21,720 --> 00:39:25,080

Her laughter lit up the room.

738

00:39:25,080 --> 00:39:28,480

She was like a queen to us, you know?

739

00:39:28,480 --> 00:39:31,080

She was perfect in every which way she was perfect

740

00:39:31,080 --> 00:39:35,320

until her sickness came in.

741

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

The sickness had been a dark cloud over the Thomas family.

742

00:39:39,320 --> 00:39:43,640

Walter says his mother Adele suffered strange mental lapses.

743

00:39:43,640 --> 00:39:46,200

Without warning, she would wander away from home,

744

00:39:46,200 --> 00:39:49,600

trudging aimlessly through the neighborhood and beyond.

745

00:39:49,600 --> 00:39:51,680

On many occasions, Walter and his father

746

00:39:51,680 --> 00:39:55,120

would spend hours looking for her.

747

00:39:55,120 --> 00:39:57,720

When's mom going to get over this?

748

00:39:57,720 --> 00:39:59,880

I used to ask Dad that question.

749

00:39:59,880 --> 00:40:02,640

Dad, is mom ever going to get better from this?

750

00:40:02,640 --> 00:40:04,800

Is mom ever going to stop this?

751

00:40:04,800 --> 00:40:07,440

His answer was, sonny, he said it's in God's hands.

752

00:40:07,440 --> 00:40:08,340

I don't know.

753

00:40:16,280 --> 00:40:18,240

Sometimes she was happy to see us,

754

00:40:18,240 --> 00:40:20,360

and sometimes she didn't even know us.

755

00:40:20,360 --> 00:40:21,260

Mom!

756

00:40:25,240 --> 00:40:27,240

Adele?

757

00:40:27,240 --> 00:40:29,480

It's me, Walter.

758

00:40:29,480 --> 00:40:32,240

You all right?

759

00:40:32,240 --> 00:40:34,280

On several occasions, Adele's condition

760

00:40:34,280 --> 00:40:36,920

deteriorated so much that Walter seemed

761

00:40:36,920 --> 00:40:40,440

had no choice but to admit his wife to a hospital.

762

00:40:40,440 --> 00:40:44,080

The children were not allowed inside.

763

00:40:44,080 --> 00:40:46,480

And mom used to come to the window,

764

00:40:46,480 --> 00:40:48,400

and she hollered down at us, you know?

765

00:40:48,400 --> 00:40:49,800

We love you!

766

00:40:49,800 --> 00:40:51,880

Oh, honey, I love you too!

767

00:40:51,880 --> 00:40:53,480

When are you coming home?

768

00:40:53,480 --> 00:40:55,320

I'll be home soon.

769

00:40:55,320 --> 00:40:58,000

I promise you, sweetheart, I will.

770

00:40:58,000 --> 00:40:59,240

Oh, for mama, kid.

771

00:41:00,000 --> 00:41:05,000

With Adele confined to the hospital and Walter working

772

00:41:05,000 --> 00:41:08,800

long hours at the mill, Grandma looked after the children.

773

00:41:08,800 --> 00:41:11,000

Not everyone approved of the arrangement.

774

00:41:11,000 --> 00:41:11,920

Do you name Walter?

775

00:41:11,920 --> 00:41:12,840

Yes, sir.

776

00:41:12,840 --> 00:41:14,520

Walter, would you ask your two brothers and sisters

777

00:41:14,520 --> 00:41:16,000

to come out here with you, please?

778

00:41:16,000 --> 00:41:16,900

Grandma?

779

00:41:16,900 --> 00:41:18,480

Yes?

780

00:41:18,480 --> 00:41:20,560

Hello, Mrs. Thomas.

781

00:41:20,560 --> 00:41:22,320

This is the Thomas household.

782

00:41:22,320 --> 00:41:24,120

We are from the Department of Social Services,

783

00:41:24,120 --> 00:41:27,560

and we're here to take Walter, Jr., Sarah, Richard, and David

784

00:41:27,560 --> 00:41:28,600

to the agency with us.

785

00:41:28,600 --> 00:41:30,480

Inside, Walter.

786

00:41:30,480 --> 00:41:33,480

This home is unfit for these children to continue living in.

787

00:41:33,480 --> 00:41:34,840

Unfit?

788

00:41:34,840 --> 00:41:36,760

My grandmother told them, she said,

789

00:41:36,760 --> 00:41:38,680

this Thomas family is a Thomas family.

790

00:41:38,680 --> 00:41:40,640

It's going to stay a Thomas family together.

791

00:41:40,640 --> 00:41:41,640

I love these children.

792

00:41:41,640 --> 00:41:43,440

You get off my property.

793

00:41:43,440 --> 00:41:46,000

The social service agents were apparently convinced.

794

00:41:46,000 --> 00:41:47,280

My property!

795

00:41:47,280 --> 00:41:49,640

They never again bothered the Thomas family.

796

00:41:49,640 --> 00:41:50,540

Come on.

797

00:41:55,040 --> 00:41:58,840

In May of 1947, Adele recovered and spent several months

798

00:41:58,840 --> 00:42:01,000

at home with her husband and children.

799

00:42:01,000 --> 00:42:02,680

But another bout of mental illness

800

00:42:02,680 --> 00:42:06,400

set her back to the hospital with an added complication.

801

00:42:06,400 --> 00:42:09,080

Adele was pregnant with a couple's fifth child.

802

00:42:12,000 --> 00:42:16,080

Philip John Thomas was born in April of 1948.

803

00:42:16,080 --> 00:42:19,440

Given the circumstances, Walter felt he had no choice.

804

00:42:19,440 --> 00:42:23,080

Reluctantly, he and Adele gave their child up for adoption.

805

00:42:27,320 --> 00:42:30,680

Now decades later, Walter resolved to find his brother.

806

00:42:30,680 --> 00:42:34,520

But he quickly discovered that every official record was sealed.

807

00:42:34,520 --> 00:42:37,320

His story was picked up by a local newspaper.

808

00:42:37,320 --> 00:42:40,840

Then a television station set a reporter to interview Walter.

809

00:42:40,840 --> 00:42:44,000

Walter Thomas, Jr. was 13 years old when his mother.

810

00:42:44,000 --> 00:42:47,320

The broadcast would lead to a completely unexpected discovery.

811

00:42:50,440 --> 00:42:54,840

A woman named Phyllis Monroe, who lived just 35 miles from Walter,

812

00:42:54,840 --> 00:42:57,560

telephoned with the stunning news that she had known Philip

813

00:42:57,560 --> 00:42:59,080

as a child.

814

00:42:59,080 --> 00:43:01,920

Three days later, Walter and Phyllis met.

815

00:43:01,920 --> 00:43:03,680

Phyllis, is that you?

816

00:43:03,680 --> 00:43:04,600

Hi.

817

00:43:04,600 --> 00:43:05,500

You're Phyllis?

818

00:43:05,500 --> 00:43:06,880

You have to be Walter.

819

00:43:06,880 --> 00:43:07,960

You look just like Philip.

820

00:43:07,960 --> 00:43:08,880

Hi, hi, honey.

821

00:43:08,880 --> 00:43:10,440

Oh, my gosh.

822

00:43:10,440 --> 00:43:13,840

I can't describe what it felt like to meet her at the time,

823

00:43:13,840 --> 00:43:17,400

because so many things in my mind that I wanted to ask her.

824

00:43:17,400 --> 00:43:21,880

But when she seen me, she looked at me and she started to cry.

825

00:43:21,880 --> 00:43:23,400

She started to cry, oh, my god.

826

00:43:23,400 --> 00:43:29,080

I said, when I see you, she says, I see Philip, she says.

827

00:43:29,080 --> 00:43:31,960

He looked exactly like Philip to me.

828

00:43:31,960 --> 00:43:35,360

And that's all I needed.

829

00:43:35,360 --> 00:43:39,720

I didn't need no paperwork, because that was proof enough

830

00:43:39,720 --> 00:43:42,680

to me that that was Philip's brother.

831

00:43:42,680 --> 00:43:45,680

Phyllis, I found the teddy bear.

832

00:43:45,680 --> 00:43:48,520

Maybe Philip wants to play with that.

833

00:43:48,520 --> 00:43:51,160

As a child, Phyllis had grown up in a foster home

834

00:43:51,160 --> 00:43:54,960

under the care of a woman named Mary, Thankful Teft.

835

00:43:54,960 --> 00:43:57,320

One of Phyllis' foster brothers was none other

836

00:43:57,320 --> 00:43:59,360

than Philip John Thomas.

837

00:43:59,360 --> 00:44:02,240

She vividly recalls a few years they spent together.

838

00:44:02,240 --> 00:44:04,240

Get him.

839

00:44:04,240 --> 00:44:05,840

I didn't.

840

00:44:05,840 --> 00:44:08,800

When Philip came to the house for the first time,

841

00:44:08,800 --> 00:44:13,400

he was just down, just the cutest little boy.

842

00:44:13,440 --> 00:44:16,800

He had brown eyes and brown hair.

843

00:44:16,800 --> 00:44:21,000

And to me, it was like a brother.

844

00:44:21,000 --> 00:44:24,160

Even the best of foster homes are temporary arrangements.

845

00:44:24,160 --> 00:44:26,240

And it was almost certain that Philip and Phyllis

846

00:44:26,240 --> 00:44:27,720

would one day be separated.

847

00:44:30,800 --> 00:44:35,080

Parting came suddenly in July of 1953.

848

00:44:35,080 --> 00:44:36,560

Philip had been adopted.

849

00:44:44,400 --> 00:44:49,840

Philip was part of my life when he was a little boy there.

850

00:44:49,840 --> 00:44:54,640

And I know that part of my life went when he went,

851

00:44:54,640 --> 00:44:56,480

because I was so attached to him.

852

00:45:02,480 --> 00:45:05,080

Phyllis was able to share with Walter a tangible link

853

00:45:05,080 --> 00:45:08,480

to his long lost brother, this photograph of Philip

854

00:45:08,480 --> 00:45:10,280

at about three years of age.

855

00:45:11,280 --> 00:45:17,200

To find Philip will close the Thomas family together.

856

00:45:17,200 --> 00:45:20,560

It's something that I have to do for my father.

857

00:45:20,560 --> 00:45:23,080

My father left me there.

858

00:45:23,080 --> 00:45:25,160

He told me to find him.

859

00:45:25,160 --> 00:45:29,760

And not in the words, but he left it there for me

860

00:45:29,760 --> 00:45:31,560

to go after him.

861

00:45:31,560 --> 00:45:34,160

He knew I would.

862

00:45:34,160 --> 00:45:37,960

I wanted to bet no one else would have died.

863

00:45:38,720 --> 00:45:42,360

I wanted to bet knowing my father that he took that paper

864

00:45:42,360 --> 00:45:46,040

out many times and touched it and held it and prayed on it.

865

00:45:46,040 --> 00:45:49,800

And hoped that Philip would be forgiven enough

866

00:45:49,800 --> 00:45:53,480

so that he could forgive dad for what he did.

867

00:46:07,960 --> 00:46:18,680

Join me next Friday for another intriguing edition

868

00:46:18,680 --> 00:46:19,960

of Unsolved Mysteries.