

Dear Investigative Team,

Randy Lewis here, I would like to start this letter by thanking you all for coming out to help me solve the murder at Moon Mansion. I am able to now share the information that was uncovered during our investigation. It appears that May was responsible for committing the heinous crimes that took place at Moon Mansion, not only that, but apparently she faked her own death and was still living in the abandoned mansion. The strange lights and visions of someone being seen at the mansion were attributed to May. I am glad to say that the family has gotten her institutionalized so that she can no longer be a threat to herself or any other members of the Moon family – which is important to me, for you see, I am a Moon heir.

My grandmother Bonita Sonoma, was apparently infatuated with none other than Banks Moon. Banks, was a bit of a playboy and broke her heart, you know her by the name Bunny, her nickname. When Banks denied paternity for Bunny's unborn child, she left town and fell in love with a wonderful man, John Feldsman, prior to the birth of her child Mary Grace (my Mother).

Mr. Feldsman (I call him Grandpa) raised Mary Grace as his own, her birth certificate even lists him as her father. Grandpa passed in 2006 and Bunny (Grandmother) passed in 2015, which were both due to natural causes. While cleaning out their home, hidden in a trunk in the attic, Bunny had left a diary with all the details involving the Moons, even pictures of Banks and the article outlining his tragic death. Against mother's will, (My mother is Mary Grace Lewis, she married Tony Lewis in her twenties and that's right, they had me!) I decided to move to NY and began the search for my link to the family, mostly out of curiosity about the family. While I do work for the Moon Daily News, I work in the stockroom, not as an investigative reporter – didn't want to taint the investigation with too much information, you know the saying... use a fresh set of eyes, that's where you came in.

Imagine my surprise when I learned the mansion was somewhat intact, I'd thought it had burned when I first began making inquiries about it – even more surprising was the news that Moon funds and the home were being held by a law firm, who was acting as executor of the estate. My mother had no interest in establishing a connection, but I am curious by nature and interested in history, so I was thrilled with the prospect of adventure. At this point in time, I have decided to restore what is left of the Mansion with the estate funds and sell it, donating the funds to charitable causes and to care for James. And yes, I will see to it that Banks collection goes to the museum. While part of me would like to hold on to this piece of my family history, now that the mystery has been solved, it's time to move on.

Now, I'm going to fill you in on the clues that led me to come to the realization that May was responsible for Minnie's death, the clues and a little help from the ghosts that roamed the mansion allowing us glimpses into the past.

- Herman James Moon II was merely a sickly baby and given the time he was born in, medical treatments weren't advanced, so I've determined that he had no real bearing on the case.
- Herman was much older than his wife and from all accounts available, was an emotionally detached individual.
- Louisa Catherine, died in childbirth, and as stated by Bridgette, she was not treated well. I'm inclined to believe the separation from her parents, the move from TX to NY, then the loss of a child were simply too much to bear and she passed from the strains of childbirth.
- Frederick and Beatrice seemed oblivious to their daughter's illness and were so entrenched in trying to care for James (Herman James Moon III) and his child Minnie, they likely overlooked any evidence of wrongdoing on her part.
- May's past was revealed to us showing that she had dressed in Halloween costumes to frighten her younger brother. As stated in my letter to you in the investigative packet, I learned that he was institutionalized after attacking his siblings on Halloween. This led me to suspect May.
- There was a suitcase in May's room that had wigs, changes of clothing and plane tickets – yet they were all in other people's names. This led me to believe that someone was moving about using an alias, trying to hide their own identity – but who? Minnie? May? I couldn't be sure. But, again, I leaned toward May or someone impersonating May – for in that same suitcase there were newspaper articles, one about the estate sale, one about Minnie's death, one about May's death and the explosion of the car was underlined – someone had even written HA! on the article. Even more chilling for me, was my article asking people to investigate, someone had drawn an X through it.
- In the entryway there was a picture that was of Banks, I recognized him immediately from the photos in my Grandmother's diary. That was confirmed in a letter from Jonesie, where she wrote that the photo he'd kept of them was altered. Jonesie was apparently another of Banks conquests, and sadly it seemed his death pushed her over the

brink a bit. I even questioned if perhaps she was the resident of the mansion at one point, but it didn't add up for her to be the murderer. Then there was a tea pitcher, with fresh tea in it – which led me to connect that to the food and tea in the pantry. The food items weren't expired, there was fresh dish soap and dirty dishes in the kitchen, obviously someone had been staying at the mansion. May had asked for tea in one of the glimpses into the past, so that made it more probable, she was in the mansion.

- Another odd item, were the lilies, they were in the graveyard, Minnie's room and the entry. Why were Minnie's favorite flowers everywhere? This was one of May's acts to right her wrong, by favoring the child she'd killed.
- May's ghost stated that she didn't want lilies, but she wanted everything clean – Minnie's room was clean, while May's seemed the opposite, with a broken mirror and writing on the walls. The skeleton to symbolize Minnie also made me think that Minnie wouldn't have tried to recreate herself – but the murderer might, to pretend the death didn't occur.
- Then I saw the ghost interact in the ballroom and I connected the dots, Minnie was pushed to her death by May. May sent her to meet a boy at the party as a way to lure her to the water, and she knew Minnie couldn't swim. Also there was a birthday gift box was on the table – why would it be there now?
- I knew from my research that May had always spent wildly and in the end she became erratic, then developed addictions to assuage her grief – but now I know that it was guilt and not grief.
- I believe to try and make a fresh start, May faked her death – the explosions that both happened at the mansion - first the boat that killed her parents and inadvertently her brother who was trying to save them and the car explosion that reportedly killed May and burned part of the mansion - coupled with the explosive box we found in the ballroom, sealed my thought process on that. Somehow, May, learned to use the materials and quite successfully, I might add.
- In the graveyard, due to some unnatural digging by one of the tombstones, I had a team of experts come in to examine the area – and move it to a more suitable burial plot – and learned that not only was there tampering with Minnie's grave, but the grave of Louisa Catherine was empty. Sadly, May must have placed Louisa Catherine's corpse in the car, so that it would appear she died. In a scene from the past, May referenced that she had the same name and looked like her grandmother, so the real investigators feel this is the most likely scenario.
- There were also charred bits of paper in the ballroom, these words were in May's handwriting, she apparently tried to burn items to erase things from her life. Her handwriting was also on some of the sheet music in the piano bench. There were signed legal documents that contained the same handwriting, so I had the experts compare to make sure I was accurate on that one.

I feel grateful to the ghosts of Moon Mansion, who came back to share their past memories and allowed us the opportunity to right the wrong done to Minnie. And what about that Minnie, she was with us the entire time, helping to solve the murder!!!

I feel relieved that the past family members seemed to reunite for one last New Year's Eve party and will be able to finally rest in peace, now that the tragedy that surrounded their deaths has been resolved. As the evening ended, the lights blinked and when they came back on, the ghosts had vanished, leaving only myself and May.

The question that kept coming back to me, was why? Why would May go to such lengths? She wasn't able to answer any questions, sadly her mind has gone. But the answer lies in greed, my friends! The estate was willed for the care of James, heirs of Banks Moon and the upkeep of the property. The trust fund set up for May, seems to have been depleted about the time that she faked her own death. If you're curious, about what happened to Great Uncle James, he still lives in the institution, his mind has drifted with old age, but he seems content and well-cared for when we visit him. Funds have been set aside to see that he remains this way.

I knew there was more to Minnie, than just a disappearance. I think because I'm an outsider, but still a Moon, like her, I felt a connection to her. I thank you all for helping me solve the case and if I've left any unanswered questions, feel free to email me at the.mines@yahoo.com and I will gladly answer them.

Your friend,

*Randy Lewis*