

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:07,400

Tonight on Unsolved Mysteries.

2

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

These intricate formations are known as crop circles.

3

00:00:10,400 --> 00:00:13,640

They often pop up overnight in the middle of nowhere.

4

00:00:13,640 --> 00:00:16,080

Many are attributed to clever pranksters.

5

00:00:16,080 --> 00:00:19,280

Others have no rational explanation at all.

6

00:00:19,280 --> 00:00:22,080

Are they the work of some strange force on earth

7

00:00:22,080 --> 00:00:26,480

or something not of this world?

8

00:00:26,480 --> 00:00:28,400

Still known as the Crop Circles,

9

00:00:29,360 --> 00:00:31,680

still lonely and heartbroken from the sudden death

10

00:00:31,680 --> 00:00:33,760

of his beloved wife, Charles Barker

11

00:00:33,760 --> 00:00:36,800

was happy when a new woman entered his life.

12

00:00:36,800 --> 00:00:39,720

However, his happiness was to be as short-lived

13

00:00:39,720 --> 00:00:42,760

as the relationship.

14

00:00:42,760 --> 00:00:46,280

Ashley Ponda Miranda-Gabbis, same age, same height,

15

00:00:46,280 --> 00:00:49,800

same features, dance teammates and neighbors,

16

00:00:49,800 --> 00:00:52,320

until they were snatched off the street near this Oregon City

17

00:00:52,320 --> 00:00:54,240

apartment complex.

18

00:00:54,240 --> 00:00:56,640

Unspeakable crimes that have left a small town

19

00:00:56,680 --> 00:00:58,800

gripped with fear and authorities hunting

20

00:00:58,800 --> 00:01:02,760

for the worst kind of predator.

21

00:01:02,760 --> 00:01:05,240

A violent gang member reportedly wreaks havoc

22

00:01:05,240 --> 00:01:07,120

on the quiet streets of Milwaukee,

23

00:01:07,120 --> 00:01:10,440

leaving three innocent people dead.

24

00:01:10,440 --> 00:01:12,920

Police are asking for your help when apprehending

25

00:01:12,920 --> 00:01:15,160

the suspect before more lives are lost.

26

00:01:17,800 --> 00:01:20,080

One final piece of information may be all this

27

00:01:20,080 --> 00:01:22,200

needed to solve a mystery.

28

00:01:22,200 --> 00:01:24,480

Perhaps someone watching can help.

29

00:01:24,480 --> 00:01:26,280

Perhaps it's you.

30

00:01:54,480 --> 00:02:17,840

Edmonton, Alberta, on the western edge of the Canadian prairie.

31

00:02:17,840 --> 00:02:20,440

Rusty Manuel and Thel Avitman have been driving home

32

00:02:20,440 --> 00:02:22,280

from the city when they were flagged down

33

00:02:22,280 --> 00:02:25,160

by one of their farmhands.

34

00:02:25,160 --> 00:02:25,560

Hey.

35

00:02:25,560 --> 00:02:26,040

Hey.

36

00:02:26,040 --> 00:02:26,680

Y'all done?

37

00:02:26,680 --> 00:02:28,160

Yep.

38

00:02:28,160 --> 00:02:31,480

He said, you have a circle in your field.

39

00:02:31,480 --> 00:02:33,560

And I said, yes, I know.

40

00:02:33,560 --> 00:02:38,000

The darn animals, they're always lying down and flattening

41

00:02:38,000 --> 00:02:38,720

the grain.

42

00:02:38,720 --> 00:02:42,400

He said, oh no, it had to be an awfully big animal

43

00:02:42,400 --> 00:02:45,880

to make this circle.

44

00:02:45,880 --> 00:02:49,000

What Rusty and Thelty discovered were seven crop circles

45

00:02:49,000 --> 00:02:50,880

pressed into thistle and barley,

46

00:02:50,880 --> 00:02:56,240

comprising a formation about 190 feet long.

47

00:02:56,240 --> 00:02:58,600

It was just amazing.

48

00:02:58,600 --> 00:03:00,840

What made this?

49

00:03:00,840 --> 00:03:02,080

How could it be made?

50

00:03:02,080 --> 00:03:04,640

You know, what's going on here?

51

00:03:04,640 --> 00:03:07,080

The grain was all flattened down.

52

00:03:07,080 --> 00:03:09,840

And it almost looked like a pattern, like petals,

53

00:03:09,840 --> 00:03:10,920

the way the grain came out.

54

00:03:10,920 --> 00:03:13,720

And then the hits turned back in towards the center again.

55

00:03:13,720 --> 00:03:15,680

I got a hold of the city police.

56

00:03:15,680 --> 00:03:18,280

The city police did come out.

57

00:03:18,280 --> 00:03:19,520

He was totally amazed.

58

00:03:21,960 --> 00:03:24,560

Soon after the starting discovery was made,

59

00:03:24,560 --> 00:03:28,520

the Canadian Crop Circle Research Network was contacted.

60

00:03:28,520 --> 00:03:31,880

CCCRN is a group of volunteers dedicated

61

00:03:31,880 --> 00:03:35,480

to gathering information about the mystery of crop circles.

62

00:03:35,480 --> 00:03:40,840

Judy Arnt is a field researcher with the organization.

63

00:03:40,840 --> 00:03:43,520

It looked like a place had been electrocuted.

64

00:03:43,520 --> 00:03:46,840

The plants were so badly frazzled.

65

00:03:46,840 --> 00:03:50,800

It was just amazing.

66

00:03:50,800 --> 00:03:54,240

It looked like there had been a huge force of some sort.

67

00:03:54,240 --> 00:03:55,240

So it's over there.

68

00:03:55,240 --> 00:03:55,720

Over here.

69

00:03:55,720 --> 00:03:57,080

Right this way.

70

00:03:57,080 --> 00:04:01,600

I was very curious to see what we could see and look

71

00:04:01,600 --> 00:04:04,720

at the details of the formation.

72

00:04:04,720 --> 00:04:07,800

Skeptics were quick to call the whole affair a hoax,

73

00:04:07,800 --> 00:04:10,040

attributing the work to clever pranksters,

74

00:04:10,040 --> 00:04:14,040

like those shown in this TV documentary.

75

00:04:14,040 --> 00:04:15,960

Well, I'm from a farming background.

76

00:04:16,000 --> 00:04:19,520

So I know what it looks like when plants are driven over

77

00:04:19,520 --> 00:04:21,560

or flattened in some way.

78

00:04:21,560 --> 00:04:23,400

So it was very clear to us that it

79

00:04:23,400 --> 00:04:25,600

hadn't been flattened by somebody out there

80

00:04:25,600 --> 00:04:27,240

with planks and boards.

81

00:04:27,240 --> 00:04:29,600

You can't do that to thistle.

82

00:04:29,600 --> 00:04:31,400

It was very densely grown.

83

00:04:31,400 --> 00:04:33,160

And it would be very difficult for anybody

84

00:04:33,160 --> 00:04:35,280

to get in without leaving tracks behind.

85

00:04:38,560 --> 00:04:41,840

Paul Anderson, director of the CCCRN,

86

00:04:41,840 --> 00:04:44,680

has studied many similar formations in Western Canada.

87

00:04:46,960 --> 00:04:50,680

Well, anybody can go out with a board and flatten down wheat.

88

00:04:50,680 --> 00:04:51,560

You know, I could do that.

89

00:04:51,560 --> 00:04:53,040

Anyone could do that.

90

00:04:53,040 --> 00:04:54,960

And yet something you have to take into account

91

00:04:54,960 --> 00:04:56,800

is it's not just the formation itself,

92

00:04:56,800 --> 00:04:59,800

but it's the complexity of how it's actually constructed,

93

00:04:59,800 --> 00:05:01,880

which even in some of the ones here in Saskatchewan

94

00:05:01,880 --> 00:05:04,360

we've seen, have been quite elaborate,

95

00:05:04,360 --> 00:05:06,840

like multiple layers going in different directions,

96

00:05:06,840 --> 00:05:09,520

one on top of the other, and so on.

97

00:05:09,520 --> 00:05:12,000

Paul believes another factor makes it improbable,

98

00:05:12,000 --> 00:05:14,920

the so-called Edmonton circle was a hoax.

99

00:05:14,920 --> 00:05:17,920

Unlike England's mysterious Stonehenge region,

100

00:05:17,920 --> 00:05:20,200

for many crop circles have been sited,

101

00:05:20,200 --> 00:05:23,000

Western Canada holds little of that same mystique.

102

00:05:25,920 --> 00:05:27,560

What would be the point?

103

00:05:27,560 --> 00:05:29,080

You know, usually when you hoax something,

104

00:05:29,080 --> 00:05:32,560

you want to claim it after and make a big fuss about it

105

00:05:32,560 --> 00:05:35,840

and, you know, make a name for yourself.

106

00:05:35,840 --> 00:05:38,480

As Judy art examined the site, she carefully

107

00:05:38,480 --> 00:05:41,840

documented each of the circles within the formation.

108

00:05:41,840 --> 00:05:44,440

Judy also gathered up crop and soil samples

109

00:05:44,440 --> 00:05:48,200

for scientific analysis.

110

00:05:48,200 --> 00:05:50,120

Each sample is numbered, and there's

111

00:05:50,120 --> 00:05:53,480

a corresponding sample of the grain stalks

112

00:05:53,480 --> 00:05:56,120

and of the soil at that particular location.

113

00:05:56,120 --> 00:05:59,800

So those are all numbered and written on a chart.

114

00:05:59,800 --> 00:06:01,960

The samples were analyzed by Nancy Talbot

115

00:06:01,960 --> 00:06:04,120

in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

116

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

Nancy works with a consortium of scientists

117

00:06:06,440 --> 00:06:09,520

who have studied more than 350 crop circle cases

118

00:06:09,520 --> 00:06:13,080

from eight different countries.

119

00:06:13,080 --> 00:06:17,560

The three major changes in plants in the real McCoy,

120

00:06:17,560 --> 00:06:20,480

as opposed to man-made crop circles,

121

00:06:20,480 --> 00:06:26,200

are node elongation, expulsion cavities at the nodes,

122

00:06:26,200 --> 00:06:30,160

and germination abnormalities.

123

00:06:30,160 --> 00:06:32,800

Each of these conditions was present in the crop samples

124

00:06:32,800 --> 00:06:34,640

sent from Edmonton.

125

00:06:34,640 --> 00:06:37,840

In other words, both internal and external characteristics

126

00:06:37,840 --> 00:06:40,920

of the crops were profoundly altered in ways that could not

127

00:06:40,920 --> 00:06:43,280

be induced by humans using ropes and boards.

128

00:06:46,240 --> 00:06:50,040

There is a sense that you're walking into something special.

129

00:06:50,040 --> 00:06:51,800

I have always equated it to walking into something special.

130

00:06:51,800 --> 00:06:55,000

Former high-ranking British government official Colin Andrew

131

00:06:55,000 --> 00:06:57,720

has witnessed this phenomenon many times.

132

00:06:57,720 --> 00:06:59,160

There's preciseness.

133

00:06:59,160 --> 00:07:00,960

The geometry is precise.

134

00:07:00,960 --> 00:07:04,400

There are no tracks in or out.

135

00:07:04,400 --> 00:07:06,360

The plants are not damaged.

136

00:07:06,360 --> 00:07:07,200

They're bent over.

137

00:07:07,200 --> 00:07:09,640

They're not knuckled or broken.

138

00:07:09,640 --> 00:07:13,800

The plants are changed in their internal structure

139

00:07:13,800 --> 00:07:15,520

at the cellular level.

140

00:07:15,520 --> 00:07:19,320

You don't find that in the hoax.

141

00:07:19,320 --> 00:07:21,880

Meanwhile, the soil samples from the Edmonton site

142

00:07:21,880 --> 00:07:25,200

were sent to Dr. Sampath langar in California.

143

00:07:25,200 --> 00:07:28,200

Dr. langar is an expert in material analysis.

144

00:07:31,200 --> 00:07:34,960

We went ahead and looked at the mineralogy of the clays

145

00:07:34,960 --> 00:07:39,120

using a technique called x-ray powder diffraction.

146

00:07:39,120 --> 00:07:41,880

That's the technique that can be used

147

00:07:41,880 --> 00:07:47,160

to identify the type of clays and the type of various other minerals

148

00:07:47,160 --> 00:07:50,320

that are present in a soil.

149

00:07:50,320 --> 00:07:51,960

The results showed a dramatic difference

150

00:07:51,960 --> 00:07:55,240

between the soil samples taken from inside the crop circle

151

00:07:55,240 --> 00:07:57,480

compared to those taken from outside the circle.

152

00:08:00,480 --> 00:08:03,840

This has been seen by geologists before.

153

00:08:03,840 --> 00:08:09,680

But this is in a geologic time over several millions of years,

154

00:08:09,680 --> 00:08:13,600

plus at a lot higher temperature than what you would expect

155

00:08:13,600 --> 00:08:14,960

in a crop circle.

156

00:08:14,960 --> 00:08:19,160

And this has to be some kind of a fantastic energy

157

00:08:19,160 --> 00:08:25,640

or some kind of laser type of thing that's causing this change.

158

00:08:25,640 --> 00:08:28,160

And I don't have any idea what it is.

159

00:08:31,160 --> 00:08:33,040

The crop circles in Western Canada

160

00:08:33,040 --> 00:08:35,720

finally provide conclusive evidence of unknown forces

161

00:08:35,720 --> 00:08:37,240

at work.

162

00:08:37,240 --> 00:08:39,200

Skeptics say no.

163

00:08:39,200 --> 00:08:41,600

They blame pranksters who proudly take credit for making

164

00:08:41,600 --> 00:08:45,280

80% of these often complex formations, creations they call

165

00:08:45,280 --> 00:08:47,280

human land art.

166

00:08:47,280 --> 00:08:49,760

But what about the other 20%?

167

00:08:49,760 --> 00:08:52,960

It's a debate that's been raging since the mid-1970s

168

00:08:52,960 --> 00:08:56,480

on the wave of crop circles captured worldwide attention.

169

00:08:56,480 --> 00:08:59,640

The most compelling question remains unanswered.

170

00:08:59,680 --> 00:09:03,960

If they are not the work of humans, then who or what

171

00:09:03,960 --> 00:09:05,600

created them and how?

172

00:09:08,520 --> 00:09:11,520

Theories range from geothermal and magnetic forces

173

00:09:11,520 --> 00:09:14,840

to some kind of cosmic energy.

174

00:09:14,840 --> 00:09:16,600

We looked at meteorology.

175

00:09:16,600 --> 00:09:18,280

We looked at earth energies.

176

00:09:18,280 --> 00:09:21,000

We looked at chemical applications of farmers.

177

00:09:21,000 --> 00:09:23,520

And all of them led to a blank.

178

00:09:23,520 --> 00:09:26,000

It just did not fit.

179

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

What we now know is we have a solid mystery.

180

00:09:29,040 --> 00:09:33,600

This cannot be explained in the terms of people making them.

181

00:09:33,600 --> 00:09:37,720

We have many hundreds that are absolutely, certainly,

182

00:09:37,720 --> 00:09:39,160

not man-made.

183

00:09:39,160 --> 00:09:42,160

And that is a solid fact.

184

00:09:42,160 --> 00:09:45,840

Things like compasses will deviate or even spin.

185

00:09:45,840 --> 00:09:48,960

If you sit them on the ground, like in the center of a circle,

186

00:09:48,960 --> 00:09:51,320

things like that, which to me, hoaxing simply

187

00:09:51,320 --> 00:09:52,880

doesn't explain, because something has

188

00:09:52,880 --> 00:09:54,840

to be affecting that compass.

189

00:09:54,840 --> 00:09:56,320

Even compasses and airplanes have been

190

00:09:56,320 --> 00:09:58,760

affected flying over some of these.

191

00:09:58,760 --> 00:10:00,960

I had problems with my own camera,

192

00:10:00,960 --> 00:10:03,440

both on the ground and in the plane.

193

00:10:03,440 --> 00:10:06,160

Any kind of electrical equipment will often

194

00:10:06,160 --> 00:10:11,640

dismal function or go completely dead inside some of these.

195

00:10:11,640 --> 00:10:14,640

Perhaps most intriguing of all the proposed theories

196

00:10:14,640 --> 00:10:16,960

is the one that claims that at least some crop circles

197

00:10:16,960 --> 00:10:21,000

are the work of extraterrestrials.

198

00:10:21,000 --> 00:10:26,840

I was contacted by a young couple who had been driving along

199

00:10:26,840 --> 00:10:28,320

in the late evening.

200

00:10:28,360 --> 00:10:31,400

So do you have to work next weekend?

201

00:10:31,400 --> 00:10:32,040

Maybe.

202

00:10:32,040 --> 00:10:33,680

I think they're going to call me any minute.

203

00:10:33,680 --> 00:10:36,400

She was taking her husband to work in North Edmonton.

204

00:10:36,400 --> 00:10:37,640

But you're going to have a weekend off.

205

00:10:37,640 --> 00:10:41,240

He looked out the window and saw some lights

206

00:10:41,240 --> 00:10:43,400

and rolled down the window to make sure it wasn't just

207

00:10:43,400 --> 00:10:46,040

reflection on his passenger side window.

208

00:10:46,040 --> 00:10:46,960

What is that?

209

00:10:46,960 --> 00:10:48,440

And the lights were still there.

210

00:10:48,440 --> 00:10:51,840

He got quite excited about it and asked his wife to pull over.

211

00:10:52,840 --> 00:10:56,840

There were two small lights, brilliant bluish.

212

00:10:56,840 --> 00:10:57,840

Is that a plane?

213

00:10:57,840 --> 00:10:59,840

No, plants don't move like that.

214

00:10:59,840 --> 00:11:01,840

And they said these two lights looked like they were playing

215

00:11:01,840 --> 00:11:03,840

tag with each other.

216

00:11:03,840 --> 00:11:04,840

Is that right to believe this?

217

00:11:04,840 --> 00:11:09,840

And it went on for, I don't know, 20, 30 seconds.

218

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

This sighting occurred about a week

219

00:11:12,840 --> 00:11:16,840

before the crop circle formation was found.

220

00:11:17,840 --> 00:11:21,840

Then a few days later, Rusty, Manuel, and Thelib Whitman

221

00:11:21,840 --> 00:11:24,840

had their own close encounter.

222

00:11:24,840 --> 00:11:29,840

We were just approaching our farm when we saw this light.

223

00:11:29,840 --> 00:11:30,840

What's that?

224

00:11:30,840 --> 00:11:31,840

What?

225

00:11:31,840 --> 00:11:32,840

What?

226

00:11:32,840 --> 00:11:33,840

Yeah.

227

00:11:33,840 --> 00:11:35,840

First you thought it was a helicopter because it moved

228

00:11:35,840 --> 00:11:38,840

like a helicopter, but still there was no other lights on it.

229

00:11:38,840 --> 00:11:40,840

That is so weird.

230

00:11:40,840 --> 00:11:41,840

I don't know what that is.

231

00:11:41,840 --> 00:11:43,840

It was just bright.

232

00:11:43,840 --> 00:11:47,840

And would just hover over the field and sort of move off

233

00:11:47,840 --> 00:11:49,840

and then come back again.

234

00:11:49,840 --> 00:11:51,840

Oh my god, I've never seen anything like that.

235

00:11:51,840 --> 00:11:53,840

I tried to picture it as being an aircraft,

236

00:11:53,840 --> 00:11:56,840

but it was too much too big for an aircraft.

237

00:11:56,840 --> 00:11:58,840

That's no airplane.

238

00:11:58,840 --> 00:11:59,840

No.

239

00:11:59,840 --> 00:12:03,840

And it just seemed like it passed over the back end of the pickup

240

00:12:03,840 --> 00:12:05,840

and it just disappeared.

241

00:12:05,840 --> 00:12:08,840

It just was so fast.

242

00:12:08,840 --> 00:12:10,840

Was there a connection between the strange lights

243

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

in the sky and the sudden appearance of the Edmonton

244

00:12:14,840 --> 00:12:16,840

crop circles just days later?

245

00:12:16,840 --> 00:12:20,840

Seth Shostak is senior astronomer at the SETI Institute,

246

00:12:20,840 --> 00:12:24,840

an acronym meaning the search for extraterrestrial intelligence.

247

00:12:24,840 --> 00:12:29,840

Seth and his colleagues explore the heavens for any sign of life.

248

00:12:29,840 --> 00:12:32,840

I believe that the aliens are out there,

249

00:12:32,840 --> 00:12:35,840

but I don't think that they're visiting here.

250

00:12:35,840 --> 00:12:39,840

The fact that so many people feel that they're in the sky

251

00:12:39,840 --> 00:12:43,840

and feel that there may be something unusual going on here,

252

00:12:43,840 --> 00:12:45,840

crop circles, UFOs and so forth,

253

00:12:45,840 --> 00:12:48,840

I think this speaks to psychological need that we all have

254

00:12:48,840 --> 00:12:52,840

to believe that there are some powers that we don't understand.

255

00:12:52,840 --> 00:12:55,840

And after all, it's much more interesting to think that this pattern

256

00:12:55,840 --> 00:12:59,840

in the weed here was graffiti from beings from another world

257

00:12:59,840 --> 00:13:02,840

than to think that it was students from the local university.

258

00:13:02,840 --> 00:13:05,840

That's not a terribly interesting story.

259

00:13:05,840 --> 00:13:08,840

But what about crop circles that simply define logic?

260

00:13:08,840 --> 00:13:11,840

It's a show no sign of human intervention

261

00:13:11,840 --> 00:13:14,840

that certainly seemed to be the case in Red Deer, Alberta,

262

00:13:14,840 --> 00:13:16,840

not far from Edmonton.

263

00:13:16,840 --> 00:13:18,840

According to a stunned local farmer,

264

00:13:18,840 --> 00:13:21,840

this giant star of David formation

265

00:13:21,840 --> 00:13:24,840

literally appeared overnight in one of his fields.

266

00:13:24,840 --> 00:13:28,840

It measured an incredible 422 feet across.

267

00:13:28,840 --> 00:13:34,840

Still skeptics like Seth Shostak believe it's all smoke and mirrors.

268

00:13:34,840 --> 00:13:36,840

When I go to a stage show in Las Vegas

269

00:13:36,840 --> 00:13:39,840

and I see these grand illusions produced by these magicians,

270

00:13:39,840 --> 00:13:41,840

I don't understand how they're all done.

271

00:13:41,840 --> 00:13:43,840

In fact, I don't understand how most of them are done.

272

00:13:43,840 --> 00:13:47,840

And I could assume some unknown physical force is involved.

273

00:13:47,840 --> 00:13:51,840

This would be terribly important if it were true about the crop circles,

274

00:13:51,840 --> 00:13:55,840

but the facts are that to say that they are made by something other than humans

275

00:13:55,840 --> 00:13:58,840

is a radical, a revolutionary claim.

276

00:13:58,840 --> 00:14:01,840

And consequently, I'm not going to be swayed by what amounts to

277

00:14:01,840 --> 00:14:03,840

very anecdotal evidence.

278

00:14:03,840 --> 00:14:05,840

It's got to be better than that.

279

00:14:05,840 --> 00:14:10,840

I don't think we need, necessarily, to be talking or trying to prove

280

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

that it is or isn't extraterrestrial.

281

00:14:13,840 --> 00:14:15,840

I don't know that either.

282

00:14:15,840 --> 00:14:19,840

What I know is what I'm looking at that has arrived in our fields.

283

00:14:19,840 --> 00:14:21,840

Something knows what it's doing here.

284

00:14:21,840 --> 00:14:23,840

There is intelligence of some sort.

285

00:14:23,840 --> 00:14:27,840

And I know they're not all made by people.

286

00:14:27,840 --> 00:14:32,840

Over the past three decades,

287

00:14:32,840 --> 00:14:37,840

researchers have compiled a database that includes more than 10,000

288

00:14:37,840 --> 00:14:39,840

crop circle reports from around the world.

289

00:14:39,840 --> 00:14:43,840

If 8,000 of these strange formations can be attributed to pranksters,

290

00:14:43,840 --> 00:14:48,840

that still leaves more than 2,000 that are simply unexplained.

291

00:14:49,840 --> 00:14:52,840

Hello.

292

00:14:52,840 --> 00:14:57,840

Yeah, I'd like to put an ad in the Personals for a week.

293

00:14:57,840 --> 00:15:00,840

Single white female, 47.

294

00:15:00,840 --> 00:15:02,840

August 1998.

295

00:15:02,840 --> 00:15:06,840

A woman calling herself Diana Ray decided to place an ad in the

296

00:15:06,840 --> 00:15:09,840

personal section of a Louisiana newspaper.

297

00:15:09,840 --> 00:15:14,840

I'm honest and hard-working and seeking the right to be a woman.

298

00:15:14,840 --> 00:15:21,840

I'm honest and hard-working and seeking a compatible single white male,

299

00:15:21,840 --> 00:15:26,840

45 to 55, to enjoy life together.

300

00:15:28,840 --> 00:15:31,840

Diana Ray was hardly being honest.

301

00:15:31,840 --> 00:15:34,840

According to authorities, Diana was a drifter who hitchhiked around

302

00:15:34,840 --> 00:15:38,840

the country looking for her next mark, a lonely man to latch onto

303

00:15:38,840 --> 00:15:40,840

and drain his bank account.

304

00:15:40,840 --> 00:15:43,840

In fact, her real name was not Diana at all.

305

00:15:43,840 --> 00:15:45,840

It was Hazel Leota Head.

306

00:15:45,840 --> 00:15:48,840

A man named Charles Barker would have been interested in any one

307

00:15:48,840 --> 00:15:51,840

of these details if he had only known.

308

00:15:54,840 --> 00:15:57,840

Charles Barker had recently suffered through the devastating

309

00:15:57,840 --> 00:16:01,840

sudden loss of his life of 10 years.

310

00:16:01,840 --> 00:16:03,840

She was killed by a drunk driver.

311

00:16:03,840 --> 00:16:08,840

It was a settlement out of court and he came into a lot of money.

312

00:16:08,840 --> 00:16:12,840

But after she died, it just seemed like he kind of fell apart.

313

00:16:13,840 --> 00:16:16,840

He didn't know what to do with himself, I think.

314

00:16:17,840 --> 00:16:19,840

He was depressed.

315

00:16:19,840 --> 00:16:22,840

But then later on, it's like he snapped out of it and wanted to do

316

00:16:22,840 --> 00:16:25,840

things, go fishing and travel.

317

00:16:25,840 --> 00:16:27,840

He bought a Winnebago, a boat.

318

00:16:27,840 --> 00:16:30,840

I guess that's when the loneliness set in.

319

00:16:30,840 --> 00:16:32,840

You know, he didn't like doing them by himself.

320

00:16:35,840 --> 00:16:38,840

The riverboat casinos operating on the Red River and

321

00:16:38,840 --> 00:16:43,840

Bozier City, Louisiana, became Charles Barker's latest diversion.

322

00:16:43,840 --> 00:16:45,840

All right, all right.

323

00:16:45,840 --> 00:16:48,840

Although he probably believed he and Diana became acquainted by chance,

324

00:16:48,840 --> 00:16:52,840

given her track record, she undoubtedly orchestrated the meeting.

325

00:16:52,840 --> 00:16:54,840

Good seat taken.

326

00:16:54,840 --> 00:16:56,840

Well, it is now, isn't it?

327

00:16:56,840 --> 00:16:58,840

Yes, I just took it.

328

00:16:58,840 --> 00:17:02,840

Charles Barker carried pretty large amounts of cash with him.

329

00:17:02,840 --> 00:17:06,840

Hazel would have almost certainly noticed that because she'd be

330

00:17:06,840 --> 00:17:08,840

looking for those kinds of things.

331

00:17:08,840 --> 00:17:10,840

You look like you're doing pretty good over there.

332

00:17:10,840 --> 00:17:13,840

And so he would have become a target for her.

333

00:17:13,840 --> 00:17:14,840

You know what?

334

00:17:14,840 --> 00:17:17,840

I might ask you to help me because I'm not doing too good here.

335

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

Well, your hand looks pretty good right now.

336

00:17:19,840 --> 00:17:20,840

Let's see.

337

00:17:20,840 --> 00:17:22,840

They shared a whirlwind romance.

338

00:17:22,840 --> 00:17:26,840

And less than a year after the death of his wife and within days

339

00:17:26,840 --> 00:17:30,840

of their initial meeting, Hazel had moved in with Charles Barker.

340

00:17:32,840 --> 00:17:33,840

So adorable.

341

00:17:33,840 --> 00:17:34,840

I love it.

342

00:17:34,840 --> 00:17:38,840

Well, Dad told me he had met a woman in a casino.

343

00:17:38,840 --> 00:17:40,840

You know, I didn't think anything of it.

344

00:17:40,840 --> 00:17:44,840

You know, I just, I hope he was happy and I don't want to see him alone.

345

00:17:44,840 --> 00:17:49,840

You know, I thought maybe she would be a good companion for him.

346

00:17:49,840 --> 00:17:53,840

And evidently, he was happy with her for a while because he would call me

347

00:17:53,840 --> 00:17:55,840

and say he liked her.

348

00:17:55,840 --> 00:17:57,840

You don't care any of the specials?

349

00:17:57,840 --> 00:18:00,840

Well, I'm going to give it one good old try.

350

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

I'll tell you that much.

351

00:18:01,840 --> 00:18:03,840

He needed someone, some companionship.

352

00:18:03,840 --> 00:18:05,840

He didn't like to be alone.

353

00:18:06,840 --> 00:18:08,840

So you're looking really good, Dad.

354

00:18:08,840 --> 00:18:09,840

Tell me about this one.

355

00:18:09,840 --> 00:18:12,840

One weekend, Jennifer made the nine-hour drive from her Austin,

356

00:18:12,840 --> 00:18:15,840

Texas home to meet her father's new girlfriend.

357

00:18:15,840 --> 00:18:17,840

Hey, sugar, I'm all out of ammo.

358

00:18:17,840 --> 00:18:18,840

Oh, huh.

359

00:18:18,840 --> 00:18:20,840

Deanna, I want you to meet my daughter Jennifer.

360

00:18:20,840 --> 00:18:21,840

Oh, hi.

361

00:18:21,840 --> 00:18:22,840

Jennifer, Deanna.

362

00:18:22,840 --> 00:18:23,840

Nice to meet you.

363

00:18:23,840 --> 00:18:24,840

Boy.

364

00:18:24,840 --> 00:18:25,840

Oh, look at this.

365

00:18:25,840 --> 00:18:29,840

When I first met her, she was in the casino with my dad.

366

00:18:29,840 --> 00:18:30,840

So are you from around here?

367

00:18:30,840 --> 00:18:31,840

I'm from all over the world.

368

00:18:31,840 --> 00:18:34,840

She was a very, you know, a real presentable woman.

369

00:18:34,840 --> 00:18:35,840

I'm his.

370

00:18:35,840 --> 00:18:36,840

You know, just no class.

371

00:18:36,840 --> 00:18:37,840

It's nice to meet you.

372

00:18:37,840 --> 00:18:41,840

She looked like a bar fly, you know.

373

00:18:41,840 --> 00:18:43,840

I was suspicious of her.

374

00:18:43,840 --> 00:18:46,840

I knew she wouldn't write for him.

375

00:18:46,840 --> 00:18:47,840

Daddy, what's going on?

376

00:18:47,840 --> 00:18:48,840

You do not sound...

377

00:18:48,840 --> 00:18:52,840

A short time later, even Charles apparently began to share that opinion.

378

00:18:52,840 --> 00:18:54,840

One big old messy situation here.

379

00:18:54,840 --> 00:18:57,840

According to his daughter, Cindy, Charles admitted he was troubled

380

00:18:57,840 --> 00:19:02,840

in a phone conversation, but declined a review of what his problems were.

381

00:19:02,840 --> 00:19:04,840

Daddy, I can help you with this, please.

382

00:19:04,840 --> 00:19:06,840

Sweetheart, listen to me.

383

00:19:06,840 --> 00:19:07,840

Trust me here.

384

00:19:07,840 --> 00:19:08,840

Next week we'll get together.

385

00:19:08,840 --> 00:19:11,840

I promise you, and I'll sit down with you, and I'll tell you everything.

386

00:19:11,840 --> 00:19:16,840

When my dad called me, he just sounded so different, and he started crying,

387

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

and I've never, you know, heard my dad cry or anything.

388

00:19:20,840 --> 00:19:24,840

And, um, but he told me he'd call me in two or three days.

389

00:19:24,840 --> 00:19:25,840

Everything would be OK.

390

00:19:25,840 --> 00:19:27,840

Let me know what was going on.

391

00:19:27,840 --> 00:19:30,840

But that explanation never came.

392

00:19:30,840 --> 00:19:36,840

Shortly after, Jennifer tried calling her father to arrange another visit.

393

00:19:36,840 --> 00:19:40,840

I'd been trying to phone him for the whole week.

394

00:19:40,840 --> 00:19:44,840

And, uh, no answer.

395

00:19:44,840 --> 00:19:51,840

And I finally called my aunt, and she said, we'll go by there and check on him.

396

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

Charles Barker's sister, June, and her husband drove over to see if there was a problem.

397

00:19:56,840 --> 00:20:01,840

Charlie? Charlie?

398

00:20:01,840 --> 00:20:06,840

June Stringer and her husband noticed that the front door of the residence is open,

399

00:20:06,840 --> 00:20:09,840

so they proceed further.

400

00:20:09,840 --> 00:20:16,840

The husband looks in and sees Mr. Barker slumped over the bar.

401

00:20:16,840 --> 00:20:24,840

Charles Barker had been dead for five days, killed by a single gunshot to the head.

402

00:20:24,840 --> 00:20:30,840

As investigators combed the crime scene, several observations were made.

403

00:20:30,840 --> 00:20:33,840

Our detectives found no sign of a struggle.

404

00:20:33,840 --> 00:20:37,840

They did not find a house that had been ransacked.

405

00:20:37,840 --> 00:20:44,840

Mr. Barker had a 25-caliber Raven arms pistol that he kept in his residence.

406

00:20:44,840 --> 00:20:53,840

There were no prints found on the gun, but the ballistics evidence indicates that that was the weapon that was used.

407

00:20:53,840 --> 00:20:57,840

Mr. Barker had a safe that he kept in his bedroom.

408

00:20:57,840 --> 00:21:02,840

The safe was opened when investigators arrived.

409

00:21:02,840 --> 00:21:06,840

Except for Charles Barker's personal papers, it was empty.

410

00:21:06,840 --> 00:21:10,840

I know for a fact that my dad always kept money in there.

411

00:21:10,840 --> 00:21:18,840

And at that time, I believe he probably had \$45,000 at least in that safe.

412

00:21:18,840 --> 00:21:25,840

Also missing was Charles Barker's Lincoln Town car and his girlfriend.

413

00:21:25,840 --> 00:21:30,840

Mr. Barker's vehicle was found the next day after his body was discovered.

414

00:21:30,840 --> 00:21:39,840

It was found near the airport, inside the car, with pieces of clothing that belonged to Hazel.

415

00:21:39,840 --> 00:21:48,840

Also found in the car was DNA evidence, physical evidence, that we believe definitely links her to the car.

416

00:21:48,840 --> 00:21:55,840

We believe she is the one that took the car from his residence and drove it to that spot near the airport.

417

00:21:55,840 --> 00:22:03,840

A background check on Hazel had revealed that she'd been married as many as 10 times and was known to use more than a dozen aliases.

418

00:22:03,840 --> 00:22:08,840

There was also an outstanding warrant for her arrest in Lincoln, Nebraska.

419

00:22:08,840 --> 00:22:16,840

Hazel had allegedly burned down her boyfriend's mobile home, then fled before standing trial.

420

00:22:16,840 --> 00:22:23,840

Did Hazel had murdered Charles Barker and escaped with an unknown amount of cash?

421

00:22:23,840 --> 00:22:27,840

Had this been her plan from the very beginning?

422

00:22:27,840 --> 00:22:33,840

Our investigators theorized that Mr. Barker was probably at the bar reading the newspaper.

423

00:22:33,840 --> 00:22:39,840

Hazel came out of the bedroom with the gun, the 25 caliber.

424

00:22:39,840 --> 00:22:43,840

He didn't realize that she was behind him.

425

00:22:47,840 --> 00:22:52,840

We believe that Mr. Barker probably never knew what hit him.

426

00:22:52,840 --> 00:22:59,840

But was Hazel had plotting yet another scam, even while she was still living with Charles Barker?

427

00:22:59,840 --> 00:23:02,840

Hi, my name is Diana Ray.

428

00:23:02,840 --> 00:23:09,840

Louisiana authorities subsequently recovered a recording of a personal's ad she placed shortly before his murder.

429

00:23:09,840 --> 00:23:16,840

This is Hazel had in her own voice. Lonely men everywhere, beware.

430

00:23:16,840 --> 00:23:20,840

And I'm looking for a single white male between 45 and 65.

431

00:23:20,840 --> 00:23:29,840

They have a good time, enjoy life, and just be all around happy.

432

00:23:30,840 --> 00:23:37,840

Hazel had is known to frequent truck stops, often hitching rides from town to town.

433

00:23:37,840 --> 00:23:39,840

I heard you say he's going to Dallas.

434

00:23:39,840 --> 00:23:46,840

Investigators believe she easily blends into that environment and never stays long in one place.

435

00:23:46,840 --> 00:23:53,840

Hazel had is a very street smart woman. She flies below radar.

436

00:23:53,840 --> 00:23:57,840

To track Hazel head is very difficult.

437

00:23:57,840 --> 00:24:04,840

She becomes almost like a ghost. It's like she's here and she's gone.

438

00:24:04,840 --> 00:24:08,840

But it must not be forgotten that she is a dangerous person.

439

00:24:08,840 --> 00:24:12,840

That she might have killed even before Mr. Barker was murdered.

440

00:24:12,840 --> 00:24:17,840

She may have killed since. She has a dark side to her.

441

00:24:17,840 --> 00:24:20,840

Hazel head stands five feet two inches tall.

442

00:24:20,840 --> 00:24:24,840

She has a scar near her right eye and a gap between her front teeth.

443

00:24:24,840 --> 00:24:30,840

Head is wanted for the first degree murder of Charles Barker and should be considered dangerous.

444

00:24:38,840 --> 00:24:44,840

Oregon City, Oregon is a small blue collar town of 27,000 people just south of Portland.

445

00:24:44,840 --> 00:24:49,840

A friendly place where adults trust their neighbors and children play without fear.

446

00:24:49,840 --> 00:24:52,840

But suddenly everything changed.

447

00:24:52,840 --> 00:24:55,840

Over a six week period two young girls vanished without a trace.

448

00:24:55,840 --> 00:25:02,840

Setting in motion one of the most complex and unusual investigations state authorities have ever encountered.

449

00:25:02,840 --> 00:25:07,840

Nestled among the hills of Oregon City sits Newell Creek Village Apartments.

450

00:25:07,840 --> 00:25:16,840

The complex includes 125 units and is home to more than 325 residents including Lori Pahn and her 12 year old daughter Ashley.

451

00:25:16,840 --> 00:25:19,840

Hey Ashley, you better hurry up, you're going to be late.

452

00:25:19,840 --> 00:25:20,840

I'm coming mom.

453

00:25:20,840 --> 00:25:25,840

January 9th, 2002. Ashley was running late as usual.

454

00:25:25,840 --> 00:25:30,840

It was a little after 8am and she had only a few minutes to catch the bus.

455

00:25:30,840 --> 00:25:31,840

Love you, bye.

456

00:25:31,840 --> 00:25:33,840

Love you too.

457

00:25:33,840 --> 00:25:37,840

The walk up the hill to the bus stop took less than 10 minutes.

458

00:25:37,840 --> 00:25:42,840

Ashley was a popular student and member of both the swimming and dance teams.

459

00:25:42,840 --> 00:25:46,840

On that Wednesday she was looking forward to practice after class.

460

00:25:46,840 --> 00:25:50,840

Lori Pahn expected to hear from her daughter by 6.15pm.

461

00:25:50,840 --> 00:25:55,840

When she didn't Lori became worried and called to school.

462

00:25:55,840 --> 00:25:56,840

Hi.

463

00:25:56,840 --> 00:26:01,840

The dance coach answered. She said no Ashley wasn't there.

464

00:26:01,840 --> 00:26:06,840

I said well can you ask the kids, maybe they saw her and they said no.

465

00:26:06,840 --> 00:26:08,840

And they said they hadn't even seen her in school.

466

00:26:08,840 --> 00:26:15,840

And that's where I went, this is wrong, something's wrong because Ashley would not have done that

467

00:26:15,840 --> 00:26:17,840

and she would have called me.

468

00:26:17,840 --> 00:26:19,840

Now when was Ashley last seen?

469

00:26:19,840 --> 00:26:22,840

Lori immediately contacted the Oregon City Police.

470

00:26:22,840 --> 00:26:27,840

She told the officer none of Ashley's clothes or personal belongings was missing.

471

00:26:27,840 --> 00:26:31,840

Things she was sure her daughter would have taken had she run away.

472

00:26:31,840 --> 00:26:33,840

No, no, no, no.

473

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

I didn't sleep that night at all.

474

00:26:35,840 --> 00:26:43,840

I just thought maybe she would come home and knock on the door or whatever but she never did.

475

00:26:47,840 --> 00:26:52,840

The police concluded there might be a child abductor on the loose and opened an investigation.

476

00:26:52,840 --> 00:26:55,840

Detectives first talked with some of Ashley's classmates.

477

00:26:55,840 --> 00:26:58,840

They said she never got on the bus.

478

00:26:58,840 --> 00:27:03,840

Next police canvassed the entire apartment complex looking for leads or possible suspects.

479

00:27:03,840 --> 00:27:05,840

They found neither.

480

00:27:05,840 --> 00:27:13,840

The investigators have been able to search every apartment within that complex including crawl

spaces and attic spaces

481

00:27:13,840 --> 00:27:18,840

and are confident that there was nothing there to see.

482

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

The search expanded.

483

00:27:22,840 --> 00:27:25,840

Hundreds of volunteers combed the surrounding area.

484

00:27:25,840 --> 00:27:32,840

While detectives questioned Ashley's father, looked into Ashley's internet activity and checked out lists of known sex offenders.

485

00:27:32,840 --> 00:27:36,840

Again, no clues, no suspects and no sign of Ashley.

486

00:27:36,840 --> 00:27:40,840

Detectives then contacted the FBI.

487

00:27:40,840 --> 00:27:45,840

We've moved to the larger community around the apartment complex.

488

00:27:45,840 --> 00:27:47,840

We've been through the school.

489

00:27:47,840 --> 00:27:50,840

We've talked to individual students who were associates.

490

00:27:50,840 --> 00:27:51,840

We've talked to teachers.

491

00:27:51,840 --> 00:27:53,840

We've talked to administrators.

492

00:27:53,840 --> 00:27:55,840

We've talked to the school as a whole.

493

00:27:56,840 --> 00:28:02,840

More dead ends and still the same fundamental question remained unanswered.

494

00:28:02,840 --> 00:28:07,840

What had happened to Ashley Pond between 8.05 a.m. and 8.15 a.m.?

495

00:28:10,840 --> 00:28:13,840

It's really hard to believe that having a one year friends or something.

496

00:28:13,840 --> 00:28:18,840

Meanwhile, 13 year old Miranda Gattis, Ashley's neighbor and dance teammate,

497

00:28:18,840 --> 00:28:21,840

found herself in the middle of an intense investigation.

498

00:28:21,840 --> 00:28:23,840

How do you do Miranda?

499

00:28:23,840 --> 00:28:24,840

Hi.

500

00:28:24,840 --> 00:28:27,840

Can you tell me how long you actually know them, Ashley?

501

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

Since about third grade.

502

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

The FBI talked to Miranda a lot about Ashley because they'd known each other for so long.

503

00:28:33,840 --> 00:28:38,840

They were friends and I'm sure that they knew pretty much the same people.

504

00:28:40,840 --> 00:28:42,840

Days turned to weeks.

505

00:28:42,840 --> 00:28:45,840

Still no sign of Ashley Pond.

506

00:28:45,840 --> 00:28:49,840

And life at the apartment complex became somewhat normal again.

507

00:28:49,840 --> 00:28:50,840

Hi honey.

508

00:28:50,840 --> 00:28:51,840

Morning mom.

509

00:28:51,840 --> 00:28:53,840

March 8th, 2002.

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00:28:54,840 --> 00:28:56,840

Michelle Duffy packed up for work as usual.

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00:28:56,840 --> 00:28:58,840

It was 7.30 a.m.

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00:29:00,840 --> 00:29:02,840

Her daughter Miranda was in no hurry.

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00:29:02,840 --> 00:29:06,840

She still had 45 minutes before the school bus arrived.

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00:29:08,840 --> 00:29:11,840

Police believe Miranda left her apartment a little after 8 a.m.

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00:29:11,840 --> 00:29:14,840

and headed up the hill for the bus stop.

516

00:29:19,840 --> 00:29:20,840

Hi, this is Michelle.

517

00:29:20,840 --> 00:29:24,840

About 1.20 my oldest daughter called me.

518

00:29:24,840 --> 00:29:25,840

She didn't.

519

00:29:25,840 --> 00:29:28,840

And said Miranda's friend said she wasn't at school.

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00:29:28,840 --> 00:29:32,840

So of course I called home, no one answered, and then I called the school.

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00:29:32,840 --> 00:29:36,840

And the school said, oh yeah, she's absent.

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00:29:36,840 --> 00:29:38,840

And then I got very upset.

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00:29:38,840 --> 00:29:40,840

Oh my god, something's wrong.

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00:29:40,840 --> 00:29:42,840

Thank you. No, no, thank you.

525

00:29:42,840 --> 00:29:44,840

And I went to the police station.

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00:29:44,840 --> 00:29:46,840

And they took a report.

527

00:29:46,840 --> 00:29:49,840

And started right then on the case.

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00:29:49,840 --> 00:29:55,840

Everybody's reaction was the same of, oh my god, not again.

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00:29:55,840 --> 00:29:59,840

Minutes later, police raced to the apartment complex hoping against

530

00:29:59,840 --> 00:30:02,840

hope Miranda Gaddis would show up.

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00:30:02,840 --> 00:30:03,840

She didn't.

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00:30:04,840 --> 00:30:11,840

They notified the FBI and immediately ratcheted up just a full scale investigation in search.

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00:30:11,840 --> 00:30:18,840

Well, when I heard Miranda had came up missing, also my heart dropped into my stomach and I cried.

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00:30:18,840 --> 00:30:24,840

Because it was like reliving the day Ashley came up missing all over again.

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00:30:27,840 --> 00:30:31,840

The circumstances surrounding Miranda's disappearance on March 8, 2002 were

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00:30:31,840 --> 00:30:35,840

eerily similar to those of Ashley Pond, two months earlier.

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00:30:36,840 --> 00:30:41,840

Even more ominous was the striking resemblance between the two girls.

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00:30:41,840 --> 00:30:45,840

They're about the same height and weight, and both have brown eyes.

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00:30:48,840 --> 00:30:52,840

We've got a mirror image of a victim and an occurrence.

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00:30:52,840 --> 00:30:58,840

It is almost as if the same child disappeared twice.

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00:30:58,840 --> 00:31:00,840

And it was just a repeat.

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00:31:01,840 --> 00:31:06,840

Like Ashley, Miranda usually took the road up the hill to catch the bus.

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00:31:06,840 --> 00:31:09,840

Had she been snatched by a stranger on the way?

544

00:31:09,840 --> 00:31:11,840

Had Ashley met a similar fate?

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00:31:13,840 --> 00:31:19,840

It's feasible that if we're dealing with a stranger abduction, that Ashley's disappearance was a,

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00:31:19,840 --> 00:31:23,840

it was a crime of opportunity at that one moment in time.

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00:31:23,840 --> 00:31:31,840

And that the offender, having been successful, came back to the same area to do it again.

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00:31:32,840 --> 00:31:37,840

A crime of opportunity committed by a stranger, it was certainly plausible.

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00:31:37,840 --> 00:31:41,840

But the mothers of the two girls found it highly unlikely.

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00:31:41,840 --> 00:31:45,840

They both would have put up a stink if somebody tried to take them.

551

00:31:45,840 --> 00:31:47,840

They didn't know.

552

00:31:47,840 --> 00:31:50,840

If someone grabbed Miranda, she would have fought.

553

00:31:50,840 --> 00:31:53,840

And there would have been something laying in the road.

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00:31:54,840 --> 00:32:00,840

Without an apparent crime scene, police began to focus on another, perhaps more likely, theory.

555

00:32:02,840 --> 00:32:06,840

There's nothing to indicate there was any struggle or any resistance.

556

00:32:06,840 --> 00:32:09,840

There's no blood, no articles of clothing, anything of that nature.

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00:32:09,840 --> 00:32:14,840

So we also have the possibility of dealing with somebody that both of them knew.

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00:32:15,840 --> 00:32:19,840

Since the disappearance of Ashley Pond and Miranda Gattis,

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00:32:19,840 --> 00:32:23,840

the school bus now picks up students right outside their doors.

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00:32:23,840 --> 00:32:30,840

However, residents of Newell Creek Village Apartments, indeed all of Oregon City, remain on edge.

561

00:32:30,840 --> 00:32:34,840

Terrified that a child abductor walks among them.

562

00:32:35,840 --> 00:32:39,840

This is the type of offender that doesn't stop on their own volition.

563

00:32:39,840 --> 00:32:47,840

This type of multiple sexual predator is someone that, at least in the general experience,

564

00:32:47,840 --> 00:32:51,840

dictates that they will continue until they're stopped.

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00:32:52,840 --> 00:32:55,840

Investigators have processed over 3,500 tips.

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00:32:55,840 --> 00:32:57,840

Still, they have no suspects.

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00:32:57,840 --> 00:33:02,840

However, the search continues for any lead that might help crack these puzzling cases.

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00:33:03,840 --> 00:33:08,840

Meanwhile, two hard-working single mothers suffer through every parent's nightmare

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00:33:08,840 --> 00:33:11,840

and try their best to remain hopeful.

570

00:33:12,840 --> 00:33:17,840

Miranda, I love you, and your family loves you, your friends love you, and everyone misses you.

571

00:33:17,840 --> 00:33:21,840

And we want you home, and whoever has you, we're never going to give up.

572

00:33:21,840 --> 00:33:23,840

We're going to be here forever.

573

00:33:23,840 --> 00:33:28,840

I can't wait for the day that I can wrap my arms around Ashley again and tell her I love her.

574

00:33:30,840 --> 00:33:31,840

Update.

575

00:33:31,840 --> 00:33:38,840

On August 27, 2002, the desperate search for Ashley Pond and Miranda Gattis ended tragically

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00:33:38,840 --> 00:33:42,840

at a neighbor's house just a few hundred yards from where the girls were last seen.

577

00:33:43,840 --> 00:33:48,840

The remains of Miranda Gattis were found in a shed in the backyard of Ward Weaver's rented home.

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00:33:49,840 --> 00:33:57,840

Two days later, in the same backyard, investigators broke up a concrete slab to unearth the body of Ashley Pond.

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00:33:58,840 --> 00:34:04,840

When the gruesome discovery was made, the 39-year-old Weaver was in custody,

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00:34:04,840 --> 00:34:07,840

charged with raping his son's girlfriend.

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00:34:07,840 --> 00:34:10,840

He is being held on a \$1 million bond.

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00:34:11,840 --> 00:34:14,840

Weaver is expected to be charged in the deaths of the two girls.

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00:34:27,840 --> 00:34:42,840

The South Side of Milwaukee is home to hundreds of law-abiding blue-collar families.

584

00:34:42,840 --> 00:34:49,840

Not long ago, this peaceful neighborhood was invaded by a vicious gang of drug dealers known as a Lopez family.

585

00:34:49,840 --> 00:34:54,840

Allegedly, the gang's principal enforcer is 20-year-old Arthur Lopez Jr.

586

00:34:54,840 --> 00:35:01,840

Police believe Arthur's behind a bloody wave of terror that has left three people dead and countless lives destroyed.

587

00:35:01,840 --> 00:35:07,840

Hopefully, someone watching can help authorities find Arthur Lopez Jr.

588

00:35:10,840 --> 00:35:16,840

The Lopez family reportedly bought seven houses in a two-block radius to oversee their drug empire.

589

00:35:17,840 --> 00:35:19,840

What's up, homie?

590

00:35:22,840 --> 00:35:26,840

When a rival gang called the Latin Kings tried to move into their area,

591

00:35:26,840 --> 00:35:29,840

authorities believe the Lopez's did not hesitate to act.

592

00:35:40,840 --> 00:35:45,840

Anyone who gets in their way reportedly has to face this man, Arthur Jr.,

593

00:35:45,840 --> 00:35:48,840

the alleged hitman for the Lopez family.

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00:35:50,840 --> 00:35:53,840

Carlos Hernandez was once a member of the Latin Kings,

595

00:35:53,840 --> 00:35:59,840

but according to his family, Carlos had recently left the gang and turned his life around.

596

00:35:59,840 --> 00:36:05,840

He just seen drive-bys and he started to see how very rarely do they hit their intended target.

597

00:36:05,840 --> 00:36:09,840

They'll hit innocent bystanders, kids playing on their bikes in front of their houses.

598

00:36:11,840 --> 00:36:14,840

He knew it was a possibility that could happen to anybody.

599

00:36:15,840 --> 00:36:20,840

And he felt best that he'd get out the gang and turn it around

600

00:36:20,840 --> 00:36:25,840

and really try to help the neighborhood come back to what it was once, was before.

601

00:36:26,840 --> 00:36:29,840

Carlos Hernandez organized a youth basketball league

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00:36:29,840 --> 00:36:34,840

and took a job with a city organization that helps kids stay out of gangs.

603

00:36:36,840 --> 00:36:43,840

A major part of his job was to try and mediate problems between the gangs in that particular area.

604

00:36:43,840 --> 00:36:47,840

So what do you think, Pop? These things are taking a lot of business.

605

00:36:47,840 --> 00:36:54,840

The Lopez family had come to Mr. Hernandez with a problem with the Latin Kings over territory.

606

00:36:55,840 --> 00:37:01,840

Police believe that Hernandez failed to resolve the Lopez's turf dispute with the Latin Kings.

607

00:37:01,840 --> 00:37:06,840

Arthur Lopez Jr. was allegedly given the order to take care of Hernandez.

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00:37:07,840 --> 00:37:12,840

According to witnesses, Arthur Lopez Jr. and several family members

609

00:37:12,840 --> 00:37:15,840

surrounded the building where Carlos Hernandez worked.

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00:37:25,840 --> 00:37:29,840

There was a predetermined code that they were going to broadcast on the radio

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00:37:29,840 --> 00:37:31,840

when Mr. Hernandez was spotted.

612

00:37:31,840 --> 00:37:34,840

The code was, it's a beautiful day in the neighborhood.

613

00:37:34,840 --> 00:37:39,840

And that code was put out when Mr. Hernandez left from his business to his vehicle.

614

00:37:39,840 --> 00:37:41,840

It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood.

615

00:37:44,840 --> 00:37:49,840

At 4.30 p.m., authorities believe Arthur Lopez Jr. donned a mask,

616

00:37:49,840 --> 00:37:54,840

hopped on a bike and coasted toward the unsuspecting Hernandez.

617

00:38:05,840 --> 00:38:11,840

Carlos Hernandez was hit by eight bullets and died instantly.

618

00:38:15,840 --> 00:38:18,840

It was a nightmare. We missed some.

619

00:38:20,840 --> 00:38:22,840

We wish it had never happened.

620

00:38:26,840 --> 00:38:32,840

The hardest part is family gathering, seeing my sister and my mother cry.

621

00:38:34,840 --> 00:38:36,840

Because he's not terror.

622

00:38:39,840 --> 00:38:43,840

Although Arthur Lopez Jr. was a suspect in Hernandez's homicide,

623

00:38:43,840 --> 00:38:46,840

police had little evidence against him or his family.

624

00:38:47,840 --> 00:38:50,840

Then Arthur made a seemingly harmless mistake.

625

00:38:52,840 --> 00:38:56,840

Arthur Lopez was arrested for driving without a license.

626

00:38:56,840 --> 00:39:00,840

While he was being processed, police received an unexpected visitor.

627

00:39:00,840 --> 00:39:02,840

Why are you arresting my son?

628

00:39:02,840 --> 00:39:07,840

Arthur's father, Arturo Sr., second in command of the Lopez family.

629

00:39:12,840 --> 00:39:16,840

Arturo Lopez Sr. demanded the release of his son

630

00:39:16,840 --> 00:39:20,840

and threatened to return with a firearm and to kill all the police officers

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00:39:20,840 --> 00:39:24,840

who were involved in Arthur Lopez Jr.'s arrest.

632

00:39:24,840 --> 00:39:26,840

How to get my strap and smoke all the time?

633

00:39:26,840 --> 00:39:27,840

They're under arrest.

634

00:39:27,840 --> 00:39:28,840

I'll kill you first.

635

00:39:28,840 --> 00:39:33,840

Arthur Lopez Jr. could not be held on the misdemeanor traffic charge and was released.

636

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

But Arturo Sr. was convicted of threatening a police officer

637

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

and sentenced to 18 months in jail.

638

00:39:40,840 --> 00:39:45,840

His incarceration gave the authorities the opportunity they'd been looking for.

639

00:39:46,840 --> 00:39:52,840

While Arturo Lopez Sr. was in prison, he made daily phone calls

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00:39:52,840 --> 00:39:55,840

to his son and other members of the Lopez family,

641

00:39:55,840 --> 00:40:02,840

basically directing the continued narcotics distribution activities of the Lopez gang.

642

00:40:04,840 --> 00:40:08,840

He's going to give you a paquete. I want you to drop it off at Chinnozpa.

643

00:40:08,840 --> 00:40:16,840

All of these phone calls that were made by Arturo Lopez Sr. were recorded by the prison phone system.

644

00:40:17,840 --> 00:40:22,840

So there are recorded copies of all the conversations from both ends of the telephone.

645

00:40:23,840 --> 00:40:29,840

As authorities continue to build their case against the Lopez's, there was yet another violent outburst.

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00:40:29,840 --> 00:40:34,840

Once again, according to witnesses, Arturo Lopez Jr. played a principal role.

647

00:40:36,840 --> 00:40:38,840

It's clear, man. It's clear. Come on.

648

00:40:38,840 --> 00:40:46,840

On August 11th, Maximiano Castillo, a known member of the Latin Kings and his girlfriend Vanessa Rivas,

649

00:40:47,840 --> 00:40:50,840

returned home after a quick trip to the grocery store.

650

00:40:52,840 --> 00:40:54,840

A car was shadowing the couple.

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00:40:54,840 --> 00:40:55,840

All right, I'm going.

652

00:40:55,840 --> 00:40:58,840

Police believed that the driver was Arthur Lopez Jr.

653

00:40:59,840 --> 00:41:03,840

and that his passenger was another Lopez gang member named Luis Acevedo.

654

00:41:09,840 --> 00:41:10,840

All right.

655

00:41:10,840 --> 00:41:11,840

You mad?

656

00:41:13,840 --> 00:41:14,840

¿Qué pasó, homie?

657

00:41:14,840 --> 00:41:17,840

¿Qué pasó, bro? I got a message from a friend, bro.

658

00:41:17,840 --> 00:41:18,840

Yeah, so what's up?

659

00:41:18,840 --> 00:41:20,840

You a dead man, punk!

660

00:41:24,840 --> 00:41:30,840

Vanessa Rivas, a completely innocent bystander who had just celebrated her 15th birthday,

661

00:41:30,840 --> 00:41:33,840

was unable to escape the reign of bullets.

662

00:41:34,840 --> 00:41:39,840

We know that Vanessa Rivas was hit once in the side.

663

00:41:40,840 --> 00:41:46,840

The bullet did a lot of damage and she basically bled to death.

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00:41:46,840 --> 00:41:50,840

Mr. Castillo was struck a number of times, at least three times,

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00:41:50,840 --> 00:41:54,840

by the bullets fired by Mr. Acevedo and he also died from his injuries.

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00:41:55,840 --> 00:42:00,840

In the ensuing months, authorities used Arturo Sr.'s tape phone calls

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00:42:00,840 --> 00:42:05,840

and eyewitness testimony to secure arrest warrants against Arthur Lopez Jr.

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00:42:05,840 --> 00:42:07,840

and the rest of his family.

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00:42:07,840 --> 00:42:12,840

On December 15th, a multi-jurisdictional task force moved to put the Lopez gang

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00:42:12,840 --> 00:42:14,840

out of business for good.

671

00:42:15,840 --> 00:42:16,840

Police, we are warned!

672

00:42:16,840 --> 00:42:17,840

One of the men, one of the men!

673

00:42:17,840 --> 00:42:19,840

Get your hands up! Get your hands up!

674

00:42:19,840 --> 00:42:20,840

Come over here!

675

00:42:20,840 --> 00:42:21,840

Come over here!

676

00:42:21,840 --> 00:42:23,840

Get your hands up! Get your hands up!

677

00:42:23,840 --> 00:42:24,840

Come over here!

678

00:42:24,840 --> 00:42:25,840

Come over here!

679

00:42:25,840 --> 00:42:26,840

Get them up! Get them up!

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00:42:26,840 --> 00:42:27,840

On your knees!

681

00:42:27,840 --> 00:42:31,840

Large stashes of guns, drugs and money were seized.

682

00:42:31,840 --> 00:42:33,840

I wouldn't believe anybody.

683

00:42:33,840 --> 00:42:34,840

Believe anybody.

684

00:42:34,840 --> 00:42:35,840

Speak English or don't speak.

685

00:42:36,840 --> 00:42:41,840

Eight individuals were arrested, destroying the gang's ability to terrorize a community.

686

00:42:44,840 --> 00:42:48,840

Only one Lopez family member managed to escape the city-wide dragnet,

687

00:42:48,840 --> 00:42:50,840

Arthur Lopez Jr.

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00:42:51,840 --> 00:42:54,840

He has now avoided arrest for nearly two years.

689

00:42:56,840 --> 00:42:57,840

He's got to pay.

690

00:42:57,840 --> 00:43:05,840

He's done so much hurt to many people, families and he's a coward.

691

00:43:05,840 --> 00:43:06,840

He's hiding.

692

00:43:06,840 --> 00:43:09,840

We need to get him.

693

00:43:09,840 --> 00:43:11,840

Get him off the streets.

694

00:43:18,840 --> 00:43:34,840

For every mystery there is someone, somewhere who holds the key.

695

00:43:34,840 --> 00:43:38,840

Join me for the next edition of Unsolved Mysteries.

696

00:44:18,840 --> 00:44:23,840

Unsolved Mysteries