
N SERIES

TIGER KING

MURDER, MAYHEM AND MADNESS

CREATED BY

Rebecca Chaiklin | Eric Goode

EPISODE 1.05

"Make America Exotic Again"

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

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EPISODE CAST

Bhagavan Antle	...	Self - Myrtle Beach Safari
Kody Antle	...	Self - Doc's Son
Carole Baskin	...	Self - Big Cat Rescue
Sylvia Corkill	...	Self - Reporter, News 9
Erik Cowie	...	Self - Head Keeper, G.W. Zoo
Joshua Dial	...	Self - Joe's Campaign Manager
Joe Exotic	...	Self - G.W. Zoo
John Finlay	...	Self - Joe's Husband
James Garretson	...	Self - Businessman
Allen Glover	...	Self - Handyman, G.W. Zoo
Eric Goode	...	Self - Filmmaker
Rick Kirkham	...	Self - Producer, Joe Exotic T.V.
Jeff Lowe	...	Self - Businessman
Shaun Majumder	...	Self
Cheryl Maldonado	...	Self - Travis' Mother
Travis Maldonado	...	Self - Joe's Husband (archive footage)
John Oliver	...	Self (archive footage)
Dillon Passage	...	Self - Joe's Husband
John Reinke	...	Self - Manager, G.W. Zoo
Sheriff Larry Rhodes	...	Self - Gavin County Oklahoma (as Sheriff Rhodes)
Kelci Saffery	...	Self - Animal Keeper, G.W. Zoo
Tim Stark	...	Self - Wildlife in Need

1

00:00:06,339 --> 00:00:08,466
[Antle] Holy mackerel. Yes, ma'am.

2

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

3

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

4

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

5

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

6

00:00:22,147 --> 00:00:24,858
It's got crappy little decorations
we bought at a store,

7

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

8

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

9

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

10

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

11

00:00:38,163 --> 00:00:40,623
Our social media these days is just
in the millions a week.

12
00:00:40,707 --> 00:00:42,625
Millions of people a week
are following it.

13
00:00:42,709 --> 00:00:45,462
-[man] How do you do that?
-[Antle] Our content is so unique.

14
00:00:46,046 --> 00:00:49,049
No one's got the content
unless it came from us these days.

15
00:00:50,383 --> 00:00:51,468
Make noise.

16
00:00:51,551 --> 00:00:52,469
[woman hollering]

17
00:00:54,971 --> 00:00:56,347
[Antle] Where's the other one?

18
00:00:56,931 --> 00:00:58,308
Don't let them bite it.

19
00:01:00,727 --> 00:01:02,771
Easy. Don't bite. Don't bite.
Hit it. Hit it.

20
00:01:12,155 --> 00:01:13,990
[Joe] It wasn't the zoo anymore.

21
00:01:15,075 --> 00:01:16,618
It was nothing but a big scam.

22
00:01:17,827 --> 00:01:19,329
[woman laughs]

23
00:01:19,829 --> 00:01:21,247
Paws will come out of that.

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

[Joe] Jeff conned everyone.

25

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

Because he's jealous.

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

26

00:01:28,838 --> 00:01:31,341

and a limp, and he's bald,

27

00:01:31,424 --> 00:01:34,677

and he's got to pay everybody
to have sex with him.

28

00:01:36,971 --> 00:01:40,100

This man has got more criminal shit
going on than you can imagine.

29

00:01:40,475 --> 00:01:42,352

Well, sooner or later he's going to jail.

30

00:01:46,231 --> 00:01:50,193

[theme music instrumentals]

31

00:01:55,073 --> 00:01:57,826

[Saffery]

From the time Jeff came into the picture,

32

00:01:59,327 --> 00:02:01,454

the whole dynamic of the park changed.

33

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

Joe only cared about one man's opinion,

34

00:02:10,130 --> 00:02:12,173

and that man didn't do anything on park.

35

00:02:12,257 --> 00:02:13,258

He didn't clean cages.

36

00:02:13,341 --> 00:02:14,509

He didn't do book work.

37

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

38

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

39

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

40

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

41

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

42

00:02:25,353 --> 00:02:27,480
Joe handed over the keys to the kingdom

43

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

44

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

45

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

46

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

47

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

48

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

49

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

50

00:02:51,671 --> 00:02:54,841
Jeff Lowe fired half the staff
when he walked through the door,

51

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

52

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

53

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

54

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

55

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

56

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

57

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

58

00:03:12,275 --> 00:03:15,278
and you just take care of the park.
Be a handyman for me."

59

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

60

00:03:18,656 --> 00:03:20,533
I don't think I've ever

really been to one, so...

61

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

62

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

63

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

64

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

65

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

66

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

67

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

68

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

69

00:03:38,384 --> 00:03:41,596
I've had many other encounters
with the police,

70

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

71

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

72

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

[Lowe] We were doing okay the first year,

73

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

74

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

75

00:03:53,233 --> 00:03:55,610
I wanted to operate a family zoo,
a nice zoo...

76

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

77

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

78

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

79

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

80

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

81

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

82

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

83

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

84

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

85

00:04:23,179 --> 00:04:26,266
Bought a lion cub
out of the Dallas morning newspaper.

86
00:04:26,349 --> 00:04:27,684
Been around them ever since.

87
00:04:29,811 --> 00:04:30,645
[tiger yawling]

88
00:04:30,728 --> 00:04:32,897
[Garretson]
I've known Joe a span of about 20 years.

89
00:04:34,565 --> 00:04:37,026
Not great friends with him, but friendly.

90
00:04:38,778 --> 00:04:41,030
He introduced me
to a gentleman named Jeff Lowe,

91
00:04:41,572 --> 00:04:43,741
and then that's when
me and Jeff became friendly,

92
00:04:43,825 --> 00:04:47,829
and then Jeff talked me into giving him
\$14,000 to open a pizza restaurant.

93
00:04:47,912 --> 00:04:50,290
[Joe] You can sit down on the patio

94
00:04:50,373 --> 00:04:52,208
right next to real-life tigers,

95
00:04:52,292 --> 00:04:55,503
and you can have some of the best pizza

96
00:04:55,586 --> 00:04:57,088
that I make from scratch.

97
00:04:57,171 --> 00:04:58,923

And that's a Joe Exotic promise.

98

00:05:01,134 --> 00:05:03,720

[Garretson]

He used the Walmart donation program

99

00:05:03,803 --> 00:05:04,929

to lower the food cost.

100

00:05:05,763 --> 00:05:07,348

[Reinke] They have the best pizza here.

101

00:05:08,474 --> 00:05:10,643

[man] Do you think most of the meat
was from Walmart?

102

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

Yeah.

103

00:05:11,936 --> 00:05:13,980

[Reinke] Mmm. Mmm, mmm, mmm.

104

00:05:15,148 --> 00:05:18,401

[Garretson] Joe was always trying to be
bigger than what he was, you know,

105

00:05:19,068 --> 00:05:20,903

and that's just how Joe does business.

106

00:05:21,404 --> 00:05:22,780

Joe told me several times.

107

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

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

108

00:05:27,869 --> 00:05:30,455

Joe was the entertainment director...

109

00:05:31,289 --> 00:05:32,290

by title.

110
00:05:34,042 --> 00:05:36,669
Even though
Jeff was the owner of the park,

111
00:05:36,753 --> 00:05:38,796
Joe was the star of the show.

112
00:05:40,256 --> 00:05:41,758
Jeff was the star of his show,

113
00:05:41,966 --> 00:05:44,344
so which one was gonna rule this world?

114
00:05:45,011 --> 00:05:48,097
Joe Exotic is how many people know him.

115
00:05:48,181 --> 00:05:51,476
He mailed off this form to the federal
election commission last Friday,

116
00:05:51,559 --> 00:05:54,896
announcing his intent to run for president
as an independent.

117
00:05:55,480 --> 00:05:56,981
Mic check. Check, check, check.

118
00:05:57,065 --> 00:05:58,232
[man] Whenever you're ready.

119
00:06:00,318 --> 00:06:01,319
Brr!

120
00:06:02,487 --> 00:06:05,198
Hello, America. Let's see, fuck this.

121
00:06:06,366 --> 00:06:08,117
Hello, ladies and gentlemen of America.

122
00:06:08,201 --> 00:06:09,327
Let's try that again.

123

00:06:09,410 --> 00:06:11,412
Hey, can you shut that off for a minute!

124

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

125

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

126

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

127

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

128

00:06:24,425 --> 00:06:28,304
Joe Exotic for the people of America.
How was that?

129

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

130

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

131

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

132

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

133

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

134

00:06:48,074 --> 00:06:51,411
and produces incredible campaign videos.

135
00:06:51,494 --> 00:06:53,121
I'm not changing the way I dress.

136
00:06:53,204 --> 00:06:54,622
I refuse to wear a suit.

137
00:06:54,705 --> 00:06:55,998
I am gay.

138
00:06:56,082 --> 00:06:57,792
I am broke as shit.

139
00:06:57,875 --> 00:07:01,295
I have a judgment against me
from some bitch down there in Florida.

140
00:07:01,379 --> 00:07:06,008
And this is all paid for by the committee
of Joe Exotic Speaks for America.

141
00:07:06,092 --> 00:07:07,343
-[applause]
-Wow.

142
00:07:08,136 --> 00:07:09,762
Just wow.

143
00:07:09,846 --> 00:07:10,930
[applause]

144
00:07:11,013 --> 00:07:13,057
Joe Exotic is truly the candidate

145
00:07:13,141 --> 00:07:15,351
you'd want to sit down
and have a beer with,

146
00:07:15,435 --> 00:07:18,062
then another beer,

and then several more beers

147

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

148

00:07:21,315 --> 00:07:23,901
[Garretson]
Whenever that clip went to John Oliver,

149

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

150

00:07:25,778 --> 00:07:27,363
Even though they were making fun of him,

151

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

152

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

153

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

154

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

155

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

156

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

157

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

158

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

159

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

160

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

161

00:07:56,392 --> 00:07:59,437
Anybody that wants to threaten
an American citizen

162

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

163

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

164

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

165

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

166

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

167

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

168

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

169

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

170

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

171
00:08:25,087 --> 00:08:28,508
Uh, it was
the worst experience of my life.

172
00:08:28,591 --> 00:08:30,593
It was horrible. Horrible, horrible.

173
00:08:33,387 --> 00:08:36,307
[shudders, coughs]

174
00:08:36,390 --> 00:08:38,351
I'd like to introduce my friend today.

175
00:08:38,476 --> 00:08:41,354
[Dial] Joe Exotic for president was 100%

176
00:08:41,437 --> 00:08:44,273
a complete and total publicity stunt.

177
00:08:44,357 --> 00:08:47,235
It was all about outrage.
Get as much views as possible.

178
00:08:47,610 --> 00:08:49,570
I'm as gay as a three-dollar bill,

179
00:08:49,654 --> 00:08:53,241
and I'm standing in a cage with five
full grown tigers and lions, and I...

180
00:08:53,324 --> 00:08:58,538
When that fell apart...
he decides to run for governor.

181
00:08:58,955 --> 00:09:00,164
Next best thing.

182
00:09:00,248 --> 00:09:02,542

I think his exact words were,

183

00:09:02,625 --> 00:09:06,754

"I couldn't wait another four years,
so I decided to run for governor."

184

00:09:07,505 --> 00:09:09,382

When I got the job offer to work for Joe,

185

00:09:09,465 --> 00:09:11,926

I was like, "You know, what's the job?"

186

00:09:12,009 --> 00:09:14,011

He said campaign manager,
and I was like, "Holy shit,

187

00:09:14,095 --> 00:09:15,721

that's my dream job. I'm going to take it.

188

00:09:15,805 --> 00:09:17,265

I don't care what he is."

189

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

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

190

00:09:21,978 --> 00:09:23,854

I was a manager at Walmart at the time,

191

00:09:23,980 --> 00:09:26,482

and I worked at the ammo section,

192

00:09:26,566 --> 00:09:30,278

and he'd come in and buy bullets,
you know, like, every day damn near.

193

00:09:30,361 --> 00:09:34,073

Tannerite, which is something
you can shoot and it explodes.

194

00:09:35,449 --> 00:09:38,035

[Joe] I'm using nothing more

than what I can buy legally

195

00:09:38,119 --> 00:09:40,079
over the counter at any gun shop.

196

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

197

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

198

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

199

00:09:48,838 --> 00:09:50,840
and that was my main value to him.

200

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

201

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

202

00:09:56,971 --> 00:09:58,973
[reporter]
...could become our state's next governor.

203

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

204

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

205

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

206

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

[woman] You are a political anomaly,

207

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

208

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

209

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

210

00:10:16,949 --> 00:10:19,118
[Corkill] When people are running
for any election,

211

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

212

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

213

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

214

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

215

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

216

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

217

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

218
00:10:42,308 --> 00:10:43,601
It's more entertainment.

219
00:10:44,393 --> 00:10:46,270
[Joe] What are you doing?

220
00:10:46,354 --> 00:10:48,064
-[man] Watch it.
-[Joe] We had nothing to...

221
00:10:48,481 --> 00:10:50,441
[Joe laughs]

222
00:10:50,524 --> 00:10:51,651
Watch your back.

223
00:10:52,276 --> 00:10:54,320
[Joe murmurs, laughs]

224
00:10:54,945 --> 00:10:57,073
What a wild interview!

225
00:10:57,156 --> 00:10:59,158
This is one of my stranger interviews.

226
00:10:59,241 --> 00:11:03,371
[Dial] Joe was running
for governor of Oklahoma as a Libertarian.

227
00:11:03,454 --> 00:11:06,374
...Joe Maldonado aka Joe Exotic.

228
00:11:06,457 --> 00:11:08,459
He had no idea what a Libertarian is.

229
00:11:08,876 --> 00:11:11,045
He still has no idea
what a Libertarian is.

230
00:11:11,128 --> 00:11:12,755
I'd like to introduce my wife,

231

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

232

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

233

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

234

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

235

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

236

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

237

00:11:33,067 --> 00:11:35,194
One of them's the Big Cat Safety Act.

238

00:11:35,277 --> 00:11:37,113
The only problem is it's all a fraud.

239

00:11:37,196 --> 00:11:39,198
Just spending millions trying to decide

240

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

241

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

242

00:11:44,203 --> 00:11:46,330
and nobody's gonna tell me any other way.

243

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

244
00:11:52,002 --> 00:11:56,006
are those who are breeding these cubs
and using them as pay-to-play props.

245
00:11:57,174 --> 00:11:59,427
This is a sweeping federal bill.

246
00:11:59,510 --> 00:12:00,928
It will cover all of those states,

247
00:12:01,011 --> 00:12:05,599
and nobody will be allowed to be keeping
these big cats as pets any longer,

248
00:12:05,683 --> 00:12:07,977
or breeding them,
or using them as pay-to-play props.

249
00:12:08,436 --> 00:12:09,770
[Joe] You want to know how come

250
00:12:09,854 --> 00:12:13,733
these people can get everything
that they want introduced into law?

251
00:12:14,817 --> 00:12:18,404
Carole Baskin and Howard Baskin
spend most of their time and money...

252
00:12:19,780 --> 00:12:21,741
sucking ass to the politicians.

253
00:12:23,784 --> 00:12:26,245
[Antle] They wanna take it all
away from us.

254
00:12:26,328 --> 00:12:30,541
This seems entirely un-American,
entirely unconstitutional to me.

255

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

256

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

257

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

258

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

259

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

260

00:12:45,598 --> 00:12:47,558
so they're like,
"Well, if I say this is cruel,

261

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

262

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

263

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

264

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

265

00:12:54,899 --> 00:13:00,905
I mean, we're not gonna take wild animals
into public buildings to make our point.

266

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

[announcer] Watch this ride, Johnny!

267

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

268

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

269

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

270

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

271

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

272

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

273

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

274

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

275

00:13:23,135 --> 00:13:25,387
Joe, he had a lot of charisma.

276

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

277

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

278

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

279

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

280
00:13:35,397 --> 00:13:37,316
I got 22 coming in on Sunday.

281
00:13:38,442 --> 00:13:39,693
-It's huge.
-I have to see it.

282
00:13:39,777 --> 00:13:41,070
It is huge. Do!

283
00:13:41,153 --> 00:13:42,947
-Pleasure seeing you.
-Good seeing you.

284
00:13:43,030 --> 00:13:45,032
I'll give it to her. I'll give it to her.

285
00:13:45,866 --> 00:13:48,953
[Lowe] Joe thought
that his political aspirations

286
00:13:49,036 --> 00:13:51,705
would lead to more business at the park,

287
00:13:51,789 --> 00:13:53,415
which it didn't, you know, of course.

288
00:13:53,499 --> 00:13:56,418
It actually-- I think it hurt us
more than anything else.

289
00:13:58,003 --> 00:14:01,298
And he had signs up on the gift shop,
he was gonna run for president in 2020.

290
00:14:01,799 --> 00:14:04,051
And I made him take those down.
I said, "You know what?

291

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

292

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

293

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

294

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

295

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

296

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

297

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

298

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

299

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

300

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

301

00:14:27,575 --> 00:14:29,743
and then it turned like to shit quick.

302

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

303

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

315

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

316

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

317

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

318

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

319

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

320

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

321

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

322

00:15:19,668 --> 00:15:22,755
Never in my life ever
put up with anything like that.

323

00:15:22,838 --> 00:15:24,381
And I've worked for quite a few people.

324

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

325

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

326

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

327

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

You got sound?

328

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

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

329

00:15:36,393 --> 00:15:40,522

Hello, ladies and gentlemen,
and welcome to video message number 113.

330

00:15:40,606 --> 00:15:42,441

They put cologne on my shoes.

331

00:15:44,068 --> 00:15:45,778

[Lowe] We heard that Joe was

332

00:15:45,861 --> 00:15:48,822

out in the arena while he was filming
one of his stupid campaign videos.

333

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

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

334

00:15:51,659 --> 00:15:52,952

Okay, well first of all,

335

00:15:53,035 --> 00:15:55,245

you haven't recognized
the rest of us 40 people

336

00:15:55,329 --> 00:15:56,205

that are running.

337

00:15:56,330 --> 00:15:58,791

She was just fascinated
by his shoes that day.

338

00:15:58,874 --> 00:16:02,169

And the list goes on. Ow, son of a bitch!

339

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

God damn you!

340

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

341

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

342

00:16:18,310 --> 00:16:20,646
and nobody's going in there to rescue him.

343

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

344

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

345

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

346

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

347

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

348

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

349

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

350

00:16:45,337 --> 00:16:48,382
What scent makes a liger attack your shoe?

351

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

352

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

353

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

354

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

355

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

356

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

357

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

358

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

359

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

360

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

361

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

362

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

363

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

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

364

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

365

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

366

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

367

00:17:33,052 --> 00:17:35,929
If John Finlay went to visit his brother
in Texas, or anything like that,

368

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

369

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

370

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

371

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

372

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

373

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

374

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

375

00:17:51,779 --> 00:17:53,864
I mean, I like pink camo.

376

00:17:53,947 --> 00:17:56,283
Lot of people make fun of me for it,
but you know what...

377
00:17:56,992 --> 00:17:58,827
it's just something I like.

378
00:18:00,120 --> 00:18:03,791
He was...
showering me with gifts and stuff.

379
00:18:05,167 --> 00:18:06,752
He bought me a truck.

380
00:18:06,835 --> 00:18:09,797
Actually bought me, like,
four or five different trucks.

381
00:18:09,880 --> 00:18:11,590
If they wanted it, they got it.

382
00:18:11,673 --> 00:18:13,383
I mean, all they had to do was ask,

383
00:18:13,467 --> 00:18:15,969
and I think that's how
he kept them close to him.

384
00:18:17,179 --> 00:18:20,224
John and Travis were both 19
when they met Joe...

385
00:18:20,891 --> 00:18:22,392
and at 19 years old, man,

386
00:18:22,476 --> 00:18:26,355
the one thing that a 19-year-old guy
wants to do is party,

387
00:18:26,438 --> 00:18:29,066
have fun, live it up.
You know, no tomorrows.

388
00:18:30,651 --> 00:18:32,528
[Joe]
Travis, he didn't really work at the zoo,

389
00:18:32,611 --> 00:18:34,613
he just rode his four-wheelers
and shot his guns

390
00:18:34,696 --> 00:18:36,448
at the lake and the river.

391
00:18:38,575 --> 00:18:41,578
Travis was a pothead from hell, and--

392
00:18:41,662 --> 00:18:42,996
Which-- Who cares, you know,

393
00:18:43,080 --> 00:18:45,249
that's all Travis had in his life.

394
00:18:46,291 --> 00:18:49,086
He was trapped here in Wynnewood,
a boy from Cali,

395
00:18:49,169 --> 00:18:51,463
and Joe kept him pumped full of weed

396
00:18:51,547 --> 00:18:55,676
to keep him from waking up and realizing
this isn't a life to live.

397
00:18:57,344 --> 00:18:58,387
[laughs]

398
00:18:59,054 --> 00:19:03,642
[man humming]

399
00:19:03,725 --> 00:19:06,019
I knew there was drug use going on...

400
00:19:06,687 --> 00:19:09,064

because of statements made
by John and Joe.

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

402
00:19:11,108 --> 00:19:14,027
I've always been worried
about you being a spy. Run!

403
00:19:14,111 --> 00:19:15,696
-[women] No, don't-- Ahh!
-[gunshot]

404
00:19:15,779 --> 00:19:17,322
[Joe] I've had my days of coke.

405
00:19:17,406 --> 00:19:19,074
I had my days of drinking.

406
00:19:19,158 --> 00:19:21,243
I had my days of meth.

407
00:19:21,326 --> 00:19:23,579
And this is my mother-in-law. Run!

408
00:19:23,662 --> 00:19:25,080
[laughter]

409
00:19:29,501 --> 00:19:31,003
[Rhodes] One thing that meth does:

410
00:19:31,086 --> 00:19:34,923
somehow or another
it concentrates in your teeth.

411
00:19:35,007 --> 00:19:37,009
We call it meth mouth.

412
00:19:38,302 --> 00:19:42,389
Meth was the main one that we did.

413

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

414

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

415

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

416

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

417

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

418

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

419

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

420

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

421

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

422

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

423

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

424

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

425

00:20:20,636 --> 00:20:23,388
I mean, he told me with his own mouth
that he wasn't gay.

426

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

427

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

428

00:20:31,688 --> 00:20:34,650
and I find out later,
John Finlay came out and said,

429

00:20:34,733 --> 00:20:36,985
"Look, I gotta tell you,
I'm really not gay.

430

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

431

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

432

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

433

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

434

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

435

00:20:52,626 --> 00:20:57,756
He actually slept with the secretary,
Amber, there at the zoo.

436

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

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

437

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

438

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

439

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

440

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

441

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

442

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

443

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

444

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

445

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

446

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

447

00:21:29,621 --> 00:21:31,957
[Dial]
Neither Travis nor John Finlay were gay,

448
00:21:32,624 --> 00:21:34,084
and Joe admitted that to me.

449
00:21:34,167 --> 00:21:36,378
Fell in love with straight guys,

450
00:21:36,461 --> 00:21:39,548
because there's not too many gay guys
in Wynnewood, Oklahoma.

451
00:21:41,508 --> 00:21:44,177
You guys edit this shit.
I want you to show it to him.

452
00:21:45,137 --> 00:21:46,763
He maybe asks me what's wrong,

453
00:21:46,847 --> 00:21:49,933
but he only spends five seconds listening,
and then he'll walk out on me.

454
00:21:51,059 --> 00:21:53,061
[loud banging]

455
00:21:54,604 --> 00:21:55,772
Pretty fucking sad.

456
00:21:55,856 --> 00:21:58,567
He doesn't give a fuck about
any of my problems, like...

457
00:22:01,028 --> 00:22:03,113
Is he trying to make me blow my top?

458
00:22:04,406 --> 00:22:05,240
I don't know.

459
00:22:07,367 --> 00:22:08,535
I don't know what he wants.

460
00:22:10,037 --> 00:22:11,288

[tapping]

461

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

462

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

463

00:22:18,628 --> 00:22:21,381
In Travis's case, he was addicted to meth.

464

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

465

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

466

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

467

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

468

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

469

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

470

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

471

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

472

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

473
00:22:47,991 --> 00:22:49,451
That ain't even funny.

474
00:22:50,077 --> 00:22:52,162
That's not even funny.

475
00:22:55,082 --> 00:22:58,460
[Dial] Travis came into the office
and started complaining to me.

476
00:23:00,712 --> 00:23:04,800
Travis was sitting underneath the camera,
but it was pointing directly at me.

477
00:23:10,263 --> 00:23:13,183
He complained that there was--
That he was a prisoner,

478
00:23:13,517 --> 00:23:16,144
that he was never allowed
to leave the park.

479
00:23:16,353 --> 00:23:17,771
He wasn't allowed to get a job.

480
00:23:17,854 --> 00:23:19,606
All this was true, and frankly,

481
00:23:19,689 --> 00:23:21,691
he was upset
that he didn't have enough pot.

482
00:23:24,528 --> 00:23:26,113
My last cigarette before I die.

483
00:23:28,865 --> 00:23:30,909
[man] He's smoking his last cigarette
before he dies.

484

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

485
00:23:40,001 --> 00:23:42,587
Sometimes he'd wake you up
pointing the gun at you.

486
00:23:42,796 --> 00:23:45,632
He'd done that to me
on multiple occasions.

487
00:23:45,715 --> 00:23:48,135
So, he'd done that to me again
in that office that morning

488
00:23:48,218 --> 00:23:50,554
and said, you know,
"Freeze, motherfucker,"

489
00:23:50,637 --> 00:23:53,098
which is just what he did, and I told him,

490
00:23:53,181 --> 00:23:54,808
"Dude, you know not to point guns,"

491
00:23:54,891 --> 00:23:57,853
'cause I've told him before,
don't point a gun at me,

492
00:23:58,103 --> 00:23:59,646
and he said, "Aww, man, this is a Ruger.

493
00:23:59,729 --> 00:24:02,607
There's no clip in it. You know
a Ruger won't fire without a clip."

494
00:24:07,654 --> 00:24:09,698
I was sitting in the chair,
you know, looking at him

495
00:24:09,781 --> 00:24:11,324
when he put the gun to his head.

496
00:24:24,254 --> 00:24:25,755
[Dial] It's not like...

497
00:24:26,506 --> 00:24:27,549
on the movies.

498
00:24:31,136 --> 00:24:33,597
I knew he was dead the second
that he pulled the trigger, but...

499
00:24:35,640 --> 00:24:37,517
at the same time I didn't, you know?

500
00:24:40,020 --> 00:24:41,062
I thought it was a joke,

501
00:24:41,354 --> 00:24:42,939
because, you know, Travis was a jokester.

502
00:24:43,023 --> 00:24:45,150
He was a prankster.
He liked to play pranks on people.

503
00:24:47,486 --> 00:24:49,196
But when I showed up at the zoo that day

504
00:24:49,279 --> 00:24:51,406
to get some order going on,

505
00:24:51,490 --> 00:24:53,700
Joe's passed out
on the front porch, shaking.

506
00:24:54,242 --> 00:24:56,620
Uh, the ambulance is there
taking care of Joe.

507
00:24:57,204 --> 00:24:59,080
Sheriff's department's got everything
shut down.

508

00:24:59,164 --> 00:25:01,374

I mean, you had to climb--
I almost had to climb a fence

509

00:25:01,458 --> 00:25:03,502

to get in the place
to find out what was going on.

510

00:25:03,585 --> 00:25:06,254

[reporter] Garvin County officials
are investigating the incident...

511

00:25:06,338 --> 00:25:07,422

[Cowie] This fucking clown?

512

00:25:08,173 --> 00:25:12,344

I-- Goddamn, one of the best people.
I've... know him four years, man.

513

00:25:14,137 --> 00:25:15,680

Joy, a joy.

514

00:25:16,515 --> 00:25:19,684

Absolute joy of life.

515

00:25:19,768 --> 00:25:22,062

[reporter] Joe is now thanking the world
for the support...

516

00:25:22,145 --> 00:25:25,982

[Dial] I just kinda felt like I was
attached by pain to Joe.

517

00:25:26,650 --> 00:25:28,193

Like we had a bond of pain...

518

00:25:28,652 --> 00:25:31,905

and I couldn't leave him,
because of course I wanted to leave.

519

00:25:31,988 --> 00:25:34,866

You know, why do I want to come back

to the office every day that,

520

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

521

00:25:37,702 --> 00:25:40,705
Um, but, you know, he really loved him.

522

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

523

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

524

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

525

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

526

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

527

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

528

00:26:08,358 --> 00:26:12,821
And he said, "Because God put me here
to make you smile, and that's my job."

529

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

530

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

531

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

to write a letter
to a senator or a congressman

532
00:26:25,166 --> 00:26:28,378
or something else, he'd come
and rub them balls in my face.

533
00:26:28,461 --> 00:26:29,462
[mourners laugh]

534
00:26:30,213 --> 00:26:31,047
[clears throat]

535
00:26:31,131 --> 00:26:33,842
Everybody that works here
knows exactly what I'm talking about,

536
00:26:33,925 --> 00:26:35,176
'cause you've seen his balls.

537
00:26:37,679 --> 00:26:40,390
They were like golden nuggets to that boy.

538
00:26:41,766 --> 00:26:46,688
♪ This old town is where I want to be ♪

539
00:26:46,771 --> 00:26:49,316
♪ Is where I'm gonna be ♪

540
00:26:50,775 --> 00:26:54,821
♪ I moved up here
And I took a chance here ♪

541
00:26:54,988 --> 00:26:57,991
♪ Started my brother's dream ♪

542
00:26:59,242 --> 00:27:01,244
♪ Ain't much left here ♪

543
00:27:01,369 --> 00:27:06,499
♪ Aside from some beat up cars
And the one satellite ♪

544
00:27:08,168 --> 00:27:10,295
[woman]
He has to do dramatics, you know, drama.

545
00:27:11,421 --> 00:27:14,716
He has to do a show wherever he goes,
whatever he does.

546
00:27:16,551 --> 00:27:18,720
He was even acting there.

547
00:27:20,889 --> 00:27:23,850
It's the worst thing ever
in my whole life.

548
00:27:25,852 --> 00:27:27,103
My son being gone.

549
00:27:29,439 --> 00:27:31,191
I miss him greatly.

550
00:27:35,987 --> 00:27:38,990
[Joe] You know, we got married
when he was 19 years old,

551
00:27:39,074 --> 00:27:41,743
and there was 32 years difference
between us.

552
00:27:44,287 --> 00:27:45,789
Joe is a year older than me.

553
00:27:46,623 --> 00:27:49,292
And... yeah, I thought it was very odd.

554
00:27:49,918 --> 00:27:52,128
I don't know,
I just didn't think that was right.

555
00:27:54,422 --> 00:27:58,510
But if Travis was happy, I was gonna

accept it, no matte, you know...

556

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

557

00:28:02,138 --> 00:28:04,641
This was right before he came to Oklahoma.

558

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

559

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

560

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

561

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

562

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

563

00:28:21,700 --> 00:28:23,535
Joe changed when Travis shot himself.

564

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

565

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

566

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

567

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

568

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

-Jesus.

569

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

570

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

571

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

572

00:28:53,732 --> 00:28:55,817
and are going through the same rough time.

573

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

574

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

575

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

576

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

577

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

578

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

579

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

580

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

and helped me build this memorial.

581

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

582

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

583

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

584

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

585

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

586

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

587

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

588

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

589

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

590

00:30:08,431 --> 00:30:09,974
and smoke a cigarette. And...

591

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

592

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

593

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

594

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

595

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

596

00:30:30,036 --> 00:30:32,831
James and I would go off
into the dark spots of the park

597

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

598

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

599

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

600

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

601

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

602

00:30:43,758 --> 00:30:45,552
which I think he was playing a part.

603

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

604

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

605

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

606
00:30:56,938 --> 00:31:00,358
in my political career running
for governor of the state of Oklahoma

607
00:31:00,441 --> 00:31:06,614
because he always said, "Hon, if anybody
could get the people in this state

608
00:31:06,698 --> 00:31:09,409
to love and respect each other,
it would be you.

609
00:31:09,909 --> 00:31:12,912
I told Lauren, I said, "You know,
if he wants to run this zoo,

610
00:31:12,996 --> 00:31:15,915
we have to get away from here
because I'm gonna kill this guy."

611
00:31:15,999 --> 00:31:19,752
So, I said, "Let's go lease this spot
right on Las Vegas Boulevard,

612
00:31:19,836 --> 00:31:21,754
and we'll do this there."

613
00:31:26,801 --> 00:31:27,969
[Lowe] Vegas was crazy.

614
00:31:29,721 --> 00:31:31,347
We had the big Vegas mansion,

615
00:31:31,431 --> 00:31:34,475
and we had the Vegas parties
and we had tigers in our house.

616
00:31:35,310 --> 00:31:38,813
He decided he wants to stay in Vegas
and try and make money out there.

617

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

618

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

619

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

620

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

621

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

622

00:31:58,958 --> 00:32:00,543
That was a big fucking mistake.

623

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

624

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

625

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

626

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

627

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

628

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

629

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

630

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

631

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

632

00:32:36,663 --> 00:32:38,373
[man] How long have you had
a Prince Albert?

633

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

634

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

635

00:32:43,461 --> 00:32:45,588
And believe it or not,
them padlocks there on the side,

636

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

637

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

638

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

639

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

640

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

641
00:33:04,816 --> 00:33:06,359
[chuckles]

642
00:33:11,072 --> 00:33:12,407
A jacket for the date.

643
00:33:20,456 --> 00:33:21,290
[car door closes]

644
00:33:23,292 --> 00:33:24,168
-Excited?
-What?

645
00:33:24,252 --> 00:33:25,086
Excited?

646
00:33:25,169 --> 00:33:26,087
-Yeah.
-Cool.

647
00:33:26,170 --> 00:33:27,422
-[man] You ready Joe?
-I'm ready.

648
00:33:28,172 --> 00:33:31,676
Now we gotta go find where the parade is
'cause that's where I gotta--

649
00:33:31,759 --> 00:33:33,886
that's where I gotta do the news thing
real quick.

650
00:33:34,387 --> 00:33:36,097
I met Dillon in a chat room.

651
00:33:37,223 --> 00:33:39,934
Took me a couple days to talk him into
going to dinner,

652
00:33:40,560 --> 00:33:44,689
and, you know, you can believe
what you want to believe...

653

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

654

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

655

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

656

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

657

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

658

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

659

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

660

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

661

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

662

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

663

00:34:10,590 --> 00:34:12,800
They're not gonna bite you.
They're just babies, so.

664

00:34:12,884 --> 00:34:13,885
When Travis died,

665
00:34:13,968 --> 00:34:15,970
he didn't give a fuck about the campaign,

666
00:34:16,054 --> 00:34:18,097
about his family, about anything.

667
00:34:18,181 --> 00:34:22,101
All he cared about was that
he find a companion,

668
00:34:22,685 --> 00:34:24,520
and he was not satisfied until then.

669
00:34:25,938 --> 00:34:27,732
Yeah, thanks for having me.

670
00:34:27,815 --> 00:34:30,443
When he found Dillon,
he started to bounce back.

671
00:34:30,526 --> 00:34:32,528
[laughing]

672
00:34:32,987 --> 00:34:35,323
[Passage] His energy
was just so strong, you know,

673
00:34:35,406 --> 00:34:37,033
and like, when he proposed to me,

674
00:34:37,116 --> 00:34:39,118
it was one of those things
I couldn't think about.

675
00:34:39,202 --> 00:34:41,788
I just had to, you know--
just gonna go with the flow.

676
00:34:41,871 --> 00:34:44,874

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

677

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

678

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

679

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

680

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

681

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

682

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

683

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

684

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

685

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

686

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

687

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

688

00:35:25,039 --> 00:35:28,584
My name is Joseph Maldonado
A.K.A Joe Exotic,

689

00:35:29,335 --> 00:35:32,380
and yes, I'm running for governor
of the state of Oklahoma as well.

690

00:35:32,463 --> 00:35:35,550
I mean, not everybody gets the opportunity
to see a tiger, you know,

691

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

692

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

693

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

694

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

695

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

696

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

697

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

698

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

699

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

700

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

701

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

702

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

703

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

704

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

705

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

706

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

707

00:37:03,930 --> 00:37:06,390
and sorry if he steps on some toes,

708

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

709

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

710

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

711

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

712

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

713

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

714
00:37:18,486 --> 00:37:20,780
and put them crooked bastards
where they belong.

715
00:37:22,490 --> 00:37:24,242
[reporter] Close to 2,000
across Oklahoma...

716
00:37:24,325 --> 00:37:27,036
We don't have this yet.

717
00:37:27,119 --> 00:37:29,163
Among those
that they are casting votes for,

718
00:37:29,247 --> 00:37:30,581
the next governor of Oklahoma.

719
00:37:30,665 --> 00:37:33,209
[man] Breaking down the numbers,
Karen, let's start with you.

720
00:37:33,292 --> 00:37:34,418
What do you see numbers-wise?

721
00:37:40,675 --> 00:37:43,844
-[man] Joe, what happened tonight?
-What happened tonight?

722
00:37:44,929 --> 00:37:46,055
We fucking lost.

723
00:37:46,138 --> 00:37:47,265
[laughs]

724
00:37:47,848 --> 00:37:49,558
[man] You do everything against the odds!

725
00:37:49,642 --> 00:37:52,270

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

726

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

727

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

728

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

729

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

730

00:38:00,194 --> 00:38:02,863
It's been great running against you.
You've done a tremendous job,

731

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

732

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

733

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

734

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

735

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

736

00:38:16,419 --> 00:38:18,879
I think that's where he kinda lost
his path,

737

00:38:19,338 --> 00:38:21,966
as far as what was the priority.

738

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

739

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

740

00:38:29,682 --> 00:38:33,352
from finances to animal care to employees.

741

00:38:36,605 --> 00:38:38,733
[Cowie]
The passion was there, but he lost it.

742

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

743

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

744

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

745

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

746

00:39:18,606 --> 00:39:20,816
You know,
he was already a paranoid person...

747

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

748

00:39:30,242 --> 00:39:32,703
But the paranoia was not unfounded.

749

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

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

750

00:39:40,378 --> 00:39:44,715
It was about that tall, you know,
little metallic base with a short antenna.

751

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

752

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

753

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

754

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

755

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

756

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

757

00:40:05,027 --> 00:40:07,571
And I said, "What did you hear?"

758

00:40:07,696 --> 00:40:09,198
And she says, "I don't know." She says,

759

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

760

00:40:11,158 --> 00:40:12,952
-And that was-- Okay.
-[man] I got it...

761

00:40:14,620 --> 00:40:16,956
Okay. All right. Okay. All right. Bye.

762
00:40:21,961 --> 00:40:23,671
-Sorry.
-[phone ringing]

763
00:40:25,297 --> 00:40:29,093
[man] So we just interviewed Jeff Lowe
and the entire time,

764
00:40:29,176 --> 00:40:33,931
he had incoming calls from a federal agent
over and over.

765
00:40:34,223 --> 00:40:38,269
Like, who the hell still talks to Joe
that would even...

766
00:40:39,145 --> 00:40:41,313
He told me that Joe's going down,

767
00:40:41,397 --> 00:40:43,023
Joe's-- it's over for Joe.

768
00:40:43,107 --> 00:40:45,276
[woman on phone]
Oh, my god. I can't believe...

769
00:40:45,359 --> 00:40:47,695
I mean, it was sort of funny
when they started,

770
00:40:48,279 --> 00:40:50,448
but it's gotten really dark.

771
00:40:50,531 --> 00:40:52,575
[cub yowls]

772
00:40:53,534 --> 00:40:57,538
[closing music theme]

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