

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,000

The End

2

00:00:04,000 --> 00:00:08,000

Tonight on Unsolved Mysteries

3

00:00:08,000 --> 00:00:13,000

They call it the chair of death.

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

More than 300 years ago, a condemned killer

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

pronounced a curse on the seat as he was led to the gallows.

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

Legend has it that ever since,

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00:00:21,000 --> 00:00:25,000

those who ignored the warnings were doomed to an untimely death.

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00:00:26,000 --> 00:00:30,000

For 11 years, Audrey Santo has been in a coma-like state.

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00:00:30,000 --> 00:00:33,000

Yet her bedroom has become a religious shrine.

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00:00:33,000 --> 00:00:36,000

A constant stream of visitors believes that somehow,

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00:00:36,000 --> 00:00:41,000

in this mysterious sleep state, Audrey can perform miracles.

12

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

A dog rescues a total stranger from drowning.

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

A pet pig saves the life of its owner.

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

What turns animals into heroes?

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

Is it instinct, a sixth sense, or something more?

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00:00:56,000 --> 00:00:59,000

It may look like nothing more than a worn and weather-beaten

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00:00:59,000 --> 00:01:01,000

scrap of olive wood.

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

Many believe it holds extraordinary power.

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

The power to heal.

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00:01:06,000 --> 00:01:09,000

Is it possible that this is an actual remnant

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00:01:09,000 --> 00:01:11,000

of the legendary holy grail?

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00:01:13,000 --> 00:01:16,000

Can the power of love transcend death?

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00:01:16,000 --> 00:01:20,000

Consider the purity and simplicity of a single red rose.

24

00:01:20,000 --> 00:01:22,000

This woman says it was a gift

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00:01:22,000 --> 00:01:27,000

sent from beyond the grave by her fun television star Michael Lannick.

26

00:01:28,000 --> 00:01:31,000

Join me for these fascinating stories.

27

00:01:31,000 --> 00:01:34,000

Perhaps someone somewhere has at one vital clue

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00:01:34,000 --> 00:01:36,000

that can solve a mystery.

29

00:01:36,000 --> 00:01:38,000

Perhaps that someone is watching.

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00:01:38,000 --> 00:01:40,000

Perhaps it's you.

31

00:02:23,000 --> 00:02:27,000

The English village of Thursk

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00:02:27,000 --> 00:02:32,000

has all the quirky charms and quaint customs a visitor might expect.

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00:02:32,000 --> 00:02:35,000

It also has one attraction you might not expect.

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00:02:35,000 --> 00:02:39,000

As you wander through the clutter of the village's tiny museum,

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00:02:39,000 --> 00:02:42,000

you might find yourself drawn to a remote alcove

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00:02:42,000 --> 00:02:45,000

and a valuable antique chair.

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00:02:45,000 --> 00:02:48,000

But it's not on display for its rarity.

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00:02:48,000 --> 00:02:51,000

According to the locals, this chair is cursed with a curse

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00:02:51,000 --> 00:02:55,000

and this chair is cursed with an astonishing and lethal power.

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00:02:57,000 --> 00:03:00,000

It all started way back in 1669.

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00:03:00,000 --> 00:03:04,000

Thomas Busby, a convicted murderer on his way to the gallows,

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00:03:04,000 --> 00:03:06,000

was granted a last wish.

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00:03:06,000 --> 00:03:10,000

A final pint of ale on his favorite chair at his favorite pub.

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00:03:10,000 --> 00:03:14,000

When he finished, the condemned man gathered himself for the hangman.

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00:03:14,000 --> 00:03:17,000

Pointed to the chair and let his voice ring out,

46

00:03:17,000 --> 00:03:21,000

may sudden death come to anyone who dares sit in my chair.

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00:03:26,000 --> 00:03:29,000

Thomas Busby's curse echoed down the centuries,

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00:03:29,000 --> 00:03:32,000

proving his potency over and over again.

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00:03:32,000 --> 00:03:36,000

At least that's how it's told here with typical British reserve.

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00:03:36,000 --> 00:03:40,000

After he was hanged, this chair remained in the pub

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00:03:40,000 --> 00:03:44,000

and people were dared to sit in it.

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00:03:44,000 --> 00:03:49,000

But gradually it became notice that they were coming to a sticky end

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00:03:49,000 --> 00:03:52,000

afterwards or very shortly afterwards.

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00:03:52,000 --> 00:03:55,000

No one knows exactly how many victims of curse's claims

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00:03:55,000 --> 00:03:58,000

as Thomas Busby met his maker.

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00:03:58,000 --> 00:04:02,000

But the legend gained a great deal of notoriety during World War II.

57

00:04:02,000 --> 00:04:07,000

Airmen at a nearby base made the pub a hotspot and the chair a hot seat.

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00:04:07,000 --> 00:04:09,000

People started noticing.

59

00:04:09,000 --> 00:04:12,000

Those who sat didn't come back.

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00:04:15,000 --> 00:04:20,000

Well, until I came here, I didn't believe in curses.

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00:04:20,000 --> 00:04:24,000

But now I have mixed feelings after hearing certain things about this chair.

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00:04:24,000 --> 00:04:29,000

The only way I would sit in the chair if a doctor told me I've only got 12 hours to live.

63

00:04:29,000 --> 00:04:32,000

A great many people take it very seriously.

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00:04:32,000 --> 00:04:36,000

I'm not a superstitious man, but I wouldn't sit in it.

65

00:04:36,000 --> 00:04:39,000

Maybe a little ride in Busby's chair, what do you think?

66

00:04:39,000 --> 00:04:44,000

1967, 300 years after Busby drank his last pint,

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00:04:44,000 --> 00:04:48,000

a pair of Royal Air Force pilots downed a few too many of their own.

68

00:04:48,000 --> 00:04:50,000

How's that feel, sir?

69

00:04:50,000 --> 00:04:52,000

It's still hot, it's still ticking a bit.

70

00:04:52,000 --> 00:04:53,000

You feel all right?

71

00:04:53,000 --> 00:04:56,000

I feel pretty damn good, I tell you. How about a go for it?

72

00:04:56,000 --> 00:04:57,000

A go?

73

00:04:57,000 --> 00:04:59,000

A little spin, how about it?

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

A go for a go?

75

00:05:00,000 --> 00:05:01,000

I'm not afraid.

76

00:05:01,000 --> 00:05:03,000

I'll sit right down in here.

77

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

Oh, it's not bad at all.

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

It's a bit tingly.

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00:05:06,000 --> 00:05:07,000

It is tingly.

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00:05:07,000 --> 00:05:08,000

It's good though.

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00:05:08,000 --> 00:05:10,000

The tingle didn't last long.

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00:05:10,000 --> 00:05:13,000

The pitas were about to be grounded for good.

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00:05:21,000 --> 00:05:25,000

The chair was no longer known merely as Busby's chair.

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00:05:25,000 --> 00:05:27,000

Now it was the chair of death.

85

00:05:30,000 --> 00:05:32,000

A few years later, two bricklayers working nearby

86

00:05:32,000 --> 00:05:34,000

took a lunch break at the pub.

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00:05:34,000 --> 00:05:36,000

You feeling lucky today?

88

00:05:37,000 --> 00:05:39,000

Despite the chair's sinister reputation,

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00:05:39,000 --> 00:05:42,000

they couldn't resist daring its power.

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00:05:43,000 --> 00:05:45,000

You've got to be kidding.

91

00:05:45,000 --> 00:05:48,000

There have been a lot of people who tell you it's true.

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00:05:48,000 --> 00:05:51,000

I'll take it a try.

93

00:05:51,000 --> 00:05:53,000

You think I'm scared then?

94

00:05:53,000 --> 00:05:55,000

I don't know if you are or you aren't.

95

00:05:55,000 --> 00:05:57,000

Curious to know that.

96

00:05:58,000 --> 00:05:59,000

You do it.

97

00:05:59,000 --> 00:06:01,000

Not me, eh fellas?

98

00:06:01,000 --> 00:06:03,000

Go on.

99

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

All right then.

100

00:06:08,000 --> 00:06:10,000

Yeah, it's all right then.

101

00:06:10,000 --> 00:06:14,000

That afternoon, Busby's curse struck again.

102

00:06:14,000 --> 00:06:15,000

Oh!

103

00:06:15,000 --> 00:06:16,000

Hey!

104

00:06:19,000 --> 00:06:21,000

Here we go. You guys ready?

105

00:06:21,000 --> 00:06:24,000

Legend has it the chair never had an off day.

106

00:06:24,000 --> 00:06:27,000

Anyone who warmed his wooden bottom died swiftly.

107

00:06:27,000 --> 00:06:30,000

A roofer who tempted the chair fell to his death

108

00:06:30,000 --> 00:06:32,000

when the roof he was working on collapsed.

109

00:06:32,000 --> 00:06:35,000

A cleaning woman stumbled into the chair while mopping.

110

00:06:35,000 --> 00:06:38,000

Soon after, a brain tumor killed her.

111

00:06:38,000 --> 00:06:41,000

No one escaped the chair of death.

112

00:06:41,000 --> 00:06:44,000

Well, with all this rain we've been having,

113

00:06:44,000 --> 00:06:47,000

I haven't been in much need of new supplies.

114

00:06:47,000 --> 00:06:50,000

For safety's sake, the pub owner finally moved the chair

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00:06:50,000 --> 00:06:52,000

into the basement, out of harm's way.

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00:06:52,000 --> 00:06:54,000

Or so he thought.

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00:06:54,000 --> 00:06:56,000

You actually believe in the curse now?

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00:06:56,000 --> 00:06:58,000

Well, don't sit in it.

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00:06:58,000 --> 00:07:00,000

I can tell you more than one or two stories

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

about people who've met a premature death.

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00:07:03,000 --> 00:07:05,000

People even that sort of thing.

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00:07:05,000 --> 00:07:09,000

Within the hour, the delivery man's delivery days were over.

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00:07:15,000 --> 00:07:17,000

It was the last straw.

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00:07:17,000 --> 00:07:20,000

There was only one safe place for the chair,

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00:07:20,000 --> 00:07:22,000

the local museum.

126

00:07:22,000 --> 00:07:26,000

The curators made sure no one would sit in Busby's chair again.

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00:07:26,000 --> 00:07:29,000

They hung it on the wall five feet off the ground.

128

00:07:30,000 --> 00:07:32,000

People come in, they're horrified.

129

00:07:32,000 --> 00:07:36,000

Oh, they sort of register horror

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00:07:36,000 --> 00:07:39,000

when they come in and see this chair and hear the story.

131

00:07:41,000 --> 00:07:44,000

Though its killing days are presumed to be over,

132

00:07:44,000 --> 00:07:48,000

people continue to come forward with more tales of the chair of death.

133

00:07:48,000 --> 00:07:51,000

The strangest one, it was just a couple of months ago

134

00:07:51,000 --> 00:07:54,000

a fellow rang me, a retired man from Derby

135

00:07:54,000 --> 00:07:57,000

who'd been stationed on the air force base during the war.

136

00:07:57,000 --> 00:08:00,000

And he was a member of the RAF band.

137

00:08:00,000 --> 00:08:04,000

And they used to play functions in Thursk and travel there by truck.

138

00:08:04,000 --> 00:08:07,000

On the way back one night, they picked up two airmen

139

00:08:07,000 --> 00:08:10,000

who were walking home from a night out in town.

140

00:08:10,000 --> 00:08:12,000

And one of these airmen wanted to use a toilet,

141

00:08:12,000 --> 00:08:14,000

so they stopped here at the Busby stoop.

142

00:08:16,000 --> 00:08:18,000

While waiting for the airman, the driver of the truck,

143

00:08:18,000 --> 00:08:21,000

all unknowing, sat in Busby's chair.

144

00:08:21,000 --> 00:08:25,000

When the airman didn't return, the driver left the pub without him.

145

00:08:26,000 --> 00:08:31,000

The abandoned and furious airman had to make his own way back to the base.

146

00:08:31,000 --> 00:08:33,000

When he got there, he got a building brick

147

00:08:33,000 --> 00:08:36,000

and smashed the head of this driver and killed him.

148

00:08:39,000 --> 00:08:42,000

These days the chair isn't taken down even for cleaning,

149

00:08:42,000 --> 00:08:45,000

just in case anyone is foolhardy enough

150

00:08:45,000 --> 00:08:48,000

to test Busby's curse once more.

151

00:08:49,000 --> 00:08:53,000

The power of the chair has been hung up with it,

152

00:08:53,000 --> 00:08:59,000

and I wouldn't advise anybody to take it down and sit on it now.

153

00:08:59,000 --> 00:09:04,000

Because it does seem that those who challenge the power of the chair

154

00:09:04,000 --> 00:09:07,000

are being the quickest to succumb to it.

155

00:09:19,000 --> 00:09:22,000

Next, the unique and strange story of a girl

156

00:09:22,000 --> 00:09:25,000

who many believe is somehow healing the sick,

157

00:09:25,000 --> 00:09:29,000

even though she has been in a near coma for 11 years.

158

00:09:36,000 --> 00:09:39,000

As you can see, this is Audrey's room,

159

00:09:39,000 --> 00:09:43,000

and the person sitting down on her left is her grandmother.

160

00:09:43,000 --> 00:09:47,000

And the person standing on your right is Audrey's grandmother.

161

00:09:48,000 --> 00:09:51,000

Meet Audrey Santel. This is not a reenactment.

162

00:09:51,000 --> 00:09:56,000

Audrey has been in a coma-like state called akinetic mutism for 11 years.

163

00:09:56,000 --> 00:10:00,000

Every week people line up at this window to get a glimpse of her.

164

00:10:00,000 --> 00:10:02,000

Not because they are morbid,

165

00:10:02,000 --> 00:10:06,000

but because they believe she's a miracle maker.

166

00:10:09,000 --> 00:10:13,000

Her astonishing story begins when Audrey played by her family's swimming pool

167

00:10:13,000 --> 00:10:15,000

in Worcester, Massachusetts.

168

00:10:15,000 --> 00:10:18,000

She was only three years old when tragedy struck.

169

00:10:24,000 --> 00:10:28,000

Audrey was under water for several minutes before she was rescued by her brother.

170

00:10:29,000 --> 00:10:33,000

On the way to the emergency room, she went into cardiac arrest.

171

00:10:33,000 --> 00:10:36,000

It was a parents' worst nightmare.

172

00:10:36,000 --> 00:10:40,000

Audrey's initial diagnosis after the near drowning

173

00:10:40,000 --> 00:10:44,000

was that she had massive brain damage from the drowning.

174

00:10:44,000 --> 00:10:49,000

And very poor prognosis, they didn't think she was going to live very long.

175

00:10:51,000 --> 00:10:53,000

We just started praying.

176

00:10:53,000 --> 00:10:55,000

That's all. Just prayed.

177

00:10:55,000 --> 00:11:00,000

Because when things are totally out of your control, what else can you do?

178

00:11:00,000 --> 00:11:02,000

It's God's control.

179

00:11:02,000 --> 00:11:05,000

Then you've got to give him the ball and let him run with it.

180

00:11:06,000 --> 00:11:10,000

Audrey lived, but she has remained bedridden for 11 years.

181

00:11:10,000 --> 00:11:13,000

She shows an awareness of what's going on around her,

182

00:11:13,000 --> 00:11:16,000

but she is unable to move or talk.

183

00:11:16,000 --> 00:11:20,000

She's not fully conscious by any stretch of the imagination,

184

00:11:20,000 --> 00:11:22,000

and yet she's not unconscious.

185

00:11:24,000 --> 00:11:26,000

A year after Audrey's accident,

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00:11:26,000 --> 00:11:30,000

her mother took her to the famous miracle site of Medjugorje, hoping for a cure.

187

00:11:31,000 --> 00:11:33,000

The trip nearly killed Audrey,

188

00:11:33,000 --> 00:11:38,000

but from that time on, a gradual progression of unexplained phenomena took place.

189

00:11:38,000 --> 00:11:42,000

One of the most remarkable occurred in the Santos living room.

190

00:11:44,000 --> 00:11:49,000

October 1993.

191

00:11:49,000 --> 00:11:51,000

Audrey was nine.

192

00:11:51,000 --> 00:11:54,000

A picture of the Virgin Mary appeared to be crying,

193

00:11:54,000 --> 00:11:57,000

not tears, but drops of oil.

194

00:11:58,000 --> 00:12:00,000

We're all looking at this image,

195

00:12:00,000 --> 00:12:03,000

and I said, please, you know, if this is for Audrey,

196

00:12:03,000 --> 00:12:08,000

let us know this, because all of a sudden it occurred just to the kids and I that

197

00:12:08,000 --> 00:12:11,000

maybe this would be worse for Audrey's healing.

198

00:12:11,000 --> 00:12:16,000

There are many meanings of oil, for example, healing and so on,

199

00:12:16,000 --> 00:12:22,000

and I conclude quickly then that God is saying this is a holy place,

200

00:12:22,000 --> 00:12:25,000

and this little girl is mine.

201

00:12:26,000 --> 00:12:29,000

It started with one weeping picture.

202

00:12:29,000 --> 00:12:31,000

Then as the days went on,

203

00:12:31,000 --> 00:12:36,000

almost every religious icon in Audrey's room began to cry tears of oil.

204

00:12:37,000 --> 00:12:39,000

Another image started weeping,

205

00:12:39,000 --> 00:12:41,000

and then another image started weeping.

206

00:12:41,000 --> 00:12:44,000

We started thinking, well, is there a rhyme or reason to this?

207

00:12:45,000 --> 00:12:47,000

Or could it be a hoax?

208

00:12:47,000 --> 00:12:51,000

One person who thought it was a sham was a newly hired nurse.

209

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

When I started piecing everything together,

210

00:12:54,000 --> 00:12:56,000

at first I'm saying, I gotta get out of here.

211

00:12:56,000 --> 00:12:58,000

These guys are nuts.

212

00:12:58,000 --> 00:13:01,000

I really tried to call their bluff on this,

213

00:13:01,000 --> 00:13:04,000

but as I stayed there, I just, I believed it.

214

00:13:04,000 --> 00:13:08,000

I couldn't, I can't find any reason why these things are happening,

215

00:13:08,000 --> 00:13:09,000

and I have checked.

216

00:13:09,000 --> 00:13:11,000

Did I check the statues?

217

00:13:11,000 --> 00:13:14,000

Did I check the cups?

218

00:13:14,000 --> 00:13:19,000

I mean, I'm looking for wires and anything that would stop an oil reaction.

219

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

And there was absolutely nothing,

220

00:13:21,000 --> 00:13:24,000

nothing there that I can explain why it's happening.

221

00:13:24,000 --> 00:13:27,000

News began to spread within the Catholic community.

222

00:13:27,000 --> 00:13:30,000

Fervent believers began to request samples of the oil.

223

00:13:30,000 --> 00:13:33,000

Some even anointed their sick loved ones with it.

224

00:13:34,000 --> 00:13:38,000

The mysterious events began to take on a new dimension.

225

00:13:38,000 --> 00:13:41,000

Caitlin McQuade was thought to have cerebral palsy.

226

00:13:41,000 --> 00:13:44,000

She no longer has braces on her legs.

227

00:13:44,000 --> 00:13:47,000

Victor Fanucci recovered from crippling neck pain.

228

00:13:47,000 --> 00:13:52,000

A motorcycle accident had left Joey Paralisi with severely injured legs.

229

00:13:52,000 --> 00:13:55,000

He can now walk without crutches.

230

00:13:55,000 --> 00:14:03,000

Lord Jesus Christ, you gave us the Eucharist as the memorial of your suffering and death.

231

00:14:03,000 --> 00:14:05,000

In a remarkable departure from tradition,

232

00:14:05,000 --> 00:14:09,000

the local Catholic diocese approved the weekly performance of mass

233

00:14:09,000 --> 00:14:12,000

in a makeshift sanctuary in the family's backyard.

234

00:14:12,000 --> 00:14:16,000

Pilgrims came to the Santo Home to ask Audrey to pray for them

235

00:14:16,000 --> 00:14:18,000

and to receive samples of the oil.

236

00:14:18,000 --> 00:14:22,000

At first they came by the dozens, then by the hundreds,

237

00:14:22,000 --> 00:14:25,000

until the numbers reached the thousands.

238

00:14:26,000 --> 00:14:32,000

Joanne and Stanley Pirog were given a sample of oil by a friend

239

00:14:32,000 --> 00:14:37,000

when their 17-year-old son Jim lapsed into a coma after a car crash.

240

00:14:37,000 --> 00:14:40,000

A serious student he intended to go to college.

241

00:14:40,000 --> 00:14:44,000

That was before a pickup hit the driver's side of his car.

242

00:14:44,000 --> 00:14:49,000

They told us that Jim's condition was very, very grave

243

00:14:49,000 --> 00:14:53,000

and it would be a miracle if he survived the night.

244

00:14:54,000 --> 00:14:58,000

We're concerned that Jim was not going to make it.

245

00:15:00,000 --> 00:15:05,000

Jim was still comatose seven days later when they placed the oil on his forehead.

246

00:15:05,000 --> 00:15:07,000

No Mary, follow grace.

247

00:15:07,000 --> 00:15:09,000

And then...

248

00:15:09,000 --> 00:15:12,000

Bless us now, bless us if they're there forever, Lord Jesus.

249

00:15:12,000 --> 00:15:15,000

The monitor showed that Jim was responding.

250

00:15:17,000 --> 00:15:21,000

I can still remember the feeling of,

251

00:15:21,000 --> 00:15:26,000

because I didn't expect that particular effect.

252

00:15:32,000 --> 00:15:37,000

And it was just a few hours later that he did come out of his coma.

253

00:15:38,000 --> 00:15:41,000

And the nurses used to call him Miracle Kid.

254

00:15:45,000 --> 00:15:48,000

It took Jim a year to improve enough from his injuries

255

00:15:48,000 --> 00:15:50,000

to return to high school and graduate.

256

00:15:52,000 --> 00:15:57,000

Audrey's astonishing abilities took a new twist in June of 1994.

257

00:15:57,000 --> 00:16:01,000

Without warning, a mysterious rash appeared on her legs.

258

00:16:01,000 --> 00:16:05,000

Was Audrey taking on the painful side effects of sick people?

259

00:16:05,000 --> 00:16:08,000

Dr. Harding had no explanation for it,

260

00:16:08,000 --> 00:16:12,000

so a laboratory examined the biopsy of Audrey's skin.

261

00:16:12,000 --> 00:16:16,000

And they sent back a report that said it's the rash

262

00:16:16,000 --> 00:16:20,000

that you might see with a patient on chemotherapy.

263

00:16:20,000 --> 00:16:22,000

And she wasn't on chemotherapy.

264

00:16:22,000 --> 00:16:26,000

Knowing the supernatural stuff going around her,

265

00:16:26,000 --> 00:16:28,000

perhaps somebody had come in,

266

00:16:28,000 --> 00:16:30,000

maybe their wife dying of cancer,

267

00:16:30,000 --> 00:16:31,000

or their husband or their child,

268

00:16:31,000 --> 00:16:33,000

and on chemotherapy,

269

00:16:33,000 --> 00:16:38,000

and had asked her if she would ask God for healing for their loved one.

270

00:16:38,000 --> 00:16:42,000

And that, you know, perhaps she took that on,

271

00:16:42,000 --> 00:16:45,000

that suffering on behalf of a patient.

272

00:16:46,000 --> 00:16:49,000

But one of the most incredible aspects of Audrey's story

273

00:16:49,000 --> 00:16:51,000

is Audrey herself.

274

00:16:51,000 --> 00:16:53,000

After 11 years of being bedridden,

275

00:16:53,000 --> 00:16:55,000

she is surprisingly healthy.

276

00:16:56,000 --> 00:16:59,000

You just wouldn't expect her to be so well-nourished looking,

277

00:16:59,000 --> 00:17:01,000

her skin to be in such perfect condition.

278

00:17:01,000 --> 00:17:06,000

She really just looks like this maybe happened a few weeks ago,

279

00:17:06,000 --> 00:17:09,000

or a month ago or not, like it happened 11 years ago.

280

00:17:09,000 --> 00:17:13,000

The girls never had a bed sore, you know,

281

00:17:13,000 --> 00:17:16,000

and for someone who doesn't move around and have a trach and stuff,

282

00:17:16,000 --> 00:17:19,000

she really has not had any kind of pneumonia or cold or anything

283

00:17:19,000 --> 00:17:25,000

in three years, which is really in itself a remarkable thing.

284

00:17:26,000 --> 00:17:27,000

It's got to be God.

285

00:17:27,000 --> 00:17:29,000

I mean, it's supernatural.

286

00:17:29,000 --> 00:17:31,000

It comes from two sources in my book,

287

00:17:31,000 --> 00:17:33,000

the devil or God.

288

00:17:33,000 --> 00:17:35,000

And since this is all good,

289

00:17:35,000 --> 00:17:37,000

and people are coming back to God,

290

00:17:37,000 --> 00:17:39,000

and they're being healed,

291

00:17:41,000 --> 00:17:43,000

this must be of God.

292

00:17:46,000 --> 00:17:48,000

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293

00:18:16,000 --> 00:18:26,000

They say that inside even the smallest dog lives a heart and mind of a wolf.

294

00:18:26,000 --> 00:18:29,560

So what strange force makes these animals our best friends?

295

00:18:29,560 --> 00:18:35,540

Even more puzzling, what inexplicable instinct persuades them to risk their lives for ours?

296

00:18:35,540 --> 00:18:39,600

What is the potent and mysterious bond between us and them?

297

00:18:39,600 --> 00:18:41,160

Go get it!

298

00:18:41,160 --> 00:18:42,160

Go get it!

299

00:18:42,160 --> 00:18:43,160

Go get it!

300

00:18:43,160 --> 00:18:47,720

A female and her dog, Norman, often walk along the shore of a tidal estuary in seaside

301

00:18:47,720 --> 00:18:48,720

Oregon.

302

00:18:48,720 --> 00:18:54,000

Norman is a yellow lab, a kind of dog often used to guide the blind.

303

00:18:54,000 --> 00:18:56,880

In this case, however, the roles are reversed.

304

00:18:56,880 --> 00:19:00,240

Norman is blind, and that guides him.

305

00:19:00,240 --> 00:19:05,560

When Norman's going to bump into something, I just say, easy, easy.

306

00:19:05,560 --> 00:19:11,720

If I throw all this stick and he doesn't hear where it lands and he goes the wrong direction,

307

00:19:11,720 --> 00:19:13,760

I tell him to go the other way.

308

00:19:13,760 --> 00:19:19,520

I just say, other way, other way, and he'll usually turn around and go the right way.

309

00:19:19,520 --> 00:19:25,600

On August 5th, 1997, Annette was guiding Norman through the usual game, but Norman suddenly

310

00:19:25,600 --> 00:19:28,000

reacted to a different sound.

311

00:19:28,000 --> 00:19:29,000

Norman!

312

00:19:29,000 --> 00:19:30,000

Norman!

313

00:19:30,000 --> 00:19:36,200

He just took off like a bullet.

314

00:19:36,200 --> 00:19:39,240

I was surprised that he could even run that fast.

315

00:19:39,240 --> 00:19:40,560

I tried to call him back.

316

00:19:40,560 --> 00:19:46,480

He'll read he would hurt himself, but he ignored her completely.

317

00:19:46,480 --> 00:19:48,000

Help!

318

00:19:48,000 --> 00:19:49,400

Help!

319

00:19:49,400 --> 00:19:56,440

15-year-old Lisa Nibley was caught in the dangerous undertow of the incoming tide.

320

00:19:56,440 --> 00:20:00,040

I was having a hard time getting enough air in, you know.

321

00:20:00,040 --> 00:20:04,760

My lungs were just burning because it was just so hard for me to breathe, and my face was

322

00:20:04,760 --> 00:20:11,120

just on fire because I was screaming so loud for someone to help me.

323

00:20:11,120 --> 00:20:15,440

Amazingly, Norman started swimming straight toward her.

324

00:20:15,440 --> 00:20:21,520

I couldn't believe that he knew what to do, that he knew somebody needed him, and he went

325

00:20:21,520 --> 00:20:22,520

and did it.

326

00:20:22,520 --> 00:20:24,680

It was just, it was incredible.

327

00:20:24,680 --> 00:20:28,560

When Lisa saw Norman heading toward her, she stopped screaming.

328

00:20:28,560 --> 00:20:33,480

Norman became instantly disoriented, and it suddenly realized Norman had been following

329

00:20:33,480 --> 00:20:34,480

Lisa's voice.

330

00:20:34,480 --> 00:20:35,480

Call him!

331

00:20:35,480 --> 00:20:36,480

Call him!

332

00:20:36,480 --> 00:20:37,480

His name is Norman!

333

00:20:37,480 --> 00:20:38,480

His name is Norman!

334

00:20:38,480 --> 00:20:39,480

Call him!

335

00:20:39,480 --> 00:20:40,480

He'll come to you!

336

00:20:40,480 --> 00:20:41,480

Norman!

337

00:20:41,480 --> 00:20:42,480

Norman!

338

00:20:42,480 --> 00:20:53,480

The moment Lisa called him, Norman got his bearings and swam straight toward her.

339

00:20:53,480 --> 00:20:54,480

Come on, Norman!

340

00:20:54,480 --> 00:20:57,680

It was the most helpless moment in my life.

341

00:20:57,680 --> 00:21:01,880

I felt like everything was depending on Norman to get out there and get her because there's

342

00:21:01,880 --> 00:21:03,320

no way I could.

343

00:21:03,320 --> 00:21:06,000

I'm not a swimmer and I wouldn't have been able to save her.

344

00:21:06,000 --> 00:21:08,200

It was all depending on him.

345

00:21:08,200 --> 00:21:13,520

When he swam out to me, he kind of looked at me and my face and kind of like he was

346

00:21:13,520 --> 00:21:16,160

saying, grab ahold of me, I'm going to help you.

347

00:21:16,160 --> 00:21:18,400

Lisa grabbed Norman, then lost her grip.

348

00:21:18,400 --> 00:21:20,880

Her arms were shaking with fatigue.

349

00:21:20,880 --> 00:21:25,280

Incredibly, Norman came back for another try.

350

00:21:25,280 --> 00:21:31,440

Service!

351

00:21:31,440 --> 00:21:35,520

He turned around and swung himself around so I could grab the back of him so he could

352

00:21:35,520 --> 00:21:38,120

swim and I could hold on to him.

353

00:21:38,120 --> 00:21:41,640

I think he knew that he had to help me.

354

00:21:41,640 --> 00:21:43,760

He knew what he was doing.

355

00:21:43,760 --> 00:21:48,040

To Lisa's astonishment, Norman told her towards shore as though he'd been trained for it all

356

00:21:48,040 --> 00:21:50,080

his life.

357

00:21:50,080 --> 00:21:57,080

Moments later they were back in the shallows, safe.

358

00:21:57,080 --> 00:22:05,840

He's like already an angel and I was so happy that he saved me and it was amazing.

359

00:22:05,840 --> 00:22:10,680

Neither Annette nor Lisa understand what mysterious instinct inspired a blind dog to risk his

360

00:22:10,680 --> 00:22:12,240

life for a stranger.

361

00:22:12,240 --> 00:22:19,120

But Lisa will be forever grateful to her hero, Norman.

362

00:22:19,120 --> 00:22:23,880

When you look into a dog's soft brown eyes, it's not hard to see the heart of a hero.

363

00:22:23,880 --> 00:22:28,240

But what about other animals?

364

00:22:28,240 --> 00:22:31,080

August 4th, 1998.

365

00:22:31,080 --> 00:22:35,000

Joe Aldsman was vacationing at a campground on Lake Erie.

366

00:22:35,000 --> 00:22:40,360

While her husband was out fishing, she was relaxing in their trailer.

367

00:22:40,360 --> 00:22:47,480

Suddenly, she felt a pain in her chest and her left arm went numb.

368

00:22:47,480 --> 00:22:49,160

Help!

369

00:22:49,160 --> 00:22:51,160

Help!

370

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

Help!

371

00:22:54,120 --> 00:22:56,600

No one in the campground heard her cries.

372

00:22:56,600 --> 00:23:03,680

No one except Lulu, her pet pot-bellied pig.

373

00:23:03,680 --> 00:23:07,000

Joe's heart attack continued, her pain increasing.

374

00:23:07,000 --> 00:23:09,280

She became terrified that she would die.

375

00:23:09,280 --> 00:23:11,640

No one close enough to help.

376

00:23:11,640 --> 00:23:13,320

Seconds passed, minutes.

377

00:23:13,320 --> 00:23:16,320

She was getting weaker.

378

00:23:16,320 --> 00:23:18,320

Hello?

379

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

Is anybody home?

380

00:23:22,480 --> 00:23:24,480

Help me!

381

00:23:24,480 --> 00:23:27,480

I'm having a heart attack.

382

00:23:27,480 --> 00:23:28,480

Hold 911.

383

00:23:28,480 --> 00:23:29,480

The phone is in the center.

384

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

All right, I'll get some help.

385

00:23:31,480 --> 00:23:32,480

I'll get an ambulance.

386

00:23:32,480 --> 00:23:33,480

Just hold on.

387

00:23:33,480 --> 00:23:35,480

I'll be right back.

388

00:23:35,480 --> 00:23:39,280

Within minutes, paramedics were rushing Joe to the hospital.

389

00:23:39,280 --> 00:23:42,640

They took me to the emergency room and admitted me.

390

00:23:42,640 --> 00:23:51,000

And they said in even 15 minutes I would have no quality of life or I would have died.

391

00:23:51,000 --> 00:23:54,720

But how did the young man happen to arrive just in the nick of time?

392

00:23:54,720 --> 00:23:57,720

What guardian angel guided him to her door?

393

00:23:57,720 --> 00:24:04,880

To Joe's amazement, it turned out to be Lulu the pig.

394

00:24:04,880 --> 00:24:12,440

From the moment Joe fell to the floor, Lulu seemed to know something was very wrong.

395

00:24:12,440 --> 00:24:16,840

She ran to the kitchen and squeezed herself through the dog door, scraping her belly

396

00:24:16,840 --> 00:24:21,280

off.

397

00:24:21,280 --> 00:24:28,000

Outside, Lulu threw herself against the gate, battering it until it broke.

398

00:24:28,000 --> 00:24:30,280

Her cries kept getting fainter.

399

00:24:30,280 --> 00:24:32,360

That's because she was going farther away from me.

400

00:24:32,360 --> 00:24:36,080

But I didn't register that at the time.

401

00:24:36,080 --> 00:24:41,440

Lulu went to the campground's main crossroads.

402

00:24:41,440 --> 00:24:45,880

Incredibly, she parked herself in the middle of the road, forcing drivers to back up or

403

00:24:45,880 --> 00:24:51,560

swerve around her.

404

00:24:51,560 --> 00:24:57,760

Even more amazing, Lulu repeatedly retraced her steps, returning constantly to Joe.

405

00:24:57,760 --> 00:25:02,120

She'd come back in through all the doggy door and scrape her belly and check on me and put

406

00:25:02,120 --> 00:25:04,760

that big mug of hers over my face.

407

00:25:04,760 --> 00:25:08,720

And she'd go out back out through everything and do everything again.

408

00:25:08,720 --> 00:25:15,600

It just seemed like I'd hauled forever and Lulu had run back and forth forever.

409

00:25:16,320 --> 00:25:21,960

But Lulu apparently wasn't willing to give up.

410

00:25:21,960 --> 00:25:26,840

Finally, someone stopped.

411

00:25:26,840 --> 00:25:35,800

Lulu's behavior defies explanation.

412

00:25:35,800 --> 00:25:39,720

Did she actually conceive and execute a plan to save Joe's life?

413

00:25:39,720 --> 00:25:41,520

How could a pig do that?

414

00:25:41,520 --> 00:25:45,200

And why would she?

415

00:25:45,800 --> 00:25:50,680

Her behaviorist might credit Pac Instant for genetically programmed responses to fear pheromones,

416

00:25:50,680 --> 00:25:53,240

but Joe has a simpler answer.

417

00:25:53,240 --> 00:25:55,760

Lulu loved her.

418

00:25:55,760 --> 00:25:58,440

Every morning I thank God that she was there.

419

00:25:58,440 --> 00:26:01,480

And every morning I thank her.

420

00:26:01,480 --> 00:26:05,240

Lulu literally saved my life.

421

00:26:05,240 --> 00:26:13,880

Next, some say that water from a chalice called the Lantius Cup has the power to heal.

422

00:26:13,880 --> 00:26:23,880

Could it be the Holy Grail?

423

00:26:23,880 --> 00:26:29,040

It was the most sacred object of the Middle Ages, a great elusive prize coveted by King

424

00:26:29,040 --> 00:26:32,560

Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table.

425

00:26:32,560 --> 00:26:37,960

Centuries ago, wandering mistresses popularized the image of a bejeweled golden chalice, the

426

00:26:37,960 --> 00:26:39,840

Holy Grail.

427

00:26:39,840 --> 00:26:41,960

But that is a romantic ideal.

428

00:26:41,960 --> 00:26:46,920

The reality may be quite different.

429

00:26:46,920 --> 00:26:51,480

Thousands of people believe this well-worn palm-sized bit of olive wood, kept under lock

430

00:26:51,480 --> 00:26:57,760

and key in West Wales, is the true Grail, all that is left of a simple workman's cup,

431

00:26:57,760 --> 00:27:04,720

the cup from which Jesus Christ himself drank at the Last Supper.

432

00:27:04,720 --> 00:27:11,640

The cup is a unique symbol which brings God and man together.

433

00:27:11,640 --> 00:27:19,760

And of course, for the Catholic, at least, Christ is present in the cup.

434

00:27:19,760 --> 00:27:29,640

Many people regard the Holy Grail and Jesus Christ as one and the same.

435

00:27:29,640 --> 00:27:34,440

It is a powerful notion that the lips of Christ actually touch an object that still exists

436

00:27:34,440 --> 00:27:36,120

today.

437

00:27:36,120 --> 00:27:37,880

But is it truly the Grail?

438

00:27:37,880 --> 00:27:39,880

Where is the proof?

439

00:27:39,880 --> 00:27:43,640

Believers say it lies in the miraculous power to heal.

440

00:27:43,640 --> 00:27:48,360

Hundreds testify they have been cured of the worst afflictions, arthritis, heart disease,

441

00:27:48,360 --> 00:27:52,160

blindness, leprosy, even deadly cancers.

442

00:27:52,160 --> 00:27:56,840

The legend of the Grail begins with this wondrous journey from biblical Palestine to a modest

443

00:27:56,840 --> 00:28:01,240

cottage in England.

444

00:28:01,240 --> 00:28:06,680

For more than 2,000 years, every object associated with the Last Supper and the crucifixion

445

00:28:06,680 --> 00:28:14,160

has taken on a mystical significance, none more so than the Holy Grail.

446

00:28:14,160 --> 00:28:19,520

For the historian, the Grail is legend, pure and simple, but legend is an amazing thing.

447

00:28:19,520 --> 00:28:23,760

It can enable people to do heroic things under the worst of circumstances.

448

00:28:23,760 --> 00:28:27,000

And that's why the Grail story is one of the greatest stories in the entire history of

449

00:28:27,000 --> 00:28:30,720

the world and always will be.

450

00:28:30,720 --> 00:28:35,000

Though it was not recorded in the Bible, the Grail legend holds that blood spilled from

451

00:28:35,000 --> 00:28:38,960

Christ's wounds as his body was being prepared for burial.

452

00:28:38,960 --> 00:28:42,760

Joseph of Arimathea caught a few drops in the Grail.

453

00:28:42,760 --> 00:28:47,480

After the resurrection, Joseph was accused of stealing the body of Christ and was imprisoned

454

00:28:47,480 --> 00:28:49,720

without food or water.

455

00:28:49,720 --> 00:28:54,520

Each day, however, an angel placed a wafer in the Grail, keeping Joseph alive until he

456

00:28:54,520 --> 00:28:57,560

managed to escape with his life and the Grail.

457

00:28:57,920 --> 00:29:01,680

He brought the precious cup to the Western Isles of Britain.

458

00:29:01,680 --> 00:29:06,560

There he founded the Church of the Holy Grail on Glastonbury tour, a church whose ruins

459

00:29:06,560 --> 00:29:12,840

still stand today, 100 miles west of London.

460

00:29:12,840 --> 00:29:18,760

There is sufficient evidence, written evidence, to support the coming of Joseph and the Holy

461

00:29:18,760 --> 00:29:26,760

Grail with 11 or so disciples to the Western confines of England, indeed to Glastonbury,

462

00:29:26,760 --> 00:29:32,960

via the Bristol Channel, from Palestine.

463

00:29:32,960 --> 00:29:37,760

For a thousand years after Joseph came to Glastonbury, the Grail remained hidden away,

464

00:29:37,760 --> 00:29:40,080

all but forgotten.

465

00:29:40,080 --> 00:29:43,960

Then in the 12th century, poets and troubadours revived the legend.

466

00:29:43,960 --> 00:29:48,840

The quest for the Grail captivated all of Europe.

467

00:29:48,840 --> 00:29:52,760

It's the spiritual equivalent to, say, the Star Wars trilogy, the Superman movies, the

468

00:29:52,760 --> 00:29:55,880

Batman movies all rolled into one.

469

00:29:56,000 --> 00:29:59,000

Everybody knows the characters, everybody has some sense of what's at stake.

470

00:29:59,000 --> 00:30:03,040

It's the salvation of the human race.

471

00:30:03,040 --> 00:30:08,560

Three centuries after the revival of the Grail legend, Henry VIII added another chapter.

472

00:30:08,560 --> 00:30:16,080

He ordered his soldiers to loot the monasteries and destroy the churches, including Glastonbury.

473

00:30:16,080 --> 00:30:20,480

Henry VIII's Reformation was one of the great acts of vandalism in the history of the world.

474

00:30:20,480 --> 00:30:24,520

To put it bluntly, the king wanted to get rich so he could fight France and Spain.

475

00:30:24,560 --> 00:30:29,240

And he also wanted to remove what he thought were the wrong bits of religion of mis-land.

476

00:30:29,240 --> 00:30:34,080

And that's why these great medieval avies had to go.

477

00:30:34,080 --> 00:30:38,600

A group of monks fled Glastonbury just ahead of the king's soldiers.

478

00:30:38,600 --> 00:30:43,320

Legend has it that they carried with them a secret treasure, the true Grail, for a time

479

00:30:43,320 --> 00:30:48,000

they hid in a monastery in Wales called Strada Florida.

480

00:30:48,000 --> 00:30:53,840

When Strada Florida suffered the same fate as Glastonbury, the monks fled again.

481

00:30:53,840 --> 00:30:59,280

It's time to Nantius House, a mansion owned by a family of aristocrats named Powell.

482

00:30:59,280 --> 00:31:02,280

There the monks found sanctuary.

483

00:31:02,280 --> 00:31:07,080

There were seven of them, six monks and the prior.

484

00:31:07,080 --> 00:31:14,800

And they remained in Nantius House and to one by one they passed on.

485

00:31:14,800 --> 00:31:17,720

The last of the seven to die was the prior.

486

00:31:17,720 --> 00:31:25,640

It was the prior who handed this sacred relic over to the Powell family.

487

00:31:25,640 --> 00:31:30,320

The Powell's guarded the monks' relic for 400 years, handing it down from one generation

488

00:31:30,320 --> 00:31:31,320

to the next.

489

00:31:31,320 --> 00:31:36,800

It became known as the Nantius Cup.

490

00:31:36,800 --> 00:31:42,040

What began to transpire was that the chalice had healing properties.

491

00:31:42,040 --> 00:31:47,280

How they discovered this is not known, but at some point in time the healing properties

492

00:31:47,280 --> 00:31:51,080

became more apparent.

493

00:31:51,080 --> 00:31:56,120

For many years Reverend Griffiths knew only the barest facts about the Nantius Cup.

494

00:31:56,120 --> 00:32:03,040

Then one night in 1988 he had his first encounter with the mysterious powers of the Grail.

495

00:32:03,040 --> 00:32:09,040

I was on itinerant ministry during those days and this particular day I was travelling to

496

00:32:09,040 --> 00:32:12,440

North Wales early in the morning.

497

00:32:12,440 --> 00:32:20,760

I said I'd set a time of rising at 6am, but at 4am I was awakened by a voice.

498

00:32:20,760 --> 00:32:26,840

The first time it didn't register and I heard a second time the voice say, you will find

499

00:32:26,840 --> 00:32:36,320

the holy chalice.

500

00:32:36,320 --> 00:32:39,040

Before dawn that very morning a friend called.

501

00:32:39,040 --> 00:32:43,280

The friend suggested that the Reverend include the Nantius Cup in a coming exhibition of

502

00:32:43,280 --> 00:32:45,480

Christian artifacts.

503

00:32:45,480 --> 00:32:52,480

He told Griffiths he might learn more about the Cup at the Ruin Abbey of Stratoflora.

504

00:32:52,480 --> 00:32:58,480

When I gave the curator the details I was amazed to find that he was convinced of my

505

00:32:58,480 --> 00:33:01,800

experience and he was more than willing to help.

506

00:33:01,800 --> 00:33:06,880

But he made it to understand that he was breaking the rule because he had promised the family

507

00:33:06,880 --> 00:33:11,320

that he would never redirect anyone to their present location.

508

00:33:11,320 --> 00:33:17,760

Now the reason for this was because the present Cup owner's mother was sometimes inundated

509

00:33:17,760 --> 00:33:26,720

with as many as a thousand visitors per week and as a result she experienced a breakdown.

510

00:33:26,720 --> 00:33:32,240

The current owner of the Cup, another direct descendant of the Powell family, lives in seclusion,

511

00:33:32,240 --> 00:33:37,680

treating her privacy as vigilantly as she guards the Nantius Cup.

512

00:33:37,680 --> 00:33:43,320

As the guardian of the Holy Grail my duty to safeguard the Cup at all times but to allow

513

00:33:43,320 --> 00:33:51,480

people to drink from it, to have water from it and to send water to people if they are

514

00:33:51,480 --> 00:33:53,120

real.

515

00:33:53,120 --> 00:33:58,880

When I first set eyes on the chalice I was a little disappointed because it was only

516

00:33:58,880 --> 00:33:59,880

fragmentary.

517

00:34:00,760 --> 00:34:07,160

Perhaps it was only a third of the original vessel left but when I handled it I had a

518

00:34:07,160 --> 00:34:10,760

total, totally different appreciation of it.

519

00:34:10,760 --> 00:34:22,560

I can't describe in human language the effect it had upon me as if I was already in paradise.

520

00:34:22,560 --> 00:34:27,200

It is precisely that feeling of holiness that has led many to believe the Cup has the power

521

00:34:27,200 --> 00:34:29,640

to heal.

522

00:34:29,640 --> 00:34:34,240

The Cup's guardian gives water that has been poured over the Cup to Reverend Griffiths.

523

00:34:34,240 --> 00:34:38,000

He patched the holy water on small prayer mats and sends them to those who were sick

524

00:34:38,000 --> 00:34:39,000

and crippled.

525

00:34:39,000 --> 00:34:44,680

The Reverend says some of the results have been nothing short of miraculous.

526

00:34:44,680 --> 00:34:52,520

I have a regular meal with a young man who was once totally blind and today he has perfect

527

00:34:52,520 --> 00:34:53,520

sight.

528

00:34:54,280 --> 00:34:59,880

I cite one case of a young man who was a leper, had a leprous condition for 11 years

529

00:34:59,880 --> 00:35:05,960

but the following day his skin was perfectly clean from every trace of leprosy.

530

00:35:05,960 --> 00:35:13,600

We have many cases of arthritics and rheumatics who have been healed if not in the short term

531

00:35:13,600 --> 00:35:19,080

in the long term for which they were told originally there was no cure.

532

00:35:19,080 --> 00:35:22,920

Marlene Checkley testifies to her own miracle.

533

00:35:22,920 --> 00:35:25,640

Well like I would imagine it was every woman's nightmare.

534

00:35:25,640 --> 00:35:31,440

I was having a shower one morning and I found a lump in my left breast.

535

00:35:31,440 --> 00:35:34,160

Marlene's doctor believed the lump was cancerous.

536

00:35:34,160 --> 00:35:40,640

While waiting for a mammogram Marlene wore one of the prayer claws beneath her clothes.

537

00:35:40,640 --> 00:35:45,120

And then by the time I went for the mammogram everything was clear.

538

00:35:45,120 --> 00:35:48,560

The lump was still there but there was nothing cancerous.

539

00:35:48,560 --> 00:35:53,080

The doctors did say that the lump would still stay there but after a week or two the lump

540

00:35:53,080 --> 00:35:58,680

went and I've had no further problems with that.

541

00:35:58,680 --> 00:36:06,920

The results and the testimonies were so amazing that I knew then that behind my whole experience

542

00:36:06,920 --> 00:36:13,760

from the time when I heard the voice to this present time that I have no doubts whatsoever

543

00:36:13,760 --> 00:36:23,200

about the authenticity of the chalice being the holy grail that Jesus used at the last supper.

544

00:36:23,200 --> 00:36:26,080

Is the Nantius Cup the holy grail?

545

00:36:26,080 --> 00:36:27,960

We may never know.

546

00:36:27,960 --> 00:36:32,680

The cup has not been carbon dated or scientifically tested in any way.

547

00:36:32,680 --> 00:36:38,960

Its guardian fears such testing might damage it.

548

00:36:38,960 --> 00:36:42,520

As it turns out there are at least half a dozen chalices scattered across Europe that

549

00:36:42,560 --> 00:36:47,080

many claim are equally strong contenders of the title of the true grail.

550

00:36:47,080 --> 00:36:50,720

It is interesting to note however that the others are made of more expensive materials

551

00:36:50,720 --> 00:36:54,000

gold, bronze and other metals.

552

00:36:54,000 --> 00:36:59,040

The Nantius Cup is simple wood precisely the kind of cup a humble carpenter would drink

553

00:36:59,040 --> 00:37:02,640

from.

554

00:37:02,640 --> 00:37:08,240

Next did television star Michael Landon send a gift to his daughter from beyond the grave

555

00:37:08,240 --> 00:37:20,560

a compelling testament to the power of love the real highway to heaven.

556

00:37:20,560 --> 00:37:22,800

What do a Christmas ornament?

557

00:37:22,800 --> 00:37:29,800

\$300 in cash and a fragile red rose have in common.

558

00:37:29,800 --> 00:37:33,000

Some would say they were all signs from heaven.

559

00:37:33,000 --> 00:37:37,800

Tangible gifts sent from beyond the grave by television star Michael Landon, grandfather

560

00:37:37,840 --> 00:37:42,320

Herman Stegos and college student Joe McCarthy.

561

00:37:42,320 --> 00:37:50,320

18 year old Joe McCarthy of Warsaw, Wisconsin was a go getter in every sense.

562

00:37:50,320 --> 00:37:53,480

A top 10 student in his high school class.

563

00:37:53,480 --> 00:37:57,040

When it came time for college he chose Notre Dame.

564

00:37:57,040 --> 00:38:02,760

In June of 1987 Joe had just returned home after his freshman year when he was killed

565

00:38:02,760 --> 00:38:06,640

in a car accident.

566

00:38:06,640 --> 00:38:13,800

When Joe died there's number one there's emptiness in your heart and in your mind it's like where

567

00:38:13,800 --> 00:38:15,040

is he?

568

00:38:15,040 --> 00:38:16,040

Is he okay?

569

00:38:16,040 --> 00:38:21,200

I kept thinking at the time if he could only just talk to me.

570

00:38:21,200 --> 00:38:24,360

Just one time.

571

00:38:24,360 --> 00:38:29,200

Everyone's grieving around you and so you're thinking I wish I knew.

572

00:38:29,200 --> 00:38:33,640

It's just that thought is he okay?

573

00:38:33,640 --> 00:38:37,040

The McCarthy's didn't actually expect an answer.

574

00:38:37,040 --> 00:38:39,760

Then three days after the funeral.

575

00:38:39,760 --> 00:38:47,760

I was going through the basement out into the garage and I saw the angel that tops our

576

00:38:47,760 --> 00:38:54,000

Christmas tree laying there.

577

00:38:54,000 --> 00:38:58,520

Since Joe died in June and we had the Christmas ornaments stored in an upstairs closet I thought

578

00:38:58,520 --> 00:39:04,560

it was kind of strange but didn't really think a whole lot of it.

579

00:39:04,560 --> 00:39:07,080

Joe used to kid me about vacuuming.

580

00:39:07,080 --> 00:39:10,880

It was like mom if you ever get to heaven there's going to be a vacuum up there because

581

00:39:10,880 --> 00:39:11,880

you do it so much.

582

00:39:11,880 --> 00:39:15,560

I said well cleanliness is next to godliness right kid?

583

00:39:15,560 --> 00:39:17,280

So I did I vacuumed every day.

584

00:39:17,280 --> 00:39:18,520

I still do.

585

00:39:18,520 --> 00:39:24,440

I saw something on the rug and I picked it up and I just thought it was an ornament and

586

00:39:24,440 --> 00:39:27,320

I just looked at it and I thought this is one of the ornaments from the Christmas tree

587

00:39:27,440 --> 00:39:28,920

why is it here?

588

00:39:28,920 --> 00:39:29,920

And I just set it aside.

589

00:39:29,920 --> 00:39:35,160

I set it on a shelf we had there and I didn't think much of it at the time.

590

00:39:35,160 --> 00:39:39,640

That evening Dennis told Kathleen about the angel he had discovered.

591

00:39:39,640 --> 00:39:41,800

It was right there in the middle of the floor.

592

00:39:41,800 --> 00:39:45,440

I almost stepped out of it.

593

00:39:45,440 --> 00:39:49,000

I found an angel today too.

594

00:39:49,000 --> 00:39:54,440

I went and got it and showed it to him and it said it said Joseph on it.

595

00:39:54,560 --> 00:39:57,640

He said it's a sign he's okay.

596

00:39:57,640 --> 00:40:03,080

The McCarthy's had four angel ornaments each in grade with one of their children's names.

597

00:40:03,080 --> 00:40:07,240

This one remarkably had been Joe's.

598

00:40:07,240 --> 00:40:09,840

I looked at it and saw Joe's name on there.

599

00:40:09,840 --> 00:40:12,600

It was really an incredible feeling.

600

00:40:12,600 --> 00:40:18,240

The fact that he gave his mother an angel and I an angel on the same day to me was pretty

601

00:40:18,240 --> 00:40:20,400

powerful.

602

00:40:20,400 --> 00:40:24,680

It may seem amazing but the McCarthy's experience is hardly uncommon.

603

00:40:24,680 --> 00:40:30,800

Dr. Louis LeGrand chronicles more than 50 similar experiences in his book *After Death*

604

00:40:30,800 --> 00:40:34,000

Communication.

605

00:40:34,000 --> 00:40:40,960

This happens just an innumerable amount of times and that's why we need to validate these

606

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

situations.

607

00:40:42,200 --> 00:40:47,360

That's why we need to get the general public to be more accepting and open to this.

608

00:40:47,360 --> 00:40:49,480

We can't explain it.

609

00:40:49,480 --> 00:40:52,360

Parents will never be able to explain it.

610

00:40:52,360 --> 00:40:56,400

It's a gift to the heart and that's what explains it.

611

00:40:56,400 --> 00:41:02,360

Indeed, heaven sent signs seemed to come from those with big hearts.

612

00:41:02,360 --> 00:41:06,800

People like Herman Stegos who was 69 when he died unexpectedly.

613

00:41:06,800 --> 00:41:12,320

He was very close to his grandchildren, especially his eldest grandson Anthony.

614

00:41:12,320 --> 00:41:15,160

Herman died just three weeks before Christmas.

615

00:41:15,160 --> 00:41:17,560

His message arrived with a holiday mail.

616

00:41:18,560 --> 00:41:20,880

Kids, present from Aunt Terry.

617

00:41:20,880 --> 00:41:25,040

When this package came it was kind of like, it was exciting for the kids because it took

618

00:41:25,040 --> 00:41:28,000

their mind off of, you know, the grieving.

619

00:41:28,000 --> 00:41:31,440

They opened up the packages, the wrapping paper was all over, the shipping stuff was

620

00:41:31,440 --> 00:41:33,840

all over my mother's living room floor.

621

00:41:33,840 --> 00:41:39,360

So I asked Anthony if he could clean it up and take the box out to the garbage.

622

00:41:39,360 --> 00:41:44,520

Anthony was on his way out when he suddenly stopped in his tracks.

623

00:41:44,520 --> 00:41:47,320

He says his grandfather spoke to him.

624

00:41:47,320 --> 00:41:53,640

When I heard his voice it did freak me out because it was scary.

625

00:41:53,640 --> 00:41:57,600

He said, Mom, Pop just told me I should look under the flap of the box.

626

00:41:57,600 --> 00:42:01,600

She just said quit playing around.

627

00:42:01,600 --> 00:42:04,880

She thought I was playing a game, but I wasn't.

628

00:42:04,880 --> 00:42:06,560

I said, Anthony, throw the box out.

629

00:42:06,560 --> 00:42:08,240

I thought he was playing with me.

630

00:42:08,240 --> 00:42:10,240

He said, no, Mom, you don't understand, I heard him twice.

631

00:42:10,240 --> 00:42:13,840

He said, look under the flap, look under the flap.

632

00:42:13,840 --> 00:42:19,960

After enough, wedged in the bottom flaps of the box was an envelope.

633

00:42:19,960 --> 00:42:27,200

Inside were three crisp \$100 bills, one each for Anthony, his brother and sister.

634

00:42:27,200 --> 00:42:31,800

Beth has convinced the money would have been lost if her father had not spoken from beyond

635

00:42:31,800 --> 00:42:34,800

the grave.

636

00:42:34,800 --> 00:42:37,960

I think that was the biggest message in the whole thing, that, you know, grandpa's still

637

00:42:37,960 --> 00:42:42,440

here, grandpa's still watching you and grandpa's spending the holidays with you.

638

00:42:42,440 --> 00:42:45,040

I didn't leave and I didn't abandon you.

639

00:42:45,040 --> 00:42:47,720

This is the way that he could tell them, you know, that I'm still here.

640

00:42:47,720 --> 00:42:51,800

This was a sure way of getting out his message, that you're not alone, that I'm still here

641

00:42:51,800 --> 00:42:56,160

with you and I still love you, each of you.

642

00:42:56,160 --> 00:43:02,720

To have had an experience of this nature, when love is rekindled, the person is able

643

00:43:02,720 --> 00:43:10,800

to reconnect with life again, to get some energy back, to be able to look at themselves

644

00:43:10,800 --> 00:43:18,360

in the mirror and say, maybe there is some meaning to what has happened.

645

00:43:18,360 --> 00:43:26,520

Meaningful yes, but were the experiences of Joe's family and Herman's family mere coincidences?

646

00:43:26,520 --> 00:43:32,360

Not at all, says Michael Landon's daughter Cheryl.

647

00:43:32,360 --> 00:43:36,440

In 1991, Michael Landon was at the top of his career.

648

00:43:36,440 --> 00:43:40,720

He was a highly regarded star of Highway to Heaven, in which he played an angel sent

649

00:43:40,720 --> 00:43:43,480

to earth to help people.

650

00:43:43,480 --> 00:43:48,200

Michael first became well known to us as Little Joe on Bonanza, then he played the lovable

651

00:43:48,200 --> 00:43:51,200

father on Little House and the Prairie.

652

00:43:51,200 --> 00:43:56,600

Cheryl says that Michael Landon was not very different from the characters he portrayed.

653

00:43:56,600 --> 00:43:58,520

There was a warmth about him.

654

00:43:58,520 --> 00:44:04,400

There was this love, the spontaneity, it was like he was my angel from heaven, my father

655

00:44:04,400 --> 00:44:06,000

from heaven.

656

00:44:06,000 --> 00:44:12,640

When Michael Landon died of cancer in 1991 at a youthful 54, Cheryl was devastated.

657

00:44:12,640 --> 00:44:16,960

It was the greatest loss of my life.

658

00:44:16,960 --> 00:44:28,320

My best friend, my mentor, my protector, my guidance, everything, my security, it was

659

00:44:28,320 --> 00:44:30,680

all gone.

660

00:44:30,680 --> 00:44:36,040

And I started hearing my dad's voice.

661

00:44:36,040 --> 00:44:42,280

My father would come to me in dreams and I thought, boy, I must be really grieving because

662

00:44:42,280 --> 00:44:44,320

I'm hearing my dad's voice.

663

00:44:44,320 --> 00:44:47,200

I'm seeing him in my dreams.

664

00:44:47,200 --> 00:44:52,560

Cheryl vowed to carry on Michael's legacy of emphasizing good deeds and good heartedness.

665

00:44:52,560 --> 00:44:56,760

Her first step was writing a book called I Promised My Dad.

666

00:44:56,760 --> 00:45:01,680

As a publishing deadline approached, Cheryl felt more and more uneasy about the prospect

667

00:45:01,680 --> 00:45:05,360

of promoting the book on the talk show circuit.

668

00:45:05,360 --> 00:45:11,240

I remember going through so much of the emotions and I really thought, how could I go on and

669

00:45:11,240 --> 00:45:13,640

do these television shows successfully?

670

00:45:13,640 --> 00:45:20,360

And I very clearly heard my father during the day say, when you go to do your first show,

671

00:45:20,360 --> 00:45:24,000

I'm going to leave you a long stem red rose.

672

00:45:24,000 --> 00:45:28,760

A year later, Cheryl found herself in Manhattan, nervously preparing for her first talk show

673

00:45:28,760 --> 00:45:29,760

appearance.

674

00:45:29,760 --> 00:45:36,720

That's when she says she heard Michael Landon's voice again.

675

00:45:36,720 --> 00:45:37,720

What's wrong?

676

00:45:37,720 --> 00:45:40,480

You've been so quiet since we got here.

677

00:45:40,480 --> 00:45:42,520

Something really amazing happened to me.

678

00:45:42,520 --> 00:45:43,520

What?

679

00:45:43,520 --> 00:45:47,680

Just now when I was standing by the window, I heard his voice again.

680

00:45:47,680 --> 00:45:49,280

He was right there.

681

00:45:50,000 --> 00:45:53,880

And this time he told me to find the fountain in Central Park.

682

00:45:53,880 --> 00:45:59,000

The strange part is that I knew exactly where this fountain was never being there before.

683

00:45:59,000 --> 00:46:03,000

It was like I was guided exactly to this fountain.

684

00:46:03,000 --> 00:46:04,000

Maybe it is.

685

00:46:04,000 --> 00:46:06,000

It's a good fountain.

686

00:46:06,000 --> 00:46:10,880

When I had gone down to the bottom of the stairwell, there at my feet, exactly where

687

00:46:10,880 --> 00:46:13,920

I had stopped was a long stem red rose.

688

00:46:13,920 --> 00:46:17,640

This is just the way my father said it would be.

689

00:46:17,640 --> 00:46:22,760

It was like I had discovered a treasure of gold.

690

00:46:22,760 --> 00:46:26,000

I was so happy.

691

00:46:26,000 --> 00:46:37,920

I was so full of encouragement that it was just like a boost of love, a boost of encouragement.

692

00:46:37,920 --> 00:46:42,960

Cheryl's friend who witnessed the moment snapped this picture to commemorate it.

693

00:46:42,960 --> 00:46:50,000

For Michael Landon's daughter, it is a lasting reminder of his love.

694

00:46:50,000 --> 00:46:56,120

A single red rose, two Christmas ornaments, a trio of \$100 bills.

695

00:46:56,120 --> 00:46:59,520

Are the griefs tricking just too willing to clutch at anything that might bring them

696

00:46:59,520 --> 00:47:00,520

comfort?

697

00:47:00,520 --> 00:47:04,600

Or is something else at work, something beyond explanation?

698

00:47:04,600 --> 00:47:11,480

For the families of Joe McCarthy, Herman Stegos and Michael Landon, no explanation is needed.

699

00:47:11,480 --> 00:47:22,440

They held the proof in their hands.

700

00:47:22,440 --> 00:47:26,280

Join me next time for another compelling hour of Unsolved Mysteries.