

## **Who When Wow, Season 2, Episode 16**

### **Bermuda Triangle**

**Carly.** Hey! Come here! It's me, your favorite secret podcast host here, from your favorite secret podcast. Today's adventure really flew me for a loop (laughs), it's got disappearing airplanes and mysterious triangles at the beautiful shores of the Caribbean Sea. Stick around to find out more, I'm Carly Q, and this is Who When Wow, Mystery Edition!

(THEME SONG)

(Soundbite office printer, coworkers talking)

**Carly.** When I got into work this morning, I was devastated. On my way, in I'd read a rumor online that my favorite brand of whip cream was being DISCONTINUED.

**Carly in background.** Ughhhh Linda, how am I gonna eat pie without it??

**Linda.** Can't you just like, try another brand?

**Carly.** No! I was truly beside myself.

**Carly in the background.** Why is everything in the world so awful and terrible?? Waaaahhhh.

**Linda.** Okaaaay, well...have a nice day?

(Soundbite Carly closes the door to the basement, the office sounds fade away.)

**Carly.** Down in the basement, I went to find my rat friend Nibbles. right away. I needed some emotional support.

(Soundbite Rat squeaking)

**Carly.** They say it's gone Nibbles, for good. Gone, I tell ya! I told her all about the whip cream rumor, hoping she'd provide me some solace. But instead...

(Soundbite Rat squeaking)

**Carly.** What do you mean social media isn't a trustworthy news source and I shouldn't be taking it at face value?

(Soundbite Rat squeaking)

**Carly.** So I shouldn't believe everything I read online? Before **Nibbles.** could answer though, something new came down the vacuum tube.

(Soundbite of a thumb drive drops down the vacuum tube)

**Carly.** Ooo a new time-sealed file!

**Audio File.** Event: December 1945 (BLEEP) Fort Lauderdale, Florida (BLEEEP)  
Flight 19 (BLEEEEEEEEEEP)

**Carly.** Flight 19 in Florida? What do you think Nibs, some sort of airport mystery in the Everglades? Bird attack on the Boca Raton Boardwalk?

(Soundbite Rat squeaking)

**Carly.** I pulled out my digital assistant device H-dad.

**H-dad.** H-dad, ready for action!

**Carly.** And entered in the keywords from the event: December 1945, Fort Lauderdale, Flight 19.

**H-dad.** This file most likely refers to the disappearance of five airplanes during a training exercise in 1945, commonly attributed to the mysterious area known as the Bermuda Triangle.

**Carly.** Ooo how exciting! And what kind of triangle? Isosceles? Acute? Obtuse?!?

**H-dad.** Analyzing, analyzing, analyzing.

**Carly.** Right. Guess we'll have to wait til lunch time to learn more.

(Soundbite Rat squeaking)

**Carly.** Yes Nibbles, It is possible Lewis is gonna wanna get in on this. We can handle that, right? Don't tell him I said this bu it's been kinda fun having him around.

(Soundbite Rat squeaking)

**Carly.** Good. Now until then, I've gotta get some work done! I got right down to filing my files, which was actually a nice distraction from how upset I was about the whip cream. And before I knew it.

**P.A. Voice.** Attention, Butthed employees: Time for midday meals. It's "Eat-a-salad-with-a-spoon Day!" On your mark, get set, go!

**Carly.** Lunch time! Yes!

(Soundbite footsteps coming down stairs)

**Lewis.** Carly Quuuuuuu! We going on an adventure today?

**Carly.** Hi Lewis. Yep, today we've got an airplane mystery down in Florida.

**Lewis.** Florida!? But I didn't have time to build a base tan!

**Carly.** You don't have to come if you don't want to.

**Lewis.** Well I didn't say THAT. Come on, let's go!

**Carly.** And with that, we took off for the elevator.

**Lewis.** I'm so excited. Can you put some suntan lotion on my back?

**Carly.** No Lewis, I will not do that. No sorry you're going to have to get burnt.

(Soundbite elevator ding)

**Carly.** Hi Odie!

**Odie.** Hello basement companion. Lewis.

**Lewis.** Odie.

**Odie.** Another mystery today?

**Carly.** Yep! This one's all about the disappearance of six airplanes in the Bermuda Triangle.

**Lewis.** The whaaat?!

**Odie.** Ah the Bermuda Triangle. It's an area in the Caribbean between Florida, Puerto Rico, and Bermuda where lots of ships and planes have crashed, sunk, or disappeared.

**Lewis.** Yikes! And we're going there?

**Carly.** Well to Fort Lauderdale at least.

**Odie.** Some people claim the disappearances can be explained by rational science, but others think there are more mysterious forces at work.

**Carly.** Ohh, my favorite kind of forces!

**Odie.** Then do we remember our time travel rules?

**Lewis.** Ummm.. no changing anything in the past?

**Odie.** That's right. What else?

**Carly.** We have to be back by the end of lunch time so we don't get caught.

**Odie.** Very good. Remember too that the elevator's time cloak function will make your clothing more appropriate to the time and place.

**Lewis.** Change my clothes?! But this outfit is so on point. This doesn't just HAPPEN!

**Odie.** It does if you got dressed in the dark, anyway the planes disappeared on December 5th, 1945. But the time seal extends to a week after that, so the soonest I can send you back to is December 12th.

**Carly.** Sounds good!

**Odie.** Then just remember you two: Be wary of storms and stories alike.

(Soundbite of wind chimes)

**Carly.** Huh?

**Lewis.** Wait, what?

**Odie.** Okay, here you go. (Laughs) I hope you like geometry, because you know, triangle. Nevermind

(Soundbite elevator ding and travel noise)

**Lewis.** I really wish I brought some sun tan lotionnnnnnn.

(Soundbite elevator lands, buzzing machines, dripping water)

**Carly.** We made it! We are here in

**Lewis.** Uhhhhhh, a basement? Guess I didn't need a tan after all.

**Carly.** Oh look at the plaque on the wall. "Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Florida."

**Lewis.** Wait... I thought the Navy was all about boats. They have Navy planes too?

**Carly.** Oh yeah. They feel the need for speed. This must be where the missing planes were based. Let's go have a look upstairs, what do you think **Nibbles**?

**Nibbles.** I think you might want to take a look at your clothes first.

**Lewis.** Army uniforms?!

**Carly.** Navy, actually, I assume.

**Nibbles.** You look good Carly.

**Carly.** Thank you!

**Lewis.** What about me?

**Nibbles.** What about you?

**Lewis.** I don't know Nibbles, are you saying khaki isn't my color??

**Carly.** Okay, let's just keep on track here folks. We found a staircase and went up to the main floor of the base. There was a bustle of activity, lots of military folks running around.

**Military Personnel.** Anything on radar? I've got the General on line 3.

**Lewis.** Wow, everyone seems so stressed. I wonder if they have a wellness room here.

**Carly.** They're probably trying to figure out what happened to the missing airplanes. A tall man in a fancier uniform than the rest spotted us from across the room.

**Colonel.** You two! I don't recognize you, you must be the radio specialists in from the DC office, yes?

**Carly.** Yep! Yes we are indeed the radio specialists from DC, that's us. Breaker one - nine. Uh I'm Maverick and this is Goose.

**Lewis.** I'm not a goose.

**Carly.** Just go with it.

**Colonel.** Colonel Ringer nice to meet you, lemme explain the situation: Flight 19 was a group of 5 bomber planes on a training run. The mission was a routine two-hour patrol from Fort Lauderdale, due east for 150 miles, north for 40 miles and then return to base.

**Carly.** And they never made it back, right?

**Colonel.** That's correct, we sent out other planes and boats to search for them but one of the search planes was lost too.

**Lewis.** I'm sorry but, how do you lose planes? They're huge!

**Carly.** (under her breath) LEWIS!... So, what was the weather like when they left?

**Colonel.** The weather was fine when they first took off, but it got worse as the day wore on, and by the time they went missing, it was storming.

**Carly.** And then the plane you sent out to search for them went missing too?

**Colonel.** Correct, we think it may have crashed, we found burning wreckage and an oil slick near where it was last seen. But over the past week, we've searched more than 250,000 square miles of Atlantic and Gulf waters, and nothing else has been found.

**Carly.** I am so sorry to hear all that, it's so tragic.

**Lewis.** I once lost a toe ring in the ocean. It's so hard to find anything out there.

**Colonel.** Well, the best thing we can do now is help piece together what happened. Let's get you two to the radio room. Follow me!

(Soundbite walking steps)

**Lewis.** I should be in front of you Carly Q. I'm higher status.

**Carly.** You brought up your toe ring today, so you stay behind me.

(Soundbite walking steps)

**Carly.** Lewis and I followed the Colonel through the base, as he explained our task.

**Colonel.** There were a number of radio transmissions from the pilots on the mission, mostly from the leader, Lt. Charles C. Taylor. We need the two of you to take a listen, and hopefully find us some clues we might have missed.

**Carly.** YES! Hunting for clues is what I DO.

(Soundbite the creak of a door)

**Carly.** He led us into a small radio control room that looked out over the airfield. This where they kept all of the radio equipment that they would use to talk to the pilots in the planes. It had a big map of the area on one wall, but otherwise it was stuffed to the gills with all kinds of communication equipment.

**Colonel.** The tapes of the transmission are on that machine right there.

**Carly.** Real quick uh before we get started: in terms of these missing plans, do you think something....paranormal might have happened?

**Lewis.** Paranormal...you mean like, ghosts?

**Carly.** Sure, or anything supernatural. Since we are in the Bermuda Triangle after all.

**Colonel.** The what?

**Carly.** The Bermuda Triangle.

**Colonel.** I don't understand those words.

**Lewis.** You don't the understand the words "Bermuda" and "Triangle"?

**Colonel.** I don't understand them together. Is this some new jargon they're using up in DC?

**Nibbles.** (whisper) Maybe the term hasn't been invented yet?

**Carly.** Oh okay, forget about that. What I'm asking is, is it possible these missing planes might be related to any of the other strange disappearances around here?

**Lewis.** Yeah, our friend Odie told us about all these boats that got lost around here too.

**Colonel.** Odie, that's you're commanding officer?

**Lewis.** No, she's the elevator operator.

**Colonel.** The what?

**Carly.** Lewis! Don't mind him. Yes, yes, Odie, uh, sent us here.

**Colonel.** Well, she may be on to something. There was a disappearance of a cargo ship nearby, the USS Cyclops, during World War I. But I can't see what that has to do with our missing planes. I have to get back down to the floor, you two get working on these recordings.

**Lewis.** Sir yes sir!

(Soundbite walking and the creak of the door as the colonel leaves.)

**Lewis.** I've always wanted to say that.

**Nibbles.** Show off.

**Carly.** Let's get to it! We hit play on the first radio recording.

(Soundbite a crackle of radio static)



**LT. Taylor.** Cannot see land. We seem to be off course.

(Soundbite Carly stops the tape.)

**Carly.** Can't see land and they don't know where they are. That sounds bad.

**Lewis.** Can't they just look for Florida?

**Carly.** Sounds like they went too far from land and now they're just out over the open water. I bet from up there, it's harder to see where you are than you might think.

**Lewis.** Let's play the next one.

(Soundbite a crackle of radio static)

**LT. Taylor.** Both of my compasses are out and I am trying to find Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I am over land but it's broken. I am sure I'm in the Keys but I don't know how far down and I don't know how to get to Fort Lauderdale.  
Lewis hits stop.

**Lewis.** Wait, the Keys? The little island chain south of Florida? Look here at the map. That doesn't make aaaaaany sense. The training route was off the east coast of Florida. How would they have gotten all the way down south like that?

**Carly.** Hmm well maybe this is where the Bermuda Triangle stuff comes in. They were flying their route east of here, and then some mysterious force transported them a hundred miles south. Maybe...aliens?!

**Nibbles.** Oh Carly, we're already at aliens?

**Lewis.** I don't buy it. Couldn't the lead pilot just have been lost, and got turned around? Like he thought he was over the Keys, but he actually wasn't? You just said it can be hard to tell where you are up there.

**Carly.** Fair enough. Let's listen to another tape, this one says it's from a different pilot.

(Soundbite a crackle of radio static)

**Pilot.** We can't tell where we are, everything is, can't make out anything. We think we may be about 225 miles northeast of base. It looks like we are entering white

water, nothing seems right. We don't know where we are, the water is green, no, white.

**Lewis.** Green and white water? Where were they?

**Carly.** This definitely sounds like it might be aliens!

**Nibbles.** Ughh you have got to quit it with the alien talk already! Ex-nay on the alien-nay.

**Lewis.** I wonder if there's a clue with all their compasses not working. Maybe there was an electrical storm or something that knocked them out?

**Carly.** Hmm, not a bad theory. H-dad, you have anything yet? What have you got on this compass situation?

**H-dad.** Quick search...match found! Compass problems are often cited in Bermuda Triangle incidents, but no specific magnetic anomalies have been found.

**Carly.** Okay, how about the disappearance of all these planes? Know what happened?

**H-dad.** The most common theory for the Flight 19 bombers is simply that the lead pilot got lost, took the squadron too far out to sea, and by the time they turned back they didn't have enough fuel to return to land.

**Lewis.** Just like I thought! Nothing mysterious about it.

**Carly.** Okay, not exactly what you thought.

**Lewis.** Let's go tell the Colonel!

**Nibbles.** What are you aiming for here, a gold star?

**Carly.** Come on, let's go find him.

**Lewis.** I have many gold stars.

**Carly.** We went back down to the main floor of the base and told the Colonel our theory.

**Colonel.** (sighs) Unfortunately this is what we've been assuming as well, it's a real shame what happened out there.

**Lewis.** Real shame, a REAL shame, sir.

**Colonel.** Still, it doesn't sound like you finished listening to all the tapes.

**Carly.** So?

**Colonel.** So get back up there and keep at it!

**Lewis.** Uhhh, how long do you think it'll take to listen to everything? I was hoping to get in some beach time.

**Colonel.** Including the search and rescue messages, air-tower transmissions and hours upon hours of ambient ocean noises? Probably another 2-3 days.

**Lewis.** Oh. Fun. We might, just, have to--

**Carly.** Get back to it right away. Thanks Colonel! I pulled Lewis away before he could blow up our cover.

**Lewis.** 2-3 days?! But we have to be back by the end of lunch!

**Carly.** Which is probably coming up soon. But we don't have to tell him that!

**Lewis.** Then let's find a quiet corner somewhere, I have another question for H-dad.

**Nibbles.** I've got the perfect spot!

(Soundbite walking steps)

**Carly.** Having healed my fear of closets, we followed Nibbles. to a broom closet tucked away in the back of the base.

**Lewis.** How do you know your way around here so well?

**Nibbles.** I may have snuck off earlier to steal some pie from the commissary.

**Carly.** Ugh You sneaky snack stealer, you had pie WITHOUT me?!? Ugh!

**Lewis.** That is so unsanitary.

**Nibbles.** Lewis, what's your question?

**Lewis.** H-dad, why had the Colonel never heard of the Bermuda Triangle?

**H-dad.** It is 1945, the term "Bermuda Triangle" did not exist yet.

**Nibbles.** Hah! I knew it!

**Carly.** H-dad, when did the term "Bermuda Triangle" start getting used?

**H-dad.** The first instance was in 1964. Author Vincent Gaddis wrote a magazine article called "The Deadly Bermuda Triangle." He claimed that Flight 19 was part of a pattern of strange events in the region.

**Lewis.** Like the other planes and boats that have gone missing around here?

**Carly.** Right, like that USS Cyclops ship the Colonel mentioned.

**H-dad.** Scholars have since debunked many of the author's claims, noting that in an area with frequent tropical storms, disappearances like this aren't unexpected or mysterious.

**Lewis.** But there's been so many of them!

**H-dad.** Error in factually! The number of disappearances is not statistically abnormal given the large number of planes and boats that regularly pass through the area.

**Carly.** Huh, so I guess with so many boats and planes always passing through here, it actually makes sense that there would be more accidents. Kind of like a really busy highway!

**Lewis.** Okay so wait. The "Bermuda Triangle" thing all just came from a STORY? Like this author guy just made up the whole idea that all these crashes and stuff were connected?

**Carly.** (gasps) It's just like Odie's riddle!

(Soundbite wind chimes)

**Odie.** Be wary of storms and stories alike.

**Nibbles.** So that's what she meant!

**Lewis.** What?

**Carly.** That just like a storm can swallow everything up, so too can a flashy story cloud over what really happened.

**Lewis.** "Cloud over." I see what you did there.

**Carly.** Mhmm.

**H-dad.** Incoming message from Butthed-quarters.

**P.A. Voice..** Lunch time is now ending. Put down your spoons and finish your salads, starting....now!

**Carly.** Yikes, we gotta go!

**Lewis.** Goodbye Naval Air Station!

**Carly.** We raced back down to the elevator, and moments later.

(Soundbite elevator ding, travel noises)

**Lewis.** Oh no I didn't take any selfies in uniforrmm.

**Carly.** Whoa!

(Soundbite elevator lands and dings)

**Odie.** Welcome back you two.

**Carly.** Hi Odie!

**Odie.** What did we learn in Florida about the missing airplanes?

**Carly.** That, sadly, they probably crashed at sea when they ran out of fuel.

**Odie.** Oh?

**Carly.** Yeah, despite popular imagination, it doesn't sound like the Bermuda Triangle is all that mysterious.

**Lewis.** Guess it's just kind of dangerous to pilot boats and planes in areas with stormy, tropical weather.

**Carly.** Which brings us back to your warning. Be wary of storms and stories alike, huh?

**Odie.** Yes?

**Carly.** Turns out you should be cautious of overly-hyped stories just like you should be wary of bad storms. Cause both of them can lead you astray.

**Odie.** Sounds like you two had a very productive time down there.

**Lewis.** I wish you could have seen us in uniform Odie. We looked good!

**Odie.** A tragedy I shall always regret.

**Lewis.** Why does it feel like you're making fun of me?

**Odie.** Because I am. Have a pleasant rest of your day you two.

(Soundbite Carly and Lewis walks back to her desk.)

**Lewis.** I just want Odie to be my friend.

**Carly.** Lewis, Odie is your friend. You just have to understand her sense of humor.

**Lewis.** I dont know, I feel like you and Odie are closer than me and Odie.

**Carly in background.** Oh stop. Lewis. We're all friends. We're all friends down here in the basement.

**Carly.** Lewis and I said goodbye, and after he went back upstairs, it was time for me to get down to work. I just had one quick thing to do first.

**Lewis.** Bye Carly Quuu.

**Carly.** Well Nibbles, I think you were right. Remember my whole freak out this morning about the whip cream?

(Soundbite rat squeaking)

**Carly.** I'm realizing now that maybe before getting so worked up about some rumor I read online, I should actually do some research first.

(Soundbite rat squeaking)

**Carly.** And you know else? Even if it the whip cream IS being discontinued, it'll be okay! Cause maybe that means I'll find something that I like even more.

(Soundbite rat squeaking)

**Carly.** Anyway, thanks for your help today. Sorry I wasn't able to hear the sense you were trying to talk into me!

(Soundbite rat squeaking)

**Carly.** Nibbles and I high-fived, and with that, it was actually time to get some work done. But what a day! I'm still in shock that something as fascinating and mysterious as the Bermuda Triangle is all just kind of a story some writers made up 50 years ago. But just goes to show, you don't really know if something's true until you investigate it more. Just like I'm gonna do next week with another time-sealed mystery! Until then, this is Carly. Q, signing off. And remember, you never heard this!