

2000 04 24 Monday Mel Waters Mel's Hole

AB: "One of the greatest stories ever told on this program. Um, how long ago was it? God, ya know, I don't even remember now.

About a hole in the ground that had no end ... or no end that anybody could find.

It was the damndest story that you ever heard in your whole life. Anybody remember 'Mel's Hole'?

Well, guess who I got on the line ... I think ... Mel ... !

Mel, is it you?"

MW: "It is him. It is I. ..."

AB: "Mel, I can't believe it! ... Mel !!!"

MW: "Yes indeed."

AB: "Listen brother, I just spent an hour red-faced, ah, embarrassed, because I thought the *Blair Witch Project* was real! And I really thought it was real, Mel."

MW: "Hmm."

AB: "I ... you know, I really thought it was real. I mean, I ... I've gotta ... I've still got the hook in my mouth here.

And so, I guess the first question I have to ask you is: How long ago, Mel, did we do the shows that we did?"

MW: "Oh gosh! This must've been about ... I'm gonna say '97 [1997] (?)"

AB: "Ninety-seven (1997)?"

MW: "Ahh ..."

AB: "Well, it was one of the greatest stories no doubt ever told. In fact, it spurred all kinds of things. Television crews went up to Ellensburg, Washington!"

MW: "I know it. I know it. I heard many things and, ah ... ah ..."

AB: “So I must begin by asking you before I go forward – any further with you tonight at all, Mel – ah, is this ... Mel’s Hole, the story of Mel’s Hole – another *Blair Witch Project*?”

MW: “I will not drop any bombshells on you in regards to this being the *Blair Witch Project*. This is **not** the *Blair Witch Project*.”

AB: “Real as a ...”

MW: “Our life. This is my property. Ah, I may end up telling you things that will maybe ... I hadn’t ... I haven’t see the *Blair Witch Project*. I, ah, so I don’t know anything about that.

But I will say that, ah, I can tell you some pretty scary things too.”

AB: “I ... I know you can.

Ah, but ... all right. So anyway, I just wanted to get that out of the way ...”

MW: “Right.”

AB: “... here at the beginning before my face goes ...”

MW: “No, no, this is not ... not that.”

AB: “All right.”

* * *

AB: “Well, back ... back in '97 ... I ... I forget, did I get a ... did I get like a fax from you ... ?”

MW: “I ... I sent you a fax way back then.”

AB: “Is that how it began?”

MW: “And ba- ... basically, ah, I ... I ... I was just curious about this hole on my property is And, ah, I knew with your big audience that ... the ... somebody might be able to return some information to me. Um, you know, I tried doin’ a little research on the depth of various holes and so forth, and mines, and all those sort of things. And, ah ...”

AB: “Well, all right, let’s ...”

MW: “And so I was basically, ah, picking your audience’s brain is what I was doing at the time.”

- AB: “Well, we were picking yours as in the damndest story I ever heard.
Let’s, ah, radio ... I have time. Let’s talk ... a lot of the audience, you know, would not have been around then ... would not have ever heard this story. And I’ve never heard one like it in my life, so ... if you would, ah ...”
- MW: “Oh sure! I’ll, ah, I’ll recap, ah ... ah ...”
- AB: “Especially after all these years it’ll be good to see if your story now fits your story then.”
- MW: “Okay, well sure ... sure.”
- AB: (laughs heartily).
- MW: “Well, be- ... basically, ah, this started [when] I sent Art a fax and, ah ... ah, you know, I’d ... I had ... I had ... I have this property – or had this property – well, we’re gonna get to that later on. ...”
- AB: “But you owned the property at the time, right?”
- MW: “Yeah. It was ... it was ... it was actually my wife’s property.”
- AB: “Okay, was it ... was it empty property ostensibly?”
- MW: “Well, we ... we had a, ah ... ah, some outbuildings on there. A couple (2) of trailers. Ah, it was, ah ... ah, really, ah, unimproved land but, ah, while ... while, ah, while I could, I was living there ...”
- AB: “Um-hmm.”
- MW: “... and it was really, ah I left the property, ah ...”
- AB: “Okay. So you ... you lived in a trailer on the property?”
- MW: “Yah!”
- AB: “Okay.”
- MW: “Yah!”
- AB: “And then there were ... there was another trailer or two (2) on the property at the time?”
- MW: “Yeah, there was ... there was ... there were several ...”

AB: "Several?"

MW: "... outbuildings out there. And I had, ah ... basically was doing a lot of research in various Indian herbal medicines 'n' so forth. I grew various things there."

AB: "Yeah, I remember that. I remember that. I remember that."

MW: "That was ... that was ... that was my thing. That and, ah, actually I spent ... used to spend a lot of time there, um ... ah, going to Nevada, ah, dealing with the various bands of Indians down there, because they're ... the herbs that they use are the ones that I've been researching. And, ah ... ah, we might talk a little bit about that too at some point."

AB: "Sure!"

MW: "And because I think you might find that interesting as well."

AB: "All right."

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AB: "Now the location ... the location of this, um, is near Ellensburg ..."

MW: "It's on the Manastash Ridge, which is, ah ... a little bit south of Ellensburg, ah, but it's the prominent, ah, mountains surrounding, ah, the Ellensburg area there."

AB: "Okay."

MW: "Ellensburg is the little town basically in the center of Washington state ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "... ah, right off of I-90 [Interstate Highway 90]. And, ah, it's a very nice ..."

AB: "How long ..."

MW: "... little place."

AB: "But yeah, I hear ya. How long had you been living there?"

MW: "Oh, we ... we've been there for several years ..."

AB: "Several years."

- MW: "I'd ah, married this woman in Ellensburg and, ah ... ah, you know we lived there for a while and then we kind've gotten ... got broken up ... (grins) ..."
- AB: "Well, at the time that you faxed me, you simply said – I ... I ... I don't even remember the fax now – but you said there was a hole on your property."
- MW: "Yeah!"
- AB: "Into which, um, I guess for years people had been dumpin' stuff."
- MW: "Oh, ab- ... absolutely! And ... and one ... one of the things I didn't tell you about, ah, one of the things that regularly was dumped in the hole was the little Mexican fellow, he used to come around 'bout once a week ..."
- AB: "Yeah?"
- MW: "... with like a big stake-bed truck full of tires that he used to dump in there. And the guy used to pick 'em up ..."
- AB: "Tires?"
- MW: "... at various, ah, used tire places. And I guess, you know, it costs money to dispose of tires, right?"
- AB: "Well ... yeah! Yeah, it does! Because they have these big, ah, yards where they have these tire fires by mistake – hah-hah!"
- MW: "Well, I don't know. He'd pick 'em up from, you know, whoever had 'em. If they were too bald to be used as retreads or whatever, this guy – little Mexican guy – ah, would pick 'em up, bring 'em over ... and, ah, he ... he must've dumped like *thousands and thousands* of, ah ..."
- AB: "Tires!"
- MW: "... tires into the ... [hole]."
- * * *
- AB: "Now, let's describe the hole.

Was the hole just a hole in the ground or was it a 'well'?"
- MW: "Well ... well, it ... you ... you know from ... , if you looked at it, ah if you were walkin' up to it, you'd say: 'Hah, this is [a] kind of interesting lookin' well.'

What ... what it was about nine feet (9 ft.) across ... ah ...”

AB: “Nine feet across!”

MW: “... and there was, ah, stonework around it. And I don’t know when the stonework got put into it, but it was sort of, ah ...”

AB: “It was round then?”

MW: “Yes, it was ... it was, ah, perfectly round.”

AB: “And you’re saying it was ni-, ah, nine feet in diameter?”

MW: “The diameter was nine feet ...”

AB: “Wow!”

MW: “... and what I did was I built a, ah, metal cover for the top, so, ah, when it wasn’t being used as a ... a little garbage, ah, disposal for lack of a better term (AB laughs), it ... it was covered up, ’cause I didn’t want any, ah, problems ... you know? People falling into it. Kids falling into it. Ah, whatever. You know, it was, ah ...”

AB: “Oh, yeah. You could be charged with some kind of crime or something.”

MW: “Well ... well, yeah, it ... it ... I ... I ... I ... I’m beginning to wonder now if they would’ve ever been heard from again if they had gone into it?”

AB: “I don’t think so. You’d just hear a *scream disappearing*.”

MW: “Yeah, just kinda goin’ on into infinity.

Ah, but I’d, ah, I’d written to you and, ah, I said things ... ah, I’ve basically let like eighty thousand feet (80,000 ft.) worth of, ah, monofilament fishing line, you know the kind ...”

AB: “Or you just ... there’s even more before that. I mean, you said people were throwing like dead cows ... !”

MW: “Oh yeah! Cow ... their ... their cows I used to love ... one of my favorite things to chuck in there was, ah, like television tubes. Man, I’d ... I’d throw a television tubes [sic] – the picture tube down there. (MW laughs).

And ...”

AB: "If you ... and ... and it was big enough so you could drop it ... ? In other words, the hole I take it for as far as one could see or hear went straight down? It must've."

MW: "I ... I would ... if I would, ah, hold something over like towards the center of the hole – I couldn't go all the way to the center, because, you know, it was goin' by nine feet (9 ft.) across – that's more than four ... four and a half feet (4-4.5 ft.) across. But, ah ..."

AB: "Sure."

MW: "... if I ... if I held something out like the size of a, ah ... ah, a picture tube – a nineteen inch (19 in.) picture tube from an old TV [television] set – and dropped that in there, I would never hear it hit anything – it would just fall."

AB: "And fall ..."

MW: "And fall."

AB: "... and fall and fall."

MW: "And that's what made me curious ... is that how come, you know, I mean, you know I didn't hear a splash."

AB: "No crash."

MW: "No crashing. No, ah ... you know, I mean, I could hear something if I didn't get things like dead center there, you know?"

And if it spun and ..."

AB: "If it would hit the sides, yeah."

MW: "But eventually that sound would give up too, so ... you know ..."

AB: "Gee, by the way, going back, do you have any idea what this hold originally was? Was it anything? Was it something that anybody dug do you think? Was it something that ..."

MW: "Well, it ..."

AB: "... was naturally always there? Or what do you think it was?"

MW: "As ... as ... as far ... as far as I can determine and, ah, you know everyone that I'd , ah, spoken with said: 'That ... that hole has always been associated with that property.'

Ah, when, ah, one (1) person, ah, that I talked to says: 'Well, as far as we know the hole there, ah, you know and your property's been there as long as the, ah ... ah, the whalebone has been in the tree out there in Ellensburg.

We've got a ... *Ellensburg is a strange place.*

"We've got a tree out in Ellensburg ..."

AB: "Yes?"

MW: "... in ... in someone's yard ..."

AB: "Yes?"

MW: "... and there's a whalebone jaw growing out of the tree."

AB: "***W-H-A-T !!! (?)***"

MW: "Yeah, the jaw of a whalebone and it's like embedded in the tree."

AB: "Ah, are you telling me the truth?"

MW: "Yeah, you can go to ... in fact, I, you know, ah, I, yeah, I was familiar with, because I used to walk the neighborhoods there and see it. You can see the tree, but you could actually go to the, ah, Yakima Herald newspaper ..."

AB: "Yah?"

MW: "... and you can see a picture of it."

AB: "How ... look, ah, that's central Washington."

MW: "Yes!"

AB: "That's not near the ocean!"

MW: "Yes!"

No ... no, the ocean is a good ... well, ah, Puget Sound's a good, ah, ninety (90) miles away." (MW laughs).

AB: "Ninety (90) miles?"

MW: "Yeah."

AB: "So how could there be a whalebone growing out of a tree?"

MW: "There you go. There you go. But the whalebone's been there like for a hundred (100) years ... you know? And these people tell me they – you know, the ones I talk to – swear, well, the hole's been there as long as ... I mean, Ellensburg doesn't go back much further than, ah, I'd say a hundred and fifty (150) years."

AB: "A hundred and fifty (150) years."

MW: "Yes, I mean that, you know, it was a town, you know, and ..."

AB: "So that hole was prob'ly there *long before* ..."

MW: "Way, way before that. And other people held the property and, ah, you know, ah, I don't know at what point that, ah, you know, the rockery got built around it, but it's ... it's kinda nice. You know, it look nice. it looks ..."

AB: "So you're tellin' me like thousands of tires, refrigerators, ..."

MW: "Oh yeah! ..."

AB: "Even dead cows ..."

MW: "... dead ... dead animals. Ah, dead dogs! Ah, you know – whatever."

AB: "So you didn't have to burn trash?"

MW: "Oh, no! No ... no ... and ... and, ah, you know, we were kinda ... we're kind of, ah ... ah, oh, what would I ... what I would say is sort of ... ecologically sensible people there. So we don't really generate a lotta garbage or trash or anything.

But, ah, yes, we did put our, ah, household trash in there if we didn't use it for compost or things like that, you know?

If we got, you know some ..."

AB: "Right!"

MW: "Ah, so we yeah, we put ... we throw ... we throw a lot of stuff in there."

- AB: “So after years ‘n’ years, you finally got – and I understand! – incredibly curious about how deep this damn thing really was?”
- MW: “It was ... it was just one of these moments that, you know, all of a sudden you say: ‘Good ... Grief! Ah, I ... I ... you know, I gotta get to the bottom of this, right?’”
- AB: “Heh, heh.”
- MW: “So to speak.”
- AB: “Pun intended, yeah.”
- MW: “And so I ... I used to, ah, when I ... I lived in California I used to do, ah ... ah, a lotta shark fishing and so I had some of those big old, ah, you know, reel-type, ah, fishing, ah, poles.
- And so you know the first thing I did was empty, ah, ... oh, it musta been about ... oh, it coulda been about twelve hundred (1200) yards of fishing line down ... down there ‘cause this is my ...”
- AB: “What’d you do? Did you take a rod or I mean how did you lower ... ?”
- MW: “Well yeah, the ... the ... the ... the first adventure that I had until this – and this was kind of, ah ... ah, you know, ah ... ah, before the obsession began with ... with ... with, ah, finding out more about this – is that I, ah, basically sent down into the hole from, you know, just my, ah, big, you know, shark-fishing fishing pole ...”
- AB: “Yah.”
- MW: “... ah, a, ah ... ah ... ah, fishing weight and at the end next to the fishing weight, I also had a roll of *Lifesavers* [candy].”
- AB: “*Lifesavers*.”
- MW: “The reason I had the *Lifesavers* at the end is that if I hit water – this old ... old shark fisherman’s trick – if I hit water, the *Lifesavers* just would melt.”
- AB: “Well sure!”
- MW: “Yah! See we ... we ... we ... we used to do that when we go fishin’ ...”
- AB: “Yeah, in other words it would be so far down ...”

- MW: "Yeah."
- AB: "... that anything else you would put down there ... I see ..."
- MW: "Yeah."
- AB: "... would ... would obviously be dry by the time you got it back up again."
- MW: "Yeah. So, you know, I just, you know, emptied a fishing, ah, fishing pole and then, ah, when it got to the end of the line, ah, I just let it sit there for a while. And, ah, you know, it takes a little while for a roll of *Lifesavers* to melt, but, ah, that's how I would determine that, ah, it was wet down, you know, it was wet down there ... they hit water."
- AB: "So how much initial line did you have on that first, ah ... ?"
- MW: "It must ... it must ... you know, I'm ... I'm goin', you know, through, ah, tryin' ... tryin' to remember what these, you know, big *Penn* reels held, but it was like, ah, it must've been about twelve hundred yards (1200 yds.) on there."
- AB: "Twelve hundred yards?"
- MW: "Twelve hundred yards. So that that would have been about thirty-six hundred feet (3,600 ft.) at least.
- That was the first expedition into the hole."
- AB: "So you let it all the way out?"
- MW: "That's right."
- AB: "Could you feel at any point like the weight ... course I s'pose at some point when you've got that much reeled out, you've got weight ... period. But could you still sense the weight at the end of that like as you ..."
- MW: "Oh ... oh ... oh yeah! You ... at that, ah, at that distance you can actually move, um ... ah, the ... the line. You can, you know, you can move it, you know, laterally – side-to-side. Ah ... ah, but ... but it ... it was kind of an effort. You can actually if ... if ... if ... you could actually get a swing to it, but it was really hard!"
- AB: (exclaims).
- MW: "I mean, you ... you think about that, you know? You're tryin' ..."

AB: "I am."

MW: "... to swing something that's thirty-six hundred feet (3600 ft.), you know, ah, it's difficult you know?"

AB: "And as you let it down, you didn't feel any, ah, turns or twists or ... ?"

MW: "No twists. No obstruction. The, ah ... ba- ... basically I let the, ah, ... the, ah, line go down freely with the ... the weight on it. Had a one pound (1 lb.) fishing weight at the end of this line."

AB: "Right."

MW: "And basically it went down and down and down and down and down on it, you know, at the same pace basically."

AB: "Huh."

MW: "Ah, and so, ah ... yeah, that's, ah, that's ... that's, at that point there when I got the line, you know, when I got all the line up there, I looked at my *Lifesavers* ..."

AB: "You must've been scratching your head, saying ... how many feet was that again?"

MW: "About thirty- ... that was thirty-six hundred (3600)."

AB: "Thirty-six hundred feet (3600 ft.)?"

MW: "Yeah."

AB: "I guess there are holes that go down thirty-six hundred feet. I'm not an expert on holes, but ..."

MW: "That's a little ... that's what? That's a little bit more than half a mile, right?"

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "Okay."

AB: "And so I guess there are holes that maybe go down that ... that deep down. I ..."

MW: "That's right."

AB: “But that is where the story continues, so hold on, Mel.

This is Mel of Mel’s Hole. Back in the U.S. from Australia. But then again that’s another story entirely.

You’re just beginning to hear this one.”

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AB: “So with a fishing reel originally down thirty-six hundred feet (3600 ft.). **No bottom.** But that is not the end of this story.

I’m Art Bell. This is Coast to Coast AM.”

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AB: “After the program we did with Mel and the one we’re doing now, I found out quickly that there was an abiding gigantic fascination for this kind of thing. I mean, people, I guess ... I ... I don’t know exactly what the fascination is? Frankly, I ... I really don’t know. All I know is I had thousands of emails and faxes from people wanting to know about this hole and telling me, in fact, about other holes.

Mel’s Hole is not the only deep mystery hole in the world, ah, Mel, there are others, and people have told me about them. *But yours is quite spectacular to be sure!*”

MW: “Ahh ...”

AB: “But there’s some fascination – and you must have felt it when you got down thirty-six hundred feet (3600 ft.). You must have been saying to yourself: ‘What the hell!’”

MW: “Well, yeah, at tha- ... at that point there it became kind of a quest is to find out how far this will go down, so I went, ah, say basically when it hit thirty-six hundred feet and came up with dry *Lifesaver* candies ...”

AB: “Right.”

MW: “... I said: ‘Well, I’m gonna need more fishing line than this.’ So basically I, ah ... ah, you know, let out the thirty-six hundred feet. Let another, ah, thirty-six hundred feet in from a similar reel, so I was down at that point to, ah – 36 and 36 – that’s seventy-two hundred feet (7200 ft.).”

AB: “So you’re down over ... you’re like a mile and a half (1.5 miles) down?”

MW: “Over a mile at that point there. And ...”

AB: "Sheesh!"

MW: "And I was still goin' ... you know, it was still goin' down. You know, at that point there, line is still goin' down ... I'm goin' down ... I'm goin' down."

AB: "Now a number of people said after that first show that after a while the weight on the end of the line would be insignificant with reference to the weight of the line itself."

MW: "Yes, in ... in fact, I ... I ... quite in fact, ah ... ah ... ah ... ah, recall that and I was curious too about it myself. And the best I could do is – and I was, ah, gonna bring up, ah, all the line I had let down, ah, at the point that I'd, ah ... ah, at the point we talked about this last ..."

AB: "Yeah, you'd be crankin', ah ..."

MW: "Ah yeah, I ... I ... you know, I would ... I would wanna get like, ah ... ah, some sort of a motor-driven winch at that point to deal with that. I didn't want, ah ..."

AB: "Sure."

MW: "... or ... or ... or deal with that. But any ... any way, what I did was just, ah, attached, ah, looped it around, ah ... ah, one of those spring fisherman scales, you know the kind that 'chu, ah, put in your tackle box there, you know, kinda get a weight in that thing there.

And I think when I weighed it, it was like seventeen (17) ... seventeen (17), eighteen (18) – somewhere around there – seventeen-eighteen (17-18 lbs.)."

AB: "Seventeen (17) or eighteen pounds (18 lbs.)?"

MW: "Yeah, I don't have this written down, so I don't remember exactly. But the ... the combined weight of the weight that I had there plus the weight of all the line that went into the hole, ah, when I had, ah, when ... when I took the final, you know, reading of line, it was about 17-18 pounds of line down there.

And that ... that's a lot.

When you think about, ah ... ah, monofilament fishing line, ah, I mean, you know, that ... that stuff when ... when ... when you have – even if you have a spool of it, it's pretty insignificant stuff. But when you got that much out there, it's gonna weigh a lot."

AB: "Oh, well sure."

MW: "And, ah ..."

AB: "How much ... what was the final total of how much you got down there?"

MW: "Oh I ... I got down exactly at the point that I'd given up putting line in there and when I ... when I contacted ya, I had eighty thousand feet (80,000 ft.) worth of line down in there."

AB: "*Eighty thousand feet!*"

MW: "Eight-zero. And I don't know, that translates to what? Like fifteen (15) miles worth of line?"

AB: "Oh my God!"

MW: "Um, eighty thousand feet. And, ah ..."

AB: "Is there any way that you could be sure ... ? Now eventually you ... did you reel all that back in again?"

MW: "No, oh no! No, I ... I did not bring that line back up again there."

AB: "So you never saw the *Lifesavers*, ah, from that far down?"

MW: "No. No ... no. There were *Lifesavers* at the end of it for sure because I just let the assembly go down there. But, ah, it was only, you know, it was just because it was already there. But I ... I never brought it up.

Ah, (MW laughs), not eighty thousand feet worth ... no."

AB: "And ... and how far down again? I'm sorry ... one more time."

MW: "Eighty thousand feet."

AB: "Eighty thousand feet."

MW: "Yes."

AB: "Ah ..."

MW: "That's eight-zero with three (3) other zeros. Eighty thousand feet."

AB: "God, you musta been goin' out to buy fishin' line!"

MW: “Oh yeah! Well, I ... I would buy it in like, ah ... ah, the If you ever ... if you ever go – I don’t know if you’re a fisherman, Art, but ... ?”

AB: “No, I’m not. That’s why I’m struggling a little here.”

MW: “If you go to, ah ... ah ... a professional fishing, ah ... ah, store where, you know, fishermen buy their stuff, they sell the line in, ah ... ah, they, well they ... they have the line there in huge bolts [sic?]. You know, these things are like about a foot across and fit all things there. And they ...”

AB: “Gosh!”

MW: “... will fill each fisherman’s reel from that.”

AB: “I’ve got ‘cha.”

MW: “You know, so ...”

AB: “So you bought the whole bolt?”

MW: “... I got ... I would buy a bolt of line is what I did. I said I’m going to need this much here, you know, and I figure I’ll get a good deal on the line – buy the whole darn thing, you know? (MW laughs).

That was ... that was ... that was my, ah, my way of doin’ that.”

AB: “Were you ... were you telling anybody about this when you were doing this? I mean ...”

MW: “Oh, oh, when I was doing that?”

When I was doing ... well, I think a couple people knew that.

You know, when I went to buy the fishing line, I didn’t tell ‘em, ah ... ah, that I was gonna use this to measure the hole on my property, you know? And they don’t really care what you’re gonna do with the fishing line. I mean, you know, as far as I know.”

AB: “Yeah, they don’t care. That’s right.”

MW: “Yeah, I mean, you buy fishing, you know, fishing line there, you know, they say: ‘Well, you must have a lotta reels to fill,’ you know? So I think, ah, that was the thing there, so

No, I didn’t have any, ah, problem with that. The only ... the only thing that really different ... differed at that point, ah, in how I dealt with the line is

that, ah ... ah, instead of ... when I ... when I exhausted the two (2) fishing poles worth of line, I hooked the line up to what is known, ah, in fishing as an 'outrigger,' which is kinda like a ... a short, little fishing pole that 'chu would have, ah ... ah ... ah, it was like about a foot and a half (1.5 ft. or 18 in.) long. And, ah ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "... it went through that like, ah, swivel over to the side like if I needed to. But it didn't, you know, I was gone, you know, it wasn't like goin' down to the middle of the hole. It was kinda, you know, about a foot and a half away from the side and let it go down from there. So I would let the line go through the outrigger, basically is what I did."

* * *

AB: "Um, how could there be a hole ... I mean, even if you had hit bottom ..."

MW: "Yeah ..."

AB: "... at eighty thousand feet (80,000 ft.), how could there be a hole ..."

MW: "Well, let ... let's say it stopped running at fifty thousand feet (50,000 ft.), you know, I woulda, you know, if ... if the line stopped running at 50,000 ft., you know, and I got a reading there at 50,000 ft. and it stopped ..."

AB: "Yeah?"

MW: "... I'd say: 'Boy, that's a deep hole!' 50,000 feet."

AB: "But 80,000 and no stop?"

MW: "Yeah, it ... it hadn't stopped at that point.

Well, you ... you know ..."

* * *

AB: "Had anything ever come out of that hole, Mel?"

MW: "Oooh ... about ... it really ... the only thing that we kinda think came out of there, some guy who had a hunting dog that, ah, passed away – dog died – he put the dog in the hole. Threw the dog in the hole and it was ... it was, ah, the belief of several people that *the dog came back from the dead*, ah ..."

AB: "And out of the hole?"

MW: "They didn't see it from the hole. They ... they saw the, ah, the dog, ah, out, ya know, around town and ya know, in the area 'n' stuff. 'N, ah ..."

AB: "So then you're telling me the guy threw his dead dog ..."

MW: "Dead dog."

AB: "... down the hole ..."

MW: "Dead dog 'n' all."

AB: "... and then the same dog was seen later around ..."

MW: "That's right. That's right. In ... in fact there was one (1) other, ah ... ah ..."

AB: "Well, you know, I always wondered, Mel ... you'd once told me when you die ..."

MW: "Yes! Yes!"

AB: "... you wanted to be thrown in the hole."

MW: "I went ... that ... that was in the will and, ah, that's ... that's how I wanted my remains to be dealt with is ..."

AB: "Or reverently dropped, I guess."

MW: "Well, it's, ah, I was willing to take that, ah, journey, you know?"

I thought that would be a great, ah, great journey.

I ... I believe when I wrote to ya, I said that ... the ... the hole is kind of, ah ... ah, my dogs wouldn't go anywhere near it and things like that. It was ... it kinda had a weird feeling."

AB: "Yeah, well maybe they knew that another dog got tossed down."

MW: "Well, that ... that could be. But there was a weird ... weird, ah ... oh, just, ah, an eerie sense about it and you know, I ... I thought about that, because, you know, I say I talked to ya. Well, what was ... and ... and actually I would get kind of a ... a strange feeling too. And I kinda describe the feeling to you."

AB: "All right, please."

MW: "A sensation that you get there.

Have you ever been surprised by the Moon?

It's like ... you go out or look out the window and the Moon is up there and it's just ... it's like for a second you don't realize it's the Moon."

AB: "Sure!"

MW: "You get that eerie sense."

AB: "Sure."

MW: "And then ... then ... then you're ... you're, ah ... ah, your brain puts together that it is the Moon."

AB: "Yeah! Sure! That's happened to everybody."

MW: "You get ... but that feeling is like the ... you ... ya got that feeling of ... a lot around the hole there."

AB: "Oh?"

MW: "That ... you ... you ... you felt that feeling. It was that kinda feeling that 'chu would have. You get that ... that sense that you were constantly surprised by the Moon. During the day or during the night it didn't matter if the Moon was in, the Moon was out – didn't matter.

That was ... that was the sensation, and I finally was able to nail it down. It ... it occurred to me, and I said: 'That's the same feeling I used to get!' You know, when I was at my property. It was that strange feeling."

AB: "Well, you said there was one (1) other thing too that happened with that hole that was unusual besides the story about the dog."

MW: "Ah, it wa-, I'm ... I'm ... there's a lot of unusual things about it. (MW grins). There's a specific unusual thing that ... that 'chu know about it."

AB: "Well ..."

MW: "But the one ... the one thing that, ah, it was ... it was said, ah ... are we talking about the, ah ... ah, the thing where people would see like the dark black shaft of light coming out of it?"

AB: "No! But tell me about that."

MW: “Well, this ... this was re- ... this was, ah, this was something again that was told to me, but it was the, ah ... ah ... ah ... ah, pe- ... people said that from time to time what they would see when they would look over towards the property here – if they were on my property, ah, lookin’ out that way – they would see like a shaft of the blackest black that they’d ever seen ...”

AB: “Coming out of the hole?”

MW: “... coming out of the hole and extending up into the sky.”

AB: “Oh.”

MW: “It was like ... just the ...”

AB: **“That is weird!”**

MW: “Yeah! That ... that is the, ah, that is a totally and ... and, ah ...”

* * *

AB: “Let me ask you this, Mel:

It’s a pretty wide hole – nine feet (9 ft.). Could you take a real high-powered light ... ?”

MW: “Yes, I ... I did ... I did, ah, I did shine lights down there and, ah, really didn’t get very ... didn’t get very far with the, ah ... ah, the lights that I had, you know?”

AB: “I would presume that you would see the sides of the hole after a while?”

MW: “I ... I could see down to the side and I could see where the, ah ... ah, the rock ... the rockwork – and the rockwork ... work went down several feet – ran out. And then it was, ah, you know, the, ah, the masonry work around there. Ah, you know, where it was like dirt or rock ... rocky below that.

But, ah, I could see that. I could definitely see that far.”

AB: “And then I guess the light would just flat disappear?”

MW: “Yeah! You ... you ... you ... (MW stutters) ... you just ... you just run out of light. And ... and I’m not sure if I had one of these huge, you know, two hundred and fifty thousand (250,000) candlelight power – I don’t know how far it woulda gone down.”

AB: “I’ve got a six million (6,000,000) candle power light.”

MW: "Yeah? I ... I ..."

AB: "But I mean even that would just 'poop out.'"

MW: "I mean you could ... those kind of things are cool to like shoot into the sky!"

AB: "I ... I rather found them useful for pointing at photographers hangin' around."

MW: "Oh, those ... those ... those are, ah, I've had similar uses of [unintelligible]."

AB" "Yeah, they take their video cameras and they split, man [unintelligible]."

Note: [AB and MW continually talk over each other.]

MW: "Yeah, especially if they have the night vision on, (AB laughs), you know?"
(Both MW and AB laugh).

* * *

AB: "So then, you were so much of a believer in, I don't know, dare I say the power of the hole ..."

MW: "Yeah!"

AB: "... that ... that you wanted to be, you know ... ?"

MW: "Yeah, I ... I ... I wanted ... I wanted to be, ah, I wanted ... when I died, my ... my body was supposed to be put into the hole."

AB: "And I take it, your real reason, if I were to ask you for that, is because of the dog story?"

MW: "Absolutely, absolutely. And ... and it was just such a strange, ah, thing.

I ... I, you know, I, ah, have talked to people about what the hole actually is. I mean, not ... not the people that know what it is, but, you know ..."

AB: "And there are ... there are people ..."

MW: "... *speculated.*"

AB: "... there are people who know what it is?"

MW: "Oh absolutely!

But, ah, you know, I ... I cannot go to, you know, the people that have my property and say: 'Look, why don't 'cha just 'fess up there and tell me what it is?' They're not gonna tell me."

AB: "All right."

* * *

AB: "Uh, what happened was that you came on my program ..."

MW: "Yes!"

AB: "*Maybe you're biggest mistake ... ?*"

MW: Ah ... yes! (MW laughs). Yes! ... yes!"

AB: "And told this whole story and ..."

MW: "Innocently!"

AB: "Innocently, that's right. Absolutely innocently."

MW: "Yes."

AB: "And then it was like the next day, or a coupla' days, or how long was it?"

MW: "It was ... it was like ... it was, ah, you know, I ... I talked ... the day I sent 'cha the fax, I sent 'cha the fax and then, you know, I sent the fax and I believe you read the fax that evening, and then I went out to the property just ta think: 'Oh, good grief, I'm gonna have a buncha' people down there, you know?"

AB: "Yep."

MW: "And so I went out there and then I ... I came back home. I was living ... I wasn't living at the, ah, at the property there, because, ah ... ah, well our dwelling unit there got caved in from the snowstorm there, you know? Some of these little tin shacks here don't hold up too well (MW laughs) when ya got two feet (2 ft.) a' snow on top.

So we moved out, ya know? I ... I had rented an apartment, ah, in, ah, in Ellensburg. And so, you know, I went back to the apartment that night, and that's when I talked to you. I don't remember ..."

AB: "All right.

And then it was a day or two, or whatever, you went back ..."

MW: "Oh yeah ... yeah ... !"

AB: "... back to the property."

MW: "Oh yeah! Yeah!"

AB: "After the show."

MW: "Di- ... di- ... yeah. What happened is that the ... the ... it was like the following day I went, a- ... ah, you know, ah, I went back to my property, and, ah, there were, ah, well, you know, I'm ... I don't wanna sound ... sound like a lunatic here, but there was like, ah ... ah, armed people along my property. I ... I couldn't get in. There were barricades there. There was already a whole bunch of, ah ... ah, yellow gear – you're, ah, you know, you're earth-moving equipment was at my property ..."

AB" "Oh, yes!"

MW: "... and, ah, I was basically told if there was, ah, an airplane accident there ... an airplane crash on the property and that, ah, you know, I couldn't go in there and, ah ... um ..."

AB: "You told 'em it was your property?"

MW: "Oh yeah ... yes! In fact, I think they knew it was my property.

I mean, it was ... you know, those ... no, ah, you know, I mean, there was ... [I] let 'em know this ... this was my property.

They said: 'Well, you know, we're gonna have to, you know, we have to deal with the situation.'

Well, I didn't see any smoke. I didn't see any evidence of a plane crash or anything. But they were not gonna let me onto my property ..."

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "... you know? So I decided, well I'm gonna go back, ah, back to town at that point there, you know, since okay, this stuff is goin' on.

And I believe I, ah, I had talked to you again at that point then. We decided ..."

AB: "You did ... yeah, I remember you called me that night, and you said: 'My God! There's armed people up there ...'"

MW: "Yeah!"

AB: "... and they won't let me in."

MW: "That's exactly it."

AB: "Okay."

MW: "And so, again, all ... all this time here, you know, that I have is, ah ... ah, you know, a situation where my property was, ah, taken over. And, ah, why they were out there?"

How come ... how come they chose to go to my particular property that they knew was there?

I ... I don't ..."

AB: "Well, obviously, there's only one (1) answer."

MW: "Yeah."

AB: "And it's that you were on this program and talkin' about it."

MW: "That's ... that's ... that's right. But it, you know, for someone to have that incredible level of, ah, mobilization, curiosity, wherewithal, and all these things here to deal with, you know, to deal with that. You know what I'm saying?"

It's like this is a big production."

AB: "Well ..."

MW: "**They wanted this property!**"

AB: "... maybe ... maybe a hole of this kind justifies that kind of big production. I mean, maybe there's something ..." (AB pauses).

MW: "Well, but ... [unintelligible]."

AB: "I can imagine there's something really unusual, special that ..."

MW: "Has to have some properties that, ah, they ... someone was highly interested in that they ... they thought was very valuable to have and they had to have.

That makes sense, doesn't it?"

AB: "'They' to you meaning 'the Government'?"

MW: "That's right."

AB: "Were these government employees?"

MW: "I ... I ... I ... I ..."

AB: "Do you think?"

MW: "At the property I had both civilian and ... and military people that were there."

AB: "Yeah, that would figure."

MW: "But I gotta tell you something. I mean, you know, I was ... I was in the Army many, many years ago. And I know what a 'green' uniform looks like and, ah ... ah, you know, and the fatigues, and so forth, but I gotta tell you something: When ... when I'm thinking about it there, *I couldn't tell ya which Army they were.*" (MW grins).

AB: (grinning). "Which Army ... ?"

MW: "Yeah! I mean, you know, all I knew is they were in military uniforms, okay?"

AB: "Are ... are ..."

MW: "I ... I couldn't tell you if they were U.S.? I couldn't tell you if they were German?"

AB: "Did they have ... ?"

MW: "I couldn't tell you what they were."

AB: "Mel, did they have sidearms? Did they have, ah ..."

MW: "They all had weapons. Everyone there had weapons."

AB: "Um, as well as like semi-automatic weapons or automatic weapons?"

MW: "Exactly."

AB: "Right."

MW: "From what I could tell these were ... they also had fully automatic weapons."

AB: "Fully automatic weapons."

MW: "Yes."

AB: "Well, that's really intimidating. I ... I've been in countries where I've encountered people with fully automatic weapons, who frowned at me, and I didn't like it."

MW: "Ah, you went to Israel. You ... you ... you got used to seeing people ..."

AB: "Everywhere you go there's ..."

MW: "Everywhere you go!"

AB: "... guns in Israel – that's right.

Um ..."

MW: "You bet!"

AB: "Mel, hold on. We'll be right back."

MW: "I'll be here."

AB: "This is Coast-to-Coast AM."

* * *

AB: "Once again, Mel from Mel's Hole fame and, um, Mel, somebody just sent me a really interesting fax!"

MW: "Okay."

AB: "It says: 'How far is Mel's Hole from the place Dr. Reed had ... had his encounter with the alien?'"

MW: "Ah ..." (MW laughs).

AB: "You know, and that never hit me until I just got this fax."

They are similar areas, I think."

MW: "Ahh ... indeed. Ah, also, um ... ah, not far from, um, where my property was – well, I mean, relatively speaking – is where they found, ah, 'Kennewick Man.'"

AB: "Kennewick Man, yes ... right."

MW: "Um-hmm. Along with the ..."

AB: "So that is ... that's a very unusual area up there."

MW: "Ah ... yeah. I was, ah ... ah, tal- ... talking with my, ah, nephew about how ... how peculiar, ah, Ellensburg is.

I mean, it's a little town about twelve thousand (12,000) people – half of them college students. Actually more than half of 'em college students. You know, so you basically got about six thousand (6000) locals there."

AB: "Huh."

MW: "Ah, pretty small place. Ah ... ah ..."

AB: "All right."

* * *

AB: "All right, let me stop you and ... when you and I last spoke ..."

MW: "Yes?"

AB: "Um, your encounter with those strange folks up there ... you had another encounter with them and they made you an offer you couldn't refuse."

MW: "Yeah, yeah ... well, at first they intimidated the hell out of me, because basically they said: 'Look, you know, ah ... ah' One (1) of the civilian fellows there says: 'Hey, we, you know, we could find a drug lab out here and we could put 'cha outta business in a hurry – you know what I'm talkin' about?'"

AB: "Oh, that's right! I remember. Yes, I remember."

MW: "And, ah, for all intents and purposes, it sure as heck coulda looked like I had a drug lab out there. I had a lot of, ah, strange, ah, non-native plants growing there. None of them, ah, I have to say of, ah, narcotic, ah, nature.

These are just your typical desert ... high desert-type plants. Ah, and, ah, they basically, ah, said: 'Hey, we can shut ya down and, ah, you know, you don't have to worry about all of this.'

Ultimately, they did make me an offer that I could not refuse, and I will tell you, the offer that they made me. Ah, and it had to do with goin' to Australia, and I needed money to go to Australia. And I wanted to continue my research in, ah ... ah, medicinal plants. And so, ah, we put together a very interesting package and a very interesting *lease* on the land to this party."

AB: "Well, as a matter of fact, you told ... oh, no ... did you tell me you were going to Australia?"

Yes, you did."

MW: "Yes."

AB: "Yeah, you told me that they had made you an offer for the land ..."

MW: "Yes!"

AB: "... essentially which was going to be, if I recall correctly, leasing it ..."

MW: "In perpetuity."

AB: "... in perpetuity.

In other words, *forever* ... or for your life anyway."

MW: "Yes, exactly ..."

AB: "And so then you were off to Australia ..."

MW: "Yeah."

AB: "... with a, ah, parcel 'a money."

MW: "They ba- ... I'll tell you, they basically gave me a quarter of a million dollars (\$250,000) *a month* ..."

AB: "Ohh!"

MW: "... to lease the property."

AB: **"A quarter of a million dollars a month! My God!**

And so you were ... and I know you were in Australia, because ...”

MW: “Um-hmm!”

AB: “... you sent me ...”

MW: “Absolutely!”

AB: “... a number of emails, which I ... I did mention to my audience, ...”

MW: “Uh-huh!”

AB: “... from Australia.”

MW: “Yeah!”

AB: “I mean, there was no question where ... where it was from.”

MW: “Oh yeah!”

AB: “It was from Australia.”

MW: “Oh, I was ... I was ... I was set-up in Australia. I had, ah ... ah, I ... I actually for a ... a good while lived out there in Perth – *which I loved living in Perth!*”

AB: “In Perth?”

MW: “Oh, it’s wonderful out ... **I loved Australia!**

Ohh! I [unintelligible].”

AB: “Well I thought: ‘Here’s Mel – gone to Australia!

I had no idea you were getting’ that much money. Set ... obviously set for life!”

MW: “Oh ... oh, I’ll tell ya, it was ... it was great.

I, ah, I built some facilities out there in the, ah, near ... off the Outback, basically, where I can, ah ... ah, grow the various plants that I had ... was allowed to bring with me. And cultivate ’em over there.

And, ah, we also did a fair amount of, ah, wombat rescue out there, which was very gratifying, and ...”

AB: “Wombat rescue! (?)”

MW: “Yeah, yeah, they’re native marsupials out there. Kind of, ah ... ah, good-sized, ah ... ah, critter out there, but a lot of them have become ... were becoming endangered. And I can tell you this right now, the wombats now and I do believe – to ... to, ah, some degree with the work that I’ve done out there – they’re makin’ a comeback out there.”

AB: “Well, that’s wonderful!”

MW: “Wombats are on the way back.”

AB: “But ... but Mel, *what the hell happened?*”

Ah, in other words, here you are in Australia with all this money, and now you’re back here and you’ve fallen on hard times!”

MW: “But you ... you know, I’ll tell ya ... I’ll tell you, I accepted their offer, but ... but, ah, I was basically, ah ... ah, you know, I was to leave town.

I left town. I was actually told to leave my car and wait at the, um ... ah, the rest stop, ah, one of those [unintelligible] get off the road outside of Ellensburg and I was taken to the airport, and then taken to San Francisco, and then taken to Australia.

And so I had left the country. I had my two (2) dogs with me. And we ...”

AB: “They wanted to be damn sure you were goin’ to Australia.”

MW: “I took ... I took ... yeah, I took ... I took my dogs. I was set up there. I already had, ah, there was an account already set up for me. The, ah, the complex paperwork that was involved in, ah ... um, you know, moving, you know moving as a resident to Australia was all taken care of for me. I mean, it was a piece a’ cake. They ... they’d made the arrangements, and so there was some, ah, cooperation on the Australian government’s part. ...”

AB: “Holy smokes!”

MW: “Umm ...”

AB: “I know they can do this kinda thing, but I mean ...”

MW: “Yeah.”

AB: “... it ... it tells you how important this hole must be!”

MW: “Yeah. They ... they ... they were ... they were ba- ... basically willing to give me, ah ... ah, three million dollars (\$3,000,000) a year for the ... for the use of the property and, ah, you know, ah, ba- ... basically, ah, nondisclosure on certain aspects. And, ah ... ah, you know, I ... I could only disclose as much as I could disclose – and there’s a lot of things I don’t know!”

AB: “Well, listen, I ... I can sympathize with that.

Take the money and run! Hell, yes!”

MW: “Hey, you know, to me it was fine. I got ...”

AB: “On the one hand you got the guys with the automatic weapons. And on the other hand you got the guys with the money and the ticket.”

MW: “Yeah!

Yeah, so I, ah ...”

AB: “Not ... not a hard choice.”

MW: “No! No! I ... I ... I, ah, ninety-nine (99) of a hundred (100) people in the same situation would take it, you know? I ... I [unintelligible].”

AB: “You know, I don’t blame you for one second!

And so you went to Australia ...”

MW: “*Oh, it was wonderful!* I loved it.”

And I did a lotta good work out there ...”

AB: “**Yeah, but what happened! (?)**

What happened, Mel?”

MW: “Okay ...”

AB: “I mean ...”

MW: “... well ... well ... well, a number ... a number of things happened there and I’ll tell you one of the things was I did continue my work with that [sic?] herbs. Ah ... ah, had some incredible successes out there with some of the things that I’d actually, ah ... ah, I’m gonna go out on a limb on this,

but some of the things that I had imported from my property out there, ah, to Australia. ...”

AB: “Ohh, they usually don’t like that stuff.”

MW: “Pardon?”

AB: *“They usually don’t like that stuff.”*

MW: “No, but, ah, we ... we had found some, ah, some of the plants that I’d grown out there had some very remarkable properties and, ah ...”

AB: “Do you think that would have anything to do with the area where they were originally ...”

MW: “Ab- ... absolutely.”

AB: “... near the hole?”

MW: “Absolutely, because I’ve had other plants that were not native to the hole property that did not have similar results.”

AB: “Uh-huh.”

MW: “So I know that, ah, growing in proximity of the hole.

And we did a lot of ... we did a lot of cultivation there. I grew a lot ...

But ... but one of the reasons for being where I was and, ah, in Central Washington was the type of climate that was ... that was very conducive to, ah, growing the various things I did.”

AB: “Right.”

MW: “‘N’, ah ... ah, I tried to find similar conditions out there in Australia as well ...”

AB: “Yeah, but when I say: ‘Mel, what happened?’ – I mean, ‘How did you go from being relatively rich and well off in Australia ... now you’re back here, not well off. (?)’”

MW: “I’m back here and as ... as ... as ... as you recall, ah, I was to make an appearance on the show, I believe.”

AB: “Yeah, ah, that’s right!

You sent me a ...”

MW: “That’s right. I told ’cha I was gonna be in town, we got in touch, and I actually talked to you here from the States.”

AB: “I promoed [sic] it! I ... I said ...”

MW: “Yeah.”

AB: “... ‘Mel’s got hold of me. He’s in the States. He’s gonna come on the show.’ And then of course, you were a no-show.”

MW: “Well, I’m gonna ... I’m gonna relate to you the chain of events that occurred ...”

AB: “Please!”

MW: “... from the day that I was supposed to appear on the show ...”

AB: “Right.”

MW: “... as much as I can remember and bring it up to date till now.”

AB: “All right.”

* * *

MW: “Okay, on the day that, ah, I was gonna be on the show, I, ah, helped my nephew move from his apartment.”

AB: “Right.”

MW: “We got him a place down in, ah, the Olympia area.”

AB: “Right.”

MW: “And so, you know, we moved him down there ’n’ all of that. And, ah ... ah, we got him down here and I was going to, ah ... Basically we had to return the truck back to, ah, the Tacoma area.

So I got him all settled here. I got up to, ah, Tacoma, returned the truck, and I was going to take the bus down to Olympia. Just take the transit – there’s a bus that runs from Tacoma to Olympia.”

AB: “Right.”

MW: “So I get on the bus and I’m ridin’ down there. And that, ah ... on the bus and there was an altercation on the bus. There was fighting. There was commotion going on.

Ah, anyway we pulled in to the, ah – and some of you listeners might actually remember this – but we, ah, if they were on the bus. So they might have heard of it.

But we pulled into the [unintelligible] Park ‘n’ Ride and, ah ... ah, some *apparent* transit people got on the bus and they wanted to ask questions about, ah ... ah, what happened on the bus.”

AB: “Yeah.”

MW: “And, ah, you know and, ah, you know, I got off the bus and I ... talked to these guys here, but I have ... I have to get back to Olympia here because they’re gonna do all of this here and ah ... ah ...

‘N’ so they said: ‘That’s no problem. We’re gonna, you know, we’ll, you know, we’ve got the, ah, transit bus here. We’ll just take ya back to Olympia.’”

AB: “Um-hmm.”

MW: “I says: ‘Okay,’ *and that’s the last thing I remember (!)*”

AB: “*The last thing you remember? (!)*”

MW: “About, ah ... what was it ...”

AB: “What do you mean?”

MW: “... about twelve (12 days later I found myself in San Francisco ...”

AB: “Somebody hit you? (!) ... Did what to you ... ? Give you a ...”

MW: “**I have no idea!**”

At that point I found myself in San Francisco ... in a pretty rough part of town ... in an alley. These bums were basically tryin’ to wake me up.”

AB: “**Holy mackerel!**”

MW: “They were tryin’ ta get me to sing – I remember this – ah, they were tryin’ to get me to sing: ‘*On The Road Again*,’ because I sorta look like Willie Nelson.”

AB: "Ha!"

MW: "And, ah ..."

AB: "You ... Mel, are you sure? (!)"

MW: "This is exactly what happened."

AB: "And you lost how many days? (!)"

MW: "Twelve (12) days."

AB: "From an altercation on a bus? (!)"

MW: "That's ... I was ... I was ... I was told that they wanted to talk to me about it, and they were willing to, ah, take me back to Olympia from there, so you know I got on to the little transit van is the last thing I remember."

AB: "So twelve (12) days gone when you, ah – God knows what! – were knocked out or kept in some kind of coma, or ..."

MW: "When I ... when I woke up there, you know, I had nothing on me. No identification and no wallet. I had no keys.

I had the clothes I had, you know, when I moved. They were still as grubby and filthy, you know, as after you ... after you move you get all grubby and filthy."

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "I was in my clothes. I oriented myself down there. I looked around. I noticed there was pain in my arm.

I rolled up my sleeve. It looked like, ah, lookin' at my ... my elbow now here, looked like, ah, wha- ... what would 'chu say? Ah, an IV [intravenous tube] was taped to my skin."

AB: "Yah?"

MW: "There was still the residue of tape ..."

AB: "Oh my ... !"

MW: "... on my arms."

AB: "Yeah, I understand.

Yeah, I ... so ... obviously somebody kept you out for twelve (12) days ..."

MW: "And ..."

AB: "... for some reason."

MW: "... ended.

I listened to the first part of your show. And, you know, you're talkin' about teeth?"

AB: "Yah?"

MW: "All of my back teeth have been removed."

AB: **"WHAT!"**

MW: "I have no back teeth."

AB: "You have no back teeth? (!)"

MW: "None."

AB: "You don't mean like ..."

MW: "No molars. No wisdom tooth [sic]."

AB: "You're not talking about wisdom teeth?"

You're talkin' about ..."

MW: "None! No back teeth.

None on top. None on bottom."

AB: "Why the hell would ... ? (!) Why would they take your teeth out? (!)"

MW: *"I have no idea, Art.*

The ... the next thing I had ... I ... I ... I got in touch with my nephew.

I said: 'Look, I'm down here' – he gets me, ah ... ah, a Greyhound [bus] ticket to pick up at the bus station over there.

Get on the bus ...”

AB: “You were broke?”

MW: “I had nothing.”

AB: “Nothing?”

MW: “I had nothing.

You know, I mean, that ... that was it. I ... I had no ... you know, he gets me on the bus. I take the bus back. You know, and, ah, he ... he told me he was just absolutely frantic, you know? 'Cause I'd, ah, you know, I'd called him collect from down there ...”

AB: “I was frantic too!”

MW: “Yeah?”

AB: “I couldn't figure out what happened to you!”

MW: “So ... who – ... what happened is ... there I am, you know? Looked ... looked like something had occurred to me there. I had, ah, I had no teeth there. I had no idea why I have no teeth in the back. I have front teeth.”

AB: “Ah, were there ... were there scars where your teeth had been?

In other words, had there been recent surgery or ... ?”

AB: “Oh yeah! I mean, in ... in fact at the time there I was ... *I was still bleeding from the back of the mouth.*

I mean, I could ... I could still ... I could still taste ... taste blood in the back of my mouth there, so it was ... it was pretty ugly.”

AB: “Boy, you were screwin' with somebody you shouldn't a' been screwin' with.

Um ...”

MW: “Well, you know ... you know, I would ... I would think that the easy, ah, answer would be is that ... that, ah, it had something to do with I'm going to get on the air [on Art's show] and ... blah, blah, blah ... and say this 'n' that.”

AB: “In other words, since I had promoed the show?”

MW: "Yeah, but that's ... that's really not it. That, ah, it ... that ... that ..."

AB: "If that is it, then you could be **in danger now!**"

MW: "Well, I ... I ... I don't ... I don't believe that was it, because, you know, there's a lot of things that I was doing, I ..."

AB: "Yeah, but Mel ..."

MW: "... you know, I got myself in trouble."

AB: "Yeah, but Mel, if you think about the fact that look what happened after the first time you came on my show."

MW: "Yeah?"

AB: "Then look what happened after you ... I promoed years later that you were gonna be on my show again ..."

MW: "Yeah."

AB: "... and you're gone for twelve (12) days (!)"

MW: "Um-hmm."

AB: "Ah, you have to imagine there's a possibility of a relationship there."

MW: "Ye- ... we ... we could take the connection and we could put it on the back burner."

But, ah, you know, I ... I've, you know, I'm a curious fellow. I mean, any guy that runs eighty thousand feet (80,000 ft.) of line into a hole ..."

AB: "Is a curious guy, yeah."

MW: "A curious guy. (MW grins)."

Ah, you know, I got back ... I got back to, ah, you know, I got back to, ah, my nephew's. And I'm ... I'm ... I'm still with my nephew now.

Ah, and, ah ..."

AB: "Don't even ... don't even say when."

MW: “No. But I found out that, ah ... ah, I don’t know ... I don’t know if you can appreciate this or that, but the next ... the next thing that happened to me at ... is that I found that there was some legal action taken against me.”

AB: “Legal action?”

MW: “Le- ... legal action was taken on, ah, on behalf of my former wife.”

AB: “Your former wife?”

MW: “Yah, yah.

Basically I had the property, ah, on the Manastash as ... as ...”

AB: “You had said it was her property ...”

MW: “It was her property ...”

AB: “... legally.”

MW: “... and it was basically, she had leased it to me in perpetuity as part of our divorce settlement.

I had helped her go through, ah, school ...”

AB: “All right.

Mel ... Mel ... Mel.”

MW: “Yeah?”

AB: “Hold on We’re at the bottom of the hour.

Oh, it just gets worse and worse.

Hope she didn’t do that to ’em. [Remove Mel’s back teeth].

Oh, oh, oh man! We’ll be right back.”

* * *

MW: “I was without my belt buckle and that really, you know ...”

AB: “They took your belt buckle? (!)”

MW: “Yeah. I ... I ...”

AB: “Now that’s really low.” [AB – with mock indignation].

MW: “Well, I had made, ah ...”

AB: “I mean, you take a person’s teeth, but you take their belt buckle ...”

MW: “Well ... well ... it was ... it was ... it was just, you know, I had everything else, and I ... and I ... there was another belt buckle on there [unintelligible].

I had made a belt buckle out of, ah ... ah, silver, ah, fork. Ah, eating fork.”

AB: “Yeah?”

MW: “And bent it. I used to bend metal and do all kinds of things with it. And made ... fashioned a nice, ah, belt buckle out of that and, ah ...”

AB: “That was gone?”

MW: “And, ah, I used to tumble stones and stuff too. And I just had nice lookin’ rock that I had on there too that, you know, I picked up ’n’ put on there;.

I have ... it was ... it was like, you know, I had my pants. I had my shoes. I had my socks. ’N’, you know, why da ya think my belt buckle (?), but that’s my ... my ... even that might be getting ahead of myself here.”

AB: (whispers under his breath) “Sure.”

MW: “But anyway, I get back and, ah, find out that there was some legal action taken against me here, and it was initiated by my former wife ...”

AB: “I see!”

MW: “Basically, ah, I got ... I had the property through, ah, part of the divorce settlement there, ’n’, you know, I helped her with her school, and it was pretty worthless land. And she said: ‘Well, you know, I’ll give you that as part of the settlement there.’

And, ah, you know, I mean that was ...”

AB: “So what was the legal action? She wanted the hole back?”

MW: “Well, wha- ... what happened is that the papers I was served with said that, ah, I was in violation of the ... the terms of the lease with her.”

AB: “With her? (!)”

MW: "Exactly. You know, as part of the divorce settlement and the number of things that occurred at my property. One (1), that, ah, there were underground fuel tanks put in. Ah, number two (2), there was a septic system put in. Number three (3) ..."

AB: "Oh, this is what the people who came up there put in!"

MW: "Number three, ah, there was some paving of ... of roads. And these were all things that were not supposed to occur on the property."

AB: "Got 'cha."

MW: "And so basically, ah, I had lost all rights to the property out there, ah, period.

The sad thing about it was I was giving my former wife, because we kind of had an agreement there that if I were to profit from the property I would, you know, take care of her.

We had, you know, we've, you know, we ... didn't have enough there to keep a marriage goin', but 'a certainly didn't have anything against ... I was givin' her twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) a month ..."

AB: "Whoa! It's pretty generous!"

MW: "Yeah! I would say ... I would say so."

AB: "I think that would keep her ... keep her ... well, she must've, ah, smelled the color of the money, I mean, you know?"

MW: "Basically I figured ..."

AB: "She must have known if you were givin' her twenty-five grand (\$25,000), there was a lot more ..."

MW: "Well, someone I think ..."

AB: "... in that hole, huh?"

MW: "But I mean, there's no way that she would've had access to the property as far as I can tell, and *someone had to get to her.*"

AB: "Yeah, but if she's got control of the property now, then she's probably made a deal ..."

MW: "She's dealing with them, yes."

AB: "With them?"

MW: "Um-hmm."

AB: "And you're out in the cold. And you get left with the bums in San Francisco and no back teeth!"

MW: "I'm ... I'm down ... I'm down there in a really ugly part 'a town, I gotta tell ya there. I don't have any back teeth. You know, I don't even have my belt buckle and, ah ..."

AB: "Sheesh."

MW: "... you know, right now. I'm at the point there where actually, you know, I'm ... – I don't know, you can probably tell I'm a smoker – but I'm actually having to sell plasma in order to buy cigarettes. That's how bad I am right now."

AB: "Oh my God! Talk about a riches to rags story."

MW: "I ... I mean, we talkin', you know, all ... all the way around there. When ..."

AB: "And still you're pursuing this, Mel. I ... now ... I ..."

MW: "Because there's things I have to know!"

AB: "... I don't ... I don't wanta *name* these people."

MW: "Uh-huh."

AB: "You know, you've got some names here."

MW: "Yeah."

AB: "An' I don't wanna name 'em on the air ..."

MW: "Okay."

AB: "... 'cause I just wanta be careful here, but ..."

MW: "Okay."

AB: "You wanta find, for example, the Mexican fellow, who used to throw the ..."

MW: "Yeah! The tire guy!"

AB: "Why do you want him?"

Whadda you ... now, a Cath- ... Catholic priest you're looking for."

MW: "That's right. There ... there's a ..."

AB: "Um ..."

MW: "... there's a priest. There's, ah, there's a Hungarian fellow that, ah, I ... I need to get in touch with."

AB: "People who have somethin' to do with the hole.

My question is: After all of this, Mel, what do you think you can do?"

MW: "Well, you know, I ... for ... for ... you know, maybe I should run this back to, ah ... ah, my time in Australia, okay?"

AB: "All right."

MW: "And, ah, you know I did bring some of the, ah ... the, ah, various plants that we'd grown in, ah ... ah, on the property by the hole there. And that was just var- ... various plants that If anyone wants to, they could probably do a lit- ... little research and find out exactly which plants they are, because the ... the plants themselves have been written about for the last hundred (100) years. And they had remarkable properties."

AB: "Like what?"

MW: "Pardon?"

AB: "Like what?"

MW: "Well, I'm not ... I'm not ... I'm not gonna say ... say the names of the plants there ..."

AB: "No, no, no! Properties! Remarkable ..."

MW: "Oh! Oh, they ... they were used, for instance, during, ah, by a certain, ah ... ah, Army ... Army doctor for, ah, dealing with the great influenza that we had at the turn of the century [actually 1918]. The one that killed all these people."

AB: “Yes, millions!”

MW: “Yes, and ... and the people that reserve, ah, receive this – ah, it was, ah, an Indian concoction – were just fine. Had no problems whatsoever.”

AB: “But I mean, you have been – pardon the pun – kicked in the teeth over this now!”

MW: “Yes!”

AB: “And so why do you want to keep pursuing it?”

I mean, if you keep goin’ after this ...”

MW: “It ... it ... it ... Art, it doesn’t matter at this point in a lot of ways. I’m sixty-eight (68) years old.”

AB: “Yes, sir.”

MW: “I will be sixty-eight (68) in June. I don’t, you know, I mean, I’ve ... I had a simple life before this. I had, you know, I had an extraordinary run for the last several years. And ... and I still need to get some answers for things.

I need to get hold of, ah ... ah, the guy that I, ah, I gave the, ah, gun to. I ... I believe he contacted your show.”

AB: “Okay now, where did you get that gun?”

MW: “That ... that I dug up on the property. You know, I planted various things out there and, ah, you know, from time to time, you know, when I’m clearing a piece of land to plant on, you know, I’ll dig up rocks and I’ll dig up metal and ...”

AB: “Sure.”

MW: “... all kinds of things there. And I found this ...”

AB: “A gun.”

MW: “... gun and a holster, and this little odds ’n’ ends along with it there. And I just basically, ah, took this ’n’ threw it in my drawer in my ... my little workshop there in my office that I had on the property there. And then when I had to move, I gave it to this fellow and, ah – ’cause I needed to move into the apartment – I gave it to him as a deposit on the apartment.”

AB: “So it must’ve been ...”

MW: "You know ... [unintelligible]."

AB: " ... it must've been a decent gun."

MW: "It ... it wa- ... it was from what I could tell – and I'm not a big gun man – but it was a, ah ... ah, German P38. It looked like one of those, you know like the Nazis used to use back in World War 2."

AB: "Yeah, you mighta really had somethin' on your hands there. And you gave it to the guy. ..."

MW: "Well, again, I'm ... I'm not a, you know, I'm not ... I'm not a gun person. I figure it might be worth something – I don't know. It didn't make any difference."

AB: "Why do you think getting hold of him now would be meaningful?"

MW: "Well, for one, it is we ... we can't get hold of 'im. And two (2), for some of the things that, ah, I remember about the gun now and that I also found out, and also what, ah ... ah, he had indicated to you about the gun as well.

And, ah, what I had found out – and I talked with the son. The son is ... basically says that the fellow is, ah, he left the family. He left his wife. He left, you know, everyone there. He can't be found at all.

And so I'd like him to contact me."

AB: "So he's disappeared too."

MW: "And he ... he had the gun that I gave him there and it was found on the property."

AB: "And suppose you found the ... found the Mexican guy, who threw down all the tires, ah, thousands of tires. What would you do with him?"

MW: "Well, ah, part ... part of this is also connected with the gun.

I'm gonna ... I'm gonna tell you a little bit more about this here, and ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "... and what I found out about it. And I might be able to, ah, verify it with some of my own experience ..."

AB: "Fire away!"

MW: "Ah, I had talked with this guy's son. And this guy said that, ah, you know his father kinda became obsessed with this gun here, and I believe what he ... he'd indicated to you is that he would shoot this gun and it wouldn't make a sound. (!)"

AB: "Yeah, I remember that."

MW: "It's like ..."

AB: "That's like a long time ago now!"

MW: "Yes! Yes! Yes!"

Well, I ... I ... I knew exactly who ... who it was, man! I'm here to tell ya the guy is, you know, speakin' the Gospel [telling the truth] there when he contacted you. But this thing was like dead silent, and, ah, was really weird.

Well, I talked to this guy's son, 'cause, ah, he's kinda close with my nephew, and we got, you know, we got talking. He says: 'You know what was interesting about this, ah, gun and what my Dad told me, you know ... and you know, when we were talkin' about it? And he kinda demonstrated for him. Is that he would set the gun down like near the radio ...'

AB: "Yeah?"

MW: "... and it would pick up signals from all over the place. Like from the past, from ... from the present, from any type of radio signals. And you could change the channels on the radio ..."

AB: "*This is really weird, Mel. You're ...*"

MW: "Well look, this ... this is what I'm ..."

AB: "**Everything that comes outta the area of that hole is weird.**"

MW: "Well, this is what I'm tellin' you here is that he would do that if he would, ah, just like ... like about a foot away, wave his hand near the ... near the gun ..."

AB: "Yah?"

MW: "... the channels would change there and he would get something like a ... a baseball game from 1963 (!) or it would be a weather report from Iowa

(!), or would ... it would be something from Canada or it would be Mexican music playing ...

But if ... he was very still, it would stay exactly on a certain channel there, and he would get something like 'out of time' with it."

AB: *"That's weird!"*

MW: "Okay?"

AB: **"That's really weird!"**

MW: "And that, ah, is ..."

AB: "Now I see why you wanta find the gun."

MW: "Well, I ... well, I ... I'd like to find him. I'd like to find out that he's okay, and that, you know, he hasn't done anything really peculiar or pretty ... or ... or very strange.

Ah ..."

AB: "Maybe it's true that everybody who in any way encountered the hole in the area came to problems."

MW: "Well, the, ah, the ... the guy with the tires, I wanta get in touch with him because I had given his ... – it musta been a son or it musta been a grandson of his – ah ... ah, he once drove the truck out there and he had some problems on the property. And his son drove out there, ah ... ah, after him to help him with the truck and you know, get him goin' there. And, ah ... ah, he ... he had trouble there too.

To make a long story short, I gave him a ... a couple of buckets of, um ... ah, you know, five (5) gallon, ah, paint buckets full of like rocks, metal, 'n' stuff that I picked up on the property."

AB: "Yah?"

MW: "That I was, ah, you know, I would ... you know, instead of, ah, chuckin' 'em aside, I would just toss 'em in these buckets, and on occasion, I'd ... I'd sort through 'em and see what the [sic] goin' on.

But I gave it to him ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "... to put in the back of his car so he could get out of there, 'cause he wasn't getting any traction!

So, you know, normally, you know, out there when you're in that part of the country, you always carry a coupla' bags of sand or somethin' ..."

AB: "Sure."

MW: "... in the back of your vehicle ..."

AB: "Sure, sure ... sure."

MW: "... for traction.

So he has a couple a' buckets of, ah, of rocks and possibly dirt 'n' stuff that I wanta get on my hands My hand box."

AB: "So you think ... you think that anything that came from that area has unusual properties?"

MW: "I ... I'm beginning to believe that. I'm beginning to believe that.

And if we, ah, reel this story up to Australia is that I was approached when I was in Australia, um, 'cause, um, the ... I ... I was dealing with some people in the various ministries there – the government things ... the ministries of Health and different things there – and they were kind of interested in what I was doing. And I was approached at one point to take some of the things that I had, ah, brought from the U.S., and, ah, we gave 'em to some people up there. Three (3) men, who had like advanced HIV ..."

AB: "Yah?"

MW: "I mean, these guys were in hospice."

AB: "Yah?"

MW: "Well, they're not in the hospice anymore. They're not on Death's Door anymore. These guys are doin' just fine."

AB: (pause) "Wow!"

MW: "This is stuff that we'd grown ..."

AB: "*This is some story!*

And Mel, why did you ... I ... I don't understand why you left *Australia*?
I mean, I ..."

MW: "Oh I ... I ... I just ... I just came back here to, ah ... ah, you know, ah, you know, be with my family. And, ah, you know, what ... what family I have here."

AB: "*Obviously a big mistake!*"

MW: Back in the U.S. here. Ah, and ah, that was my primary reason for comin' up here ..."

AB: "But if you had stayed in ..."

MW: "Yeah, I had been gone for several years."

AB: "I know. But if you had stayed there, you might still be sippin' pina coladas 'n' stuff ..."

MW: "Well, you know, ah, I do wish I was there. I ... I got to tell you, on ... on, ah, on the beaches of Australia, the women there wear barely more than two (2) ... two (2) Band-Aids and a postage stamp."

AB: "Ha-ha. I've heard that, Mel."

MW: "Yeah, it ... it was ... I mean, it's, ah, *gorgeous* – in more ways than one out there ..."

AB: "So the money's gone, the postage stamp girls are gone ..."

MW: "I have no money. ..."

AB: "... the teeth are gone, the belt buckle's gone ..."

MW: "Belt buckle's gone ..."

AB: "... the gun's gone ..."

MW: "I'm ... I'm try- ... tryin' ta get ahold of a few people. Ah, the Hungarian man, ah, he ... he lived in the area, and actually, ah, I have a lot of interest in getting to him. Um, ah, the priest fellow – same ... same thing. He's kinda connected to the Hungarian fellow ..."

AB: "Mel, you know, I'm gonna make a suggestion to you."

MW: "Yeah?"

- AB: "Maybe you should do what a lot of people do, and you should write a book about this. Have you considered it?"
- MW: "I don't know. I mean, that's ah ... ah, my ... my ... my nephew, um, was, ah, you know, writing something based on me. You know, just ... he ... he just thought it was great. You know, he was: 'Well, I know this celebrity kind of guy here ... (MW laughs) ... and ... I'll never, ah ...'"
- AB: "Mel, people wrote songs about what happened to you."
- MW: "Oh, I ... I ... I know ... their ... their ... my ... my nephew just showed me the other day. He had a compact disc called '*The Ballad of Mel's Hole*.' It was ..."
- AB: "That's right."
- MW: "I mean, it's, ah ... ah, incredible.
People told me they had drinks named after all of this, and, ah ... um ..."
- AB: "Mel's Hole drinks?"
- MW: "Yeah! You know, in the various bars in town in Ellensburg. And, ah, I mean, it was, ah ... ah, quite ... quite a ... quite a remarkable phenomenon out there."
- AB: "Hah!"
- MW: "It was really amazing.
It's, ah ... ahh, I ... I couldn't, you know, I ... I, you know, it ... it ... it really created quite a stir out in that part 'a the country." (MW grins).
- AB: "Well, you know, have you tried – this is a key question – have you tried to go back to the hole? Ah, or the property where the hole is?"
- MW: "No. No, um, I'm, ah ..."
- AB: "I can't say as I really blame you, really."
- MW: "... ah, right now, I'm, ah, I'm ... I'm keeping some of my cards close to the vest, because I'd like to put, ah ... ah, some of the screws on my former wife there ta ... to see that: 'Hey, let her know – and I hope she's listening – that, hey, what happened to me ...'"

AB: "Can happen to you?"

MW: "... can happen to you.' And, ah, it might be worth your while to, ah ... ah, you know, keep me a little bit quiet about things, you know? Ah ... ah ..."

AB: "Say, ah, twenty-five grand (\$25,000)?"

MW: "Look, look ..."

AB: "A month?"

MW: "... I'm ... I'm happy for an acre or two of land and ... and a trailer I can call my own, you know, where I can keep doin' my work."

* * *

AB: "Well this is some odyssey. This is somethin' you been through, Mel."

MW: "Um-hmm."

AB: "All over a – well, I was gonna say 'stinkin' – although it's not stinkin' hole, it's an *unusual* hole."

MW: "Yeah! Ba- ... basically, it's a hole, but I really did get the shaft in the end here."

AB: (laughs).

MW: "[Unintelligible] ... that is ... [unintelligible]."

AB: "It's not funny. I'm sorry."

MW: "Ahh ... it's been ... it has been a remarkable thing. Ah, I, ah, I don't know, did 'chu read the fax that I sent 'chu or, ah ...?"

AB: "Yes!"

MW: "Okay. I mean, did 'chu read it to the audience or ... ?"

AB: "Oh, no!"

MW: "Okay ..."

AB: "Because there were names in it. I didn't ... I didn't wanta, you know ... ?"

MW: "Ah, is ... is there anything in there you wouldn't want me to talk about on the air?"

AB: "Only the names."

MW: "Ah, no specific names?"

AB: "No specific names."

MW: "Ah, specific incidents?"

AB: "Ahh ... well ... we've covered a lot of that."

MW: "Okay. Can I ... can I, ah, can I ... can I say this?"

There is a very ... very, very strong connection, ah, with, ah, the Heaven's Gate incident and, ah, my property."

AB: Well ... okay, I will say this:

You wanted to make contact with anyone who saw Marshall Applewhite ..."

MW: "Um-hmm."

AB: "... up in that Ellensburg area ..."

MW: "Yes."

AB: "... prior to the last appearance on Coast to Coast.

And by the way, Mel, ah, for your ... your original appearance here was ... damn, I had it here ..."

MW: "In ... in February of '97."

AB: "I think it was February twenty- ... February twenty-first (21st) of 1997."

MW: "Um-hmm."

AB: "Ah, I got a call from my board-op, ah, during the break here, and he said: 'February 1st, 1997.'" [actually 1997 02 21].

MW: "Absolutely."

AB: "And so you think somehow ... *somehow* there's some connection to the whole Heaven's Gate thing?"

MW: "I do believe and, ah, that happened ... that occurred, if as you recall, about a month after my appearance ..."

AB: "I recall ... yeah, well I recall all right."

MW: "... on the show. And, ah, I ... I don't want to, ah ..."

AB: [Unintelligible].

MW: "... I don't wanta hurt anybody's feelings."

AB: "Well, there's no way for people to get hold of you is there?"

MW: "Ah, they can ..."

AB: "I mean, nothing that you can give out."

MW: "I will give out an email address, if anybody wants to get in touch with me."

AB: "Really! (?)"

MW: "Yes."

AB: "Okay, buddy, go for it."

MW: "Okay. mel ... melwaters ..."

AB: "melwaters."

MW: "One word runnin' together. @home.com."

AB: "melwaters@hole?"

MW: "home ... h-o-m-e." (Both AB and MW break into laughter).

AB: "@home ..." (AB laughs more).

MW: "No, I don't ... I don't have a domain name for ... (MW and AB laugh).
No, that's ... that's, ah ..."

AB: "So that's m-e-l-w-a-t-e-r-s ..."

MW: "Yes."

AB: "...@home ... h-o-m-e ..."

MW: "Uh-huh."

AB: ".com."

MW: ".com."

AB: "Well, you're gonna get a lot of email, Mel, because ..."

MW: "Well, I ... I ... I want ... I ... I really want ... I want to know if, ah, something, ah ... if, ah, that priest will contact me.

I want ... I want anyone that knows, ah ... ah ..."

AB: "Any of ... any of the people from back then that had ... had to do with you – and the hole."

MW: "That ... that's right.

The Hungarian man I'm very, very, very anxious to get hold of, and I do believe he would, ah, get in touch with me, ah ..."

AB: "Well, Mel, I'm so sorry all this has happened to you.

We're running out of time here, but I'm ... I'm ... you will never know how sorry I am that all this has happened to you, and ..."

MW: "I'm gonna ... I'm gonna ... I'm gonna move along here, ya know? It's, ah ..."

AB: "You will prevail!"

MW: "And who knows? You may ... you may not have heard the last of all of this."

AB: "Oh, listen, ah ..."

MW: "If my wife is listening – ex-wife is listening – 'Hey, you owe me.'"

AB: (laughs). "All right. That's melwaters@home h-o-m-e .com.

You'll prob'ly hear from the media too.

Listen, buddy, ah ..."

MW: "Put it on your website there. I ... I ... I want those people to get hold of me."

AB: "Hold onto your front teeth, Mel."

MW: "Thank you."

AB: "Later, buddy."

MW: "Bye."

* * *