

JOHN INGERSOLL

THE POWEREFUL VERY FAST BAJA CRUISER PULLED SLOWLY TOWARD ITS BOAT SLIP AT WALSTROM MARINA, IN HARBOR SPRINGS, MICHIGAN. ITS OWNER , JOHN INGERSOLL HAD CALLED FOR AN ATTENDANT TO MEET THE BAJA AND TAKE THE LINES.. AS HE MOVED THE BOAT FORWARD HE COULD NOT TAKE HIS EYES OFF OF THE YOUNG WOMAN ATTENDANT, IN WHITE SHORTS, A BARE MIDRIFF, A WHITE HALTER TOP AND A NICE TOUCH OF CLEAVAGE, HER HAIR IN A PERFECT PONY TAIL

SHE HANDLED THE LINES WELL QUICKLY TYING HALF HITCHES AROUND THE CLEATS. SHE SAID "GOOD EVENING MR. INGERSOL, I AM BRIGITTE.

I HAVE BEEN WORKING HERE FOR JUST ABOUT A WEEK MEEETING INCOMING BOATS AND HANDLING THE LINES. JOHN HAD NO SHYNESS ABOUT HIM, " IS THERE ANY CHANCE THAT YOU WOULD BE FREE FOF DINNER TOMORROW NIGHT.. WE COULD GO TO TO THE LITTLE HARBOR CLUB. BRIGITTE REPLIED " I AM SO SORRY MR. INGERSOLL, THE INVITATION IS WONDERFUL BUT I AM HAPPILY MARRIED TO A FINE YOUNG GUY .

BRIGITTE THOUGHT FOR A MOMENT THEN SAID “ MR. INGERSOLL, I HAVE A YOUNGER SISTER NICOLE, WHO EVERYONE THINKS IS MY TWIN. WE REALLY DO LOOK ALIKE.. SHE IS NOT INVOLVED WITH ANYONE RIGHT NOW AND HAS ALWAYS HAD AN AMBITION TO GO TO THE RATHER EXCLUSIVE LITTLE HARBOR CLUB.

I’ LL TALK TO NICOLE TO SEE IF SHE IS INTERESTED. I WILL GIVE YOU HER TELEPHONE NUMBER IF SHE IS .”

SHE WAS..

OVER THE NEXT WEEK JOHN ANND NICOLE SPENT TIME TOGETHER. THEY DID GO TO THE LITTLE HARBOR CLUB FOR DINNER. THEY PLAYED TENNIS . THEY RODE THEIR BIKES TO PETOSKEY FOR ICE CREAM. THEY WERE HAVING A GOOD TIME TOGETHER.

JOHN DID NOT TALK ABOUT WHO HE WAS. HE CAREFULLY AVOIDED MOST TOPICS. ABOUT HIMSELF. HE DID TELL NICOLE THAT HE OWNED A HOUSE ON HARBOR POINT. NICOLE KNEW THAT ONLY THE VERY WEALTHY LIVED THERE.

JOHN MENTIONED THAT HIS NAME “INGERSOLL” WAS SWISS , THAT HIS FAMILY CAME FROM THE FAMOUS SWISS WATCH MAKING TOWN OF AU CHAUD DE FONDE, IN THE SWISS JURA MOUNTAINS,

NICOLE DID LOOK EACTLY LIKE HER SISTER. VERY ATTRACTIVE, PHYSICALLY IN

GREAT SHAPE AND WITH A FIGURE TO MATCH. SHE HAD JUST GRADUATED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LAW SCHOOL IN ANN ARBOR., SHE WAS A TOP STUDENT WITH A'S ALL THE WAY. SHE WAS 24 YEARS OLD WHEN SHE GRADUATED, THE YEAR WAS 2002.

HER FAVORITE LAW SCHOOL SUBJECT WAS CRIMINAL LAW. SHE LIKED THE SUBJECT. SHE GREATLY ADMIRERD THE ADJUNCT PROFESSOR WHO TAUGHT THE CLASS ON A PART TIME BASIS EACH FRIDAY. THE PROFESSOR, PROFESSOR O'CONNOR WAS ALSO A FULL TIME FBI AGENT IN ANN ARBOR. HE WAS ENCOURAGED TO TEACH BECAUSE EACH YEAR HE RECRUITED TOP STUDENTS TO BECOME FBI AGENTS. HE HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL WITH NICOLE WHO HAD SIGNED THE FBI AGREEMENT. HER START HAD TO BE DELAYED BECAUSE ALL OF THE AGENTS NEEDED GOOD SECURITY CLEARANCES.. NICOLE WENT BACK TO ANN ARBOR TO LIVE WITH HER SISER AND WAIT FOR THE SECURITY CLEARANCES. IT WAS DURING THIS WAITING PERIOD THAT JOHN AND NICOLE WERE HAVING SUCH FUN TOGETHER.

NICOLE HAD BEEN BACK IN HARBOR SPRINGS FOR A LITTLE OVER A WEEK WHEN PROFESSOR O'CONNOR CALLED NICOLE. HE SAID THAT THE CLEARANCES WERE JUST ABOUT FINISHED AND WOULD BE FINE BUT THAT HE NEEDED TO TALK TO HER BUT NOT ON THE TELEPHONE. THEY SET A DATE TO MEET FOR LUNCH THE

FOLLOWING DAY AT THE WEATHERVANE RESTAURANT IN CHARLEVOIX. NICOLE DECIDED TO RIDE HER BIKE TO THE WEATHERVANE. SHE RODE ALONG THE WEQUETONSING SHORE, TOOK THE BACK ROAD TO THE BIKE TRAIL WHICH WENT JUST SOUTH OF PETOSKEY ALONG THE SHORES OF LAKE MICHIGAN, IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL SCENIC RIDE TO CHARLEVOIX WHERE PROFESSOR O'CONOR, AT THE WEATHERVANE WAS SITING AT A CORNER, PRIVATE TABLE, OVERLOOKING THE CHANNEL BETWEEN LAKE MICHIGAN AND LAKE CHARLEVOIX.

HE SAID THAT THE NAME JOHN INGERSOLL HAD COME UP AT THE FBI OFFICE AND WAS ALSO UNDER SCRUTINY AT THE IRS CRIMINAL DIVISION. HE SAID WE KNOW THAT YOU HAVE BEEN OUT WITH INGERSOLL ON A NUMBERF OF OCCASSIONS THIS PAST WEEK. YOUR FIRST ASSIGNMENT WILL BE TO TRY TO FIND OUT AS MUCH AS YOU CAN ABOUT HIM, HIS FAMILY, HIS BACKGROUND AND EVERY THING ELSE.

NICOLE SAID THAT SHE COULD NOT AND WOULD NOT ACCEPT THE ASSIGNMENT. . THERE WAS NO WAY. SHE IDICATED THAT SHE LIKED JOHN INGERSOLL PROFESSOR O'CONNOR CONVINCED HER TO TAKE THE ASSIGNMENT BECAUSE OF THE MANY CONCERNS THE TWO AGENCIES HAVE. HE SAID THAT IT IS ROUTINE AS AN FBI AGENT TO BE INVOLVED IN SITUATIONS THAT ARE NOT PLEASANT BUT VERY NECESSARY. ALSO , NICOLE, YOU REALLY

NEED KNOW WHO YOU ARE GOING OUT WITH. NICOLE AGREED.

SHE ASKED THE PROFESSOR WHAT THE FBI KNEW. HE SAID AT THIS POINT VIRTUALLY NOTHING. THE INVESTIGATION JUST STARTED. WE KNOW ONLY THE THINGS THAT YOU PROBABLY ALREADY KNOW. HE IS SWISS FROM A WATCH MAKING TOWN. HE DRIVES A FANCY CAR AND A FANCY BOAT AND HAS A HOUSE ON THE WEALTHY HARBOR POINT. HE DOES ALMOST EVERYTHING IN CASH AND OFTEN IN LARGE AMOUNTS. IF HE HAS A BANK ACCOUNT WE HAVE NOT FOUND IT. HE DOES NOT USE CREDIT CARDS. DO WHAT YOU CAN AND KEEP US INFORMED.

NICOLE BEGAN BY QUIETLY ASKING MANY PEOPLE WHAT THEY KNEW ABOUT JOHN INGERSOLL. SHE LEARNED THAT MANY PEOPLE IN HARBOR SPRINGS AND WEQUETONSING WONDERED WHO IS THIS GUY JOHN INGERSOLL? HE IS NOT AT ALL SOCIAL AND IS OFTEN GONE FOR EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME. JOHN WAS A BACHELOR 30 YEARS OLD, SIX FEET TALL, WITH A TRIM PNYSIQUE AND A JAUNTY FRIENDLY MANNER.

IN THE MEANTIME JOHN DID CALL NICOLE ASKING HER TO GO OUT FOR DINNER. HIS FAVORITE RESTAURANT WAS THE BOATHOUSE IN CHEBOYGAN. SHE AGREED TO THE DINNER BUT WITH SILENT QUALMS ABOUT WHAT SHE WAS

DOING.

JOHN TOLD NICOLE THAT HE OFTEN CAME TO THE BOATHOUSE. HE SAID HE WAS VERY WELL KNOWN THERE.

THE HEAD WAITER GREETED JOHN WHO INTRODUCED NICOLE. HE LED THEM TO AN OUTSIDE TABLE ON THE DECK WHERE AN ALREADY OPEN BOTTLE OF CAKEBREAD SAUVIGNON BLANC SAT WITH TWO GLASSES ALREADY POURED TO JUST THE RIGHT LEVEL. NICOLE THOUGHT, THIS GUY REALLY IS WELL KNOWN HERE.

JOHN AND NICOLE EACH LOOKED AT THE MENU. SUPRISINGLY THERE IN THE MENU WAS A HISTORY OF THE PURPLE GANG WHICH HAD BEEN SO ACTIVE DURING PROHIBITION. CHEBOYGAN HAD BEEN THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE PURPLE GANG BEAUSE OF ITS LOCATION IN BETWEEN CANADA AND DETROIT AND CHICAGO. THE PURPLE GANG HAD A FLEET OF VERY FAST SPEED BOATS WHICH CARRIED THE LIQUOR FROM CANADA, PAST DRUMMOND ISLAND, THROUGH THE LES CHENAUX ISLANDS, PAST MACKINAC ISLAND THEN EITHER SOUTH ON LAKE HURON, THROUGH THE ST. CLAIRE RIVER TO DETROIT , OR WEST ON LAKE MICHIGAN TO CHICAGO. THE BOATHOUSE THEN HAD A SECRET HARBOR BELOW THE RESTAURANT WHERE BOATS COULD REFUEL.

AFTER DINNER THEY WENT INSIDE AND SAT AT THE BAR TO HAVE AN AFTER DINNER DRINK. A NUMBER OF STAFF PEOPLE CAME BY AND GREETED JOHN. HELLO MR. INGERSOLL SO NICE TO SE YOU. ANOTHER STAFF MEMBER STOPPED BY, QUITE OLD, MAYBE 85 OR MORE. HE SAID HOW NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN MR. GENOVESE ... JOHN VISIBLY DISTURBED FROWNED AND SHOOK HIS HEAD RAPIDLY THEN THE MAN SAID " I HAVE A MADE MISTAKE, I MEANT MR. INGERSOLL "

.JOHN SAID TO NICOLE THAT THIS STAFF PERSON WAS OBVIOUSLY QUITE OLD AND OFTEN MADE NAME RECOGNITION MISTAKES. NICOLE FILED AWAY IN HER MIND THE NAME GENOVESE.

THE NEXT MORNINNG NICOLE TALKED TO PROFESSOR O'CONNOR AT HIS FBI OFFICE. SHE TOLD THE PROFESSOR THAT SHE HAD COME UP WITH VERY LITTLE HOWEVER THERE IS SOME CHANCE THAT JOHN INGERSOLL IS USING A FICTITIOUS NAME. HIS LAST NAME MAY REALLY BE GENOVESE. SHE EXPLAINED WHAT HAD HAPPENED.

O'CONNER SAID TO NICOLE THAT THE NAME GENOVESE IS A WELL KNOW PROHIBITION NAME . HE WOULD SEARCH THE FBI FILES AND SEND TO NICOLE ALL OF THE INFORMATION INVOLVING THE GENOVESE FAMILY. AND EVERYTHING ELSE THE FILES CONTAINED ABOUT PROHIBITION OPERATIONS

AND SYNDICATES. SOME OF THE INFORMATION COULD BE HELPFUL. HE REITERATED TO NICOLE THAT THE ASSIGNMENT REMAINS THE SAME. GET ALL OF THE INFORMATION THAT YOU CAN.

THE FBI INFORMATION CAME . IT STARTED:

GUISEPPI GENOVESE WAS BORN IN STEUBENVILLE, OHIO IN 1900. HE LIVED 50 YEARS UNTIL 1950. HE MOVED TO NEWPORT, KENTUCKY IN 1920. HE HAD A SON LUIGI WHO WAS BORN IN 1925 AND LIVED UNTIL 1980. LUIGI THEN HAD A SON GIOVANNI IN 1972. IT IS UNKNOWN WHERE GIOVANNI GENOVESE IS AT THE PRESENT TIME.

THE GENOVESE FAMILY LIVED FOR THE MOST PART IN NEWPORT, KENTUCKY. THEY MAINTAINED CLOSE CONNECTIONS WITH ALL OF THE SYNDICATE OPERATIONS INCLUDING THE PURPLE GANG OUT OF CHEBOYGAN.

THE MESSAGE CONTINUED THAT PROHIBITION STARTED WITH THE 18TH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION. IT PROVIDED THE REASON FOR THE FORMATION OF THE SYNDICATES THAT BEGAN AT THAT TIME AND BECAME SO POWERFUL IN ORGANIZED CRIME .. MEYER LANSKY AND AL CAPONE WERE SYNDICATE BOSSES. MEYER LANSKY RULED NEW YORK, AL CAPONE CHICAGO. CLEVELAND AND DETROIT. LUCKY LUCIANO WAS AN IMMEDIATE UNDERLING.

THE MESSAGE CONTINUED AT LENGTH WITH A LOT OF RATHER
NEEDLESS INFORMATION ABOUT MANY OF
THE CHARACTERS DURING AND AFTER PROHIBITION TIMES:. NICOLE WAS
FASCINATED WITH THE CHARACTERS. AMONG THOSE WERE:

GEORGE REMUS. HE HAD BEEN A FAMOUS CRIMINAL TRIAL LAWYER GEORGE
HAD MEMORIZED THE VOLSTEAD ACT, WHICH IMPLEMENTED THE 18TH
PROHIBITION AMENDMENT. HE BOUGHT DISTILLERIES THEN SOLD THE LIQUOR
TO HIS OWN BONDED WHAREHOUSES WHERE IT WAS LEGAL TO STORE WHISKEY
FOR SALE TO PHARMACIES AND OTHER OUTLETS FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES.

REMUS HAD HIS OWN WHAREHOUSES HIGHJACKED THEN SOLD THE STOLEN
LIQUOR. GEORGE REMUS IN THE EARLY THIRTY'S HAD MADE
\$40 MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR.FROM THE WHISKEY TRADE.

HE WAS LATER CAUGHT,CONVICTED AND JAILED. FRANKLIN DODGE, WAS A
FELLOW INMATE BUT WAS IN FACT AN UNDERCOVER
AGENT WHO LEARNED A LOT ABOUT THE WHERABOUTS OF GEORGE'S MONEY .
HE LEFT JAIL BUT DID NOT DISCLOSE TO HIS EMPLOYER
THAT HE KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT GEORGE'S MONEY. INSTEAD, AND THIS GUY
WAS NOT DUMB, HE COURTED IMOGENE THE WIFE OF REMUS. TOGETHER THEY
WERE SUCCESSFUL IN CONVERTING ALL OF THE MONEY TO THEMSELVES.

IMOGENE WAS IN THE PROCESS OF DIVORCING GEORGE . THEY WERE IN SEPARATE TAXIS GOING TO THE FINAL DIVOFCE HEARING WHEN GEORGE JUMPED FROM HIS CAB AND SHOT IMOGENE. HE SHOT HER DEAD. CHARLES P. TAFT II WAS THE PROSECUTOR.

REMUS DEFENDED HIMSELF WITH A PLEA OF INSANITY. DESPITE THE TESTIMONY OF THREE EMMINENT PSYCHIATRISTS THAT REMUS WAS SANE, HE WAS NOT CONVICTED..

AT THIS TIME CINCINNATI PAID LITTLE OR NO ATTENTION TO PROHIBITION. IT WAS EITHER BATH TUB GIN OR GO TO THE MANY PLACES THAT PAID FOR FOR PROTETION. AT ONE TIME THERE WERE CLOSE TO 300 SPEAKESIES;. - THE HERITAGE OUTSIDE OF MARIEMEONT, THE FOX AND THE CROW IN MONTGOMERY, MECKLENBORG GARDENS IN CLIFTON, ARNOLDS BAR DOWNTOWN WHERE A BATHTUB OF GIN RESIDED ON THE SECOND FLOOR WITH ITS DRAIN PLUG EVER READY TO BE OPPENED IN THE EVENT OF A RAID.

THERE WAS ALSO THE COTTON CLUB ON MOUND ST., CASTLE FARMS IN READING . THE CAT AND THE FIDDLE ON VINE. THE SILVER SLIPPER ON GARFIELD PLACE, THE BLIND LEMON IN MT. ADAMS AND THE IRON HORSE IN

GLENDALE.

.NEWPORT, AFTER THE END OF PROHIBITION IN 1933 RETAINED ITS REPUTATION. WHISKEY MONEY WENT INTO GAMBLING, BOOK MAKING, CLUBS AND PROSTITUTION. HANG OUTS LINED THE STREETS, THE YORKSHIRE THE FLAMINGO, THE TROPICANA, THE HI DI HO ,THE DOG POUND, AND THE JOCKEY CLUB.

BEVERLY HILLS AND THE LOOKOUT HOUSE WERE THE BEST AROUND. PLUSH AND SUCCESSFUL. GOOD ENTERTAINMENT, ALONG WITH ELEGANT DINNERS AND GAMBLING. WHEN A RAID WAS IMMINENT THE GAMING TABLES MIRACULOUSLY DISAPPEARED.

JIMMY BRINK, A WELL KNOW AND SOMETIME SYNDICATE FAVORITE CROSSED A DOUBTFUL LINE. HIS PLANE CRASHED SOUTH OF LOUISVILE SPEWING A MILLION DOLLARS IN CASH ABOUT THE COUNTRYSIDE.

SCREW ANDREWS HAD CHARGE OF KEEPING NON SYNDICATE MEMBERS AWAY FROM THE ON GOING BUSINESSES. OFTEN HE HIRED RED MASTERSON TO DO THE NOT RARE ASSASINATIONS.

THE WEAPON ENFORCER WAS KNOWN AS THE NEWPOFRT TYPEWRITER , A THOMPSON SUBMACHINE GUN, WITH SOUNDS SIMILAR TO THE THEN USED OLD

TYPEWRITERS, REMINGTONS AND ROYALS. SORT OF A RACH RCH RACH RACK.

THE MESSAGE CONTINUED:

IN THE 1950'S THE COMMITTEE OF 500 FORMED TO RID NEWPORT OF ITS GAMBLING, BOOK MAKING AND PROSTITUTION. GEORGE RATTERMAN WAS ENLISTED TO RUN FOR SHERIFF TO GET THE JOB DONE. HE HAD EARNED LETTERS AT NOTRE DAME IN FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL, BASEBALL AND TENNIS. HE STARRED AS A QUARERBACK THERE AND LATER FOR THE BUFFALO BILLS , THEN HE UNDERSTUDIED THE GREAT JOHNY LUJACK FOR THE CLEVELAND BROWNS.

THE SYNDICATE BECAME CONCERNED THAT GEORGE WOULD SUCCEED. TITO CARINCI, WHO HAD PLAYED FOOTBALL FOR THE CHICAGO BEARS, AND WAS A GANG MEMBER, TOOK GEORGE TO CINCINNATI OSTENSIBLY TO TALK SETTLEMENT. RATTERMAN WAS DRUGGED TO THE POINT OF TOTAL UNCONSCIOUSNESS AND TAKEN TO AN UPSTAIRS BED ROOM AT THE FLAMINGO CLUB IN NEWPORT. HE WAS STRIPPED NAKED.

THEN THIS WELL KNOWN , GOOD LOOKING FLOOZY PREPARED HERSELF TO JOIN THE STILL NAKED GEORGE RATTERMAN. .SHE STRIPPED OFF ALL OF HER CLOTHES.. SHE PUT PERFUME IN THE USUAL PLACES. SHE LOOKED IN THE MIRROR AT HER YOUNG NICELY CONTOURED FIGURE . SHE DECIDED TO PINCH

HER NIPPLES SO THEY WOULD SHOW PINK AND ERECT FOR SUBSEQUENT PICTURES. HER NAME WAS APRIL FLOWERS. SHE LAY DOWN CLOSE TO RATTERMAN. SHE BEGAN TO CARESS HIM WHEN JUST AT THAT VERY MOMENT, NICELY TIMED, THE DOOR BURST OPEN. A POLICE DETECTIVE AND A PHOTOGRAPHER RUSHED IN .. MANY COMPROMISING PHOTOS WERE TAKEN. LATER TESTIMONAY VALLIDATED THE DRUGGING. TITO HIMSELF AT HIS OWN TRIAL WAS ALSO EXONERATED.

NICOLE, IN READING THE MESSAGE FOCUSSED ON TWO IMPORTANT FACTS. FIRST AND IMPORTANTLY THAT GIOVANNI GENOVESE WOULD BE 30 YEARS OLD, EXACTLY THE SAME AGE AS JOHN INGERSOLL. SECONDLY THAT PERSON WOULD KNOW THE ILLEGAL WORLD AND WOULD HAVE CONNECTIONS IN NRWPORT AND MAYBE EVEN WITH THE REMNANTS OF THE PURPLE GANG.

NICOLE CALLED O'CONNER AND TOLD HIM WHAT SHE THOUGHT. SHE ASKED HIM TO CHECK THE CHANGE OF NAME RECORDS ALL OVER KENTUCKY AND TO CHECK THE VILLAGE OF AU CHAUD DE FONDE.

THE REPORT CAME BACK THAT THE NAME CHANGE HAD IN FACT OCCURRED IN FRANKFORT, KENTUCKCY EIGHT YEARS AGO AND THAT SHORTLY THEREAFTER AN AMERICAN JOHN INGERSOLL HAD VISITED OFTEN THE INGERSOLL WATCH FACTORY IN AU CHAUD DE FONDE.

THE FBI PROFESSOR AND NICOLE MET AGAIN TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION. O'CONNOR SAID WE NOW HAVE GOOD INFORMATION BUT WE DO NOT KNOW WHERE ALL OF HIS MONEY COMES FROM. THE FBI AND THE IRS NEED THIS INFORMATION. WE KNOW HE OWNS A JAGUAR CONVERTIBLE, A FAST BAJA SPEED BOAT, A HOUSE ON HARBOR POINT . WE KNOW HE OFTEN FLIES TO CININNATI IN HIS OWN PROP JET AND THAT HE OWNS A HOUSE ON CUNNINGHAM ROAD IN INDIAN HILL. BUT WE STILL HAVE NO INFORMATION WHERE THE MONEY IS COMING FROM. PROFESSOR O'CONNOR SAID TO NICOLE, THIS IS NOT OVER YET. KEEP LOOKING.

NICOLE CONTINUED TO SEE JOHN BUT SHE COULD NOT ELICIT ANY MORE INFORMATION. THEN AN EVENT OCCURRED WHICH WOULD PROVE TO BE IMPORTANT. JOHN INVITED NICOLE TO JOIN HIM ON A BOAT TRIP THROUGH THE INLAND WATERWAY FROM CROOKED LAKE TO MACKINAC ISLAND THEN BACK THE NEXT DAY TO HARBOR SPRINGS. NICOLE CALLED PROFESSOR O'CONNOR SAYING THAT SHE WAS A BIT FRIGHTENED ABOUT THE TRIP SO COULD HE ARRANGE SOME KIND OF PROTECTION. O'CONNOR SAID THAT WILL HAPPEN.

JOHN AND NICOLE DROVE TO CONWAY, A NEARBY VILLAGE WHERE THE BAJA , HAD BEEN TAKEN THE NIGHT BEFORE. NICOLE LOOKED FORWARD TO THE

BEAUTIFUL RIVER TRIP.

THE TWIN 300 HORSEPOWER ENGINES SPED THE BAJA ACROSS CROOKED LAKE TO THE CROOKED RIVER CLAM SHELL LOCK. THE LOCK MASTER OPENED THE LOCK TO ADMIT THE CRUISER., HE SAID "HAVE A GOOD TRIP JOHN, AND YOUNG LADY YOU TOO. HE ADMIRERD THE FIGURE OF THIS YOUNG WOMAN .

EVERYONE LOVED CROOKED RIVER WITH ITS MALLARD FLOTILLAS, ITS PAINTED TURTLES, THE OSPREY THAT HUNTED OVERHEAD AND THE WOODED SHORES. JOHN MANEUVERED THE CRUISER THROUGH THE MANY TIGHT CURVES AND TURNS. HE ASKED NICOLE IF SHE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THE WHEEL. SHE NODDED AS SHE TOOK THE WHEEL. HE OFFERED HER A BEER WHICH SHE TURNED DOWN. HE TOOK A BEER FROM THE COLDBOX FOR HIMSELF. HE SIPPED HIS BEER WHILE ENJOYING THE VIEW OF THE EVER CHANGING SHORE.. HE WAS ALSO ABLE TO ADMIRE WITHOUT BEING CAUGHT THE NICE SHAPE OF NICOLE AS SHE PILOTTED THE BOAT. THEY. CROSSED BURT LAKE. THEY WENT INTO INDIAN RIVER MOVING SOWLY WITH THE "NO WAKE" SIGNS" .

BEFORE ENTERING MULLET LAKE JOHN TOLD NICOLE THAT HE HAD TO MAKE A BRIEF STOP ON THE EASTERN SHORE OF MULLET LAKE AT A PLACE CALLED POVERTY BAY. AFTER SEVERAL MILES ON MULLETT LAKE JOHN, WHO HAD

TAKEN OVER THE HELM SLOWED THE BAJA TO AN IDLE SPEED. HE USED HIS STRONG GYRO EQUIPPED BINOCULARS TO FOCUS ON A SMALL DELAPIDATED DOCK, BROKEN DOWN AND FOR MOST PURPOSES UNUSEABLE. HE CAREFULLY SCANNED THE SHORE LINE LOOKING FOR VEHICLE TRACKS OR SIGNS OF ANY ACTIVITIES.. HE FOUND NONE. HE FOCUSSED THE BINOCULARS ON A STURDY BARN 200 YARDS FROM THE SHORE, PARTIALLY HIDDEN AMOUNG TREES AND BUSHES. BEFORE MOVING THE BOAT TOWARD SHORE HE TURNED THE BINOCUJLARS TO THE REAR WHERE A SEARAY, ABOUT 18 FEET LONG WAS DRIFTING AIMLESSLY, .A YOUNG MAN STOOD ALONE IN THE REAR OF THE BOAT. HE HAD A FLY ROD CASTING AND RETRIEVING THE LINE. .JOHN THOUGHT NOT TO WORRY, HE IS ONLY FISHING.

JOHN LANDED THE BOAT AT THE DELAPIDATED DOCK AND THREW HALF HITCHES AROUND THE FORE AND AFT POSTS. HE SET ABOUT DOING WHAT HE HAD COME TO DO. HE SAID TO NICOLE, "I HAVE A NUMBER OF VERY IMPORTANT BUSINESS RECORDS WHICH I STORE HERE IN THAT BARN. "

NICOLE OFFERED TO HELP BUT JOHN DECLINED THE OFFER.

HE LEFT THE BOAT AND WALKED TO THE BARN. THERE HE ENTERED THE CODE ON THE KEY PAD, OPENED THE DOOR THEN HEADED BACK TO THE BOAT WITH A CARRYING CART .

ONCE ON BOARD THE BAJA HE UNLOCKED THE CABIN DOOR WHERE LARGE PLASTIC BOXES HAD BEEN PLACED. EACH BOX, TIGHTLY CLOSED, HAD A COMBINATION LOCK. JOHN PLACED FOUR BOXES ON THE CART. HE TOOK THEM TO THE BARN AND SET THEM ALONGSIDE MANY SIMILAR SUCH BOXES. HE MADE FIVE TRIPS IN SHORT ORDER THEN RE-ALARMED THE BARN AFTER STASHING AWAY THE CART. AT THAT TIME ONLY JOHN INGERSOLL KNEW THAT THE BOXES DID NOT CONTAIN BUSINESS RECORDS. THEY WERE FILLED WITH CASH.

JOHN UNDOED THE HALF HITCHES, PULLED AWAY FROM THE DOCK THEN HEADED NORTH . HE LOOKED AGAIN. BRIEFLY AT THE SEARAY WHICH SEEMED TO BE FOLLOWING BUT AT A MUCH SLOWER PACE. .NICOLE SAW THE YOUNG FISHERMAN PUT DOWN HIS BINOCULARS BUT SAID NOT A WORD.

JOHN HEADED THE BOAT NORTH TOWARDS CHEBOYGAN, THEY PASSED THE BOATHOUSE , WENT THROUGH THE LOCKS TO LAKE HIRON THEN TURNED WEST TOWARD MACKINAC ISLAND. THE LONG WHITE PORCH OF THE GRAND HOTEL CAME INTO VIEW. THEY LANDED AT THE DOCK AND TIED UP THE BOAT.

NICOLE TOLD JOHN THAT SHE HAD WORKED AT THE IROQUOIS HOTEL AS A

WAITRESS FOR SEVERAL SUMMERS. OFTEN THERE WERE INVITATIONS FOR DINNER AT THE GRAND HOTEL, THEN INNUENDOES OF ENJOYING THE LATER EVENING, NICOLE SAID IT WAS NEVER RIGHT. SHE PUT HER TWO HANDS ON THE SHOULDERS OF JOHN, STANDING BEHIND HIM SAYING” AND NOT TONIGHT EITHER. I HAVE ARRANGED TO SEE MY SISTER TOMORROW AND SHE WOULD NOT AT ALL APPRECIATE MY SPENDING THE NIGHT WITH A MAN COMPANION. “

AT NICOLE’S REQUEST HE HAD RESERVED A ROOM JUST FOR HER. HE LIKED THE INTELLIGENCE OF NICOLE. HE HAD HOPES FOR THE FUTURE AND PERHAPS A MORE INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP . HE KNEW HE NEEDED TO BIDE HIS TIME.

HE ALSO THOUGHT, I AM STILL A BACHELOR, IS IT TIME TO LOOK FOR A CHANGE? THEY HAD A VERY PLEASNT DINNER TOGETHER THEN WENT SEPARATELY TO THEIR OWN ROOMS.

THE NEXT MORNING JOHN GOT UP EARLY TO CHECK ON THE BAJA. HE SAW, SEVERAL SLIPS AWAY, A SEARAY THE SAME SIZE AS THAT ON MULLET LAKE. HE WALKED DOWN TO FIND THE NAME ON THE TRANSOM. THERE WAS ONLY A SMALL AMERICAN FLAG.

NICOLE SAT OUTSIDE, A BLUE SWEATER DRAPED OVER HER SHOULDERS . HER LONG BLOND HAIR , FRESHLY WASHED AND STILL DAMP

CLUNG ABOUT HER HEAD AND NECK . SHE SMILED WARMLY SAYING JOHN,
HERE IS A CAPPUCINO FOR YOU. SHE PUT HER HAND ON TOP OF HIS SHOWING,
HE THOUGHT, WARMTH. AND CLOSENESS. HIS MIND WANDERED AND
WONDERED WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IF EARLIER HE HAD KNOCKED ON
HER DOOR TO SEE IF HE COULD HELP IN THE WASHING OF HER HAIR.

THE BAJA CRUISER WENT SOUTH BETWEEN THE TWO TALL , MONUMENTAL
TOWERS OF THE MACKINAC BRIDGE. THEY ROUNDED WAUKESHANCE POINT,
THEN CRUISED PAST CROSS VILLAGE AND SEVEN MILE POINT. JOHN CALLED
WALSTROM MARINA AS HE NEARED THE LIGHTHOUSE AT THE ENTRANCE TO
LITTLE TRAVERS BAY.

BRIGITTE MET THEM WITH A WARM EMBRACE FOR NICOLE AND
A FINE GREETING FOR JOHN. SHE WAS AGAIN IN WHITE SHORTS AND A HALTER
TOP, AS ATTRACTIVE AS NICOLE , BUT MARRIED ,

JOHN INDICATED TO BOTH BRIGITTE AND NICOLE THAT HE HAD TO GET BACK
TO HIS HOUSE BECAUSE HE WOULD BE FLYING TO CINCINNATI THE
NEXT MORNING.

JOHN WALKED TO HIS HOME ON THE POINT, STROLLING PAST THE HOMES OF
AMERICA'S ELITE FAMILIES. . HE HARDLY KNEW ANY OF THE NAMES.

HE HAD NO REAL ASSOCIATION WITH ANY OF HIS NEIGHBORS. HE WAS ACCEPTED BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT HE WAS FROM THE WELL KNOWN SWISS WATCH MAKING FAMILY. MOST OF THE NEIGHBORS OWNED SAIL BOATS AND USUALLY RACED IN THE WEEK END RACES. THEY EXPECTED JOHN TO BE INTERESTED.

HE WASN'T.

JOHN MET HIS PILOT AT THE HAROR SPRINGS AIRPORT . HE FLEW TO THE SMALL AIRPORT IN CLERMONT COUNTY NEAR BATAVIA. THERE HE PICKED UP AN OLD BLUE FORD PICKUP TRUCK. HE CHANGED HIS CLOTHES PUTTING ON BLUE JEANS, A BLUE SLIGHTLY TATTERED FARM SHIRT AND BOOTS. HE LOOKED THE PART OF A FARMER. HE DROVE TO FELICITY, A NEARBY SMALL TOWN. HE WENT INTO THE FEED MILL, THE LOCAL RESTAURANT WITH PERFECT BREAKFASTS AND DOWN HOME COOKING.

' THERE WAS A YOUNG MAN IN THE BACK HALF OF THE RESTAURANT WHERE HE COULD OBSERVE ALL OF THE TABLES. HE HAD ON BLACK TROUSERS AND A WHITE SHIRT. HE HAD A BIBLE IN FRONT OF HIM, OPEN AND BEING READ. THIS LOCAL PREACHER SIPPED HIS COFFEE AND READ HIS BIBLE.

JOHN MET SIX MEN FOR BREAKFAST AT THE FEED MILL THE SAME MEN HE PERIODICALLY MET WITH. THEY TALKED IN LOW, QUIET TONES .

THEY DID NOT CALL HIM JOHN OR MR. INGERSOLL. THEY CALLED HIM GIOVANNI . THEY KNEW LITTLE ABOUT HIM EXCEPT THAT HE WAS ESSENTIAL TO WHAT THEY WERE DOING. EACH OF THE SIX MEN HAD CONTACTS WITH AT LEAST FOUR OR SOMETIMES AS MANY AS EIGHT OR TEN FARMER TYPE MEN. EACH OF THE MEN AND THE OTHERS THEY HAD RECRUITED HAD PLANTED MARIJUANA IN DIRT COLORED POTS ON FARMS N THE AREA. THEY SOMETIMES USED THEIR OWN FARMS BUT MORE OFTEN USED CLEARINGS IN THE WOODS. SOMETIMES THEY MADE SMALL CLEARINGS IN A CORN FIELDS WHERE MARIJUANA GROWS , L;OOKING LIKE CORN.

GIOVANNI COUNTED A TOTAL OF ABOUT 30 ACTIVE GROWERS. HE FIGURED THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PLANTS WAS ABOUT 40 PER PERSON SO A TOTAL OF ABOUT 1200 PLANTS. EACH PLANT HAS A VALUE OF ABOUT 1200 DOLLARS SO HE WAS DEALING WITH ALMOST A MILLION AND A HALF DOLLARS.

ON THIS DAY JOHN GAVE EACH OF HIS BREAKFAST COMPANIONS THE SAME INSTRUCTIONS. AS IN ALL PRIOR YEARS. THEY WOULD RELAY THOSE

INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL OF THE OTHER RECRUITED GROWERS. THEH WERE REMINDED TO PUT THE HARVESED MARIJUANA. IN ALREADY CHOSEN AND ASSIGNED CORNERS OF BARNs THROUGHOUT THE AREA, INCLUDING FELICITY, NEVILLE, RIPLEY, AND HIGGENSPORT.

BETWEENN LAYERS OF CUT TOBACCO IN PICK UP TRUCKS THE MARIJUANA CROP MOVED WITH THE TOBACCO. IT HAS THE SAME LIFE CYCLE AS TOBACCO. IT IS PLANTED AND HARVESED AT THE SAME TIME. IT TAKES THE SAME AMOUNNT OF RAINFALL AND THE SAME CLIMATE. TRANSPORTING TOBACCO BY PICK UP TRUCK IS SO NORMAL THAT NO ONE EVER THOUGHT ABOUT LOOKING AT TOBACCO AS IT WAS BEING TRANSPORTED.

THE FIVE MEN USED THEIR OWN PICK UP TRUCKS TO GATHER UP THE HARVESTED MARIJUANA RESTING IN THE VARIOUS BARNs. THEY LAYERED THE DRUG CROP WITH TOBACCO THEN DELIVERED THE MARIJUANA TO AN OLD WAREHOUSE IN NEWPORT, STILL OWNED. BY JOHN .THE MARIJUANA WAS PREPARED THERE FOR DISTRIBUTION WHICH WAS NOT A PROBLEM IN NEWPORT, KENTUCKY.

THE MEN AT THE TABLE ALWAYS HONORED THEIR COMMITMENT. THEY KNEW THAT IF THEY CHEATED THERE WOULD LIKELY BE ENFORCER RESULTS. THEY ALL KNEW THE BACKGROUOND OF GIOVANNI AND STORIES OF THE

NEWPORT TYPEWRITER.

ABOUT \$750,000 DOLLARS WAS DISRIBUTED TO THE SIX MEN IN CASH AND FOR THEIR FURTHER DISTRIBUTION. TO THOSE THEY HAD RECRUIT3D.

GIOVANNI KEPT THE BALANCE OF

ABOUT \$750,,000 EACH YEAR. GIOVANNI DEALT ONLY WITH THE SIX MEN.

EVERY YEAR IN A SMALL RIVER TOWN OF CHILO, JOHN DISTRIBUTED THE FUNDS IN CASH.

THE BUREAUJ OF ALCOHOL AND FIREARMS KNEW THAT IN THE OHIO COUNTIES OF CLERMONT, BROWN AND ADAMS, MARIJUANA WAS BY FAR THE LARGEST MONEY CROP, EASILY OUT DISTANCING TOBACCO, CORN AND SOYBEANS.

LATER THAT MONTH ALL SEEMED TO BE GOING SMOOTHLY FOR GIOVANNI AS HE WAITED AT THE FEED MILL NO ONE SHOWED UP. HE SENSED A PROBLEM. HE DROVE TO SEVERAL OF THE DESIGNATED BARNs.. HE FOUND NO MARIJUANA.

HE CALLED THE SIX , MEN, BUT THERE WASNOT A SINGLE ANSWER.

HE CHECKED SEVERAL MORE OF THE BARNs. HE FOUND NO MARIJUANA. IT WAS GONE.

GIOVANNI PLACED CALLS TO SEVERAL OF HIS ENFORCERS BUT COULD NOT GET

CONNECTIONS. GIOVANNI DECIDED THAT HE BETTER LEAVE AND FAST. HE DROVE TO LUNKEN AIRPORT WHERE HE CHARTERED A SMALL JET WHICH LANDED HIM] AT THE PELLSTON AIRPORT . HE WAS ALERTLY THINKING THAT HE WOULD HAVE BEEN RECONIZED IF HE HAD LANDED IN HIS OWN PLANE AT THE HARBOR SPRINGS AIRPORT.

HE RENTED A CAR USING THE COUNTERFEIT DRIVER'S LICENSE THAT HE ALWAYS CARRIED AND DROVE SOUTH TO THE HARBOR COVE MARINA. HE RENTED A DONZI, A FAST SPEED BOAT. HE STOPPED JUST SHORT IN LITTLE TRAVERS BAY WHERE HE HAD A GOOD VIEW OF HIS HOME ON HARBOR POINT.

THE HOME WAS COMPLETELY SURROUNDED WITH YELLOW INVESTIGATOR TAPE. HE CALLED NICOLE. NO ANSWER. IN THE RENTED CAR HE DROVE FAIRLY CLOSE TO THE BACK END OF POVERTY BAY. HE WALKED IN THE WOODS UNTIL HE COULD SEE THE BARN BUT COULD NOT BE SEEN. THERE HE SAW AT THE BARN TWO BLACK CARS WITH GOVERNMENT PLATES. HE ALSO SAW AT THE DELAPIDATED DOCK AN 18 FOOT SEARAY. AND THE YOUNG MAN HE NOW RECOGNIZED AS THE PREACHER AT THE FEED MILL AND THE FISHEREMAN. IN THE SEARAY.

JOHN STARTED TO DRIVE TO CHICAGO BUT DECIDED IT WOULD BE BETTER TO

TAKE A GREYHOUND BUS.. HE WAS THINKING NO ONE
WOULD EVER CONSIDER JOHN INGERSOLL RIDING IN A GREYHOUD BUS.
IN CHICAGO HE TOOK A CAB TO SPEND THE NGHT WITH HIS
PURPLE GANG UNCLE. JOHN EVENTUJALLY FOUND HIS WAY TO SARASOTA
FLORIDA , WHERE HE LIVED SIMPLY UNDER A TOTALLY DIFFERENT NAME..
THE GREAT PART OF HIS WEALTH HAD BEEN IN CASH AT POVERTY BAY.
EVERY MONTH JOHN RECEIVED A CHECK IN A BROWN ENVELOPE FROM HIS
UNCLE.. NICOLE RECEIVED A WRITTEN COMMENDATION FROM THE FBI
TOGETHER WITH A WARM HUG FROM HER PROFESSOR.

AT HARBOR POINT NO ONE MISSED A BEAT. THE PETOSKEY PRESS PUBLISHED
THE STORY. THE CONVERSATIONS AT THE LITTLE HARBOR CLUB AND ON
“
HARBOR POINT WERE “WE KNEW HE WAS NOT SWISS. WE KNEW HE
WAS A FAKE BECAUSE--- HE HAD ABSOLUTELY NO INTEREST WHATSOEVER IN
SAILNG. “

HARRY H. SANTEN
5-16- 2016

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