

Episode 14



Season 1 : E14 - Whose Lie is it Anyway? Witness Recap Trivia Game

July 7, 2020

Speakers: Bruce Fischer, Jamie Snow, Tammy Alexander, Lesley Pires

Episode Description: Contestants Jamie, Tam, and Lesley play a trivia game, moderated by Bruce, to test our memory of who said what and how they affected Jamie's case. We run down the crime scene witnesses, lawyers, and informants we have discussed in episodes 1-13. Listen in to see if you could convict someone of murder based off your own memory.

Jamie Snow: And I think about this all the time. If I have to spend the rest of my life in prison for a crime I didn't commit, I need the world to know what happened and how it happened.

Music Intro: Injustice Anywhere presents Snow Files: The wrongful conviction of Jamie Snow and how they got away with it.

The mission of the Snow Files Podcast is to expose the misconduct of the State's Attorney's office under Charles Reynard. It is not our intention in any way to disparage the current State's Attorney's Office or the Bloomington Police Department.

Bruce Fischer: Welcome to Whose Lie is it Anyway. Today, we are going to review the witnesses, lawyers, cops and major players we have discussed so far to not only give you a review of the players in the case, but to also give ourselves a chance to

test our own memories. The prison phone is a bit noisy, but that didn't stop us from having fun.

Jamie Snow: Coming to you live from Stateville Correctional Center. Today's contestants are Lesley, Tammy and myself. Bruce will be the Alex Trebek of our game.

Bruce Fischer: Let's go over the rules of the game. When your name is called, I will give you a name of a person in the case who has been previously discussed. You will then have 30 seconds to tell who that person is and how they fit into the case. Is everybody ready?

Tammy Alexander: Yes.

Lesley Pires: Yep.

Jamie Snow: Yes.

Bruce Fischer: Jamie, who is Bill Little?

Jamie Snow: Bill Little was a victim in the case. He's an 18-year-old kid that was working at a little bitty gas station on Easter Sunday, and he was murdered for less than 100 bucks. The case is still been unsolved.

Bruce Fischer: Tam, who is Gerardo Gutierrez?

Tammy Alexander: Gerardo Gutierrez was a witness who was at the gas station 10 minutes before the crime. He saw someone in the gas station that looked suspicious. He described him. They put his composite out. He never identified Jamie, and he's still never identified Jamie as the person who was there. And we want to talk to him.

Bruce Fischer: Just under the buzzer.

Jamie Snow: I think she went over 30 seconds, but okay.

Lesley Pires: Well, Tammy, you forgot he's the one who said the scar on the chin. That's so important. That's his tagline. Scar on the chin, and the earring. You gotta remember that.

Jamie Snow: You guys are gonna have to fix this up later on.

Lesley Pires: No, that means that she doesn't get a full point. That's all.

Bruce Fischer: I guess she gets one of these. [buzzer] Lesley, who is Danny Martinez?

Lesley Pires: Danny Martinez lived next door to the Clark Station. And on the night of the crime, he said that he was going over there to buy sodas and snacks for his kids and his wife to watch a movie. And while he was there, he was filling up his tire. And he was being watched at the same time as Officer Pelo. And he came up with this whole story that he went into the gas station to get something, and then he almost bumped into somebody but turned around, and the suspect had a ball cap on. And he could never identify who it was. Anybody, ever.

Tammy Alexander: And he never identified him. He saw multiple composites, never identified him. Never identified him in the in person lineup within three months of the crime. And he didn't identify him until 10 years later in a private meeting at the state's attorney's office. I think you get half a point, Lesley.

Lesley Pires: Well, I think I can't get a full point cuz I was too long. I gotta tell the whole story. I didn't tell the 85% thing, then the 100% thing. I missed a lot, so that's why I'm gonna lose.

Jamie Snow: He picked out two pictures on the night of the crime and said it was between those two. Neither one was me.

Lesley Pires: All right, well he's the worst fucking liar out of everybody. So that was, I missed that point too.

Bruce Fischer: Jamie, who is Carlos Luna?

Jamie Snow: Carlos Luna was a 14-year-old kid who was living across the street. He was looking out his window. He claimed to have seen someone coming out of the gas station. He completely contradicted Danny Martinez. Danny said the guy back out with his hands in his pockets. Carlos said the guy came out face forward, pushing the door with his left hand. He has since given us an affidavit clarifying

some of what he said, and the state withheld evidence on him which would have contradicted his trial testimony.

Tammy Alexander: Good job.

Bruce Fischer: Lesley, who is Juan Luna?

Lesley Pires: Juan Luna is Carlos Luna's cousin, I believe. And he was a little bit younger than him. They were both looking out the window of the bedroom that night and claimed to see the suspect leaving with a trench coat. And Juan never testified or gave written statements or anything. It was just Carlos. I think one went to the lineup and couldn't select anybody. And Carlos was the one who said that maybe he saw somebody that looked like him but not the guy. And that was it. So we would really like to hear from Juan Luna and hear what he had to say and why he hasn't come.

Jamie Snow: Yeah. The only thing I would point out is, in the reports that we have since received about Juan and Carlos, we know now that they were both talked to a week or so later, individually. And they've still been withholding those reports from us all these years. So he must have said something they didn't like. But you did real good.

Lesley Pires: Oh, thank you.

Bruce Fischer: Full point awarded. Tam, who is Jeff Pelo?

Tammy Alexander: Jeff Pelo was the first officer on the scene. He was watching Danny Martinez. And later in 1999 gave an interview that explained exactly how Martinez was approaching the store and turned around and did his little back and forth thing. And he has since given us an affidavit saying that he never talked to anybody in the store and has read Martinez's testimony and said that was not correct. And he...

Bruce Fischer: You were pretty slow on that one.

Lesley Pires: Come on, Tam.

Tammy Alexander: Well, I don't know. I didn't practice. I didn't make the list, Lesley.

Lesley Pires: All right. Jeff Pelo was so important because when he went on stand, they tried to say that he was playing with his microphone, so that the suspect probably ran out of the store while he was looking down to call in Danny Martinez and he just completely missed him. And that's how they got away with that at trial.

Bruce Fischer: Pretty good.

Jamie Snow: And he has since adamantly just confirmed that at the very moment that Danny Martinez claimed he was face to face with someone in the parking lot that night, Jeff was focused in on him and you know, it was impossible for Danny to have been face to face with someone. And the cops knew that. They knew that the whole time, and they still put him up.

Lesley Pires: And the important thing about that is that we very recently have gotten him to say the difference between what he said at trial, which was I didn't see anybody come out of the store, to what is true, which is nobody was at the store. So, the state's attorney kind of tried to use a play on words that he didn't see anybody with his own eyes. But no, there was nobody in front of him is what he was trying to say. But that's not what made it in the transcript.

Jamie Snow: I really think that's the most important part of everything that he ever said was that he just, he was focused in on him and there wasn't anybody there. He didn't miss anybody. There wasn't anybody there.

Tammy Alexander: That instance of that whole scenario of Williams being across the street, and Pelo being across the street, and Martinez said he ran into somebody... Ten years ago that's what convinced me of Jamie's innocence, because it's just impossible for that scenario to have been that way. And that was the first thing. Now we've gotten a lot more evidence. But at that time from what we had, that's what convinced me of his innocence.

Lesley Pires: Well, I can't even think of another case where you have two police officers and a witness, and nobody believes them. I can't think of anything else like that.

Jamie Snow: I agree.

Bruce Fischer: Lesley, who is Paul Williams?

Lesley Pires: Paul Williams arrived on the scene at the same time as Jeff Pelo as a responding officer. And he took charge of the scene, but he waited a little bit down the block and watched from his squad car. And he watched Pelo looking at Danny Martinez and calling in the plates. And as soon as Pelo crossed the street to go into the store, Paul Williams got out of his car, walked on foot, and went inside and found the body, and called for first responders. He testified at the medical examiner that you know, he got there first. Okay, Jamie, why don't you go and say the rest.

Jamie Snow: Nah, I think you pretty much got it. I mean, he said at the medical examiner's inquest that they arrived at the same time, and he put himself in a position where he could watch the door of the gas station, make sure that nobody came in and left. And when you put it all together with what Danny said and what Jeff said and what Williams saw, the whole scenario is just completely impossible. And I'll say it again. This is the state's evidence. They knew this and they just, they just disregarded it and used them anyways. The grossest.

Lesley Pires: Now did he ever even testify at your trial?

Jamie Snow: Yeah he testified. But you know, Frank Picl was dealing blackjack in his head while he was up there on the stand, so.

Bruce Fischer: Jamie, who is Susan Claycomb?

Jamie Snow: Susan Claycomb was my codefendant. My sister in law. She was charged, right along with me. She was found not guilty. They gave her every chance in the world. They offered her every deal she could possibly get (illegible) to testify against me, and she just refused to do it. The jury found her not guilty. She had a great jury and a great lawyer, Steve Skelton.

Bruce Fischer: Perfect. You got in just under the buzzer. Tam, who is Frank Picl?

Tammy Alexander: Frank Picl was Jamie's trial attorney. He was appointed because while Jamie was... the death penalty was on the table, after the trial he was convicted of bilking an elderly woman of 100, her whole life savings. And she died penniless. He went to prison for that. He lost his law license. He did a really shit job

for Jamie during the trial, and we think he was probably appointed because he had so many problems. Gambling, alcoholism and everything.

Bruce Fischer: There's a lot to say about that asshole. Lesley, who is Steve Skelton?

Lesley Pires: Steve Skelton was Susan's defense attorney. He was a private defense attorney, and he did a very good job. And when Jamie went to trial, his attorneys tried to mimic everything that he did, very poorly. Steve Skelton got Susan off the hook very well. He would make a bunch of motions. He did a lot of research. He got witnesses to not be allowed to testify. He got testimony stricken. And he was very calm and in control during the trial, unlike what we saw in Jamie's trial.

Bruce Fischer: Well done. Jamie, who is Charles Crowe?

Jamie Snow: Charles Crowe was the lead detective on the case from the very beginning. I think Charlie believed that I was innocent. I think that they waited till he retired to charge me. As soon as he retired, Dan Katz and Barkes took over the case. And within less than a year they had me in jail. So I think for many years Charlie was the only thing keeping me from getting charged. He knew I was innocent.

Bruce Fischer: I gave you eight seconds because I thought that was important. Tam, who is Russell Thomas?

Tammy Alexander: Russell Thomas was... Oh my god. He was the one who did the composite sketches. And he's the one that had the kids in, the Luna boys in, and said that they couldn't give enough information to even do a composite. So he didn't think... And that came out in Susan's trial. But he wasn't in Jamie's trial. Oh my god, do I have this right?

Lesley Pires: Nope, you're wrong. Pass to Lesley. Lesley steals. Russell Thomas was the detective that arrested Jamie at his aunt's house, or at his sister's house, and then interviewed him about a robbery. And then later at the grand jury, told the grand jury that he had talked to Jamie about a robbery, and Jamie was really upset and nervous about it. But then he went to trial, and he replaced the word robbery with murder. So then he testified against Jamie that Jamie had tried to confess to him about the murder and was very upset about it. And that was just a common thread to everything Jamie ever said about knowing about a robbery. It was murder now.

Tammy Alexander: Son of a bitch. I just listened to that episode last night.

Bruce Fischer: Lesley with a steal.

Lesley Pires: I should get a bonus point.

Tammy Alexander: No, I didn't review anything. I was just trying to help Lesley out, Jamie. Who was the person who did the composites?

Jamie Snow: That was Tom Sanders.

Tammy Alexander: Tom Sanders. That's why I got Russell Thomas. Okay.

Jamie Snow: That don't count.

Tammy Alexander: I had to fix it. I had to know who it was. Tom Sanders. We didn't put him in here but yeah. Tom Sanders was the one who did the composites. Okay. I just wanted to get that straight.

Jamie Snow: Yeah, Tom Sanders was the one who did the composite, and said that he was unable to get any details from Carlos and Juan Luna in order to put the composite drawing together. I mean, you have to be able to... And Steve Skelton did a masterful job when he cross-examined him at Susan's trial. He got him to admit, you know, in order to do a composite drawing you have to be able to describe the person's eyes, their nose, their mouth, their chin, their eyebrows, their face. So, I mean, if you can't describe the person's face... I mean, you know, and that's perfectly in line with the memo that we got through the Freedom of Information Request. That we know that they withheld on Juan and Carlos Luna because they were unable to even see the person's face from 220 feet away at night. I have to point out, the only question the jury asked was they wanted someone to demonstrate 220 feet for them, so they could determine whether or not you can make an identification from that distance. So I think it's pretty clear why they withheld that memo. They knew that memo was dynamite. And they withheld it.

Bruce Fischer: All right, Lesley, you're up. Who is Dan Katz?

Lesley Pires: Dan Katz. The witness whisperer, as Jamie likes to say. He was along with Rick Barkes was one of the Cold Case detectives and he really wanted a nice career boost. So he went and interviewed all of these informants back in jail, and he got them to change their stories. He would lead them. He would give them information before the tape started. He would stop the tape and rewind it to get more stuff. And then he testified at trial and wasn't even asked about any of these interviews that he did.

Bruce Fischer: Another one well done. Just under the buzzer - 29 seconds.

Jamie Snow: I would add one thing. And that is that he was the reason for Eric Drew's murder case being reversed, because he paid him under the table some money and helped him out with some charges. So he had a history of doing this.

Bruce Fischer: Tam, who is Rick Barkes?

Tammy Alexander: Rick Barkes and Dan Katz kind of go hand in hand. They were the two detectives that took over the case in 1998. And both shady as fuck. And they're the ones that solely focused on Jamie Snow after that time, although they said the whole time that they were going over the whole case and interviewing everyone. All the suspects, they only interviewed people related to Jamie Snow.

Bruce Fischer: This next one is for Jamie. Jamie, who are Ed Palumbo and Shannon Schmidt Wallace?

Jamie Snow: Ed Palumbo was the first person to, I think, mention my name in the case. Everything he testified to, he never said in the beginning. He had confessed to an armed robbery and when he seen how much trouble he was in, he tried to get himself out. He's since given an affidavit. Shannon Schmidt was his girlfriend. And she was just put on the stand to try to corroborate what he was saying. Her story changed back and forth and back and forth the whole time. I don't know if I covered that very well.

Tammy Alexander: Well, Shannon had always said that she was never in the car with him, all the way up through a tape that we have in 1999, I believe. She was asked directly, "Were you in the car with Ed Palumbo?" However, she went on to testify that she was in the car with Palumbo, and her significance is to corroborate

Ed Palumbo's story that he passed them on Olive Street and Jamie confessed to the crime.

Jamie Snow: I mean, that's where his whole story started. They needed her to corroborate him, and she eventually did that. But he has basically recanted and said it never happened in the first place, so.

Bruce Fischer: Tam, who are Steven Scheel and Molly Esche Eads?

Tammy Alexander: Steven Scheel testified that he was at a party and he saw Jamie and hadn't seen him in years. And he looked dirty and he was wearing dirty clothes. And his hair was washed, and he confessed to the murder even though he hadn't seen in years. Molly Esche, that party was at her house. But there's a lot of discrepancies between that. In fact, in 1991 there was a tip from Steven Scheel that said that somebody had told him that Jamie committed the crime. But he went on to testify that Jamie directly told him about the crime, and Molly was there to corroborate that.

Lesley Pires: I'd just like to add that he was the one who gave the big crybaby affidavit that he took it back later and wouldn't sign it.

Bruce Fischer: Lesley, who is Randy Howard?

Lesley Pires: He was a kid that just said he knew Jamie from the neighborhood. And surprise, he wanted to come home for some kind of holiday, and Jamie went and picked him up at the bus station. And while they were in the car, just confessed to him about it. And he was a paid informant. And when he went to... He did get money from the detectives for something, and then when he went to trial he was very hostile and he kept going back and forth saying that if he... Okay, if he knew he was gonna be there, he wouldn't have said the things he said.

Bruce Fischer: Jamie, who is Bill Moffit?

Jamie Snow: Bill Moffit was a guy that was my cellmate for one night that I never knew before in my life. He testified that we were talking about the case. We found out since that he told someone he got a time cut for testifying. He's like Ed Hammond... or Ed Palumbo. Everything he testified to, he didn't tell the cops the first time he talked to them. And um, yeah. He's just... He's full of shit.

Bruce Fischer: He is full of shit. Tam, who is Ed Hammond?

Tammy Alexander: Ed Hammond testified that he saw Jamie at the B of I when they were together in... I can't remember the prison name, but when they were together in prison. And that they went together... They went, and even though they weren't different cell houses, they were able to see each other in the yard. And he continued to testify. I mean, Jamie continued telling the story about how he killed Bill Little. But, Ed Hammond has since completely recanted his testimony, and he got a federal deal that was coordinated between an ex-prosecutor from McLean County and Tina Griffin, that was the then current first assistant State's Attorney.

Lesley Pires: Very good.

Bruce Fischer: That was very good. Lesley, who are Bruce Roland and Danielle Roland?

Lesley Pires: Bruce Roland is the drunk who had some DUIs and needed some help from the police. And his wife didn't want him to go back to jail, Danielle. So she very conveniently called up a bunch of gal pals from the trailer park and said she could help them out if they would talk to her about Jamie's case. And Bruce Roland ended up getting a lot less time and punishment for his third DUI than he ever did his first. Because he went to trial and he said, I don't know what he said, actually. But he said... Oh. He said that Jamie confessed to him through his cell door while he was mopping the floor, while they shared some time in the same prison.

Bruce Fischer: I gave you 13 extra seconds.

Lesley Pires: Oh, thank you.

Tammy Alexander: So Bruce was a trustee at that prison. And Jamie happened to be going there on a court writ, which is weird because Bruce was named a trustee at the same time. Within a day of Jamie getting that court writ to that prison. So Bruce was given access to Jamie. And Bruce told me personally that he never even talked to Jamie and he doesn't even remember Jamie being in that prison.

Jamie Snow: He failed a polygraph.

Tammy Alexander: Yeah.

Bruce Fischer: Okay. Jamie, the last one goes to you. You have a little extra time here because there's three names. Karen Strong, Kevin Strong, and Mark Stretch McCowan. Who are they?

Jamie Snow: I don't know who Kevin Strong is. He married Karen Strong, so I've never met him in my life. I can say, Karen was the girlfriend of Mark McCowan who... She testified that I came to her house on the night of the crime, up to the hours of 10:00 and midnight. And I was wearing a ball cap and that she saw the front of the car which supposedly we're driving. The problem with that is months earlier when she was talking to the detectives, she completely contradicted that. We were walking, and that Mark had told her I committed this crime or whatever. And Mark has since given us an affidavit that he never told her that. He didn't understand that she had gotten into trouble and she was trying to work her way out of it. And that's pretty much it. I mean, just a typical Westside Bloomington witness. She just making it up as she went along and I think we put enough stuff out with the podcast show that, you know, she just made it up as she went along. I don't know why. We still hope to talk to her someday.

Tammy Alexander: So Mark... Also I wanted to add that Mark also testified at Jamie's trial.

Jamie Snow: He did. And in his affidavit, he detailed the pressure that they were putting on him to try to get him to corroborate Karen's story. And they went to the prison he was in and put him in SEG, threatened to charge him, this or that or whatever. So I mean, there was a common thread going on with key witnesses, that they were offering deals and making threats. And like we've said from the beginning, there's almost \$10,000 worth of reward money missing. Who got it? Where'd it go?

Tammy Alexander: I also want to add about Kevin Strong that during that time, he was getting major domestic incident charges. And, you know, serious... There were two felony charges that were completely dismissed. There was a bunch of charges that were dismissed the same day that Karen came back on July 11, 2000. Was it, Lesley?

Lesley Pires: Yes, it was July 11, 2000. And that's when she had her longest interview with the most details.

Tammy Alexander: With the most details. And that's where she substantially changed her story.

Lesley Pires: Exactly. That's when she (illegible) the crime.

Tammy Alexander: The charges were dropped the same day that she did that interview. So, he was in jail...

Jamie Snow: There's a lot of coincidences going on in McLean County, isn't there?

Tammy Alexander: No such thing.

Lesley Pires: And we're talking about three hours. So she gave her interview at 10:40 in the morning, and her husband got a bunch of charges dismissed at 1:30 in the afternoon. So you decide.

Jamie Snow: I know what it looks like to me, but I mean, you know... I guess there's just a lot of coincidences going on in this case. I mean all these people, a lot of them don't know each other and they're not connected to each other, But they're given the same story about the pressure and the threats and the intimidation that the detectives were putting on them. And that was the difference between Charlie Crowe and Rick Barkes and Dan Katz. Charlie was actually trying to solve the case. Rick Barkes and Dan Katz were just trying to close it. Big difference, in my opinion.

Tammy Alexander: Good job.

Bruce Fischer: I already turned off the buzzer. So nobody's getting a buzzer anymore.

Lesley Pires: Yeah., but who won?

Bruce Fischer: I say you three have to decide that.

Lesley Pires: We all won, because we all got through it. We did a really good job.

Jamie Snow: Listen, I think even if I didn't win on points, I think I'm the biggest winner in all of this because I have all of you guys. I've got you, Tammy, and Bruce,

Lesley. I've got all of you guys doing all this stuff for me. I have Tara Thompson and John Logan and John Hanlon from the Exoneration Project working for me. So at the end of the day, even though I'm sitting in here in this hot box right now, I still feel like I'm the biggest winner because of all of you. And also got all these awesome people that have come into my life from the Truth & Justice podcast. And the truth is, without the three of you, no one would know the truth about any of these people. No one would know anything about Karen. No one would know anything about Bruce Roland or Danny Martinez or any of these people. So I'm the biggest winner here.

And I need to get out of here and go on that TV show The Biggest Loser, cuz I really need to lose some weight. So I need to be the biggest loser. I just really need you guys to understand and know that I don't take any of this for granted. And I appreciate everything that you guys do. And I appreciate every person out there who listens in and cares enough to want to know the truth about what's going on and what has happened. And I say it now and I'll continue to say, these witnesses that we're talking about and what we're going to continue talking about, this is the evidence that got me convicted. And this is what the McLean County state's attorneys, one after another, continue to hang their denial of any sort of forensic testing on. And I just think it's ridiculous.

And especially in the climate that we have right now in our country where everybody wants change, change has got to come in many different forms. And the biggest change has got to come from the justice system. George Floyd was choked out. And black folks all over the country are being murdered because cops and prosecutors and judges are all working hand in hand with each other. Prosecutors need the cops to get their conviction. Judges need prosecutors to be able to get their conviction so they can hand their tough on crime sentences out. Every single criminal case that is prosecuted, the prosecutor needs the cops. A cop that fails to show up, or like Jeff Pelo forgets his script, it'll screw the case over. So the change has got to start from the top down. I really am grateful for everyone that's pushing for the change in my case.

I only imagine what the jury was thinking when they were getting bombarded with all of these witnesses and all of these stories, and how confusing and overwhelming it must have been. I mean, the one person that we didn't talk about was Pat Riley. And he was my first attorney after they disqualified Amy Davidson. And I've said it before. I went to my cell and cried myself to sleep the night I met him. I just knew I was in trouble, and the jury was just left to just try to figure it out. And my attorneys

were not doing the job that they were hired for to help them figure it out. You know? And we're halfway through this. And I've never held it against my jury. I have never, not one time thought that. I mean, I knew they got it wrong, but it wasn't their fault that they got it wrong. They were getting a shitty rendition of the evidence by my attorneys, and the state withheld so much evidence from them that it was an impossibility for them to get it right under those circumstances.

So hopefully when this is over and we finish everyone, the picture will be clear. You know, Tina Griffin said something in her opening statements. She said the truth never changes. And man, that is a statement that Pat Riley and Frank Picl should have should have just, oh my god. They should have had a big huge poster board that said the truth never changes when they did their closing arguments, and then exposed to the jury every single witness story that changed. I mean, every single one of them. I can't think of one whose story stayed the same. Everybody's story changed to fit the evidence as it went along.

Lesley Pires: Except for the people who never changed their stories were you, Susan, and Mark. And you weren't believed.

Jamie Snow: There were three people who didn't change their stories. And that was me, Susan, and Mark. And, you know, that would have been powerful for the jury, had they had an opportunity to have someone actually do their job. But you know, Frank was struggling with his own addiction and demons and his mental health problems. And Pat Riley had a stroke a month before they appointed him as my attorney. So he probably shouldn't have been trying a DUI case.

If you don't believe that I'm innocent, that's fine. I am, but I didn't get a fair trial. You know, I deserve a fair trial. Everyone deserves a fair trial in this country, with attorneys who are at least competent and effective to do their job. If you can't support my fight for freedom because you believe I'm innocent, then at least support my fight for a new trial. Because I didn't get a fair trial. I mean, we all--everybody--deserves a fair trial if you're arrested and charged with something. Let me get back off my soapbox.

Tammy Alexander: That's funny, Jamie. That's the first thing I wrote you when I wrote you. I don't know if you're innocent or not, but I don't think you got a fair trial.

Jamie Snow: I swear to god, I thought you were gonna say the first thing you wrote was to tell me to get off my soapbox.

Lesley Pires: That's funny.

Jamie Snow: Well, I didn't get a fair trial. And Susan got a fair trial, but really she didn't get a fair trial. Because I really believe they knew that she didn't know anything about the case. I think it finally came down to it, and she was sitting there and they were picking a jury and they had put every ounce of pressure that the McLean County state's attorney's office could put on her, and she didn't cave... I think they were... Those people are well enough informed, and they've been doing that... between Katz, Barkes, Griffin, and Riner, and Judge Bernardi, they probably had over 100 years of experience in law enforcement. They knew.

Lesley Pires: Well, the other thing is Susan was pregnant. And I can't think of a time in a woman's life where she's more vulnerable, where law enforcement says you're gonna give birth in a jail and we're gonna take your newborn baby away. And that's enough to make any woman say anything to stay with their baby. So, you know, she didn't do that.

Tammy Alexander: Susan was a hero, and Susan did stand up, and people tend to focus on that. But on the other side, they knew that she didn't have anything to do with this, and they did this to her and her family in an attempt to get at you. And they were willing to go all the way down the wire, put her on trial for this murder, knowing that she didn't do it.

Jamie Snow: Well, imagine the pressure they would have been able to apply upon her had they been able to get a conviction. They would still be trying to cut her free had she had testified. Then they would have went to her and said, "Okay. Now you got a conviction. Now you'll testify, and we will give you x amount of time." You know? It was horrible. What they did to her was, I mean... What they've done to me and my family, it was horrible. But what they did to Susan, I mean... Come on. Bruce Roland didn't want to go to prison for some DUIs. Are you serious? Susan has never been in jail. She's never been in trouble. And they bought every ounce of pressure that the Bloomington Police Department, the McLean County State's Attorney's office had in their arsenal down upon her.

And I really credit her mom. Because Susan told me later on that her mom told her if it's not true, don't do it. You don't want to have no part of helping them put an innocent man in prison, so don't lie. And listen, Susan's mom didn't really like me. So for her to say that, I think it says a lot about her mom. And just the fact that Susan had the guts to just stick to the truth, man. I mean, she's a hero in my book. And what I think people really forget about is she never recovered from it. It destroyed her life. It destroyed her family. Her and her husband were living in Tennessee when they arrested her. Carl had a little plumbing business down there. They had their own home. They were doing better than they'd ever done, and they destroyed her life. She never got over it. That's what people don't realize. I mean, lies upon lies. We're all witness to it.

Lesley Pires: In Episode 14, we played a trivia game to show you just how hard it must have been for Jamie's jury to recall just the basic details of stories pulled from the stand. While playing, we only included the witnesses we have already discussed in previous episodes. Keep in mind that we are currently only about midway through the witness list, and we still couldn't get it all right, even after hours of research and presentation. Could you convict someone of murder based off your memory? We were laughing, but it's not funny. Victim Bill Little was murdered, and Jamie's life was stolen. Jamie has said repeatedly that if he doesn't laugh, he will die of sadness.

If you have any information that may help Jamie, please call the tip line at 888-710-SNOW. There's a \$10,000 reward for any information leading to a new trial or the exoneration of Jamie Snow. The tip one is free and confidential.

We have a long way to go. We will continue to expose lies as we press on to work our way through the witness list and examine why they might have done it, and how they got away with it. That's next time on Snow Files.

Transcribed by: Caywood Yamnik

© 2020 Snow Files. All Rights Reserved.