

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:10,000

Tonight on Unsolved Mysteries.

2

00:00:10,000 --> 00:00:14,480

Peace, harmony, enlightenment, and 11 on timely deaths.

3

00:00:14,480 --> 00:00:18,000

This is a legacy of an obscure spiritual movement.

4

00:00:18,000 --> 00:00:20,760

When a respected young English professor joined up,

5

00:00:20,760 --> 00:00:22,800

his family became concerned.

6

00:00:22,800 --> 00:00:27,120

Now he's disappeared, and they're asking for your help.

7

00:00:27,120 --> 00:00:29,120

To Elizabeth Jesscheck, Jonathan Palmer

8

00:00:29,120 --> 00:00:31,880

was dashing, sophisticated, and fearless.

9

00:00:31,880 --> 00:00:34,000

Everything you'd expect a world-class race car

10

00:00:34,000 --> 00:00:35,560

driver to be.

11

00:00:35,560 --> 00:00:38,120

Elizabeth fell madly in love and headlong

12

00:00:38,120 --> 00:00:41,360

into a bizarre mystery.

13

00:00:41,360 --> 00:00:45,760

In Georgia, a secluded lover's lane, a burst of gunfire,

14

00:00:45,760 --> 00:00:47,720

a young couple's slaying.

15

00:00:47,720 --> 00:00:52,640

Now two witnesses disagree on the identity of the killer.

16

00:00:52,640 --> 00:00:54,960

Once upon a time, a young boy tossed a message

17

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

in a bottle into a landlocked lake.

18

00:00:57,400 --> 00:00:58,960

He never dreamed he was launching it

19

00:00:58,960 --> 00:01:02,720

on an improbable, around the world journey.

20

00:01:02,720 --> 00:01:04,960

Also tonight, an exciting update.

21

00:01:04,960 --> 00:01:07,040

See how a viewer tip thought about the capture

22

00:01:07,040 --> 00:01:09,000

of an accused killer.

23

00:01:09,000 --> 00:01:14,040

Join me, perhaps you will be able to help solve a mystery.

24

00:01:44,640 --> 00:01:46,360

My name is Rock thanks.

25

00:01:47,200 --> 00:01:50,960

I'm from STETH and I'm 23 years old.

26

00:02:01,520 --> 00:02:02,860

I'm a man and a person.

27

00:02:02,860 --> 00:02:15,620

I'm sure you've heard of my death,

28

00:02:15,620 --> 00:02:20,620

and I'm sorry to have to put you through this, this way.

29

00:02:20,620 --> 00:02:22,820

In this haunting message to his family,

30

00:02:22,820 --> 00:02:26,380

50-year-old Don Hoffman revealed he had terminal cancer.

31

00:02:26,380 --> 00:02:29,500

A diagnosis he said three different doctors had confirmed.

32

00:02:29,500 --> 00:02:34,500

He ran some tests and found that I had terminal nonoperable

33

00:02:34,500 --> 00:02:35,580

cancer.

34

00:02:35,580 --> 00:02:37,860

Just hours after making this video,

35

00:02:37,860 --> 00:02:41,620

Hoffman took his own life.

36

00:02:41,620 --> 00:02:45,820

An autopsy, however, found absolutely no trace of cancer.

37

00:02:45,820 --> 00:02:47,500

Hoffman's children have never been

38

00:02:47,500 --> 00:02:49,860

able to learn the names of his three doctors,

39

00:02:49,860 --> 00:02:52,780

or even if they existed.

40

00:02:52,780 --> 00:02:55,100

On the videotape, Don Hoffman said goodbye

41

00:02:55,100 --> 00:02:57,420

to five different family members.

42

00:02:57,420 --> 00:03:00,340

There was no farewell to the heir to Hoffman's estate,

43

00:03:00,340 --> 00:03:03,860

his second wife, Terry, founder of a spiritual movement known

44

00:03:03,860 --> 00:03:08,420

as conscious development of body, mind, and soul.

45

00:03:08,420 --> 00:03:11,300

Today, Terry Hoffman is a woman at the center of what

46

00:03:11,300 --> 00:03:15,060

some might call a circle of death.

47

00:03:15,060 --> 00:03:19,820

Among the victims, Mary Levinson, drug overdose,

48

00:03:19,820 --> 00:03:23,380

David and Glenda Goodman, shot to death, probable double

49

00:03:23,380 --> 00:03:28,540

suicide, Jill Bounds, bludgeoned to death,

50

00:03:28,540 --> 00:03:32,220

Sandy Cleaver drove off a cliff in broad daylight,

51

00:03:32,220 --> 00:03:35,100

Sandy's 14-year-old daughter, Deverell, drowned.

52

00:03:38,780 --> 00:03:43,100

11 untimely deaths, 11 people with a direct or indirect link

53

00:03:43,100 --> 00:03:45,140

to Terry Hoffman.

54

00:03:45,140 --> 00:03:46,740

Now, some believe a 12th name should

55

00:03:46,740 --> 00:03:48,940

be added to this somber list.

56

00:03:48,940 --> 00:03:52,620

Charles Southern Jr., a respected English professor,

57

00:03:52,620 --> 00:03:56,060

Southern mysteriously disappeared more than seven years ago,

58

00:03:56,060 --> 00:03:58,420

and his family believes it may be no coincidence

59

00:03:58,420 --> 00:04:00,340

that he was a disciple of Terry Hoffman.

60

00:04:03,380 --> 00:04:06,380

Call upon your master.

61

00:04:06,380 --> 00:04:07,660

Visualize him.

62

00:04:07,660 --> 00:04:11,140

Peace, harmony, enlightenment.

63

00:04:11,140 --> 00:04:14,540

Terry Hoffman offered all this and more to Charles Southern

64

00:04:14,540 --> 00:04:18,460

and the many others who joined her group conscious development.

65

00:04:18,460 --> 00:04:23,100

The Lord of the Fifth Plane to guide you at this time.

66

00:04:23,100 --> 00:04:25,220

Part of the belief system Terry taught us

67

00:04:25,220 --> 00:04:31,460

was that death was really just another state of consciousness.

68

00:04:31,460 --> 00:04:32,540

And it wasn't a bad thing.

69

00:04:32,540 --> 00:04:35,180

It wasn't anything to fear.

70

00:04:35,180 --> 00:04:40,900

Peter Mooth belonged to Hoffman's sect for more than a decade.

71

00:04:40,900 --> 00:04:43,940

The other thing we learned was that the dark forces out there

72

00:04:43,940 --> 00:04:45,060

in the universe had a name.

73

00:04:45,060 --> 00:04:47,540

They were the Black Lords, Black Overlords.

74

00:04:47,540 --> 00:04:48,460

They worked for Satan.

75

00:04:48,460 --> 00:04:52,060

And fight those dark lords and I.

76

00:04:52,060 --> 00:04:55,060

The group we worked with was the White Brotherhood,

77

00:04:55,060 --> 00:04:57,100

or good benevolent characters.

78

00:04:57,100 --> 00:04:59,660

They're on God's side, good guys.

79

00:04:59,660 --> 00:05:05,100

And we worked with them to combat the dark forces.

80

00:05:05,100 --> 00:05:08,660

Terry Hoffman cultivated followers around the country.

81

00:05:08,660 --> 00:05:11,220

Among those who joined the Chicago branch of conscious

82

00:05:11,220 --> 00:05:15,500

development was Charles Southern Jr.

83

00:05:15,540 --> 00:05:18,060

Southern was assistant chairman of the English Department

84

00:05:18,060 --> 00:05:20,180

at a local junior college.

85

00:05:20,180 --> 00:05:22,900

Joining Hoffman's group was his most recent foray

86

00:05:22,900 --> 00:05:25,900

in an ongoing search for spiritual truth,

87

00:05:25,900 --> 00:05:28,660

an odyssey that had taken Charles Southern as far away

88

00:05:28,660 --> 00:05:32,980

from home as India and Africa.

89

00:05:32,980 --> 00:05:36,900

Charles was very interested in Eastern religions

90

00:05:36,900 --> 00:05:38,020

and various religions.

91

00:05:38,020 --> 00:05:42,220

In fact, he studied all the different religions that he

92

00:05:42,220 --> 00:05:44,060

could.

93

00:05:44,060 --> 00:05:45,820

And that was his curiosity.

94

00:05:45,820 --> 00:05:48,660

I think it got him in trouble.

95

00:05:48,660 --> 00:05:51,300

My feeling is that his interest in Terry

96

00:05:51,300 --> 00:05:53,340

was he felt a power there.

97

00:05:53,340 --> 00:05:56,780

And that was real to him.

98

00:05:56,780 --> 00:05:59,540

The fact that this power might not necessarily

99

00:05:59,540 --> 00:06:03,420

have a good will or not, that was sort of irrelevant to him,

100

00:06:03,420 --> 00:06:05,100

I guess.

101

00:06:05,100 --> 00:06:07,980

I will be able to relax.

102

00:06:07,980 --> 00:06:10,380

Charles rose quickly to a position of influence

103

00:06:10,380 --> 00:06:13,460

in Terry Hoffman's organization, teaching classes

104

00:06:13,500 --> 00:06:15,340

and leading meditation sessions.

105

00:06:15,340 --> 00:06:17,220

At your own pace.

106

00:06:17,220 --> 00:06:21,500

Eventually, he was invited to her home in Dallas.

107

00:06:21,500 --> 00:06:25,980

The darkest of the Lord comes and he is bright in his evil.

108

00:06:25,980 --> 00:06:28,620

By then, Terry Hoffman had begun to portray herself

109

00:06:28,620 --> 00:06:32,500

as a target of attack by the so-called Black Lords.

110

00:06:32,500 --> 00:06:34,700

During special meditation sessions,

111

00:06:34,700 --> 00:06:36,940

Hoffman exhorted her trusted inner circle

112

00:06:36,940 --> 00:06:40,700

to erect, quote, a psychic shield around her.

113

00:06:40,740 --> 00:06:45,260

Peter Muth says he saw Charles at one of these meetings.

114

00:06:45,260 --> 00:06:46,900

It continues.

115

00:06:46,900 --> 00:06:48,100

I just met him briefly.

116

00:06:48,100 --> 00:06:50,620

But the reason it sticks in my mind

117

00:06:50,620 --> 00:06:54,020

is he came as a visitor to one of these closed meetings

118

00:06:54,020 --> 00:06:57,420

at Terry's house where she's having psychic surgery

119

00:06:57,420 --> 00:07:00,380

to repair damage to her done by the Black Lords

120

00:07:00,380 --> 00:07:01,980

who have been attacking her.

121

00:07:01,980 --> 00:07:05,700

Now I see the intertwining of light and dark.

122

00:07:05,700 --> 00:07:09,660

I felt that if Charles or any of us who are in that room,

123

00:07:09,700 --> 00:07:12,900

Terry's master bedroom would only be there

124

00:07:12,900 --> 00:07:14,940

at Terry's invitation and only be there

125

00:07:14,940 --> 00:07:17,980

because they're true believers in the reality

126

00:07:17,980 --> 00:07:22,380

she is selling us about creation and her role in it

127

00:07:22,380 --> 00:07:24,340

as a godlike figure.

128

00:07:24,340 --> 00:07:27,940

The shield is strong, but it must be stronger.

129

00:07:27,940 --> 00:07:30,140

Our inner core group for fighting the battles

130

00:07:30,140 --> 00:07:33,100

lived in a kind of constant state of fear

131

00:07:33,100 --> 00:07:35,860

because we're always under attack from Black magicians

132

00:07:35,860 --> 00:07:39,180

who supposedly could kill us, who could drive us insane.

133

00:07:39,220 --> 00:07:42,260

And as the years went by, you saw people in your group

134

00:07:42,260 --> 00:07:45,180

actually start to show signs of the strain,

135

00:07:45,180 --> 00:07:48,260

show signs of mental and emotional problems.

136

00:07:49,380 --> 00:07:51,700

Charles Southern was apparently one of those

137

00:07:51,700 --> 00:07:53,300

who buckled under the pressure.

138

00:07:54,780 --> 00:07:57,540

We found Charles wandering on the street

139

00:07:57,540 --> 00:08:00,900

carrying a newspaper stating, I lived for art.

140

00:08:02,020 --> 00:08:06,260

We got him in the car and took him to Michael Reese Hospital

141

00:08:06,300 --> 00:08:10,860

for examination, stating that he might be suicidal

142

00:08:10,860 --> 00:08:12,780

and he also seemed to be reciting something

143

00:08:12,780 --> 00:08:15,580

in a strange language over and over and over again.

144

00:08:17,540 --> 00:08:21,300

During Charles' recovery, his mother visited every day.

145

00:08:21,300 --> 00:08:23,660

So did two members of Hoffman's sect.

146

00:08:24,740 --> 00:08:25,820

You're looking good.

147

00:08:25,820 --> 00:08:28,580

I'm feeling much better, much better.

148

00:08:28,580 --> 00:08:30,180

This is my mother.

149

00:08:30,180 --> 00:08:32,900

Later I was to find out from my mother

150

00:08:32,900 --> 00:08:36,540

who stayed with my brother during the whole five days

151

00:08:36,540 --> 00:08:40,420

that whenever she was there at the hospital and they came,

152

00:08:40,420 --> 00:08:43,300

she was asked to leave the room and stay out.

153

00:08:45,980 --> 00:08:47,220

How are you?

154

00:08:47,220 --> 00:08:50,820

Upon his release, Charles resumed his normal activities.

155

00:08:50,820 --> 00:08:52,820

He remained active in Hoffman's group,

156

00:08:52,820 --> 00:08:55,300

though friends say he eventually became disillusioned

157

00:08:55,300 --> 00:08:57,300

with Hoffman herself.

158

00:08:57,300 --> 00:08:59,740

As 1987 drew to a close,

159

00:08:59,740 --> 00:09:01,980

Charles made arrangements for a trip to India

160

00:09:02,020 --> 00:09:03,500

during the Christmas break.

161

00:09:06,780 --> 00:09:08,980

Charles talked to his family several times

162

00:09:08,980 --> 00:09:11,420

in the days before his scheduled departure.

163

00:09:11,420 --> 00:09:14,260

His mother believed something was very wrong.

164

00:09:16,020 --> 00:09:17,860

Hello, Charles.

165

00:09:17,860 --> 00:09:19,740

This is your mother.

166

00:09:19,740 --> 00:09:20,940

I was concerned.

167

00:09:24,460 --> 00:09:26,340

Mother.

168

00:09:26,340 --> 00:09:27,260

Yes, it's me.

169

00:09:29,300 --> 00:09:31,300

No, no, I'm fine.

170

00:09:31,380 --> 00:09:33,260

I told him that I was disturbed

171

00:09:33,260 --> 00:09:37,860

and I felt that I should come to Chicago.

172

00:09:37,860 --> 00:09:40,060

And he said no.

173

00:09:40,060 --> 00:09:42,140

He said you don't need to come to Chicago

174

00:09:42,140 --> 00:09:45,060

because I'm perfectly all right

175

00:09:45,060 --> 00:09:49,740

and I would be leaving for India in three days.

176

00:09:50,980 --> 00:09:53,540

So he assured me that everything was all right

177

00:09:53,540 --> 00:09:56,820

and without assurance, I didn't go.

178

00:09:58,940 --> 00:10:00,620

It was the last time Mrs. Southern

179

00:10:00,620 --> 00:10:02,540

spoke to her son.

180

00:10:02,540 --> 00:10:03,700

Two weeks passed.

181

00:10:05,780 --> 00:10:09,660

We, of course, wondered why we didn't hear from him,

182

00:10:09,660 --> 00:10:12,700

but he had traveled so much and so often

183

00:10:12,700 --> 00:10:15,340

to so many parts of the world.

184

00:10:15,340 --> 00:10:19,420

I wasn't overly concerned until he was overdue.

185

00:10:25,340 --> 00:10:29,060

Charles' parents drove the 300 miles from Cincinnati

186

00:10:29,060 --> 00:10:30,980

when they broke into their son's house.

187

00:10:30,980 --> 00:10:33,180

A nagging concern for his well-being

188

00:10:33,180 --> 00:10:36,940

turned to outright fear.

189

00:10:36,940 --> 00:10:40,820

Charles' passports show no sign of entry stamps from India.

190

00:10:40,820 --> 00:10:43,460

If he had not flown overseas, then where

191

00:10:43,460 --> 00:10:47,380

was Charles during the previous two weeks?

192

00:10:47,380 --> 00:10:49,940

Stashed in a drawer was a vial containing

193

00:10:49,940 --> 00:10:53,340

a powerful medication similar to the lethal South American

194

00:10:53,340 --> 00:10:56,300

poison, curare.

195

00:10:56,300 --> 00:10:59,860

We don't know why my brother had this vial, which was later

196

00:10:59,860 --> 00:11:03,260

identified to be a ganglionic blocker, which

197

00:11:03,260 --> 00:11:07,500

is a medicine used in anesthesia which causes total muscle

198

00:11:07,500 --> 00:11:09,180

paralysis.

199

00:11:09,180 --> 00:11:13,420

It has to be injected, too, not eaten.

200

00:11:13,420 --> 00:11:16,860

Precisely arranged on a ceremonial stool from Africa

201

00:11:16,860 --> 00:11:19,700

where Charles' winter dress hat and his coat

202

00:11:19,700 --> 00:11:22,300

neatly folded inside out.

203

00:11:22,300 --> 00:11:24,980

Only later would the family learn the tabloh

204

00:11:25,020 --> 00:11:28,220

was a Nigerian tribal symbol of death.

205

00:11:28,220 --> 00:11:32,700

But who might have left this sinister display?

206

00:11:32,700 --> 00:11:36,260

And finally, there were two scribbled notes, barely legible,

207

00:11:36,260 --> 00:11:39,740

but appearing to constitute a last will and testament.

208

00:11:39,740 --> 00:11:42,180

This is Charles' handwriting, because it doesn't make sense.

209

00:11:42,180 --> 00:11:45,460

One said in part, I came under a bad influence,

210

00:11:45,460 --> 00:11:48,180

and I was trying to fight it myself.

211

00:11:48,180 --> 00:11:50,780

Terry Hoffman was mentioned twice and named executor.

212

00:11:51,300 --> 00:11:56,060

There was just a lot of death and unhappiness

213

00:11:56,060 --> 00:11:59,460

around this woman, and Charles' disappearance simply

214

00:11:59,460 --> 00:12:00,740

fits into that pattern.

215

00:12:03,140 --> 00:12:04,620

Is there a pattern?

216

00:12:04,620 --> 00:12:08,620

If so, it is marked by stunning coincidence.

217

00:12:08,620 --> 00:12:12,020

Over a 12-year period, two of Hoffman's four husbands,

218

00:12:12,020 --> 00:12:16,620

her only son, six followers, and two people related to or

219

00:12:16,620 --> 00:12:19,580

employed by a follower came to an unnatural end.

220

00:12:19,780 --> 00:12:23,860

Causes of death, one murder, four fatal accidents,

221

00:12:23,860 --> 00:12:24,860

and six suicides.

222

00:12:27,860 --> 00:12:31,020

In over half of these deaths, Terry Hoffman had been recently

223

00:12:31,020 --> 00:12:34,780

named heir or beneficiary, designated to receive well

224

00:12:34,780 --> 00:12:38,100

over a half a million dollars in cash, plus hundreds of

225

00:12:38,100 --> 00:12:42,660

thousands more in real estate, fine art, and jewelry.

226

00:12:42,660 --> 00:12:46,500

Should Charles' southern be added to the list, or can his long

227

00:12:46,500 --> 00:12:48,500

absence be added to the list?

228

00:12:48,540 --> 00:12:51,620

Could his long absence be otherwise explained?

229

00:12:51,620 --> 00:12:54,980

Perhaps another mental break and a descent into the silent

230

00:12:54,980 --> 00:12:56,460

world of Chicago's homeless.

231

00:13:02,620 --> 00:13:04,900

It is important to note that authorities have not directly

232

00:13:04,900 --> 00:13:07,660

linked Terry Hoffman to any of the deaths, and no charges

233

00:13:07,660 --> 00:13:09,380

have been filed.

234

00:13:09,380 --> 00:13:11,980

Our letters and calls to Hoffman inviting her to participate

235

00:13:11,980 --> 00:13:14,580

in this broadcast were not answered.

236

00:13:14,580 --> 00:13:17,380

As for Charles' southern, at the time he vanished,

237

00:13:17,420 --> 00:13:20,420

Hoffman assured his family that she had no idea what had

238

00:13:20,420 --> 00:13:21,180

happened to him.

239

00:13:24,580 --> 00:13:27,820

Next, if you're young, attractive, and female,

240

00:13:27,820 --> 00:13:30,420

look out for a man named Jonathan Kern.

241

00:13:30,420 --> 00:13:32,580

He may be out to steal more than your heart.

242

00:13:48,340 --> 00:13:51,140

In the high octane world of Formula One auto racing,

243

00:13:51,140 --> 00:13:53,540

danger and destruction may lurk around any curve.

244

00:13:57,340 --> 00:14:00,100

Those who emerge triumphant can win fame, fortune,

245

00:14:00,100 --> 00:14:03,220

and the kind of adoration usually reserved for rock stars

246

00:14:03,220 --> 00:14:04,020

and royals.

247

00:14:06,380 --> 00:14:09,860

Big-time racing has spawned its own special breed of criminal.

248

00:14:09,860 --> 00:14:13,300

Case in point, alleged con man Jonathan Kern,

249

00:14:13,300 --> 00:14:16,260

he has reportedly made a career of impersonating a noted

250

00:14:16,300 --> 00:14:18,660

Formula One racer named Jonathan Palmer.

251

00:14:20,780 --> 00:14:23,820

The real Jonathan Palmer was a medical doctor before he became

252

00:14:23,820 --> 00:14:25,980

a world champion driver.

253

00:14:25,980 --> 00:14:29,660

He is all too familiar with Jonathan Kern.

254

00:14:29,660 --> 00:14:33,900

He is most at home wearing Versace clothes,

255

00:14:33,900 --> 00:14:36,500

eating caviar and smoked salmon, and driving Mercedes-Benz

256

00:14:36,500 --> 00:14:39,340

sports cars and being escorted by gorgeous women.

257

00:14:39,340 --> 00:14:44,260

And as he cannot do that through genuinely earned income,

258

00:14:44,300 --> 00:14:49,420

he resorts to fraud to achieve his desired lifestyle.

259

00:14:49,420 --> 00:14:53,340

Beginning in 1989, Kern reportedly crisscrossed Europe,

260

00:14:53,340 --> 00:14:56,500

racking up bills for designer clothes, elegant restaurants,

261

00:14:56,500 --> 00:15:00,500

and five-star hotels, all in the name of Jonathan Palmer,

262

00:15:00,500 --> 00:15:01,540

all unpaid.

263

00:15:04,220 --> 00:15:07,420

Police say that in 1994, Kern brought his masquerade

264

00:15:07,420 --> 00:15:08,780

to America.

265

00:15:08,780 --> 00:15:12,860

Elizabeth Jesczyk met him at a hotel in Miami, Florida.

266

00:15:13,020 --> 00:15:14,260

Hello.

267

00:15:14,260 --> 00:15:15,460

Hi.

268

00:15:15,460 --> 00:15:16,260

I'm sorry.

269

00:15:16,260 --> 00:15:18,060

I don't usually do this, but I couldn't help

270

00:15:18,060 --> 00:15:19,660

but notice that book you're reading.

271

00:15:19,660 --> 00:15:20,860

I read it myself some time ago.

272

00:15:20,860 --> 00:15:22,100

I loved it.

273

00:15:22,100 --> 00:15:23,260

I'm wondering how you like me.

274

00:15:26,260 --> 00:15:27,140

I'm Jonathan Palmer.

275

00:15:30,060 --> 00:15:33,060

There's a race car driver by that name, Jonathan Palmer.

276

00:15:33,060 --> 00:15:33,980

That's me.

277

00:15:33,980 --> 00:15:36,460

Elizabeth, who happened to know about car racing,

278

00:15:36,460 --> 00:15:38,820

had some initial doubts.

279

00:15:38,820 --> 00:15:41,300

Wasn't your hair a little blonder?

280

00:15:41,300 --> 00:15:42,180

It was bloody.

281

00:15:42,180 --> 00:15:43,460

Yes, you're right.

282

00:15:43,460 --> 00:15:45,620

And I asked a few more questions, and I said, well,

283

00:15:45,620 --> 00:15:47,540

what did you do before you raced cars?

284

00:15:47,540 --> 00:15:49,660

And he said I was a medical doctor.

285

00:15:49,660 --> 00:15:51,260

And I said, that's right.

286

00:15:51,260 --> 00:15:52,380

I knew some background.

287

00:15:52,380 --> 00:15:53,660

I said, who did you race for?

288

00:15:53,660 --> 00:15:55,940

And he told me Tirol, which I knew was a British team.

289

00:15:55,940 --> 00:15:59,580

And I thought, wow, it really is you.

290

00:15:59,580 --> 00:16:01,300

Hair.

291

00:16:01,300 --> 00:16:03,940

Proof.

292

00:16:03,940 --> 00:16:05,780

Kern's passport was a clincher.

293

00:16:05,780 --> 00:16:12,140

So I started having some doubt as to whether he was Jonathan

294

00:16:12,140 --> 00:16:13,140

Palmer.

295

00:16:13,140 --> 00:16:15,180

But it seemed easier to believe he was Jonathan Palmer than

296

00:16:15,180 --> 00:16:17,580

someone impersonating Jonathan Palmer.

297

00:16:17,580 --> 00:16:20,140

That never entered my mind that someone would be doing that.

298

00:16:22,980 --> 00:16:25,380

Elizabeth Jesschek wasn't the only one impressed

299

00:16:25,380 --> 00:16:27,260

by Jonathan Kern.

300

00:16:27,260 --> 00:16:30,780

The car dealer provided Kern with a \$78,000 Jaguar

301

00:16:30,780 --> 00:16:33,060

free of charge.

302

00:16:33,060 --> 00:16:34,780

They dropped the keys at the desk,

303

00:16:34,780 --> 00:16:37,260

and they said, this is for Mr. Palmer for his use

304

00:16:37,260 --> 00:16:38,820

while he's in America.

305

00:16:38,820 --> 00:16:40,580

And please make sure that he gets it.

306

00:16:40,580 --> 00:16:42,300

And we always believed him.

307

00:16:42,300 --> 00:16:45,620

And that just made us more convinced that everything was OK.

308

00:16:45,620 --> 00:16:46,520

I know.

309

00:16:46,520 --> 00:16:48,300

It's all your two sweet.

310

00:16:48,300 --> 00:16:50,660

For Elizabeth Jesschek, Jonathan Kern

311

00:16:50,660 --> 00:16:54,140

was almost too good to be true.

312

00:16:54,140 --> 00:16:57,300

Don't toy with me, Jonathan.

313

00:16:57,300 --> 00:16:58,860

If it's a fling that you're looking for,

314

00:16:58,860 --> 00:17:02,340

you're going to have to look somewhere else.

315

00:17:02,340 --> 00:17:06,140

Elizabeth, I'll put my hand on my arm and promise

316

00:17:06,140 --> 00:17:08,260

that if this is what we really want,

317

00:17:08,260 --> 00:17:09,740

nothing will keep us apart.

318

00:17:12,740 --> 00:17:13,940

Do it.

319

00:17:13,940 --> 00:17:15,860

I couldn't understand intellectually

320

00:17:15,860 --> 00:17:17,100

why he was interested in me.

321

00:17:17,100 --> 00:17:18,820

I've been to a lot of the Formula One races,

322

00:17:18,820 --> 00:17:21,180

and I know a lot of them have beautiful girlfriends

323

00:17:21,180 --> 00:17:22,540

and wives, and they're wealthy.

324

00:17:22,540 --> 00:17:24,900

And I'm just a nobody.

325

00:17:24,900 --> 00:17:27,300

And I said to him, why are you interested in me?

326

00:17:27,300 --> 00:17:31,140

And he told me he just wanted a steady relationship.

327

00:17:31,140 --> 00:17:32,620

He didn't want the jet set life.

328

00:17:32,620 --> 00:17:35,540

And he convinced me over the next few days

329

00:17:35,540 --> 00:17:37,860

that I was what he was looking for.

330

00:17:41,740 --> 00:17:44,420

With Jonathan Kern, Elizabeth saw close up

331

00:17:44,420 --> 00:17:47,500

the busy life of an international star, or so

332

00:17:47,500 --> 00:17:48,380

a scene.

333

00:17:48,380 --> 00:17:49,540

I'm going to stay here for a week.

334

00:17:49,540 --> 00:17:52,940

I thought I'd visit you at the end of the day.

335

00:17:52,940 --> 00:17:54,260

Want anything else for dinner?

336

00:17:54,260 --> 00:17:55,460

No, thank you.

337

00:17:55,460 --> 00:17:58,860

Indeed, everyone at the hotel, from Bellhops to the manager,

338

00:17:58,900 --> 00:18:02,820

have been totally snowed by Kern's performance.

339

00:18:02,820 --> 00:18:07,500

He just was aware of intrigue around us

340

00:18:07,500 --> 00:18:11,580

and managed to stay, have a very nice holiday at the hotel

341

00:18:11,580 --> 00:18:15,500

for five days, and run up a huge bill in the restaurant

342

00:18:15,500 --> 00:18:18,700

and have bottles of champagne delivered to his room.

343

00:18:18,700 --> 00:18:21,100

And we always believed him, despite the fact

344

00:18:21,100 --> 00:18:23,100

that he was already having a little bit of a problem

345

00:18:23,100 --> 00:18:25,900

with my front desk about how he was going to pay his bill.

346

00:18:25,900 --> 00:18:26,460

Excuse me.

347

00:18:26,460 --> 00:18:27,340

David, how are you?

348

00:18:27,340 --> 00:18:28,140

I'm fine.

349

00:18:28,140 --> 00:18:30,020

We have some business to attend to at the front desk.

350

00:18:30,020 --> 00:18:31,780

It's all bid arrangements, my office is in Italy.

351

00:18:31,780 --> 00:18:35,100

Well, I know, but we still haven't received an imprint.

352

00:18:35,100 --> 00:18:36,660

I will call them tonight, immediately.

353

00:18:36,660 --> 00:18:37,980

Well, if you would just take a moment,

354

00:18:37,980 --> 00:18:38,900

it won't take long at all.

355

00:18:38,900 --> 00:18:40,700

I wish I could have a bit of a rush right now.

356

00:18:40,700 --> 00:18:41,620

I will call the office.

357

00:18:41,620 --> 00:18:42,780

I will have them ring you in the AFR.

358

00:18:42,780 --> 00:18:45,020

One week later, Kern left the hotel

359

00:18:45,020 --> 00:18:47,780

without paying a dime on his \$3,000 bill.

360

00:18:52,700 --> 00:18:54,380

Eventually, Elizabeth invited Kern

361

00:18:54,380 --> 00:18:56,540

to stay at her home in Connecticut.

362

00:18:56,540 --> 00:18:59,020

She still believed he was Jonathan Palmer,

363

00:18:59,020 --> 00:19:01,140

still believed he had put his career on hold

364

00:19:01,140 --> 00:19:02,900

to spend time with her.

365

00:19:02,900 --> 00:19:04,020

Come on inside.

366

00:19:04,020 --> 00:19:06,780

But Kern's thoughts had apparently turned to money,

367

00:19:06,780 --> 00:19:07,620

Elizabeth's money.

368

00:19:07,620 --> 00:19:08,620

Here's your malaria.

369

00:19:08,620 --> 00:19:10,820

Thanks.

370

00:19:10,820 --> 00:19:12,420

Elizabeth says that Kern convinced her

371

00:19:12,420 --> 00:19:14,580

to accept a personal check.

372

00:19:14,580 --> 00:19:17,180

It was drawn on an Italian bank for \$11 million

373

00:19:17,180 --> 00:19:21,180

lira, nearly \$8,000.

374

00:19:21,180 --> 00:19:23,580

At the time, I was nervous about it.

375

00:19:23,580 --> 00:19:26,020

And the first question out of my family and friends

376

00:19:26,020 --> 00:19:28,660

when I told them was, did you give him any money?

377

00:19:28,660 --> 00:19:29,980

And I said, first I lied.

378

00:19:29,980 --> 00:19:31,180

And I just said, oh, no, no.

379

00:19:31,180 --> 00:19:33,260

And then once the check cleared, I said, see, it was fine.

380

00:19:33,260 --> 00:19:34,780

Yes, I did give him some money.

381

00:19:34,780 --> 00:19:39,340

But now the check has cleared, and I have the money back.

382

00:19:39,340 --> 00:19:40,660

Let's go to meeting tonight.

383

00:19:40,660 --> 00:19:42,780

Jonathan's stay with Elizabeth was punctuated

384

00:19:42,780 --> 00:19:47,100

by frequent business trips to Manhattan.

385

00:19:47,100 --> 00:19:49,100

As usual, he went in style.

386

00:19:49,100 --> 00:19:54,460

Now on a \$125,000 Mercedes, lent to him by a local dealer.

387

00:19:54,460 --> 00:19:56,780

He also carried Elizabeth's ATM card

388

00:19:56,780 --> 00:19:59,820

just in case of an emergency.

389

00:19:59,820 --> 00:20:02,340

Sure enough, Jonathan had an emergency.

390

00:20:02,340 --> 00:20:03,240

Hi.

391

00:20:03,240 --> 00:20:04,940

It's Jonathan.

392

00:20:04,940 --> 00:20:05,440

Hi.

393

00:20:05,440 --> 00:20:06,540

What's wrong?

394

00:20:06,540 --> 00:20:07,660

You're not going to believe this.

395

00:20:07,660 --> 00:20:09,700

My wallet was stolen with you.

396

00:20:09,700 --> 00:20:11,300

So what are you going to do now?

397

00:20:11,300 --> 00:20:12,820

I don't know.

398

00:20:12,820 --> 00:20:17,260

Once again, Elizabeth put her own money at Kern's disposal.

399

00:20:17,260 --> 00:20:20,020

You still have my ATM card, don't you?

400

00:20:20,020 --> 00:20:20,900

Yes.

401

00:20:20,900 --> 00:20:22,540

That was in my suitcase.

402

00:20:22,540 --> 00:20:25,420

Why don't you just use that and take it home?

403

00:20:25,420 --> 00:20:26,320

Wonderful.

404

00:20:26,320 --> 00:20:27,220

That's a great idea.

405

00:20:27,220 --> 00:20:29,340

Elizabeth never dreamed Jonathan would use a card

406

00:20:29,340 --> 00:20:33,020

like a spigot to drain her account of cash.

407

00:20:33,020 --> 00:20:35,860

I love you, but I didn't really check up on him.

408

00:20:35,860 --> 00:20:37,940

I could have gone through his things,

409

00:20:37,940 --> 00:20:38,820

but I didn't.

410

00:20:38,820 --> 00:20:43,900

I just continued to try and believe in him.

411

00:20:43,900 --> 00:20:46,860

However, by the time Jonathan returned from Manhattan,

412

00:20:46,860 --> 00:20:50,180

Elizabeth had had a complete change of heart.

413

00:20:50,180 --> 00:20:52,020

I don't want to do this anymore.

414

00:20:52,020 --> 00:20:53,900

Beth, you have to have patience.

415

00:20:53,900 --> 00:20:54,700

I have been patient.

416

00:20:54,700 --> 00:20:55,820

It's not working.

417

00:20:55,820 --> 00:20:56,620

Beth.

418

00:20:56,620 --> 00:20:58,140

You could stay here for a week if you want to,

419

00:20:58,140 --> 00:21:00,540

but I don't want to do this anymore.

420

00:21:00,540 --> 00:21:02,260

You'll have your money on Monday.

421

00:21:02,260 --> 00:21:05,260

It is not the money.

422

00:21:05,260 --> 00:21:06,180

It's us.

423

00:21:11,540 --> 00:21:15,020

Jonathan Kern cleared out the next day.

424

00:21:15,020 --> 00:21:16,100

Is this stuff on your hand?

425

00:21:16,100 --> 00:21:18,620

Elizabeth began calling numbers from her phone bill,

426

00:21:18,620 --> 00:21:22,820

matching them with names Jonathan had mentioned.

427

00:21:22,820 --> 00:21:24,100

Do you know Jonathan Palmer?

428

00:21:24,100 --> 00:21:27,340

Invariably, the answers came back the same.

429

00:21:27,340 --> 00:21:29,780

You don't.

430

00:21:29,780 --> 00:21:30,580

I mean, didn't he call?

431

00:21:30,580 --> 00:21:32,580

I mean, I had your phone number right here.

432

00:21:32,580 --> 00:21:36,340

And that's when I knew this hadn't been Jonathan Palmer that

433

00:21:36,340 --> 00:21:38,740

was staying with me.

434

00:21:38,740 --> 00:21:39,860

Call me when you get in.

435

00:21:39,860 --> 00:21:40,760

I'll try.

436

00:21:40,760 --> 00:21:42,380

Now I realized some of the numbers that I called

437

00:21:42,380 --> 00:21:43,660

were other women.

438

00:21:43,660 --> 00:21:49,100

He'd been romancing other women while he was in Manhattan.

439

00:21:49,100 --> 00:21:50,060

I had been taken.

440

00:21:50,060 --> 00:21:51,340

He hadn't been in love with me.

441

00:21:51,340 --> 00:21:52,620

He was just using me.

442

00:21:52,620 --> 00:21:56,260

I just felt awful.

443

00:21:56,260 --> 00:21:58,460

There was one final insult.

444

00:21:58,460 --> 00:22:00,940

Nearly a year after Elizabeth's bank cleared the check

445

00:22:00,940 --> 00:22:04,340

from Jonathan Kern, the bank learned the check was, in fact,

446

00:22:04,340 --> 00:22:05,900

not good.

447

00:22:05,900 --> 00:22:08,300

They debited Elizabeth's account.

448

00:22:08,300 --> 00:22:12,420

Police say that Kern swindled total some \$15,000.

449

00:22:12,460 --> 00:22:15,100

Elizabeth Jesscheck was forced into bankruptcy.

450

00:22:18,180 --> 00:22:19,820

Jonathan Philip Kern has been charged

451

00:22:19,820 --> 00:22:24,540

with forgery, felony criminal impersonation, and larceny.

452

00:22:24,540 --> 00:22:28,860

Kern is 42 years old, 5'10", 180 pounds.

453

00:22:28,860 --> 00:22:33,380

Though he is British, he is not Jonathan Palmer.

454

00:22:33,380 --> 00:22:35,420

I think the most important thing is

455

00:22:35,420 --> 00:22:39,380

to be very, very suspicious if anybody comes to you

456

00:22:39,380 --> 00:22:41,820

wanting something and saying that they are Jonathan Palmer.

457

00:22:41,820 --> 00:22:45,020

The Formula One driver, this, me, is Jonathan Palmer.

458

00:22:45,020 --> 00:22:47,180

Jonathan Kern does not look like me.

459

00:22:47,180 --> 00:22:51,260

And I will have no problem if I'm in the US

460

00:22:51,260 --> 00:22:53,100

in being asked all sorts of probing questions

461

00:22:53,100 --> 00:22:56,580

to make sure that anyone can be sure that it is me who

462

00:22:56,580 --> 00:22:58,380

is going to a hotel or shop or whatever.

463

00:23:01,420 --> 00:23:04,180

When we return, the murder of a young couple

464

00:23:04,180 --> 00:23:09,020

spawns two conflicting theories, but only one known suspect.

465

00:23:09,020 --> 00:23:12,660

But first, an accused killer spent 18 months on the run

466

00:23:12,660 --> 00:23:14,620

until one of our viewers spotted him.

467

00:23:33,340 --> 00:23:36,700

January 11, 1995, Pasco County, Florida.

468

00:23:40,020 --> 00:23:41,020

He's running!

469

00:23:47,020 --> 00:23:49,340

It was a brazen and stunning escape,

470

00:23:49,340 --> 00:23:52,460

and police lingered when accused killer was in the wind.

471

00:23:55,140 --> 00:23:57,740

Albert Leon Fletcher was a career criminal.

472

00:23:57,740 --> 00:24:00,300

He'd been awaiting trial on charges of murder, armed

473

00:24:00,300 --> 00:24:03,380

robbery, and aggravated assault and battering.

474

00:24:03,380 --> 00:24:05,460

All of the charges stem from his activities

475

00:24:05,460 --> 00:24:07,660

during a single 24-hour period.

476

00:24:09,820 --> 00:24:14,940

On April 2, 1993, Fletcher and his cousin Douglas Porter

477

00:24:14,940 --> 00:24:18,020

embarked on a wild rampage that ended in a brutal murder.

478

00:24:21,460 --> 00:24:22,460

Give me your money!

479

00:24:22,460 --> 00:24:24,060

Claw, give me the wallet!

480

00:24:24,060 --> 00:24:24,940

Give me your wallet!

481

00:24:29,700 --> 00:24:32,700

The victim was 32-year-old Nelson Medina.

482

00:24:32,700 --> 00:24:34,860

He left behind a wife and two young children.

483

00:24:35,740 --> 00:24:38,260

A few hours later, police arrested Albert Fletcher

484

00:24:38,260 --> 00:24:40,260

and Douglas Porter.

485

00:24:40,260 --> 00:24:42,500

Porter was convicted in the case and sentenced

486

00:24:42,500 --> 00:24:44,100

to life in prison.

487

00:24:44,100 --> 00:24:46,740

But Fletcher escaped before he could be brought to trial

488

00:24:46,740 --> 00:24:49,340

and remained at large for 18 months.

489

00:24:49,340 --> 00:24:50,940

But on the night of our broadcast,

490

00:24:50,940 --> 00:24:53,260

he was finally flushed from hiding.

491

00:24:53,260 --> 00:24:56,940

Here's Keely Shea Smith with the details.

492

00:24:56,940 --> 00:24:59,860

Bob, it was a viewer in Delaware who pinpointed

493

00:24:59,860 --> 00:25:02,260

the whereabouts of Albert Leon Fletcher.

494

00:25:02,260 --> 00:25:04,580

She recognized Fletcher as one of her neighbors

495

00:25:04,580 --> 00:25:07,820

and immediately contacted the police.

496

00:25:07,820 --> 00:25:10,660

On April the 29th, I received a telephone call

497

00:25:10,660 --> 00:25:14,860

from the authorities in Delaware advising me

498

00:25:14,860 --> 00:25:18,380

that they had a confidential informant,

499

00:25:18,380 --> 00:25:21,860

and they knew the whereabouts of Albert Leon Fletcher.

500

00:25:21,860 --> 00:25:25,980

At that time, I sent the bullets into Delaware.

501

00:25:25,980 --> 00:25:28,940

And this was around 3 o'clock that afternoon.

502

00:25:28,940 --> 00:25:34,500

And about 3.30 or 4 o'clock, they had a mapper handed.

503

00:25:34,500 --> 00:25:36,980

Authorities arrested Fletcher without incident

504

00:25:36,980 --> 00:25:39,900

at the Holly Hill Estates in Smyrna, Delaware.

505

00:25:39,900 --> 00:25:42,260

He had been living there since his escape

506

00:25:42,260 --> 00:25:44,860

using the alias Kevin Woodside.

507

00:25:44,860 --> 00:25:47,500

Apparently, Fletcher himself had grown tired

508

00:25:47,500 --> 00:25:50,140

of life on the run.

509

00:25:50,140 --> 00:25:54,300

I know when Albert was talking to me,

510

00:25:54,300 --> 00:25:55,900

he was glad he was all over with.

511

00:25:55,900 --> 00:25:57,300

He was very happy.

512

00:25:57,500 --> 00:25:58,860

He was glad he was all over with.

513

00:25:58,860 --> 00:26:03,500

He went back to Pasco County and to Poe County

514

00:26:03,500 --> 00:26:05,500

and faced the charges.

515

00:26:05,740 --> 00:26:06,660

Hi, pequsa town.

516

00:26:06,660 --> 00:26:07,540

Hi.

517

00:26:10,980 --> 00:26:11,700

Salt, no.

518

00:26:20,280 --> 00:26:21,380

It was nice.

519

00:26:21,380 --> 00:26:23,380

I

520

00:26:36,340 --> 00:26:43,700

Really missed you I missed you too so how about an extreme break we go away together just you and I

521

00:26:51,380 --> 00:26:53,380

I

522

00:27:07,900 --> 00:27:11,940

It was a savage double murder as mystifying as it was ruthless

523

00:27:12,540 --> 00:27:14,540

Grant Hendrickson and Michelle Cartagena

524

00:27:15,180 --> 00:27:19,620

Two straight-laced deans less students from Mercer University in Macon, Georgia

525

00:27:20,060 --> 00:27:23,500

Killed in a fearsome barrage of semi-automatic rifle fire

526

00:27:24,420 --> 00:27:26,420

No one knew why

527

00:27:32,900 --> 00:27:38,020

They had been sweethearts for about eight months when they went out for dinner and a movie on January 2nd

528

00:27:38,500 --> 00:27:42,580

1995 it was a beginning of a new year full of promise

529

00:27:44,700 --> 00:27:50,780

Grant was the nicest guy and he treated Michelle just like gold and would do anything for her

530

00:27:52,500 --> 00:27:56,620

Michelle was very serious about Grant and she cared for him a lot

531

00:27:57,500 --> 00:28:01,600

I believe that he had and would have

532

00:28:02,300 --> 00:28:04,300

like to have married her

533

00:28:05,420 --> 00:28:10,940

As Michelle and Grant drove to the movie theater they were seen by a railroad foreman named John Ambrose

534

00:28:11,940 --> 00:28:19,700

Michelle's white Honda Accord was in the right lane and Ambrose was next to her when a blue Honda CRX suddenly swerved in front of them

535

00:28:24,460 --> 00:28:28,060

Blue Honda came up to my left at a high rate of speed

536

00:28:28,500 --> 00:28:35,580

And immediately cut back in front of me and cut into the right-hand lane in front of the white Honda and then started slowing

537

00:28:36,060 --> 00:28:37,740

excessively

538

00:28:37,740 --> 00:28:42,100

As I passed it the driver looked at me like you know like what's up and

539

00:28:42,540 --> 00:28:45,500

there's a light light skinned black male and

540

00:28:46,460 --> 00:28:48,460

appeared he had a white

541

00:28:48,460 --> 00:28:50,900

male or female in the car with brown hair

542

00:28:52,580 --> 00:28:56,340

The blue CRX continued to slow forcing Michelle to drop back

543

00:28:56,820 --> 00:29:00,340

When Ambrose exited the interstate he lost sight of both cars

544

00:29:03,540 --> 00:29:07,420

Despite what happened on the highway Grant and Michelle did get to the movies

545

00:29:08,300 --> 00:29:12,380

Afterwards they drove to a popular scenic overlook at nearby Lake Juliet

546

00:29:15,660 --> 00:29:21,500

In an extraordinary coincidence John Ambrose again found himself witnessing the prelude to murder

547

00:29:22,100 --> 00:29:28,860

Now the co-worker Ambrose happened to be driving near the lake when he spotted both the white Accord and the blue CRX

548

00:29:29,980 --> 00:29:33,220

That's odd. It looks like the car I saw earlier

549

00:29:34,140 --> 00:29:37,700

The blue Honda was sitting there beside the road was parking lights on

550

00:29:37,940 --> 00:29:43,740

And it dawned on me at that time that that was the same car that I'd seen on interstate because it's just such a

551

00:29:44,580 --> 00:29:46,580

outstanding looking car

552

00:29:47,260 --> 00:29:53,980

Just down the road Ambrose saw Michelle's car. It was heading in the direction of the parking area

at Lake Juliet

553

00:29:54,980 --> 00:29:58,460

I thought it was strange that I saw these two vehicles at two different times

554

00:29:59,140 --> 00:30:02,740

Within a you know three to four hour span that same particular night

555

00:30:05,420 --> 00:30:11,180

Two other eyewitnesses teenagers parked at the lake were able to pick up the account where Ambrose left off

556

00:30:11,780 --> 00:30:16,660

They told police at the blue CRX drove into the park around 12 30 a.m

557

00:30:24,740 --> 00:30:27,620

What was that turn the music down listen

558

00:30:28,700 --> 00:30:30,300

There

559

00:30:30,300 --> 00:30:33,540

What was that they can't be gunshots somebody's gonna be playing around

560

00:30:35,460 --> 00:30:38,060

Moments later the CRX raced out

561

00:30:42,020 --> 00:30:44,020

Let's go check it out

562

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

The

563

00:31:03,100 --> 00:31:08,500

Next morning investigators faced the carnage more than a dozen bullet holes perforated the car

564

00:31:09,260 --> 00:31:13,940

Michelle and Grant had been killed instantly by multiple rounds of semi automatic rifle fire

565

00:31:14,780 --> 00:31:19,060

Grant was also shot twice in the chest and once in the head with a handgun

566

00:31:22,180 --> 00:31:27,900

Michelle's body had been pulled from the car and dragged nearly 25 feet her clothing had been left in

567

00:31:29,460 --> 00:31:32,980

It was a very horrendous type crime

568

00:31:34,220 --> 00:31:35,780

something that

569

00:31:35,780 --> 00:31:37,780

I've never seen before

570

00:31:38,020 --> 00:31:41,260

It in my tenure of law enforcement

571

00:31:42,940 --> 00:31:50,060

Everything pointed to the blue CRX then yet another witness came forward to spun the investigation in a totally new direction

572

00:31:50,820 --> 00:31:53,380

Towards two young men in a white pickup truck

573

00:31:53,380 --> 00:32:01,980

The night of the murders Steven Boyd was in the theater parking lot just after Grant and Michelle left the movies

574

00:32:11,980 --> 00:32:15,780

How am I being a jerk here some of his custom words was all the slaughtered and

575

00:32:17,260 --> 00:32:21,620

That made me me make me feel like he was he had been drinking a lot

576

00:32:22,300 --> 00:32:29,420

You've been drinking haven't you I've had a few so please just leave us alone. Okay. I am sick of this stop it

577

00:32:30,780 --> 00:32:32,780

You try me the other guy get out of the car

578

00:32:33,300 --> 00:32:35,300

cause to me it felt like

579

00:32:35,660 --> 00:32:38,820

That used to be you know, it felt like someone that she used to go with or something, you know

580

00:32:39,220 --> 00:32:45,180

Hey, come on this friend came and told him so let's go. It's not worth it. That's when I had noticed that

581

00:32:45,820 --> 00:32:48,660

This guy had a knife a gun on the side

582

00:32:49,420 --> 00:32:52,140

Because you just glitter it caught my eye

583

00:32:58,700 --> 00:33:04,380

Steven I'm gonna show you 12 photographs Steven Boyd's information seems solid credible

584

00:33:05,060 --> 00:33:08,900

Police ran a photo lineup hoping for more. They got it

585

00:33:11,820 --> 00:33:16,700

The person that Steven Boyd had picked out of the photo lineup was a fellow college student

586

00:33:16,980 --> 00:33:18,980

Was a friend of Michelle's

587

00:33:20,780 --> 00:33:23,940

Had had a crush on Michelle at one time

588

00:33:24,620 --> 00:33:26,620

he is a very soft

589

00:33:27,140 --> 00:33:28,980

spoken person

590

00:33:28,980 --> 00:33:30,980

but when

591

00:33:31,180 --> 00:33:37,780

You introduce alcohol into a scenario and he's been drinking then he get he has a very

592

00:33:38,780 --> 00:33:40,780

violent temper and

593

00:33:41,540 --> 00:33:43,540

I've seen him do some

594

00:33:44,380 --> 00:33:46,740

Very violent things when he's been drunk

595

00:33:47,580 --> 00:33:49,300

well, he

596

00:33:49,300 --> 00:33:52,740

Denied that he was in the parking lot when he was confronted with this information

597

00:33:53,660 --> 00:33:55,660

he denied

598

00:33:56,660 --> 00:33:58,660

Being anywhere in the area

599

00:34:00,060 --> 00:34:02,060

The alibi that he had provided us

600

00:34:03,340 --> 00:34:05,340

To this day we're still

601

00:34:05,540 --> 00:34:08,380

Unable to eliminate him. He is still suspicious

602

00:34:09,380 --> 00:34:14,900

Why don't you just leave us alone? Okay now everything pointed to the young man in the parking lot

603

00:34:15,140 --> 00:34:19,020

But then there was a blue CRX clearly implicated in the killings

604

00:34:19,700 --> 00:34:21,700

something was missing

605

00:34:22,340 --> 00:34:26,780

Connecting the blue Honda CRX and the the individuals at the parking lot

606

00:34:27,220 --> 00:34:30,460

We have not been able to do that yet. That is

607

00:34:31,060 --> 00:34:37,580

One thing that we are hopes to when we do find this Honda CRX to see if there is a connection

608

00:34:38,380 --> 00:35:03,740

When we return the remarkable story of what may be one of the longest ocean voyages on record

609

00:35:04,060 --> 00:35:06,620

20 years 25,000 miles

610

00:35:08,700 --> 00:35:10,700

Oh

611

00:35:20,220 --> 00:35:22,900

Most unsolved mysteries are fashioned by human hands

612

00:35:23,460 --> 00:35:28,100

But as you're about to see the most capable mistress of mystery may be mother nature

613

00:35:32,580 --> 00:35:36,780

July 16th 1978 the Finger Lakes of upstate, New York

614

00:35:37,780 --> 00:35:44,620

Nine-year-old Kevin Reeder and his mother Merle wild away a lazy summer afternoon with a little homespun whimsie

615

00:35:44,620 --> 00:35:50,500

When you find this bottle, I know please drop me a line

616

00:35:50,980 --> 00:35:52,980

perfect

617

00:35:54,980 --> 00:35:59,160

They sent this out from Elm Beach

618

00:35:59,820 --> 00:36:01,820

Ovid

619

00:36:02,460 --> 00:36:07,820

They signed the note with Kevin's name and address then tucked it inside an old green glass bottle

620

00:36:09,740 --> 00:36:12,740

Okay, all right you go ahead give it a good throw good

621

00:36:15,980 --> 00:36:17,980

Good

622

00:36:19,660 --> 00:36:21,660

How far do you think it could go I

623

00:36:22,740 --> 00:36:26,740

Don't know we thought somebody around Aurora might find it or

624

00:36:27,340 --> 00:36:32,980

We go to the south end of the lake to Ithaca and there's college kids and they might be interested and see

625

00:36:33,060 --> 00:36:36,900

Where it went and right to Kevin and give him a new pen pal

626

00:36:37,820 --> 00:36:41,580

After we toss the bottle into the into the lake it was probably

627

00:36:42,220 --> 00:36:43,700

it was

628

00:36:43,700 --> 00:36:47,420

Part of a daily daily thought process waiting for the mail checking the mail

629

00:36:47,820 --> 00:36:53,380

The anticipation until it progressively faded away until you forgot entirely about it

630

00:36:53,940 --> 00:36:58,860

Kevin grew up and moved away first to Florida then to Texas

631

00:36:59,380 --> 00:37:03,420

Like a bottle in a lake he drifted a bit trying to find his place in the world

632

00:37:04,260 --> 00:37:10,700

Kevin had no idea yet launched the bottle on his own journey a journey that would one day amaze everyone

633

00:37:14,100 --> 00:37:22,700

In 1996 after 18 years Kevin returned to his hometown a letter postmark San Diego, California was waiting for him

634

00:37:23,380 --> 00:37:25,380

It had arrived only days before

635

00:37:26,780 --> 00:37:32,980

Inside Kevin found the last thing he ever expected the message yet put in the bottle almost two decades earlier

636

00:37:33,380 --> 00:37:36,240

It was accompanied by a note from two strangers

637

00:37:37,580 --> 00:37:41,300

When I called my mother the first thing that came out of my mouth was you're never gonna believe this

638

00:37:41,700 --> 00:37:47,980

It says hello Kevin. I found your message in a bottle like that song at the beach in San Diego, California

639

00:37:47,980 --> 00:37:50,940

I thought it would be funny to write back pretty cool

640

00:37:51,340 --> 00:37:56,660

You know signed by Rosa and Bruce and it has a ps where the heck is over?

641

00:37:57,380 --> 00:38:00,020

Well, there's no return address or phone number

642

00:38:04,380 --> 00:38:11,140

18 years and more than 3,000 miles the concept of how long and far the bottle had traveled was mind-boggling

643

00:38:11,860 --> 00:38:14,740

Kevin's mother pictured it as a delightful adventure

644

00:38:15,180 --> 00:38:21,940

Bobbing along on a beach here and in a gully there and somebody picked it up and just threw it back in again

645

00:38:21,940 --> 00:38:23,540

Here I go again

646

00:38:23,540 --> 00:38:29,260

Maybe a little bit of heard some Japanese along in the way or spotted a Hawaiian girl sitting on the beach

647

00:38:30,460 --> 00:38:33,820

But I had to bog down in different places with floods and things

648

00:38:34,460 --> 00:38:41,020

reappeared and just keep on moving till somebody finally decided to pick up some trash on the beach and

649

00:38:41,820 --> 00:38:43,820

found it

650

00:38:44,740 --> 00:38:49,900

The idea of a little bottle that could floating its way around the world is very appealing

651

00:38:50,660 --> 00:38:54,820

Take away that romantic image and we are left with an astonishing conundrum

652

00:38:55,340 --> 00:39:04,460

How could an ordinary glass bottle transport itself across an entire continent from an inland lake in upstate New York to the shores of the Pacific Ocean?

653

00:39:06,380 --> 00:39:07,900

That is really amazing

654

00:39:07,900 --> 00:39:14,260

I think it's a bit unlikely because of all the difficulties to get there, but that is a truly amazing but not impossible

655

00:39:14,940 --> 00:39:18,500

Go ahead not impossible the dreamers model

656

00:39:19,420 --> 00:39:23,420

Dr. Richardson is one of the world's top experts on global water currents

657

00:39:24,100 --> 00:39:30,060

Here's how Richardson says the most well-traveled bottle in history might have maneuvered through the waterways of the world

658

00:39:32,460 --> 00:39:35,620

First the bottle would have floated out of the lake through the Erie Canal

659

00:39:36,380 --> 00:39:38,380

into the St. Lawrence Seaway

660

00:39:38,780 --> 00:39:41,860

And out into the Atlantic Ocean near Nova Scotia

661

00:39:42,780 --> 00:39:48,420

That's the hardest part because it's so easy for a bottle to go ashore and be found by someone

662

00:39:49,060 --> 00:39:53,060

Once it gets into the Atlantic, it's easy for a bottle to stay adrift for many years

663

00:39:54,900 --> 00:40:02,500

From Nova Scotia Dr. Richardson speculates the bottle might have floated south down the eastern seaboard and veered east toward Europe

664

00:40:03,660 --> 00:40:08,380

It cruise the west coast of Africa until a current swung at west to South America

665

00:40:08,620 --> 00:40:16,420

Once it managed to cross a northward moving currents at the equator the bottle would proceed back toward African

666

00:40:16,820 --> 00:40:20,300

past the Cape of Good Hope and into the Indian Ocean

667

00:40:21,540 --> 00:40:24,740

It would then move east until it reached the South Pacific

668

00:40:26,260 --> 00:40:33,140

After the bottle managed to again float across the equator it must have drifted north past the Philippine Islands and Japan

669

00:40:33,860 --> 00:40:41,820

After that the bottle would have to travel east again heading down the west coast of North America until it reached its final destination

670

00:40:43,220 --> 00:40:45,220

San Diego, California

671

00:40:47,260 --> 00:40:51,700

I'm a bit skeptical. I think it went to California in someone's pocket or someone's suitcase

672

00:40:51,940 --> 00:40:53,460

so I

673

00:40:53,460 --> 00:40:58,540

Don't think it actually drifted there because of the I think if you threw a million bottles in Lake Cuyuga

674

00:40:59,020 --> 00:41:03,820

You wouldn't have one reach the Atlantic so that's that's our my conclusion

675

00:41:03,820 --> 00:41:06,700

It's very difficult to get out through the canals and rivers

676

00:41:07,260 --> 00:41:09,660

Without going aground or being found by someone

677

00:41:10,140 --> 00:41:15,220

Wind up and give it a throw to Kevin the details of the bottle's journey don't really matter

678

00:41:15,940 --> 00:41:18,660

Whether it went by land or sea or even air

679

00:41:19,260 --> 00:41:25,260

What counts is that once upon a time he sent out a message and at long last he has received an answer

680

00:41:26,260 --> 00:41:32,060

It gave me a sense of closure when I got back home and to find this note to tap back into my childhood

681

00:41:32,380 --> 00:41:37,080

and to kind of parallel it with my life the bottles journey with my life's journey and just kind of

682

00:41:37,700 --> 00:41:39,660

kind of

683

00:41:39,660 --> 00:41:45,700

Reaffirmation that hey, maybe you do belong right here and this is just a little backup little support for you

684

00:41:47,700 --> 00:41:50,660

Bruce and Rosa did not give their last names or a return address

685

00:41:51,260 --> 00:41:55,420

The Kevin's mother feels sure she knows at least a little bit about them

686

00:41:57,140 --> 00:42:03,820

They had to have some kind of a sense of humor to value to pick it up and open it read it and then you know send our note back say

687

00:42:05,300 --> 00:42:07,180

Where the heck is over it?

688

00:42:07,180 --> 00:42:13,660

I like to picture it as a couple strolling the beach and just coming upon it and taking the time and energy to

689

00:42:13,740 --> 00:42:19,740

To allow somebody to revisit their childhood like they like they've allowed me to do and also just to thank them for it

690

00:42:21,660 --> 00:42:28,580

Admittedly the incredible journey of Kevin's message on a bottle is one of our smaller mysteries. It is also one of our most charming

691

00:42:29,260 --> 00:42:36,820

We're hoping Bruce and Rosa will contact us here at unsolved mysteries to fill us in on the final chapter of Kevin Reader's magical bottle

692

00:42:36,820 --> 00:42:38,820

On

693

00:42:46,340 --> 00:42:51,340

Our next unsolved mysteries Bobby Fuller was on his way to rock and roll stonem

694

00:42:51,700 --> 00:42:55,660

Then he turned up dead in the front seat of his car doused with gasoline

695

00:42:57,420 --> 00:43:03,860

In Florida two primitive fertility statutes causing upro one woman after another after another

696

00:43:04,100 --> 00:43:06,340

Comes pregnant with just a simple touch

697

00:43:08,740 --> 00:43:12,460

Join me next time for more unsolved mysteries

698

00:43:33,860 --> 00:43:35,860

You