

# TIGER KING

**CREATED BY**

Rebecca Chaiklin | Eric Goode

**EPISODE 2.01**

**"Beg Your Pardon"**

With Joe in prison, others from the series seek to capitalize on their fame. Meanwhile, a team forms to press Donald Trump for a presidential pardon.

**WRITTEN BY:**

Rebecca Chaiklin | Eric Goode

**DIRECTED BY:**

Rebecca Chaiklin | Eric Goode

**ORIGINAL BROADCAST:**

November 17, 2021

**NOTE:** This is a transcription of the spoken dialogue and audio, with time-code reference, provided without cost by 8FLiX.com for your entertainment, convenience, and study. This version may not be *exactly* as written in the original script; however, the intellectual property is still reserved by the original source and may be subject to copyright.

---

## SERIES CAST

Joe Exotic ... Self - G.W. Zoo  
Carole Baskin ... Self - Big Cat Rescue  
Howard Baskin ... Self - Big Cat Rescue  
Bhagavan Antle ... Self - Myrtle Beach Safari  
James Garretson ... Self - Businessman  
Allen Glover ... Self - Former Handyman, G.W.  
Zoo/"Hitman"  
Jeff Lowe ... Self - Businessman  
Lauren Lowe ... Self - Jeff's Wife  
Dillon Passage ... Self - Joe's Ex-Husband  
Tim Stark ... Self - Wildlife in Need  
Jeff Duncan ... Self - Dillon Passage's Manager  
John Reinke ... Self - Former Manager, G.W. Zoo  
Kelci Saffery ... Self - Former Animal Keeper, G.W. Zoo  
Brittany Peet ... Self - Captive Animal Law Enforcement,  
PETA  
Eric Love ... Self - Leader, Team Tiger  
Jeff Hoover ... Self - Joe's Lawyer  
Francisco Hernandez ... Self - Joe's Lawyer  
Mike Busey ... Self - Podcaster  
Yarri Schreibvogel ... Self - Joe's Brother  
Kimberly Craft ... Self - Joe's Ex-Fiancée  
Brian Rhyne ... Self - Joe's First Husband (archive)  
Chealsi Putman ... Self - Joe's Niece  
Ronnie O'Neal ... Self - Former Sergeant, Eastvale PD  
Heidi Somers ... Self - Former Board Member, G.W. Zoo  
Gaylynn Eastwood ... Self - Former Employee, G.W. Zoo  
John Finlay ... Self - Joe's Ex-Husband  
Joshua Dial ... Self - Joe's Campaign Manager  
Ripper Jack ... Self - Armchair Detective  
Jerry Mitchell ... Self - Investigative Reporter  
Sheriff Chad Chronister ... Self - Hillsborough County Sheriff's  
Office  
Alan Schreier ... Self - Carole's Ex-Boyfriend  
Todd Schreier ... Self - Alan's Son  
Anne McQueen ... Self - Don's Executive Assistant  
Donna Pettis ... Self - Don's Daughter  
Lynda Sanchez ... Self - Don's Daughter  
Gale Rathbone ... Self - Don's Daughter  
Corporal Moises Garcia ... Self - Detective, Hillsborough County  
Sheriff's Office  
Judy Watson ... Self - Former Volunteer, Big Cat Rescue  
Jim Moore ... Self - Former Volunteer, Big Cat Rescue  
Joseph Fritz ... Self - Don's Attorney  
Rey Rodriguez ... Self - Don's Associate  
Henry Porras ... Self - Don's Notary  
Valo Murillo ... Self - Don's Farmhand  
Genaro Rodriguez ... Self - Aircraft Mechanic  
Mary LeBouef ... Self - Don's Hotel Manager  
Lenora LaPeter Anton ... Self - Journalist, Tampa Bay Times  
Kenny Farr ... Self - Don's Handyman  
Alex Mora ... Self - Don's Chauffeur

---

Giocondia Bulgarelli	...	Self - Don's Neighbor
John Phillips	...	Self - Civil Rights Lawyer
Sandra Wittkopp	...	Self - Notary & Don and Carole's Former Housekeeper
Ira M. Lockhart	...	Self - Process Server
Trish Payne	...	Self - Kenny Farr's Ex-Husband
Tim Bengston	...	Self - Former Volunteer, Big Cat Rescue
Matthew Marvel	...	Self - Trish's Son
Troy Griffin	...	Self - Psychic Investigator
Scott Shoemaker	...	Self - Tiger Owner, Rexano
Zuzana Kokol	...	Self - Tiger Owner, Rexano
Joe Barth	...	Self - Owner, Hwy.21 Drive-In Theater
Darcy Spears	...	Self - Journalist, KTNV-TV
Timothy Clark	...	Self - Former Volunteer, Wildlife in Need
Evelyn Stark	...	Self - Tim Stark's Mother
Roy Hardin	...	Self - Neighbor of New Zoo
Erik Cowie	...	Self - Head Keeper, G.W. Zoo
Taryn Walker	...	Self - Former Keeper, G.W. Zoo
Tyrone Jackson	...	Self - Former Volunteer, G.W. Zoo
Ashley Webster	...	Self - Former Employee, G.W. Zoo
Aimee Perry	...	Self - Former Employee, Wildlife in Need
Shay McAlister	...	Self - Investigative Journalist, WHAS
Curtis Hill	...	Self - Attorney General of Indiana
Pat Craig	...	Self - The Wild Animal Sanctuary
Barney Long	...	Self - Conservation Biologist

1

00:00:10 --> 00:00:12  
[mysterious music playing]

2

00:00:17 --> 00:00:19  
[clock ticking]

3

00:00:37 --> 00:00:40  
-[ticking stops]  
-[country music playing on TV]

4

00:00:41 --> 00:00:45  
[on TV] My name is Joe Exotic,  
and this is Thunder and Lightning!

5

00:00:45 --> 00:00:50  
Hi, I'm Carole Baskin, and I'm the founder  
and CEO of Big Cat Rescue.

6

00:00:50 --> 00:00:53  
[John Reinke] Animal people are nuts, man,  
and I might be one of them people.

7

00:00:55 --> 00:00:57  
[reporter 1] Tigers are so hot right now!

8

00:00:57 --> 00:00:59  
[reporter 2] Let's talk about  
the Tiger King first.

9

00:00:59 --> 00:01:01  
Is that Joe Exotic? That's Joe Exotic?

10

00:01:02 --> 00:01:04  
[Joe Rogan] Have you heard about this dude

11

00:01:04 --> 00:01:07  
who's in a battle with a lady  
who might've fed her ex-husband to tigers?

12

00:01:07 --> 00:01:10  
Hey, all you cool cats and kittens,  
it's Carole Baskin.

13

00:01:11 --> 00:01:14  
[reporter 3] People cannot get enough  
of his feud with Carole Baskin.

14

00:01:14 --> 00:01:19  
[reporter 4] Much like Joe, the effort  
to free him is flashy and over the top.

15

00:01:19 --> 00:01:23  
I've been in prison because of  
Carole [bleeping] Baskin, you bitch!

16

00:01:29 --> 00:01:31  
[soft country music playing]

17

00:01:32 --> 00:01:34  
[automated voice]  
You have a prepaid call from...

18

00:01:34 --> 00:01:35  
[Joe] Joe Exotic.

19

00:01:36 --> 00:01:39  
[automated voice]  
...an inmate at a federal prison.

20

00:01:41 --> 00:01:43  
[Joe on phone] I'm sitting on a trash can.

21

00:01:43 --> 00:01:45  
[woman laughing]  
You're sitting on a trash can?

22

00:01:47 --> 00:01:48  
You know, it would be nice

23

00:01:48 --> 00:01:51  
if I could actually see  
me being famous out there.

24

00:01:51 --> 00:01:55

But I mean, I've seen these same  
four walls for a year and a half now.

25

00:01:55 --> 00:01:58  
I would love to be able  
to watch the documentary.

26

00:01:58 --> 00:02:00  
Maybe later down the road, I can.

27

00:02:00 --> 00:02:03  
But, you know, with all of the guards,

28

00:02:03 --> 00:02:05  
they're singing my music videos, and..

29

00:02:06 --> 00:02:08  
you know, wanting autographs,

30

00:02:08 --> 00:02:11  
and saying they're gonna  
buy my underwear off the internet.

31

00:02:11 --> 00:02:13  
It's fun. You know, it's cool.

32

00:02:14 --> 00:02:17  
I would love to be able  
to walk out of here,

33

00:02:17 --> 00:02:19  
but I can't.

34

00:02:19 --> 00:02:21  
[indistinct chatter]

35

00:02:25 --> 00:02:26  
[Reinke] Selfies are 15.

36

00:02:26 --> 00:02:27  
[woman] All right.

37

00:02:27 --> 00:02:28  
[Reinke] Cool.

38

00:02:30 --> 00:02:34  
[Joe on phone] Everybody from the zoo  
is out there making money

39

00:02:34 --> 00:02:37  
using "Joe Exotic" and talking shit.

40

00:02:37 --> 00:02:42  
Joe is a lost, lonely guy  
that just went way too far.

41

00:02:42 --> 00:02:46  
Sorry, buddy, but you did what you did,  
and now you gotta serve your time for it.

42

00:02:47 --> 00:02:50  
[Joe on phone] I'm paying the price  
for every one of them people.

43

00:02:50 --> 00:02:52  
My big, handsome boy.

44

00:02:53 --> 00:02:54  
[Joe on phone] I'm done with it.

45

00:02:55 --> 00:02:59  
I will die making sure  
that they end up in prison.

46

00:02:59 --> 00:03:03  
Yeah. Welcome to my world of bullshit.

47

00:03:03 --> 00:03:06  
[epic country music playing]

48

00:03:08 --> 00:03:11  
[announcer 1] Gentlemen,  
start your engines!

49

00:03:15 --> 00:03:17  
[reporter 1] Things have  
changed in Wynnewood.

50

00:03:17 --> 00:03:19  
With Joe now in prison,

51

00:03:19 --> 00:03:22  
this cast of characters  
are moving forward.

52

00:03:22 --> 00:03:25  
[announcer 2] Dancing the pasodoble,  
it's Carole Baskin!

53

00:03:26 --> 00:03:29  
[reporter 2] The Tiger King empire  
might be completely declawed.

54

00:03:29 --> 00:03:32  
[reporter 3] Congress making a big push  
to ban backyard big cats.

55

00:03:32 --> 00:03:34  
They think taking my animals  
is gonna shut me up?

56

00:03:34 --> 00:03:36  
Watch how the fucking game is played.

57

00:03:37 --> 00:03:39  
[Joe on phone] I am trying to  
get the fuck out of here.

58

00:03:39 --> 00:03:42  
If I have to make a deal with the Devil,  
I will make a deal with the Devil.

59

00:03:42 --> 00:03:44  
[country music crescendos]

60

00:03:53 --> 00:03:55



[soft country music playing]

61

00:04:03 --> 00:04:05

[Jeff Lowe] Tiger King  
changed our lives overnight.

62

00:04:05 --> 00:04:08

Anywhere we go, people know my name.

63

00:04:08 --> 00:04:11

I think it makes sense to capitalize.

64

00:04:11 --> 00:04:14

I thought, "You know what,  
how badass would it be to have a big 'TK'

65

00:04:14 --> 00:04:16

right in the center of the park  
when you came in?"

66

00:04:16 --> 00:04:19

[reporter] Many are in a rush  
to get out of quarantine,

67

00:04:19 --> 00:04:22

and this place first  
on their list of trips.

68

00:04:22 --> 00:04:25

The virus not giving anyone here pause.

69

00:04:25 --> 00:04:27

[Jeff] I bet you we've taken 20...

70

00:04:27 --> 00:04:29

-30,000 photographs with people.  
-It's incredible.

71

00:04:30 --> 00:04:35

[Brittany Peet] We saw huge crowds  
and lines of people.

72

00:04:35 --> 00:04:38  
Jeff seemed to be making money  
hand over fist.

73  
00:04:39 --> 00:04:40  
[woman] Oh my--

74  
00:04:40 --> 00:04:44  
[Brittany] Even though we knew  
that tigers could contract Covid-19.

75  
00:04:44 --> 00:04:47  
PETA has submitted a lot of complaints

76  
00:04:47 --> 00:04:50  
about conditions for animals  
at Jeff Lowe's facility.

77  
00:04:51 --> 00:04:54  
[Jeff] PETA is  
conspiring to put us out of business

78  
00:04:54 --> 00:04:55  
when we're not doing a thing wrong.

79  
00:04:56 --> 00:04:59  
We've gotten lots of trespassers,

80  
00:04:59 --> 00:05:01  
several death threats.

81  
00:05:02 --> 00:05:04  
[woman] I'm sorry, who are you?

82  
00:05:04 --> 00:05:06  
This is private property.

83  
00:05:06 --> 00:05:07  
This is private. Who the fuck are y'all?

84  
00:05:08 --> 00:05:09  
[man] We're subcontractors--

85

00:05:09 --&gt; 00:05:10

-For who?

-[man] For a production.

86

00:05:10 --&gt; 00:05:13

-Uh, we're not at liberty to say.

-Then you can get the fuck off.

87

00:05:14 --&gt; 00:05:16

[Jeff] Quit pointing this fucker at me!

88

00:05:16 --&gt; 00:05:19

So, we brought John in from Vegas.

89

00:05:19 --&gt; 00:05:22

Come on our property,  
and this is what you'll deal with.

90

00:05:23 --&gt; 00:05:24

[gun firing]

91

00:05:24 --&gt; 00:05:28

[Joe on phone] There's an innocent man  
in prison because of Jeff Lowe.

92

00:05:29 --&gt; 00:05:33

It's insane.

I gotta get the hell out of this jail.

93

00:05:34 --&gt; 00:05:36

[all] Free Joe Exotic!

94

00:05:37 --&gt; 00:05:40

[Dillon Passage]

I absolutely love Joe, but...

95

00:05:40 --&gt; 00:05:42

you know,

I don't want to be forever known as

96

00:05:43 --&gt; 00:05:46

just "Joe Exotic's husband."  
I want to be Dillon Passage.

97

00:05:46 --> 00:05:48  
[Joe on phone] Dillon turned into  
a little monster,

98

00:05:49 --> 00:05:52  
because he wants his five minutes of fame.

99

00:05:52 --> 00:05:55  
My name is Jeff Duncan. I'm Dillon's boss.

100

00:05:55 --> 00:05:56  
Ah! False.

101

00:05:56 --> 00:05:58  
[laughing]

102

00:05:59 --> 00:06:00  
He's my manager.

103

00:06:00 --> 00:06:02  
Okay, he's my boss.

104

00:06:03 --> 00:06:06  
We're about to have my merch drop.

105

00:06:06 --> 00:06:10  
This one, we have been told,  
is extremely effective,

106

00:06:10 --> 00:06:12  
and we can call it Tail Brightener.

107

00:06:12 --> 00:06:14  
Some people call it anal bleach.

108

00:06:14 --> 00:06:17  
I really thought this was for your face.

109

00:06:17 --> 00:06:20  
We've been instructed not to put it  
on our face. Don't put it on your face.

110  
00:06:20 --> 00:06:22  
[man] And three, two...

111  
00:06:23 --> 00:06:27  
I'm John Reinke. When you  
have an accident, and it's serious...

112  
00:06:27 --> 00:06:29  
-Ah, fuck.  
-No, I like that right there, strong.

113  
00:06:29 --> 00:06:30  
[man] Let's go again.

114  
00:06:30 --> 00:06:33  
[Reinke] I think Joe might get out.  
I really do.

115  
00:06:33 --> 00:06:36  
Everybody thinks Joe was done wrongly,  
so Joe needs to be out.

116  
00:06:37 --> 00:06:39  
Hey, y'all, I just got a letter  
from the Tiger King.

117  
00:06:39 --> 00:06:43  
I wrote him a few months ago.  
Didn't expect to get it back, but I did.

118  
00:06:43 --> 00:06:46  
Joe Exotic needs you more now than ever.

119  
00:06:46 --> 00:06:48  
He shouldn't be in jail,  
because he is innocent.

120  
00:06:49 --> 00:06:52  
[Saff Saffery] This is what he wanted,

to be on every social media platform,

121

00:06:52 --> 00:06:54  
on every billboard,

122

00:06:55 --> 00:06:57  
to be the talk of the town.

123

00:06:57 --> 00:07:00  
Joe has been famous  
in his own head forever.

124

00:07:00 --> 00:07:01  
-Help!  
-Stole my...

125

00:07:01 --> 00:07:05  
I was incredibly disappointed  
by the public's reaction to Carole

126

00:07:05 --> 00:07:07  
versus the reaction to Joe.

127

00:07:07 --> 00:07:09  
Hi, my name's Jimmy--

128

00:07:09 --> 00:07:12  
[Brittany] The reaction to Joe  
was #FreeJoeExotic,

129

00:07:12 --> 00:07:15  
certain people treating him  
like some kind of folk hero

130

00:07:15 --> 00:07:19  
when he was convicted  
of trying to murder this woman.

131

00:07:19 --> 00:07:23  
But the negative stuff we saw was,  
"That bitch Carole Baskin."

132

00:07:23 --> 00:07:27

When we find that bitch Carole Baskin,  
we're gonna put her head on a stick.

133

00:07:27 --> 00:07:31

She was terrorized for so long by Joe.

134

00:07:32 --> 00:07:35

Now, all these other people  
are coming after her.

135

00:07:35 --> 00:07:38

[officer] This is the Hillsborough County  
Sheriff's Office.

136

00:07:38 --> 00:07:42

[woman] I am part of a Facebook group  
for that thing that came out on Netflix.

137

00:07:42 --> 00:07:43

[officer] Okay.

138

00:07:43 --> 00:07:46

[woman] And there's  
threats of hundreds of people

139

00:07:46 --> 00:07:49

bum-rushing the owner  
and hurting the owner.

140

00:07:49 --> 00:07:53

The vast majority of the calls,  
and social posts, and emails

141

00:07:53 --> 00:07:56

that I was getting were so hateful.

142

00:07:56 --> 00:07:59

I couldn't leave my phone on  
because I couldn't sleep.

143

00:07:59 --> 00:08:01

It was just constantly ringing.

144  
00:08:01 --> 00:08:03  
[man] Carole, it's an emergency.

145  
00:08:03 --> 00:08:05  
I found an injured bobcat  
on the corner of--

146  
00:08:05 --> 00:08:07  
-I know you murdered your husband, you--  
-[phone beeps]

147  
00:08:07 --> 00:08:10  
-[woman] Free Joe Exotic! Free Joe Exotic!  
-[phone beeps]

148  
00:08:10 --> 00:08:12  
[man] You put a hero behind bars.

149  
00:08:12 --> 00:08:17  
There's a clear, ridiculous,  
misogynistic double standard there.

150  
00:08:17 --> 00:08:19  
There's not a shred of doubt in my mind

151  
00:08:19 --> 00:08:25  
that that lady's husband  
is tiger sashimi right now.

152  
00:08:26 --> 00:08:28  
I'm just saying. [laughing]

153  
00:08:28 --> 00:08:32  
[Sam Roberts] The people were exposed  
to a great criminal injustice,

154  
00:08:32 --> 00:08:35  
and that's the fact  
that Joe Exotic went to jail.

155  
00:08:35 --> 00:08:37



He's asking for a presidential pardon.

156

00:08:37 --> 00:08:38

[Trump Jr.] I've heard that.

157

00:08:38 --> 00:08:41

Is that true, though?

Or is that just someone coming up with it?

158

00:08:41 --> 00:08:42

It sounds true.

159

00:08:42 --> 00:08:44

It sounds like something  
Joe would ask for. Yeah.

160

00:08:44 --> 00:08:45

It does.

161

00:08:46 --> 00:08:48

If he has to go through  
another trial and everything,

162

00:08:48 --> 00:08:52

we're talking about years  
and lots and lots of money.

163

00:08:52 --> 00:08:54

The presidential pardon  
would just get him out.

164

00:08:56 --> 00:08:59

[Eric Love] I can guarantee you  
that a presidential pardon

165

00:09:00 --> 00:09:02

has never been done like this  
in US history.

166

00:09:02 --> 00:09:05

We're using the biggest bus on US soil.

167

00:09:05 --> 00:09:07  
We're putting on a show.

168  
00:09:08 --> 00:09:12  
I reached out to Joe and explained  
to him that I had looked at his case,

169  
00:09:12 --> 00:09:16  
and I felt like we had a good opportunity  
to blow holes all through it.

170  
00:09:16 --> 00:09:18  
I think we can get him released.

171  
00:09:18 --> 00:09:20  
I've assembled a team right now

172  
00:09:20 --> 00:09:23  
that is gonna put  
the five finger death punch on this case.

173  
00:09:25 --> 00:09:29  
Around the beginning of Covid,  
Joe was transferred to Fort Worth.

174  
00:09:29 --> 00:09:33  
Eric called me and said he had a case  
for us to work on if I was interested.

175  
00:09:33 --> 00:09:37  
He told me what it was, and I said,  
"I'm in, whatever it is. It's fun."

176  
00:09:37 --> 00:09:41  
Our investigators have uncovered  
quite a bit of evidence that was unknown

177  
00:09:41 --> 00:09:44  
at the time of trial  
and obviously affected the trial.

178  
00:09:45 --> 00:09:46  
Joe got screwed.

179

00:09:46 --&gt; 00:09:49

But, look,  
notoriety is what we need for a pardon.

180

00:09:50 --&gt; 00:09:52

And has there ever been an inmate

181

00:09:52 --&gt; 00:09:56

that gets as much support, love, fan mail?

No.

182

00:09:56 --&gt; 00:09:58

[printer whirring]

183

00:10:00 --&gt; 00:10:03

[Eric] Ain't nothing wrong  
with being a trailer park Liberace, boy.

184

00:10:04 --&gt; 00:10:06

Look at this picture right here.

185

00:10:06 --&gt; 00:10:07

-Ah!

-Right.

186

00:10:07 --&gt; 00:10:10

Like something  
that ought to be on a bottle of wine.

187

00:10:10 --&gt; 00:10:11

-Right?

-Yes.

188

00:10:12 --&gt; 00:10:15

-Hello?

-[man on phone] Hey, what are you doing?

189

00:10:15 --&gt; 00:10:19

Actually wrapping the Tiger King Cadillac,  
believe it or not.

190

00:10:19 --> 00:10:23  
[Eric] Joe is gonna be so proud of this  
when I send him pictures of this.

191  
00:10:23 --> 00:10:26  
He's gonna be so proud  
that it came out as good as it did.

192  
00:10:29 --> 00:10:32  
[Brittany] Joe hired people to hunt  
and murder Carole,

193  
00:10:32 --> 00:10:39  
but people feel for Joe because Jeff Lowe  
and James Garretson may have set him up.

194  
00:10:40 --> 00:10:43  
[man 1] The only reason  
the Tiger King got put in jail

195  
00:10:43 --> 00:10:45  
is 'cause everyone put him in jail.

196  
00:10:45 --> 00:10:47  
[laughing] The fat guy  
they kept putting "businessman" under

197  
00:10:47 --> 00:10:50  
-who owned a couple strip clubs.  
-[man 2] He's an idiot, though.

198  
00:10:50 --> 00:10:52  
-He's super cocky. I hate him.  
-[man 3] Yeah.

199  
00:10:54 --> 00:10:57  
[James on phone] I constantly get  
bad reviews on my jet ski business

200  
00:10:57 --> 00:11:00  
because of the Tiger King show.

201  
00:11:00 --> 00:11:05

My reviews went from a five to a three.  
So I'm getting fucked with all the time.

202

00:11:10 --> 00:11:11  
When did you get this?

203

00:11:11 --> 00:11:13  
[woman] A couple weeks ago.

204

00:11:15 --> 00:11:15  
\$14.97.

205

00:11:16 --> 00:11:22  
"She paid Jeff and James..." Me.  
"...to get my zoo. Bastards."

206

00:11:22 --> 00:11:24  
"Be my voice. Joe Exotic."  
The Tiger Queen.

207

00:11:24 --> 00:11:27  
Yeah, that guy's  
an animal-murdering piece of shit.

208

00:11:28 --> 00:11:30  
-Did you write him the letter?  
-We kinda all like him.

209

00:11:30 --> 00:11:33  
We all wrote him a letter.  
I mean, what's wrong with that?

210

00:11:34 --> 00:11:35  
-Perfect.  
-Joe's gonna hate you.

211

00:11:35 --> 00:11:39  
-That's okay.  
-He'll be like, "Fuck that piece of shit!"

212

00:11:39 --> 00:11:41  
Tell Joe the life-size Chucky  
came by to say hi.

213

00:11:41 --> 00:11:43  
[woman] I will definitely do that.

214

00:11:43 --> 00:11:47  
[James] The public sees me  
as just the snitch, you know?

215

00:11:47 --> 00:11:48  
A lot of people don't know the facts.

216

00:11:48 --> 00:11:52  
And I've been talking to a lot of people  
like Mike Busey.

217

00:11:52 --> 00:11:55  
I'm kind of like a preacher  
that serves beer at church,

218

00:11:55 --> 00:11:59  
and I'm okay with strippers  
and other crazy stuff.

219

00:11:59 --> 00:12:00  
[James] He has a big following.

220

00:12:00 --> 00:12:03  
He built the Sausage Castle,  
where it's like an adult playground.

221

00:12:04 --> 00:12:06  
He has a lot of people that support him.

222

00:12:07 --> 00:12:11  
This used to be a garage  
which is now our podcast studio.

223

00:12:11 --> 00:12:14  
We try to entertain the people  
who follow our podcast.

224

00:12:15 --> 00:12:20

You, sir, are by far one of the most  
hated individuals in Tiger King,

225

00:12:20 --> 00:12:25

but now, this is like your opportunity  
to become the hero of the piece.

226

00:12:26 --> 00:12:29

You know, everybody turned on Joe.  
It wasn't just me.

227

00:12:30 --> 00:12:37

Did Joe Exotic pay  
to have Carole Baskins killed?

228

00:12:37 --> 00:12:38

I don't think so.

229

00:12:38 --> 00:12:43

I think it was some kind of scheme  
that Jeff Lowe and Glover worked out,

230

00:12:43 --> 00:12:47

and I mean, I'm pretty sure  
Jeff Lowe was behind it all.

231

00:12:48 --> 00:12:51

[Francisco] James Garretson  
wanted to be a big shot,

232

00:12:51 --> 00:12:54

and all of a sudden,  
he gets to be a government agent.

233

00:12:55 --> 00:12:58

So to avoid prosecution  
on his own charges,

234

00:12:58 --> 00:13:00

he starts dancing with the Devil.

235

00:13:00 --> 00:13:03

If Joe Exotic is guilty

of murder for hire,

236

00:13:03 --> 00:13:06  
Jeff Lowe should have been  
the first one prosecuted.

237

00:13:07 --> 00:13:08  
He drove the money.

238

00:13:09 --> 00:13:11  
He set up the meetings  
with the government.

239

00:13:12 --> 00:13:16  
Joe has no criminal history.  
As a matter of fact, he was the--

240

00:13:16 --> 00:13:18  
[Francisco] Youngest police chief  
in Texas.

241

00:13:18 --> 00:13:21  
The youngest police chief in Texas,  
so I think that speaks volumes.

242

00:13:21 --> 00:13:24  
Jeff Lowe, on the other hand,  
does have criminal history.

243

00:13:25 --> 00:13:26  
[Eric] How could it be

244

00:13:26 --> 00:13:29  
that Jeff Lowe's criminal cases  
in Las Vegas are still pending?

245

00:13:29 --> 00:13:33  
Why were the firearm possession charges  
against him not filed in Las Vegas?

246

00:13:33 --> 00:13:34  
He's a felon.



247

00:13:35 --&gt; 00:13:37

[Jeff] If people knew who Joe was,

248

00:13:37 --&gt; 00:13:40

there would not be  
a single "Free Joe" shirt in America.

249

00:13:40 --&gt; 00:13:43

These people don't know Joe.  
He is a monster,

250

00:13:43 --&gt; 00:13:47

and if you go so deep,  
dark into who he is,

251

00:13:48 --&gt; 00:13:50

you'd be like, "Oh, wow!"

252

00:13:51 --&gt; 00:13:53

[Yarri Schriebvogel]  
Joe screwed over a million people.

253

00:13:55 --&gt; 00:13:58

I don't understand  
why all these bullshit lawyers

254

00:13:58 --&gt; 00:14:00

ain't ever talked to the right people.

255

00:14:01 --&gt; 00:14:04

Everybody says, "What do you think  
about the Tiger King show?"

256

00:14:05 --&gt; 00:14:07

It's like, "Dude,  
I have never watched any of it."

257

00:14:07 --&gt; 00:14:11

When you live 20 years of it,  
you don't want to see it anymore.

258

00:14:18 --&gt; 00:14:19

[rifle cocking]

259

00:14:25 --> 00:14:29

Adios, Joe. I still got plenty of bullets.

260

00:14:32 --> 00:14:36

Actually, I haven't seen Joe  
face to face in 20 years

261

00:14:36 --> 00:14:39

and don't want to.  
Because it ain't going to be pretty.

262

00:14:43 --> 00:14:47

Here's a picture of me,  
and there's Garold, and Tammy,

263

00:14:48 --> 00:14:50

Pam, and Joe.

264

00:14:50 --> 00:14:53

It didn't matter what he had to do  
to get people to look at him,

265

00:14:53 --> 00:14:54

he would do it.

266

00:14:55 --> 00:14:56

It was like he was a little con.

267

00:15:04 --> 00:15:06

[Joe on phone] I was born  
in Garden City, Kansas

268

00:15:06 --> 00:15:10

and stayed there on the farm  
until I was 13.

269

00:15:10 --> 00:15:13

[Yarri] We always fought,  
because we always had to do the work,

270

00:15:13 --> 00:15:15  
and he got out of it all the time.

271  
00:15:17 --> 00:15:20  
Joe used to walk around  
with a damn BB gun shooting stuff

272  
00:15:21 --> 00:15:23  
and then wrap 'em up  
and doctor 'em back to life.

273  
00:15:24 --> 00:15:27  
[Joe] I used to pick up  
the medicine bottles

274  
00:15:27 --> 00:15:30  
from Mom and Dad  
and everybody working the cattle,

275  
00:15:30 --> 00:15:32  
and I would fill those with colored water.

276  
00:15:32 --> 00:15:35  
And that was my veterinarian medicine.

277  
00:15:35 --> 00:15:39  
[Yarri] He went through stages  
of being different people.

278  
00:15:39 --> 00:15:42  
He'd dress up as a cowboy one day.

279  
00:15:42 --> 00:15:44  
Then he'd dress up as a grandma.

280  
00:15:44 --> 00:15:47  
And it was just like  
he was in a make-believe world.

281  
00:15:49 --> 00:15:52  
But in reality, we worked  
from daylight to dark every day.

282

00:15:54 --> 00:15:56  
We were my dad's hired help.

283

00:15:57 --> 00:16:00  
And we took an ass whooping  
when we were on the farm.

284

00:16:01 --> 00:16:04  
[Joe] My dad hit me  
with an irrigation shovel,

285

00:16:04 --> 00:16:06  
and he almost drowned my brother.

286

00:16:07 --> 00:16:11  
Every time my dad done something wrong,  
it was always our fault.

287

00:16:13 --> 00:16:16  
I've been in a broken family  
my whole life. It's all I know.

288

00:16:22 --> 00:16:25  
That's back when we used to chase coyotes.

289

00:16:26 --> 00:16:30  
We had a lot of great dogs.  
We took 'em all hunting.

290

00:16:30 --> 00:16:34  
And we used to have a black lab.  
She'd have puppies.

291

00:16:34 --> 00:16:36  
Dad put all them puppies in a burlap sack,

292

00:16:36 --> 00:16:39  
and throw them in a pond,  
and drowned them.

293

00:16:40 --> 00:16:42  
He did it

because he knew it would mess us up.

294

00:16:43 --> 00:16:47

[Joe] I was raised  
in an abusive situation at home,

295

00:16:48 --> 00:16:51

and I was gonna break that abusive cycle.

296

00:16:52 --> 00:16:54

One of the guys  
I graduated high school with

297

00:16:54 --> 00:16:56

was a cop in another town.

298

00:16:57 --> 00:17:00

And I was like,  
"You know, this would be kind of cool."

299

00:17:01 --> 00:17:06

So, I decided to become a police chief  
because I wanted to help people.

300

00:17:08 --> 00:17:11

At the age of 19, I graduated the academy,

301

00:17:11 --> 00:17:15

and I was the youngest cop  
in the state of Texas.

302

00:17:15 --> 00:17:19

Save the world, you know? From drugs,  
and alcohol, and all that good shit.

303

00:17:21 --> 00:17:25

[Ronnie O'Neal] This one here,  
it was Joe and then me.

304

00:17:25 --> 00:17:29

That was an arrest  
that Joe and I made that night.

305

00:17:29 --&gt; 00:17:34

I remember he had a Trans Am,  
and that's what he patrolled in.

306

00:17:35 --&gt; 00:17:40

It was decked out with a light bar on top,  
and it had a green and a blue strobe.

307

00:17:40 --&gt; 00:17:42

I'll never forget that long as I live.

308

00:17:43 --&gt; 00:17:46

He looked like a Christmas tree  
coming down the road.

309

00:17:48 --&gt; 00:17:52

[Kimberly Craft] He had a magnet  
that said "police"

310

00:17:52 --&gt; 00:17:54

that he put on the side of his squad car.

311

00:17:54 --&gt; 00:17:56

He was very good-looking,

312

00:17:57 --&gt; 00:18:00

and he ended up asking me out on a date.  
So we started dating.

313

00:18:00 --&gt; 00:18:04

Joe and I dated... for quite a while.

314

00:18:05 --&gt; 00:18:11

I was at a point in my life  
where I had two children and no husband.

315

00:18:11 --&gt; 00:18:15

My ex-husband beat me on a regular basis.

316

00:18:15 --&gt; 00:18:19

Joe was the one  
that got the warrant for his arrest.

317

00:18:21 --&gt; 00:18:24

And he asked me to marry him on Christmas.

318

00:18:25 --&gt; 00:18:30

Joe introduced me  
to his family as his fiancée.

319

00:18:30 --&gt; 00:18:35

[Joe on phone] I was dating  
the fire chief's daughter

320

00:18:35 --&gt; 00:18:38

and lived with her for several years.

321

00:18:39 --&gt; 00:18:41

Never had sex one time.

322

00:18:42 --&gt; 00:18:44

It really made me feel special

323

00:18:44 --&gt; 00:18:49

that Joe was a gentleman  
and wanted to wait to have sex.

324

00:18:49 --&gt; 00:18:52

I will admit I'm naive, okay, so I guess--

325

00:18:52 --&gt; 00:18:56

When somebody says something like that,  
you really want to believe it.

326

00:18:58 --&gt; 00:18:59

He would always come home late,

327

00:19:00 --&gt; 00:19:02

and some nights,  
it was like he'd been drinking.

328

00:19:03 --&gt; 00:19:07

I found out later that he was stripping  
for the mayor and all her friends.

329

00:19:07 --> 00:19:11  
They would have big parties,  
and they paid him to be a stripper,

330

00:19:12 --> 00:19:16  
which, later in life,  
I find, you know, kind of hilarious,

331

00:19:16 --> 00:19:19  
the chief of police  
stripping for the mayor.

332

00:19:19 --> 00:19:22  
[Joe on phone] We had to raise money  
to buy a fire truck.

333

00:19:22 --> 00:19:27  
So, I stripped down to a G-string  
for money to buy a fire truck.

334

00:19:28 --> 00:19:29  
It was pretty funny.

335

00:19:31 --> 00:19:35  
But I never looked at the big picture  
with Joe.

336

00:19:35 --> 00:19:38  
I mean, everybody had been telling me  
that he was gay.

337

00:19:38 --> 00:19:41  
I didn't want to believe it, but he was.

338

00:19:43 --> 00:19:46  
I found out that he was going to gay bars.

339

00:19:49 --> 00:19:51  
♪ Pickin' up strangers ♪

340

00:19:52 --> 00:19:53



♪ Let me tell you about the dangers... ♪

341

00:19:53 --> 00:19:57

[Joe on phone] I was 19 when I came out.  
It was hard, real hard.

342

00:19:59 --> 00:20:03

After I found out,  
him and I broke off the engagement.

343

00:20:04 --> 00:20:06

But anytime he had problems,

344

00:20:07 --> 00:20:12

he would turn to me to help him out,  
help him get through it.

345

00:20:12 --> 00:20:15

He said he didn't want to be gay.

346

00:20:15 --> 00:20:19

I couldn't tell you how many times  
he probably attempted suicide.

347

00:20:20 --> 00:20:22

[Joe on phone] It made me depressed.

348

00:20:23 --> 00:20:28

I spent nights on the phone  
to suicide hotlines.

349

00:20:29 --> 00:20:31

Then I met Brian and cleaned up.

350

00:20:34 --> 00:20:37

I met Brian when I was working security  
at The Roundup,

351

00:20:39 --> 00:20:41

and he was a customer.

352

00:20:42 --> 00:20:48

We dated for a while, and got married,  
and were together 16 years.

353

00:20:49 --> 00:20:52

[Kimberly] Brian and I got along great.

354

00:20:52 --> 00:20:55

He was so good with the kids.  
We all spent time together.

355

00:20:57 --> 00:21:01

I believe everybody in the family  
knew that Brian and Joe were a couple.

356

00:21:01 --> 00:21:03

Brian was included in everything.

357

00:21:03 --> 00:21:06

I called Brian "Uncle Brian"  
before I did Joe "Uncle Joe."

358

00:21:11 --> 00:21:15

[Ronnie] Joe didn't try to pretend  
to be anything that he wasn't,

359

00:21:15 --> 00:21:18

but it cost him a lot.

360

00:21:18 --> 00:21:23

Officers in surrounding towns  
would make fun of him.

361

00:21:23 --> 00:21:25

There was a couple of times

362

00:21:25 --> 00:21:31

that other officers didn't want  
to back us up when we needed help

363

00:21:31 --> 00:21:35

for the simple fact they didn't like Joe,  
which wasn't right.

364

00:21:36 --> 00:21:39  
[Joe on phone] I was bullied  
most of my life being gay

365

00:21:39 --> 00:21:42  
and kicked to the side of society.

366

00:21:42 --> 00:21:47  
But I'm not ashamed, because you just  
have to live life to the fullest.

367

00:21:47 --> 00:21:49  
You shouldn't be afraid to fall in love.

368

00:21:51 --> 00:21:53  
[melancholy country music playing]

369

00:21:53 --> 00:21:59  
♪ You were my first love  
The one that's gonna last ♪

370

00:21:59 --> 00:22:02  
♪ A million miles later... ♪

371

00:22:02 --> 00:22:05  
I know a lot of great people in Oklahoma.  
But guess what?

372

00:22:06 --> 00:22:09  
A gay cowboy doesn't fit in up there  
for a lot of reasons.

373

00:22:09 --> 00:22:15  
♪ You were my true love  
The one that's supposed to last ♪

374

00:22:15 --> 00:22:18  
♪ A million miles later ♪

375

00:22:18 --> 00:22:25  
♪ Still stranded in the past ♪

376

00:22:26 --> 00:22:29  
[Eric] For his entire life,  
Joe is targeted,

377

00:22:30 --> 00:22:33  
just like how he was targeted  
on this case.

378

00:22:34 --> 00:22:38  
[Joe on phone] I have the text messages  
between James and Jeff

379

00:22:38 --> 00:22:41  
saying they want this queer in prison.

380

00:22:44 --> 00:22:47  
And then we have  
the text messages from Jeff to Dillon

381

00:22:47 --> 00:22:50  
saying he's gonna beat the fag  
out of Dillon.

382

00:22:50 --> 00:22:54  
There's a lot of folks that are homophobic  
that are related to this case,

383

00:22:54 --> 00:22:56  
and we can prove that  
in that pardon document.

384

00:22:58 --> 00:23:02  
The man who's the star of this show  
on Netflix called Tiger King,

385

00:23:02 --> 00:23:05  
he's asking you for a pardon,  
saying he was unfairly convicted.

386

00:23:05 --> 00:23:07  
Are you recommending a pardon?

387

00:23:07 --> 00:23:10  
-Uh, no, I'm not advocating anything.  
-I'll take a look.

388  
00:23:10 --> 00:23:13  
[chuckling] Is that Joe Exotic?  
That's Joe Exotic?

389  
00:23:13 --> 00:23:16  
-[somber country music playing]  
-[crowd shouting]

390  
00:23:16 --> 00:23:17  
[man yelling] Come on!

391  
00:23:17 --> 00:23:21  
[Eric] We are here in the nation's capital  
to deliver the presidential pardon request

392  
00:23:21 --> 00:23:23  
to our surrogate at the White House.

393  
00:23:25 --> 00:23:27  
Look, this is an ugly case.

394  
00:23:27 --> 00:23:30  
You have suppressed evidence.  
You have a tainted jury.

395  
00:23:30 --> 00:23:34  
You have collusion  
of law enforcement and prosecutors.

396  
00:23:34 --> 00:23:37  
He's innocent.  
We can prove it. It's all right here.

397  
00:23:38 --> 00:23:42  
[reporter 1] And now it's official, folks,  
a petition for pardon.

398  
00:23:42 --> 00:23:45  
More than 200 pages has been filed.

399

00:23:45 --> 00:23:47  
[reporter 2] And we've  
seen with President Trump,

400

00:23:47 --> 00:23:50  
he has a history of granting clemency  
to celebrities

401

00:23:50 --> 00:23:53  
and those who are politically aligned  
with his views.

402

00:23:53 --> 00:23:55  
Carole, can I ask you a question?

403

00:23:55 --> 00:23:57  
Would it bug you  
if he got a presidential pardon?

404

00:23:57 --> 00:24:01  
Of course, because he's been trying  
for decades to get somebody to kill me,

405

00:24:01 --> 00:24:04  
so having him back out on the streets  
would be really frightening.

406

00:24:04 --> 00:24:08  
If anyone doesn't think he belongs  
in jail for the rest of his life for that,

407

00:24:08 --> 00:24:10  
they have my sympathy.

408

00:24:10 --> 00:24:14  
Because there is a bit  
of a groundswell in America, I believe,

409

00:24:14 --> 00:24:17  
of trying to get Donald Trump  
to pardon Joe Exotic--

410

00:24:17 --> 00:24:19  
Could we move on to something else?

411

00:24:20 --> 00:24:22  
Could we move on to something else?

412

00:24:30 --> 00:24:34  
[Eric] So we got a call  
about a VIP luncheon with President Trump.

413

00:24:35 --> 00:24:36  
Team Tiger had a quick meeting.

414

00:24:36 --> 00:24:38  
We knew this would be a good opportunity.

415

00:24:38 --> 00:24:44  
It would put us in front of the president  
and the folks that surround him,

416

00:24:44 --> 00:24:48  
and to continue to bring awareness  
to the request that is on the desk.

417

00:24:48 --> 00:24:50  
Please sign the presidential pardon.

418

00:24:50 --> 00:24:53  
So we drove down last night,

419

00:24:53 --> 00:24:55  
talked to the Secret Service

420

00:24:55 --> 00:24:57  
and the folks  
that we've already interfaced with.

421

00:24:57 --> 00:25:01  
-[man] I want to get a picture with you.  
-Okay, come on. Chase can take it.

422

00:25:01 --> 00:25:03  
-He can't take it.  
-I'll take it for you.

423  
00:25:03 --> 00:25:05  
-Okay.  
-Absolutely.

424  
00:25:06 --> 00:25:08  
[Eric] But this morning, I got a text.

425  
00:25:08 --> 00:25:10  
[announcer] It starts with breaking news!

426  
00:25:10 --> 00:25:14  
Breaking news. President Trump  
has tested positive for coronavirus.

427  
00:25:14 --> 00:25:17  
The President and First Lady  
are positive for Covid-19.

428  
00:25:17 --> 00:25:19  
Now in quarantine at the White House.

429  
00:25:19 --> 00:25:23  
[Joe on phone] They were supposed to  
have a sit-down dinner with Don Jr.

430  
00:25:24 --> 00:25:27  
And then his dad got admitted  
to the hospital, and that went to shit.

431  
00:25:27 --> 00:25:30  
[Eric] So, now we have to reschedule.

432  
00:25:32 --> 00:25:33  
I'm a gambler.

433  
00:25:33 --> 00:25:36  
When I feel something is in my favor,  
I push that.



434

00:25:37 --> 00:25:39  
I feel that we have a 100% chance

435

00:25:39 --> 00:25:42  
of gaining the presidential pardon  
for Joe.

436

00:25:44 --> 00:25:47  
Everything is in its place.  
We just need the signature.

437

00:25:49 --> 00:25:54  
I was, and kind of still am,  
a bit skeptical about Eric Love's position

438

00:25:54 --> 00:25:56  
being involved in Joe's case.

439

00:25:56 --> 00:25:59  
Eric Love is throwing all this money away

440

00:25:59 --> 00:26:02  
on somebody  
who he's never even personally met.

441

00:26:02 --> 00:26:05  
That's what's kind of sketchy to me.

442

00:26:06 --> 00:26:09  
[Joe on phone] At least Eric Love  
is trying to get Joe out of prison.

443

00:26:10 --> 00:26:13  
I need Dillon to help me.

444

00:26:13 --> 00:26:16  
It's heartbreaking for me,  
because I want to get him out of there,

445

00:26:17 --> 00:26:19  
but it's not like  
I can just walk up to the jail

446  
00:26:19 --> 00:26:21  
and be like, "Let him out of there."

447  
00:26:22 --> 00:26:23  
[Joe on phone] If it would  
be Dillon in jail,

448  
00:26:24 --> 00:26:26  
Joe would be on the outside  
of this building with a pickaxe

449  
00:26:26 --> 00:26:28  
trying to get a hole through the wall.

450  
00:26:29 --> 00:26:33  
[Dillon] A lot of things have happened  
since Joe's been incarcerated.

451  
00:26:33 --> 00:26:36  
I don't know how I would feel seeing Joe.

452  
00:26:36 --> 00:26:39  
It's not easy,  
and it's extremely stressful,

453  
00:26:39 --> 00:26:43  
and he's not okay with me when I'm going  
and hanging out with my friends.

454  
00:26:44 --> 00:26:47  
-[Dillon] What's up, birthday boy?  
-[all exclaiming]

455  
00:26:47 --> 00:26:49  
[Dillon] I didn't cause any of this.

456  
00:26:50 --> 00:26:53  
I don't know  
if we're going to stay married forever.

457  
00:26:56 --> 00:26:57

[Joe on phone] What makes this so hard,

458

00:26:57 --> 00:27:00  
we had an argument the morning  
that I got arrested,

459

00:27:01 --> 00:27:03  
and I haven't seen him since.

460

00:27:07 --> 00:27:10  
You know, I've lost everything.

461

00:27:11 --> 00:27:12  
I lost my brother.

462

00:27:13 --> 00:27:15  
I lost Travis.

463

00:27:16 --> 00:27:18  
I lost Brian.

464

00:27:19 --> 00:27:20  
I've been through hell.

465

00:27:22 --> 00:27:24  
[Chealsi] Brian was  
the glue of the family.

466

00:27:26 --> 00:27:28  
He always told Joe like it was.

467

00:27:28 --> 00:27:30  
Joe stayed in line with Brian.

468

00:27:32 --> 00:27:36  
But he originally got sick  
with lung cancer.

469

00:27:37 --> 00:27:41  
It progressed a little faster  
because Brian was HIV-positive.

470

00:27:42 --&gt; 00:27:45

I would go, "Grandma, does he really have to take all that medicine?"

471

00:27:45 --&gt; 00:27:48

Because, I mean, he just had baskets of medicine.

472

00:27:48 --&gt; 00:27:51

And she was like, "Yeah, that's what helps him."

473

00:27:52 --&gt; 00:27:55

And he just got so bad, it was like he was skin and bones.

474

00:27:55 --&gt; 00:27:58

Joe would rush him to the hospital for this, that, or the other.

475

00:27:59 --&gt; 00:28:01

And then the one time he took him to the hospital,

476

00:28:02 --&gt; 00:28:05

Brian died in the parking lot on the way home.

477

00:28:06 --&gt; 00:28:10

And he called me, and that was a gut-wrenching conversation.

478

00:28:11 --&gt; 00:28:13

Brian had just died in his arms.

479

00:28:13 --&gt; 00:28:15

[somber music playing]

480

00:28:15 --&gt; 00:28:18

[Heidi] Brian was his anchor.

481

00:28:18 --&gt; 00:28:21

Brian was his normal.

482

00:28:21 --> 00:28:24

[Kimberly] When Joe told me about it,  
he broke down and was crying.

483

00:28:25 --> 00:28:30

That is what completely messed him up,

484

00:28:30 --> 00:28:35

because before that,  
he wasn't the monster he is now.

485

00:28:38 --> 00:28:44

[Gaylynn Eastwood] The Joe in 2000,  
I never saw one shred of narcissism,

486

00:28:44 --> 00:28:49

but after Brian passed away,  
Joe was a totally changed person.

487

00:28:50 --> 00:28:52

And when I went back in 2014,

488

00:28:52 --> 00:28:55

everything that I thought I knew  
about Joe was just...

489

00:28:56 --> 00:28:58

gone.

490

00:28:58 --> 00:29:00

-[woman] We're just doing like our usual?  
-Yep.

491

00:29:00 --> 00:29:05

Finally sold the show.  
Got a record label deal.

492

00:29:05 --> 00:29:07

-Got a book deal.  
-That sounds exciting.

493

00:29:08 --&gt; 00:29:09

-A book deal?

-Yeah.

494

00:29:09 --&gt; 00:29:14

One of my music videos made  
the Top Country Music Videos this week.

495

00:29:14 --&gt; 00:29:16

Really?

496

00:29:16 --&gt; 00:29:19

[Joe on TV] Good afternoon, ladies and  
gentlemen, welcome to another fun episode

497

00:29:19 --&gt; 00:29:22

of A Day in My Life  
here on JoeExoticTV.com.

498

00:29:22 --&gt; 00:29:26

Joe is all about the cameras,  
and there was always a camera on him.

499

00:29:27 --&gt; 00:29:30

[Joe] Come on, go through.  
Get me a stretcher!

500

00:29:31 --&gt; 00:29:35

[Reinke] Anything personal  
or anything tragedy, it became a video.

501

00:29:35 --&gt; 00:29:37

We had a chimp that died.

502

00:29:37 --&gt; 00:29:39

-[man] We need a necropsy.  
-I want to bury her.

503

00:29:40 --&gt; 00:29:41

[Saff] You want to bury her.

504

00:29:41 --&gt; 00:29:43

[Reinke] I wanted to find out  
what happened,

505

00:29:43 --> 00:29:44  
but he wouldn't let me do a necropsy.

506

00:29:45 --> 00:29:47  
Couldn't do it. Won't cut him up.  
Had to bury it right away.

507

00:29:47 --> 00:29:50  
[melancholy music playing]

508

00:29:50 --> 00:29:54  
♪ Say something, I'm giving up on you ♪

509

00:29:58 --> 00:30:01  
♪ Anywhere, I would've... ♪

510

00:30:01 --> 00:30:05  
[Reinke] Joe made a video burying it,  
like a funeral.

511

00:30:06 --> 00:30:08  
He put a Joe Exotic shirt on it  
and everything.

512

00:30:08 --> 00:30:12  
-[music continues]  
-♪ Say something, I'm giving up on you ♪

513

00:30:17 --> 00:30:20  
[Reinke] Everything Joe did  
was for the attention.

514

00:30:23 --> 00:30:25  
This is the part I don't know what to do.

515

00:30:25 --> 00:30:28  
I don't know what the video will be doing,  
if you'll be showing something else.

516

00:30:28 --> 00:30:34  
-[soft music playing]  
-♪ Oh, my Lord, I'm so confused ♪

517  
00:30:34 --> 00:30:36  
Curl up on the rafter  
and let me look at God.

518  
00:30:37 --> 00:30:39  
-[both laughing]  
-[Reinke] Straight up there.

519  
00:30:41 --> 00:30:44  
God, man, the next money I have,

520  
00:30:44 --> 00:30:48  
I'm buying that big screen TV  
so we've got a teleprompter.

521  
00:30:50 --> 00:30:51  
[John Finlay] He was an attention seeker.

522  
00:30:53 --> 00:30:58  
He knows how to manipulate people,  
how to get 'em to do what he wants.

523  
00:30:58 --> 00:31:02  
A lot of the bad stuff I've locked away  
because I don't want to focus on it.

524  
00:31:04 --> 00:31:07  
Wherever Joe went, he left a wake  
of misery, pain, and suffering.

525  
00:31:09 --> 00:31:12  
People like John Reinke,  
you know, he lost everything.

526  
00:31:12 --> 00:31:15  
Saff. Saff lost his arm.

527  
00:31:16 --> 00:31:19  
You know, I lost my mind.



I lost my sanity.

528

00:31:21 --> 00:31:22

[Saff] When I took a step back

529

00:31:22 --> 00:31:25

and kind of looked back  
at my experience on that park,

530

00:31:25 --> 00:31:29

I know now that I wasn't doing  
what was best for those animals.

531

00:31:31 --> 00:31:35

If Joe wanted to get rid of an animal,  
he would make sure that it got done.

532

00:31:35 --> 00:31:37

[man] Did anybody get that dart?

533

00:31:38 --> 00:31:43

The evidence is unequivocal.  
The animals are the ultimate victims here.

534

00:31:45 --> 00:31:49

But I do not believe that Joe Exotic  
deserves to be in jail for 22 years.

535

00:31:51 --> 00:31:54

[Joe] They didn't think they could  
get the murder-for-hire charges to stick,

536

00:31:54 --> 00:31:56

so they stuck me with 18 animal charges

537

00:31:56 --> 00:31:59

to make me look like  
this horrible animal murderer.

538

00:32:00 --> 00:32:02

[Francisco] All the wildlife counts  
were added

539

00:32:02 --> 00:32:05  
because the murder-for-hire case  
was so weak.

540

00:32:05 --> 00:32:08  
You have a better chance  
of winning a sex offender case

541

00:32:08 --> 00:32:10  
than you do a cruelty-to-animals case,

542

00:32:11 --> 00:32:14  
and they were going to do  
whatever it took to convict him.

543

00:32:17 --> 00:32:21  
[Joe] The only thing that concerns me  
right now is getting out of this jail

544

00:32:21 --> 00:32:22  
and showing everybody the truth.

545

00:32:26 --> 00:32:29  
President Trump, this is  
Joseph Maldonado-Passage.

546

00:32:29 --> 00:32:31  
The world knows me as Joe Exotic.

547

00:32:31 --> 00:32:35  
For the last over a decade,  
I have been harassed and chased by a woman

548

00:32:35 --> 00:32:37  
by the name of Carole Baskin,

549

00:32:37 --> 00:32:41  
which would be the same thing  
as a Nancy Pelosi for you.

550

00:32:41 --> 00:32:43  
My legal team can prove to you

551

00:32:43 --&gt; 00:32:47

the convictions that I got was unwarranted  
for anything that I've done wrong.

552

00:32:48 --&gt; 00:32:54

So I'm asking you please,  
as an American citizen, to sign my pardon.

553

00:32:54 --&gt; 00:32:57

[reporter 1] The President's supporters  
flocked to the nation's capital

554

00:32:57 --&gt; 00:32:59

in Stop the Steal protests.

555

00:33:00 --&gt; 00:33:03

[reporter 2] DC leaders preparing  
for pro-Trump supporters coming back

556

00:33:03 --&gt; 00:33:05

to protest the results of the election.

557

00:33:08 --&gt; 00:33:11

[Eric] I've got liquor.  
We got cups. We got beer.

558

00:33:12 --&gt; 00:33:13

I brought everything but toenail clippers.

559

00:33:14 --&gt; 00:33:14

[Reinke] I'm glad.

560

00:33:15 --&gt; 00:33:19

Well, today, as you can see, we're taking  
the Exotic 1 to Washington DC.

561

00:33:19 --&gt; 00:33:23

We're asking for President Trump  
to please put the pen to the paper

562

00:33:23 --&gt; 00:33:24

to sign the pardon.

563

00:33:24 --> 00:33:29

This is John Reinke. Everyone knows him  
from the Tiger King series.

564

00:33:29 --> 00:33:31

Joe's gotta get out of there  
so we can right this wrong.

565

00:33:31 --> 00:33:35

All we gotta do is be seen.  
Look at me. We're going to be seen.

566

00:33:35 --> 00:33:37

We think today's gonna be a great day.

567

00:33:37 --> 00:33:39

We look forward  
to heading to Washington DC.

568

00:33:39 --> 00:33:41

[man] All right, gentlemen.  
Fantastic. Anybody else?

569

00:33:41 --> 00:33:43

[Reinke] I'm just loading in. I just want...

570

00:33:44 --> 00:33:48

["Come Fly With Me"  
by Frank Sinatra playing]

571

00:33:48 --> 00:33:52

♪ Come fly with me, let's fly  
Let's fly away ♪

572

00:33:55 --> 00:33:59

♪ If you can use some exotic booze ♪

573

00:33:59 --> 00:34:02

♪ There's a bar in far Bombay... ♪

574

00:34:03 --> 00:34:09  
Today is the day American patriots  
start taking down names

575

00:34:09 --> 00:34:10  
and kicking ass!

576

00:34:12 --> 00:34:15  
[Eric] So, hey, our main mission today  
is this big banner.

577

00:34:16 --> 00:34:18  
We're gonna hold it up,  
we're gonna get it out,

578

00:34:19 --> 00:34:20  
and it's gonna be great.

579

00:34:20 --> 00:34:24  
[Trump on mic] We have  
hundreds of thousands of people here.

580

00:34:24 --> 00:34:27  
These people  
are not going to take it any longer.

581

00:34:27 --> 00:34:29  
They're not going to take it any longer.

582

00:34:29 --> 00:34:31  
What are you guys out here for today?

583

00:34:31 --> 00:34:33  
So, I'm the leader of Team Tiger.

584

00:34:34 --> 00:34:36  
We're asking for an immediate signature

585

00:34:36 --> 00:34:39  
on the presidential pardon request  
that we've submitted.

586

00:34:39 --> 00:34:43  
And then late in the evening  
or early in the morning,

587

00:34:43 --> 00:34:46  
boom, these explosions of bullshit.

588

00:34:46 --> 00:34:49  
[woman] Why are you here?  
Why are you here?

589

00:34:49 --> 00:34:52  
-[Eric] Why are you here?  
-I'm here for America! This is garbage!

590

00:34:53 --> 00:34:55  
-[Eric] Okay.  
-This is trash!

591

00:34:55 --> 00:34:59  
-You are not in the right place.  
-We're in the right place.

592

00:34:59 --> 00:35:02  
Look around you. Do you see  
any other fucking Joe Exotic signs?

593

00:35:02 --> 00:35:05  
Do you see one? Even one?

594

00:35:05 --> 00:35:07  
-You guys are gutter sluts!  
-She's fantastic.

595

00:35:07 --> 00:35:09  
You don't belong here! Gutter sluts!

596

00:35:10 --> 00:35:13  
No Republican believes  
abusing tigers is okay.

597

00:35:13 --> 00:35:16  
Nobody wants you to pardon

Joe Exotic. Nobody!

598

00:35:17 --> 00:35:18

[Eric] Let's go down the street.

599

00:35:18 --> 00:35:20

[woman] We all think he's trash!

600

00:35:20 --> 00:35:22

[Eric] We're going to move down  
towards the street.

601

00:35:22 --> 00:35:26

We will never give up.  
We will never concede. It doesn't happen.

602

00:35:26 --> 00:35:29

You don't concede  
when there's theft involved.

603

00:35:30 --> 00:35:34

-[Eric] As we leave Washington DC...  
-[alert beeping]

604

00:35:34 --> 00:35:37

...we get an alert, and it looks like  
all hell's breaking loose.

605

00:35:37 --> 00:35:40

[Reinke] They said after Mike Pence  
said he wasn't gonna object

606

00:35:40 --> 00:35:42

to the states giving Biden  
their electoral votes,

607

00:35:42 --> 00:35:44

it all went to shit.

608

00:35:45 --> 00:35:47

[crowd clamoring]

609

00:35:47 --> 00:35:49  
[gun firing]

610

00:35:49 --> 00:35:51  
[man] Shots fired! Shots fired!

611

00:35:54 --> 00:35:55  
[Reinke] I'm sure people ain't happy.

612

00:35:57 --> 00:35:58  
I hope our banner got noticed.

613

00:36:06 --> 00:36:10  
[reporter 1] Donald Trump chose not to  
pardon Joseph Maldonado-Passage.

614

00:36:10 --> 00:36:13  
[reporter 2] His team was so confident  
he would walk away from prison,

615

00:36:13 --> 00:36:16  
a limo was waiting to whisk him away.

616

00:36:16 --> 00:36:19  
[Joe on phone] Who's gonna  
feel sorry for a guy

617

00:36:19 --> 00:36:21  
that's got  
a stretch fucking truck limousine outside?

618

00:36:21 --> 00:36:25  
I think Fran  
and Eric Love went a little overboard

619

00:36:25 --> 00:36:29  
with the plane, and the bus,  
and the limos, and all that bullshit.

620

00:36:31 --> 00:36:35  
I'm fed up with the whole mess, okay?

621



00:36:36 --> 00:36:37

Why am I in here?

622

00:36:39 --> 00:36:41

Who benefited from me being in prison?

623

00:36:41 --> 00:36:44

Who benefited from having my mouth shut?

624

00:36:45 --> 00:36:46

Carole Baskin.

625

00:36:48 --> 00:36:50

I know a lot of people are gonna say,

626

00:36:50 --> 00:36:53

"Joe's been stalking Carole  
all these years."

627

00:36:54 --> 00:36:59

But this was about getting to the truth  
about Carole Baskin and Don Lewis.

628

00:37:00 --> 00:37:04

Her husband, Don Lewis,  
has been missing since 1997.

629

00:37:04 --> 00:37:07

Folks, remember  
the \$10,000 reward we have up

630

00:37:08 --> 00:37:10

for any information  
leading to the whereabouts of Don's body,

631

00:37:11 --> 00:37:13

so we can finally put Carole  
where she belongs,

632

00:37:13 --> 00:37:15

in the state penitentiary.

633

00:37:17 --> 00:37:19  
Why is she walking free?

634

00:37:20 --> 00:37:21  
And I'm the one in prison?

635

00:37:23 --> 00:37:25  
I'm looking for someone else

636

00:37:25 --> 00:37:29  
to start digging  
into Don Lewis' disappearance.

637

00:37:29 --> 00:37:34  
If you give a damn, it's time to speak up.

638

00:37:34 --> 00:37:36  
[intriguing music playing]

639

00:37:38 --> 00:37:42  
[Ripper Jack] All right.  
So Joe was on to a lot of stuff.

640

00:37:42 --> 00:37:44  
Joe had a lot of information.

641

00:37:44 --> 00:37:47  
We cannot discount  
some of the things that he has said.

642

00:37:49 --> 00:37:52  
My name is Jack, but I go by Ripper.

643

00:37:52 --> 00:37:57  
I am a armchair detective,  
an internet sleuth.

644

00:37:57 --> 00:37:59  
I have no background in law.

645

00:37:59 --> 00:38:02  
I tell people

I got my lawyer degree from Google.

646

00:38:03 --> 00:38:05

I remember

I sent a message to this friend,

647

00:38:06 --> 00:38:07

"Have you seen Tiger King?"

648

00:38:07 --> 00:38:10

She sent a message back, "Yes."

649

00:38:10 --> 00:38:14

And I said, "Maybe we should start like a Facebook group for Don Lewis."

650

00:38:14 --> 00:38:17

So for those of you out there that have information about this,

651

00:38:18 --> 00:38:21

it's time to spill the beans.

652

00:38:22 --> 00:38:24

Law enforcement normally do not like us.

653

00:38:25 --> 00:38:27

They think we're stepping on their toes,

654

00:38:27 --> 00:38:30

but this is a job that should have been done 23 years ago.

655

00:38:31 --> 00:38:33

[reporter] This is Easy Street,

656

00:38:33 --> 00:38:36

and at the end of this street, past this locked gate is Big Cat Rescue.

657

00:38:37 --> 00:38:38

Also at the end of this street,

658

00:38:38 --> 00:38:41  
a lot of questions  
about what happened to Don.

659

00:38:42 --> 00:38:44  
[Jerry Mitchell] I've worked  
a number of cold cases.

660

00:38:44 --> 00:38:48  
I've investigated Klansmen,  
and I've investigated serial killers,

661

00:38:49 --> 00:38:53  
but the disappearance  
of Don Lewis just struck me as one

662

00:38:53 --> 00:38:55  
that really hadn't been investigated.

663

00:38:55 --> 00:38:57  
[Stephen Colbert]  
Please welcome Jerry Mitchell.

664

00:39:00 --> 00:39:02  
How many people have gone to jail  
for their crimes

665

00:39:02 --> 00:39:04  
because of the stories you've done?

666

00:39:04 --> 00:39:05  
Four.

667

00:39:05 --> 00:39:06  
-Four?  
-Yeah.

668

00:39:07 --> 00:39:11  
[reporter] A lot of people are wondering  
what happened to Don Lewis.

669

00:39:11 --> 00:39:13  
The big train of thought is

670

00:39:13 --> 00:39:16  
Carole Baskin had something to do  
with her husband's disappearance.

671

00:39:16 --> 00:39:18  
[woman] There she is.  
That's Carole Baskin.

672

00:39:18 --> 00:39:22  
[reporter] Now the unsolved case is  
garnering new interest from authorities.

673

00:39:22 --> 00:39:24  
The sheriff  
of Hillsborough County now talking

674

00:39:24 --> 00:39:26  
about the mysterious disappearance  
of Don Lewis.

675

00:39:27 --> 00:39:30  
[Chad Chronister] This has spanned  
over the careers of a lot of sheriffs.

676

00:39:30 --> 00:39:32  
The leads have been exhausted,

677

00:39:32 --> 00:39:36  
but I hope someone will feel comfortable  
coming forward,

678

00:39:36 --> 00:39:38  
providing that missing piece

679

00:39:38 --> 00:39:41  
and helps us bring justice  
for Don Lewis' family.

680

00:39:41 --&gt; 00:39:45

Hey, what's up, everyone?  
It's Ripper here. I am in Tampa.

681

00:39:46 --&gt; 00:39:49

[Jerry] These twin lives  
of Don and Carole,

682

00:39:50 --&gt; 00:39:52

what do they look like?

683

00:39:52 --&gt; 00:39:54

I want to know these lives.

684

00:39:55 --&gt; 00:39:57

Because if I know these lives,

685

00:39:57 --&gt; 00:40:01

then you can find out  
what happened to Don.

686

00:40:01 --&gt; 00:40:02

[dramatic music playing]

687

00:40:04 --&gt; 00:40:06

[dramatic music continues].





This transcript is for educational use only.  
Not to be sold or auctioned.