

CREATED BY

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EPISODE 1.05

"Make America Exotic Again"

As Joe dives into politics, he deals with turmoil and tragedy in his personal life. Meanwhile, the dynamics at the park change with the new owners.

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CAST

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Carole Baskin
      • • •
          Self - Big Cat Rescue
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00:00:06,339 --> 00:00:08,466
[Antle] Holy mackerel. Yes, ma'am.

2 00:00:10,802 --> 00:00:12,762 I'm ready. I don't want to cut y'all short.

3 00:00:12,846 --> 00:00:16,349 You guys are ready... for the party. Get the chimp, and I'll walk right in.

4
00:00:16,433 --> 00:00:18,518
[man] I don't even know
what a chimp birthday party is.

5 00:00:18,601 --> 00:00:21,563 [Antle] Yes you do. It's exactly a five-year-old's birthday party.

00:00:22,147 --> 00:00:24,858

It's got crappy little decorations we bought at a store,

7
00:00:25,650 --> 00:00:29,738
and it has chimps who are going to be hilaritly happy about it,

8 00:00:29,821 --> 00:00:32,282 and if you got too close, they're gonna tear your fingers off.

9 00:00:32,365 --> 00:00:34,492 Oh, look at them! They look fucking fabulous.

10 00:00:35,118 --> 00:00:37,454 They look fucking fabulous. Scoot closer to Gina.

11 00:00:38,163 --> 00:00:40,623 Our social media these days is just in the millions a week. 00:00:40,707 --> 00:00:42,625
Millions of people a week
are following it.

13

00:00:42,709 --> 00:00:45,462 -[man] How do you do that? -[Antle] Our content is so unique.

14

00:00:46,046 --> 00:00:49,049

No one's got the content
unless it came from us these days.

1.5

00:00:50,383 --> 00:00:51,468
Make noise.

16

00:00:51,551 --> 00:00:52,469 [woman hollering]

17

00:00:54,971 --> 00:00:56,347 [Antle] Where's the other one?

18

00:00:56,931 --> 00:00:58,308 Don't let them bite it.

19

00:01:00,727 --> 00:01:02,771 Easy. Don't bite. Don't bite. Hit it. Hit it.

20

00:01:12,155 --> 00:01:13,990
[Joe] It wasn't the zoo anymore.

21

00:01:15,075 --> 00:01:16,618 It was nothing but a big scam.

22

00:01:17,827 --> 00:01:19,329 [woman laughs]

23

00:01:19,829 --> 00:01:21,247 Paws will come out of that.

24

00:01:21,831 --> 00:01:24,459

[Joe] Jeff conned everyone.

25

00:01:24,542 --> 00:01:28,046

Because he's jealous.

He's a little man with a little dick...

26

00:01:28,838 --> 00:01:31,341 and a limp, and he's bald,

2.7

00:01:31,424 --> 00:01:34,677 and he's got to pay everybody to have sex with him.

28

00:01:36,971 --> 00:01:40,100
This man has got more criminal shit going on than you can imagine.

29

00:01:40,475 --> 00:01:42,352 Well, sooner or later he's going to jail.

30

00:01:46,231 --> 00:01:50,193
[theme music instrumentals]

31

00:01:55,073 --> 00:01:57,826 [Saffery]

From the time Jeff came into the picture,

32

 $00:01:59,327 \longrightarrow 00:02:01,454$ the whole dynamic of the park changed.

33

00:02:06,918 --> 00:02:09,420

Joe only cared about one man's opinion,

34

 $00:02:10,130 \longrightarrow 00:02:12,173$ and that man didn't do anything on park.

35

00:02:12,257 --> 00:02:13,258 He didn't clean cages.

36

00:02:13,341 --> 00:02:14,509 He didn't do book work.

00:02:14,926 --> 00:02:16,553 He didn't check in customers.

38

00:02:16,678 --> 00:02:17,846 He didn't feed cats.

30

00:02:18,888 --> 00:02:19,764 Nothing.

40

00:02:20,515 --> 00:02:23,560
[Antle] Jeff somehow seduced Joe by hook and crook.

41

00:02:23,643 --> 00:02:25,270 Joe fell in love with the premise.

42

00:02:25,353 --> 00:02:27,480

Joe handed over the keys to the kingdom

43

00:02:27,564 --> 00:02:30,150 to prevent Carole from taking the keys to the kingdom,

44

00:02:30,233 --> 00:02:31,776 and then through that,

45

00:02:31,860 --> 00:02:36,573
Jeff proceeded to try and circumvent
 Joe's opportunity authority

46

00:02:36,656 --> 00:02:39,117 and separate him from his wealth.

In my opinion.

47

00:02:40,368 --> 00:02:42,537 [Lowe] Everybody was loyal to Joe when we got here...

48

00:02:43,454 --> 00:02:45,874 and I think they kinda were skeptical

00:02:45,957 --> 00:02:50,128 that these two people were gonna come in here and make things better.

50

00:02:51,671 --> 00:02:54,841

Jeff Lowe fired half the staff
when he walked through the door,

51

00:02:54,924 --> 00:02:57,385 called a couple of them "fucking faggots"

52

00:02:57,468 --> 00:02:58,803 and stirred up a bunch of shit.

53

00:03:01,514 --> 00:03:03,433 [Lowe] I had a guy who worked for me for years,

54

00:03:03,516 --> 00:03:05,685 a great guy.
I called him when we moved here,

55

00:03:05,768 --> 00:03:07,645 and we couldn't find anybody good around locally.

56

00:03:07,729 --> 00:03:10,481
I said, "Allen, what would you think about moving out here?"

57

00:03:10,565 --> 00:03:12,192
I said, "I'll give you a place to stay

58

00:03:12,275 --> 00:03:15,278 and you just take care of the park.

Be a handyman for me."

59

00:03:15,653 --> 00:03:18,573 [man] When I first got to the zoo, I didn't know anything about the zoo.

60

00:03:18,656 --> 00:03:20,533 I don't think I've ever really been to one, so...

61 00:03:20,617 --> 00:03:21,534 [chuckles]

62

00:03:21,618 --> 00:03:24,329
Jeff said, "I'll give you money
and a place to live and whatnot,"

63 > --> 0

00:03:24,412 --> 00:03:26,372 so I was like,
"I'll take him up on his offer."

64

00:03:27,415 --> 00:03:29,876 [Lowe] Allen was kind of a transient all of his life.

65

00:03:29,959 --> 00:03:31,836 Great worker and very, very loyal.

66

00:03:31,920 --> 00:03:32,837 [man] Let it down.

67

00:03:34,380 --> 00:03:36,633 [Glover] I went to prison when I just turned 18.

68

00:03:37,091 --> 00:03:38,301 Did my time for that.

69

70

00:03:41,679 --> 00:03:43,056 but... moving on with life.

71

00:03:43,139 --> 00:03:45,642 -[Glover] Let's go. -[man] I've got the primate kennel.

72

00:03:46,226 --> 00:03:48,228

[Lowe] We were doing okay the first year,

73

00:03:48,311 --> 00:03:50,021 and we made some improvements

74

00:03:50,104 --> 00:03:52,607 that Joe didn't have the resources to make.

75

76

00:03:56,736 --> 00:03:59,072 but they required a lot of money.

77

00:03:59,155 --> 00:04:01,366 So, we met this guy named James Garretson

78

00:04:01,449 --> 00:04:03,868 through Joe, who I trusted.

79

00:04:04,953 --> 00:04:06,955
He had some pretty lucrative strip clubs

80

00:04:07,038 --> 00:04:08,706 and restaurants and bars.

81

00:04:12,126 --> 00:04:14,629
[man] Done a little of everything.
I've been in the bar business.

82

00:04:14,712 --> 00:04:17,131 I ran strip clubs. Worked in the circus.

83

00:04:18,341 --> 00:04:19,676
You name it, I've done it.

84

00:04:21,135 --> 00:04:23,096 I got into cats when I was about 17.

00:04:23,179 --> 00:04:26,266

Bought a lion cub

out of the Dallas morning newspaper.

86

00:04:26,349 --> 00:04:27,684 Been around them ever since.

87

00:04:29,811 --> 00:04:30,645 [tiger yowling]

88

00:04:30,728 --> 00:04:32,897 [Garretson]

I've known Joe a span of about 20 years.

89

00:04:34,565 --> 00:04:37,026

Not great friends with him, but friendly.

an

00:04:38,778 --> 00:04:41,030

He introduced me
to a gentleman named Jeff Lowe,

91

00:04:41,572 --> 00:04:43,741 and then that's when me and Jeff became friendly,

92

00:04:43,825 --> 00:04:47,829 and then Jeff talked me into giving him \$14,000 to open a pizza restaurant.

93

00:04:47,912 --> 00:04:50,290 [Joe] You can sit down on the patio

94

00:04:50,373 --> 00:04:52,208 right next to real-life tigers,

95

 $00:04:52,292 \longrightarrow 00:04:55,503$ and you can have some of the best pizza

96

00:04:55,586 --> 00:04:57,088 that I make from scratch.

97

00:04:57,171 --> 00:04:58,923

And that's a Joe Exotic promise.

98

00:05:01,134 --> 00:05:03,720 [Garretson]

He used the Walmart donation program

99

00:05:03,803 --> 00:05:04,929 to lower the food cost.

100

00:05:05,763 --> 00:05:07,348 [Reinke] They have the best pizza here.

101

00:05:08,474 --> 00:05:10,643 [man] Do you think most of the meat was from Walmart?

102

00:05:10,727 --> 00:05:11,853 Yeah.

103

00:05:11,936 --> 00:05:13,980 [Reinke] Mmm. Mmm, mmm, mmm.

104

00:05:15,148 --> 00:05:18,401
[Garretson] Joe was always trying to be bigger than what he was, you know,

105

00:05:19,068 --> 00:05:20,903 and that's just how Joe does business.

106

00:05:21,404 --> 00:05:22,780
Joe told me several times.

107

00:05:23,197 --> 00:05:26,367

He says... [as Joe] "People don't come to see the tigers. They come to see me."

108

00:05:27,869 --> 00:05:30,455
Joe was the entertainment director...

109

00:05:31,289 --> 00:05:32,290 by title.

00:05:34,042 --> 00:05:36,669

Even though

Jeff was the owner of the park,

111

 $00:05:36,753 \longrightarrow 00:05:38,796$ Joe was the star of the show.

112

 $00:05:40,256 \longrightarrow 00:05:41,758$ Jeff was the star of his show,

113

00:05:41,966 --> 00:05:44,344 so which one was gonna rule this world?

114

 $00:05:45,011 \longrightarrow 00:05:48,097$ Joe Exotic is how many people know him.

115

00:05:48,181 --> 00:05:51,476

He mailed off this form to the federal election commission last Friday,

116

00:05:51,559 --> 00:05:54,896 announcing his intent to run for president as an independent.

117

00:05:55,480 --> 00:05:56,981 Mic check. Check, check, check.

118

00:05:57,065 --> 00:05:58,232 [man] Whenever you're ready.

119

00:06:00,318 --> 00:06:01,319

Brr!

120

00:06:02,487 --> 00:06:05,198 Hello, America. Let's see, fuck this.

121

 $00:06:06,366 \longrightarrow 00:06:08,117$ Hello, ladies and gentlemen of America.

122

00:06:08,201 --> 00:06:09,327 Let's try that again.

 $00:06:09,410 \longrightarrow 00:06:11,412$ Hey, can you shut that off for a minute!

124

00:06:11,954 --> 00:06:15,291 When he said he was gonna run, for president, it about floored me.

125

00:06:15,375 --> 00:06:17,210 I said, "Holy crap, man."

126

00:06:17,752 --> 00:06:20,838
"I got a chance. I got a chance."
He actually thought he had a chance.

127

00:06:20,922 --> 00:06:23,883 He didn't have a chance. He ain't got a chance in hell.

128

00:06:24,425 --> 00:06:28,304

Joe Exotic for the people of America.

How was that?

129

00:06:31,724 --> 00:06:33,226 [man] Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump

130

00:06:33,309 --> 00:06:36,813 are among the most disliked presidential candidates in history.

131

00:06:36,896 --> 00:06:41,526
And... and luckily, there are a great many third-party options out there.

132

00:06:41,609 --> 00:06:44,404
There's independent write-in candidate
Joe Exotic,

133

00:06:44,487 --> 00:06:47,990 who claims to run the world's largest private zoo for tigers

 $00:06:48,074 \longrightarrow 00:06:51,411$ and produces incredible campaign videos.

135

00:06:51,494 --> 00:06:53,121 I'm not changing the way I dress.

136

00:06:53,204 --> 00:06:54,622 I refuse to wear a suit.

137

00:06:54,705 --> 00:06:55,998 I am gay.

138

00:06:56,082 --> 00:06:57,792 I am broke as shit.

139

00:06:57,875 --> 00:07:01,295

I have a judgment against me
from some bitch down there in Florida.

140

00:07:01,379 --> 00:07:06,008

And this is all paid for by the committee of Joe Exotic Speaks for America.

141

00:07:06,092 --> 00:07:07,343 -[applause] -Wow.

142

00:07:08,136 --> 00:07:09,762 Just wow.

143

00:07:09,846 --> 00:07:10,930 [applause]

144

00:07:11,013 --> 00:07:13,057
Joe Exotic is truly the candidate

145

00:07:13,141 --> 00:07:15,351 you'd want to sit down and have a beer with,

146

00:07:15,435 --> 00:07:18,062 then another beer,

and then several more beers

147

00:07:18,146 --> 00:07:20,606 until you're drunk enough to try meth for the first time.

148

00:07:21,315 --> 00:07:23,901

[Garretson]

Whenever that clip went to John Oliver,

149

00:07:24,402 --> 00:07:25,695 Joe got a big head.

150

 $00:07:25,778 \longrightarrow 00:07:27,363$ Even though they were making fun of him,

151

00:07:27,947 --> 00:07:30,408 Joe... was the star.

152

00:07:31,784 --> 00:07:34,495
Everybody was adding him on Facebook and stuff,

153

00:07:34,579 --> 00:07:36,998 so he thought he was a celebrity from that point on.

154

00:07:37,081 --> 00:07:39,876
Is America ready for the first redneck,

155

00:07:39,959 --> 00:07:45,423 gun-toting, mullet-sporting, tiger-tackling, gay polygamist president?

156

00:07:45,506 --> 00:07:47,884 You know, I think they are.

157

00:07:47,967 --> 00:07:50,344 I'm outspoken, good-looking.

158

00:07:50,428 --> 00:07:51,262 Mm-hmm.

00:07:51,345 --> 00:07:53,764 -I love to party and have fun. [laughs] -Hello.

160

00:07:53,848 --> 00:07:55,975
-Let's go blow some shit up.
-Blow some shit up?

161

00:07:56,392 --> 00:07:59,437

Anybody that wants to threaten an American citizen

162

00:07:59,520 --> 00:08:01,105 -by cutting their head off... -Yeah?

163

00:08:01,189 --> 00:08:03,274 ...deserves this kind of treatment.

164

00:08:04,525 --> 00:08:08,112 [man] We're getting a good look at your national defense program.

165

00:08:08,654 --> 00:08:10,281 [Joe] When he's ready, Travis.

166

00:08:10,364 --> 00:08:11,908
-[loud explosion]
-[Joe] Ahh!

167

00:08:12,950 --> 00:08:13,951 [Travis] Whoo!

168

00:08:15,203 --> 00:08:17,955
That's how we take care of ISIS right there, buddy.

169

00:08:18,039 --> 00:08:20,833 -[man] Dude, that went right through me. -[Joe laughing]

00:08:21,667 --> 00:08:25,004
I was Joe's campaign manager
for about a year and half.

171

00:08:25,087 --> 00:08:28,508 Uh, it was

the worst experience of my life.

172

00:08:28,591 --> 00:08:30,593 It was horrible. Horrible, horrible.

173

00:08:33,387 --> 00:08:36,307 [shudders, coughs]

174

00:08:36,390 --> 00:08:38,351

I'd like to introduce my friend today.

175

00:08:38,476 --> 00:08:41,354 [Dial] Joe Exotic for president was 100%

176

00:08:41,437 --> 00:08:44,273 a complete and total publicity stunt.

177

00:08:44,357 --> 00:08:47,235
 It was all about outrage.
Get as much views as possible.

178

00:08:47,610 --> 00:08:49,570 I'm as gay as a three-dollar bill,

179

00:08:49,654 --> 00:08:53,241 and I'm standing in a cage with five full grown tigers and lions, and I...

180

00:08:53,324 --> 00:08:58,538
When that fell apart...
he decides to run for governor.

181

00:08:58,955 --> 00:09:00,164

Next best thing.

182

 $00:09:00,248 \longrightarrow 00:09:02,542$

I think his exact words were,

183

00:09:02,625 --> 00:09:06,754
"I couldn't wait another four years,
so I decided to run for governor."

184

 $00:09:07,505 \longrightarrow 00:09:09,382$ When I got the job offer to work for Joe,

185

00:09:09,465 --> 00:09:11,926 I was like, "You know, what's the job?"

186

00:09:12,009 --> 00:09:14,011
He said campaign manager,
and I was like, "Holy shit,

187

 $00:09:14,095 \longrightarrow 00:09:15,721$ that's my dream job. I'm going to take it.

188

00:09:15,805 --> 00:09:17,265 I don't care what he is."

189

00:09:17,348 --> 00:09:21,102

And I already knew he was bat shit crazy from our conversations at Walmart.

190

00:09:21,978 --> 00:09:23,854 I was a manager at Walmart at the time,

191

 $00:09:23,980 \longrightarrow 00:09:26,482$ and I worked at the ammo section,

192

00:09:26,566 --> 00:09:30,278 and he'd come in and buy bullets, you know, like, every day damn near.

193

00:09:30,361 --> 00:09:34,073 Tannerite, which is something you can shoot and it explodes.

194

00:09:35,449 --> 00:09:38,035 [Joe] I'm using nothing more

```
than what I can buy legally
```

 $00:09:38,119 \longrightarrow 00:09:40,079$ over the counter at any gun shop.

196

00:09:40,162 --> 00:09:41,247 [loud explosion]

197

00:09:42,832 --> 00:09:44,542 [loud explosion]

198

00:09:46,085 --> 00:09:48,754
I know a lot more than he knew about politics,

199

 $00:09:48,838 \longrightarrow 00:09:50,840$ and that was my main value to him.

200

00:09:51,465 --> 00:09:53,384 [reporter]
Primary elections are next month...

201

00:09:53,467 --> 00:09:56,804 [man] Joe Exotic for governor, he thought he was going to win.

202

00:09:56,971 --> 00:09:58,973 [reporter]

...could become our state's next governor.

203

00:09:59,056 --> 00:10:02,852 [interviewer] What did people think of Joe running for governor?

204

00:10:03,394 --> 00:10:04,979 -Locally? -Yeah.

205

00:10:05,062 --> 00:10:07,315 It was a source of entertainment.

206

00:10:07,398 --> 00:10:08,816

[woman] You are a political anomaly,

207

00:10:08,899 --> 00:10:12,486 and on Twitter, you know, you're not afraid to respond to viewers

208

00:10:12,570 --> 00:10:13,988 with expletives.

209

00:10:14,071 --> 00:10:16,866 Guess what, motherfucker, even the day is...

210

211

00:10:19,201 --> 00:10:22,455 there's a lot of glad-handing, there's a lot of baby kissing.

212

00:10:22,538 --> 00:10:27,126
 Joe passed out condoms
 with his face on them.

213

00:10:27,209 --> 00:10:28,878 [Joe] Political condoms.

214

00:10:28,961 --> 00:10:31,464
Vote for me, or you need this
'cause you're screwed.

215

00:10:31,547 --> 00:10:35,301 [Corkill] And of course, if you put it to social media, the comments are endless.

216

00:10:35,718 --> 00:10:38,554 Probably got more hits talking about him

217

00:10:38,638 --> 00:10:41,599 than really than content of everyone else who was running.

00:10:42,308 --> 00:10:43,601 It's more entertainment.

219

00:10:44,393 --> 00:10:46,270 [Joe] What are you doing?

220

00:10:46,354 --> 00:10:48,064 -[man] Watch it. -[Joe] We had nothing to...

221

00:10:48,481 --> 00:10:50,441 [Joe laughs]

222

00:10:50,524 --> 00:10:51,651 Watch your back.

223

00:10:52,276 --> 00:10:54,320 [Joe murmurs, laughs]

224

00:10:54,945 --> 00:10:57,073 What a wild interview!

225

00:10:57,156 --> 00:10:59,158
This is one of my stranger interviews.

226

00:10:59,241 --> 00:11:03,371 [Dial] Joe was running for governor of Oklahoma as a Libertarian.

227

00:11:03,454 --> 00:11:06,374 ...Joe Maldonado aka Joe Exotic.

228

 $00:11:06,457 \longrightarrow 00:11:08,459$ He had no idea what a Libertarian is.

229

00:11:08,876 --> 00:11:11,045

He still has no idea

what a Libertarian is.

230

00:11:11,128 --> 00:11:12,755 I'd like to introduce my wife,

00:11:12,838 --> 00:11:15,424 but my husband's at home feeding my brand-new baby kangaroo.

232

00:11:15,508 --> 00:11:16,801 Always wanted to say that.

233

00:11:18,302 --> 00:11:19,970 [laughs]

234

00:11:20,054 --> 00:11:23,766
Our eventual platform was my platform,

235

00:11:23,849 --> 00:11:27,728 and that was less government, less spending, less bills.

236

00:11:28,521 --> 00:11:32,983
There's two laws that they're introducing into Congress this year to try and pass.

237

 $00:11:33,067 \longrightarrow 00:11:35,194$ One of them's the Big Cat Safety Act.

238

 $00:11:35,277 \longrightarrow 00:11:37,113$ The only problem is it's all a fraud.

239

00:11:37,196 --> 00:11:39,198

Just spending millions trying to decide

240

00:11:39,281 --> 00:11:42,118
whether or not I should own
 a fucking tiger or not?

241

00:11:42,702 --> 00:11:44,120 This is my way of living

242

 $00:11:44,203 \longrightarrow 00:11:46,330$ and nobody's gonna tell me any other way.

00:11:48,958 --> 00:11:51,919
[Carole] The only people who opposed the Big Cat Public Safety Act

244

00:11:52,002 --> 00:11:56,006 are those who are breeding these cubs and using them as pay-to-play props.

245

00:11:57,174 --> 00:11:59,427 This is a sweeping federal bill.

246

00:11:59,510 --> 00:12:00,928
It will cover all of those states,

247

00:12:01,011 --> 00:12:05,599
and nobody will be allowed to be keeping
these big cats as pets any longer,

248

00:12:05,683 --> 00:12:07,977 or breeding them, or using them as pay-to-play props.

249

00:12:08,436 --> 00:12:09,770 [Joe] You want to know how come

250

00:12:09,854 --> 00:12:13,733 these people can get everything that they want introduced into law?

251

00:12:14,817 --> 00:12:18,404
Carole Baskin and Howard Baskin
spend most of their time and money...

252

00:12:19,780 --> 00:12:21,741 sucking ass to the politicians.

253

00:12:23,784 --> 00:12:26,245 [Antle] They wanna take it all away from us.

254

00:12:26,328 --> 00:12:30,541 This seems entirely un-American, entirely unconstitutional to me.

00:12:31,333 --> 00:12:35,421
[Antle] Doc Antle brought exotic cats
 into the halls of Congress,

256

00:12:35,504 --> 00:12:39,175 because if you can get somebody to sit down and pet a cheetah

257

00:12:39,258 --> 00:12:41,343
and have their picture made,
 then when I come in there

258

00:12:41,427 --> 00:12:44,180
and say, "This is really cruel,
 and that's why it's cruel,"

259

00:12:44,263 --> 00:12:45,514 they've already done it,

260

261

00:12:47,641 --> 00:12:49,101 people are gonna say I'm a hypocrite."

262

00:12:49,185 --> 00:12:51,187
And so, our opponents are really smart

263

00:12:51,270 --> 00:12:53,272 in the way that they get out there ahead of us

264

00:12:53,355 --> 00:12:54,815 in a way that we just can't.

265

00:12:54,899 --> 00:13:00,905

I mean, we're not gonna take wild animals into public buildings to make our point.

266

00:13:03,407 --> 00:13:05,951

[announcer] Watch this ride, Johnny!

267

00:13:06,035 --> 00:13:07,495 Here's your bumper sticker.

268

00:13:07,953 --> 00:13:09,497 I'm running for governor.

269

00:13:09,580 --> 00:13:11,457
Put a bumper sticker on the horse

270

00:13:11,540 --> 00:13:13,876 and let's keep the animal rights people out of Oklahoma.

271

00:13:13,959 --> 00:13:15,169 [man laughing]

272

00:13:15,252 --> 00:13:16,253
Want a free shirt?

273

00:13:16,962 --> 00:13:18,881 We're gonna change this state.

274

 $00:13:18,964 \longrightarrow 00:13:21,801$ It's time that somebody as broke as me and you get in there.

275

 $00:13:23,135 \longrightarrow 00:13:25,387$ Joe, he had a lot of charisma.

276

00:13:25,471 --> 00:13:29,225 Uh, anyone that I could get him in front of, we had their vote.

277

00:13:29,308 --> 00:13:30,476 [overlapping chatter]

278

00:13:30,559 --> 00:13:31,977 Do you still have the exotic farm?

00:13:32,061 --> 00:13:35,314 Yep, yep. Up to 227 tigers.

280

00:13:35,397 --> 00:13:37,316 I got 22 coming in on Sunday.

281

00:13:38,442 --> 00:13:39,693 -It's huge. -I have to see it.

282

00:13:39,777 --> 00:13:41,070 It is huge. Do!

283

00:13:41,153 --> 00:13:42,947 -Pleasure seeing you. -Good seeing you.

284

00:13:43,030 --> 00:13:45,032 I'll give it to her. I'll give it to her.

285

00:13:45,866 --> 00:13:48,953 [Lowe] Joe thought that his political aspirations

286

00:13:49,036 --> 00:13:51,705 would lead to more business at the park,

287

00:13:51,789 --> 00:13:53,415 which it didn't, you know, of course.

288

00:13:53,499 --> 00:13:56,418
It actually-- I think it hurt us more than anything else.

289

00:13:58,003 --> 00:14:01,298
And he had signs up on the gift shop,
he was gonna run for president in 2020.

290

00:14:01,799 --> 00:14:04,051
And I made him take those down.
I said, "You know what?

00:14:04,134 --> 00:14:06,512
The park isn't gonna fund
your political campaign,

292

00:14:06,595 --> 00:14:09,139
and I think it's time to focus
 back on the animals."

293

00:14:09,223 --> 00:14:11,600
[Joe] Just get the front on them,
 is all we need first.

294

00:14:11,684 --> 00:14:12,601 [woman] You guys lift.

295

00:14:12,685 --> 00:14:14,103 [grunting]

296

00:14:14,645 --> 00:14:16,188 -Don't jam it. -Drop back.

297

00:14:16,272 --> 00:14:17,731 [Lowe] Joe turned into a little bitch

298

00:14:18,399 --> 00:14:23,237 and started griping and complaining about Allen every fucking day.

299

00:14:23,612 --> 00:14:25,447 When I first met Joe...

300

00:14:25,781 --> 00:14:27,491 things were all right, I guess,

301

 $00:14:27,575 \longrightarrow 00:14:29,743$ and then it turned like to shit quick.

302

00:14:30,828 --> 00:14:33,831
[Lowe] Joe would ask him to do something,
 and if Allen thought it was stupid,

00:14:33,914 --> 00:14:36,625 he'd say, "Fuck you, Joe. I don't work for you. I work for Jeff."

> 304 00:14:37,209 --> 00:14:39,295 So Joe calls me up. "Allen was telling me..."

305 00:14:39,378 --> 00:14:41,380 Well I said, "Well, technically he does work for me.

306 00:14:41,463 --> 00:14:42,631 He doesn't work for you."

307 00:14:43,007 --> 00:14:46,468 I think Joe thought that I put Allen here as a plant

308 00:14:46,552 --> 00:14:48,554 to report back to me what was going on.

309 00:14:48,846 --> 00:14:51,473 Tell them if I have to come in there one more time

310 00:14:51,557 --> 00:14:53,726 and tell 'em to answer that radio, they're going home.

311 00:14:54,560 --> 00:14:55,978 Goldilocks bitch.

312 00:14:57,104 --> 00:14:59,607 [Lowe] Allen calls me and says, "I'm cutting some trees down today

313 00:14:59,690 --> 00:15:00,566 and Joe's behind me."

314 00:15:00,649 --> 00:15:02,943 He says, "Is it okay if I dropped a chainsaw on him?"

00:15:03,027 --> 00:15:05,487 Allen wanted to take Joe out. He hated him that much.

316

00:15:06,071 --> 00:15:07,156 Fucking...

317

00:15:08,240 --> 00:15:10,034 Unimaginable, man, he was hateful.

318

00:15:10,117 --> 00:15:12,786 Communication! Stay alive!

319

00:15:12,870 --> 00:15:14,496 [Glover] Call you names over the radio.

320

00:15:14,580 --> 00:15:16,749 It did-- Not just me. Anybody.

321

00:15:16,832 --> 00:15:19,585 God damn, girl. Feed the goddamn animals!

322

00:15:19,668 --> 00:15:22,755

Never in my life ever
put up with anything like that.

323

 $00:15:22,838 \longrightarrow 00:15:24,381$ And I've worked for quite a few people.

324

00:15:25,925 --> 00:15:27,509 He tops it off.

325

00:15:27,593 --> 00:15:28,469 Ready?

326

00:15:28,761 --> 00:15:31,180
[Saffery] There was just a lot of
 burned bridges, man.

327

00:15:31,972 --> 00:15:33,015

You got sound?

328

00:15:33,390 --> 00:15:35,893

The fucking staff
tried to get me killed in a cage.

329

00:15:36,393 --> 00:15:40,522
Hello, ladies and gentlemen,
and welcome to video message number 113.

330

00:15:40,606 --> 00:15:42,441 They put cologne on my shoes.

331

 $00:15:44,068 \longrightarrow 00:15:45,778$ [Lowe] We heard that Joe was

332

00:15:45,861 --> 00:15:48,822 out in the arena while he was filming one of his stupid campaign videos.

333

00:15:48,906 --> 00:15:51,575

And this cat was sniffing his shoes and sniffing his shoes.

334

00:15:51,659 --> 00:15:52,952 Okay, well first of all,

335

00:15:53,035 --> 00:15:55,245 you haven't recognized the rest of us 40 people

336

00:15:55,329 --> 00:15:56,205 that are running.

337

00:15:56,330 --> 00:15:58,791
She was just fascinated by his shoes that day.

338

 $00:15:58,874 \longrightarrow 00:16:02,169$ And the list goes on. Ow, son of a bitch!

339

00:16:10,552 --> 00:16:12,137

God damn you!

340

00:16:13,597 --> 00:16:14,556 [gunshot]

341

00:16:15,557 --> 00:16:18,227
[Carole] Here's all these people filming
Joe being dragged around,

342

 $00:16:18,310 \longrightarrow 00:16:20,646$ and nobody's going in there to rescue him.

343

00:16:20,729 --> 00:16:21,981
Get down! Go!

344

00:16:22,523 --> 00:16:23,607 -[gunshot] -Get!

345

00:16:26,819 --> 00:16:28,821 Ain't nobody help me. Nobody.

346

00:16:28,904 --> 00:16:31,323 Get out of here, you bitch!

347

00:16:33,742 --> 00:16:35,160 [Lowe] He came out with a story.

348

00:16:35,619 --> 00:16:40,290 "Somebody put something on my shoes to get that cat to attack me."

349

00:16:41,458 --> 00:16:44,586
I'm gonna shoot you right between the fucking eyes, bitch.

350

 $00:16:45,337 \longrightarrow 00:16:48,382$ What scent makes a liger attack your shoe?

351

00:16:48,966 --> 00:16:51,301
 I were gonna... you know,
if somebody wanted to kill you,

00:16:51,385 --> 00:16:55,139 then they would put, like... sardine oil all over you.

353

00:16:55,222 --> 00:16:58,600
Something the cat wants to eat,
not something the cat wants to drool on.

354

00:16:58,684 --> 00:17:01,520 'Cause the perfume, that's all they want to do, is just drool all over it.

355

00:17:01,603 --> 00:17:03,814 They're just like... [moans, laughs]

356

00:17:04,440 --> 00:17:07,317 [Lowe] All of the confusion that the Carole Baskin lawsuits

357

00:17:07,401 --> 00:17:10,362 were causing him, and all the money it was costing him...

358

00:17:11,196 --> 00:17:12,656 Somebody like Joe just goes crazy.

359

00:17:13,907 --> 00:17:16,285 His mood swings were significant.

360

00:17:16,368 --> 00:17:17,661 I don't give a shit.

361

00:17:17,911 --> 00:17:19,955
Next time you're in jail
 and you're homeless,

362

00:17:20,039 --> 00:17:21,457 be sure you don't call me.

363

00:17:23,500 --> 00:17:26,086 -You wanna see how crazy...

-[Finlay] He didn't care who he hurt.

364

00:17:26,962 --> 00:17:28,672 He didn't care who he stepped on.

365

00:17:28,756 --> 00:17:30,758 Okay, don't-- This is my fucking...

366

00:17:30,883 --> 00:17:32,468 [Reinke] Yeah, Joe was very controlling.

367

00:17:33,052 --> 00:17:35,929

If John Finlay went to visit his brother in Texas, or anything like that,

368

00:17:36,013 --> 00:17:37,723 he... didn't want him to go.

369

00:17:37,931 --> 00:17:39,725
If he went, he wanted him back the same day.

370

00:17:40,392 --> 00:17:42,102 I don't know how much love was involved,

371

00:17:42,186 --> 00:17:44,605 but I'm sure it was the cars that he bought John Finlay,

372

00:17:44,688 --> 00:17:45,981 the guns he bought John Finlay,

373

 $00:17:46,065 \longrightarrow 00:17:47,649$ the four-wheelers he bought John Finlay.

374

00:17:48,275 --> 00:17:51,361 This gun right here, Joe bought for me.

375

00:17:51,779 --> 00:17:53,864 I mean, I like pink camo. 00:17:53,947 --> 00:17:56,283
Lot of people make fun of me for it,
but you know what...

377

00:17:56,992 --> 00:17:58,827
it's just something I like.

378

00:18:00,120 --> 00:18:03,791

He was...

showering me with gifts and stuff.

379

00:18:05,167 --> 00:18:06,752 He bought me a truck.

380

00:18:06,835 --> 00:18:09,797
Actually bought me, like,
four or five different trucks.

381

00:18:09,880 --> 00:18:11,590 If they wanted it, they got it.

382

 $00:18:11,673 \longrightarrow 00:18:13,383$ I mean, all they had to do was ask,

383

00:18:13,467 --> 00:18:15,969 and I think that's how he kept them close to him.

384

00:18:17,179 --> 00:18:20,224
John and Travis were both 19
 when they met Joe...

385

00:18:20,891 --> 00:18:22,392 and at 19 years old, man,

386

00:18:22,476 --> 00:18:26,355 the one thing that a 19-year-old guy wants to do is party,

387

00:18:26,438 --> 00:18:29,066 have fun, live it up. You know, no tomorrows.

```
388
```

00:18:30,651 --> 00:18:32,528

[Joe]

Travis, he didn't really work at the zoo,

389

00:18:32,611 --> 00:18:34,613
he just rode his four-wheelers
and shot his guns

390

00:18:34,696 --> 00:18:36,448 at the lake and the river.

391

00:18:38,575 --> 00:18:41,578
Travis was a pothead from hell, and--

392

00:18:41,662 --> 00:18:42,996 Which-- Who cares, you know,

393

00:18:43,080 --> 00:18:45,249 that's all Travis had in his life.

394

395

 $00:18:49,169 \longrightarrow 00:18:51,463$ and Joe kept him pumped full of weed

396

00:18:51,547 --> 00:18:55,676 to keep him from waking up and realizing this isn't a life to live.

397

00:18:57,344 --> 00:18:58,387 [laughs]

398

00:18:59,054 --> 00:19:03,642 [man humming]

399

00:19:03,725 --> 00:19:06,019 I knew there was drug use going on...

400

00:19:06,687 --> 00:19:09,064

because of statements made by John and Joe.

401 00:19:09,148 --> 00:19:11,024 Oh, girls!

402

00:19:11,108 --> 00:19:14,027
 I've always been worried
about you being a spy. Run!

403

00:19:14,111 --> 00:19:15,696
-[women] No, don't-- Ahh!
-[gunshot]

404

00:19:15,779 --> 00:19:17,322 [Joe] I've had my days of coke.

405

00:19:17,406 --> 00:19:19,074 I had my days of drinking.

406

00:19:19,158 --> 00:19:21,243 I had my days of meth.

407

00:19:21,326 --> 00:19:23,579 And this is my mother-in-law. Run!

408

00:19:23,662 --> 00:19:25,080 [laughter]

409

00:19:29,501 --> 00:19:31,003 [Rhodes] One thing that meth does:

410

411

00:19:35,007 --> 00:19:37,009 We call it meth mouth.

412

 $00:19:38,302 \longrightarrow 00:19:42,389$ Meth was the main one that we did.

00:19:42,890 --> 00:19:44,892
It was starting to really fuck me up in the head.

414

00:19:45,726 --> 00:19:48,645
I mean, I'm still kinda fucked up
 in the head from it now.

415

00:19:50,314 --> 00:19:51,648 When Travis came around,

416

00:19:52,566 --> 00:19:54,151 Travis would smoke his meth.

417

00:19:59,948 --> 00:20:03,452
I guess Joe was smart enough
when he walked up and seen a young boy.

418

00:20:03,535 --> 00:20:05,579 "Hey, he's on meth.

419

00:20:05,662 --> 00:20:08,123 Come here. I'll provide your meth.

420

00:20:08,207 --> 00:20:11,376
I'll give you everything
if you come over here and marry me."

421

00:20:11,460 --> 00:20:13,879 You know. So I guess that's how Joe did it.

422

00:20:14,254 --> 00:20:16,423 [Garretson] Travis, he would always say

423

00:20:16,506 --> 00:20:18,300 that he wanted to go to the strip bar with us,

424

00:20:18,383 --> 00:20:20,552 but he said Joe would freak out if he left the property.

00:20:20,636 --> 00:20:23,388

I mean, he told me with his own mouth that he wasn't gay.

426

00:20:24,056 --> 00:20:28,310
I told Joe at least three times
Travis was not gay, okay?

427

00:20:28,393 --> 00:20:31,146 Travis was banging every girl in the park,

428

429

430

00:20:37,069 --> 00:20:39,321
I've been sleeping with the girl
 at the front desk,

431

00:20:39,404 --> 00:20:41,198 and we're going off to get married."

432

00:20:42,616 --> 00:20:45,869 All through school, I was dating girls.

433

00:20:46,453 --> 00:20:48,664 From the time of kindergarten till I graduated,

434

00:20:48,747 --> 00:20:51,500 I had a girlfriend... every time.

435

00:20:52,626 --> 00:20:57,756

He actually slept with the secretary,

Amber, there at the zoo.

436

00:20:58,090 --> 00:21:01,551

And Joe was pretty close to Amber because she'd been around for a long time.

437

00:21:01,635 --> 00:21:03,929 [indistinct speech]

438

00:21:04,012 --> 00:21:05,889 [Joe] He left me for a girl,

439

00:21:05,973 --> 00:21:08,267 and the hardest part I had in dealing with that was...

00:21:08,350 --> 00:21:10,519 I can't compete with that, you know?

441

00:21:10,602 --> 00:21:13,313 Leave me for a man and we're game on, okay?

442

00:21:13,397 --> 00:21:15,399 But leave me for a woman, I can't compete with that.

443

00:21:16,191 --> 00:21:18,777 Come to find out John Finlay got her pregnant, so...

444

00:21:20,153 --> 00:21:21,405 I've seen a few fights.

445

00:21:22,572 --> 00:21:25,701 I think the saving grace in that situation was Travis.

446

00:21:26,201 --> 00:21:28,996 You know, Joe wasn't alone. Joe still had Travis.

447

00:21:29,621 --> 00:21:31,957

[Dial]

Neither Travis nor John Finlay were gay,

00:21:32,624 --> 00:21:34,084 and Joe admitted that to me.

449

00:21:34,167 --> 00:21:36,378
Fell in love with straight guys,

450

00:21:36,461 --> 00:21:39,548 because there's not too many gay guys in Wynnewood, Oklahoma.

451

00:21:41,508 --> 00:21:44,177
You guys edit this shit.
I want you to show it to him.

452

00:21:45,137 --> 00:21:46,763 He maybe asks me what's wrong,

453

00:21:46,847 --> 00:21:49,933 but he only spends five seconds listening, and then he'll walk out on me.

454

00:21:51,059 --> 00:21:53,061 [loud banging]

455

00:21:54,604 --> 00:21:55,772 Pretty fucking sad.

456

00:21:55,856 --> 00:21:58,567
He doesn't give a fuck about
any of my problems, like...

457

00:22:01,028 --> 00:22:03,113 Is he trying to make me blow my top?

458

00:22:04,406 --> 00:22:05,240 I don't know.

459

00:22:07,367 --> 00:22:08,535 I don't know what he wants.

460

00:22:10,037 --> 00:22:11,288

[tapping]

461

00:22:12,956 --> 00:22:14,833
[Dial] There are people out there.

462

00:22:14,916 --> 00:22:18,545
They will look at a person who is in desperate, dire need of something.

463

 $00:22:18,628 \longrightarrow 00:22:21,381$ In Travis's case, he was addicted to meth.

464

00:22:22,049 --> 00:22:25,677
And they take that need and they fulfill it...

465

00:22:26,094 --> 00:22:29,181 until they become the only person that can fulfill that need.

466

00:22:29,264 --> 00:22:30,557 And in exchange,

467

00:22:30,640 --> 00:22:34,686 that person gives them whatever sexual or any other favors they want.

468

00:22:35,062 --> 00:22:37,356
That's the relationship Joe had with Travis.

469

00:22:40,233 --> 00:22:41,401 -What? -[chuckles]

470

00:22:42,069 --> 00:22:43,904 -You know what? You know what? -What?

471

00:22:43,987 --> 00:22:45,030 What? [laughs]

00:22:46,406 --> 00:22:47,866 Bad dream, baby.

473

00:22:47,991 --> 00:22:49,451 That ain't even funny.

474

00:22:50,077 --> 00:22:52,162 That's not even funny.

475

00:22:55,082 --> 00:22:58,460 [Dial] Travis came into the office and started complaining to me.

476

00:23:00,712 --> 00:23:04,800

Travis was sitting underneath the camera, but it was pointing directly at me.

477

00:23:10,263 --> 00:23:13,183
He complained that there wasThat he was a prisoner,

478

00:23:13,517 --> 00:23:16,144 that he was never allowed to leave the park.

479

00:23:16,353 --> 00:23:17,771 He wasn't allowed to get a job.

480

00:23:17,854 --> 00:23:19,606 All this was true, and frankly,

481

00:23:19,689 --> 00:23:21,691 he was upset that he didn't have enough pot.

482

00:23:24,528 --> 00:23:26,113 My last cigarette before I die.

483

00:23:28,865 --> 00:23:30,909 [man] He's smoking his last cigarette before he dies.

00:23:33,120 --> 00:23:36,415
[Dial] He'd always pointed guns at people all the time out there at the park.

485

00:23:40,001 --> 00:23:42,587 Sometimes he'd wake you up pointing the gun at you.

486

00:23:42,796 --> 00:23:45,632 He'd done that to me on multiple occasions.

487

00:23:45,715 --> 00:23:48,135 So, he'd done that to me again in that office that morning

488

00:23:48,218 --> 00:23:50,554 and said, you know, "Freeze, motherfucker,"

489

00:23:50,637 --> 00:23:53,098 which is just what he did, and I told him,

490

00:23:53,181 --> 00:23:54,808 "Dude, you know not to point guns,"

491

00:23:54,891 --> 00:23:57,853
'cause I've told him before,
 don't point a gun at me,

492

 $00:23:58,103 \longrightarrow 00:23:59,646$ and he said, "Aww, man, this is a Ruger.

493

00:23:59,729 --> 00:24:02,607 There's no clip in it. You know a Ruger won't fire without a clip."

494

00:24:07,654 --> 00:24:09,698
I was sitting in the chair,
you know, looking at him

495

 $00:24:09,781 \longrightarrow 00:24:11,324$ when he put the gun to his head.

00:24:24,254 --> 00:24:25,755 [Dial] It's not like...

497

00:24:26,506 --> 00:24:27,549 on the movies.

498

00:24:31,136 --> 00:24:33,597
I knew he was dead the second
that he pulled the trigger, but...

499

00:24:35,640 --> 00:24:37,517 at the same time I didn't, you know?

500

00:24:40,020 --> 00:24:41,062 I thought it was a joke,

501

00:24:41,354 --> 00:24:42,939 because, you know, Travis was a jokester.

502

00:24:43,023 --> 00:24:45,150

He was a prankster.

He liked to play pranks on people.

503

 $00:24:47,486 \longrightarrow 00:24:49,196$ But when I showed up at the zoo that day

504

00:24:49,279 --> 00:24:51,406 to get some order going on,

505

506

00:24:54,242 --> 00:24:56,620 Uh, the ambulance is there taking care of Joe.

507

00:24:57,204 --> 00:24:59,080 Sheriff's department's got everything shut down.

00:24:59,164 --> 00:25:01,374 I mean, you had to climb-- I almost had to climb a fence

509

00:25:01,458 --> 00:25:03,502 to get in the place to find out what was going on.

510

00:25:03,585 --> 00:25:06,254 [reporter] Garvin County officials are investigating the incident...

511

00:25:06,338 --> 00:25:07,422 [Cowie] This fucking clown?

512

00:25:08,173 --> 00:25:12,344
I-- Goddamn, one of the best people.
I've... know him four years, man.

513 00:25:14,137 --> 00:25:15,680 Joy, a joy.

514

00:25:16,515 --> 00:25:19,684 Absolute joy of life.

515

516

00:25:22,145 --> 00:25:25,982
[Dial] I just kinda felt like I was attached by pain to Joe.

517

 $00:25:26,650 \longrightarrow 00:25:28,193$ Like we had a bond of pain...

518

00:25:28,652 --> 00:25:31,905 and I couldn't leave him, because of course I wanted to leave.

519

 $00:25:31,988 \longrightarrow 00:25:34,866$ You know, why do I want to come back

to the office every day that,

520

00:25:34,950 --> 00:25:37,202 you know, a horrific accident happened?

521

 $00:25:37,702 \longrightarrow 00:25:40,705$ Um, but, you know, he really loved him.

522

00:25:50,465 --> 00:25:51,883
[Joe] We're gonna try and make this

523

00:25:52,467 --> 00:25:55,220 not a day of mourning, but a day of celebration

524

00:25:55,303 --> 00:25:59,099 to celebrate the life of Travis Michael Maldonado.

525

00:26:00,600 --> 00:26:03,603 We spent the last four years of our lives together.

526

00:26:04,145 --> 00:26:05,564 I asked him every day,

527

00:26:05,647 --> 00:26:06,648 I said, "Why me?"

528

00:26:08,358 --> 00:26:12,821

And he said, "Because God put me here to make you smile, and that's my job."

529

00:26:13,655 --> 00:26:16,199
And it didn't matter how stupid he had to get...

530

00:26:17,367 --> 00:26:22,372 or if I was sittin' there concentrating as hard as I could... on the computer

531

00:26:22,455 --> 00:26:25,083

to write a letter to a senator or a congressman

532

00:26:25,166 --> 00:26:28,378 or something else, he'd come and rub them balls in my face.

533

00:26:28,461 --> 00:26:29,462 [mourners laugh]

534

00:26:30,213 --> 00:26:31,047 [clears throat]

535

00:26:31,131 --> 00:26:33,842
Everybody that works here
knows exactly what I'm talking about,

536

00:26:33,925 --> 00:26:35,176 cause you've seen his balls.

537

 $00:26:37,679 \longrightarrow 00:26:40,390$ They were like golden nuggets to that boy.

538

 $00:26:41,766 \longrightarrow 00:26:46,688$ This old town is where I want to be)

539

00:26:46,771 --> 00:26:49,316

J Is where I'm gonna be J

540

00:26:50,775 --> 00:26:54,821

I moved up here

And I took a chance here

541

00:26:54,988 --> 00:26:57,991

**Started my brother's dream **

542

00:26:59,242 --> 00:27:01,244

Ain't much left here A

543

00:27:01,369 --> 00:27:06,499

Aside from some beat up cars
And the one satellite A

00:27:08,168 --> 00:27:10,295

[woman]

He has to do dramatics, you know, drama.

545

00:27:11,421 --> 00:27:14,716

He has to do a show wherever he goes, whatever he does.

546

00:27:16,551 --> 00:27:18,720 He was even acting there.

547

00:27:20,889 --> 00:27:23,850 It's the worst thing ever in my whole life.

548

00:27:25,852 --> 00:27:27,103 My son being gone.

549

00:27:29,439 --> 00:27:31,191 I miss him greatly.

550

00:27:35,987 --> 00:27:38,990
[Joe] You know, we got married
 when he was 19 years old,

551

00:27:39,074 --> 00:27:41,743 and there was 32 years difference between us.

552

 $00:27:44,287 \longrightarrow 00:27:45,789$ Joe is a year older than me.

553

 $00:27:46,623 \longrightarrow 00:27:49,292$ And... yeah, I thought it was very odd.

554

555

00:27:54,422 --> 00:27:58,510 But if Travis was happy, I was gonna accept it, no matte, you know...

556

00:27:59,636 --> 00:28:00,470 [clears throat]

557

 $00:28:02,138 \longrightarrow 00:28:04,641$ This was right before he came to Oklahoma.

558

00:28:05,850 --> 00:28:07,102 He came to see me, and...

559

00:28:07,977 --> 00:28:09,771 see how young he is? [sniffs]

560

00:28:14,234 --> 00:28:15,402 I don't know...

561

00:28:15,819 --> 00:28:17,696 I don't know what happened.

562

00:28:18,154 --> 00:28:19,781
I don't know how he ended up with Joe.

563

00:28:21,700 --> 00:28:23,535

Joe changed when Travis shot himself.

564

00:28:23,618 --> 00:28:25,286 Joe's whole demeanor changed.

565

00:28:31,000 --> 00:28:32,293 Come on in.

566

00:28:35,547 --> 00:28:38,550 [Joe] I do this every year, Christmas and Thanksgiving.

567

00:28:40,427 --> 00:28:41,553 I've been cooking all night.

568

00:28:41,636 --> 00:28:43,638 -Yes, sir.

-Jesus.

569

00:28:44,139 --> 00:28:45,807 Please, Lord, look out for those...

570

00:28:48,143 --> 00:28:50,103 who are spending this holiday alone...

571

00:28:50,937 --> 00:28:52,147 without their loved one...

572

 $00:28:53,732 \longrightarrow 00:28:55,817$ and are going through the same rough time.

573

00:28:56,860 --> 00:28:58,862 Jesus' name, Amen.

574

00:28:58,945 --> 00:28:59,946 [crowd] Amen.

575

00:29:00,739 --> 00:29:02,991 Guys, start at this end and enjoy your meal.

576

00:29:04,242 --> 00:29:07,829
-This is the only family I ever have.
-Man, this is great. I appreciate it.

577

00:29:09,456 --> 00:29:11,708
[Joe] I am third in the polls right now out of 12.

578

00:29:11,791 --> 00:29:13,460 -[man] Oh, wow, that's good. -Yes.

579

00:29:23,720 --> 00:29:28,808
 I... have tried all day
 to hold this together.

580

00:29:40,779 --> 00:29:45,033 The local biker clubs all came

and helped me build this memorial.

581

00:29:45,116 --> 00:29:46,534 They actually built this...

582

00:29:47,160 --> 00:29:50,789 and it's got his four-wheeler and his go-cart, and...

583

00:29:51,664 --> 00:29:53,291 I had a little different vision.

584

00:29:53,374 --> 00:29:56,294
I was gonna tier step it,
and then they decided

585

00:29:56,377 --> 00:29:57,837 to do it with the rocks and concrete,

586

00:29:57,921 --> 00:30:00,006 and I actually like the way it turned out they did it.

587

00:30:00,089 --> 00:30:02,050 Built the signs and everything else.

588

00:30:03,843 --> 00:30:05,678 Every morning before I open the park,

589

00:30:05,762 --> 00:30:08,056
I sit out here with him by myself,

590

 $00:30:08,431 \longrightarrow 00:30:09,974$ and smoke a cigarette. And...

591

00:30:11,017 --> 00:30:12,227 people think I'm crazy,

592

00:30:12,310 --> 00:30:15,855
but I take pictures of the sky
 while I'm doing it.

00:30:16,439 --> 00:30:20,026
The word "hi" in clouds has floated by

594

00:30:20,109 --> 00:30:22,779
that I've got pictures of.
I've got pictures of perfect angels.

595

00:30:25,156 --> 00:30:28,117 [Lowe] It was after Travis's death that Joe really completely lost it.

596

00:30:30,036 --> 00:30:32,831

James and I would go off
into the dark spots of the park

597

00:30:32,914 --> 00:30:33,915 and talk about Joe...

598

 $00:30:34,457 \longrightarrow 00:30:37,836$ and just how bat-shit crazy he had gotten.

599

00:30:38,419 --> 00:30:40,255 And he was so devastated, and...

600

00:30:40,338 --> 00:30:41,965 cried about it for forever,

601

00:30:42,048 --> 00:30:43,675 and... he was playing this part,

602

 $00:30:43,758 \longrightarrow 00:30:45,552$ which I think he was playing a part.

603

00:30:45,635 --> 00:30:48,096
I think he probably had some onions in his pocket,

604

00:30:48,179 --> 00:30:50,974 rubbed his eyes or something. It's all bullshit.

00:30:53,351 --> 00:30:56,187 He wanted so much to support me

606

00:30:56,938 --> 00:31:00,358 in my political career running for governor of the state of Oklahoma

607

00:31:00,441 --> 00:31:06,614 because he always said, "Hon, if anybody could get the people in this state

608

00:31:06,698 --> 00:31:09,409 to love and respect each other, it would be you.

609

00:31:09,909 --> 00:31:12,912
I told Lauren, I said, "You know,
 if he wants to run this zoo,

610

00:31:12,996 --> 00:31:15,915 we have to get away from here because I'm gonna kill this guy."

611

00:31:15,999 --> 00:31:19,752
So, I said, "Let's go lease this spot
 right on Las Vegas Boulevard,

612

00:31:19,836 --> 00:31:21,754 and we'll do this there."

613

00:31:26,801 --> 00:31:27,969 [Lowe] Vegas was crazy.

614

00:31:29,721 --> 00:31:31,347 We had the big Vegas mansion,

615

00:31:31,431 --> 00:31:34,475 and we had the Vegas parties and we had tigers in our house.

616

00:31:35,310 --> 00:31:38,813
He decided he wants to stay in Vegas and try and make money out there.

00:31:39,564 --> 00:31:42,942
He talked a sponsor into buying a bus, and they called it the jungle bus.

618

00:31:43,818 --> 00:31:45,695 [Saffery] Like a party bus with animals.

619

00:31:46,362 --> 00:31:48,865
[Reinke] He could actually haul people from casino to casino

620

00:31:48,948 --> 00:31:50,909 and let them play with cubs while they're doing it.

621

00:31:55,580 --> 00:31:57,916
[Lowe] We thought it would be a good idea, but we were wrong.

622

 $00:31:58,958 \longrightarrow 00:32:00,543$ That was a big fucking mistake.

623

00:32:01,502 --> 00:32:06,382 All right, I got 15 minutes, so we gotta get them cats loaded,

624

00:32:07,008 --> 00:32:08,968 and I got to change clothes.

625

00:32:10,386 --> 00:32:11,846 [man on radio] He's right up the gate.

626

00:32:14,098 --> 00:32:16,267 The white one I named Travis,

627

00:32:16,351 --> 00:32:19,395 was born two days after Travis died.

628

00:32:22,065 --> 00:32:22,941 Come on in.

00:32:23,858 --> 00:32:26,778
I got his lamp that they made me

630

00:32:27,195 --> 00:32:30,323 that stays on 24 hours a day, and then his ash box.

631

00:32:34,535 --> 00:32:36,496 Gotta get the Prince Albert in there...

632

633

00:32:38,456 --> 00:32:39,290 Oh, hell.

634

00:32:40,500 --> 00:32:41,584 Eighteen years?

635

00:32:43,461 --> 00:32:45,588

And believe it or not,
them padlocks there on the side,

636

00:32:45,672 --> 00:32:47,382
 I wear those on the end
 of my Prince Albert.

637

00:32:47,465 --> 00:32:50,343 [man] You wear the padlocks on the--Oh, my god.

638

00:32:50,426 --> 00:32:52,095
Because they don't make a ring that big.

639

00:32:54,555 --> 00:32:56,849
[Joe] First date since Travis died.

640

00:33:01,729 --> 00:33:04,732
I'm gonna get the curls out,
'cause that's my sex appeal.

00:33:04,816 --> 00:33:06,359 [chuckles]

642

00:33:11,072 --> 00:33:12,407 A jacket for the date.

643

00:33:20,456 --> 00:33:21,290 [car door closes]

644

00:33:23,292 --> 00:33:24,168 -Excited? -What?

645

00:33:24,252 --> 00:33:25,086 Excited?

646

00:33:25,169 --> 00:33:26,087 -Yeah. -Cool.

647

00:33:26,170 --> 00:33:27,422 -[man] You ready Joe? -I'm ready.

648

00:33:28,172 --> 00:33:31,676

Now we gotta go find where the parade is 'cause that's where I gotta--

649

00:33:31,759 --> 00:33:33,886 that's where I gotta do the news thing real quick.

650

00:33:34,387 --> 00:33:36,097 I met Dillon in a chat room.

651

00:33:37,223 --> 00:33:39,934

Took me a couple days to talk him into going to dinner,

652

00:33:40,560 --> 00:33:44,689 and, you know, you can believe what you want to believe...

00:33:47,233 --> 00:33:48,484 about whether or not...

654

00:33:49,777 --> 00:33:52,905
things are sent to you
or people are sent to you or whatever,

655

00:33:53,489 --> 00:33:56,701 but we went to dinner and he never went home.

656

00:33:57,285 --> 00:33:59,620
Are you gonna ride-Where do you wanna ride in the parade?

657

00:33:59,704 --> 00:34:00,955 In with the tigers?

658

00:34:01,831 --> 00:34:02,832 -Yes.
-Do you really?

659

00:34:02,915 --> 00:34:04,459 -Yeah, that'd be cool. -Okay. Deal.

660

00:34:04,542 --> 00:34:06,044 -I'll ride with the tigers. -All right.

661

00:34:06,627 --> 00:34:07,670 If you're gonna ride here,

662

00:34:07,754 --> 00:34:10,298
 I need you to stand here
and let them get used to you.

663

00:34:10,590 --> 00:34:12,800 They're not gonna bite you. They're just babies, so. 00:34:12,884 --> 00:34:13,885 When Travis died,

665

 $00:34:13,968 \longrightarrow 00:34:15,970$ he didn't give a fuck about the campaign,

666

00:34:16,054 --> 00:34:18,097 about his family, about anything.

667

00:34:18,181 --> 00:34:22,101
All he cared about was that
 he find a companion,

668

 $00:34:22,685 \longrightarrow 00:34:24,520$ and he was not satisfied until then.

669

00:34:25,938 --> 00:34:27,732 Yeah, thanks for having me.

670

00:34:27,815 --> 00:34:30,443
When he found Dillon,
he started to bounce back.

671

00:34:30,526 --> 00:34:32,528 [laughing]

672

00:34:32,987 --> 00:34:35,323 [Passage] His energy was just so strong, you know,

673

 $00:34:35,406 \longrightarrow 00:34:37,033$ and like, when he proposed to me,

674

00:34:37,116 --> 00:34:39,118
it was one of those things
 I couldn't think about.

675

00:34:39,202 --> 00:34:41,788
 I just had to, you know-just gonna go with the flow.

676

00:34:41,871 --> 00:34:44,874

It was like, my whole life I've just overthank everything, you know?

677

00:34:45,083 --> 00:34:47,376 When he proposed, I just-- I said yes.

678

00:34:49,212 --> 00:34:52,507 [Cheryl] Two months after my son died,

679

00:34:53,132 --> 00:34:54,759 he married Dillon.

680

00:34:56,219 --> 00:34:58,096 Invited me to the wedding.

681

00:34:58,179 --> 00:34:59,889 Okay, I thought it was going to be a wedding.

682

00:34:59,972 --> 00:35:01,349
No, it was the cameraman,

683

00:35:01,891 --> 00:35:04,102 me, and... the flower girl.

684

00:35:04,977 --> 00:35:06,521 So on the social media...

685

00:35:06,604 --> 00:35:09,690
"Well, Travis's mom is fine with it,
 so everybody else should be."

686

00:35:11,067 --> 00:35:14,821
Then I didn't hear anything from him again.

687

00:35:15,279 --> 00:35:16,823 He was done with me.

688

00:35:25,039 --> 00:35:28,584 My name is Joseph Maldonado A.K.A Joe Exotic, 00:35:29,335 --> 00:35:32,380 and yes, I'm running for governor of the state of Oklahoma as well.

690

00:35:32,463 --> 00:35:35,550

I mean, not everybody gets the opportunity to see a tiger, you know,

691

00:35:35,633 --> 00:35:37,009 especially in a parade.

692

00:35:37,593 --> 00:35:41,264
They're not mine.
I don't have to, like, raise them, do I?

693

00:35:47,728 --> 00:35:49,397 [Joe] Take these bags of snow

694

00:35:49,480 --> 00:35:53,234 and kinda just fluff it up to where the lights glow.

695

00:35:53,317 --> 00:35:56,237 -No, the lights glow under it. Okay? -Oh, all right.

696

00:36:03,911 --> 00:36:05,746 [children chattering, laughing]

697

00:36:05,830 --> 00:36:07,290 [horn honks]

698

00:36:07,373 --> 00:36:10,459 [marching band playing]

699

00:36:39,405 --> 00:36:40,364 Merry Christmas.

700

00:36:41,449 --> 00:36:43,701 Let's free Oklahoma for a change.

00:36:44,327 --> 00:36:45,870 [Dial] Towards the end of the campaign,

702

00:36:45,953 --> 00:36:50,374 when I felt like we were probably surging because he started listening to advice,

703

00:36:50,458 --> 00:36:52,960 he asked,
"Josh, what are we going to do if we win?"

704

00:36:56,756 --> 00:37:00,301
Joe Exotic will make just as good
 a governor as we ever had.

705

00:37:00,384 --> 00:37:02,303
He's not afraid to say
what he wants to say,

706

00:37:02,386 --> 00:37:03,846 and do what he wants to do,

707

 $00:37:03,930 \longrightarrow 00:37:06,390$ and sorry if he steps on some toes,

708

00:37:06,474 --> 00:37:08,184 but he does it anyway, so...

709

00:37:08,267 --> 00:37:09,352 Well, who knows, you know?

710

00:37:09,435 --> 00:37:12,855 I mean, I would say stranger things have happened.

711

00:37:12,939 --> 00:37:15,024 [overlapping chatter]

712

00:37:15,775 --> 00:37:16,859 [Joe] Better mental health.

00:37:16,943 --> 00:37:18,402 Let all the potheads out of jail

714

00:37:18,486 --> 00:37:20,780 and put them crooked bastards where they belong.

715

00:37:22,490 --> 00:37:24,242 [reporter] Close to 2,000 across Oklahoma...

716

00:37:24,325 --> 00:37:27,036 We don't have this yet.

717

00:37:27,119 --> 00:37:29,163

Among those
that they are casting votes for,

718

00:37:29,247 --> 00:37:30,581 the next governor of Oklahoma.

719

00:37:30,665 --> 00:37:33,209 [man] Breaking down the numbers, Karen, let's start with you.

720

00:37:33,292 --> 00:37:34,418 What do you see numbers-wise?

721

00:37:40,675 --> 00:37:43,844 -[man] Joe, what happened tonight? -What happened tonight?

722

00:37:44,929 --> 00:37:46,055 We fucking lost.

723

00:37:46,138 --> 00:37:47,265 [laughs]

724

 $00:37:47,848 \longrightarrow 00:37:49,558$ [man] You do everything against the odds!

725

00:37:49,642 --> 00:37:52,270

I do, I do. I'm gonna jump off this fucking roof here in a minute.

726

00:37:52,353 --> 00:37:54,522 [Joe, crowd laughing]

727

00:37:54,605 --> 00:37:56,941 [man] Don't say that. We're worried about that.

728

00:37:57,817 --> 00:37:58,734 Fuck.

729

00:37:58,818 --> 00:38:00,111 [applause]

730

00:38:00,194 --> 00:38:02,863

It's been great running against you.

You've done a tremendous job,

731

00:38:02,947 --> 00:38:04,949 -and I'm glad we're friends.
-We had fun.

732

00:38:05,032 --> 00:38:07,243 -How many death threats did you get? -A couple.

733

00:38:07,326 --> 00:38:09,578 Okay, that's the sign of a successful campaign. Trust me.

734

00:38:09,662 --> 00:38:11,664 -A couple. Yeah. -It's fear.

735

00:38:14,000 --> 00:38:16,335 [Saffery] His governor campaign,

736

 $00:38:19,338 \longrightarrow 00:38:21,966$ as far as what was the priority.

738

00:38:22,591 --> 00:38:24,427 It wasn't about the animals anymore.

739

00:38:27,179 --> 00:38:29,015 Everything was falling apart,

740

 $00:38:29,682 \longrightarrow 00:38:33,352$ from finances to animal care to employees.

741

00:38:36,605 --> 00:38:38,733 [Cowie]

The passion was there, but he lost it.

742

00:38:39,483 --> 00:38:42,153
I don't know where and how he lost it,
but he lost it.

743

00:39:04,717 --> 00:39:06,093 [Dial] You could always read Joe.

744

00:39:08,304 --> 00:39:10,139 He didn't have a poker face.

745

00:39:12,975 --> 00:39:15,853 We knew something was going on.

746

00:39:18,606 --> 00:39:20,816 You know,

he was already a paranoid person...

747

00:39:21,484 --> 00:39:24,945 throwing people out, accusing them of being spies and stuff.

748

 $00:39:30,242 \longrightarrow 00:39:32,703$ But the paranoia was not unfounded.

749

00:39:35,956 --> 00:39:39,502

We found a microphone and an antenna on top of the gift shop roof.

750

00:39:40,378 --> 00:39:44,715

It was about that tall, you know,
little metallic base with a short antenna.

751

00:39:46,509 --> 00:39:48,928 I don't pretend to be a technical wizard,

752

00:39:49,011 --> 00:39:51,597 but I could tell it was a listening device.

753

00:39:52,431 --> 00:39:53,682 [Joe muttering]

754

00:39:55,101 --> 00:39:58,354
[Dial] That's when I knew that there was something serious going on.

755

00:40:01,065 --> 00:40:01,941 She told me, she says,

756

00:40:02,024 --> 00:40:04,360
"I hear Joe is under some kind
 of federal investigation."

757

 $00:40:05,027 \longrightarrow 00:40:07,571$ And I said, "What did you hear?"

758

 $00:40:07,696 \longrightarrow 00:40:09,198$ And she says, "I don't know." She says,

759

00:40:09,281 --> 00:40:11,075
"They were talking about it here one morning."

760

00:40:11,158 --> 00:40:12,952 -And that was-- Okay. -[man] I got it... 00:40:14,620 --> 00:40:16,956 Okay. All right. Okay. All right. Bye.

762

00:40:21,961 --> 00:40:23,671

-Sorry.

-[phone ringing]

763

00:40:25,297 --> 00:40:29,093 [man] So we just interviewed Jeff Lowe and the entire time,

764

00:40:29,176 --> 00:40:33,931 he had incoming calls from a federal agent over and over.

765

00:40:34,223 --> 00:40:38,269

Like, who the hell still talks to Joe that would even...

766

00:40:39,145 --> 00:40:41,313 He told me that Joe's going down,

767

00:40:41,397 --> 00:40:43,023 Joe's-- it's over for Joe.

768

00:40:43,107 --> 00:40:45,276 [woman on phone]
Oh, my god. I can't believe...

769

770

00:40:48,279 --> 00:40:50,448 but it's gotten really dark.

771

00:40:50,531 --> 00:40:52,575 [cub yowls]

772

00:40:53,534 --> 00:40:57,538 [closing music theme]





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