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Tue, May 26, 2026 9:10PM 2:03:04

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

Paranormal events, Strange and Extraordinary Fest, Parapecule Peculiar Museum, Jesse James, faked death, Texas treasure, Jean Lafitte, Freemasonry, haunted items, paranormal experiences, UFOs, cryptozoology, conspiracy theories, scientific method, cultural beliefs., Jesse James, fake death, Texas power structure, Knights of the Golden Circle, Masonic treasure, Templar treasure, death threats, FBI involvement, Clay County Missouri, treasure map, Wood Height, Bob Ford, Charlie Ford, exhumation, DNA evidence.

SPEAKERS

Speaker 9, Speaker 1, Speaker 7, Speaker 8, Speaker 3, Speaker 6, Speaker 5, Speaker 2, Speaker 4, Speaker 10



Speaker 1 00:00

I'm coming to you from the city of the Weir, exploring topics. topics from the esoteric and unexplored to dimensions unknown, shining a light of truth on the darkest corners of our reality. Welcome to the Curious Realm.

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Speaker 2 00:48

Well, hello everybody, and happy Tuesday night. Hope everybody is hunkered down here in Austin, as the weather has turned nasty this evening. We'll be talking to a couple of great Austin folks, Damian Shalacy and Nicole Ricardo, here in just a few minutes. They were the hosts and organizers of the Strange and Extraordinary Fest that happened here in Austin. They are also the co-founders of the Parapecule. Peculiar Museum, which is a traveling exhibit full of all kinds of haunted items, things like that. We'll be getting into that tonight. In the second part, we will be joined by our good friend, who we have not had on, and oh so long, Dan Duke, who lives right up the road. Actually, we will be talking about his familial connection to Jesse James and the faking of Jesse James's death. How he came here to Texas and buried treasure. Um, man, it is an incredible story I'm here to tell you right now, folks. And I am really excited to have our guests on during this segment, because I am all about, as you know, events - that's what I do for a living, especially things like paranormal events, so much so that, like, I started a company that does paranormal events, because I am personally of the mind that all too many organizers of these events do not know of each other's events, and they happen right on top of each other, like even the same weekend as Strange and Extraordinary Fest, there was Myth and Monsters happening up the road, all kinds of things. So it's interesting to me how many of these events are out there. I have assembled a huge compendium, compendium of them over at Curious Events. You can stop on by, check that out. The interactive map is coming soon, but it's, it's literally, there are tons of events. When you get into it, there's probably about 75 events that happen here in Texas alone, dealing with everything from psychics to UFOs, UAPs, cryptozoology, and the paranormal. So, welcome to the show, Damien, and Nicole. How are you guys doing this evening?

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Speaker 3 03:15

Good, good,

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Speaker 4 03:16

good.

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Speaker 5 03:16

Thank

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Speaker 6 03:16

you.

S Speaker 4 03:17
Looks like it's about to storm,

S Speaker 2 03:20
right? Well, here in Texas, we can always use the rain, but even after the crazy rains last year, it's like really again. And it was right up around this time last year.

S Speaker 3 03:32
Yeah, we love a stormy, a stormy evening, which is what it looks like we're in store for. So

S Speaker 2 03:38
exactly. Well, speaking of stormy things, speaking of things that you know send chills up people's spines. Hey, how did you guys come to the world of paranormal to begin with? Nicole, let's start with you.

S Speaker 4 03:53
Oh, well, that's a loaded question. I mean, for me, I've been a weirdo since I was a kid, to be honest with you, and I really, I always blame one of my aunts, because when I was growing up, she would always tell me these scary stories and ghost stories, haunted stories, so she really fed that addiction, so I very quickly became, you know, one of those kids where, when I was asking for a bedtime story, I was not asking for, you know, Beauty and the Beast, I was asking for a ghost story.

S Speaker 2 04:26
Yeah,

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Speaker 4 04:27

so I was just a little weirdo. And then I had my, my first paranormal experience when I was eight years old, and I mean, that pretty much, you know, that sucks you into the rabbit hole. So, from then on, I've been interested and have you know watched all of the shows and paranormal movies and things of that nature, and then when I finally moved over to Austin, I finally found a friend who was willing to go do spooky things with me, so uh. And then I started doing

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Speaker 2 05:03

it, and I think you know that is the typical arc of people who get into this, is that somewhere along the line they, they had an experience themselves, or they had a very open-minded family that encouraged them to, like, my mom was open-minded enough to understand, I was a, I was a kid reading a book. She should be happy I was reading a book, you know. So, what if it was about vampires or werewolves or myths or legends or amulets? She really didn't care, as long as it wasn't like something horrible, you know. And what about you, Damien? How did you come to the world of para in your life,

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Speaker 3 05:41

yeah. Most of my time growing up, my realm was the sort of conspiracy theory world, which leads to strangeness, things like UFOs, looking at phenomena, etc. Fast forward, though, to being an adult, as someone who also collects oddities and antiques. My very first time that I had someone tell me that an item that I was getting was was haunted, for me was just kind of silly. It's kind of, kind of a joke. And then I had little experiences with it, which then started an obsession of reaching out to people who thought they were going through this phenomenon itself, people that thought maybe they had items that were haunted, and collecting their stories, which turned into them giving me their items, and that then turned into a obsession slash collection.

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Speaker 2 06:29

Wow, wow. And you know, the idea of especially collecting haunted items, you know, there are not a lot of people who would bring such an item into their care, necessarily. Damien, and I'm one of those people, like I have said for years openly on this show. Got no problem with people who have them. I probably won't have a Ouija board in my house. That's just me. Got it, got a copy of the Roman ritual, got all kinds of things in my house, you know, hold a crystal in my hand while I host the show, all kinds of things, but but it's one of those, even when it comes to CE five and that kind of stuff, I am, I am very much an intent rules the day, kind of person, and hopefully that intent is there, but it doesn't necessarily mean that whatever's coming through ain't playing Captain Howdy and trying to make you think there's something friendly, you know. So

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Speaker 3 07:33

great reference, by the way. Thank you, really, really great reference with the Captain Howdy, and it's funny. I mean, I'm looking over here in our living room

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Speaker 2 07:41

at your Ouija boards.

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Speaker 3 07:43

Yeah, I mean, like, we literally have a great collection of really good examples of Ouija boards, so we have them all kind of along on the walls, so you can see them on display and everything else. But, yeah, to your point, the whole Captain Howdy piece of it, for anyone listening, I hope you get that reference. If not, you were probably raised wrong. That is actually something that we do talk about a lot, this idea of intent and trying to understand that we don't really typically know what it is exactly that we're dealing with, even when it tells us what it may or may not be. Yeah,

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Speaker 4 08:19

we, we have dealt a lot personally with masquerading spirits, if you will, or absolutely pretending to be something else. Yeah, we, we have experienced that often.

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Speaker 3 08:30

Yeah, I mean, to the point where I would say, I guess I can't say 100% of the time, but I would say the majority of the time of these things that we experience and these things that happen in our world is probably that

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Speaker 2 08:45

interesting, because there, I, I say it so much on this show that I literally have a rote phrase whenever I present, or whenever I present the concept on the show, and that is, I believe that there is a large hominid creature roaming the woods of North America and beyond, known as Sasquatch, but I also think that there is something else that is fully willing to take the trope of our minds and our want of experience and use that as a point of ingress to this dimension, that could be that could be spiritually, that could be UFO wise, that could be I'm against a tree, and I'm waiting to see a Bigfoot. It's perfectly using, or willing to use, that trope of your want of experience as a point of entry, no different than leaving the window open for the vampire, so to speak.

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Speaker 3 09:38

No, you're right, and to sort of piggyback on that.

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Speaker 2 09:42

Sure, sure.

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Speaker 3 09:42

Not only is that something that does seem to do that, to sort of reach into the consciousness and find out how is best for us to engage it,

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Speaker 2 09:52

yeah,

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Speaker 3 09:52

but it also seems to, at least since antiquity, also shape cultures and realities. To the point where the more you look at this, you start to think maybe we're not really in control of what we think and how societies work anymore these days, because it seems to be what directs us. If you really look at the phenomenon, the history leading up, so

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Speaker 2 10:13

no, no, and that's a, that's a fascinating point to bring up. I'm actually speaking this year at MUFON at their symposium coming up in, in August, and part of what I'm talking about is the way that UFOs have moved humanity, the way that they are moving humanity right now, not just technologically but ethnographically, the way it's moving us spiritually, the divides that it's creating, even within this, the UFO, UAP community, you know, just, just the idea that the article came out and people were all kerfuffle about it in the communities that FBI, or not FBI, but alphabet agencies use stories from within the UFO, UAP community as cover for their projects. It's like, well, well, yeah. What, why wouldn't they? You're doing their work for them, like they no longer need somebody to come up with a cover story. We're doing a great job within the community ourselves.

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Speaker 3 11:17

Yeah. No, I think that's a really interesting point, because what seems to kind of have been happening up until now is you have disclosure and you have the communities and you have the people looking at the phenomena, and if you can sprinkle in truths with a bunch of lies, like 10% of disclosure is true, and then 90% of it is just made up, that

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Speaker 4 11:40

really

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Speaker 3 11:41

you start to understand how difficult it really is to look at the phenomenon, because of that. Have you ever seen a documentary called Mirage Men?

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Speaker 2 11:46

Yes.

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Speaker 3 11:48

Okay, that right there is, we're big on that one. I mean,

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Speaker 4 11:51

well, yeah, I mean, I was just gonna say, I mean, we at this point we know factually this is not, you know, conspiracy or our cat just fell off the window sill, anyway. But they will, you know, government agents will infiltrate these, like conventions or societies, community to plant false information. You know,

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Speaker 2 12:13

well, and you know what's funny is the first I'm getting ready to do a show, folks, just so you know, on the whole government files that have been released, we did some culling of files in the first batch. We're doing that right now, where all the videos and photos will be conglomerated separately in an easy document, but the first document that was released in that first trove recently on may 8, the first document was literally a document from a gentleman to J. Edgar Hoover, and the gentleman was like, "Hey, I'm a part of this UFO research society. This is what we do. This is what we're into. Like, we had a symposia this last year, and this, what we talked about, I just, I just, I want to be very clear that I don't want you to label me a communist.

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Speaker 3 13:09

Yeah, I read that.

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Speaker 2 13:11

Yeah, because of this. Well, that's the first document that they released, was the government literally targeting people and labeling them as things.

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Speaker 3 13:20

Yes. Well, you have that within the documents as well, and of course, I think she was writing to Hoover as well. And to be honest, if I were ever in that time period and writing a letter to J. Edgar Hoover, I'd probably be like, not a communist, every other sentence. But you know what's funny about that, you bring that up, because just like you, we, when the, when the files were released that day, you know, we're not happy to just look through them. We, we started printing all of our hard copies. Okay,

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Speaker 2 13:50

absolutely.

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Speaker 3 13:50

So, funny story though, we're doing that literally the second it gets released, like we're printing out, because we know how this goes, and we said it was gonna happen, and it did. As you're printing the files, they started, some of them started being like, "Oh, file not found. It's like, okay, it's almost like Epstein file stuff, you know, like the files get released and all of a sudden redacted.

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Speaker 2 14:10

Yeah, yeah, no. And you know, it's.. it's interesting, because one of the things I say on the show regularly is, since, since the proving of quantum entanglement science, and even the government has has run to the world of para, be it UFO, UAP, SI. I'm pretty heavily embedded in the PSI community, and things like that. They have, they have hard run to these communities that have been researching these things for a long time, because, yeah, they all seem to cross over in certain areas, and it's fascinating, you know. One of the things I say regularly is, it's interesting when you have Bigfoot norbs at which fan. Domini, do you begin the investigation, the orbs, the portal, or Bigfoot?

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Speaker 3 15:07

Yeah, if you were to ask us, uh, probably all three sort of together,

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Speaker 2 15:11

yeah, yeah, no, exactly, exactly. And let's start getting into that, and specifically some of the things that y'all talk about whenever you're out on the road, and the way that y'all go about investigation into these things,

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Speaker 4 15:27

well, we, we are big on, you know, if you ask Damian, he would say it's all the same thing, for me, I think it's a little bit more nuanced, but yes, we, we are very big on looking at the patterns of things, and this also ties into, you know, you mentioned our fest, strange and extraordinary fest, that is literally why we started it, because in our opinion, you know, the paranormal people stay in their own little paranormal bubble, and the Bigfoot guys stay over here in Bigfoot world, and the UFO UAP guys are going to the UFO conferences, but we're like, okay, well, when you look at the patterns, and you look at the research, and you look at things that some of the very serious academics, even the work that they're doing, people like Dan Pasolka, you know, and finding all of these patterns where things overlap and things intersect, we're like, we need more spaces where all of the weirdos are sitting together at the same table and discussing these things together, so that way we can find where the overlaps are, and I think more often than not we are talking about a lot of the same things, we're all just describing it in different ways, or we're calling it something different.

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Speaker 3 16:39

Well, which is interesting, because if we look at when we talked about earlier, how the phenomenon seems to shape our reality, our world. Yeah, this couldn't be further from the truth. And if you look what's happening right now with the UAP world, so first off, someone at my age, and I'll age myself, right of 44 so 50, very.. I'm sorry,

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Speaker 2 17:00

I'm 50. It's okay.

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Speaker 3 17:01

There you go. You got me beat by a little bit. So, you know what I'm talking about, like being younger in the 90s, like late 80s, and getting into conspiracy theories and stuff, UFO phenomena. Honestly, it wasn't until like maybe a handful of years ago that you could even talk about that without being like labeled a conspiracy theories or labeled a book, or whatever, but what's funny is, if you look at what's happening now with the UAP thing, more UAP sightings are happening now than ever. They're just like in the sky, all of a sudden, just everywhere. It seems to be a new age. This is going to get kind of deep and wild, but it almost seems like a new age is coming, and the new version of religion and spirituality is coming. It's part of the technological age, which is why we're now dealing with craft in the sky versus seraphim and angels in sure,

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Speaker 2 17:46

sure, sure, and you know it's that the whole concept of any technology that's high enough would be indistinguishable from magic, the only difference is we call it technology, not magic,

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Speaker 3 18:01

correct.

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Speaker 2 18:01

You know, and the example I give all the time is the thumb drives I have laying around. We know what that's for, we know what it's about, we know what they can store and what's on them. You take that, you lose it on a beach for 50 years, 60 years, you know, like, you got you got kids running around, don't know what an eight track tape

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Speaker 3 18:25

is, that's

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Speaker 2 18:26

there, they're just re-organizing what vinyl and actual tape is, like cassette tapes are back now, which is in musician I love, but

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Speaker 3 18:37

I love it too, except now they're \$30 for a cassette tape, yeah,

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Speaker 2 18:41

you know, if you were smart like me, you had a backstop, I always had them for my four track player, so

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Speaker 3 18:48

you, you bring up something interesting, because I don't know if you know the story, I'd have to, the name escapes me of the of the tribe, and anyone can look this up, it's super easy to find, it says, yeah, it's pretty well known, but there was an indigenous tribe somewhere in the world that we had flown helicopters over, I think, surveying whatever, and the tribes people come out, you know, they're throwing spears at the helicopter, whatever, whatever. Years later, we go back and they had built like a monument to the helicopter, like a deity, because they have no idea, like, what is flying in the sky to them is a big loud monster, and that's always been really compelling and interesting to me, because that to the these people was paranorphonics, they'd never seen it before.

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Speaker 2 19:31

Yeah, those were the cargo cults of where, where, yeah, they had never seen supply planes, things like that, all they knew that was this dude came up and jumped out of a bird, and a whole bunch of stuff came out, and we didn't have, we didn't have to struggle that year. Please come back, big bird. Yeah, so yeah, yeah, and it's, it's interesting, because that is once again not far in our past. And I normally give the cultural point just as a Cajun of exactly how long it takes to forget something like a language, like one generation, man, that's all it takes, you find very like my mother understands a few words, you would be hard pressed to find somebody in my family who is fluent in Cajun, whereas both of my grandparents were,

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Speaker 3 20:26

yeah,

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Speaker 2 20:26

and I mean, I, so

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Speaker 3 20:27

I see it these days, I don't even know what the kids are saying out there, I hear words

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Speaker 5 20:30

all the time, yeah,

S Speaker 3 20:30
that's

S Speaker 6 20:31
that's just

S Speaker 2 20:32
because we're old, yeah, but, but quite literally, it's it's the fact of when you start looking at these things through that cultural lens, you know, the prime example is my father's 72 he has zero interest, and he's the example I typically give whenever we're talking about the declassification of files, whenever we're talking about the hearings that are happening, they are for folks like us who research these things and have seen most of these videos released on on websites, things like that. Over the last decade, we've seen most of these documents. These are for the people who are like my dad. What the hell are you talking about? Little green men, why are we wasting all this time in Congress talking about that? Say, well, because apparently they've spent billions of your dollars researching it.

S Speaker 3 21:26
Well, not only that, when you have something in your airspace that you have no idea what it is, that is the biggest,

S Speaker 2 21:32
yeah,

S Speaker 3 21:33
yeah, for a government to be able to admit, hey, there's something flying around our airspace, we don't know what

S Speaker 4 21:38
it

S Speaker 3 21:39
is, and defending it

S Speaker 2 21:41
can barely detect

S Speaker 3 21:43
it, that's why they should be dying,

S Speaker 2 21:45
that's just it, though, and that's that's what's interesting, is that when it comes to all of these things, once again, we are we are very prone to a couple of things, a, there is the immediate fear of things, of not understanding the immediate fear of not understanding something that is far, far beyond your grasp, or that shakes the foundation of your own personal cultural belief, you know, to it, to a point where, like, cognitive dissonance occurs, and you will just not accept new data into the system, like absolutely not. There's no way that can be, you know, and

S Speaker 3 22:27
like the story of the one of the early cinemas and the movies, and it was a train coming towards the screen, and people ran out of that theater.

S Speaker 2 22:34
Yeah,

S Speaker 3 22:34
they thought a train was barreling towards them. Yeah, that's kind of the same thing.

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Speaker 2 22:38

Yeah, yeah, exactly, exactly. And you know, even whenever you're talking about the roots of experience, that idea once again, that, and I bring it up regularly, especially with curious research, the idea of charging an environment, the idea of if you're going to research a location, you shouldn't be like deep diving into the history of it the night before. You shouldn't be going into lore and watching videos online about, like, you should have a rote checklist of gear, you know, we have the map, all that kind of stuff, and then put it away, because once again, the more you're diving into it, a, the more you're kind of polishing the filter through which you're going to look at data that you're gathering, and b, you may very well be charging that environment to what you're wanting to experience.

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Speaker 3 23:34

That's 100% I think. To piggyback on that, I mean, please, you can go into a place that you know allegedly haunted, whatever has the stories, you can go in there even without ever knowing anything about the place, looking at it, but the phenomena itself potentially probably already charged from so many other people that have been in there looking at the same thing that the phenomena will present to you in that way.

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Speaker 2 23:58

If I'm

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Speaker 5 23:59

articulating

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Speaker 4 24:00

categories, basically thought forms, yeah, but yeah, to your point, I mean that we do try to do that, I mean, whenever we do investigations, at least you know, official of us investigations for the podcast, I mean, like almost 100% of the time I go in blind, if I don't, we note it, but and then typically if we have somebody else doing the research, which now we do, shout out to R and R Productions, but yeah, then Damien will go in blind as well, because it's just, you know, for me at least, for when we investigate, I feel like it just makes it a lot more compelling to when we have, you know, something that I might pick up on that also then ends up lining up with what we get during the investigation, and then you go in and you start digging through the history, and you realize, oh, actually this all lines up with this history here of what actually occurred. It just, for me personally, makes it a lot more compelling, I think.

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Speaker 3 24:59

Yes. But when it gets really, really compelling, I would say is when you go in and you have phenomena that lines up with the history of the place, okay? But then

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Speaker 4 25:11

you find out it's wrong.

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Speaker 3 25:12

Yes, so then you do the deep dive and you find out the history was completely fabricated, and people don't really realize this, that is going on more often than you think. Most of the big historic hotels I've been at, to have the haunted ghost to, that everyone sees the apparitions, typically like some little girl or woman in white, right? Nine times out of 10, I found that those stories never existed. Yet people are having this experience of that phenomenon specific to those stories.

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Speaker 2 25:38

Yeah,

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Speaker 3 25:38

find that very fascinating.

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Speaker 2 25:40

Well, and you know that, that brings up a truly sad part of all these communities, which is, which is that that want of experience, that true deep, deep want of experience, and that's that the biggest example I give of that as caveat within the communities is Corey good because people wanted that experience so bad that that they had that experience, and then come to find out no Corey was lying that his experiences were fabricated, and like he said in his deposition, anybody who said they had this experience is is delusional.

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Speaker 3 26:27

Well, now that's a good one. Not that one gets me going a little bit. I love this topic because there is a group that we were listening to one time speak, and they were talking about, I'm sure everyone here listening remembers when Dybbuk boxes, like, were the thing, right, like the holster, the Dybbuk box, and you've got one in the Zach Bacon's museum that, like, apparently caused Post-Low to have an airplane garage or something. Here's the deal, so these people we were listening to, also collectors, and they were talking about how around the time that story broke, they got their hands on one of these quote dimmick boxes. Well, they started having phenomena around this item that they had, and it did not stop until they found out that the Dybbuk box story was completely made up and fabricated. So, to your point of this guy saying that maybe they were delusional or whatever. I think we simplify it when we, when we look at it that way. I think what's mainly probably happening is the phenomena is being generated based off of, call it beliefs or cultural or intent, even. Right, it's almost like the phenomenon, it's an anchor interest and intent, so whatever it is, they'll kind of grab it and run with it. So,

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Speaker 2 27:45

I totally, totally once again, it's that it's that want of experience, and it's something that we talk about all the time. It's something I'll be talking about at MUFON this year. Is why are you investigating to begin with? You know, like, are you investigating as a researcher, you know, whenever I go to research a topic, it always begins with true curiosity. I'm curious about an experience I heard about something like that, and from there I wear my skeptic hat. You know, I am pretty well founded in science and logic, things like that, I've had my religious experiences in life. I've had my paranormal experiences, which is why I'm open to all the ideas and all the concepts, because you kind of have to be. I mean, my, my religious experience that I had at like 1516, years old may someday be proven to be a petty mall seizure that doesn't remove the experience, it doesn't just because somebody's shown you what's inside of your red circle and can prove what's inside the red circle doesn't remove the moment of experience, it doesn't remove your moment of questioning reality, wanting to know more, that's that's literally the scientific method, just from the point of view from of an experienter,

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Speaker 3 29:12

yeah, yeah, and I think to your point of maybe one day you know you'll discover that what had happened was a type of seizure, and what have you, I think, I think what's happened, though, is the world of the material is the material science crowd. They'll see that, and then all of a sudden everything goes to your brain has made it up. It's a, it's

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Speaker 4 29:32

trying to write it off,

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Speaker 3 29:33

yeah, it's an illusion, whatever that your brain is made up. But now, with all the new people researching consciousness itself, we're starting to understand, I think, as a community of people, that the consciousness isn't originating from the brain itself. As a matter of fact, it could even be outside of our body totally. So, I think that's really what's interesting to me. Even if it was a seizure, you were having the experience, the where does it come from? Probably not just be made up by your brain, it's something.

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Speaker 4 30:02

Well, the interesting thing, too, since you brought up seizures, is you know we're big in the looking into psi research and remote viewing and all this type of stuff, and we recently went down a little bit of a rabbit hole with channeling type things, and there actually is some research out there that ties that to potential seizures, where they were doing like brain scans, MRI stuff, and again, you know, it's not like just because something like that may occur and could be classified as a medical event, something of the sort like that doesn't mean automatically that whatever information you received or whatever it is therefore irrelevant, you know.

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Speaker 3 30:49

It's also worth noting, I personally, I think it's fascinating we talk about seizures specifically, and how that does seem to kind of correlate a lot of times with with experiences, whatever. Well, it's funny when you ask yourself, what's happening during a seizure. Well, actually, what's happening is it can be defined as an electrical storm in your, your brain, basically. So, electricity, that's interesting to me, because the phenomena itself seems to be able to manipulate, uh, electricity in a lot of we have everything from gadgets failing, batteries draining, computers turning on, all this stuff. So, if there's that going on in your brain at the time, that sort of makes sense. It's also worth noting, when you look at research of people that have seizures, often while we look at it, we're like, oh my god, this is a horrible, very bad experience. Look into what they are saying when they have them, like after this clarity they have. It's like a different kind of weird awakening. It's a very interesting rabbit hole to go down as people. It

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Speaker 2 31:51

is, it is, and you know it brings up the whole concept of non-local consciousness, all kinds of things, because once again, to bring it back to the fact that since quantum entanglement was proven in a lab, all of this has a different point of view scientifically. I mean, that's why I started Curious Research, was to prepare researchers in these communities to talk to scientists in the lingo that they use, in the way that they use data, you know, and you know, to start calling it data, like, start treating it dispassionately as data. It's okay to, it's all right, even if you experienced it. The dude in the lab experienced something too. He got excited. It still has to be proven by his buddies, you know, and it has to be looked at, and it has to be looked at by other people, so the the idea is, How do you prepare weekend warrior paranormal investigators, people who are out wood hunting for Sasquatch things like that? How do you prepare them to prepare their data to meet science, and at the same time, How do you remind science of the beautiful open mind it takes to do things in science?

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Speaker 3 33:06

Get rid of the corporate

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Speaker 2 33:09

exercise. Yeah,

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Speaker 3 33:10

you get rid of the corporate interest, and you get rid of the funding challenge, right?

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Speaker 2 33:15

Yeah,

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Speaker 3 33:15

and you try to get rid of the stigma. I find it fascinating that people that are talking or debating with us about the phenomenon itself, and I really loathe when people say this. People are scientists, always say, well, exceptional claims require exceptional evidence, or whatever. They're quoting some scientists they've heard

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Speaker 2 33:31

Carlson.

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Speaker 3 33:32

Yes, and they make it, but they make it for them. I think psychologically it makes them feel like they're a part of that scientist group. Sure, they feel very intelligent, but they're forgetting one thing. One of the basic tenants of the scientific method is if experience or experiences are happening over and over and over and over and over to all these people across cultures, the phenomena exist, whether or not we know what

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Speaker 2 33:55

is that's right.

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Speaker 3 33:56

So, to say, like, oh, it's not been proven, so it's not repeatable in a materialist way. By the way, let's, let's make that very clear. They, our method right now is based in the material sciences for repeatability.

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Speaker 2 34:06

Oh no, exactly, exactly. Even in the even in this, this Skinwalker Ranch communities, stuff like that, they get very upset about all the rockets, and it's like, oh, you're upset about all the repeatable science. Yeah, wow, imagine that. You know about, about all the actual data that, whenever you do this, something happens, so that's why you keep doing it.

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Speaker 3 34:30

Yeah,

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Speaker 2 34:30

you know, when you get a result, you tend to keep poking it to see what more results you get. And I'll, I'll bring up one of my favorite books that I actually got at MUFON Symposium. This is actually a scientific desk desk reference called Strange Phenomenon. It goes through everything from like articles from the 1700s on swamp gas and ball lightning, things like that. I'm a big fan of the switch to. UAP, it was sneakily done. I'm a fan, mainly because it brings science in kicking and screaming. In science, you must get rid of the phenomena, you, you have to get rid of the phenomena, you have to get rid of the anomaly in your data set. If I, if I was making a solution, and 10% of my two solutions that I put together disappeared by weight, did it off gas? Did it become sediment? What happened to the 10% If this continues to happen, now we got an anomaly, and we got to figure out what this 10% loss is about that's science, so once again the idea of and we get very attached to the pictures that we take, the audio we take, the videos we take, because they are from experience, but if we can get to the point of understanding that if, if what's in that red circle is proven, that it doesn't remove the moment of experience that is a huge hurdle within our communities.

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Speaker 3 36:09

I think the biggest hurdle is probably going to come down to, so we have this this idea, and we call it haunting ants. Okay, I'll give you the Cliffs Notes, but let's say that you went today and you bought an ant farm, like in those little plastic cases. All right, you have it on your table, and the ants are doing their thing. Well, let's say every day at a certain time, I don't know, you do something weird, maybe you shake it, you shine a light in there, you do something weird. Well, here's what's interesting: you've now generated paranormal phenomena to these ants. If you reach in, you pick one out, you put it on a petri dish, and you poke it, you pick it back up, you put it back in. His little ant buddies are like, "Bro, like we were trying to build a tunnel, like where were you? He's like, "I don't know, man. Something came out of the sky, picked me up, touched me a little bit, and then put me back. You've just created an abduction experience. Now, ants in their world, they will never be able to understand our science. We know that for a fact. Sure, they'll never be able to. So, I feel like we're the ants in this situation, and I just don't know if our understanding of science in the material world will ever be able to grasp it. So, I think, and we've even seen that the phenomena itself will change things. You mentioned pictures in audio, and yeah, a lot of people in the community get very egotistical about, and they collect it like baseball cards, you know, like, oh, look at this evidence, it's like an EVO, Ken Griffey Jr. car, but the thing is, we have seen it where you'll have something on record, video or audio, whatever, you go to show it to somebody and it's gone, and then it'll come back, so that to me right there is almost like something telling you, like,

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Speaker 4 37:42

yeah, and we've, and we've had it happen repeatedly,

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Speaker 3 37:45

over and over.

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Speaker 2 37:46

Wow, wow. Now, amongst the investigations you guys have done, amongst the data that you guys have collected, what has, what has been the most wow moment for both of you individually, please, because I mean, even though you investigate together, doesn't necessarily mean that the wow moment is the same for both of you, you know,

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Speaker 3 38:09

I think it is, actually, it's funny, we, I mean, the house that we live in, we have, we have certainly haunted it through our experience, experience experiments

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Speaker 2 38:18

through trinkets alone,

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Speaker 3 38:20

well, that probably, but I'll tell you, when you pulled up the website a little bit ago, you were on a video about it. I would not play that video unless you tell your audience that there is a possibility of attachment. So it was the whistle I would say this thing. We went to this place, we investigated in Mineral Wells. Some people have probably heard of it. It's called Hill House, but the owners gave us an item from the house after our first investigation. There, the night we were there, we kept hearing what sounded like someone whistling at us. Yeah, that's the video. You probably barely hear the audio if you try to play it here, but it's interesting because that whistle, once we brought that item home, it was in the house. Okay, now it started following us across state lines in other places that we were going. Okay, now we have countless messages from people that have either seen the item at events we speak at or just listened to podcast episodes where we talk about it.

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Speaker 4 39:15

Yeah, we've had to start putting actual disclaimers on any of our podcast episodes, where we talk about it,

S Speaker 3 39:23
because they're getting there,

S Speaker 4 39:24
as well as anytime we speak at events, because, yeah, literally, and I'm not exaggerating, I'm using literally in the actual sense of the word, every single time that we have ever spoken about it, whether it is on the podcast or like it on a stage, I will get at least one message from somebody reaching out that it followed them home, but usually it's many more than just one.

S Speaker 3 39:50
Yeah, all the time.

S Speaker 2 39:51
Wow, wow. Now I kind of want to play it

S Speaker 3 39:55
well. You can't.

S Speaker 5 39:56
You

S Speaker 3 39:57
certainly can. I will tell you the video, what. It is, is Nicole was on the first floor of the house. Yep, you can see it. She's watching me on the screen. You missed it. You heard it there. It was. Did you hear

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Speaker 6 40:22

it? Oh, okay.

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Speaker 4 40:27

And so, when that happened, I was actually doing a live stream on TikTok at the time. That's how I have that video, and you hear the whistle in the video clip, obviously. And then you kind of hear me, because I don't like front loading up anything. I'm also very skeptical, and so you hear me kind of murmur. I'm like, what the hell was that? And comments start coming in from other people being like, wait, it sounded like I heard a whistle. Wait, was that a whistle? And so later on in the clip, you hear me, you know, I'm like, okay, wait, so y'all heard that too, okay? Good,

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Speaker 3 41:02

it was all throughout the night. We heard that thing, and that night is when we got this item. We took it home, and it was around the time we took the item home, that thing popped off like crazy. It was just always there's right sometimes, like right in front of your face, you hear it like, "Oh my god. So you just now played

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Speaker 2 41:19

it. We'll see if any attachment comes, and if anybody out there listening or watching tonight begins to hear the whistle, let us know, please.

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Speaker 4 41:30

Yeah, DM us on Instagram at Para Peculiar. Let me know if

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Speaker 5 41:35

this is

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Speaker 2 41:35

our own experiment here to see if anything happens, and I'll let you honestly know if anything happens here. If my family begins to hear anything that they are not used

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Speaker 3 41:48

to family that you live with, that would just be great.

S

Speaker 5 41:51

Oh, yeah.

S

Speaker 2 41:52

No, I have my eight year old son in the house. Oh, well, he's nine now. He's nine.

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Speaker 4 41:56

Yeah, I mean, it happened one of the times I went home too. I didn't, I didn't tell my mom the story, but as I was leaving to fly back to Texas, I just mentioned I was like, hey, just keep an ear out if you have a whistle at all, especially if you're alone, let me know, and sure enough, a few days later she texts like so I'm 99% sure. I just heard a whistle in the house, and I'm here by myself. Do I need to be concerned

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Speaker 3 42:30

in what's wild? We talk about data now. The whistle, we'll call that, is what we refer to just as an observable, right? Like it is something that is, if you look at experiences going back to antiquity, that is something that happens, a whistle, I mean, there's even that old legend of don't whistle the night, if you hear whistling it, don't whistle back,

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Speaker 2 42:50

well, don't, don't follow the whistles,

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Speaker 3 42:54

correct, you know, so it's interesting, because there's really only you can probably count on two hands paranormal phenomena, like what there is, is the whistles, there's the knocks on the walls, disembodied voices, things like that, but there's not much, there's a few observables. Here's what's really interesting, that whistle, we've taken that recording, played it to recordings of other times that we've recorded the whistle, played it up next to other people that we know who had heard whistles and recorded it, and it sounds like you're listening to the exact same thing.

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Speaker 4 43:24

It's I am also a musician, and can confirm it is the same note. So

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Speaker 2 43:31

that is, that is fascinating to think about, especially the idea of it being places that it hadn't been reported in that kind of way, and, and following in that kind of way, because there's a dead, there's, I mean, there was the whole issue with the Annabelle doll in the community over the, over the last year or so, and the idea of, you know, whether or not that is haunted in the way that people claim it is in the demonic way people claim it is, or if it, if that haunting attaches to people, and

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Speaker 3 44:08

then Nicole giving it a kiss.

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Speaker 4 44:10

Yeah, I gave forehead. No, I think a lot of that's just like mass hysteria, to be honest.

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Speaker 3 44:15

Well, I think a lot of his market,

S Speaker 7 44:16
like the,

S Speaker 4 44:16
yeah, like the Louisiana fire that everybody was trying to say, like,

S Speaker 2 44:20
yes,

S Speaker 4 44:20
Annabelle did it, like it actually was not. She was not in,

S Speaker 2 44:24
yeah, she was nowhere near there. She was there for like a weekend event or something like

S Speaker 3 44:29
that. Like, I'm just gonna point this out, I'm not typically the guy that'll say stuff like this, but it's just blatantly obvious to me. The paranormal community, or people that were saying that, is all over Facebook. Oh my god, Annabelle, she calls the fires on the plantation. Oh, right. So it literally wasn't the spirits of all these slaves that were probably mistreated at some point. It's this dull, it's this raggedy and dull. No,

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Speaker 2 44:50

you know, man, I had to bring one up, and the only thing I commented on in the actual community, I took a snapshot. Of it, and sent it to a group that my brother and my buddy from high school belong to, where it's just like five of us, and we just share horrible memes, and go, what the hell is going on in the world, stuff like that, but it was a picture of this person's garage door, covered in poop. All right, now, not joking, not joking, covered in poop, like flung there it is, and they're like, I've been gifting for years at my gifting station, like the first place this person's brain goes to when they come out and find their garage door covered in poop is thank God Bigfoot has gifted me,

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Speaker 3 45:41

okay?

S

Speaker 2 45:42

Bigfoot has gifted, like that's where they went, not like, not like, hey, you know, there's some random kids, like, you know, teenage boys, I knew people that threw poop on things, you know, like that's just forget the fact that it might be a mischievous teen, no, no, no. We immediately go to Big Foot has gifted me back, and God bless you.

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Speaker 4 46:08

Those are the people who make the people who are trying to do actual, like paranormal, you know, investigation look real bad. So, anybody does that, please leave. It got

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Speaker 3 46:18

even worse. So now, not only do you ask the question of, like, oh, could Annabel be demonic? No, now what they're doing, and I will call this out, because this is something I have no shame about calling out. They are now selling replicas

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Speaker 2 46:33

of the animal

S Speaker 3 46:34
dog that have been sitting next to Annabelle.

S Speaker 5 46:36
Yeah, yeah,

S Speaker 4 46:39
and multiple people are buying them for their other Hana museums and taking them home, and

S Speaker 2 46:45
yeah,

S Speaker 4 46:45
okay, congratulations on your raggedy and all, I guess,

S Speaker 2 46:49
yeah, yeah, and you know that's

S Speaker 3 46:52
saucy there, so you know,

S Speaker 2 46:54
but that's just it, and this is one of the things that we have to a caveat emptor within the communities, we always have to. I will always believe any experienter, any experienter that comes up to me with their story. I will believe them prima facie right off the get. Absolutely, I have had my experiences that are fully unexplainable. Other people were there, they did not experience them.

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Speaker 3 47:25

Yeah, that happens a lot,

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Speaker 2 47:26

you know. So, so, am I crazy? Hell no, you know. So, I will listen to anybody, but when it comes to things like that, when it comes to these things that once again have been proven in communities, and, and where you have people taking advantage of people at ticketed events, that kind of thing, that's that's where you get into some snake oil in the communities, and if we don't call that out, even as researchers, if we're afraid to call that out on the carpet, we be unto us in the future. I think you know

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Speaker 3 48:04

this is how bad the community is. We've had someone who's really in that world tell us multiple people actually tell us that if you insult Annabelle or whoever's housing Annabelle, that you're like persona non grata, you're like out of the paramount community. I'm like that is the most asinine thing I've ever heard in my life.

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Speaker 2 48:22

Yeah, yeah, I would, I would tend to agree.

S

Speaker 4 48:26

Sorry if we just got you shadow band.

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Speaker 5 48:28

That's

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Speaker 2 48:29

okay, that's

S Speaker 5 48:29
okay.

S Speaker 2 48:30
I am a former on-air producer for Alex Jones, believe me, that's that's the least of my shadow band.

S Speaker 7 48:37
Great.

S Speaker 2 48:40
Hey, man, I just put.. I just.. I just push buttons, dude. I just push buttons for a living, you know. But

S Speaker 3 48:48
speaking of.. he actually.. I'm just gonna.. because you mentioned him..

S Speaker 2 48:51
no, no..

S Speaker 3 48:51
his stuff that he's saying that from his sources about the phenomenon itself are things that we are now starting to understand, and people are now talking about. He was saying stuff about the phenomenon 10 years ago that people in Congress are now coming out and saying, and I find that fascinating.

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Speaker 2 49:06

Yep, yep, and you know it was always interesting because there were a lot of hard lines, like he would not talk UFOs on the show at the time when I worked there, he would, he would have certain people on, you know, be like somebody get me David Ike. I can. This is this is the trend he's been talking about right now with gold. Somebody get me David Ike. Just tell him we aren't talking about lizard people today. There's no lizard people allowed.

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Speaker 3 49:34

They came out in Congress and said I think it was

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Speaker 2 49:37

there's a cross breeding program.

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Speaker 3 49:39

Yes, and they actually mentioned the tall whites, they're people, the mantis meetings. So it's a great time to be conspiracy

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Speaker 5 49:47

theorists,

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Speaker 3 49:47

because we can say

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Speaker 2 49:49

we told it's all out there, it's all out there, and that's just it, and that's that's kind of, you know, bringing this home, that's kind of the idea behind. Of not only your show, but, but your tour that you guys do, what y'all talk about, and the whole idea that all of these things are interconnected, whether it's the communities or the experiences, that there is some sort of connective ligament to all of this, and the way it operates, so before we let you guys go, let's, let's get into the conference a little bit. How did it go? How was it received by the local community?

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Speaker 4 50:32

Yeah, it was, it was good. Yeah, I mean it's always.. I feel like when you're putting on an event when you see a bunch of people that you have never met before, and you have no idea who they are. You're like, okay, I did something right, you know. People heard about it, people showed up, but yeah, it was great. We had a lot of people there, for, you know, all of the speakers, all of the vendors really loved it. Everybody had a great time at the end of it, you know, they all came up and were like, okay, we're ready for next year, like we're gonna come back. So it was really great, and it was also our first stop this year for the the current iteration of the Haunted Road Show, where we have our items and stuff, but we've added a few special things, like we have little investigation stations, we have a scrying booth with our haunted mirror,

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Speaker 3 51:26

our one of the kind investigative tools, right? And the feedback that we really got was people really liked what we had done, because we really put an emphasis on the talks and the presentations. We did not want, like, oh, we've got such and such celebrity, and a bunch of gifts to go buy money. No, literally, we wanted good presentations that got people thinking, and that was the feedback we got. So, if you're in Austin, so shout out to the Austin community, because everyone came out in droves, had a great time, they loved it. There are two that go on in Austin, Strange and Extraordinary Fest, like we're talking about now, and Spirit of Social, uh, which is put out by Steven of the Night Owl Podcast here in Austin, and that's coming up. You have that coming up this year.

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Speaker 4 52:05

Yeah, that's november 7, which we're at that every year as well, supporting. He's a good friend of ours. So

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Speaker 5 52:11

awesome.

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Speaker 4 52:12

Yeah,

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Speaker 2 52:13

awesome. Well, guys, I want to thank you all so much. It's been a fantastic conversation. I would love to have you all on again and again and again, especially to talk about some of these issues within the para communities, that is a, that is a huge cause of our show. I try to explain our show best as we, we try to kind of demystify these topics for people who are not deep in these communities. These communities can get really thick, really fast. They can be very nebulous, and trying to get to the root of these topics, trying to get to the root of what builds these communities, I think is hugely and massively important, especially as we all move forward into, like you were saying, Damian, this new territory of it's all interconnected,

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Speaker 3 53:04

yeah. No, we couldn't agree more.

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Speaker 4 53:06

The age of Aquarius,

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Speaker 2 53:07

that's it, that's it. Well, before we let you go, shameless self-promotion time. Where can people go to find out more about booking you guys to come with the traveling museum? Where can they go to find the podcast, where can they go to find out more about the Strange and Extraordinary Fest here in town?

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Speaker 3 53:27

Yeah, right there on your screen, Para Peculiar museum.com You know, you can go there, you can listen to The Para Peculiar podcast. We have two podcasts, Para Peculiar and The Real Ghost of One is our recordings from Investigations. The Para Peculiar podcast is like deep dives, rabbit holes, talking to other people, really high screen. It's got two of those. There's the website, it's got everything you need there. You can contact us from there, slide into our DMs on Instagrams, and everything else.

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Speaker 4 53:53

Yeah, you can find us on Instagram at Parapeculiar. You can find us on anywhere you might summon your podcast at Para Peculiar. And then for the fest, it's just under that same name, Strange and Extraordinary Fest, so on Instagram, Strange and Extraordinary fest.com and yeah, I think that's all, that's all the things, yeah.

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Speaker 2 54:12

Well, fantastic guys, thank you all so much once again, I greatly appreciate it. We'll be in touch with links, all that kind of good stuff, feel free to stay tuned for the next part on social media, all that kind of good stuff. I greatly appreciate having y'all on, and can't wait to have you on for future discussions.

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Speaker 3 54:32

Radical, you as well. Thank you so much. We appreciate it.

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Speaker 2 54:35

Take care, guys. We'll be in touch while you are online, everybody checking out everything from the Para Peculiar podcast, as well as the Para Peculiar Haunted Museum at Parapeculiar.com. Make sure to stop on by Curious Realm, Curiousrealm.com is where you can like, follow, subscribe. If you were looking for the the moon base. Announcement that happened today from NASA. We have all of those NASA feeds, everything else right there on our video channel. Stop on by Curiousrealm.com forward slash videos, and you can find not only all of our episodes but also all of the declassified government panels, things like that, as well as all of the video channels from our guests. When we come back from this quick commercial break, we will be joined by our good friend Daniel Duke. We will be talking about his familial relationship to the outlaw Jesse James, his faking of his death, his move to Texas, and how his family came across a treasure map. When we come back, right after this, the key to good science is good research. At the heart of good research is a good data set, but the field observation and encounter log from Curious Research, you can easily keep track of your investigative information all in one place, making it easier to review cases and readily see comparisons and contrasts between them, whether out in the woods squatching in a back room, gathering EVPs, or using high-tech gear to track UFO UAP activity. This easy to carry pocket size scientific data log is the perfect companion for any field researcher. You can find your copy of the Curious Research Field Observation and Encounter log@amazon.com or visit the official Curious Realm store at Curiousrealm.com forward slash store to reserve your copy for yourself, your family, or a mine that you want to open. That website again is Curiousrealm.com forward slash store. Well, hello everybody, and welcome back from that quick commercial break. Thank you so much for staying with us. Also, thank you so much to our sponsors, especially True Hemp Science. If you're a user of CBD products like I am, stop on by truehempscience.com today, folks. They are your source for amazing CBD products. Christopher Lynch and True Hemp Science use every part of the hemp plant, that is, seeds, stems, buds, fibers, roots - every part of the plant is used, combusted, and reused in an amazing process that turns out an awesome spy geric product, complete with terpene profiles and all. Stop on by their website, truehempscience.com is the website that you want to go to. Curious seven is the code that you want to use to save 7% off your entire cart of \$50 or more, and get an edible on the way out the door. I have been using True Hem Science for easily the last six seven years, and even traveling the country to dispensaries recreationally, folks, I have yet to find a CBD product that beats them out, stop on by again. TrueHymscience.com is the website. Curious seven is the code that you want to use to save 7% off your entire cart of \$50 or more. Our guest in this segment is Daniel Duke. He is the author of *The Mysterious Life and Fake Death of Jesse James*, as well as *Jesse James and the Lost Templar Treasure*. He is based right here in Texas, folks. He lives just up the road from me, and I love our conversations. It's been way too long since you have been on. Welcome back to the show, Daniel Duke. How are you this evening?

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Speaker 8 59:03

I'm doing great, thanks for having me on again. This is awesome,

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Speaker 2 59:06

man. It's always fun chatting with you, and I am remiss in actively getting myself up there to hang out with you and just enjoy a glass of whiskey and cook a steak on the campfire like you always are on social media.

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Speaker 8 59:18

Recently made a giant talking about.. oh, this is from Oak on the property. I made a little tumbler,

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Speaker 2 59:25

nice,

S

Speaker 8 59:26

charted on the inside. I made a shot glass, but I like the tumbler. You can drink more.

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Speaker 2 59:31

I was actively just asked the other day by my mother, actually. That's how much my.. that's how well my mom knows me, Daniel. She asked me. She was like, you know, I've been tuning into your show a lot more lately. What's in that cup that you drink out of? And I was like, honestly, it's typically either iced tea or Red Bull. Despite the decanters of whiskey and gin behind me, I was like, it's not dudes and beer anymore, but. Back in the days, back in the days of dudes and beer, whenever you used to first come on, like, yeah, man, we would, we would tear through beer, we would tear through whiskey on air, it was, it was not, that was part of the conversation, but since then things, things have been a little, little more ironed out, little more wrinkle-free, Daniel,

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Speaker 8 1:00:19

yeah,

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Speaker 2 1:00:20

but, but, yeah, the, the whole idea that Jesse James has had faked his death, this is, this is something that had been posited a while back, but you know, this digs into so many different parts of mythos and American mythos, and the way that these things happen, the way that they happen historically, and the way that we understand that they happen. So, how did you first come to find out about the fake death of Jesse James? Let's start there, before we get into treasure and Templar treasure in connection to the Templars.

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Speaker 8 1:01:02

Okay, yeah, the it all that started when I was a child, just about every birthday, or you know, when the whole family would get together around Christmas or any of the holidays, we'd somebody would always talk. We had a large family on my mom's side, and one of my uncles or aunts would always bring it up, and it was almost like it was brought up at most family get-togethers, and you know, I would just think, "Oh, cool, and run along and play, but as you grow older, a little more sticks, a little more sticks with you, stays in your memory, and my mom grew up hearing the same thing, and it helped the helped us greatly. If that his diary was passed down through the family, it wasn't really a diary, wrote his feelings, it was a day book, but that got passed down through the family, along with a treasure map and a whole bunch of photos and things, items that belonged to Jesse, but the day book had dates, names, names of known gang members, stuff like that, and that's why the oral tradition started as a child. And then I have to give all the credit to spearheading that to my, my late mother, she's the one, she wrote three books about it, she, she wanted to, and once we were all in college, Mom finally had time to research more, and she, she took the family photographs to the Texas Department of Public Safety, their headquarters down in Austin, and for people who don't know, that's Texas State Police, basically took it to the headquarters to their forensic department, and Karen Taylor and Missy Mitchell Lady, both very.. they were Karen Taylor is very well known in the forensics world. She actually had, when Mom was there, she had David Koresh, his school, no photos of his school in there. She was verifying who he was, but she was a forensic artist, forensic expert. Anyway, long story short, she - she, those two verified that our family photos matched traditionally accepted photos of Jesse, not only Jesse, but his mother and the rest of his family members, like Frank, Dr. Samuel, Jesse, and Frank's stepfather and others, but then you know, Mom, we knew we knew they looked alike, we knew the stories, but we needed verified expert, qualified experts, highly qualified experts to verify whether they were or were not the same people, so we, you know, they, they gave us great review, they, you know, gave us the written letter, the, their, their, they wrote their findings down, signed it, we've got that, the verification went to Austin Police Department Photographic Forensic Lab, they also verified, had to, they verified that the photos matched, and she, Mom took it to a third group at the time, they were called Visionics, they were world leaders in recognition technology, and Visionics later purchased, they were purchased by a company called Identicks, but anyway, they also verified the findings, so we had the photos, we had the family, the oral, you know, the oral story, the oral history. We were going to the Texas State Archives down in Austin constantly. It's almost like we were camping there. We were there constantly, just doing research, and that's where some other stories in later, but yeah, that it went from there. We census records, birth certificates, death certificates, all of that, and then the names in his diary. You research all those, and you'd come to brick walls, but I don't want to jump ahead of myself or ahead of your questions, but that's how it started.

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Speaker 2 1:05:00

Well, and you know, once again, to have that family history to begin with, something that was openly spoken about, that you were a relative of Jesse James, things like that is one thing, but to find the equivalent of a diary also is phenomenal, that's that's that's pretty amazing, much, much less what you believe to be an actual treasure map, Daniel.

S Speaker 8 1:05:29
Yeah,

S Speaker 2 1:05:31
now that's that, that's pretty wild claim, that's pretty, that's pretty big.

S Speaker 5 1:05:38
Yeah,

S Speaker 2 1:05:38
what, what have you found along the way that leads you a to to the proof of the death or the fake death of Jesse James and him coming to Texas to begin with? B, what do you have so far as provenance for the map and diary?

S Speaker 8 1:06:01
All right, wait with the diary, as far as provenance, we've, we've got his name, he signed his name J James, and J W J was his initials, James Jesse Woodson James. He also signed on the back cover, back in the front and back on the cover of the little day book, he, you could see where he practiced writing his alias, JL Courtney, James L. Courtney, he wrote it over and over, and I thought, Who, who sits there and writes their name? I don't do that, like, constantly.

S Speaker 2 1:06:33
Yeah,

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Speaker 8 1:06:33

just, you know, only on the covers, it was like he was practicing writing his name, but anyway, he's also in the, in the day book, he's, he's, he initials it JWJ and signs his name just J James, so not, not Jesse, but Jay James, so I thought, okay, there's that, and then you keep digging as you read through it, there's a known James gang members, and like Cole Younger, they called him Bud, that was his nickname, he mentions him by nickname, never Cole was Cole Younger or Cole was here, but there were other names, Tom McDaniels, and multiple other known gang members, also places when he would go on trips, he would mention, you know, took a train from Marlin, Texas

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Speaker 5 1:07:24

to

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Speaker 8 1:07:24

Longview, Longview to Shreveport, Shreveport to Natchitoches. From Shreveport, he hopped a river boat down the Natchitoches, and then got off, got off on the Louisiana side, and went back north, and stayed in a man's house. Everywhere he was on that trip. You can look up the old newspaper records on the same date he was there. There was a robbery, stage robberies. The steamship was robbed. Just, it was like everywhere they..

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Speaker 2 1:07:53

wow,

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Speaker 8 1:07:54

it wasn't of that, you know. And then the guy, he stayed at when I mentioned, he stayed at a man's house, he mentioned that man Gervais. Well, I thought, okay, every name that was mentioned, I would.. we researched in as much as we could, did their genealogy, any any other paperwork, contact family members, see if they had any stories or heard any legends. Gervais Fontenot, I found out it almost instantly. He was a retired US Marshal, and I thought, why would Jesse stay at the home of a retired US Marshal? And found out later they, they, that's where Freemasonry starts kicking in. A lot of the people he stayed with, they were also Freemasons. He was a Freemason as well. Then, on top of that, Gervais Fontanose. When I found his a very detailed family tree that his family had already done, he was the nephew of Jean Lafitte, the famous privateer slash pirate,

S Speaker 2 1:08:57
and Jean

S Speaker 8 1:08:58
Lafitte was also a Freemason. I didn't know this until, you know, I started looking at Jean Lafitte. I thought, okay, what, this is odd - a pirate,

S Speaker 2 1:09:09
yeah,

S Speaker 8 1:09:09
an outlaw. How does this mix together? I started researching that Jean Lafitte was a Mason, and that's.. you can look up the.. that's available in historical documents on the Grand Lodge of Louisiana's website and other sites.

S Speaker 2 1:09:25
Yeah,

S Speaker 8 1:09:26
they had it stated that he had Masonic Communications with Andrew Jackson when Andrew Jackson was a general, and you can't have Masonic communications unless both parties are Masons.

S Speaker 2 1:09:38
Yeah,

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Speaker 8 1:09:39

so

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Speaker 2 1:09:39

yeah, and of course, you know, I just popped up on screen from Texas Highways, the legend of Jean Lafitte's treasure still being in Galveston to this day. Not many people know that Jean Lafitte helped defend the port of Galveston. Yeah, and was was stationed right there.

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Speaker 8 1:10:00

Yeah, when I, when I used to, I lived right after college, I lived in a league city, halfway, you know, between Houston and Galveston. I went, I fit, I went fishing almost every weekend in Galveston, and I would, I would always wonder, you know, where, where they were, what was going on 100 200 years ago, things like that, and I always, that, that naturally brought up Jean Lafitte. I just wonder where he was. How many people, and like you said, most people don't seem to even know about that these days.

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Speaker 2 1:10:32

Yeah, and there is, there is a very quiet historic marker all over Texas. We have historic markers, you know, things like you'll see a little sign says like historic marker, one mile with an arrow, but right there as you go to go over the bridge to Galveston, coming from Houston, off to the left, there is a small historic marker that commemorates Jean Lafitte, and there there used to be a gentleman's club right there next to it used to crack me up for years. Then it's like, hey, look, historic marker, and then the gentleman's club, but

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Speaker 8 1:11:09

Lafitte's ghost was probably walking around there,

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Speaker 2 1:11:12

more than happy he was right there.

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Speaker 9 1:11:16

That's that cracks me up,

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Speaker 2 1:11:19

but, but, but in all sincerity, these are these are things that have once again been legend in Texas for a long time, so the fact that your research actually tied Jesse James in his trip after faking his death to going to Louisiana and staying with a Masonic brother who was relative of Jean Lafitte,

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Speaker 8 1:11:46

yeah,

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Speaker 2 1:11:46

is pretty remarkable.

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Speaker 8 1:11:48

Yeah, that blew my mind. I thought, my God, I mean, this is, you, we're already proving, you know, Jesse James didn't fake his, didn't die as history said, and he faked his death, lived, yeah, you know, lived in old age in Texas, that's a handful on its own. And then you, and then you find out he stayed the night with Jean LaFitte's nephew. Yeah, and I thought, what, what is going on? And that, that was where things started. That was around the time we, we started figuring out there were a lot of it was a network, it wasn't just old west outlaws riding around robbing things, there were more to that was just a small part of

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Speaker 10 1:12:30

a huge picture. Yeah,

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Speaker 2 1:12:33

yeah.

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Speaker 8 1:12:33

As far as Jesse goes, you know, we had the, we had that information all everywhere, trips he took, everywhere he went, there were always robberies in newspapers, things like that. It was just one or once or twice, it's a coincidence, but when it happens constantly throughout the book, and, and known, and well, in the other thing, like he was well known for changing exchanging gold for cash. What farmer, what a guy who's on 160 acre farm, what farmer in Reconstruction era Texas had the kind of money to swap out gold, and you know, gold for cash. It was like those.. it reminds me of the gold for cash businesses around the day, you know, it takes some money to be able to do that, and after the, during Reconstruction, Texas, that, that would have been a hard, that was a rare find,

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Speaker 2 1:13:32

yeah, yeah, you'd have been much, probably much more common finding somebody exchanging that gold note for gold,

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Speaker 8 1:13:40

yeah,

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Speaker 2 1:13:40

you know, changing and changing in that \$20 gold eagle, then changing in the \$20 gold eagle to go get paper money, you know, yeah, and you know that that brings something up before, before we get too far and too hip deep into his actions in Texas, and, and things like that. Daniel, his death, his death specifically, because we've talked about this on the show before. St. Joseph, Missouri, is the place that claims to be the home of the home where Jesse James was shot, things like that, and it's, it's one of those.. this is, this is the accepted history. This is what people have said for years, that he was shot in the back, but it's interesting that these crimes specifically carry his hallmark, and especially that chaotic hallmark, because that's.. that's really what he was.. it was a.. it was a run and gun style. It was a interrupt, create chaos. That's literally what the job of Quantrell's Raiders was when he was in the Civil War, was to go, go run in, raid, wreak havoc, and run out and leave him confused, exactly. And

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Speaker 8 1:14:59

it was quick, it was a. Like special forces operations, you ride in, or now they don't ride in, but yeah, you hit quick, create the chaos, and you know, achieve your objective, and get out,

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Speaker 2 1:15:10

yeah, and that's that's pretty much the same way that his crimes played out, he, he did them very much in raid fashion, in that kind of way, continuing that, so to hear these hallmarks of his signature, as far as the way a robbery was done, that it's following that trail. How did he go about a faking his death and getting down to Texas? Because, like you said, it would take a network of people to do that, granted, probably a little bit easier back in the day, back in the back in the days of the old west, you know, there were the rumors of Brushy Bill Roberts and stuff like that here in Texas as well, who was supposedly Billy the Kid,

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Speaker 8 1:15:56

yeah,

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Speaker 2 1:15:56

all kinds of things, and that the West was definitely full of people that had literally reinvented themselves that came over from the East Coast that were full on criminals and led a good farm in life and started all anew, you know, Texas, Texas specifically, and the Alamo was full of them, people, people who came over to change their way and find, find a crop of land with the Spanish land grant and start all over with a brand new name, you know,

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Speaker 5 1:16:30

yeah.

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Speaker 2 1:16:31

So

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Speaker 8 1:16:31

that's true,

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Speaker 2 1:16:32

and granted, the, as we've said before, this town definitely has vested interest in, in, in the data in your book, not getting out, not getting out there, things like that, because, well,

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Speaker 5 1:16:47

yeah,

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Speaker 2 1:16:47

if it ends up that he did fake his death, you know, you're, you're gonna lose a little bit of tourism money, things like that,

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Speaker 8 1:16:56

yeah, well, you know, we, I can't tell you how many people had contacted my late mother, saying just that, like almost pleading, like, don't you care about the people in St. Joseph? Yeah, and mom was like, well, don't you care about the people in Central Texas? I mean, it's not about it's not about money, it's about the truth, and for them, for a lot of people up in Missouri, it was about money, and then you know that, that also I think is why a lot of the when the death threat started coming, they were, you know, they were threatening my mom, my sister, and myself. The FBI got involved and put it into it, fortunately, but they, they, it was over, it was about a dozen people, close to a dozen people, just under. Wow, but the guy they paid to do it, they, he was just a kid, and they had him doing, and he was, he was piggybacking off somebody else's Wi-Fi. It wasn't a good job of hiding his tracks, fortunately. And, but, anyway, all of that came to an end, but I think it, I thought, why would they go through all of this trouble to and pay a guy good money to send us death threats, and it got worse and worse, and anyway, I looked up that I looked up the budget for Clay County, Missouri, and the car, the James Farm, specifically was bringing in around 7 million a year, and this was 20 years

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Speaker 5 1:18:27

ago.

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Speaker 8 1:18:28

I thought, in a, if they're in a poor county, \$7 million in a year is a lot of money, for especially in a poor area.

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Speaker 2 1:18:34

Yeah,

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Speaker 8 1:18:35

so, and I don't know, I don't know how much of that got out to the county and how much went to other people, but a lot of people who weren't officially involved were really upset about that money.

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Speaker 2 1:18:47

Well, well, and there's a couple other ties in there also, Daniel, that that may have rung up those threats when you're talking about possible possible connection to Templar treasure or artifacts, possible connection to money, money from the Knights of the Golden Circle. You know, the K, the KJC, which was pretty much like the Knights Templar, but for the Confederacy,

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Speaker 8 1:19:15

exactly.

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Speaker 2 1:19:15

Oh, all kinds of things. All these things still reach into the modern era. They still, they still have a thread that is lined with gold, you know. Whenever you start looking at masons and things like that, and if masons were involved with helping hide gold treasure, or even Jesse James, you can bet that there would, there would be something like that, that, that would go on, and to that fact, while you and your mother were researching at the Texas State Library here in Austin, you guys, you guys had run in like that,

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Speaker 8 1:19:54

yeah, yeah, we had that, was one of many, but that one was, that was one. One of our first, and it was, it was odd. We'd never been followed before. We noticed these two guys following us when we, when we, before we even noticed them. The head librarian, who at the time, the late David Baskins, he warned us, you know, he would tell every time we, we entered the archives, he'd say, "Make sure you sign in. Well, one day, Mom and I walk in, and he whispered to us, "Don't sign your names. And Mom said, "Why not? You know, looked kind of funny. He was a friendly guy, but we looked at him like, "Why not? And Mom asked him, "Why not? He said, "They're watching, and I said, "Who? And he just turned around and walked off, and I thought, okay, this is odd. Who's watching? And we, you know, we went on about our business, and two, it was an elderly gentleman and a younger guy, both watching us, the late Jay Harrison, and I believe the younger guy, Jeff Adams, is still alive. He was with the, he was at the time, he was, he handed me his card. He lied to us the first time. Second meeting, he handed me his card and told me what he, he claimed his real name was Jeff Adams. Handed me his business card, he was a researcher for the Texas State Bar, and I thought, okay, so I got home, got on the internet and checked it out, and he was now.. I can't find any record of him. When I look at the look for him on the Texas State Bar, there's no record of him. I don't know if it

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Speaker 5 1:21:29

was a

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Speaker 8 1:21:29

temporary thing, but the only record I found of him is he was working for Baylor University as a missionary, going into Mexico investigating like child abuse cases, and I thought, what kind of missionary does that? I don't know, I'm not a missionary, so you know, and I, I've never done that, so I don't know, but it just seems like an odd thing for a missionary to do.

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Speaker 2 1:21:54

Yeah, yeah, that

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Speaker 8 1:21:55

is. Anyway, that's the whole side story, but it was, it helps paint the picture of the shady, the odd stuff. Jay Harrison, he was allegedly.. he told us he was a former policeman who was a block away from JFK when he was assassinated, and he was the one who Jeff stood there. Jay, the older gentleman, the former cop from Dallas, told he's the one who gave us the warnings, and he also told us he was related to the Bush family cousins, so he said you can prove who your grandfather was, just don't ever mention any names that tie in with the Texas power structure, and I looked at Mom, and I looked at each other, and she asked, well, who's the Texas power structure? You know, when you grow up in rural Texas, in a little country town, you don't think about.. we didn't think about those kind of things.

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Speaker 2 1:22:49

Yeah,

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Speaker 8 1:22:49

and he just grinned, kind of laughed, and said, "You'll find out. Nobody ever contacted us to tell us, "Hey, we're from the Texas power structure, but we found eventually, I believe it tied in with the Masons and other politicians, knowing that he was a cousin of the Bush family, George Bush and Bush Junior. I think I think that could have played a large role in it as well. I don't know, they never came out and told us anything, but we were followed, we, you know, just doing our research, you'd notice the same car in the same couple in a car following us in Austin, and then later on down the road in Cedar Park at Sonic, getting a drink, they'd pull in across from us, just watch us, and when we left, they would leave.

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Speaker 5 1:23:37

Wow,

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Speaker 8 1:23:37

and it was just odd, just odd thing, no, no danger, nothing ever happened to us, that you know, nobody broke into the house or anything like that. So I'm not sure what that was about. It was just maybe it was just a spookus, I don't know.

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Speaker 2 1:23:53

Well, yeah, yeah, and like the guy said, don't, don't excuse me, don't mention anybody that is connected with the Texas power structure, and when you start thinking about those things, when you start thinking about that kind of stuff, like, yeah, there, there were some nefarious people, once again, that came to Texas, that came and were part of the founding of Texas, I mean, one of those, one of those people is literally the one of the ranchers from the Lincoln County Wars, you know, in New Mexico that Billy the Kid and everything else was caught up in, so like people like that who were known for just straight killing somebody in the name of business, like, sorry, Jack, this day there was next to no compunction with some people for such things. Well,

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Speaker 8 1:24:49

some of the guys in, and we call, always call him Grandpa in Jesse's day book, some of the names he mentions, Bill, like Bill, John, and Bill. Hitson, they were some of the biggest cattle men in Texas in that day. When you said that, that reminded me of them. They, they had, they had had cattle in New Mexico stolen by Comancheros and other, other rustlers, cattle wrestlers. So they hired 150 gunmen to ride into New Mexico, and they sent warning ahead of ahead before they got there, basically telling people, don't get in our way, we're getting our cattle, don't get in our way, or else, you know, that's just how it was back then, but they were, they were, he listed their names in, uh, in his day book, their name and address, you know, he didn't write them, the whole address, it was John and Bill Hitz and Pala Pinto, and that's that was where their headquarters were.

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Speaker 6 1:25:48

Well,

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Speaker 5 1:25:48

but

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Speaker 9 1:25:49

it was..

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Speaker 2 1:25:50

go ahead.

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Speaker 8 1:25:51

Oh, I was gonna mentioning the Texas power structure, and those guys, after they.. you know, that kind of stuff was still going on every time we went to the archives, we were watched, and around that time Wagner Carr, former Attorney General for the state of Texas, started calling Mom, and he, they talked at first, they argued a lot, and then he ended up wanting her to write his autobiography. It was very.. she said, "I don't have time to do that, I'm working on this book, and anyway, he, she, he, they ended up becoming friends, you know, are polite to each other anyway, and he was really interested in Jesse, and mostly the treasures, and he sent his driver out to take Mom and I to three three treasure sites that, where they had been recovered, the Texas ones, one is over in Georgetown, off Highway 29 on the west side of Georgetown. There's an apartment complex on top of it right now. It's fairly new, it's about a year or maybe two years old. They built an apartment complex on top of where the cave was, but, and, but anyway, he said the Texas Rangers oversaw the recovery of the treasure, and I asked him, where, you know, where did they take it, and he never would answer me. I didn't expect an answer, but I had to ask. Another one was over in Academy, Little River Academy, and then there's one over by Prairie Dale, you know, where Prairie Dale is,

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Speaker 5 1:27:26

yeah,

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Speaker 8 1:27:26

not on the map, but, uh, anyway, it was three three locations where large treasures were recovered, and according to his driver, she was there while the recovery was happening, she said she was talking about how the Texas Rangers were lined all off the side of the road. They had a landing pad for a helicopter that they stacked tight. They put the lights so it only would come and go at night, so they put lights on the ground. They stacked tires on it, so you couldn't see the lights from the road. You could only see them from the air. And I thought that's pretty smart. But anyway, she said, and Wagner, car verified. The driver told us. And then we, we talked to Wagner again, and she said it wasn't Pretty Boy Floyd, it was enough. One of the other gangsters, not machine gun, it might have been Pretty Boy Floyd, one of those gangsters. I think I'll have to look at my notes again, but anyway, when he would go to San Anton, he would make a deposit there, not a withdrawal. He would stop at that catch and make a deposit, and she said there were, and Wagner verified it, there were the in the treasure, there was, there were like old male pouches, there were more modern coins from the early 1900s and Spanish gold bars.

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Speaker 5 1:28:50

So it

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Speaker 8 1:28:50

sounds like it, and the funny thing about that is that matches the exact story of Victorio Peak, New Mexico, when they found the alleged billions in gold in Victorio Peak, New Mexico. It allegedly had Pony Express mail pack packages, you know, like mail pouches and Spanish gold, and more recent gold, as well as trunks with, like, a tiara and stuff like that in it. Different dates throughout that

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Speaker 2 1:29:24

fascinating

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Speaker 8 1:29:25

dates range. It was.. I can't talk right now. It's like our phone keeps getting the dates, were you know, they ranged over several centuries, and it was like a long-term depository that, that to me, if that's true, that has to be a network of people depositing treasures over centuries, and I can't think of any other groups that would have done that, other than Catholic Church, could have done it, it could have been Catholic Masons, could have been Masons, could have been Templar, could have.. there's any number, but. Had to have been a, an organized group of people doing something like that, and either when you take that into account, and you know it's that old, that predates the Knights of the Golden Circle by centuries,