

1

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

Tonight on Unsolved Mysteries.

2

00:00:10,000 --> 00:00:12,600

Two families move into an idyllic suburb

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00:00:12,600 --> 00:00:14,400

only to discover that their homes lie

4

00:00:14,400 --> 00:00:16,840

on top of an abandoned graveyard.

5

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

Soon they are tormented by strange phenomena

6

00:00:19,320 --> 00:00:21,560

and threatening apparitions and are driven

7

00:00:21,560 --> 00:00:24,120

into a state of complete terror.

8

00:00:24,120 --> 00:00:26,280

Are the spirits of the dead seeking vengeance

9

00:00:26,280 --> 00:00:30,880

on the living for the desecration of their graves?

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00:00:30,880 --> 00:00:33,840

It was an affair that began with an all-consuming passion

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00:00:33,840 --> 00:00:35,320

but quickly disintegrated.

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00:00:35,320 --> 00:00:38,560

Now both Joanne Albanese and John Edwards are missing.

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00:00:38,560 --> 00:00:43,480

Could their love have transformed into a deadly obsession?

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00:00:43,480 --> 00:00:46,840

Halloween 2001, Penn State University.

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00:00:46,840 --> 00:00:49,400

21-year-old senior Cindy Song partied

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00:00:49,400 --> 00:00:52,440

into the wee hours of the night, then grabbed a ride home

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00:00:52,440 --> 00:00:53,880

with a friend.

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00:00:53,880 --> 00:00:57,120

Cindy waved goodbye and headed up to her apartment.

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00:00:57,120 --> 00:01:00,720

She has not been seen or heard from since.

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00:01:00,720 --> 00:01:03,160

These mysteries are all stories of personal quest

21

00:01:03,160 --> 00:01:05,800

for the truth and a final solution.

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00:01:05,800 --> 00:01:09,320

Someone watching may know where that solution can be found.

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00:01:09,320 --> 00:01:10,880

Perhaps it's you.

24

00:01:54,400 --> 00:01:58,280

Just outside of Houston stands a Newport subdivision,

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00:01:58,280 --> 00:02:00,880

known for its 1,500 upscale homes,

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00:02:00,880 --> 00:02:02,880

manicured lawns, and bucolic setting.

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00:02:05,880 --> 00:02:09,280

In the early 1980s, Sam and Judith Haney bought a house

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00:02:09,280 --> 00:02:11,280

at the far western edge of the development.

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00:02:14,280 --> 00:02:17,120

When we bought the house in Newport,

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00:02:17,120 --> 00:02:19,880

it was the house that we had always been looking for.

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00:02:19,880 --> 00:02:21,880

So it was the house that we intended

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00:02:21,880 --> 00:02:23,880

to stay at for a long period of time.

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00:02:26,880 --> 00:02:29,880

But there was a morbid secret about the Haney's perfect home,

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00:02:29,880 --> 00:02:31,880

one that would soon turn their lives

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00:02:31,880 --> 00:02:33,880

into a never ending nightmare.

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00:02:36,880 --> 00:02:39,880

It all began when a mysterious stranger showed up

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00:02:39,880 --> 00:02:41,880

at their door with an ominous warning.

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00:02:41,880 --> 00:02:42,880

Yes?

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00:02:42,880 --> 00:02:45,880

This elderly man told me that he had noticed

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00:02:45,880 --> 00:02:47,880

that the house was in the middle of the night.

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00:02:47,880 --> 00:02:49,880

He said that he was a very elderly man.

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00:02:49,880 --> 00:02:52,880

He told me that he had noticed that we were putting

43

00:02:52,880 --> 00:02:55,880

a swimming pool in our backyard and that there was

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00:02:55,880 --> 00:02:58,880

something about our backyard that I needed to know about.

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00:02:58,880 --> 00:03:02,880

So I followed him around to my backyard.

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00:03:02,880 --> 00:03:05,880

He pointed at the ground and said that there are

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00:03:05,880 --> 00:03:07,880

some graves right here.

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00:03:07,880 --> 00:03:09,880

There were two graves.

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00:03:09,880 --> 00:03:12,880

And he marked a spot on the ground where they were.

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00:03:12,880 --> 00:03:16,880

And I really didn't know how to react to that.

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00:03:16,880 --> 00:03:18,880

I didn't know if he was just joking.

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00:03:18,880 --> 00:03:20,880

I couldn't understand why anybody wanted to joke

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00:03:20,880 --> 00:03:22,880

about something like that.

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00:03:24,880 --> 00:03:27,880

All of a sudden, just from a knock on the door,

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00:03:27,880 --> 00:03:31,880

our beliefs, our emotions, everything sort of changed

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00:03:31,880 --> 00:03:33,880

because it was like, precious.

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00:03:33,880 --> 00:03:36,880

I have bodies in my back of my yard.

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00:03:42,880 --> 00:03:45,880

Using a back home, the Haney's decided to see

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00:03:45,880 --> 00:03:48,880

if the man's alarming claims were true.

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00:03:51,880 --> 00:03:52,880

Dave, stop! Hold it, hold it!

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00:03:52,880 --> 00:03:54,880

I think I see something.

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00:04:00,880 --> 00:04:02,880

We encountered some wood fragments.

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00:04:02,880 --> 00:04:06,880

And at that point, we stopped with the back home.

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00:04:06,880 --> 00:04:12,880

And we got down into the hole and continued digging by hand.

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00:04:15,880 --> 00:04:18,880

There was pine boards.

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00:04:20,880 --> 00:04:23,880

When we lifted up the first board,

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00:04:23,880 --> 00:04:29,880

we could see the indentation of a skeleton form.

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00:04:30,880 --> 00:04:32,880

It didn't take long to figure out that it was

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00:04:32,880 --> 00:04:35,880

an actual human remains.

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00:04:36,880 --> 00:04:39,880

Sam had uncovered a very old pine coffin.

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00:04:41,880 --> 00:04:44,880

Over the years, it had been crushed by the weight of the earth.

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00:04:46,880 --> 00:04:50,880

Sam immediately called the sheriff and county coroner

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00:04:50,880 --> 00:04:53,880

who conducted an official exhumation.

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00:04:55,880 --> 00:04:57,880

Most of the bones had turned to powder,

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00:04:57,880 --> 00:05:00,880

but 25 fragments were found,

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

some so brittle that they disintegrated when touched.

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00:05:06,880 --> 00:05:10,880

A second coffin, located alongside the first, was left untouched.

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00:05:11,880 --> 00:05:16,880

Two wedding rings were on the frail index finger of the exposed skeleton.

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00:05:19,880 --> 00:05:24,880

They handed me the rings and it was sickening.

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00:05:26,880 --> 00:05:30,880

My feelings were sick of my stomach,

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00:05:31,880 --> 00:05:37,880

to think that I had desecrated somebody's body.

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00:05:40,880 --> 00:05:43,880

It's grave. Horrified me.

83

00:05:46,880 --> 00:05:50,880

A gasp at the thought of human remains beneath their plush green lawn,

84

00:05:50,880 --> 00:05:53,880

the Haines vowed to find out their identities.

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00:05:56,880 --> 00:06:00,880

Their search led them to a long-time resident named Jasper Norton.

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

As a youth, Jasper had dug several graves in the area.

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00:06:07,880 --> 00:06:10,880

He told the Haines that their home and surrounding houses

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00:06:10,880 --> 00:06:14,880

were built on top of an old African American cemetery called Black Hope.

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00:06:20,880 --> 00:06:23,880

The deceased were mainly former slaves.

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00:06:24,880 --> 00:06:26,880

The last burial was in 1939

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00:06:26,880 --> 00:06:30,880

and as many as 60 people were interred there in Popper's graves.

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00:06:31,880 --> 00:06:34,880

The people had very little money.

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00:06:34,880 --> 00:06:37,880

They marked their graves however they could

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00:06:37,880 --> 00:06:40,880

with markings on trees, with little stones,

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00:06:40,880 --> 00:06:43,880

with fences around them like a family plot.

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00:06:45,880 --> 00:06:50,880

The two people buried in the Haines backyard were Betty and Charlie Thomas.

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00:06:52,880 --> 00:06:56,880

This picture of Betty is the only known photograph of either one.

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00:06:57,880 --> 00:07:01,880

Census records revealed that the merry couple were born into slavery

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00:07:01,880 --> 00:07:04,880

in the mid-1800s and freed after the Civil War.

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00:07:05,880 --> 00:07:09,880

They died during the 1930s and their graves were eventually forgotten.

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00:07:12,880 --> 00:07:15,880

Betty and Charlie's family wasn't there anymore

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00:07:15,880 --> 00:07:19,880

and it was up to me to give them the dignity that they deserved

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00:07:19,880 --> 00:07:21,880

and that was very important to me.

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00:07:27,880 --> 00:07:31,880

Judith and Sam Haney made an extraordinary decision.

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00:07:32,880 --> 00:07:35,880

Plague by guilt for digging up the Thomas'

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00:07:35,880 --> 00:07:39,880

they reburied the long-depotted couple in their own backyard.

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00:07:40,880 --> 00:07:42,880

I'm so sorry.

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00:07:43,880 --> 00:07:47,880

The Haines resolved to live peacefully side by side with the Thomas'

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00:07:47,880 --> 00:07:52,880

but according to the Haines, what would follow was anything but peaceful.

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00:07:57,880 --> 00:07:59,880

The Haines'

111

00:08:05,880 --> 00:08:11,880

There was a clock in my bedroom and one night it started sparking

112

00:08:11,880 --> 00:08:14,880

and putting out sort of a blue glow.

113

00:08:18,880 --> 00:08:22,880

When Judith checked the clock, she found that it was unplugged.

114

00:08:23,880 --> 00:08:26,880

The clock was only the beginning.

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00:08:29,880 --> 00:08:33,880

One evening Sam went to work the night shift, leaving Judith alone.

116

00:08:39,880 --> 00:08:45,880

I heard the sliding glass door open and I heard what I thought was Sam saying,

117

00:08:45,880 --> 00:08:47,880

what you doing?

118

00:08:52,880 --> 00:08:57,880

And that sort of shocked me and I thought, well he forgot something.

119

00:08:58,880 --> 00:09:03,880

Everything was quiet, the sliding glass doors were locked

120

00:09:03,880 --> 00:09:08,880

and I thought, well you know you must be losing your mind.

121

00:09:08,880 --> 00:09:11,880

This really must be getting to you.

122

00:09:11,880 --> 00:09:16,880

But much to my amazement, that's not where the story ended.

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00:09:17,880 --> 00:09:23,880

In the morning, I awoke, went in my closet to get my red shoes

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00:09:23,880 --> 00:09:26,880

and I could not find them anywhere.

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00:09:26,880 --> 00:09:30,880

So of course I started looking for them and went through all of her closets

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

where she normally puts things and we just couldn't find it.

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00:09:35,880 --> 00:09:41,880

We had walked just a short distance where the grave sites were

128

00:09:41,880 --> 00:09:44,880

and I could see something on the grave.

129

00:09:47,880 --> 00:09:51,880

It was the shoes that Judy was looking for that morning

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00:09:52,880 --> 00:09:58,880

and they were both side by side like someone had just picked them up

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00:09:58,880 --> 00:10:02,880

and carried them over and laid them down on the grave site.

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00:10:05,880 --> 00:10:09,880

Even more disquieting to the Haney's was when they realized what day this was.

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00:10:09,880 --> 00:10:12,880

Betty Thomas' birthday.

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00:10:13,880 --> 00:10:20,880

And I kind of got the feeling that it was like Charlie was giving Betty a birthday present.

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00:10:20,880 --> 00:10:25,880

I began to come to the realization that this was not all in my mind

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00:10:25,880 --> 00:10:35,880

and that this had to have some relationship to Betty and Charlie's graves being disturbed.

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00:10:35,880 --> 00:10:39,880

Their spirits were saying, this isn't right.

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00:10:40,880 --> 00:10:43,880

The Haney's were not alone.

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00:10:43,880 --> 00:10:47,880

A dozen neighbors whose homes were built on top of the abandoned cemetery

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00:10:47,880 --> 00:10:52,880

reported lights, televisions and water fountains turning on and off for no apparent reason.

141

00:10:52,880 --> 00:10:55,880

Many claimed to hear unearthly sounds.

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00:10:55,880 --> 00:10:58,880

Some even saw supernatural apparitions.

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00:10:58,880 --> 00:11:02,880

And there seemed to be an increasing maliciousness to the bizarre events.

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00:11:02,880 --> 00:11:05,880

Could the spirits of the Black Hope Cemetery,

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00:11:05,880 --> 00:11:09,880

angry at the desecration of their graves, be seeking vengeance?

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00:11:11,880 --> 00:11:16,880

Like the Haney's, Ben and Jean Williams thought they had found suburban paradise

147

00:11:16,880 --> 00:11:19,880

when they moved into the same neighborhood.

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00:11:20,880 --> 00:11:25,880

And then after we moved in, everything changed.

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00:11:25,880 --> 00:11:29,880

When I tried to plant new plants, they just would not live.

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00:11:29,880 --> 00:11:34,880

No matter what I did, you know, fertilizer, whatever, I stayed still and I would not live.

151

00:11:36,880 --> 00:11:43,880

And I constantly had a foreboding feeling, a feeling of things are not right

152

00:11:43,880 --> 00:11:46,880

or something bad is about to happen.

153

00:11:48,880 --> 00:11:54,880

The Williams said that near the flowers, sinkholes appeared in the unmistakable shape of a coffin.

154

00:11:56,880 --> 00:12:01,880

The Williams had filled them in, only to have them mysteriously reappear a few days later.

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00:12:02,880 --> 00:12:07,880

The Williams also noted strange markings on an oak tree by the sinkholes.

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00:12:09,880 --> 00:12:14,880

An arrow pointed towards the ground, beneath it were two horizontal slash marks.

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00:12:16,880 --> 00:12:22,880

A long time resident of the area told the Williams he was the one who had marked the tree,

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00:12:22,880 --> 00:12:26,880

as a way to identify where his two sisters were buried.

159

00:12:27,880 --> 00:12:35,880

I was devastated. I couldn't believe that, you know, my God, here we are living on top of graves.

160

00:12:36,880 --> 00:12:43,880

I felt guilty and I felt like, well, I mean, we've desecrated graves.

161

00:12:47,880 --> 00:12:52,880

According to the Williams, their ideal home was soon invaded by a menacing presence.

162

00:12:53,880 --> 00:13:00,880

Nebula shadows rapidly slid along the walls, whispered words and a putrid smell followed in their wake.

163

00:13:01,880 --> 00:13:07,880

Had the dead sisters or other spirits disturbed from their eternal resting places come back to life.

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00:13:09,880 --> 00:13:13,880

At the time, the Williams granddaughter, Carly, lived with the couple.

165

00:13:14,880 --> 00:13:20,880

During the blazing heat of summer, Carly said she would stumble in a bone-chilling pockets of freezing air.

166

00:13:23,880 --> 00:13:31,880

It would be very, very chilly and you'd have just this feeling of foreboding or just, you know, like, either something wasn't right.

167

00:13:32,880 --> 00:13:37,880

Anywhere in the house, you'd have a feeling that you were not alone, somebody was watching you.

168

00:13:38,880 --> 00:13:40,880

It terrified me to be in the house by myself.

169

00:13:40,880 --> 00:13:50,880

The toilets used to flush on their own.

170

00:13:51,880 --> 00:13:53,880

Do you hear the voices?

171

00:13:56,880 --> 00:14:01,880

As the water went down, I could hear, it was almost like conversations.

172

00:14:02,880 --> 00:14:04,880

Like, I could hear people murmuring to themselves.

173

00:14:05,880 --> 00:14:12,880

It was a presence or spirit or something there, something that wanted to be heard, wanted me to know it was there.

174

00:14:14,880 --> 00:14:17,880

One time, Carly and I decided to take a nap.

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00:14:18,880 --> 00:14:20,880

Carly had her book and she was reading.

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00:14:22,880 --> 00:14:25,880

And all of a sudden, we heard the back door open.

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00:14:26,880 --> 00:14:27,880

What was it?

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00:14:28,880 --> 00:14:30,880

Someone come in, close the door.

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00:14:35,880 --> 00:14:38,880

We heard footsteps coming up the hall.

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00:14:39,880 --> 00:14:44,880

We both looked at each other and then we both looked towards the door.

181

00:14:55,880 --> 00:15:01,880

It was at this point that I realized somebody was in our house that didn't belong there.

182

00:15:05,880 --> 00:15:08,880

We looked everywhere, nothing.

183

00:15:09,880 --> 00:15:11,880

There wasn't a soul in that house but us.

184

00:15:12,880 --> 00:15:13,880

What the noise was, I don't know.

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00:15:15,880 --> 00:15:16,880

It's locked.

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00:15:17,880 --> 00:15:18,880

It was terrifying.

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00:15:19,880 --> 00:15:21,880

Even to this day, I still feel it was a presence.

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00:15:22,880 --> 00:15:23,880

A ghost, if you will.

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00:15:24,880 --> 00:15:27,880

It was something there, it was something that was trying to scare us.

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00:15:28,880 --> 00:15:35,880

I absolutely believe that all of these things happened to us because we were on the graveyard.

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00:15:37,880 --> 00:15:42,880

And that we were simply going to be tormented until we left there.

192

00:15:47,880 --> 00:15:53,880

As the unexplainable phenomena seemed to increasingly target the Williams, Ben and Jean debated what to do next.

193

00:15:54,880 --> 00:15:56,880

Ben and Jean, we talked it over.

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00:15:57,880 --> 00:16:01,880

And she said, well what can we do, walk off and leave it?

195

00:16:02,880 --> 00:16:05,880

She said we had got enough money to pay it out on another home.

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00:16:08,880 --> 00:16:16,880

I said, we always been fighters, we're going to stay right here and fight it and try to beat it.

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00:16:17,880 --> 00:16:20,880

It wasn't long before Ben got his chance.

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00:16:24,880 --> 00:16:31,880

I came home from work around 10 out of 12 for midnight shift and I walked straight to the kitchen open the refrigerator door.

199

00:16:39,880 --> 00:16:42,880

And that's when I seen these two ghostly figures.

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00:16:42,880 --> 00:16:52,880

They went straight backwards into the den.

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

And then they started moving toward the hall going down the bedrooms.

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00:17:04,880 --> 00:17:07,880

I noticed that they were heading right down the hall to Jean's.

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00:17:08,880 --> 00:17:15,880

Well when I walked through the bedroom door, instead of two forms being there, they were just one.

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00:17:16,880 --> 00:17:20,880

And it was standing right about a foot and a half from the end of the bed.

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00:17:22,880 --> 00:17:26,880

The only thing I really thought of, they ain't messing with my wife.

206

00:17:38,880 --> 00:17:46,880

Ben, what are you doing?

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00:17:47,880 --> 00:17:53,880

As I dove through it, I felt a sticky cold sensation in my body.

208

00:17:54,880 --> 00:17:55,880

Are you okay?

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00:17:56,880 --> 00:18:01,880

And I turned around and looked at the end of the bed and what nothing there.

210

00:18:02,880 --> 00:18:05,880

But the Williams nightmare was far from over.

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00:18:06,880 --> 00:18:11,880

In rapid succession, six of the Williams immediate relatives were diagnosed with cancer.

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00:18:12,880 --> 00:18:14,880

Three succumbed to the disease.

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00:18:15,880 --> 00:18:19,880

You just don't have that much sickness and death in that short period of time.

214

00:18:20,880 --> 00:18:27,880

The spirits of the dead wanted me and my family to get off of their graveyard.

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00:18:28,880 --> 00:18:31,880

The Haney's lives were also unraveling.

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00:18:31,880 --> 00:18:33,880

I was crying all the time.

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00:18:34,880 --> 00:18:36,880

I was frightened.

218

00:18:37,880 --> 00:18:42,880

I was scared of doing my daily routine in my own home.

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00:18:43,880 --> 00:18:49,880

If you can think of every gambit of emotions that a person can have, I was going through those things.

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00:18:51,880 --> 00:18:54,880

The Haney's decided to fight back in court.

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00:18:55,880 --> 00:18:58,880

They sued the developer for not disclosing that their home was built over a cemetery.

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00:18:58,880 --> 00:19:03,880

In parts so that everyone would know what was happening at the Newport subdivision.

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00:19:05,880 --> 00:19:10,880

A jury awarded them \$142,000 for mental anguish.

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00:19:11,880 --> 00:19:17,880

But in a devastating reversal, the judge ruled on legal grounds that the developers were not liable.

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00:19:18,880 --> 00:19:24,880

The verdict was thrown out and the Haney's ordered to pay \$50,000 in court costs.

226

00:19:25,880 --> 00:19:29,880

At that point, we decided to file bankruptcy.

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00:19:30,880 --> 00:19:38,880

All in all, we ended up losing the case, losing the money, losing the house.

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00:19:39,880 --> 00:19:41,880

We were exhausted.

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00:19:42,880 --> 00:19:51,880

We got in our car and went where there was love and support and tried to put it behind us.

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00:19:55,880 --> 00:19:58,880

The Williams also explored legal recourse.

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00:19:59,880 --> 00:20:04,880

But they say they were told that without definitive proof of a cemetery on their property, nothing could be done.

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00:20:05,880 --> 00:20:10,880

To complicate matters, it was illegal in Texas to disturb a grave without permission from the family.

233

00:20:12,880 --> 00:20:16,880

It was then that Jean made a decision she will forever regret.

234

00:20:17,880 --> 00:20:19,880

That was the last straw.

235

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

You want a body? I'll show you a body.

236

00:20:24,880 --> 00:20:32,880

So I thought to myself, I can dig and I can dig about two feet a day and I knew I would reach a body.

237

00:20:40,880 --> 00:20:43,880

But soon after she started digging, Jean felt ill.

238

00:20:44,880 --> 00:20:45,880

I'm going to do the rest later.

239

00:20:46,880 --> 00:20:49,880

Her daughter Tina volunteered to finish the job.

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00:20:52,880 --> 00:20:56,880

And she dug for, I'd probably say, almost half an hour.

241

00:20:58,880 --> 00:20:59,880

Are you okay?

242

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

Yeah, I feel just a little fat.

243

00:21:02,880 --> 00:21:09,880

And I remember her saying that she felt funny. She was getting dizzy as well.

244

00:21:10,880 --> 00:21:15,880

And she put the shovel down and she went back inside.

245

00:21:17,880 --> 00:21:18,880

You lay down, honey.

246

00:21:19,880 --> 00:21:20,880

And she just lay down on the couch.

247

00:21:22,880 --> 00:21:25,880

She's like, Mom, Daddy, I don't feel right. There's something wrong.

248

00:21:26,880 --> 00:21:27,880

We got to call 911.

249

00:21:29,880 --> 00:21:35,880

The last thing I remember her saying was, Mom, take care of my baby. Take care of my baby. And she looked so scared.

250

00:21:35,880 --> 00:21:36,880

Talk to me, Tina.

251

00:21:37,880 --> 00:21:41,880

Almost immediately her eyes started glazing over.

252

00:21:41,880 --> 00:21:45,880

And I was talking to her, trying to talk her out of dying.

253

00:21:45,880 --> 00:21:47,880

Please, Tina, talk to me.

254

00:21:49,880 --> 00:22:01,880

And all this time her eyes were changing until they got to the point where I knew that she wasn't with me or she wasn't, you know, responding at all.

255

00:22:01,880 --> 00:22:05,880

Tina had suffered a massive heart attack.

256

00:22:07,880 --> 00:22:12,880

Two days later, she died. She had just turned 30 years old.

257

00:22:14,880 --> 00:22:20,880

And I realized that I had desecrated another grave and now I'm paying.

258

00:22:22,880 --> 00:22:29,880

I told my husband, I said, we have to get out of here. It doesn't matter what we lose, what we add.

259

00:22:29,880 --> 00:22:32,880

Nothing matters except that we get out of here.

260

00:22:32,880 --> 00:22:39,880

And I knew that if we didn't, that I was not going to make it.

261

00:22:40,880 --> 00:22:45,880

Because my fight was gone. I could fight no more forever.

262

00:22:51,880 --> 00:22:54,880

The Williams escaped to Montana and later moved back to Texas.

263

00:22:54,880 --> 00:23:02,880

Today they are a happy growing family, no longer plagued by mysterious noises, horrific apparitions or heartbreaking tragedies.

264

00:23:07,880 --> 00:23:14,880

None of the subsequent residents living in the Williams, Haney or other nearby homes ever experienced any paranormal activity.

265

00:23:14,880 --> 00:23:21,880

If we would have known what was going to happen, we would have left a lot sooner than we did. A lot sooner.

266

00:23:22,880 --> 00:23:37,880

We paid the price. Oh, the price was so heavy. We paid with our family. We paid with our health. We paid with our savings. Everything was gone.

267

00:23:37,880 --> 00:23:42,880

If we had not left the cemetery, we would not be here today. I believe that.

268

00:23:52,880 --> 00:24:05,880

After spending a long weekend with her divorced father, Amber and Brittany Albanese return to the Las Vegas home they share with their mother, Joanne.

269

00:24:06,880 --> 00:24:10,880

Mom, we're home.

270

00:24:14,880 --> 00:24:16,880

Mom, can we order a pizza?

271

00:24:16,880 --> 00:24:21,880

The two girls quickly notice telltale signs that something is not right.

272

00:24:25,880 --> 00:24:33,880

Joanne's two daughters came home and they found the mother wasn't home. Joanne was not there, which may not have been that uncommon.

273

00:24:33,880 --> 00:24:40,880

But when they went in her bedroom, they found her purse and they found particular items of jewelry that Joanne only took off when she showered.

274

00:24:40,880 --> 00:24:43,880

Immediately upon completing the shower, she would put them back on.

275

00:24:43,880 --> 00:24:45,880

Mom!

276

00:24:46,880 --> 00:24:50,880

After Joanne failed to turn up the following day, she is reported missing.

277

00:24:50,880 --> 00:24:56,880

Las Vegas police detectives soon discover that a second person has disappeared.

278

00:24:56,880 --> 00:25:00,880

Joanne's boyfriend of five months, John Edwards.

279

00:25:01,880 --> 00:25:07,880

It appeared that his boyfriend, girlfriend went out on an outing and just hadn't returned yet.

280

00:25:07,880 --> 00:25:16,880

And when Joanne and John failed to show up at work, contact her family, that's what we figured we'd better take a little closer look at it.

281

00:25:16,880 --> 00:25:24,880

After years of suffering through disappointing dates and dead-end relationships, Joanne Albanese believed she had finally found the perfect mate.

282

00:25:25,880 --> 00:25:29,880

John Edwards was handsome, charismatic and attentive to her every need.

283

00:25:29,880 --> 00:25:36,880

John would often take Joanne on romantic getaways and initially police thought the couple had simply left for the weekend.

284

00:25:36,880 --> 00:25:43,880

But as the investigation unfolded, it became apparent that John Edwards was not who he seemed to be.

285

00:25:45,880 --> 00:25:46,880

Joanne?

286

00:25:46,880 --> 00:25:47,880

Yes?

287

00:25:47,880 --> 00:25:50,880

Remember the guy I told you about? Very charming.

288

00:25:50,880 --> 00:25:51,880

Uh huh.

289

00:25:51,880 --> 00:25:52,880

No wives, no kids.

290

00:25:52,880 --> 00:25:53,880

Uh huh.

291

00:25:53,880 --> 00:25:56,880

Well, he's back there training somebody.

292

00:25:56,880 --> 00:26:04,880

A friend introduced 39-year-old Joanne Albanese to John Edwards and she soon agreed to date the smooth-talking fitness trainer.

293

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

Nice to meet you, Joanne.

294

00:26:06,880 --> 00:26:13,880

Joanne, like most women, thought him to be, you know, a very dynamic and very interesting and attractive man.

295

00:26:13,880 --> 00:26:15,880

They began going out quite a bit.

296

00:26:15,880 --> 00:26:16,880

The Lord of Honey.

297

00:26:16,880 --> 00:26:17,880

He goes.

298

00:26:17,880 --> 00:26:25,880

John Edwards quickly integrated himself into Joanne's life and the two appeared to be madly in love.

299

00:26:25,880 --> 00:26:32,880

But it wasn't long before disturbing signs emerged that Edwards was no Prince Charming.

300

00:26:32,880 --> 00:26:33,880

It looks like it.

301

00:26:33,880 --> 00:26:37,880

Edwards paid for nothing, apparently living off of Joanne's earnings.

302

00:26:37,880 --> 00:26:38,880

Stupid or something.

303

00:26:38,880 --> 00:26:40,880

Hey, hey, you brought the wrong thing.

304

00:26:40,880 --> 00:26:44,880

And his charm had transformed into an all-consuming possessiveness.

305

00:26:44,880 --> 00:26:49,880

If Joanne complained, John reportedly became violently angry.

306

00:26:49,880 --> 00:26:50,880

Will you shut up?

307

00:26:50,880 --> 00:26:55,880

He makes sure that he's pretty much the only person she's with.

308

00:26:55,880 --> 00:26:58,880

Obviously, she was with her children as well.

309

00:26:58,880 --> 00:27:01,880

But that he takes up most of her time.

310

00:27:01,880 --> 00:27:07,880

He, from what we understand, even made sure that he was there when she would go to the bathroom.

311

00:27:07,880 --> 00:27:12,880

On the day of her disappearance, Joanne left her job at 4.30 p.m.

312

00:27:12,880 --> 00:27:19,880

She allegedly told family and friends that she planned to end her relationship with John at dinner that evening.

313

00:27:19,880 --> 00:27:24,880

Joanne was never heard from again.

314

00:27:24,880 --> 00:27:33,880

Four days later and 250 miles away, Joanne's car was found parked in a remote desert area outside Prescott, Arizona.

315

00:27:33,880 --> 00:27:38,880

There was no sign of Joanne or John.

316

00:27:38,880 --> 00:27:40,880

The car noted as nothing.

317

00:27:40,880 --> 00:27:49,880

Fighting the car abandoned where it was, it pretty well confirmed our fears that we had a foul play incident here.

318

00:27:49,880 --> 00:27:58,880

Police discovered a truck parked outside Joanne's home that was positively identified by witnesses as belonging to John Edwards.

319

00:27:58,880 --> 00:28:04,880

That truck would expose a first crack in Edwards' carefully constructed facade.

320

00:28:04,880 --> 00:28:12,880

We ran that license plate and it came back as absolutely no record, which is rather unusual.

321

00:28:12,880 --> 00:28:13,880

What do you got, Fred?

322

00:28:13,880 --> 00:28:17,880

The plate doesn't go to the vehicle or anyone in particular, so there's a problem there.

323

00:28:17,880 --> 00:28:19,880

Somebody's trying to cover something.

324

00:28:19,880 --> 00:28:25,880

We started questioning whether or not John Edwards was who he claimed to be.

325

00:28:25,880 --> 00:28:32,880

Any doubts police had about Edwards' identity were confirmed when they searched the house where he was staying.

326

00:28:32,880 --> 00:28:40,880

We began looking through some of his belongings and we found a wallet that was duct taped closed.

327

00:28:40,880 --> 00:28:48,880

When I opened that wallet, I found identification with the person we knew as John Edwards, but it was the name of John Addis.

328

00:28:48,880 --> 00:28:50,880

Hello, John Patrick Addis.

329

00:28:50,880 --> 00:28:58,880

Alaska driver's license, a certification card from the state of Alaska saying he is certified in crime scene investigations.

330

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

Let's check it out.

331

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

So we realized at that point that the person we were told was John Edwards was in fact John Addis.

332

00:29:07,880 --> 00:29:14,880

Who was John Addis and why had he gone to such extreme lengths to conceal his identity?

333

00:29:14,880 --> 00:29:20,880

The answer to that question did not bode well for the ultimate fate of Joanne Albanese.

334

00:29:20,880 --> 00:29:30,880

As detectives delved into Addis's past, they uncovered allegations about a vicious trail of battered women that began in the Alaskan wilderness.

335

00:29:30,880 --> 00:29:37,880

Las Vegas police discovered that John Addis was actually once a law enforcement officer himself.

336

00:29:37,880 --> 00:29:46,880

He joined the Alaska State Troopers in the early 70s and quickly rose up the police ranks to become a crime scene investigator.

337

00:29:46,880 --> 00:29:49,880

John was a very intelligent man.

338

00:29:49,880 --> 00:29:56,880

As an investigator, John really wasn't a people person as much as some others perhaps were.

339

00:29:56,880 --> 00:30:06,880

But if you wanted good science at a crime scene and someone who could think in these terms and these concepts, John Addis was the guy.

340

00:30:06,880 --> 00:30:14,880

By 1980, John Addis and his wife Jodi had been completely accepted by the tightly knit Fairbanks law enforcement community.

341

00:30:14,880 --> 00:30:17,880

It wasn't such a big waste. We got to see the territories.

342

00:30:17,880 --> 00:30:22,880

Only Jodi was aware her husband had a darker side.

343

00:30:22,880 --> 00:30:25,880

He was very controlling.

344

00:30:25,880 --> 00:30:34,880

It started out by just pushes or shoving.

345

00:30:34,880 --> 00:30:42,880

And then it was grabbing my hair, pushing me up against the wall with his hand against my throat.

346

00:30:42,880 --> 00:30:46,880

I told you to stay away from those people. I told you not to talk to them.

347

00:30:46,880 --> 00:30:48,880

You can't treat me this way.

348

00:30:48,880 --> 00:30:50,880

I can't treat you any way I damn well feel like.

349

00:30:50,880 --> 00:30:55,880

After 11 years of marriage and four children, Jodi finally had enough.

350

00:30:55,880 --> 00:31:00,880

While a couple were driving into town, John started yet another fight.

351

00:31:00,880 --> 00:31:08,880

I decided I can't live like this anymore. So I had to make a decision.

352

00:31:08,880 --> 00:31:14,880

I decided I am not going to put up with this.

353

00:31:14,880 --> 00:31:27,880

I was going to jump from the vehicle.

354

00:31:27,880 --> 00:31:34,880

Although John reportedly chased her down and threw her back in the truck, Jodi ultimately was able to escape.

355

00:31:34,880 --> 00:31:39,880

Shortly thereafter, she was granted a divorce.

356

00:31:39,880 --> 00:31:47,880

In the ensuing years, Addis quit his job as a state trooper and married wives number two and three.

357

00:31:47,880 --> 00:31:53,880

I started to trace back all of his prior relationships.

358

00:31:53,880 --> 00:31:56,880

What I saw was an escalation in violence.

359

00:31:56,880 --> 00:32:06,880

He was extremely violent with his third wife, who after just having a baby with her, he was choking her so badly that her feet were off the ground.

360

00:32:06,880 --> 00:32:10,880

He had physically raised her as he was strangling her.

361

00:32:10,880 --> 00:32:15,880

It was during this time that John Addis abducted his four children from his first marriage.

362

00:32:15,880 --> 00:32:22,880

He was arrested and served one year in prison before being paroled to Fresno, California.

363

00:32:22,880 --> 00:32:29,880

But John Addis broke his parole and disappeared from sight.

364

00:32:29,880 --> 00:32:36,880

Five years later, Addis resurfaced in Las Vegas as John Edwards, where he met Joanne Albanese.

365

00:32:36,880 --> 00:32:43,880

Authorities now believe that Joanne tragically became the alleged chronic batterer's first murder victim.

366

00:32:43,880 --> 00:32:51,880

Our best guess on what happened was probably before they went to dinner, they got into a heated argument.

367

00:32:51,880 --> 00:33:04,880

And as a result of that argument, we firmly believe that John and her got into a fight and John killed her.

368

00:33:04,880 --> 00:33:07,880

And once she was dead, John panicked.

369

00:33:07,880 --> 00:33:18,880

John packed her into her own car and drove her down to Arizona and ultimately disposed of the body and the car outside of Prescott, Arizona.

370

00:33:18,880 --> 00:33:29,880

A full three years after her disappearance, a hunter discovered Joanne Albanese's skeletal remains one mile from where her car had been abandoned.

371

00:33:29,880 --> 00:33:35,880

A warrant for murder was issued for John Addis. He has now been missing for six years.

372

00:33:35,880 --> 00:33:41,880

This is not a stupid individual. This is a homicide detective who taught crimes and investigation.

373

00:33:41,880 --> 00:33:45,880

He's as sharp as they come, and that's what makes him tougher to find.

374

00:33:45,880 --> 00:33:50,880

John Addis won't be easy to catch and won't be easy to arrest.

375

00:33:50,880 --> 00:34:00,880

I hope I'm wrong. I hope he watches this segment and decides to do the honorable thing and give himself up.

376

00:34:15,880 --> 00:34:25,880

The Words of Cindy Sonders

377

00:34:25,880 --> 00:34:35,880

The Words of Cindy Sonders

378

00:34:35,880 --> 00:34:44,880

I'm strong. I'm beautiful. I can do anything I want.

379

00:34:44,880 --> 00:35:00,880

The Words of Cindy Sonders posted to her personal website eight months before her scheduled graduation from Penn State University in May 2002, a day that would celebrate a lifelong dream.

380

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

Cindy grew up in South Korea, but left in 1995 to live with her aunt and uncle in Virginia and attend high school.

381

00:35:08,880 --> 00:35:18,880

Her past rich in family tradition, her future full of promise, Cindy was enjoying every minute of her newfound freedom in America.

382

00:35:18,880 --> 00:35:25,880

But on Halloween 2001, Cindy's song's dream was apparently shattered.

383

00:35:25,880 --> 00:35:34,880

It was a Wednesday, the perfect excuse for students to party on a school night.

384

00:35:34,880 --> 00:35:45,880

Cindy and two of her girlfriends, Stacey, Peck and Lisa Kim, showed up at their favorite haunt dressed in costumes, ready to drink and dance the night away.

385

00:35:45,880 --> 00:35:56,880

Cindy wore a rabbit outfit. She had bunny ears and tail that she had fought. It was a very cute outfit. It wasn't like a sexy outfit. It was a very cute outfit.

386

00:35:56,880 --> 00:36:00,880

That was her thing. She was very cute. She liked to look cute.

387

00:36:06,880 --> 00:36:08,880

The girls party until 2 a.m.

388

00:36:12,880 --> 00:36:16,880

Next stop, a friend's to play some video games then home.

389

00:36:21,880 --> 00:36:25,880

It was now 4 a.m. on Thursday, November 1, 2001.

390

00:36:27,880 --> 00:36:30,880

Bye!

391

00:36:31,880 --> 00:36:41,880

Stacey waved goodbye to her friend and drove off. She never saw Cindy enter her apartment and has not seen her since, nor has anyone else.

392

00:36:41,880 --> 00:36:46,880

Cindy's song simply disappeared that night. Police were baffled.

393

00:36:47,880 --> 00:36:56,880

We have no body. We have no crime scene. And we have no actual crime. So it's been very frustrating without any of those pieces of the puzzle.

394

00:36:56,880 --> 00:37:00,880

And because of that, it seems that she just vanished in thin air.

395

00:37:01,880 --> 00:37:06,880

Back in Seoul, South Korea, Cindy's mother learned the heart-wrenching news.

396

00:37:08,880 --> 00:37:12,880

I wanted to be here for her, but I was in Korea at the time.

397

00:37:13,880 --> 00:37:19,880

If God will just allow me to see her, hear her, and touch her again, I will be so grateful.

398

00:37:22,880 --> 00:37:26,880

Cindy's song was known to have an independent streak and like to be spontaneous.

399

00:37:26,880 --> 00:37:32,880

But she was also hard-working and responsible. An art major would achieve good grades and held down two jobs.

400

00:37:32,880 --> 00:37:37,880

Friends say running off on a whim was simply not something Cindy would ever do.

401

00:37:38,880 --> 00:37:45,880

Questions and theories concerning what may have happened to Cindy abound. Yet her fate remains a complete mystery.

402

00:37:48,880 --> 00:37:55,880

A search of Cindy's apartment a few days after her disappearance showed no sign of any struggle, but there were some clues.

403

00:37:56,880 --> 00:38:01,880

We found her eyelashes on the counter because she was wearing fake eyelashes.

404

00:38:01,880 --> 00:38:06,880

So we knew that she must have at least come in and took those off.

405

00:38:07,880 --> 00:38:12,880

And her backpack was in her room as well, which she had been carrying earlier.

406

00:38:12,880 --> 00:38:17,880

So we knew that she at least came in and dropped that off.

407

00:38:18,880 --> 00:38:25,880

Another clue, Cindy's cell phone still in her bag. According to friends, she never went anywhere without it.

408

00:38:27,880 --> 00:38:30,880

Her bunny costume, however, was nowhere to be found.

409

00:38:31,880 --> 00:38:37,880

We know that whenever she left the apartment she was wearing the clothes she had on that night.

410

00:38:37,880 --> 00:38:49,880

We also know that her purse, her pocketbook or whatever she had with her that evening that contained her driver's license and credit cards were with her too because we could not locate those in the apartment.

411

00:38:51,880 --> 00:38:58,880

Detectives check Cindy's phone records, no calls in or out. Then her credit cards and email.

412

00:38:59,880 --> 00:39:08,880

There was no activity on her credit cards and there were no emails or any activity on your email accounts that gave us any clue on to her disappearance.

413

00:39:11,880 --> 00:39:17,880

Early November, police and volunteers combed a wooded area near Penn State University.

414

00:39:18,880 --> 00:39:26,880

No trace of Cindy's song. She had apparently vanished, leaving detectives with nothing to go on but hunches and theories.

415

00:39:28,880 --> 00:39:35,880

First, Cindy stayed of mind. Had she become depressed and taken her own life? Friends say no way.

416

00:39:37,880 --> 00:39:40,880

They remembered Cindy's upbeat mood on Halloween night.

417

00:39:41,880 --> 00:39:49,880

That's actually how she always is. She's very bubbly. She's just always happy and she always wants everyone else to be happy around her.

418

00:39:51,880 --> 00:40:00,880

So if Cindy wasn't depressed, had she perhaps run off somewhere without telling anyone? That theory was also quickly dismissed.

419

00:40:01,880 --> 00:40:11,880

When we conducted the initial search of her apartment, some of the things we found were two tickets to a Britney Spears concert that were coming up a couple days after her disappearance.

420

00:40:11,880 --> 00:40:19,880

And we also found some printouts from where she had ordered a computer and was due to be delivered, I believe, on November 6th.

421

00:40:19,880 --> 00:40:25,880

So if she was going to leave the area on her own, she wouldn't have ordered these or planned to attend those functions.

422

00:40:26,880 --> 00:40:29,880

So what did happen to Cindy's song that Halloween night?

423

00:40:31,880 --> 00:40:37,880

Friends said it wasn't unusual for Cindy to run out to a nearby 24-hour market no matter how late it was.

424

00:40:41,880 --> 00:40:49,880

Upon her going there or coming back, something happened. Such an abduction. Maybe somebody had grabbed her and abducted her.

425

00:40:50,880 --> 00:41:02,880

A few days after Cindy's song disappeared, a chilling scene reportedly unfolded in Philadelphia's Chinatown district, nearly 200 miles from Cindy's apartment.

426

00:41:05,880 --> 00:41:10,880

A woman matching Cindy's description was seen crying and yelling for help.

427

00:41:11,880 --> 00:41:15,880

Later the eyewitness came forward with a description of the alleged abductor.

428

00:41:16,880 --> 00:41:24,880

A police artist created this composite drawing of a man with olive to light brown complexion and medium length hair.

429

00:41:24,880 --> 00:41:28,880

He is not a suspect, but police would like to question him.

430

00:41:33,880 --> 00:41:36,880

Meanwhile, Cindy's mother flew to Philadelphia to help in the search.

431

00:41:37,880 --> 00:41:46,880

Since her arrival, Ban Soong's song has kept her daughter's story alive locally while also generating national and international coverage.

432

00:41:46,880 --> 00:41:51,880

It is a seemingly endless ordeal, yet she is not about to give up.

433

00:41:54,880 --> 00:42:02,880

I want to stay in America until I can find Cindy. I will do anything to find Cindy because Cindy is always in my heart.

434

00:42:03,880 --> 00:42:09,880

This is the last photo of Cindy's song taken the night she disappeared. Cindy is 21 years old in this picture.

435

00:42:09,880 --> 00:42:17,880

Stands just over 5 feet tall and weighs 110 pounds. She has long straight black hair and brown eyes.

436

00:42:17,880 --> 00:42:24,880

Join me for our next journey into the unknown on Unsolved Mysteries.

437

00:43:17,880 --> 00:43:21,880

Unolved Mysteries