Daryl Video pre master audio

[00:00:00] **Speaker:** I'm the only black participant in this parade, and people are waving and cheering and smiling [00:00:05] until we got to a certain point along this parade route when suddenly I'm getting hit. I still [00:00:10] didn't realize I was the target. It wasn't until my den mother, my cub master, my troop [00:00:15] leader huddled over me and quickly escorted me out of the danger.

He held my hand in his hands, [00:00:20] shaking it. He says, Mr. Davis, it is in the interest of the black people to be a [00:00:25] strong race. And you cannot be a strong race unless you are a pure race. He says, you know, black [00:00:30] people are born, you know, with a gene that makes them violent. And I said, we all know that all white [00:00:35] people have a gene within them that makes them a serial killer.

[00:00:38] **Dave:** The first time you walked in [00:00:40] and sat down with someone from the KKK, what did it feel like? You're listening to The [00:00:45] Human Upgrade with Dave Asprey.[00:00:50]

Our guest today repeats some of the things the [00:00:55] KKK said to him, and frankly, they are not very nice. Um, if this is going to [00:01:00] be a problem for you or anyone listening with you, be warned. [00:01:05]

Sitting here in a studio in Washington, D. [00:01:10] C. with Daryl Davis. Daryl [00:01:15] is one of the most unusual human beings I've come across.

A [00:01:20] jazz musician. A black man who just so happened to convert [00:01:25] 200 Klu Klux Klan members to no longer be in the Klan. [00:01:30] He's been a guest a couple times on the Joe Rogan Show. And I've been [00:01:35] on there three times, so we have that in common. And he's lived a life that [00:01:40] Is astounding. And I want to share with you how [00:01:45] he thinks, and just to hear some stories of how he's achieved something [00:01:50] that sounds impossible.

One of the things I've learned over the years is that [00:01:55] if you want to change someone's mind, going in logically doesn't really [00:02:00] work because our operating systems are designed for us to not want [00:02:05] reality. So these logical arguments end up basically [00:02:10] with low carb guys, thumping their chests or vegans yelling at each other [00:02:15] or keto people saying, I'm more keto than you.

And we get stuck in these [00:02:20] cognitive areas for me to start the biohacking movement. I [00:02:25] had to break my paradigm of food, of hunger, of how much control I had over my [00:02:30] brain, over my body, over my nervous system. And it was a lot of change. [00:02:35] And I found that I couldn't tell people what to eat, but I could show them [00:02:40] and that most of the way we influence other people comes from the [00:02:45] unconscious or from the things that are not the words we say.

And if you'd like to learn more [00:02:50] about that, the episode with Robert Cialdini, who wrote the famous book influence [00:02:55] is a way to just understand how much is going on that you don't see. So we're going to learn from [00:03:00] Daryl how he did this, and you are going to be blown away. [00:03:05] Daryl Davis. It's a great honor to be sitting here with you today.

It's my pleasure and

[00:03:09] **Speaker:** honor. Thank [00:03:10] you, Dave, for having me.

[00:03:11] **Dave:** How was that intro? Are, are you a jazz musician first? Are you the guy [00:03:15] who changes people's minds? How do you like Well, when

[00:03:17] **Speaker:** you say, uh, that I was one of the most [00:03:20] unusual people, I thought you'd say, oh, he has six arms and three eyes and all that kind of stuff.

No, you're not. [00:03:25] Yes, I, I am a musician first. But but ultimately I'm a human being, [00:03:30] and I've learned to recognize everyone as human beings. Perhaps [00:03:35] I have had some experiences that many people have not had. But still we all [00:03:40] have certain things in common that we all can relate to, believe it or not.

What made [00:03:45] you reach out to the KKK? Okay, well, in order to get there, you have to understand my background. I'm [00:03:50] age 66, and I was the child of parents in the U. S. Foreign Service. I [00:03:55] began traveling around the world at the age of 3 in 1961. I was born in [00:04:00] 58. And my first exposure to school was overseas. So [00:04:05] as an American Embassy kid, you know, you get assigned to a country for two years, and at the end of the [00:04:10] assignment, you return back home here to the States, you're here for maybe a year, and then you get reassigned abroad [00:04:15] again for two years.

So back and forth, back and forth. My first introduction to school was [00:04:20] kindergarten, which was overseas. I did kindergarten, first grade, third grade, fifth grade, [00:04:25] seventh grade, all in different schools in different countries. Now, the schools over there, [00:04:30] my classmates were from all over the world, because anybody who had an embassy [00:04:35] where we were stationed with our American embassy, all of their kids went to the same school.

So this little [00:04:40] girl here might be from Nigeria, this person here from Japan, that boy there from [00:04:45] Czechoslovakia. Italy, Russia, you name it, all those embassy kids were all in my school. [00:04:50] That being my first introduction to school became what my baseline for school [00:04:55] was supposed to be. And the term multicultural did not even exist back then.

You know, [00:05:00] to me it was just the norm. That's all it was, a bunch of us kids. We played together, we worked [00:05:05] together. We didn't look alike, maybe we didn't have the same languages, we didn't worship, you [00:05:10] know, the same way perhaps, but we all played, worked and had slumber parties together, [00:05:15] right? At the end of the two years, I would come back home here and I would either be [00:05:20] in all black schools or black and white schools, meaning the still segregated [00:05:25] or the newly integrated.

And just because desegregation was passed by the Supreme [00:05:30] Court in 1954, four years before I was born, schools did not integrate [00:05:35] overnight. It took years, and even right now, in 2024, we're [00:05:40] still battling integration in some parts of this country. So, one time I came [00:05:45] back, 1968, and I was going to one of these newly integrated schools.[00:05:50]

Two black kids in the whole school. Myself in 4th grade at the age of 10 and [00:05:55] a little black girl in 2nd grade. So consequently, you know, all of my friends were 4th and 5th [00:06:00] graders and they all were white. Several of my male friends were members of the Cub Scouts and they [00:06:05] invited me to join. So I joined the Cub Scouts.

You know, did a lot of fun things. And we had [00:06:10] a parade in which other organizations were participating. Girl Scouts, Brownies, Boy [00:06:15] Scouts, 4 H Club and different organizations. And, uh, the streets were blocked [00:06:20] off, sidewalks were lined with nothing but white people. This is 1968. [00:06:25] And, uh, here I am with my Cub Scout troop.

I'm the only black participant in this [00:06:30] parade. And people are waving and cheering and smiling until we got to a certain [00:06:35] point. Along this parade route when suddenly I'm getting hit with bottles and [00:06:40] soda pop cans and small debris from the street by just a small group of spectators, [00:06:45] maybe four or five, mixing with the larger crowd off to my right on the sidewalk.

I turned [00:06:50] to see what was hitting me. I see these people, you know, throwing things and yelling. I couldn't hear what they were [00:06:55] saying because there was like a marching band and all kinds of noise going on, but they were throwing [00:07:00] things. And, I still didn't realize I was the target. Oh, wow. You know, [00:07:05] because I never had any precedent for this.

I'm just assuming, oh, you know these people over here, you know, they don't like the [00:07:10] scouts, you know? And you were 10 at the time? I was 10. Okay. And I'm trying to figure out why don't they like the scouts? You [00:07:15] know, maybe their kid didn't make the cut or something. You know, , I had every excuse for the right excuse.[00:07:20]

And I'm thinking they're targeting the Cub Scouts. It wasn't until my den mother, [00:07:25] my cub master, my troop leader all came running back, these are white people, and huddled over me [00:07:30] and quickly escorted me out of the danger. And I kept saying, [00:07:35] what did I do? I didn't do anything to them, why are they doing this?

And all they would do is kind of shush me and [00:07:40] rush me along, telling me to keep moving, keep moving, everything will be okay. You know, I kept moving, [00:07:45] and fortunately, you know, they didn't follow us. So, you know, the danger had passed, and [00:07:50] by the end of the parade, I still didn't have an answer. And so I went home, and my [00:07:55] mom and dad, who were not at the parade were putting the red sticky stuff, you should call it [00:08:00] mercurochrome, and band aids on me, and asked me, how did you, uh, survive?

You know, trip and fall [00:08:05] down and get all scraped up. I told them I didn't trip and fall down. I told them what happened. [00:08:10] And for the first time in my life, my mom and dad sat me [00:08:15] down and explained to me what racism was. Now, you see, I'm an only [00:08:20] child. You know, I didn't have, you know, older brothers and sisters, you know, to learn from their [00:08:25] experiences.

My mom and dad Where, you know, where my source of information. And they never lied to me. [00:08:30] But on this day, in 1968, when they told me why I was [00:08:35] being hit with these projectiles, I did not believe them for the first time in my life. [00:08:40] It made no sense. My, my ten year old brain could not process the [00:08:45] idea.

That someone who had never seen me, never spoken to me, knew nothing about me, would [00:08:50] want to inflict pain upon me, for no other reason than this, the color of my skin. [00:08:55] And to further prove that they were wrong and I was right, was the fact that the people [00:09:00] over here on the sidewalk, doing this, did not look any different than my fellow [00:09:05] scouts, or my schoolmates, or for that matter, my friends overseas.

Whether they were my friends from the American [00:09:10] Embassy, or my little French, or Danish, or Swedish, or Australian friends for that matter. [00:09:15] So Color had nothing to do with it. My parents kept assuring me, you know. Again, this [00:09:20] is 1968, and sure enough, I learned very quickly. That was a very [00:09:25] turbulent year. On April 4th of that year, Martin Luther King was assassinated, [00:09:30] and every major city in this country, including where we were living at the time, burned to the ground [00:09:35] with violence and racial animosity and all this kind of stuff.

So I [00:09:40] learned that my parents, you know, had, had, uh, told me the truth. And I accepted the fact that this thing I'd [00:09:45] never heard of called racism, cause it wasn't in my sphere existed, but what I [00:09:50] didn't understand was why. And at the age of 10, I formed a question [00:09:55] in my mind, which was, how can you hate me when you don't even know me?[00:10:00]

And for the next 55 years, because I was 10, then I'm 66 now, or 56 [00:10:05] years, I should say, I have been looking for the answer to that question. That fall, we moved [00:10:10] back overseas, you know, and I was back to normalcy. But every time I'd come home, [00:10:15] there'd be some incident that would happen to me either directly or [00:10:20] vicariously.

You know, related to the color of someone's skin, or my skin for that matter. [00:10:25] Were you mad at your parents for not telling you about racism? Initially, yes. [00:10:30] Initially, yes. I was upset. All right. But in [00:10:35] retrospect, I believe, you know, my parents are gone now, but I believe they did the right thing. And I'll tell [00:10:40] you why.

Supposing they had told me, Daryl, [00:10:45] You know, things are not as, you know, your, your friends may be fine at school, you know, you play with them, [00:10:50] they come over to your house, you go to their homes, and you have fun, and these are good kids and good parents, [00:10:55] but not everybody is like that. There'll be some white people who won't like you because of the color of your [00:11:00] skin they may try to hurt you or call you names.

Suppose they told me that in [00:11:05] advance. You'd have been suspicious all the time. Then I would have been, you know, Is this a good white person? Is this a bad? How do I tell the difference? [00:11:10] Maybe just stay away from them all together, right? So, they did not pre poison me [00:11:15] or prejudice me, you know? Unfortunately, I found out [00:11:20] the hard way.

I mean, literally, bam, you know? But, I mean, not funny, but, you know?

[00:11:24] **Dave:** [00:11:25] Yeah, I, it's, uh, It's got to be astounding. A lot of kids will feel [00:11:30] betrayed when they find out their parents aren't infallible, or that your parents were not telling you the [00:11:35] truth, but parents are doing it for your own good. In your case, as you grew up, you recognized that that was a gift.[00:11:40]

Do you think you gained a superpower for connecting with people because you moved [00:11:45] around so much as a kid? You go to a new school, have to make friends, go to a new school, have to make friends. Does that help [00:11:50] You know, let me tell you something.

[00:11:52] **Speaker:** That is all I knew. [00:11:55] And a lot of the kids, not necessarily the natives, [00:12:00] the native kids to whatever country we were in, we lived in Africa, we lived in Europe, you know, they're [00:12:05] there and they do whatever they do, but all the embassy kids, they had that pretty much that same experience.

So, you [00:12:10] know, as a kid, you think that every kid does what you do because that's all, you [00:12:15] know, so I didn't know anything any different. The kids that I was friends with, [00:12:20] if they were already in the country when we got there, uh, Chances are they only had a [00:12:25] year left and they were leaving because we're there for two years.

And then when we have a year [00:12:30] left, new kids are coming in, you know, so it's always in flux. All right. [00:12:35] And that was my life. Now I'll tell you this. It wasn't hard, but I noticed [00:12:40] something that when I would be home, you know, we, we traveled a [00:12:45] lot. And, and my dad and mom always made sure I saw everything. [00:12:50] I, I, I went inside the pyramids in Cairo, inside the Sphinx, I touched the [00:12:55] Berlin Wall, I've been up in the Eiffel Tower, I stood five feet from the Mona Lisa in the Louvre [00:13:00] Museum.

Okay. And I, you know, when I would come back home. [00:13:05] And be in whatever grade and studying, you know, our textbook [00:13:10] world history, whatever, you see all these items. I've been there. I've touched those things. [00:13:15] I realized that most of the kids sitting around me here in this, in our own country, the closest they [00:13:20] would ever come to those things.

Were the pictures in those textbooks, you know, they weren't going [00:13:25] to Berlin, seeing the Berlin Wall or the Eiffel Tower or, you know, King Tut [00:13:30] in Cairo or whatever. I did and sometimes those things in the history books were [00:13:35] wrong. I was there. I saw what it was and the history book was wrong. All right.

So I [00:13:40] really appreciated my parents even more. You know, for, for exposing me to these [00:13:45] things, because according to our U. S. Census Bureau, less than 50 percent of Americans [00:13:50] even own a passport. Yeah. Europeans, they travel all the time. They're always going somewhere. [00:13:55] They don't call it vacation. They call it, I'm going on holiday.

Right. Yeah. And um, you [00:14:00] know, when we say vacation, we mean, you know, we might be gone for a week, no more than two weeks, because that's what our [00:14:05] company pays us for, two week vacation, right? But these people, when they go on a holiday, They may [00:14:10] be gone for a month, two months, whatever, you know, and so they are, they are a lot more [00:14:15] worldly than we are.

I've been, when you combine my childhood travels with my [00:14:20] adulthood travels now as a musician touring or lecturer, what have you, [00:14:25] combine those two sets, I've been to 63 countries on, you know, on six continents. I'm actually [00:14:30] behind though, because currently there are 195 countries in the world. [00:14:35] And a couple years ago, I met two guys totally unrelated to one another, about three weeks apart.[00:14:40]

One was an American, surprisingly, from California. He'd been to 125 [00:14:45] countries. And the other guy was from Estonia. He'd been to 161. [00:14:50] Now, that was a couple years ago. Here in

[00:14:51] **Dave:** Estonia, you walk 20 feet in any direction. Yeah, yeah. It's another country. Yeah, [00:14:55] yes, exactly. I've been out there too, yeah.

[00:14:57] **Speaker:** But, One of my favorite quotes of all [00:15:00] time is by Samuel Clemens, otherwise known as Mark Twain.

It's called the Travel Quote. [00:15:05] And Mark Twain said, Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow [00:15:10] mindedness. And many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. [00:15:15] Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by [00:15:20] vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime.

And that is so true. So [00:15:25] true. Now, I'll say this. All that travel does not make me a [00:15:30] better human being than someone with less travel experience. But what it does is [00:15:35] it gives me a better and broader perspective on humanity [00:15:40] than most people who've not been exposed to somebody outside of their immediate environment [00:15:45] or circle.

And I can tell you this, no matter how far I've traveled from our, from our [00:15:50] own country, the United States, whether it's right next door to Canada or right next door to Mexico, Or [00:15:55] to the other side of the globe, no matter who I meet, you know, they may not look like me or [00:16:00] speak my language or worship as I do, maybe they don't even worship at all.

I always conclude that [00:16:05] everybody I've encountered is a human being, and I've noticed that every human being [00:16:10] wants these five core values in their lives. Everyone wants to [00:16:15] be loved. Everyone wants to be respected. We all want to be heard. [00:16:20] We want to be treated fairly and truthfully, and we all want the same things for our family [00:16:25] as anybody else would want for their family.

And if we can learn to [00:16:30] apply those five core values or any of those five values when we find [00:16:35] ourselves in an adversarial situation or in a culture or society in which we're [00:16:40] unfamiliar or uncomfortable, I'll now, I'll guarantee your navigation of that [00:16:45] situation, that culture, that society would be much more positive, much more smooth and much [00:16:50] more productive.

[00:16:51] **Dave:** Hearing your experience. Uh, growing up is, [00:16:55] is so interesting. I, I Hearing your experience. Growing up is, is so [00:17:00] interesting. I, I grew up in New Mexico, and at the time, there were [00:17:05] essentially no black people there. I had literally never met someone black before I went off to [00:17:10] college, which sounds crazy, but that's how it was. There was lots of the local [00:17:15] Native American population and lots of Mexicans.

Other than that, it was, that was all I'd ever seen. [00:17:20] I went to college and ended up sharing a one bedroom apartment with a black guy for three [00:17:25] years. Mm hmm. And he told me stories. I'm like, wow, this stuff really happens because [00:17:30] it was completely outside my world. Plus I had Asperger's syndrome. So being a little bit autistic doesn't always [00:17:35] help you be aware of the world.

But I, I was kind of thrown for a loop going, well, I guess that stuff is, [00:17:40] is real because it's something that I would have never seen. And you know, hearing that it, [00:17:45] it still just kind of doesn't match my worldview [00:17:50] and I believe everything you're saying. And it always kind of stuns me. Yeah. And a lot of people saying, well, this [00:17:55] is a problem, but there's not much we can do about it.

Sure there is. And well, there certainly is. And [00:18:00] it looks like curiosity was the primary thing that got you [00:18:05] going, but I got to know the first time you walked in and sat down with [00:18:10] someone from the KKK, what did it feel like?

[00:18:12] **Speaker:** Let me back up a little bit. Okay. [00:18:15] After that experience as a 10 year old. one time, you know, we went back [00:18:20] overseas, I was back in normalcy, I'd come back, stuff would happen, I'd go back overseas, come back.[00:18:25]

So now I'm in 10th grade, and we had a class here back in, in [00:18:30] this, in, in this country called the POTC, which stood for Problems of the 20th [00:18:35] Century. We had a great teacher, and he, and it was a senior class, I'm taking it as a 10th grader, sophomore. [00:18:40] And he would bring in controversial, uh, Speakers talk on different topics, [00:18:45] abortion, this, that and the other.

And uh, and the 12th graders or whoever was in the class would get to [00:18:50] question them. And so I was taking it as a 10th grader. And on this one day [00:18:55] in 1974, he brought in the head of the American Nazi party. [00:19:00] Now the American Nazi party was founded. about 15 minutes from where we're [00:19:05] sitting right now, right across the Potomac river in Arlington, Virginia, by a fellow named [00:19:10] George Lincoln Rockwell.

And George Lincoln Rockwell was a big proponent of the [00:19:15] ideology of Adolf Hitler.

[00:19:16] **Dave:** Isn't that where the CIA is from there too?

[00:19:18] **Speaker:** Oh, right. About 15 minutes up the road in [00:19:20] Langley. Okay. So, so yeah. [00:19:25] So anyway, George Lincoln Rockwell would always take his storm troopers and go to crash [00:19:30] Martin Luther King's marches and rallies.

And, you know, confront him and all that kind of thing. [00:19:35] Well, anyway, Lincoln Rockwell had a right hand guy named Martin, I'm sorry, Matt Cole. [00:19:40] K O E H L. And Lincoln Rockwell George Lincoln Rockwell [00:19:45] was murdered by one of his own Nazis. He got into an argument with this guy named John Palter, and [00:19:50] Palter killed him.

Right on Wilson Boulevard, over there in Arlington. And so Matt [00:19:55] Cole, his right hand guy, took over. And Martin Kerr became president. Matt Cole's [00:20:00] right hand guy. So, on this day our teacher had invited Matt Cole to [00:20:05] our school, to our class. And he came along with Martin Kerr. Now, there were [00:20:10] more blacks in the school, but only two in this particular class.

And I'm in there, and another [00:20:15] black guy. And Matt Cole was standing at the front of our class, I'm 15 years old, [00:20:20] espousing all of these views of white supremacy. And he pointed at me, And pointed at the other black [00:20:25] guy and said, We're going to ship you back to Africa. And then he went like this, And all you Jews out [00:20:30] there, you're going back to Israel.

I just sat there looking at the guy, I'm a, I'm a kid. Did you not

[00:20:34] **Dave:** know [00:20:35] Israel was recently created? You can't send them back to a country that didn't [00:20:40] exist until. You're

[00:20:40] **Speaker:** dealing with Nazi mentality, the master race. You know, they don't care where you go as long as you're [00:20:45] out of here. Okay. So, I'm, you know, I didn't say anything to him, I'm just like, you know, looking at him like what [00:20:50] on earth is this man talking about, right?

And one of my classmates piped up and says, well they [00:20:55] live here, you know, what if they don't want to go? And he says, oh, they have no choice. [00:21:00] If they do not leave voluntarily, they will be exterminated in the upcoming race [00:21:05] war. That was the first time I ever heard the term race war. And what year was [00:21:10] this?

1974. Wow. Okay. Long story short, I confronted Matt [00:21:15] Cole eight years later when I graduated college. Music became my [00:21:20] profession, but studying race relations became my obsession.

[00:21:24] **Dave:** And in music, [00:21:25] you were not a small name, you're still not, you're playing with the greatest names in jazz, right?

[00:21:29] **Speaker:** Well, [00:21:30] you know, I majored in jazz. but, you know, I, I play jazz, I play rock and roll, I play [00:21:35] blues, I played country, R& B, I mean, if, if they're paying, I'm playing. All right. So, you [00:21:40] know. Okay. I worked, for 32 years with, Chuck Berry, the man who invented rock and roll. [00:21:45] Yeah. Yeah, and, not every gig, but, but many gigs.

Okay. And he was my mentor, my [00:21:50] friend, my boss, my fellow musician, you know, I learned a whole lot about, you know, from that guy, [00:21:55] not just about playing, but about, you know, business as well.

[00:21:57] **Dave:** So you made a name for yourself in music [00:22:00] as you were following this curiosity about racism.

[00:22:03] **Speaker:** Yeah.

[00:22:03] **Dave:** Yeah. And when you say you [00:22:05] confronted this guy, how did you confront him?

[00:22:07] **Speaker:** Okay. Well, right here in DC, [00:22:10] there is a park across the street from the White House, right across the street. It's [00:22:15] called Lafayette Park. And 24 7, even right now as we're sitting here, there's somebody [00:22:20] or multiple people in that park who are protesting something. They are there [00:22:25] 365 days a year. Some of them pitch a tent and, and just stay there.

Okay. Complaining. Their [00:22:30] weapons, abortion. the war, wherever it is, whether it's Vietnam, whether it's Iraq, whether [00:22:35] it's Afghanistan, you name it, somebody's protesting something. So that's where [00:22:40] you go. You stand in the park and face the White House. So you're hoping that whoever's in the Oval [00:22:45] Office will look out the window and read your billboard and solve your problem.

You

[00:22:49] **Dave:** think protesting works? [00:22:50]

[00:22:50] **Speaker:** It used to work. It is, it has gotten watered down because so many of [00:22:55] them now people just, you know, ignore them, right? All they, all they do these days is block [00:23:00] traffic or something. So, but yeah, back in the day, yes, they were a lot more powerful. [00:23:05] Now unfortunately people take other, other extremes as a, as a means of [00:23:10] protest even taking people out and things like that.

Okay. So anyway, I had found [00:23:15] out about an unpublicized demonstration that was gonna take place in front of the White House [00:23:20] of the American Nazi Party. no, you know, unpublicized means nobody knows about it. They [00:23:25] don't tell anybody, not even the police. Because if people know about it, all kinds of protesters [00:23:30] come, and they come to do violence to these people.

Now, while I don't support anything, uh, Of white [00:23:35] supremacy or Nazism or KKK stuff. I do support everybody's [00:23:40] right to freedom of assembly and freedom of speech.

[00:23:42] **Dave:** Thank you. You're allowed to say [00:23:45] stuff I vehemently disagree with and that's okay, even if I really don't agree.

[00:23:49] **Speaker:** Right. We [00:23:50] have the right to hate.

We don't have the right to hurt. There you go. Okay, so anyway I [00:23:55] found out about this thing and so I got down there early. Now see back then, this is [00:24:00] 1982, back then you could drive up and down the 1600 block of Pennsylvania Avenue [00:24:05] which is where the White House is located. Today you can't do that because over those years people [00:24:10] have tried to ram the gates of the White House with their vehicles.

So they put up concrete barriers that [00:24:15] lift up out of the street so only law enforcement can drive there. You can walk up and down [00:24:20] there all you want, but no, no commercial vehicles or your private vehicles, just, you know, law [00:24:25] enforcement. So anyway, back then you could. I parked my car, caddy cornered to the White House on the other side of the [00:24:30] park.

I wait. Here comes this van and about 13 or 15 of these Nazis get [00:24:35] out. There's nothing that tells you they're Nazis. No Gestapo uniforms, no [00:24:40] SS insignias or swastikas, just dark black suits. There's Matt Cole [00:24:45] and Martin Kerr. Same guys who came to my high school eight years prior, right? I'm two [00:24:50] years now out of college and I'm, I'm watching Matt Cole, he's getting his people all lined [00:24:55] up, you know, facing the White House.

It's lunchtime and DC is crowded, you know, anyway, [00:25:00] lunchtime, everybody's out of their office walking up and down, right? And they're walking by, not paying any attention, not [00:25:05] even knowing who they are, because, you know, they don't, you know, there's nothing [00:25:10] advertising, you know, who they are. So, they're walking past these Nazis not knowing I knew who they were.[00:25:15]

And I said, you know what, I'm going to confront Matt Cole because I did not confront him when I was [00:25:20] 15 years old. So I need to, uh, to confront him. So once he got all his folks lined [00:25:25] up, I walked right over to him and I said, Matt Cole. He like jumped in the line, you know, who's [00:25:30] this black person knows my name, right?

And he goes, do I know you? And I said, well, [00:25:35] you spoke at my high school. And he said, what high school would that be? I told him. He [00:25:40] goes, yes, yes, yes, I remember you. That was a long time ago. What can I do for you? [00:25:45] I said, yes, it was eight years ago. Do you remember what you told me? Yes, [00:25:50] yes. How can I help you?

I said, well, I'm still here. [00:25:55] And he says, I can see that. What can I do for you? I said, well, [00:26:00] you can tell me who the hell gives you the authority to make permanent travel arrangements for [00:26:05] me. He says, what's your name? I said, Darryl Davis. He put his hand out. [00:26:10] He shook my hand and then he did something that I've used before, a technique that I've [00:26:15] used before on Klan people, right?

He held my hand and his hand shaking it and he took his finger on his other [00:26:20] hand and shook it in my face like this. He says, Mr. Davis. You have to understand [00:26:25] one thing, it is in the interest of your people, the black people, to [00:26:30] be a strong race. And you cannot be a strong race unless you are a pure race.[00:26:35]

You cannot be a pure race if you are miscegenating with other races, and on and on. And then he goes, [00:26:40] it is in the interest of my race, the Aryan race, to also be a strong [00:26:45] race. We are becoming a mongrel race by miscegenating With mud races such [00:26:50] as yours. So anybody who is non Aryan or non white is a mud [00:26:55] race.

Because you have color in the, in the skin. so he's concerned about that. He says the races [00:27:00] cannot coexist until you learn you must be separate. Right? To keep the races [00:27:05] pure. And so, you know, he went on and on. And then he told me, he told me a lot of lies. [00:27:10] But he told me one thing that is true, and the media has been avoiding [00:27:15] talking about this.

It'll come out every now and then, but they don't double down on it. [00:27:20] And this is true. I've been following it since 1982. He [00:27:25] told me that back then, 1982, that they're very concerned about the [00:27:30] year 2042. And I was asking him why and he was telling me about the demographic [00:27:35] shift that was slowly happening and it's getting faster and faster.

By [00:27:40] the year 2042, this country will be 50 50. 50 [00:27:45] percent white, 50 percent non white. And between 2045 and [00:27:50] 2050, it's gonna shift and whites will become the minority, alright? [00:27:55] So, you know, when you have sat on the throne of power for [00:28:00] 400 years, that's all you know. You don't want to get off. You look at [00:28:05] the last president, the one before Biden, he was only on the throne, so to [00:28:10] speak for four years and thought he was still there.

He still thinks he's still there. So, [00:28:15] you know, you get that power, you don't want to give it up. And so they're seeing this shift [00:28:20] coming, you know, and our, our census is taken every, every [00:28:25] decade, every 10 years. When I was a kid, when you were a kid, The [00:28:30] black population in this country was 12%. Native Americans, [00:28:35] 1%.

Latino, Hispanic Americans 2%. Asian, [00:28:40] Pacific Americans, 3%. Whites were like 86, 87%. [00:28:45] Today, the last census was 2020. Blacks, they say 12. 9. So [00:28:50] they say, or they say 13. So it's 12. 9. We really haven't grown. Native [00:28:55] Americans remain at 1%. Asian Pacific Americans have almost doubled to [00:29:00] 6%. Latino Hispanic Americans have more than quadrupled to 17.

7%. [00:29:05] So if you take Just 12 percent black, 17 [00:29:10] percent Hispanic, Latino, let alone anybody else, just, just those two, 17 [00:29:15] and 12, that makes 29 percent non white. That's almost a third of the country. This is happening, and [00:29:20] it's going faster and faster, right? So they're trying to stop that because they're [00:29:25] afraid of losing their majority status.

And in their [00:29:30] minds, you know, you mentioned reality, you know, people's reality. It's real to [00:29:35] them. To them, they, they think, We discovered this country, we built this country, [00:29:40] and we wrote the Constitution for this country, and people who don't look like us are coming to this country [00:29:45] and taking our country away.

We're going to take America back. We're going to make it great [00:29:50] again. So that's the mentality. That's their patriotic [00:29:55] reality.

[00:29:55] **Dave:** One of the most powerful classes I ever took was called Religion and Violence. [00:30:00] And we studied, All the religious movements that have turned violent. Sure, the Mormons, the [00:30:05] Christian

[00:30:05] **Speaker:** Crusades, everything.

[00:30:06] **Dave:** Crusades, all of them. And it was taught by a rabbinical scholar. [00:30:10] And he said, what do they all have in common? I said, they're all irrational because they believe in all this [00:30:15] weird crap. And he laughed and he said, no, these are the most rational people you'll ever meet. [00:30:20] If you believe what they believe, their actions are rational.

And

so

you realize [00:30:25] it's questioning your fundamental beliefs. And if those are wrong, What you're doing is wrong, [00:30:30] but if you're fundamental beliefs are actually real, right? And, and this [00:30:35] is, it seems like what you're doing is, is you're getting in at some level and you're convincing a group [00:30:40] of people who are hard to convince any group that, that believes something very strongly is hard to convince.

[00:30:45] And somehow you're getting in and you're changing something that they believe in reality that [00:30:50] then changes or collapses the behaviors that are based on that. So then they [00:30:55] change.

[00:30:55] **Speaker:** Well, actually yes and no. So, what you're saying is absolutely 100 percent [00:31:00] correct, but I would not say that I changed them or that I [00:31:05] converted them.

You know, when you, when you see my name in the media, it'll say, you know, black musician [00:31:10] converts 200 Klansmen or white supremacists, whatever. No, I didn't even [00:31:15] convert one, in my eyes. I have been the impetus, and continue to [00:31:20] be the impetus, for over 200 to convert themselves. Yeah. Okay? That's less,

[00:31:24] **Dave:** that's [00:31:25] much less egotistical and more accurate.

It's totally true.

[00:31:28] **Speaker:** because what I [00:31:30] know, you know, what you said earlier about reality, it's real to these people you cannot change [00:31:35] somebody's reality. If it's real to them, and if you try to change it, you're going to [00:31:40] get pushback.

[00:31:40] **Dave:** Yeah.

[00:31:41] **Speaker:** Because they know it's real, in their mind. And that

[00:31:43] **Dave:** pushback can have bullets in it.[00:31:45]

[00:31:45] **Speaker:** Oh yes, I mean, the more you push, the more it's going to escalate to the point of, the break point, [00:31:50] where it explodes and becomes violent towards you, right? So, let me give [00:31:55] you an example. Let's say, if you want somebody's reality to [00:32:00] change, don't attack it, don't tell them they're wrong, don't try to attack it, you know, [00:32:05] even though you know that you're right, you've seen that you've, you know, you're older, whatever [00:32:10] reason, you have the facts, they don't have the facts, alright, and you know they're wrong [00:32:15] don't attack it, don't try to prove it, alright, what you do is this, you offer them a [00:32:20] better perception, or better perceptions, plural, and if they [00:32:25] resonate, With one of your perceptions, they will change their own reality because one's [00:32:30] perception becomes one's reality.

So, hypothetically, let's say you have a 7 or 8 [00:32:35] year old brother, and he runs off to a magic show with his little buddies. And he comes [00:32:40] home and tells you, Dave, you're not going to believe this. This magician on stage, he asked for a lady [00:32:45] volunteer, and 50 women raised their hand. He picked one out of the audience, brought her up on stage, asked [00:32:50] her, you know, what's your name, where you're from, and then he had her climb into this long box, and he had her [00:32:55] put her feet out the hole at that end and her head out the hole at this end, then he closed the box.

He took [00:33:00] a chainsaw and went, Right there in the middle of the box. It came out the [00:33:05] bottom. He cut her in half. And they told her to wiggle her feet. And she wiggled her feet. [00:33:10] And you said, Listen, it didn't happen like that. Yes it did. I was there. You weren't there. I saw it with [00:33:15] my own eyes. You weren't there.

He's a hundred percent right. You were not there. Mm-hmm . [00:33:20] He saw it. You, you couldn't see it. You were home. Right? So how are [00:33:25] you gonna tell him that he did not see what he saw, and, and you weren't there. Mm-hmm . You know, [00:33:30] you, he's gonna attack, attack you, right? Yes. And so he's pushing, he's [00:33:35] pushing back. And, and then to prove to you that he's right, he tells you after the man [00:33:40] cut the box in half.

And she wiggled her feet, he moved this half of the box with the feet [00:33:45] over here to stage right, and the half with the head over here to stage left. And then he [00:33:50] walked over there, and he spoke to the woman's head, and she talked back to him. [00:33:55] And then he brought the two halves back together, he did some abracadabra [00:34:00] incantation, and opened the lid, and she climbed out, full form.

[00:34:05] He cut her in half, put her back together, and there's no blood. And you say, [00:34:10] It's an illusion. No, it's not. I'm telling you now it's escalating because [00:34:15] after he's gone through all this trouble telling you what this man did and how he put it back [00:34:20] together, you're still calling him a liar in his mind, right?

So he's going to [00:34:25] explode rather than attack his reality. What you do is you offer him [00:34:30] a better perception because one's perception is one's reality. So you say to [00:34:35] him, listen, I hear you. I understand what you're saying. Okay. But let me ask you a question. Do you [00:34:40] think that maybe, just perhaps, it's possible that the woman that [00:34:45] he picked out of the audience Maybe she works for him.

Maybe she [00:34:50] knows the trick. She travels all around the country with him and always sits in that same [00:34:55] theater seat wherever they go. That way he looks all around with different women and always zeros in on her. [00:35:00] He brings her up on stage and when she climbs into the box, there's already a [00:35:05] pair of eyes. Of mannequin dummy legs laying on the floor of the box that are wearing [00:35:10] the same stockings and same high heels that she has on she grabs them by the [00:35:15] poles above the end of them and shoves them out the hole she brings her own knees up under her [00:35:20] chest so now her whole body is on this half of the box right and and [00:35:25] he cuts the box in half as you said and then he says wiggle your feet she just grabs the handles on [00:35:30] those legs and shakes them and the feet wiggle outside the hole you And then, [00:35:35] he has to, when he separates the two halves, he can't have you looking at those feet.

[00:35:40] Because she has no more control over them, they're not going to move anymore. So, he has to distract you from [00:35:45] looking over there. Of course he's going to walk over there and talk to her head.

[00:35:48] **Dave:** And

[00:35:49] **Speaker:** she's going to talk [00:35:50] back. Her whole body is there. And then when he brings the two halves back together, she pulls [00:35:55] those legs back in, leaves them on the floor.

Stretches out, climbs out of the box. [00:36:00] Altogether, no blood. And then your brother says,

[00:36:01] **Dave:** Hmm.

[00:36:02] **Speaker:** You know, that might be the way [00:36:05] that, that could only work. You've offered him a better perception, and he has converted his [00:36:10] own reality. That's how I do it. Too many people get [00:36:15] triggered, by, by, with their egos, when I say, you know, well, you know, this guy [00:36:20] is wrong, I know I'm right, you know, and it becomes a battle of the right and the wrong, rather than, you know, A [00:36:25] battle of thought, you know?

Mm-hmm . You know, what kind of other thoughts, can we look at another side of the [00:36:30] coin?

[00:36:30] **Dave:** One of the arguments that racists have used for a long time is about latent [00:36:35] genes. Oh, yes. Tell me how you deal with that.

[00:36:37] **Speaker:** Oh my goodness. Okay. Again, [00:36:40] it's, it's a perception thing. Mm-hmm . an example of that would be, I was in my [00:36:45] car one time, this true story with an exalted cyclops.

An exalted cycl. Well, lemme give you the [00:36:50] hierarchy of how the Klan operates. If you have. If you [00:36:55] have a chapter of your particular clan group in another state, in your state [00:37:00] and in another state or in multiple states, you may then consider yourself to be a national clan [00:37:05] group. Therefore, you must appoint a national leader who oversees all of the states in which [00:37:10] you have a chapter.

Like our national leader, we call that person the president who [00:37:15] oversees all the states. They call that person the imperial wizard. Alright, so anybody [00:37:20] on the imperial level. is a national person, a wizard being the top [00:37:25] and imperial clay lift is like a Vice President. All right. And then you have Secretary, [00:37:30] Treasurer and all that.

They all have different, you know, mystical names. So, the head of a state, [00:37:35] which we will call the governor, They call that person the grand dragon. [00:37:40] Anybody on the grand level is state level. Grand dragon, governor. Grand clelif, [00:37:45] lieutenant governor. Then you have secretary treasurer. Within the state, you have counties.

A [00:37:50] county, or we call the county leader, the the county executive or the county manager. They call that [00:37:55] person the great titan. Anybody on the great level is county wide, right? [00:38:00] Within the county, you have districts. And we call those people councilmen or selectmen, [00:38:05] aldermen, mayors. They call those persons exalted cyclops.

Alright, so this exalted [00:38:10] cyclops was in my car. Like a county commissioner basically. Exactly, precisely. So, [00:38:15] we're riding around and somehow we got on the topic of crime and, and some black crime. Something might have [00:38:20] happened in the news or something like that. And, uh, some black person had done something.

And so he [00:38:25] was talking about, you know, black on black crime he says, you know, black people are [00:38:30] born, you know, with a gene, you know, that makes them violent. I'm driving, he's sitting over here, [00:38:35] and I said, man, you know, what are you talking about? And he's like, well, y'all are born, you know, [00:38:40] with this gene, because, you know, that's what he heard.

And, and yes, that's what that, [00:38:45] you know, I, I heard it before, too, not from black people or the white people, but from Klan people, you know, they make [00:38:50] up stuff and they disseminate it to their group, brainwashing. So I said, you know, what are you talking about? And he [00:38:55] says, who is doing all the drive bys and, um, and carjackings [00:39:00] in Southeast, referring to Southeast Washington, D.

C., which is predominantly black. There are some [00:39:05] white people who live there. It's predominantly black. And yes, it is high crime ridden. I said, [00:39:10] okay. It's black people, but that's who lives there. You're not considering the [00:39:15] demographics who is doing all the crime up in Bangor, Maine, white people. Cause [00:39:20] that's what lives there.

No, no, no, man. Demographics had nothing to do with it. You know, you all, you all have [00:39:25] this gene, you know, you can't help it. I said, look, man, I'm as [00:39:30] black as anybody, you know, I have never done a carjacking or drive by. [00:39:35] How do you explain that? This guy did not even think about it. He answered me like [00:39:40] that. He said, your genus latent hasn't come out yet.

I was stunned. [00:39:45] How do you argue against that? How do you? You don't. It's, it's so far out, you can't [00:39:50] even reach it, and, and even bite on a little piece of it to chew on it, to, to figure out how to, [00:39:55] how to resist it or whatever, right? It's so far out. I realized he was far out, [00:40:00] so I have to somehow get to him.

I can't get to him on [00:40:05] a logical level. I can't present him with a stack of books written by a [00:40:10] neuroscientist and whatever else from the floor to the ceiling. You won't be able to see it. It's not in his worldview. [00:40:15] Right. It's not. Exactly. It's not within his purview or worldview. So I have to go to where he is.[00:40:20]

So, you know, I'm sitting there, he's all smug, looking at me like, [00:40:25] you know, you got no answer. And so, I thought about [00:40:30] this, and I said, well, we all know that all white people [00:40:35] have a gene within them that makes them a serial killer. He said, why would you say that? [00:40:40] What are you talking about? I said, name me three black serial killers.

He couldn't do it. [00:40:45] I waited and waited. I said, here, I'm going to give you one. I named one for him. I said, just give [00:40:50] me two. He couldn't do it. I said, Charles Manson, Jeffrey Dahmer, [00:40:55] Henry Lee Lucas, John Wayne Gacy, Ted Bundy, David Berkowitz, Son of Sam, Albert DeSalvo, The [00:41:00] Boston Strangler, on and on and on. I said, son, you are a serial killer.

[00:41:05] He says, Darryl, I never killed anybody. I said, you're translated, man. Hadn't come out yet. [00:41:10] He goes, well, well, that's stupid. I said, well, duh, [00:41:15] you know, I said, you're right. It is stupid, but it's no more stupid for me to [00:41:20] say that about you than what you said about me. He got very quiet, but his [00:41:25] wheels were turning, you know, and moments later, he changed the subject, [00:41:30] right?

We talked about something else, but within five months, this guy quit the [00:41:35] Klan based on that conversation. Wow. His Klan robe was the [00:41:40] first Klan robe I ever got. Wow, and he just mailed it to you, or? No, no, no, no, I see him time [00:41:45] to time, because he lived in Maryland. You know, he was one of the local ones. You know, I travel a lot and see a lot of different ones, but he was [00:41:50] local.

And so, you know, he, you know, he called me up, said, Hey, you know, what are you doing? Blah, blah, blah. Let's get together. And he [00:41:55] told me, you know, he said, you know, we're done. You know, I mean, not he and I are done, we're done with the clan. And, um, [00:42:00] he was gonna throw away his clan robe. And I said, no, no, no, please give it to me.

And he said, he said, you really want it? I said, [00:42:05] yeah. So he gave it to me. Wow. And what, what do you do with the clan [00:42:10] robes that people do? Believe it or not, , this, this is funny too, but I've seen [00:42:15] people without their clan robe. And lemme tell you something, Dave. It is [00:42:20] a Clark Kent Superman moment when they Put on [00:42:25] that Klan robe, you know, if you remember Superman, he's a, you know, meek mild mannered reporter in a little suit and [00:42:30] tie You know, but then we ripped off that suit.

He's Superman, you know [00:42:35] that kind of thing. There is a visible personality change, [00:42:40] you know, I mean it's I don't believe it's a physical thing. I believe it's a [00:42:45] mental thing. You know. I got the same thing.

[00:42:48] **Dave:** I take off my true dark [00:42:50] glasses and I'm just a normal guy. I put these on and I'm biohacker man.

[00:42:53] **Speaker:** There you go.[00:42:55]

Now I gotta get me a pair of glasses. So, um, [00:43:00] Anyway, um, I've seen that transformation, right? And [00:43:05] I knew, you know, it wasn't real. It's like, you know, somebody, you know, they walk around all [00:43:10] slouchy and then they put on their police uniform or their army uniform and all of a sudden they straighten out their shoulders [00:43:15] abroad and, you know, so it's, it's a, it's a minds, mindset change.

Right. [00:43:20] Okay. So. What do I do with a Klan robe? I never had one before, but I knew I [00:43:25] wanted it. I didn't know what I was going to do with it. You know, we'd say he's going to throw it away. I said, no, give it to me. He goes, well, you know, [00:43:30] what do you want it for? Why would you want, you want one? I said, I don't know.

Just, just give it to me. And he did. He gave me his [00:43:35] hood, his membership certificate, everything. And so I took it home. [00:43:40] Guess what I did? I put it on, yes. I put on a clan, Rob and [00:43:45] a hood.

[00:43:45] **Dave:** Damn.

[00:43:46] **Speaker:** And because, you know, I wanted to see if it had any magical [00:43:50] power in it. , right? . Yeah. Wow. So I stood in front, well, [00:43:55] I disempowered it basically.

How did that feel? It felt stupid is what it is, what it felt like. Okay. [00:44:00] Because I put it on, put it on, put on the hood, right? The pointy thing. Holy crap. And I went and I stood [00:44:05] in front of my mirror and I looked at myself and I looked stupid [00:44:10] and I took it off. So, I took, I put it on a hanger, he put it in a, [00:44:15] in a green hefty trash bag for me, along with other stuff that he was getting rid of, you know, Klan related stuff, [00:44:20] Klan belt buckle, all kinds of stuff.

I took it down to my basement, half of my [00:44:25] basement is finished, you know, where I would have band rehearsals and stuff, the other, the other half, you know, [00:44:30] washer, dryer, that kind of stuff. I hung it on a, on a coat hanger over one of the [00:44:35] rafters, and so it, it remained there. And I would see it [00:44:40] every, every day when I'd go downstairs to get fresh clothes or do laundry and [00:44:45] I saw it so much I didn't notice it, you know, it just became part of the, you know, [00:44:50] whatever.

Well, guess what? Every quarter of the year. The, uh, [00:44:55] meter reader, water meter reader guy comes. Oh, wow. Hi, Mr. Davis. And, yeah, if I'm [00:45:00] home, and he goes downstairs, gets the numbers off the meter, and then I get a [00:45:05] bill a couple weeks later, right? If, if he, if I'm not home or whatever, he'll leave, you know, his thing [00:45:10] on, on the, uh, door, and you fill it out and mail it in.

So, he's always very friendly, very cheerful. [00:45:15] Hi, Mr. Davis, you know, goes on down, and then when he came out, he didn't say goodbye to me. [00:45:20] He was kind of like, gave me a look, and just like went on out the door. I thought, yeah, that's kind of odd. [00:45:25] Was he? I'd long for, he was a black guy. He was black. Okay. Yeah.

I'd long forgotten about, about the [00:45:30] damn robe. Cause you didn't see it cause it was just there. I didn't see it cause it was there. Exactly. Wow. and then [00:45:35] later on that day, I don't know, something triggered me or something. I thought,

[00:45:39] **Daryl:** oh man, [00:45:40] that dude saw

[00:45:40] **Speaker:** the robe, man, you know, and no wonder he was acting all bizarre.[00:45:45]

So I took it and I put it in my closet. Now today, I have tons of those [00:45:50] things. I have, I have many, I, you know, I've gotten [00:45:55] several hundred items. How many robes and hoods do I have? I'd probably say between [00:46:00] 65, maybe 70 by now, okay? But I, I keep most of them off site locked up. [00:46:05] I keep a, I keep a couple with me, you know, when I go on lectures, I can show them.

[00:46:08] **Dave:** [00:46:10] Now, the Klan knows that some of their members talk with [00:46:15] you and then they decide to leave. Yet they still invite you to come and speak [00:46:20] at rallies. You've shown me pictures on your phone of you standing next to burning crosses [00:46:25] as a black man. How do you stay grounded in that situation?

[00:46:29] **Speaker:** [00:46:30] Because Dave, I realized that I've seen all [00:46:35] kinds of things that they have never seen, and chances are they never will.

[00:46:40] And so I know what's out there. I [00:46:45] know what they're They think it is, is not real. They think it's real. [00:46:50] But I try to bring something to them vicariously. Alright. And I've [00:46:55] been very honest with them. They, they know where I stand. And if you point out yeah, they do know my background that, [00:47:00] that some of their members have left because of me and some of them do resent me and, you know, and I get [00:47:05] threats.

Mm-hmm . Okay. I, you know, I, I view it as a, as an illness of the [00:47:10] mind. And, you know, a lot of illnesses, especially that one, can be cured. It may take some [00:47:15] time. They were not born with that ideology. It's learned. And what can be learned can [00:47:20] be unlearned. You know, just like, you know, this gut that I have on me.

I didn't always have this. [00:47:25] And I want to lose it. We're going to work on that. Yeah. I [00:47:30] put it on over time. But there's nothing I can take today. Or [00:47:35] tonight before I go to bed and wake up looking like you, okay? And wearing, and wearing, you know, your, your, your [00:47:40] waist size. Alright? It's not gonna happen.

Alright? It takes time. so, I have, [00:47:45] you know, I have the patience to see, to show them, you know, Hey, this is wrong, [00:47:50] but I realize it's gonna take some time for them to shed it. Because they did not put it on overnight. They [00:47:55] grew up with it, or, or they surrounded themselves with it, whatever. It takes time.

[00:47:59] **Dave:** [00:48:00] You mentioned earlier how hard it is for someone who believes something, it [00:48:05] is absolutely true to discover it's not. Are there There is a

[00:48:09] **Speaker:** shock to their [00:48:10] system.

[00:48:10] **Dave:** Are there things you believe now that you know might not be true?

[00:48:14] **Speaker:** [00:48:15] One of the things that I learned was this. When, when you were a kid, when I was a [00:48:20] kid, and most people that we know were kids, we were told a tiger does not change its [00:48:25] stripes, a leopard does not change its spots.

Right? We grew up, you know, learning that [00:48:30] and we believe that because our parents or whoever told us that. That's who the leopard is. [00:48:35] That's who the tiger is. It's not gonna change. So I went [00:48:40] into this Believing that a Klansman does not change his robe and hood or her robe and [00:48:45] hood. That's who they are.

All right I never set out to convert [00:48:50] them All I set out to do was ask a question [00:48:55] and get an answer The question was how can you hate me when you don't even know me? [00:49:00] That's all I want to know just tell me the reason why you hate me and you don't even know me [00:49:05] All you see is the color of my skin And then we can shake hands or not shake [00:49:10] hands and go our separate ways And I never see you again, you never see me again.

That's all I wanted. [00:49:15] What happened was this. The first Klansman that I interviewed, [00:49:20] I met a Klansman before the first one that I interviewed. It didn't go so well. I wasn't looking to interview [00:49:25] him. I just happened to meet him. He was beating up a woman and I beat him up. And so, [00:49:30] anyway, so I didn't interview him.

But, uh, Fair point. the [00:49:35] first one that I interviewed, yeah, he didn't like me. Okay. But, well, none of them really liked me [00:49:40] initially. He gave, you know, I thought about writing an article and maybe [00:49:45] submitting it to, uh, Life Magazine or Reader's Digest, you know, but he gave [00:49:50] me too much information for an article.

I mean, I was thinking, you know, how can I cut this down? [00:49:55] Well, this is good. No, this is good. I can't throw that away. It was too much for an article, but not [00:50:00] quite enough for a book. So let me expand upon this. I started in Maryland. Let me go [00:50:05] up north, let me go down south, let me go to the Midwest, go to the West, interview other Klan leaders and members from other [00:50:10] regions.

And then all this information I will compile into a book. And my [00:50:15] book will be the first book ever written by a black author on the Ku Klux Klan [00:50:20] based on face to face in person interviews. Right. So that's how the [00:50:25] book thing started. What's your new book, by the way, it's about to come out. Yes. The new book is called the [00:50:30] clan whisperer.

Okay. And the first book was called clandestine. Spelled with a [00:50:35] K, not a C. Clandestine relationships. And it came out in [00:50:40] 1997. Now since that time, we've had a black president, we've [00:50:45] had more immigration, we've had Donald Trump, we've had an insurrection, [00:50:50] we've had all kinds of things that have fueled white supremacy.

And so [00:50:55] it was time to update. So, the, the, uh, the first book, Clandestine [00:51:00] Relationships, is out of print. And there are some booksellers that have extra copies, [00:51:05] and they have jacked up the price enormously. So, I tell your people, don't go [00:51:10] on Amazon or eBay or whatever, and buy them there. Okay, you know, go to the library, check [00:51:15] it out from the library, you can read it for free, if you can't wait for the new one.

The new one will have most of the [00:51:20] material from the old one, Plus updates and new stories. The new book is called The [00:51:25] Clan Whisperer and it should be out by the end of December 2024 [00:51:30] or at least by January of 2025. Well, I'm looking forward to a signed copy of it. [00:51:35] Absolutely. Were you an angry young man? I was angry about certain things [00:51:40] especially when, um, people would discriminate against me and I [00:51:45] couldn't figure out it was based on my skin color and I could not figure [00:51:50] out why.

Um, my own fellow Americans [00:51:55] would, do this to me when people who were who looked like them [00:52:00] and probably even whiter than them, because a lot of white people in our country are mixed in with [00:52:05] something where there's Native American, where there's a Hispanic American or, or from slavery or [00:52:10] whatever.

[00:52:10] **Dave:** Now that we have genetic testing, there's not a lot of any one race left.

[00:52:14] **Speaker:** In our [00:52:15] country. Yeah. Yeah, absolutely. And, uh, you know, a lot of black [00:52:20] people Including a lot of celebrities back in the 40s and 50s. Some of them moved to France, [00:52:25] black Americans, some of them even gave up their citizenship here and took on French [00:52:30] citizenship because they were treated as equals in France, and they weren't being treated equally [00:52:35] in their own country.

What did, um, Muhammad Ali say, you know, you know, he changed his [00:52:40] name from Cassius Clay to Muhammad Ali, and he got drafted to go to [00:52:45] Vietnam. And he objected and they said, we'll take, we'll take away [00:52:50] your belt because he'd won, you know, the world champion. He says, I've already won. Take the belt. [00:52:55] You know, don't do anything.

We'll put you in jail. Put me in jail. You [00:53:00] know, I've already won, you know? And he, you know, he made us, you know, he said he was not afraid to [00:53:05] go. But he said, why should I go over there? [00:53:10] And kill Viet Cong people in the name of my [00:53:15] country and come back home and be treated like a second class citizen [00:53:20] when I'm fighting alongside first class citizens.

And then he said something [00:53:25] that has always resonated with me. He said, no Viet Cong ever called me a [00:53:30] nigger. Wow.

[00:53:31] **Dave:** You

[00:53:32] **Speaker:** know, he,

[00:53:32] **Dave:** he was quite a philosopher. [00:53:35] Yes, he was. Yeah.

[00:53:36] **Speaker:** Yes, he was, you know, and I mean, he's right about [00:53:40] that. Yeah. Now, he wasn't afraid to go over, but if he's gonna go and [00:53:45] fight for his country, why can't he be treated as an equal countryman?[00:53:50]

[00:53:50] **Dave:** You, you make You make so much sense, and I know there was so much anger back there in, [00:53:55] in 68.

[00:53:56] **Speaker:** I was ten years old in 68 when King was, was killed. I remember it [00:54:00] distinctly, okay? I'm from Chicago originally, but we were living right outside of Boston, [00:54:05] eight miles outside of Boston, in a town called Belmont, a suburb of Boston.

But when we first came [00:54:10] back from one of the countries, we, we lived in Boston. We lived in Roxbury, [00:54:15] okay? I was at home watching TV. I remember exactly what I was [00:54:20] watching. I was watching Bewitched. Now, now Bewitched is in reruns today, you know, [00:54:25] on, on, on some, you know, uh, retro channel or something. But I was watching it, you know, in, [00:54:30] in real time or whatever.

I was saying, I'm just watching Samantha, you know, do it, you know, twinkle her [00:54:35] nose or whatever and do something. And all of a sudden the TV goes, beep, beep, beep, beep, beep, beep, beep. [00:54:40] And that was always the signal that the program was being interrupted. And then here comes on this [00:54:45] newscaster, special bulletin.

And this guy was like taking off his glasses and like wiping his [00:54:50] eyes, this newscaster. And like he was crying or something. And he said, you [00:54:55] know, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. has just been assassinated. Dave, [00:55:00] you know, I'm not stupid, but I can be naive. And I had no clue [00:55:05] who he was talking about.

And Wow. No clue. Okay. Because I didn't grow up with [00:55:10] that, you know, I was overseas. Okay. So now I hate to say this, [00:55:15] but in my mind, my I was thinking, why can't this, this [00:55:20] news wait until six o'clock? Why does it have to interrupt my program?

[00:55:24] **Dave:** [00:55:25] Cause that's an honest recollection. Yeah.

[00:55:26] **Speaker:** I'm 10 years old.

You know, I don't get this, you know, Yeah. And [00:55:30] so, but I figure, well, if he had to interrupt the program, it must be important, even though I don't know who it is. [00:55:35] I better go tell my dad. Now, my mom was down in Roanoke. She'd gone down to visit her [00:55:40] parents. And she was coming back, you know, over the weekend or whatever.

My dad was home. He was in his [00:55:45] study typing or something. And I, and I've seen my mom cry. I'd never seen my [00:55:50] dad cry. And I go inside his study and I say hey, you know, this guy came on [00:55:55] TV and, and said somebody named Martin Luther King, you know, was, was just assassinated. [00:56:00] And my, my father's head fell into his hands.

And he began crying. [00:56:05] I'm like, you know, what's going on here? First the TV guy's crying, now my dad's [00:56:10] crying. And, he began telling me who Martin Luther King was. And my dad had marched with him [00:56:15] on the March on Washington. Right? And, we went, the riots [00:56:20] began starting. Right? And we went down to Roxbury [00:56:25] and got some of my, because when I first moved to Boston, right, from overseas, we were only there a few [00:56:30] weeks because the schools were so bad.

My parents said, no, we're out of here. Moved to Belmont. [00:56:35] But I made some little friends and we went down there and got my, some of my little friends [00:56:40] and brought them out to Belmont so they would be safe from all the rioting and, you know, stay in [00:56:45] our house. And, We saw the buildings on fire, saw the fighting in the streets, all kinds of [00:56:50] craziness.

It was then that I realized this phenomenon called racism, racism really does [00:56:55] exist. Wow. You know, that, you know, and I, I learned more and more about Martin Luther [00:57:00] King. Martin Luther King said he had a dream. He named a lot of things that he [00:57:05] dreamed about in that dream. One of the things that he said, and I'm going to [00:57:10] paraphrase it, he said, I have a dream that one day [00:57:15] the suns Of slave owners will sit down with the sons of slaves at the [00:57:20] table of brotherhood.

And that's what I'm doing. He, he has been a profound, [00:57:25] big influence on my decision to do what I do today.

[00:57:29] **Dave:** [00:57:30] When people enter the, we'll call it the path of biohacking, this is the When [00:57:35] people enter the, we'll call it the path of biohacking, this is the idea of I'm going to change my environment around [00:57:40] me and inside me. So I have control over my biology. They always get their energy back.

They [00:57:45] lose weight or gain weight, gain muscle, whatever. And then they say, man, I'm I want to be [00:57:50] happy and I want to live longer. So it's about longevity. But when you get into the being happy, [00:57:55] the, the thing that I teach, the thing that everyone eventually has to face is [00:58:00] forgiveness. I was like, how do you let go of the things that trigger you?

The things that make you mad. [00:58:05] And. Because of that, I'm doing a biohacking consciousness [00:58:10] event with the King family and with Victor Chan, who co writes books with the Dalai Lama in [00:58:15] April in Austin. We're going to come together and talk about forgiveness and talk about these, [00:58:20] I'm just going to call them advanced states that humans are capable of.

I want to know, [00:58:25] how do you go about, Forgiving people who threaten your life, people who say all sorts of [00:58:30] bad things about you. What's your inner dialogue? What's your process for not being [00:58:35] just angry all the time, given what's directed at you?

[00:58:38] **Speaker:** Well, as I was saying, [00:58:40] I consider it an illness, you know, how, why are you, how could you be angry with [00:58:45] somebody because they have dementia or because they have diabetes or because they got [00:58:50] cancer and they can't play with you anymore.

So it's a

[00:58:52] **Dave:** compassion practice then?

[00:58:54] **Speaker:** You're having

[00:58:54] **Dave:** [00:58:55] compassion for the people who hate you because it's

[00:58:56] **Speaker:** like there's something wrong with them. Something's wrong with them. Yes, definitely. Because there is [00:59:00] no rationale to hating somebody. If, if, if I had done something to them, yeah, they may [00:59:05] have a reason, but just because they see the color of my skin, no so I, you know, [00:59:10] a long time ago, yes, I was angry, very angry.

Okay. Today I'm not [00:59:15] angry. What I'm angry about today are people trying to rewrite history [00:59:20] and ban history and, you know, and, and alter history and [00:59:25] ban books and things like that. That's

[00:59:26] **Dave:** a free speech issue. Yeah. And you said something earlier [00:59:30] that I, I just want to honor, you said that you support people's right to be wrong, [00:59:35] and you extend that even to the Klan, saying that they have a right to be in the Klan [00:59:40] if they want to as long as they have a right to be stupid too.

Exactly, and man, That is [00:59:45] such a mature and, and grounded perspective on things, because [00:59:50] I, I keep seeing this world where if, if I get to tell people what to say, they get to tell me what to say. And [00:59:55] that feels like it's always going to end up in violence at the end of the day. How did you learn this? [01:00:00]

[01:00:00] **Speaker:** We have freedom of speech.

Yep. We have to honor that. Now there are, you know, for [01:00:05] everything, for every rule, there's always an exception, right? Sure. Okay. So the

[01:00:09] **Dave:** [01:00:10] like, like if you're the president's son, there's Yeah. One of those things, ,

[01:00:14] **Speaker:** you know, or [01:00:15] or, or, or you take home documents that shouldn't go to, you know, go to your house on both sides.

You call them, you know, [01:00:20] um, . But or you pay off hush money, you know, all these things.

[01:00:24] **Dave:** Stan. [01:00:25] Oh, we are in DC Yeah, we are in standard practice. ,

[01:00:28] **Speaker:** what, what's that called? Um. [01:00:30] S. O. P. Standard Operating Procedure.

[01:00:33] **Dave:** For all politicians, I'm not being [01:00:35] partisan at all here.

[01:00:36] **Speaker:** Okay, so, I will say that there is some [01:00:40] racism involved in this.

A lot of it. Okay, [01:00:45] because, and correct me if I'm wrong, but I think the first exception to our [01:00:50] freedom of speech Was when the Supreme Court ruled you [01:00:55] can't shout fire in a, in a crowded theater and for good reason, unless there [01:01:00] is a fire. If there's a fire, yes, shout it, get everybody out of there.

Okay, but if there's no fire, [01:01:05] you're going to create a panic and people are going to trample over one another, injure [01:01:10] possibly. You know, accidentally kill somebody trying to get out of the theater when there's no fire. Yeah, so you [01:01:15] cannot shout fire in a crowded theater unless there's a fire. So that is one [01:01:20] denial of freedom of speech.

All right, the second one came when we had a lot of [01:01:25] hijackings. And people were, you know, just goofing off, you know, shouting hijack in the airport. [01:01:30] You better not say that word in the airport or gun in the airport, you know, unless there is [01:01:35] something going on. Otherwise, you will be snatched up real quick and be in jail.

[01:01:39] **Dave:** [01:01:40] Assault is Is it just the laws? You can't assault someone, which means threatening them. So [01:01:45] basically, you're not allowed to hurt other people or tell people you're going to hurt them.

[01:01:48] **Speaker:** Well, you can tell people you're going [01:01:50] to hurt them. Yeah, you can.

[01:01:51] **Dave:** That's assault when you do that.

[01:01:53] **Speaker:** No, that's not [01:01:55] really assault.

It's a threat. But, but, you know, now it [01:02:00] may, it may be different in different states and different counties. But, you know, around here, you know, if a [01:02:05] woman He, you know, calls the police and says, you know, Hey, my boyfriend is threatening to beat me up and da, da, da, [01:02:10] da. Well, I'm sorry, man. We can't do anything unless he acts on the threat.

And then of course [01:02:15] he kills her and now they can go do something, you know, after the fact. Right. [01:02:20] And that happens all too often. I had a teacher in college, he was dating this [01:02:25] divorced woman. She was an elementary school teacher. And he had just begun [01:02:30] dating her. Her husband, ex husband was stalking her, would not let her [01:02:35] go.

He was violent. He was, you know, bad person. All right. And she kept [01:02:40] calling the police saying, you know, he's outside in the parking lot. They couldn't do anything unless he [01:02:45] acts. So anyway, one night my teacher from, from college dating her. [01:02:50] Goes with her to her PTA meeting at her elementary school, where she [01:02:55] teaches.

They come out after the meeting and walk to the car. The ex husband is hiding [01:03:00] behind a dumpster. Boom, boom. Takes them both out. All those calls to the cops. [01:03:05] What good did it do? You know? You can get a restraining order, but [01:03:10] somebody who's going to shoot you, do they care about a piece of paper? No! Crazy people are crazy.

[01:03:15] Exactly. So I just named you two exceptions. I don't understand [01:03:20] why, and I've seen this, why The Klan [01:03:25] and Nazis can march down a public street, even in a black [01:03:30] neighborhood, or a Jewish neighborhood, and yell through their [01:03:35] bullhorn, Six million is not enough, or we're going to ship the niggers back to [01:03:40] Africa.

That sure seems like a threat to me. Well, not only does it seem like a threat, [01:03:45] but it causes a panic. It causes a riot. People come out. I've seen [01:03:50] Klan riots. I've seen them in person. Yeah, they're an exciting riot, okay. Yeah. Okay. You're [01:03:55] inciting a riot. Okay. But yet something as tame as when I won't say [01:04:00] tame, but but less tame then inciting a race riot, right?

You know, by [01:04:05] yelling, you know, fire at the movie theater or, or, um, or hijacking the [01:04:10] airport. None of that should be done. But why are you allowing this?

[01:04:14] **Dave:** [01:04:15] It, it's such a slippery slope. I don't know the right answer for it. I do know that if we make a [01:04:20] mistake, we should make a mistake on people being allowed to say the stupidest shit ever.

[01:04:25] And they shouldn't be allowed to hurt other people. And it's that line, I don't know where it ends up. I, uh, I do worry [01:04:30] about censorship and editing history and things like that because anytime someone says they're gonna do something [01:04:35] for my safety, Mm hmm. Whether you like it or not. Yeah, that's usually not true.

That's, [01:04:40] that's frankly in the middle of the pandemic. That's why I call my coffee company Danger Coffee. I'm not, [01:04:45] no thanks. I choose danger. It's not for my safety. so it's a, it's a [01:04:50] tough situation there where everyone wants to feel safe. Right? Well, you're entitled to feel [01:04:55] safe. Yeah. Well, are you?

Because a lot of people don't feel safe no matter what's happening.

[01:04:59] **Speaker:** I'm not even sure what [01:05:00] safe is. I guess because I'm always, you know, living on the edge or something. Yeah. Yeah. [01:05:05] And, and maybe if I wasn't, I, I, I wouldn't know what to do with myself.

[01:05:08] **Dave:** You feel really peaceful. [01:05:10] Do I

[01:05:10] **Speaker:** feel peaceful?

[01:05:10] **Dave:** You

[01:05:11] **Speaker:** do.

[01:05:11] **Dave:** I mean, you, you've got fire in you, you're motivated, but you don't, [01:05:15] I mean, I, I know how to read people. I'm not, I'm

[01:05:16] **Speaker:** not a violent person by nature. No,

[01:05:18] **Dave:** but you'll take care of your shit. I will [01:05:20] take

[01:05:20] **Speaker:** care of my, I will protect myself and my family for sure.

[01:05:24] **Dave:** And, and [01:05:25] that's, uh, what I would hope all humans would do, but not all of them will.

[01:05:28] **Speaker:** But you know, here's the thing [01:05:30] that we got to start doing, all right? In the past, let's just [01:05:35] say. Me, a black guy, I'm walking down the street, up ahead on the sidewalk, I see a white [01:05:40] guy and a black guy and they're into it. You know, they're yelling at each other, calling each other stupid, idiot, [01:05:45] this, that, and the other.

as I go by, I'm not going to have anything to do with them. I don't know [01:05:50] either one of them. It's not my fight, none of my business. I'm going to mind my own business, right? [01:05:55] As I go by, the white guy calls the black guy an idiot. For all I know, he [01:06:00] may be an idiot. I'm going to keep on going, alright? Not, not involve [01:06:05] myself.

But let's say as I walk by, the white guy calls the black guy a nigger. [01:06:10] Now I gotta turn around and go back because that [01:06:15] word also affects me. Mm-hmm . It affects my family. It affects everybody who looks like me. [01:06:20] If you got a problem with this individual mm-hmm . Then you deal with the problem with the [01:06:25] individual.

Yeah. Don't involve me by calling out. A whole group of people, [01:06:30] right? Yeah. I'm gonna go back and maybe the black guy was wrong. Maybe the black guy was right. It doesn't [01:06:35] matter. You involve me now. I'm in your fight and I'm gonna be in your face regardless of what the, or what you [01:06:40] think this guy did to you.

All right? Mm-hmm . Now if I'm walking down the [01:06:45] street and let's say, a white guy and a Jewish guy are into [01:06:50] it, I don't know either one of them. Not my fight. One's an idiot, one's stupid. Mm-hmm . I don't care [01:06:55] which one is which, I just keep on going. Yep. Right. But let's say, as I go by, [01:07:00] the black guy calls the Jewish guy a

[01:07:01] **Dave:** kike.

[01:07:03] **Speaker:** Do I say, well, [01:07:05] that's his problem, I'm not Jewish, I just keep on going. Or should I come back and intervene? [01:07:10] I should come back and intervene. Okay, because you're [01:07:15] calling that man that, you're not dealing with him. You're painting a [01:07:20] broad brush, which is wrong. We should call out idiocy when we see it.

Exactly, [01:07:25] okay. And the more You know, in the past, we all used to call it out just for ourselves. Yeah. [01:07:30] Today, we need to call out for each other, and when we start doing that, we will [01:07:35] see a rapid decrease in, uh, in discrimination, anti Semitism, [01:07:40] racism, whatever.

[01:07:41] **Dave:** So, I'm,

[01:07:41] **Speaker:** I'm asking myself,

[01:07:43] **Dave:** when I publish [01:07:45] this, do I beep out the racial words?

Like, those are things [01:07:50] I'm not gonna say, never have. And I'm thinking, What are the [01:07:55] rules there?

[01:07:55] **Speaker:** Well, you know, I guess it depends upon where you're airing it. Yeah. [01:08:00] Okay, and you know, if you want to beep it out, that's your business. But I'll tell you what, nobody ever called me the [01:08:05] N word. They call me nigger.

[01:08:06] **Dave:** That is true. And, [01:08:10] you know, I support your right to say it, and I think I won't beep it out. But I [01:08:15] do ask myself that question, because I don't want to, for no benefit, push people's [01:08:20] buttons and trigger them. But I think it's real, so I'm going to leave it in. You [01:08:25] can. And thanks for just being real. I don't know how else to be.[01:08:30]

What you see is what you get. That takes a lot of courage these [01:08:35] days. You're 66 years old. You've seen a lot of stuff that most people have never [01:08:40] seen. Do you believe in evil?

[01:08:42] **Speaker:** I do believe in evil. I've seen evil. [01:08:45]

[01:08:45] **Dave:** What is

[01:08:45] **Speaker:** it? Evil is the antithesis of [01:08:50] benevolence. So if benevolence exists, it has an equal [01:08:55] opposite reaction.

You don't know what cold is until you know what hot is. [01:09:00] Yeah, it's a polarity. Right.

[01:09:01] **Dave:** Mm hmm. I think you're right. There are [01:09:05] I don't think you can have good without evil. So evil will exist, and it's how you respond [01:09:10] to it and whether you let it suck in that, that makes the big difference for how you evolve [01:09:15] and how you grow.

It's a, it's a tough one. It feels like, uh, if I was to spend the rest [01:09:20] of my life fighting against evil, I probably wouldn't win and it might make it [01:09:25] stronger and it wouldn't make me stronger. So working on being more benevolent, more peaceful [01:09:30] and spreading this stuff is good. Well, you know, fighting against,

[01:09:32] **Speaker:** that almost is, An [01:09:35] oxymoron, you know, let's fight for something, [01:09:40] you know,

[01:09:41] **Dave:** back in the, around the, the late sixties, early [01:09:45] seventies, some protesters here in DC asked mother Teresa to come to the rally against the war. And she [01:09:50] said, no, like, what, what do you mean? And she said, Oh, I'll come to a rally for [01:09:55] peace, but I won't come into a rally against the war.

And that always stuck with me.

[01:09:59] **Speaker:** Well, [01:10:00] you know, I, um, I, along with two other people co founded a [01:10:05] foundation recently called the pro human foundation. Oh, I like this. Yeah. because you [01:10:10] know, there's so many organizations and foundations. that call themselves [01:10:15] anti racist. Well, I am not anti [01:10:20] racist. I think of racist as being the person.

Yeah. I am anti [01:10:25] racism. Very different. I'm against the ideology. I am [01:10:30] for the person, the racist, because that person can change. I'm [01:10:35] not for that person's ism, the racism. So, let me try to [01:10:40] help this person. Get rid of his, his or her ism. Wow, that is You know, I mean, [01:10:45] you know, if we're using anti It's an evolved perspective.

If we're using anti racist as an adjective, yes. But I [01:10:50] think of anti racist as the person, the noun, and the ism. You know, being [01:10:55] the, uh, the adjective, the embodiment of, of the evil or, or whatever, you know, you're trying to [01:11:00] be, um, against, before the, before the person be against the ism. [01:11:05] Wow, that's, that's really powerful.

[01:11:08] **Dave:** How do you respond [01:11:10] when black people tell you that they hate your work?

[01:11:13] **Speaker:** I have my share of [01:11:15] detractors, okay? White and black. But you know, black people [01:11:20] are no more monolithic than white people. You know, for some reason [01:11:25] people try to put us in that box. We all think alike. We all gonna vote [01:11:30] for the black candidate.

We all are gonna do this and do that. We all have this dream, you know, the [01:11:35] whole nine yards, right? Everyone's different. Everyone's different. Okay. And I get it. You know, [01:11:40] I understand that. but part of it is they have not had the [01:11:45] experience that I have had again, that does not make me a better person [01:11:50] than them.

It just gives me a broader view. They may not have had as [01:11:55] many experiences with white people as I have had. [01:12:00] And seeing that these particular white people that did some transgression against [01:12:05] them do not reflect other white people, right? Just like, you know, if, [01:12:10] if some black guy snatched some white woman's purse, mugs her, hits her in the head or whatever, and takes her [01:12:15] money or carjacks her.

Does she have the right to hate all black people? Well, yeah, she can, but [01:12:20] it doesn't make a whole lot of sense. She has a right to, it's just dumb. Right, exactly, precisely, okay? It's [01:12:25] ignorant.

[01:12:25] **Dave:** Ignorance. You know, listen, it's actually natural. I'm going to take it. I guess it's [01:12:30] not dumb. What's going on is her unconscious mind and body [01:12:35] saw a threat and they do rapid threat detection.

And before she has a chance to [01:12:40] think, her body is going to be responsive that way. And the ignorance is believing her body [01:12:45] instead of overriding it. Like a mature, healed human would say, Oh, wow. [01:12:50] My body is experiencing a stress thing because I saw another person who looked like the other person who hurt me.[01:12:55]

That means that I got a mismatch and I need to do my work on that, my forgiveness work, my letting go, my [01:13:00] compassion. So it isn't, it isn't even dumb. It's that they believed what [01:13:05] their nervous system told them the next time they saw someone.

[01:13:07] **Speaker:** Well, you know what? Yes and [01:13:10] no. Okay. Okay. People, especially in this country, I [01:13:15] tend to tribalize.

Yeah, we do. It's not healthy. Believe it or not, I don't [01:13:20] tribalize. And I, and I think the reason why, if I had grown [01:13:25] up here my whole life, I might have tribalized, okay? But like I said, [01:13:30] my first introduction to school, that's where you make your first friends, right? Right. I

[01:13:34] **Daryl:** had

[01:13:34] **Speaker:** [01:13:35] friends from all over the world.

How many Americans get that? Not a whole lot, unless [01:13:40] they're serving overseas in the military, or, or their company sends them overseas, you know, or [01:13:45] in this case, the State Department sent my family overseas, right? People from all over the [01:13:50] world. That was my tribe.

[01:13:51] **Daryl:** That was my tribe. Black kids, white kids, Asian kids, whatever [01:13:55] kids.

[01:13:55] **Speaker:** That was my tribe. You know? That's why I think it's important, you know, when we [01:14:00] bring children into the world, it's important. Don't just give them dolls that look like them, give them all [01:14:05] kinds of dolls, you know, if they're little girls, you know, who want to play with dolls, or if they have G. I. [01:14:10] Joes, aren't there mixed colors in the U.

S. Army? They're black [01:14:15] GIs, they're Asian American GIs, they're Hispanic American GIs, Native American GIs, kill

[01:14:19] **Daryl:** them

[01:14:19] **Speaker:** [01:14:20] all! Yep. You know? Let them see that, you know? Yeah. So, I think [01:14:25] that is key. But now, you know, when you were a child, and [01:14:30] I've seen this, okay? A friend of mine was a sheriff's deputy, white girl, [01:14:35] and I went into a restaurant one day to eat.

And she and her family were just [01:14:40] leaving. I didn't know her family, I knew her. And she was there with her brother and his wife. [01:14:45] And their little daughter, little daughter might have been two or three years old. And [01:14:50] so the, the woman which is, Hey, Daryl, how are you doing, blah, blah, blah. Comes up and gives me a big [01:14:55] hug, right?

And introduces me to her sister and her brother in law. And you know, [01:15:00] the little girl, she was shy. She ran and hid behind her father's leg, peeping around, looking at me. [01:15:05] And I'm talking to my friend, she's standing right here as they're paying the bill, whatever. [01:15:10] She leaves, I'm watching the little girl out of, out of the corner of my eye, looking at me.

And so [01:15:15] finally I'm looking at my friend, but I can still see her peripherally, right? She comes out, my hands are [01:15:20] down here, and she went like this. I said, no baby, it doesn't come off. And she ran [01:15:25] back, she ran back and grabbed her dad's leg. Okay, [01:15:30] was she racist? No, she knows nothing about racism, but she had not [01:15:35] been exposed to black people.

And all she saw were people who look like her. [01:15:40] So she figures, well, Under this, I look like her. So you want to find out what's [01:15:45] up. Why is he like this? It's a curiosity, okay. But as an adult, [01:15:50] we should know better that if one person does this, if a white [01:15:55] person did this, is this lady going to be triggered every time she sees a white guy walking down the sidewalk or [01:16:00] gets into an elevator?

You know, she's going to grab her purse real tight.

[01:16:03] **Dave:** It happens all the time.

[01:16:04] **Speaker:** With [01:16:05] white people? Yeah, absolutely. I mean, I mean, when they see a black person get in the elevator, I know that because [01:16:10] I've gotten in the elevator and I've seen that.

[01:16:11] **Dave:** There are white women who've been mistreated by men [01:16:15] and every time they see any man, they'll have the same response.

[01:16:18] **Speaker:** Okay, any man. Okay, [01:16:20] great. Okay, but. And by the way,

[01:16:21] **Dave:** there are men who feel that way towards women too. Yeah. Yeah.

[01:16:24] **Speaker:** Okay. [01:16:25] And I, listen, I know, I know white women who, who appreciate that. Me opening [01:16:30] the door for them, and I know white women who've cussed me out for opening the door for them. Wow.

[01:16:34] **Dave:** Like how do you

[01:16:34] **Speaker:** [01:16:35] know?

[01:16:35] **Dave:** Right?

[01:16:35] **Speaker:** Yeah. like, what the hell? Should I open it or not open it? You know, , [01:16:40] I was raised to be a gentleman. I thought that's what a gentleman was. Me too. I open, you know, a woman comes, comes in the [01:16:45] room. If you're wearing a hat, you take the hat off, or you get on the elevator, there's a woman there. You pull your hat off and she gets [01:16:50] off.

You know, a woman comes in. You know, your buddy comes in, you shake hands with him, you stay in your seat, [01:16:55] woman comes in, you stand up and shake her hand. I mean, that's how I was raised. Is it old school? [01:17:00] Maybe. But at least, it's what I did. You know, but some people don't like that,

[01:17:04] **Dave:** you know? [01:17:05] It's true, and there's, especially if you travel internationally.

I mean, I was in [01:17:10] Tibet once, and I asked for directions, and a guy sticks his tongue out at me, and he goes, That's how they [01:17:15] point directions. I could have been offended or just, I don't know what's going on. Well, you know, [01:17:20] in,

[01:17:20] **Speaker:** uh, in, uh, in a lot of Muslim countries, you know, over here, if, I've lived in some of those [01:17:25] countries, you know, if I see you over there and I say, Hey, man, come here, come here.

I want to show you something. [01:17:30] I go like this. That's an insult. That's how you call a dog. You call a human [01:17:35] being, you do this. Palm down. See, I wouldn't have known that. Yeah, exactly. Okay. [01:17:40] And, uh, that's why, you know, it's so important, you know, that we know each other's cultures. Mm hmm. So that we're not [01:17:45] offending somebody by accident.

[01:17:47] **Dave:** It's it, there's a lot of cultures to [01:17:50] learn, and there's always something to learn from each one.

[01:17:52] **Speaker:** And the beauty of it is, we have all those cultures right [01:17:55] here in our country. Wow, that's true. You know, we don't have to necessarily, you know, Across the Atlantic Ocean and Pacific Ocean like [01:18:00] you and I have done to learn those cultures.

I'm not, I'm not saying don't do it if you have the chance, [01:18:05] but we have enough rich diversity right here that all we have to do is walk out our [01:18:10] door and take the opportunity to absorb some of it. It's beautiful, you know, but we [01:18:15] try to avoid it. You know, we put a man on the moon. We Americans built [01:18:20] that technology to put Neil Armstrong on the moon.

And while he was walking around talking about [01:18:25] one small step for man and one giant leap for mankind. We were able to talk with him [01:18:30] live from Earth all the way to the moon via satellite radio phone. We invented that [01:18:35] technology. We invented email, cell phones. Hit a few numbers, type a few words, hit [01:18:40] send.

You're talking to somebody right in the next state or halfway around the globe, wherever you want to talk, right? [01:18:45] How is it that we Americans can talk to people as far away as the [01:18:50] moon or anywhere on this planet But find difficulty talking to the person who lives [01:18:55] right next door because he or she is a different color, a different religion, a different [01:19:00] persuasion, a different whatever.

So it seems to me that before we can call ourselves the [01:19:05] greatest nation on the face of this earth, maybe our ideology needs to catch up to [01:19:10] our technology. And once we get them both up there, we can truly brag about how great [01:19:15] we are because we are living in the 21st century. We are [01:19:20] living in space age times, but there's still so many of us still thinking with stone age minds.[01:19:25]

What an amazing

[01:19:26] **Dave:** interview. I'm, I'm working on understanding what makes you tick and [01:19:30] I get curious. Rock and roll, man. Rock and roll. So, so this is,

[01:19:34] **Speaker:** [01:19:35] this, this is part one. When we do part two, we're going to talk

[01:19:39] **Dave:** music. [01:19:40] I love to talk music. And, uh, I know we're running out of studio time. I, [01:19:45] I get you, I would say you're, Curiosity, and you got a lot of [01:19:50] compassion, less so empathy, though, which is [01:19:55] interesting in in my understanding of the world, compassion is a higher level skill than [01:20:00] empathy, where you can see it from the other person's perspective, but you're not [01:20:05] necessarily taking in all their anger and pain.

And you've got a hell of a strong backbone.

[01:20:09] **Daryl:** [01:20:10] Because, you know, I realized they have not

[01:20:12] **Speaker:** experienced what I've experienced. [01:20:15] Yeah. And if I can show it to them vicariously, Let them get some kind of sense of [01:20:20] it, you know, then their eyes get open and they get curious because I've [01:20:25] had, I've had some of the most hardcore.

Listen, I'm well aware there'll be people black or [01:20:30] white, you know, who hate me, who will go to their grave being hateful, violent and [01:20:35] racist. You know, there's just no changing that. But I've had some of those same people. [01:20:40] Who, who, who have attacked me physically, all right? Come back to me later and apologize, say, I [01:20:45] get it.

Wow. You know, something has happened, something, something triggered, something clicked, you know? [01:20:50] So there, yeah, there's,

[01:20:51] **Dave:** there's a difference between fearlessness and, [01:20:55] and courage. And I get a sense that you've got a lot more fearlessness in [01:21:00] you than most people. There's not so much, I don't fear. Yeah, you don't.

Okay,

[01:21:04] **Speaker:** [01:21:05] but For me, it's not so much courage, it's curiosity. You know, why? How does it work? You [01:21:10] can't be

[01:21:10] **Dave:** afraid and curious at the same time. Curiosity extinguishes fear. Curiosity, compassion, [01:21:15] and that's leading you to be fearless, and to be the guy who can stand there at a Klan [01:21:20] rally with a burning cross, and hold your ground, but not in a [01:21:25] I'm going to kill you, hold your ground, but hold your ground and I'm curious, man, that, that, that [01:21:30] is a unique combination.

So I hope that's inspiring for our listeners. You know, [01:21:35] this is possible. And you're an example of something that is amazing. And I think [01:21:40] there's a lot of lessons in this interview for people who are just saying, you know, how do I, how do I do this,

[01:21:44] **Speaker:** you [01:21:45] know, when you're talking about how people I'd say the lady gets mugged and [01:21:50] she sees somebody of the same color or the same shirt on or whatever it triggers and she hates that person [01:21:55] or whatever, has some kind of animus towards that person, even though that's not the person who mugged [01:22:00] her as an adult, our, maybe our, our [01:22:05] innate instinct might cause that trigger, but then, Our human [01:22:10] logic should counter it and, and, and supersede it say, okay, well, that's not the same [01:22:15] person, you know, and I know other black people or other Jewish people or other whatever [01:22:20] people who don't do that.

I work with some of my office, you know, or my best friends, you know, whatever [01:22:25] that would override that. Okay. But now if you talk about animals, it may be a little [01:22:30] different. Like, for example, if I'm giving you directions to my house. Yep. And you've never been there [01:22:35] before. And I say, you know, you make the right turn on this street, and I'm the second house on the, uh, [01:22:40] on the left, and you'll probably see my little, teacup poodle running around the front yard.[01:22:45]

You're not going to think anything of that. You're going to go ahead, pull in, and walk through my front yard. [01:22:50] My little teacup poodle's going to bark at you because it doesn't know you. And you're going to be,

[01:22:53] **Daryl:** hey, baby, how you doing?

[01:22:54] **Speaker:** You know, [01:22:55] right? And come on and knock on my door. But if I, but, but same scenario, and I tell [01:23:00] you, yeah, his second, second house on the left, you'll probably see my, my pitbull running around the front yard.

You can be like, [01:23:05] is pitbull okay? You know, is it, is it gonna be in the backyard or the front yard, right? [01:23:10] Not all pitbulls are mean, man. There are a lot of great footballs, pitbulls, but they carry a certain [01:23:15] amount of baggage behind them. Yeah. Right? Because of what we hear about them. You know, they're always [01:23:20] in dog fights and stuff, you know.

So, you know, and you, and you hear these stories [01:23:25] about Pitbull bite you, it won't, it will not let go. It will, it will bite you to the death. you know, kind of [01:23:30] thing. So you got that in the back of your mind. But see, as human beings, we shouldn't think that [01:23:35] way, unless we're thinking about a pit bull or, or a snake or, you know, some of the things that we're not as [01:23:40] familiar with as human beings.

Because, you know, you know, we look at, we, we all grew up, well, [01:23:45] most Christian people grew up you know, with Santa Claus. The Easter Bunny, [01:23:50] the Tooth Fairy, at what point do we stop believing in those people, [01:23:55] right? So we know, you know, certain things we were told about Santa Claus, [01:24:00] we, we believe them.

Initially, the guy comes down the chimney and brings us goodies and [01:24:05] somebody else, you know, some fairy puts a, puts a dollar or a, probably today it's like ten [01:24:10] dollars, when I was a kid it was a dollar or a quarter under my pillow. I put my tooth under there, you know, and the [01:24:15] Easter Bunny brings us certain things.

So, as a, as adults, we no longer believe in [01:24:20] that. So why not, as adults, do we, do we stop believing [01:24:25] because as kids we were raised, those people are bad. You know? Why don't we [01:24:30] try to find out for ourselves, like we found out Santa Claus is, is not what we thought he was. [01:24:35] You know? It's, it's our dad. You know?

Or it's whatever. The Easter Bunny is not who we thought it was. Or the [01:24:40] Tooth Fairy. Why, why, why are we taking somebody else's word for another [01:24:45] group of people? It's well

[01:24:46] **Dave:** that that's something I've never heard before and it makes a lot of [01:24:50] sense If you can stop believing in Santa Claus, you can stop believing in racism.

They're both just [01:24:55] stories. Yeah, it's so powerful Darryl, you're Darryl [01:25:00] Davis d a r y l Davis calm. Thanks for taking [01:25:05] time on a Saturday in DC to sit down and share your wisdom It's an [01:25:10] honor.

[01:25:10] **Speaker:** My pleasure. My pleasure. I have one last amusing story for you. [01:25:15] Do you share? So sometimes I go to a senior living facilities and perform for the [01:25:20] residents and, you know, music is a very powerful thing.

People who [01:25:25] don't talk anymore or they can't remember what they had for lunch five minutes ago, you play a [01:25:30] song from the era when they were growing up. All of a sudden they're singing all the words. Wow. You [01:25:35] know, it just triggers a certain part of the brain that, that, you know, sort of like, you know, if you walk [01:25:40] down the street and you're an adult now your grandmother is long gone.[01:25:45]

And you, and you're, you walk down the street and you pass some older lady and you smell, [01:25:50] my grandmother used to wear that perfume. I remember when I was a little boy. It takes you back. Right. Right? That sense [01:25:55] of smell. Music does the same thing. It affects a certain part of the brain. Well, I, I [01:26:00] was at this nursing home and I go there quite frequently to, uh, to play for the residents.

So I [01:26:05] get to know a lot of them. I see new ones coming in. Unfortunately, a lot of them die. And, you know. [01:26:10] But, this one lady came in, I remember when she first came in, she was, you know, old. [01:26:15] And, she was very feisty and very energetic, but she was getting a little bit of [01:26:20] dementia. And it was slow, slow decline, right?

And, then it [01:26:25] began happening more and more rapid. It got to the point where, if you go to some of these places, sometimes you'll see an older [01:26:30] woman carrying around a baby doll. You know, they have regressed back to when they had their baby or [01:26:35] whatever. Yeah. So, as therapy, the you know, person, caregiver, whatever, will give them a baby doll and [01:26:40] they walk around, they think this is their baby.

I had not seen this woman with the baby doll. [01:26:45] And I was in the common area. And at this particular nursing home, all the [01:26:50] residents at this time were white. All the caregivers and therapists and nurses were either a [01:26:55] Hispanic or black. And I saw the lady come out of her bed. [01:27:00] of her room. Her name was Hazel.

And she had the baby doll. I'm like, Oh my goodness, [01:27:05] Hazel's really, you know, gone down now. I, I enjoy talking to her and all kinds of stuff, you know. [01:27:10] And she was like looking frantic. And she comes into the common area with this baby. And all [01:27:15] these people are sitting around playing dominoes or reading the paper.

And she goes, Who's the father of my baby? Are you the father of [01:27:20] my baby? Who's the father of my baby? On and on and on. And she asked everybody but [01:27:25] me. Right? White lady. And some of these guys, you know, they realize she has a [01:27:30] problem. No, Hazel, not me. You know, and some of them just ignored her. And she's being asked the [01:27:35] same once again.

And I watched this, I watched this in astonishment for, you know, about a minute or so. [01:27:40] And finally I said, Hazel, she goes, what? I said, Hazel, [01:27:45] I'm the father of your baby. Oh my gosh. She went like this, looked me [01:27:50] up and down. She goes, I don't think so. I realized something. No [01:27:55] matter how deep Dementia goes. She can't remember who fathered her [01:28:00] baby.

Can't remember what she had for breakfast. But she damn sure knew she never slept with a black man. [01:28:05] Wow. Racism, Racism goes deeper than Dementia. That

[01:28:09] **Dave:** deep. [01:28:10] Wow. That, that's mind blowing. Wow, Darryl. It was

[01:28:14] **Speaker:** [01:28:15] mind blowing to me too.

[01:28:16] **Dave:** Wow.

[01:28:17] **Speaker:** But, but, but, you know, just the opposite though. [01:28:20] I've met people Um, who, who were racist and, [01:28:25] and they, they come to these places and I guess the shroud that [01:28:30] goes over the frontal cortex shrinks and they lose that.

They treat [01:28:35] you just like, just like anybody else. You know, the, the brain is a, is a, is a funny thing.

[01:28:39] **Dave:** I spend a [01:28:40] lot of time with electrodes on my head looking at what's going on before you think [01:28:45] or invisible what you think. And it is. It is messy in there, but [01:28:50] it can be improved. That's for sure.

[01:28:52] **Speaker:** I hear you.

Thank you for having me. I really appreciate it.

[01:28:54] **Dave:** [01:28:55] Oh, man, it was, it was my pleasure. And I'd love to chat with you about music on another episode. [01:29:00] Absolutely. All right. Thanks again. Thank you. If you liked today's episode, you know what to [01:29:05] do. Leave a review, share it with someone who might appreciate it. [01:29:10] And I would love to see you at the biohacking conference that's coming up.

[01:29:15] Biohackingconference. com. The oldest, largest, and most amazing conference on biohacking in [01:29:20] the world. And if you're in the Austin area a month before that happens [01:29:25] in May, uh, you might as well come in April to the event that we're [01:29:30] doing with the King family and with Victor Chan and some other leaders in consciousness working on [01:29:35] the furthest reaches of biohacking, which is becoming happier, more aware, [01:29:40] more conscious, because that's a part of living a very long time.

Um, is [01:29:45] enjoying yourself and doing something that matters. I'll see you there.

See you next time [01:29:50] on the human upgrade [01:29:55] podcast.