

**N** SERIES  
**TIGER KING**  
MURDER, MAYHEM AND MADNESS

**CREATED BY**

Rebecca Chaiklin | Eric Goode

**EPISODE 1.07**

**"Dethroned"**

Joe faces the music in the courtroom but insists the story is far from over. Jeff's business prospects crumble. Former G.W. Zoo workers try to move on.

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## CAST

Carole Baskin	...	Self - Big Cat Rescue
Joe Exotic	...	Self - G.W. Zoo
Bhagavan Antle	...	Self - Myrtle Beach Safari
Howard Baskin	...	Self - Big Cat Rescue
John Finlay	...	Self - Joe's Husband
Eric Goode	...	Self - Filmmaker
Rick Kirkham	...	Self - Producer, Joe Exotic T.V.
John Reinke	...	Self - Manager, G.W. Zoo
Kelci Saffery	...	Self - Animal Keeper, G.W. Zoo
Erik Cowie	...	Self - Head Keeper, G.W. Zoo
Sylvia Corkill	...	Self - Reporter, News 9
Jeff Lowe	...	Self - Businessman
Tim Stark	...	Self - Wildlife in Need
Joshua Dial	...	Self - Joe's Campaign Manager
James Garretson	...	Self - Businessman
Allen Glover	...	Self - Handyman, G.W. Zoo
Lauren Lowe	...	Self - Jeff's Wife
Travis Maldonado	...	Self - Joe's Husband
Dillon Passage	...	Self - Joe's Husband
Larry Rhodes	...	Self - Gavin County Oklahoma
Marc Thompson	...	Self - Joe's Security Guard
Kody Antle	...	Self - Doc's Son
Marsha David	...	Self - Employee, G.W. Zoo
Amanda Green	...	Self - Federal Prosecutor
Mark McCarthy	...	Self - Former Employee, Mario Tabraue
Brittany Peet	...	Self - Captive Animal Law Enforcement, PETA
Susan Bass	...	Self - Public Relations, Big Cat Rescue
Moksha Bybee	...	Self - Doc's Partner
Gladys Lewis Cross	...	Self - Don's Ex-Wife
Bruce David	...	Self - Contractor, G.W. Zoo
Kenny Farr	...	Self - Don's Handyman
Barbara Fisher	...	Self - Doc's Apprentice
Joseph Fritz	...	Self - Don's Attorney
Dennis Hill	...	Self - Former Exotic Animal Owner
Jeff Johnson	...	Self - Former Reptile Dealer
Robert M. Johnson	...	Self - Senior Trainer, Myrtle Beach Safari
Dale Lively	...	Self - Don's Mechanic
Cheryl Maldonado	...	Self - Travis' Mother
John Marsicano	...	Self - Lead Homicide Detective
Dianna Mazak	...	Self - Employee, G.W. Zoo
Anne McQueen	...	Self - Don's Executive Assistant
Jamie Murdock	...	Self - Carole's Daughter
Chealsi Putman	...	Self - Joe's Niece
Gale Rathbone	...	Self - Don's Daughter
Lynda Sanchez	...	Self - Don's Daughter
Debra Sandlin	...	Self - Former Volunteer, Big Cat Rescue
Francis Schreibvogel	...	Self - Joe's Father
Shirley Schreibvogel	...	Self - Joe's Mother
Vernon Stairs	...	Self - Carole's Father
Maria Tabraue	...	Self - Mario's Wife
Mario Tabraue	...	Self - Z.W.F. Zoo
Wendell Williams	...	Self - Don's Business Associate
J.P. Wilson	...	Self - Magician
Vernon Yates	...	Self - Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation

1

00:00:44,085 --> 00:00:46,755  
[operator] This call is subject  
to being recorded or monitored,

2

00:00:46,838 --> 00:00:50,133  
except for privileged calls  
between attorney and client.

3

00:00:51,634 --> 00:00:53,011  
[Joe] I'm in a cage.

4

00:00:55,555 --> 00:00:57,557  
Do you know why animals die in cages?

5

00:00:59,851 --> 00:01:01,227  
Their soul dies.

6

00:01:13,406 --> 00:01:15,408  
[Lowe]  
This is where the new zoo will be located.

7

00:01:15,992 --> 00:01:18,161  
We have to be open by spring break.

8

00:01:18,661 --> 00:01:20,914  
Even if it's not completely done,

9

00:01:20,997 --> 00:01:22,582  
we have to have this center part done.

10

00:01:23,792 --> 00:01:26,628  
So I offered Tim Stark a partnership.

11

00:01:29,130 --> 00:01:30,256  
We are partners.

12

00:01:30,340 --> 00:01:32,092  
We are going into this zoo together.

13

00:01:33,218 --> 00:01:36,179  
I'm bringing two or three million dollars'

worth of equipment

14

00:01:36,679 --> 00:01:38,098  
and hundreds of animals.

15

00:01:41,351 --> 00:01:42,685  
See, I'm smarter than most people.

16

00:01:44,062 --> 00:01:46,272  
They say you can't get nothing done  
with a monkey on your back,

17

00:01:46,356 --> 00:01:49,025  
so you put them on your fucking front  
and you can still get shit done.

18

00:01:50,026 --> 00:01:53,363  
It's a collaboration  
between two of the most notorious assholes

19

00:01:53,446 --> 00:01:54,322  
in the industry.

20

00:01:55,532 --> 00:01:56,991  
[Lowe] We're stronger in numbers,

21

00:01:57,742 --> 00:01:59,661  
so I'm glad that Tim's down here.

22

00:02:05,041 --> 00:02:07,418  
[interviewer] Are you worried  
about the fallout of Joe's case?

23

00:02:07,669 --> 00:02:10,130  
Oh, no, not a bit. Not a bit.

24

00:02:10,213 --> 00:02:12,006  
-Who should be worried?  
-Joe.

25

00:02:13,258 --> 00:02:14,092  
[scoffs, laughs]

26

00:02:16,970 --> 00:02:19,806  
[Joe] I just worry whether or not  
you're gonna be there when I get out.

27

00:02:20,974 --> 00:02:22,433  
[Dillon] I'm not going anywhere.

28

00:02:23,601 --> 00:02:25,520  
You don't have anything to worry about.

29

00:02:26,604 --> 00:02:29,357  
I'm still here talking to you.

30

00:02:29,440 --> 00:02:33,570  
When I married you, I just wanted it  
to be different than everything else was.

31

00:02:35,238 --> 00:02:36,114  
I know.

32

00:02:37,991 --> 00:02:40,034  
I'll make this up to you. I promise.

33

00:02:40,869 --> 00:02:43,454  
Right now I just want you  
to worry about getting out of there

34

00:02:43,538 --> 00:02:45,456  
and keep your head on your shoulders.

35

00:02:46,666 --> 00:02:48,251  
All right, I'll call you later.

36

00:02:48,293 --> 00:02:49,460  
All righty. I love you.

37

00:02:50,420 --> 00:02:51,462  
I love you.

38

00:02:53,923 --> 00:02:56,759

Those are our conversations every day,  
three times a day.

39

00:03:04,434 --> 00:03:07,395  
[reporter] The current owners  
of what used to be Joe Exotic's park say

40

00:03:07,478 --> 00:03:09,314  
they've been cooperating with the feds

41

00:03:09,397 --> 00:03:13,193  
ever since the murder-for-hire allegations  
came to light.

42

00:03:13,276 --> 00:03:17,488  
And with his trial looming,  
other investigations are unfolding.

43

00:03:19,824 --> 00:03:21,910  
[Garretson]  
Jeff Lowe let the feds into Joe's house.

44

00:03:23,328 --> 00:03:24,162  
They went through

45

00:03:24,245 --> 00:03:28,166  
and... took Joe's documents,  
jump drives, and all this other stuff.

46

00:03:29,751 --> 00:03:32,587  
It just opened up so many cans of worms  
for Joe.

47

00:03:35,048 --> 00:03:37,508  
[reporter] Federal authorities  
made some key discoveries:

48

00:03:38,092 --> 00:03:39,385  
bones of big cats.

49

00:03:42,639 --> 00:03:47,393  
They said that Joe had shot five tigers,  
and they dug them up...

50

00:03:48,061 --> 00:03:50,063  
and found the skulls.

51

00:04:01,616 --> 00:04:05,828  
They trumped up all the wildlife charges  
to put pressure on Joe

52

00:04:05,912 --> 00:04:08,831  
because the murder-for-hire charge  
was so flimsy.

53

00:04:09,415 --> 00:04:12,377  
That's why they came up with  
the other 20 silly-ass charges.

54

00:04:13,336 --> 00:04:16,714  
The mix of all that together  
takes this poor dolt

55

00:04:16,798 --> 00:04:18,132  
and gets him into a position

56

00:04:18,216 --> 00:04:21,552  
where he appears to be  
this great big felonious murderer.

57

00:04:23,304 --> 00:04:25,932  
[Green] From the government's  
point of view, both the murder-for-hire

58

00:04:26,015 --> 00:04:27,016  
and the wildlife charges

59

00:04:27,100 --> 00:04:30,186  
were crucial to bring and bring together.

60

00:04:31,145 --> 00:04:32,563  
Both counts one and two

61

00:04:32,855 --> 00:04:34,607  
charged Mr. Passage

62

00:04:34,691 --> 00:04:36,025  
with murder-for-hire.

63

00:04:37,527 --> 00:04:39,279  
Counts three through seven  
of the indictment

64

00:04:39,362 --> 00:04:43,032  
are for shooting and killing five tigers  
that were at his facility

65

00:04:43,116 --> 00:04:45,118  
in October of 2017.

66

00:04:45,743 --> 00:04:50,498  
The remaining counts are all related to  
the sale of tiger and lion cubs.

67

00:04:52,542 --> 00:04:53,918  
[Joe] You know  
what they threatened me with?

68

00:04:55,003 --> 00:04:56,587  
Seventy-nine years.

69

00:04:57,839 --> 00:05:01,384  
They superseded my indictment  
with all these stupid wildlife charges

70

00:05:01,467 --> 00:05:05,471  
because the first two charges for murder  
for hire would not have stuck.

71

00:05:06,639 --> 00:05:08,766  
[interviewer]  
But Joe, did you shoot those tigers?

72

00:05:09,225 --> 00:05:11,519  
[Joe] I euthanized five tigers, okay?

73

00:05:13,062 --> 00:05:16,316



If you have a sick tiger or a lion  
that needs to be put to sleep,

74

00:05:16,399 --> 00:05:18,526  
you've got to shoot it or dart it.

75

00:05:18,943 --> 00:05:20,486  
There's only two options.

76

00:05:24,240 --> 00:05:25,408  
[Lowe] This isn't my park.

77

00:05:26,117 --> 00:05:27,285  
This is Joe's park.

78

00:05:28,411 --> 00:05:30,371  
The ghost of Joe walks this place.

79

00:05:31,331 --> 00:05:33,583  
I'm embarrassed to tell people  
when they say, "What do you do?"

80

00:05:33,666 --> 00:05:35,126  
I say, "I have the zoo down in Wynnewood."

81

00:05:35,209 --> 00:05:38,546  
"Are you that crazy bastard?"  
"No, I'm not the crazy bastard."

82

00:05:38,629 --> 00:05:41,299  
We are looking at some little tiger cubs.

83

00:05:41,382 --> 00:05:43,509  
Look at them. They're so cute.

84

00:05:43,593 --> 00:05:46,721  
Kind of a "purrfect" afternoon for me  
if you ask.

85

00:05:46,804 --> 00:05:49,599  
So you guys are actually  
moving locations here pretty soon, right?

86

00:05:49,682 --> 00:05:51,267

We are.

We're going to close this facility down

87

00:05:51,351 --> 00:05:54,270

as soon as we get the new one  
down in Thackerville built.

88

00:05:54,354 --> 00:05:56,314

[Lowe] We're building it.

It's just a slow process.

89

00:05:56,397 --> 00:05:59,108

[Garretson] That zoo down in Thackerville,  
that was my idea.

90

00:06:00,026 --> 00:06:01,527

But things started to sour.

91

00:06:04,447 --> 00:06:07,241

Jeff Lowe didn't really care  
who he screwed.

92

00:06:08,326 --> 00:06:10,036

I think James' mentality was-- He says--

93

00:06:10,119 --> 00:06:13,081

"Look," he says,

"you came to me with a problem of Joe."

94

00:06:13,414 --> 00:06:14,540

He says, "I helped you out."

95

00:06:14,624 --> 00:06:17,293

Jeff would be indicted  
if it wasn't for me.

96

00:06:17,377 --> 00:06:19,379

I'm the one that got Jeff the deal.

97

00:06:20,463 --> 00:06:22,173

He says, "And I stuck my neck out for you.

98

00:06:22,256 --> 00:06:24,884  
And why wouldn't you put my name  
on your zoo?"

99

00:06:24,967 --> 00:06:27,220  
And I said, "You know what, James,  
it just doesn't work like that.

100

00:06:29,013 --> 00:06:31,849  
I think the cages will start  
just the other side of those trees.

101

00:06:31,933 --> 00:06:34,268  
Where it went bad with James and I is

102

00:06:34,352 --> 00:06:37,105  
he couldn't have possibly afforded  
to pitch in.

103

00:06:38,231 --> 00:06:41,692  
What we're building here  
will be immaculate, amazing.

104

00:06:44,445 --> 00:06:45,571  
We're going to continue

105

00:06:45,655 --> 00:06:47,532  
until we're number one  
top zoo in the country.

106

00:06:47,615 --> 00:06:50,201  
We're gonna keep bringing animals in,  
more and more and more,

107

00:06:50,284 --> 00:06:52,954  
as we keep building.  
Anything and everything, we want it all.

108

00:06:53,538 --> 00:06:55,540  
Everybody wants to be "the biggest,"

109  
00:06:55,623 --> 00:06:58,084  
but nobody focuses on being "the nicest."

110  
00:06:59,252 --> 00:07:00,837  
They'll just stick you in the back.

111  
00:07:02,088 --> 00:07:04,090  
[Joe] This is how Jeff  
does business, okay?

112  
00:07:04,549 --> 00:07:05,967  
With James Garretson,

113  
00:07:06,217 --> 00:07:08,636  
Jeff saw... an opportunity,

114  
00:07:08,719 --> 00:07:09,971  
and he took it.

115  
00:07:13,349 --> 00:07:14,267  
[whistles]

116  
00:07:14,350 --> 00:07:16,436  
[interviewer]  
So how involved was Jeff Lowe

117  
00:07:16,519 --> 00:07:19,188  
in plotting this whole plan  
to kill Carole?

118  
00:07:19,939 --> 00:07:22,942  
You're not gonna show this  
to the defense attorney when I lay it out?

119  
00:07:23,443 --> 00:07:25,153  
[laughs]

120  
00:07:25,236 --> 00:07:27,780  
Don't... don't free that motherfucker. No.

121  
00:07:29,115 --> 00:07:32,368

So basically what happened is  
Jeff Lowe helped...

122  
00:07:33,327 --> 00:07:34,579  
put the thing together.

123  
00:07:35,246 --> 00:07:36,789  
And because he obviously knew about it,

124  
00:07:36,873 --> 00:07:40,042  
because Jeff Lowe told me on the phone  
that he was going to use Allen Glover.

125  
00:07:42,545 --> 00:07:44,547  
Joe, he offered me...

126  
00:07:44,839 --> 00:07:47,049  
money to go and murder that lady.

127  
00:07:47,133 --> 00:07:50,219  
First it was \$5,000, but the only thing  
he come up with was three grand.

128  
00:07:51,471 --> 00:07:53,014  
So I took that and I ran.

129  
00:07:55,475 --> 00:07:57,351  
Remember,  
this is about getting Joe in trouble,

130  
00:07:57,435 --> 00:07:59,395  
even locked up for what he did.

131  
00:07:59,687 --> 00:08:03,357  
They would have to fucking promise me  
not to fucking lock my ass up for that.

132  
00:08:03,441 --> 00:08:04,275  
Right.

133  
00:08:04,442 --> 00:08:06,194  
They're gonna do the same thing with me.

134

00:08:06,277 --> 00:08:07,612  
Before they give me immunity,

135

00:08:07,695 --> 00:08:10,323  
they want to meet with me and make sure  
that what I have to tell them

136

00:08:10,406 --> 00:08:12,116  
is good enough for a conviction.

137

00:08:12,408 --> 00:08:15,161  
Once that happens, then they say,  
"Okay, well here's your--"

138

00:08:15,328 --> 00:08:17,371  
-Here's your deal.  
-"Here's what we'll do for that."

139

00:08:17,455 --> 00:08:19,248  
And they'll have to do  
the same thing with you.

140

00:08:20,958 --> 00:08:24,420  
[reporter] Now the trial begins  
on Monday, March 25th at 9:00 a.m.

141

00:08:24,504 --> 00:08:26,005  
and could last about two weeks.

142

00:08:26,088 --> 00:08:27,340  
But the jury was selected.

143

00:08:27,924 --> 00:08:31,219  
The 55-year-old introduced himself  
to the jury saying,

144

00:08:31,302 --> 00:08:35,056  
"I'm Joseph Maldonado-Passage,  
and I'm the reason you all are here."

145

00:08:41,521 --> 00:08:44,482

[Reinke] I know some things  
that are going to come out in this trial.

146  
00:08:47,944 --> 00:08:50,154  
I'm telling you,  
I can't eat, I don't sleep.

147  
00:08:50,238 --> 00:08:51,697  
I'm up all night long.

148  
00:08:52,990 --> 00:08:55,243  
I lost a lot of weight.  
None of my pants fit me anymore.

149  
00:08:55,326 --> 00:08:57,370  
That's another thing. I had to buy pants.

150  
00:08:57,453 --> 00:09:00,623  
I haven't worn pants in 20 years.  
I gotta buy business attire.

151  
00:09:01,207 --> 00:09:02,667  
I keep telling myself over and over,

152  
00:09:02,959 --> 00:09:06,712  
I'm involved  
in a federal murder-for-hire plot.

153  
00:09:07,922 --> 00:09:09,006  
Who'd have thought?

154  
00:09:10,049 --> 00:09:12,760  
Just because I stopped by a zoo  
to feed a bear one day.

155  
00:09:21,727 --> 00:09:24,272  
I've dealt with Joe for 14 years  
at that zoo.

156  
00:09:25,064 --> 00:09:27,650  
And my job was to get him out of trouble.

157

00:09:29,235 --> 00:09:32,154  
But I don't know  
if I can get him out of this.

158  
00:09:37,326 --> 00:09:40,830  
They have the people  
who were closest to him,

159  
00:09:40,913 --> 00:09:43,833  
people who were

160  
00:09:43,916 --> 00:09:47,670  
so interwound with him  
for years and years and years and years.

161  
00:09:47,753 --> 00:09:50,464  
They're the very people  
who are testifying against him.

162  
00:09:53,718 --> 00:09:55,595  
I never mess with the feds.

163  
00:09:55,678 --> 00:09:57,555  
I don't really like the feds.

164  
00:09:57,805 --> 00:10:00,975  
Um, I'm a Libertarian,  
so technically, fuck the feds.

165  
00:10:01,058 --> 00:10:04,061  
But you know,  
I don't want to be dealing with them.

166  
00:10:04,937 --> 00:10:07,857  
I was contacted by an FBI agent,

167  
00:10:08,232 --> 00:10:10,526  
um, and he said point-blank,

168  
00:10:10,610 --> 00:10:13,696  
"You're going to be on team government,  
or you going to be on team Joe."



169

00:10:14,238 --> 00:10:16,449  
It was the scariest moment of my life.

170

00:10:23,414 --> 00:10:26,459  
[reporter 1] The federal trial  
started today for a former zoo owner

171

00:10:26,542 --> 00:10:28,544  
and Oklahoma gubernatorial candidate.

172

00:10:29,211 --> 00:10:32,006  
[reporter 2] He could be looking  
at nearly 80 years in prison,

173

00:10:32,089 --> 00:10:34,133  
but he is pleading not guilty.

174

00:10:36,552 --> 00:10:37,887  
[Cowie] It's pretty fucking crazy.

175

00:10:38,721 --> 00:10:39,639  
I don't go to court.

176

00:10:40,723 --> 00:10:42,475  
I don't get traffic tickets.

177

00:10:43,476 --> 00:10:45,895  
I'm a good boy, and that's not my arena.

178

00:10:48,856 --> 00:10:52,068  
[Corkill] In the news, we talk about  
shootings and killings every day,

179

00:10:52,526 --> 00:10:56,155  
but people will protest,

180

00:10:56,238 --> 00:10:59,075  
and they will not tolerate, animal abuse.

181

00:10:59,158 --> 00:11:00,660  
It was almost strategic

182

00:11:01,077 --> 00:11:04,413  
to bring all of these charges  
at the same time.

183

00:11:04,622 --> 00:11:06,457  
You know,  
let's strike while the iron is hot.

184

00:11:06,540 --> 00:11:10,294  
Let's strike while this is on the front  
of everyone's mind.

185

00:11:11,253 --> 00:11:13,964  
[reporter] Former park employees  
called to testify against him Monday

186

00:11:14,048 --> 00:11:15,675  
include Erik Cowie.

187

00:11:15,758 --> 00:11:17,760  
He came up with this .410 in his hand,

188

00:11:18,260 --> 00:11:20,012  
and I knew he just shot Cuddles.  
I heard it.

189

00:11:20,096 --> 00:11:22,682  
And he came up the hill and goes,  
"Goddamn, Erik,

190

00:11:22,765 --> 00:11:23,974  
if I knew it was gonna be this easy,

191

00:11:24,058 --> 00:11:25,726  
walk right up to the cage,  
I'll kill 'em all."

192

00:11:26,394 --> 00:11:28,145  
There was no way for me to stop it.

193

00:11:29,647 --> 00:11:30,898

It was going to happen.

194

00:11:36,862 --> 00:11:38,864  
Y'know, those cats trusted me.

195

00:11:40,908 --> 00:11:42,910  
And so they could look me in the eye...

196

00:11:44,245 --> 00:11:45,579  
when they died.

197

00:11:48,749 --> 00:11:50,626  
I was the guy that was right there.

198

00:11:53,754 --> 00:11:55,589  
That means a minute to me.

199

00:11:58,050 --> 00:11:59,218  
A heavy minute.

200

00:12:03,264 --> 00:12:04,390  
You ever walked a lion?

201

00:12:05,015 --> 00:12:06,142  
You ever walked a tiger?

202

00:12:06,851 --> 00:12:08,728  
Motherfucker, man.

203

00:12:12,481 --> 00:12:13,482  
[chuckles]

204

00:12:16,068 --> 00:12:16,902  
God damn.

205

00:12:21,240 --> 00:12:23,159  
They get so big so fast.

206

00:12:40,384 --> 00:12:43,345  
[reporter] The woman  
Joe Exotic allegedly wanted dead

207

00:12:43,429 --> 00:12:44,847  
took the witness stand today.

208

00:12:45,431 --> 00:12:49,310  
Joe Exotic's murder-for-hire trial  
is now in its second day.

209

00:12:49,852 --> 00:12:53,481  
Carole Baskin is speaking out  
about some of the threats

210

00:12:53,564 --> 00:12:55,983  
she says she and her husband  
have endured for years.

211

00:12:57,234 --> 00:12:59,695  
I'm surprised  
he didn't want to do it himself.

212

00:13:00,738 --> 00:13:03,908  
But I wasn't surprised  
that he would try to follow through.

213

00:13:05,242 --> 00:13:07,745  
The only silver lining to it is

214

00:13:07,828 --> 00:13:09,580  
that if someone were to kill me,

215

00:13:09,663 --> 00:13:12,082  
I think it would push this movement  
so far forward

216

00:13:12,166 --> 00:13:13,793  
that it would be worth it.

217

00:13:20,633 --> 00:13:22,301  
[reporter]  
Another dramatic day as the trial

218

00:13:22,384 --> 00:13:25,805

for former big cat owner  
Joe Exotic continues.

219

00:13:26,055 --> 00:13:27,932  
One former employee even told jurors...

220

00:13:28,015 --> 00:13:30,726  
[interviewer] You're testifying mostly  
about the movement of animals.

221

00:13:31,018 --> 00:13:34,730  
No. I'm testifying against him on both.

222

00:13:36,065 --> 00:13:37,066  
The murder-for-hire...

223

00:13:37,691 --> 00:13:38,734  
and the animals.

224

00:13:39,944 --> 00:13:43,447  
I was Joe's right-hand man for 16 years.

225

00:13:44,448 --> 00:13:46,659  
I don't know  
what I could go to prison for.

226

00:13:47,243 --> 00:13:50,079  
But... I'm trying to make sure I don't go.

227

00:13:50,955 --> 00:13:53,541  
Let's check in with our Sylvia Corkill  
who's live downtown.

228

00:13:53,624 --> 00:13:56,001  
She tells us  
that witness got emotional today.

229

00:13:56,085 --> 00:13:57,545  
[Corkill] That witness told the jury

230

00:13:57,628 --> 00:14:00,256  
he was more than just an employee

at that park.

231

00:14:00,339 --> 00:14:01,674  
He said for 11 years,

232

00:14:01,924 --> 00:14:05,970  
he was in a romantic relationship  
with Joseph Maldonado-Passage.

233

00:14:06,846 --> 00:14:08,097  
In 2017,

234

00:14:08,180 --> 00:14:10,599  
he said Joe asked him  
to drive a man to Dallas

235

00:14:10,683 --> 00:14:12,518  
to purchase a fake ID.

236

00:14:12,601 --> 00:14:14,478  
Joe told him the man needed the ID

237

00:14:14,562 --> 00:14:17,690  
so he could drive to Florida  
to kill Carole Baskin.

238

00:14:17,773 --> 00:14:19,775  
Then in September, the witness said...

239

00:14:19,859 --> 00:14:23,237  
I didn't see anybody there for Joe.  
I didn't--

240

00:14:23,320 --> 00:14:27,908  
There was people sitting on his side,  
but there was, like, nobody there...

241

00:14:27,992 --> 00:14:30,452  
for him as a person.

242

00:14:35,249 --> 00:14:38,210  
[interviewer] How do you think

it's going to go for Mr. Exotic today?

243

00:14:38,294 --> 00:14:40,713  
I'm not sure. We'll see what happens.

244

00:14:40,796 --> 00:14:42,464  
And what's your role today?

245

00:14:43,132 --> 00:14:44,049  
Telling the truth.

246

00:14:46,886 --> 00:14:48,888  
[reporter]  
The state's second witness, an informant,

247

00:14:48,971 --> 00:14:52,600  
alleged that Jeff Lowe not only knew  
about the plot to kill Carole Baskin,

248

00:14:52,683 --> 00:14:56,020  
but that he took an active role  
in hatching that plan.

249

00:14:56,812 --> 00:15:00,190  
[Joe] In court, James admitted  
that when they were sitting there

250

00:15:00,274 --> 00:15:01,984  
watching Carole go down the bike path

251

00:15:02,067 --> 00:15:03,360  
and looking in her house

252

00:15:03,444 --> 00:15:05,988  
to see where he could sit  
and shoot her through a window,

253

00:15:06,071 --> 00:15:09,325  
Joe was back at his desk  
minding his own business.

254

00:15:10,075 --> 00:15:13,412

[reporter] The informant said  
Lowe provided maps of Baskin's property

255

00:15:13,495 --> 00:15:16,999  
and recommended her murder take place  
on the bike path near her home.

256

00:15:18,959 --> 00:15:21,629  
[Stark] When Jeff found out  
Joe was embezzling money

257

00:15:21,712 --> 00:15:23,714  
and Joe was killing tigers,

258

00:15:24,381 --> 00:15:26,467  
I was telling him,  
"Take the motherfucker down.

259

00:15:26,550 --> 00:15:29,553  
Slit his fucking throat  
and leave him laid."

260

00:15:32,932 --> 00:15:35,309  
Me and Jeff, I mean, we have our quarrels,

261

00:15:35,392 --> 00:15:39,188  
you know, but the main thing I wanted  
was a business partner.

262

00:15:40,606 --> 00:15:43,525  
I got a lot of damn earth to move  
for one person.

263

00:15:46,028 --> 00:15:48,822  
Sixteen, 18-hour days, seven days a week.

264

00:15:50,240 --> 00:15:53,285  
-Yeah, he just does what I tell him to do.  
-Yeah, I'm his bitch.

265

00:15:55,788 --> 00:15:58,791  
[Joe] Jeff can't work for a living.  
He's gotta con somebody.



266

00:15:58,874 --> 00:16:01,835  
So when he runs out of cons,  
he's gotta steal from people.

267

00:16:04,129 --> 00:16:07,800  
[Corkill]  
Jeff Lowe is a very skilled con man.

268

00:16:09,468 --> 00:16:11,261  
How is he not facing any charges?

269

00:16:11,345 --> 00:16:14,890  
I don't think that it is any surprise  
that he did not testify.

270

00:16:15,182 --> 00:16:16,517  
Was he a witness? Yes.

271

00:16:16,600 --> 00:16:20,896  
Did he testify? No. Why?  
He would have perjured himself.

272

00:16:24,358 --> 00:16:26,652  
[Garretson] I mean,  
letting the hit man loose tells you...

273

00:16:27,236 --> 00:16:29,154  
it's kind of a witch hunt because

274

00:16:29,238 --> 00:16:31,156  
this guy went down there  
to fucking murder a lady.

275

00:16:31,782 --> 00:16:34,201  
And he's not even going to get  
fucking probation or nothing.

276

00:16:36,203 --> 00:16:38,580  
[Glover] I hate to be a part of this shit.

277

00:16:39,415 --> 00:16:40,708

Wish I wasn't.

278

00:16:42,418 --> 00:16:43,794  
But yeah...

279

00:16:44,211 --> 00:16:45,421  
he deserves...

280

00:16:46,255 --> 00:16:48,257  
every fucking thing he gets, sir.

281

00:16:49,216 --> 00:16:50,050  
Or more.

282

00:16:51,176 --> 00:16:52,094  
Yup.

283

00:16:52,177 --> 00:16:55,931  
How could they possibly give testimony,  
and you believe what they were saying,

284

00:16:56,473 --> 00:16:58,267  
when clearly...

285

00:16:59,601 --> 00:17:00,894  
they cannot be trusted.

286

00:17:02,730 --> 00:17:07,401  
[Joe] Why wasn't Allen Glover  
confronted about lying on the stand?

287

00:17:08,152 --> 00:17:10,571  
Like that story about going to Florida.

288

00:17:11,071 --> 00:17:12,031  
It never happened.

289

00:17:13,115 --> 00:17:16,410  
Well, there were mixed stories,  
but Allen apparently testified

290

00:17:16,493 --> 00:17:18,287  
that he actually came to Florida...

291  
00:17:19,246 --> 00:17:20,247  
so I believe him.

292  
00:17:21,790 --> 00:17:25,753  
We had phone recordings  
to prove that Allen never went to Florida.

293  
00:17:26,837 --> 00:17:29,506  
I didn't go to fucking Tampa.  
What would I want to go there for?

294  
00:17:29,840 --> 00:17:32,176  
I wasn't gonna kill no-motherfucking-body.

295  
00:17:32,551 --> 00:17:34,219  
He could've gave me  
a million fucking dollars,

296  
00:17:34,303 --> 00:17:36,221  
I wouldn't have went  
and killed that fucking woman for nothin'.

297  
00:17:36,305 --> 00:17:38,640  
I wouldn't even went to fucking Florida  
on a vacation.

298  
00:17:40,184 --> 00:17:42,311  
Apparently, I chickened the fuck out,

299  
00:17:42,394 --> 00:17:43,979  
and didn't make it there.

300  
00:17:45,606 --> 00:17:48,275  
[Joe] Lyin' under oath  
is supposed to mean something.

301  
00:17:49,026 --> 00:17:51,445  
They should be charged with perjury.

302

00:17:51,945 --> 00:17:54,156  
And you would think  
that it would be a mistrial.

303  
00:18:00,454 --> 00:18:04,124  
[reporter 1] In a surprise move,  
the so-called Tiger King

304  
00:18:04,208 --> 00:18:05,959  
took the stand today in his own defense.

305  
00:18:06,043 --> 00:18:07,461  
He is on trial in federal court...

306  
00:18:07,544 --> 00:18:08,796  
[Reinke] I was really shocked.

307  
00:18:08,879 --> 00:18:10,881  
His attorneys didn't want him to testify.

308  
00:18:10,964 --> 00:18:13,383  
They stood up and said  
that they didn't want him to testify.

309  
00:18:13,717 --> 00:18:14,927  
He went ahead and testified.

310  
00:18:15,511 --> 00:18:19,890  
Joe took the stand and that's something  
that I don't think anyone expected.

311  
00:18:21,683 --> 00:18:24,269  
He had an answer for everything,

312  
00:18:24,645 --> 00:18:27,898  
for everything that the prosecution said.

313  
00:18:28,857 --> 00:18:30,109  
[Joe] I testified.

314  
00:18:30,192 --> 00:18:33,612  
I told 'em that right before Thanksgiving,

315  
00:18:34,321 --> 00:18:37,950  
I call Jeff and I say,  
"Jeff, Allen won't wear a uniform.

316  
00:18:38,408 --> 00:18:40,744  
He won't do anything I ask him to do.

317  
00:18:40,828 --> 00:18:42,496  
He says he doesn't work for me."

318  
00:18:43,413 --> 00:18:45,749  
We have the text message where Jeff said,

319  
00:18:45,833 --> 00:18:48,961  
"Okay, well, maybe  
he'll be better off in South Carolina."

320  
00:18:50,379 --> 00:18:52,005  
Thanksgiving day...

321  
00:18:52,548 --> 00:18:55,551  
I had cooked dinner for 150 people,

322  
00:18:55,884 --> 00:18:57,594  
and they donated enough,

323  
00:18:57,761 --> 00:19:00,639  
I could put together \$3,000 to give Allen,

324  
00:19:00,764 --> 00:19:02,641  
so he could get the hell outta there.

325  
00:19:02,724 --> 00:19:04,143  
Here, sweetie, I'll help you.

326  
00:19:04,268 --> 00:19:05,561  
Get your plate up here.

327  
00:19:06,520 --> 00:19:10,107  
It was out of the cash register

on Jeff's orders

328

00:19:10,691 --> 00:19:12,067  
to give it to Allen.

329

00:19:15,237 --> 00:19:17,698  
Now, Joe can be convincing.

330

00:19:18,532 --> 00:19:21,827  
I was nervous  
that it only takes one holdout

331

00:19:21,910 --> 00:19:23,036  
to make it a hung jury.

332

00:19:25,497 --> 00:19:28,208  
To me, it appears he was set up  
each step of the way.

333

00:19:28,333 --> 00:19:30,586  
He's not smart enough  
to go through with what he did.

334

00:19:30,669 --> 00:19:32,546  
Who hires a \$3,000 hit man?

335

00:19:32,671 --> 00:19:34,214  
He's also stupid.

336

00:19:34,298 --> 00:19:37,634  
A cross-country, traveling,  
high-end hit man...

337

00:19:38,427 --> 00:19:39,678  
cannot cost three grand.

338

00:19:39,803 --> 00:19:41,555  
I don't think it could cost thirty grand.

339

00:19:41,680 --> 00:19:44,308  
I think it's probably a hundred grand  
to find that guy,

340

00:19:44,391 --> 00:19:47,519  
and you certainly don't find him  
from a new friend.

341

00:19:50,439 --> 00:19:51,690  
[Dial] Jeff Lowe set him up.

342

00:19:52,691 --> 00:19:54,735  
That is the truth of the matter.

343

00:19:54,818 --> 00:19:56,069  
It's a tragedy.

344

00:19:56,320 --> 00:19:59,239  
It's a goddamn tragedy,  
because Joe was set up.

345

00:20:00,240 --> 00:20:02,659  
What is setting up a person?  
Turning them in?

346

00:20:02,743 --> 00:20:05,078  
Or allowing them to talk  
while you're recording them?

347

00:20:05,162 --> 00:20:06,205  
Is that setting them up?

348

00:20:06,288 --> 00:20:07,706  
You know, they call it set up,

349

00:20:07,789 --> 00:20:09,708  
I'd call it investigate.

350

00:20:09,791 --> 00:20:13,420  
And did I encourage him from time to time?

351

00:20:13,503 --> 00:20:16,256  
Probably, because I wanted that sound bite

352

00:20:16,340 --> 00:20:18,926  
to give to the authorities to convict him

353  
00:20:19,009 --> 00:20:20,552  
and get him out of this business.

354  
00:20:23,180 --> 00:20:25,599  
[operator] This call is subject  
to being recorded or monitored,

355  
00:20:25,682 --> 00:20:28,894  
except for privileged calls  
between attorney and client.

356  
00:20:29,519 --> 00:20:31,063  
How are you feeling tonight, Joe?

357  
00:20:32,648 --> 00:20:35,275  
[Joe] I think testifying went very well.

358  
00:20:37,236 --> 00:20:38,695  
I feel good about my jury.

359  
00:20:40,155 --> 00:20:41,740  
I think I'm going home.

360  
00:20:42,824 --> 00:20:44,910  
If I win and get out,

361  
00:20:44,993 --> 00:20:47,746  
I've got to completely start my life  
all over again.

362  
00:20:49,581 --> 00:20:52,000  
And I'm looking forward  
to starting all over again,

363  
00:20:52,084 --> 00:20:53,877  
because I don't  
have to look over my shoulder,

364  
00:20:53,961 --> 00:20:55,879



I don't have all this drama  
hanging over me anymore.

365  
00:20:56,463 --> 00:20:59,007  
My life can start over fresh.

366  
00:21:08,642 --> 00:21:10,686  
It was part of the government's evidence

367  
00:21:10,769 --> 00:21:13,272  
that we showed the jury a variety

368  
00:21:13,355 --> 00:21:16,733  
of the social media postings  
that Mr. Passage had made

369  
00:21:16,817 --> 00:21:18,986  
that referenced Miss Baskin  
in a violent way:

370  
00:21:19,444 --> 00:21:21,405  
having her killed or wishing her dead.

371  
00:21:21,989 --> 00:21:24,366  
We hear it's Carole's birthday next month.

372  
00:21:26,243 --> 00:21:28,245  
[Green] Mr. Passage built his own kingdom.

373  
00:21:28,328 --> 00:21:29,621  
He was the Tiger King.

374  
00:21:29,913 --> 00:21:31,540  
But here's the problem with kings.

375  
00:21:31,623 --> 00:21:34,084  
They get used to making all the rules.

376  
00:21:34,167 --> 00:21:37,421  
Carole, you can guaran-goddamn-tee  
I'm gonna put a cap in your ass.

377

00:21:37,504 --> 00:21:40,590  
[Green] Mr. Passage believed  
that his kingdom was under attack.

378

00:21:40,882 --> 00:21:42,801  
So Mr. Passage attacked back.

379

00:21:43,427 --> 00:21:46,680  
He talked to everyone around him  
about his hate for Miss Baskin.

380

00:21:47,472 --> 00:21:50,851  
Before I'm done with this,  
I'm gonna have the bitch's head in a jar.

381

00:21:51,184 --> 00:21:54,855  
[Green] But we aren't here today  
because of what Mr. Passage said online.

382

00:21:55,230 --> 00:21:59,151  
We are here today because of what he said  
when he thought no one was listening.

383

00:22:01,028 --> 00:22:05,574  
And he decided that, as the king,  
he would protect the kingdom at all costs.

384

00:22:06,241 --> 00:22:08,994  
He was going to  
simply assassinate his rival.

385

00:22:10,037 --> 00:22:12,289  
And it's your job now  
to make sure that no one,

386

00:22:12,372 --> 00:22:14,249  
not even the Tiger King,

387

00:22:14,374 --> 00:22:17,377  
is allowed to be above the laws  
of the United States.

388

00:22:19,421 --> 00:22:21,423  
[bell tolling]

389  
00:22:28,930 --> 00:22:30,766  
You know,  
I had some different change of hearts.

390  
00:22:30,849 --> 00:22:33,894  
Do I want to see this guy put away  
and others free

391  
00:22:33,977 --> 00:22:35,479  
that have done just as bad things?

392  
00:22:35,604 --> 00:22:37,731  
I'm like, uh... no.

393  
00:22:37,814 --> 00:22:41,068  
It's gonna be kind of hard to sleep with,  
if he gets life in prison or something.

394  
00:22:41,151 --> 00:22:43,153  
It's gonna be... You know, hey,

395  
00:22:43,236 --> 00:22:45,197  
I'm not the only one  
that was there to testify,

396  
00:22:45,280 --> 00:22:48,533  
you know, there's a lot of other people,  
but, yeah, I'll feel somewhat responsible.

397  
00:22:51,912 --> 00:22:55,332  
[Reinke] I was actually approached  
early on about testifying,

398  
00:22:55,415 --> 00:22:57,417  
and then I never heard from anybody.

399  
00:22:57,501 --> 00:22:59,378  
I ran that zoo for 14 years.

400

00:22:59,461 --> 00:23:01,296  
Why would they not want to talk to me?

401  
00:23:06,218 --> 00:23:07,969  
I don't know which way  
this is going to go.

402  
00:23:09,137 --> 00:23:11,264  
It's in the fate of 12 strangers though,

403  
00:23:11,348 --> 00:23:12,307  
I do know that.

404  
00:23:18,146 --> 00:23:20,649  
[announcer]  
From News 9, this is breaking news.

405  
00:23:21,525 --> 00:23:24,403  
[reporter] News 9's Sylvia Corkill  
in place outside the federal courthouse.

406  
00:23:24,486 --> 00:23:27,614  
She was in the courtroom as the verdict  
against Joe Exotic was read.

407  
00:23:27,697 --> 00:23:30,409  
Let's go to Sylvia right now  
for the very latest. Sylvia.

408  
00:23:30,867 --> 00:23:32,327  
[Corkill] Kelly, last week we told you

409  
00:23:32,411 --> 00:23:35,080  
that it could take some time  
in order for the jury to come back

410  
00:23:35,163 --> 00:23:37,999  
with its verdict,  
seeing that there were 19 counts.

411  
00:23:38,083 --> 00:23:41,086  
However, after just three short hours,  
nearly four hours,

412  
00:23:41,169 --> 00:23:44,339  
the jury came back,  
finding Joseph Maldonado-Passage

413  
00:23:44,423 --> 00:23:46,800  
guilty on all 19 counts.

414  
00:23:46,883 --> 00:23:50,804  
Two of those largest ones,  
for the alleged use of interstate commerce

415  
00:23:50,887 --> 00:23:52,597  
for murder-for-hire...

416  
00:23:52,681 --> 00:23:54,015  
Guilty.

417  
00:23:54,599 --> 00:23:55,434  
[clicks tongue]

418  
00:24:04,443 --> 00:24:06,653  
Did Joe do wrong?  
Yeah, I'm sure he did wrong.

419  
00:24:06,736 --> 00:24:08,572  
Yeah, he did sell cubs.

420  
00:24:08,655 --> 00:24:10,240  
He did transport cubs.

421  
00:24:10,824 --> 00:24:12,200  
The murder-for-hire, I don't think

422  
00:24:12,284 --> 00:24:14,202  
it woulda went this far  
without somebody pushing.

423  
00:24:14,828 --> 00:24:16,663  
[reporter] A lot of people questioned,  
is Jeff Lowe--

424

00:24:16,746 --> 00:24:19,291  
-Should he face charges as well?  
-He's a director of a zoo.

425

00:24:19,374 --> 00:24:21,460  
I mean,  
it's the same zoo that Joe had, so...

426

00:24:25,630 --> 00:24:27,132  
They all got what they wanted.

427

00:24:28,925 --> 00:24:31,011  
The Tiger King in jail, in a cage.

428

00:24:32,345 --> 00:24:33,388  
It's pretty ironic.

429

00:24:36,391 --> 00:24:37,559  
It's sad.

430

00:24:37,809 --> 00:24:39,394  
The man's going to die in jail.

431

00:24:46,485 --> 00:24:49,571  
[Joe] I just need out of here so bad.

432

00:24:49,654 --> 00:24:50,947  
[breathing heavily, weeping]

433

00:24:51,031 --> 00:24:52,365  
It is -- It is--

434

00:24:52,449 --> 00:24:56,077  
I'm telling you, man. It's worse  
than what you can ever treat an animal.

435

00:24:56,995 --> 00:24:58,997  
I'm being treated like that in here.

436

00:25:02,501 --> 00:25:05,045  
I can't do much more of this.

437

00:25:10,800 --> 00:25:13,720  
[Howard] I generally keep  
these little bottles of champagne

438

00:25:13,803 --> 00:25:15,347  
for when good things happen.

439

00:25:16,431 --> 00:25:20,018  
That definitely was a champagne  
and Brie evening.

440

00:25:21,603 --> 00:25:25,023  
♪ If ever I would leave you ♪

441

00:25:25,106 --> 00:25:27,943  
♪ It couldn't be in springtime ♪

442

00:25:28,235 --> 00:25:30,529  
♪ Seeing you in springtime ♪

443

00:25:30,612 --> 00:25:34,199  
♪ I never could go ♪

444

00:25:34,366 --> 00:25:35,617  
You are something else.

445

00:25:35,700 --> 00:25:38,036  
[both laughing]

446

00:25:38,119 --> 00:25:41,122  
All he had to do was convince one juror.

447

00:25:41,206 --> 00:25:43,333  
I told Howie it's gonna be 15 minutes.

448

00:25:45,126 --> 00:25:46,211  
I was thrilled...

449

00:25:47,337 --> 00:25:49,089  
and relieved with the outcome.

450

00:25:55,053 --> 00:25:57,847  
The man known to many Oklahomans  
as Joe Exotic

451

00:25:58,056 --> 00:25:59,975  
will be going to federal prison.

452

00:26:01,643 --> 00:26:05,647  
[reporter] Soon these 300-plus animals  
will have a new place to call home.

453

00:26:05,730 --> 00:26:08,817  
We are planning to shut the zoo down  
in a few months.

454

00:26:08,900 --> 00:26:10,902  
It will be better to have a fresh start.

455

00:26:12,070 --> 00:26:14,656  
We take Lauren in next Tuesday

456

00:26:14,739 --> 00:26:17,701  
to be induced to give birth to

457

00:26:17,784 --> 00:26:18,785  
Sarah Evelyn Lowe...

458

00:26:18,868 --> 00:26:20,370  
[Lauren laughs]

459

00:26:20,453 --> 00:26:24,249  
...and then we get Lauren back in the gym.

460

00:26:25,792 --> 00:26:28,545  
-Are you ready?  
-Ready for that nanny. Quit it.

461

00:26:30,839 --> 00:26:32,632  
Yes, we're getting a nanny. I need help.

462



00:26:37,637 --> 00:26:40,181  
I said you can get a nanny  
as long as I get to pick her.

463  
00:26:43,184 --> 00:26:44,811  
If you're gonna bring in one,  
why bring in one

464  
00:26:44,894 --> 00:26:47,272  
that's not enjoyable to look at?

465  
00:26:47,355 --> 00:26:50,108  
I mean, you're going to have to have  
this person living in your home.

466  
00:26:51,026 --> 00:26:54,112  
Well, some of these are bilingual  
or multilingual,

467  
00:26:54,195 --> 00:26:58,366  
and that'd be great,  
for them to teach a baby that too.

468  
00:26:58,450 --> 00:26:59,701  
So that'd be really good.

469  
00:27:01,119 --> 00:27:03,455  
With Jeff Lowe, the suspicion is

470  
00:27:03,538 --> 00:27:05,874  
he could still face charges down the road.

471  
00:27:07,292 --> 00:27:09,961  
Rumor has it  
it will be for something much larger.

472  
00:27:10,754 --> 00:27:11,796  
For the last two years,

473  
00:27:11,880 --> 00:27:13,673  
everybody's accused me  
of all these crimes,

474

00:27:13,757 --> 00:27:15,258  
and I got the evidence,

475

00:27:15,342 --> 00:27:16,968  
but it's never materialized.

476

00:27:17,636 --> 00:27:19,971  
You know, I'm not an angel, but god...

477

00:27:20,930 --> 00:27:24,100  
put up your proof, you know,  
stop talking about it.

478

00:27:26,144 --> 00:27:27,979  
[Garretson]  
I think Lowe will get arrested soon.

479

00:27:28,396 --> 00:27:30,065  
I mean, he said a lot of things...

480

00:27:30,649 --> 00:27:32,484  
and all that stuff incriminates him.

481

00:27:33,943 --> 00:27:36,488  
You know, and I don't think  
Joe will be in a cell alone.

482

00:27:36,571 --> 00:27:38,615  
I think other people are going too.

483

00:27:38,698 --> 00:27:40,200  
I mean, they don't know what I'm gonna do.

484

00:27:40,950 --> 00:27:42,494  
I don't think I'm finished in this.

485

00:27:43,703 --> 00:27:45,580  
-[interviewer] All right.  
-[laughs]

486

00:27:47,207 --> 00:27:48,667

Turn that shit off for a minute.

487

00:28:11,731 --> 00:28:13,692

[Reinke] It's so crooked,  
the way they do it.

488

00:28:16,319 --> 00:28:18,863

James Garretson is right involved  
in this damn deal with Joe,

489

00:28:18,947 --> 00:28:20,365

and they ain't doing nothing to him.

490

00:28:21,574 --> 00:28:24,285

I called. I called and I asked the feds.

491

00:28:24,869 --> 00:28:27,455

"What's going to happen to these people  
that's done all this stuff?"

492

00:28:27,539 --> 00:28:29,040

They said it is far from over.

493

00:28:31,209 --> 00:28:35,505

[Joe] In 20 years, I have bit my tongue,  
and I have kept my mouth shut...

494

00:28:37,173 --> 00:28:40,343

to the point  
that I am just not gonna do it anymore.

495

00:28:42,345 --> 00:28:45,473

I've got a list of 37 names.  
I can shut 'em all down.

496

00:28:46,683 --> 00:28:48,268

I have the proof of everything.

497

00:28:49,728 --> 00:28:51,855

So, I wanna give my evidence to PETA.

498

00:28:58,653 --> 00:29:01,614

A lot of documents,  
like legal documents and permits...

499

00:29:02,323 --> 00:29:03,992  
hard drives are all over here.

500

00:29:04,576 --> 00:29:08,121  
-[interviewer] What kind of permits?  
-Transfer papers for animals.

501

00:29:09,456 --> 00:29:12,417  
[Joe] Did I ever dream that PETA  
would be my ally right now?

502

00:29:12,500 --> 00:29:14,836  
Fuck no,  
but I'm done with the animal world,

503

00:29:14,919 --> 00:29:17,255  
so let's just  
shut all the troublemakers down.

504

00:29:17,922 --> 00:29:21,551  
[Peet] Joe was public enemy number one  
for my department.

505

00:29:23,011 --> 00:29:26,347  
But we went to the jail  
where he's held in Oklahoma

506

00:29:26,431 --> 00:29:31,519  
and we met with Joe  
and his attorneys for two days.

507

00:29:32,729 --> 00:29:35,440  
He was able to share information with us

508

00:29:35,523 --> 00:29:38,568  
about wildlife trafficking  
in the United States,

509

00:29:38,651 --> 00:29:41,988  
the abuse of animals that's going on

behind the scenes

510

00:29:42,071 --> 00:29:44,240  
by a lot of the players.

511

00:29:46,367 --> 00:29:48,411  
[interviewer] So here's one to Doc Antle.

512

00:29:48,995 --> 00:29:50,997  
-Two male tigers--  
-[Dillon] Stop.

513

00:29:51,247 --> 00:29:52,499  
[interviewer] Oh, that's bad?

514

00:29:58,254 --> 00:30:01,132  
[interviewer] Why do you think PETA  
or the animal rights groups

515

00:30:01,216 --> 00:30:02,801  
hasn't really targeted you?

516

00:30:02,884 --> 00:30:04,260  
I'm not fucking around.

517

00:30:04,344 --> 00:30:05,345  
I can't be targeted.

518

00:30:05,428 --> 00:30:06,721  
How do you target me?

519

00:30:08,848 --> 00:30:10,433  
[Peet] Joe told me that

520

00:30:10,517 --> 00:30:14,896  
Doc Antle puts tiger cubs  
who have aged out of playtime events

521

00:30:14,979 --> 00:30:16,147  
in a gas chamber...

522

00:30:17,232 --> 00:30:18,274  
to kill them...

523

00:30:18,817 --> 00:30:23,238  
and then that he cremates their bodies  
in his on-site crematorium.

524

00:30:23,321 --> 00:30:24,823  
[woman] He said, "That feels good."

525

00:30:25,114 --> 00:30:26,991  
[Joe] Brittany was quite shocked

526

00:30:27,450 --> 00:30:30,078  
because, fuck,  
I gave her information on everybody.

527

00:30:30,578 --> 00:30:34,165  
She says, "We'll get something done.  
Are you willing to testify against them?"

528

00:30:34,249 --> 00:30:37,502  
[snarling]

529

00:30:37,585 --> 00:30:39,587  
[Joe] I said,  
"I'll testify against all 30 of them."

530

00:30:41,256 --> 00:30:45,301  
[Peet] I think that Joe's motivation  
in this case is revenge.

531

00:30:46,302 --> 00:30:48,930  
He really wants to see  
a lot of the other people

532

00:30:49,013 --> 00:30:51,599  
in the big cat trade go down with him.

533

00:30:59,524 --> 00:31:01,401  
[Joe] Right now is the time  
that everybody needs

534

00:31:01,484 --> 00:31:03,278  
to tighten the noose around Jeff Lowe.

535

00:31:04,195 --> 00:31:06,155  
Jeff and Tim are at war.

536

00:31:07,115 --> 00:31:09,993  
It seems like everybody starts out well  
with me and then it ends bad.

537

00:31:10,827 --> 00:31:12,662  
[Stark] ...like I told you  
when I left there, Jeff.

538

00:31:12,745 --> 00:31:13,663  
You're stirring up shit--

539

00:31:13,746 --> 00:31:14,747  
I've had so many calls.

540

00:31:14,831 --> 00:31:16,749  
He'll scream, I hang up.  
He'll scream, I hang up.

541

00:31:16,833 --> 00:31:18,543  
[Stark] Fuck you, you little pussboy!

542

00:31:19,419 --> 00:31:20,461  
[Stark] I'm done.

543

00:31:21,045 --> 00:31:23,631  
I didn't go 900 miles  
to build the damn zoo by my-damn-self

544

00:31:24,215 --> 00:31:26,092  
so he could take the glory.

545

00:31:27,677 --> 00:31:29,137  
[Lowe] Having Tim as a partner

546

00:31:29,220 --> 00:31:31,222

sounded like a good idea at the time.

547

00:31:31,931 --> 00:31:33,474  
So did helping Joe.

548

00:31:34,851 --> 00:31:36,102  
[Stark] I was paying for it all.

549

00:31:36,644 --> 00:31:39,022  
I was paying to have all the stuff  
shipped out there.

550

00:31:39,105 --> 00:31:41,357  
It was supposed to be a 50/50 business.

551

00:31:42,483 --> 00:31:45,153  
[Joe] Tim finally figured out  
that Jeff Lowe doesn't have no money,

552

00:31:45,236 --> 00:31:46,571  
and he's footing the bill.

553

00:31:48,072 --> 00:31:49,782  
And he can't take it anymore.

554

00:31:50,241 --> 00:31:52,827  
Keep your friends close  
but keep your enemies closer.

555

00:31:52,911 --> 00:31:53,995  
So, hey, Jeff.

556

00:31:54,954 --> 00:31:56,122  
Here I come, motherfucker.

557

00:31:57,916 --> 00:32:01,669  
[Lowe] Now you got Tim talking to Joe,  
Joe talking to PETA,

558

00:32:01,753 --> 00:32:04,631  
and all these people hated one another  
six months ago.



559

00:32:07,216 --> 00:32:10,094  
Once we start trying to shut a person down

560

00:32:10,178 --> 00:32:12,639  
and end their abuse of animals,  
we don't stop.

561

00:32:12,722 --> 00:32:15,850  
When you're conducting a war,

562

00:32:15,934 --> 00:32:17,644  
you don't bemoan the fact

563

00:32:17,727 --> 00:32:20,647  
that you're winning  
battle after battle after battle,

564

00:32:21,356 --> 00:32:24,984  
knowing that you will win  
if you keep going.

565

00:32:25,234 --> 00:32:28,446  
And we're going to be patient  
and persistent, and we will win,

566

00:32:28,529 --> 00:32:31,074  
and whether it's five years or ten years,

567

00:32:32,033 --> 00:32:33,284  
we will make it happen.

568

00:32:40,833 --> 00:32:41,793  
Nobody wins.

569

00:32:43,378 --> 00:32:46,589  
Everyone involved  
is a so-called animal advocate.

570

00:32:48,132 --> 00:32:50,301  
Not a single animal benefited  
from this war.

571

00:32:52,428 --> 00:32:53,471  
Not a single one.

572

00:32:53,554 --> 00:32:54,555  
[cat meows]

573

00:33:02,021 --> 00:33:05,316  
[Reinke] A lot of drama in the zoo world,  
and, you know, I've changed my life.

574

00:33:05,400 --> 00:33:07,151  
I'm doing different things now.

575

00:33:09,570 --> 00:33:10,571  
I'm 52 years old.

576

00:33:10,655 --> 00:33:12,573  
I'm done with  
this "he said, she said" stuff.

577

00:33:21,582 --> 00:33:24,002  
[man] If I need to stop,  
take a breather, you just let me know.

578

00:33:30,383 --> 00:33:32,468  
[Reinke]  
The zoo took a big chunk out of my life.

579

00:33:32,552 --> 00:33:34,929  
It just played its toll on my marriage.

580

00:33:35,096 --> 00:33:36,931  
I didn't want to be unhappy anymore,

581

00:33:37,015 --> 00:33:38,975  
so I just-- I left my wife.

582

00:33:39,684 --> 00:33:41,102  
After 30 years.

583

00:33:42,645 --> 00:33:43,896  
So I live on my own now.

584  
00:33:46,983 --> 00:33:48,067  
Who is Joe Exotic?

585  
00:33:49,485 --> 00:33:50,570  
[Finlay] A nobody now.

586  
00:33:50,653 --> 00:33:51,487  
Nobody? [chuckles]

587  
00:33:51,988 --> 00:33:53,906  
He will be after we're done  
with this tattoo, huh?

588  
00:33:54,323 --> 00:33:56,743  
-Yeah.  
-Be just a memory.

589  
00:33:57,869 --> 00:33:59,662  
No, won't even be a memory.

590  
00:34:03,166 --> 00:34:04,584  
[Reinke] I miss the babies a lot.

591  
00:34:04,792 --> 00:34:07,295  
I really, really do.  
I miss Bonedigger and Cletus.

592  
00:34:08,046 --> 00:34:10,798  
And, you know, they told me  
unless I just had

593  
00:34:11,049 --> 00:34:13,134  
shitloads of money to dump in Jeff's lap,

594  
00:34:13,217 --> 00:34:14,802  
I'd never get my animals back.

595  
00:34:14,886 --> 00:34:16,763  
So I just had to walk away from them.

596  
00:34:22,143 --> 00:34:23,978  
[man] Yeah, that's a tender spot now.

597  
00:34:42,371 --> 00:34:44,290  
[Dial] Everyone has lost in this.

598  
00:34:48,336 --> 00:34:51,881  
What started out  
as this feud between two people,

599  
00:34:51,964 --> 00:34:55,593  
a good and noble fight  
to stop cub selling, cub petting,

600  
00:34:55,676 --> 00:34:59,430  
turned into a personal  
and legal court battle,

601  
00:35:00,014 --> 00:35:01,516  
and it just became about them.

602  
00:35:03,935 --> 00:35:07,146  
Think of that. It has to be millions  
of dollars. It has to be.

603  
00:35:07,230 --> 00:35:09,440  
Think of the hundreds of thousands

604  
00:35:09,524 --> 00:35:11,192  
they spent investigating Joe.

605  
00:35:11,901 --> 00:35:15,071  
Think of what millions of followers,  
donors and whatnot...

606  
00:35:16,531 --> 00:35:19,242  
think of how far that could go  
saving these tigers

607  
00:35:19,325 --> 00:35:21,327  
in their natural habitats.

608

00:35:27,542 --> 00:35:29,794  
[Dial] We've completely lost sight

609

00:35:29,877 --> 00:35:32,463  
and lost touch  
of what really matters here.

610

00:35:34,048 --> 00:35:37,635  
And that's the conservation protection  
of the species of this planet.

611

00:35:40,138 --> 00:35:42,557  
There's a new home for exotic animals  
that's opening up.

612

00:35:42,640 --> 00:35:44,433  
It's a refuge for unusual creatures...

613

00:35:44,517 --> 00:35:48,980  
The G.W. Exotic Park has over 70 big cats  
in their park.

614

00:35:49,063 --> 00:35:50,731  
[Joe] These are very dangerous animals,

615

00:35:51,399 --> 00:35:53,985  
very beautiful animals,  
that have a place in the world,

616

00:35:54,068 --> 00:35:58,281  
and that's in Africa and Asia and India,  
not in Oklahoma.

617

00:35:59,949 --> 00:36:01,325  
[Kirkham] I truly believe

618

00:36:01,409 --> 00:36:04,871  
that Joe started the zoo  
for good purposes, good reasons.

619

00:36:05,204 --> 00:36:09,417

The state needs to pass laws  
that this breeding has got to stop.

620

00:36:09,500 --> 00:36:11,961  
[Kirkham] But, as the money rose,

621

00:36:12,044 --> 00:36:14,505  
I think his care  
for the animals declined...

622

00:36:15,256 --> 00:36:16,174  
God damn.

623

00:36:16,257 --> 00:36:19,510  
...to the point that he didn't really care  
for the animals at all.

624

00:36:19,635 --> 00:36:20,469  
At all.

625

00:36:21,053 --> 00:36:23,764  
And what was really sad is I had to...

626

00:36:24,432 --> 00:36:26,767  
film a reality show

627

00:36:27,226 --> 00:36:29,061  
to make it look like he did.

628

00:36:30,855 --> 00:36:33,232  
I ain't lived with that till this moment.

629

00:36:37,445 --> 00:36:39,322  
Sweet money right here, buddy.

630

00:36:39,697 --> 00:36:41,699  
Five thousand right here.

631

00:36:43,367 --> 00:36:44,994  
God, they're tiny, aren't they?

632

00:36:55,671 --> 00:36:56,964  
[Joe] Are the animals happy?

633  
00:37:00,885 --> 00:37:02,220  
Who the hell knows?

634  
00:37:04,972 --> 00:37:07,975  
I finally moved my two chimpanzees  
last week.

635  
00:37:10,561 --> 00:37:12,688  
Probably one of the hardest days  
of my life.

636  
00:37:15,775 --> 00:37:18,027  
They sat in cages next to each other

637  
00:37:18,110 --> 00:37:19,445  
for over ten years.

638  
00:37:20,863 --> 00:37:23,699  
And we moved them  
to the Great Apes Center in Florida.

639  
00:37:25,743 --> 00:37:28,829  
And in two days,  
they were out in a big yard

640  
00:37:29,413 --> 00:37:30,998  
hugging on each other.

641  
00:37:34,126 --> 00:37:37,505  
Did I deprive them of that for ten years?

642  
00:37:38,714 --> 00:37:39,548  
Yep.

643  
00:37:45,471 --> 00:37:48,099  
I... I deprived them of... of...

644  
00:37:49,308 --> 00:37:50,893  
being chimpanzees.

645  
00:37:59,151 --> 00:38:00,820  
Did I do it on purpose?

646  
00:38:02,196 --> 00:38:04,198  
No, I was wrapped up in... in...

647  
00:38:04,824 --> 00:38:05,866  
having a zoo.

648  
00:38:48,284 --> 00:38:50,286  
[country song plays]

649  
00:39:01,088 --> 00:39:03,507  
♪ Tell all the hunters ♪

650  
00:39:04,175 --> 00:39:06,886  
♪ To lay down their guns ♪

651  
00:39:07,970 --> 00:39:10,473  
♪ Tell them that the tiger ♪

652  
00:39:11,098 --> 00:39:13,351  
♪ Needs a little bit of love ♪

653  
00:39:14,393 --> 00:39:16,979  
♪ Let 'em run the jungle ♪

654  
00:39:17,813 --> 00:39:20,441  
♪ Let them roam their land ♪

655  
00:39:21,359 --> 00:39:24,153  
♪ Then stand back and marvel ♪

656  
00:39:24,779 --> 00:39:27,531  
♪ What a beautiful cat ♪

657  
00:39:28,074 --> 00:39:31,577  
♪ 'Cause I saw tiger ♪

658



00:39:31,660 --> 00:39:34,705  
♪ Now I understand ♪

659  
00:39:35,373 --> 00:39:38,376  
♪ I saw tiger ♪

660  
00:39:38,834 --> 00:39:40,836  
♪ And the tiger saw man ♪

661  
00:39:41,837 --> 00:39:43,714  
♪ I can give him a home ♪

662  
00:39:45,466 --> 00:39:47,468  
♪ Safe and warm ♪

663  
00:39:48,761 --> 00:39:51,555  
♪ But the law wants to ban me ♪

664  
00:39:52,223 --> 00:39:54,683  
♪ Can you tell me who's wrong ♪

665  
00:39:55,976 --> 00:39:58,729  
♪ Every time they move ♪

666  
00:39:59,063 --> 00:40:01,816  
♪ Every time they breathe ♪

667  
00:40:02,441 --> 00:40:05,444  
♪ I can feel their power ♪

668  
00:40:05,945 --> 00:40:08,739  
♪ I can feel their heat ♪

669  
00:40:09,448 --> 00:40:12,284  
♪ 'Cause I saw tiger ♪

670  
00:40:12,701 --> 00:40:15,579  
♪ Now I understand ♪

671  
00:40:16,580 --> 00:40:18,999  
♪ I saw tiger ♪

672

00:40:19,959 --> 00:40:21,961

♪ And the tiger saw man ♪

**N** SERIES  
**TIGER KING**  
MURDER, MAYHEM AND MADNESS



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