

## **Who When Wow, Season 2, Episode 7**

### **The Berkshires U.F.O.**

**Carly.** Hello, friends, worldwide podcast fans, and fellow mystery enthusiasts. Today's mystery is unbelievable, literally. Like, some people just don't believe it. We've got a story full of aliens and UFOs, and maybe a slice of pie. So strap in for a wild, unidentified ride. I'm Carly Q, and this is Who, When, Wow! Mystery Edition.

(Theme song)

(Soundbite of Office ambience; printers whirring, phones ringing)

**Carly.** It started out as a normal workday at Butthead.

**Carly in background.** Morning, good morning, good morning, people! Justin?

**Carly.** (Continued) That stands for the Bureau of Universal Time Travel Historical Exploration Division. In case you didn't know. Or maybe we are a department? Honestly, I always forget which. My day job is to catalog random historical events. They come to me on thumb drives, drop down a vacuum tube from upstairs.

**Carly in background.** Cataloging, cataloging.

(Soundbite Thumb drive falls down the vacuum tube)

**Audio File.** Event: 1941. Juliana the Great Dane dog, extinguished an incendiary bomb by peeing on it, awarded the Blue Cross medal.

**Carly.** Well that was a weird one. Cataloged!

**Carly.** But every so often I get a different kind of file: a time- sealed event.

(Soundbite Thumb drive falls down the vacuum tube)

**Audio File.** Event: (BLEEP) 1969 (BLEEEP) Bright lights (BLEEEP) Berkshires

**Carly.** Yes! Now we're talking.

**Carly.** And this is when my real work begins. When my lunch break comes, I use Butthead's time-traveling elevator to go back in time and investigate whatever's being hidden on the file.

(Soundbite rat squeak)

**Carly.** Yes, Nibbles, I hear ya. I know, Nibbles. I also wish that you could co-host the podcast with me. Oh, and that's my rat friend, Nibbles. I like to bring her with me when I go investigate. I feel like we have real chemistry and the stories we could tell. If you're new here, you might not believe me, but Nibbles can talk. She can't speak here, but she can speak when we go back in time, for some reason.

(Soundbite Footsteps come down metal stairs)

**Carly.** Oh, no.

**Lewis.** (calling out) Heeeeyyyyyy, Carly Quuuuu?

**Carly.** Argh, my arch-frenemy Lewis! Despite plenty of break-rooms upstairs, for some reason he just loves coming down here to bug me.

**Carly.** in background. (whispers) Okay Nibbles, be cool! (full voice) Hi Lewis.

**Lewis.** What was that? Who were you just talking to?

**Carly.** What? Nobody.

**Lewis.** No. No, I deeeeeefinitely heard you talking to someone.

(Soundbite of rat squeaks)

**Lewis.** (gasps) A rat? What is this, Carly Q's School for Wayward Rodents?

**Carly.** Yes it is and we're taking applications so you can drop yours off right now.

**Lewis.** I'm serious! Are you making friends with aaall the vermin down here or just this one?

**Carly.** She's not vermin. She's a very sweet animal, and she's very smart!

**Lewis.** How do you know she's smart? Can she use a calculator? Can she type? Wait are you trying to train her to do your job?

**Carly.** No, but that's actually not a terrible idea.

(Soundbite rat squeaks)

**Lewis.** If you're doing weird experiments down here I am tootally gonna have to bust you...unless you let me in on it.

**Carly.** You wish. No, Nibbles and I, we're friends, I talk to her all the time, she gets me!

**Lewis.** Nibbles gets you?

**Carly.** And I've learned lots of things from her. Did you know rats are actually very clean? They tidy themselves up like cats. It's a myth that they're dirty.

**Lewis.** It's a myth that a rat could understand you, Carly! Clearly you're MYTHtaken. Hah! I am so funny! I think it's time to call an exterminator.

**Carly.** No! No, She's my special buddy!

**Lewis.** I'm sure she is, but you better not let the bosses catch you harboring rodents down here. I'll email you the phone number for that exterminator, byeee!

(Soundbite of Lewis' footsteps leaving)

**Carly.** Oh my goodness, does he know how to push my buttons or what? I'm so frustrated I need to go, crumple some paper!

(Soundbite Carly crumples paper)

**Carly.** ARRGGGHHHHHH! Don't worry, I only crumpled one sheet. AND I recycled it.

(Soudbite a crumpled piece of paper landing in a bin)

**Carly.** Anyway, after my paper-crumpling calm down routine, it was time to look more into this time-sealed mystery. I pulled out my AI assistant H-DAD to see if he could help figure it out.

**H-dad.** Powering up!

**Carly.** Got anything on these keywords, H- DAD? Berkshires, 1969, bright lights.

**H-dad.** Analyzing... analyzing... Lightbulb emoji!

**Carly.** Does that mean you have an idea? Or you're just referencing the "bright lights" thing?

**H-dad.** Both! Based on the keywords, this time-sealed file most likely refers to The Berkshires UFO Sighting of 1969.

**Carly.** A UFO? As in?

**H-dad.** That's right, unidentified flying sighting.

**Carly.** A UFO sighting? Yes! If you been listening to this podcast, which you havent been because it doesnt exist, you know that I am fascinated by anything relating to aliens or the supernatural. I actually have somewhat of a habit of thinking *everything* is related to aliens or the supernatural. But for once I might actually be right!

**Carly in background.** Oh my Goodness!

**P.A Voice.** Attention BUTTHED employees: The part of your day where you and your colleagues watch each other eat will begin momentarily... Luuuunch!

**Carly.** Yes! Time to go investigate some ALIENS!

(Soundbite ding of an elevator)

**Odie.** Well well well, look what the *rat* dragged in.

**Carly.** Good one Odie! You used rat instead of cat because of Nibbles. Tha is Hilarious.

**Odie.** Stop trying to butter me up basement companion, it wasn't that funny.

**Carly.** Fair enough. Can I ask your advice?

**Odie.** If I say no, are you going to ask anyway?

**Carly.** Absolutely.

**Odie.** Fire away then.

**Carly.** So, earlier today Lewis heard me talking to my friend Nibbles the rat, and acted like I was being totally silly for thinking she could understand me. But I know

she does! I can actually talk with her in the time elevator! How do I make Lewis believe me?

**Odie.** Basement companion, why does his opinion matter so much to you?

**Carly.** Because he's wrong. Shouldn't I try to convince him of what's right if he's totally and completely incorrect?

**Odie.** One who knows the truth in their heart need not persuade others.

(Soundbite of wind chimes)

**Carly.** Uhhhh. I'm confused. I need facts before I can know the truth, right?

**Odie.** Exactly so. Now where are you hoping to go today?

**Carly.** The Berkshires, for a UFO Sighting in 1969.

**Odie.** Ah, the Summer of Love. I remember it well.

**Carly.** Were you or a kid or?

**Odie.** I was in this elevator.

**Carly.** Wait how old are you?

**Odie.** Let's review the time-travel rules. When you go to the past you can't change or stop anything, so don't try. You may observe and ask questions, but do not meddle. Understand?

**Carly.** Understood.

**Odie.** You know about the card reader, the key card, and remember, you must be back here before the end of your lunch break.

**Carly.** Will do!

**Odie.** The time-seal on this file covers the whole night of the UFO sighting. But I can send you back to the morning after. Ok, You ready to go?

**Carly.** Ready!

**H-dad.** Affirmative! Thumbs up emoji.

**Odie.** Then safe travels, basement companion. Say hi to the aliens.

(Soundbite of elevator ding and travel noises)

**Carly.** E.T phone homeeee

(Soundbite elevator landing andf ding)

**Carly.** When I tell you I fell in love with The Berkshires in 1969, I really mean it. The old cars, the old buildings. Well, I mean, they weren't old then, now. Anyway, it was beautiful. And the trees were all the most incredible shades of reds and oranges and greens. Wow, don't you just love fall Nibbles?

**Nibbles.** You know, my great, great, great, great, great grandmother was at that famous rock concert event, Bradstock.

**Carly.** I think you mean Woodstock.

**Nibbles.** No... This was a concert in 1969 with a bunch of people in tye dyed clothes singing about peace and love

**Carly.** Right. Woodstock

**Nibbles.** And cheese. Peace, love and cheese.

**Carly.** Ok Well, maybe it was Ratstock then, but I -- Ooh look, a sign for a diner! The Village on the Green. Looks like it's just down the street, maybe we could order a slice of pie with a side of clues? Whaddaya say?

**Nibbles.** Uhhh, well ya know I love diners as much as the next rat, but are you sure that's a good idea? We don't have a lot of time.

**Carly.** Diners have pie, Nibbles. And pie is *a/ways* a good idea. Come on, Let's go!

**Nibbles.** If I had arms you'll be twisting them. Take me to pie!

(Soundbite Carly's footsteps on pavement)

**Carly.** How great would it be to actually prove that UFOs exist? I could be famous! Well, maybe not with the whole time travel thing. I'm not sure how fame works if I actually solve a time-sealed event from the past? Like would I be famous here or in the future?

**Nibbles.** *Technically* UFOs do exist.

**Carly.** What?

**H-dad.** Affirmative! UFO stands for "unidentified flying objects."

**Carly.** Ok. I thought I turned this thing off.

**Nibbles.** So anything in the sky that can't be identified is a UFO.

**Carly.** But what if we can prove that *aliens* were the ones flying those objects?

**Nibbles.** Ohh That would probably be a big deal.

**Carly.** H-dad do you have anything else on the supposed sighting here?

**H-dad.** Analyzing...analyzing...analyzing. (continues under)

**Carly.** You know, H-dad, today I am not even annoyed that you won't have this answer for a while.

**Nibbles.** You're...not?

**Carly.** Nope. Because look, we just got to the diner! It's pie time!

**H-dad.** Yummy face emoji!

**Nibbles.** I'll just head back inside the backpack. I'm not very popular in restaurants. Make sure to slip me some pie okay?

**Carly.** Of course I will. (singing) Pie,Pie, Time travel pie is the better than real time pie.

(Soundbite of The jangle of the diner door, then the buzz of several concerned voices abruptly stop when Carly enters)

**Carly.** Uh everyone in the whole diner just stopped what they're doing to look at me. I thought that only happened in movies! Um hi?

**Resident #1.** Welcome to the Village on the Green Diber. Are you here from the FBI? To investigate the lights?

**Carly.** Yes! Yes I am. I'm Agent Pie...son. Yep, Agent Pieson from the FBI, that's me!

**Resident #1.** Oh, Thank you for coming!

**Resident #2.** No, we don't need the FBI here Mable! There's a logical explanation for the lights and everyone just needs to calm down.

**Resident #1.** Hogwash! This was aliens, plain and simple.

(Soundbite The crowd gets loud, arguing back and forth)

**Nibbles.** (muffled, in backpack) You need to gain control of this, Agent Pieson.

**Carly.** You're right, Agent...Rat...girl. (loudly, to crowd) Ok Hold on, hold on! I want to hear what happened last night, but I can't hear *anything* if everyone keeps talking over each other. Now, before we get down to business...can I please get a slice of that cherry pie?

**Waitress.** Right away!

**Carly.** Okay, who has the most interesting story here about seeing the lights?

**Resident #1.** Oh, you should talk to Jonathan over there. I think he goes to school with the Reed Boy. He said he heard all about it. Right Jonathan?

**Jonathan.** Uh, yeah, sure... I guess.

**Waitress.** Here's your pie.

**Carly.** Thank you! (takes a bite, mouth full) Mmm, delicious! Okay Jonathan, Whaddaya got?

**Jonathan.** Well, it was my friend Thomas. See, he was in the car with his mom, and Granny, and his brother. Thomas's family actually owns this diner, and I think they were going home last night after they closed or something. Thomas was in the



back with his brother. They never get to sit up front, just like me and my sister - even if there's not another grown-up in the car. Which is totally not fair, if you ask me. I mean, if no one is sitting there why can't

**Carly.** Jonathan! Focus! ... Aliens?

**Jonathan.** Sorry... So I heard there was a big, bright light that just appeared behind the trees while they were driving home. When they drove over that bridge - the Sheffield Bridge -- the light was a little higher in the sky. It was *really* bright, so bright they could see the inside of the car, and then...

**Carly.** And then?

**Jonathan.** Are you gonna eat the rest of that pie?

**Carly.** Yes. But right now, I really need to know what Thomas told you!

**Jonathan.** Well then it was like they weren't in the car anymore. As if all of sudden they were in this huge building. Like one of those places where they park airplanes, you know?

**Nibbles.** (muffled) A hangar?

**Carly.** They were in a hangar?

**Jonathan.** Yeah, that. And there were more lights there and a hallway, and a room with rounded walls. I don't know. I think Thomas couldn't remember it. It said it felt like a dream he had or something, and I sorta zoned-out after a while.

**Resident #1.** Tell them what happened next Johnny, tell them.

**Jonathan.** Oh yeah! That's the cool part. So all of a sudden, they are BACK IN THE CAR!!

**Carly.** What? Just like that?

**Jonathan.** Yeah! Except everything outside was quiet, like silent, no sound anywhere at all.

**Carly.** Woah.

**Jonathan.** And that's when Thomas said he noticed that his mother and his Grandmother had *switched seats*...!

**Carly.** WHAT?

**Jonathan.** And then everything went back to normal all of a sudden. Can I have a bite of that?

**Carly.** What? Oh yeah. OK. I guess.

(Soundbite fork across plate, kid eating.)

**Resident #2.** I don't believe a word of it.

**Carly.** What! Why not?

**Jonathan.** (with mouth full) Why not? Thomas wouldn't just make that up!

**Resident #1.** I saw the lights too, and so did lots of people! Folks kept calling into the radio station, sharing their accounts of where they saw it. And my brother's a police officer, he said the phones down at the station were ringing all night.

**Carly.** It sure sounds like a lot of people saw it.

**Resident #2.** Not me! I didn't see anything, and I'm not the only one.

**Carly.** Then what do you think happened? How do you explain so many people seeing the same thing?

**Resident #2.** It could've been a fire off in the distance. Or lights from a low flying airplane. There's lot of possibilities, why are we jumping right to aliens?

**Jonathan.** Nobody said nothin about aliens!

(Soundbite The crowd grows loud again, arguing)

**Nibbles.** Carly I think this might be our cue to leave.

**Carly.** Yeah, I think you're right. Unless.

**Nibbles.** No, we're not staying for seconds, come on!

**Carly.** Yep, yep, right, you're right. We gotta get out of here!

(Soundbite jangle of diner door as Carly leaves)

**Carly.** Wow that was intense.

**Nibbles.** They were certainly a passionate bunch, huh?

**Carly.** Yeah, but I get it, if they're right about what they saw it could mean aliens are actually real! Except that doesn't mean we're any closer to the truth, cause I don't know what to believe.

**Nibbles.** Maybe we should ask your dad machine?

**Carly.** Oo Good idea. Alright H-DAD, I know you probably want another *two weeks* to analyze--

**H-dad.** Analysis complete!

**Carly.** Or...not?

**Nibbles.** Just when you count him out he's BACK IN THE GAME BABY!

**Carly.** Okay, so what are the most popular theories about the UFO sighting here?

**H-dad.** Theory 1: The stories were all fabrications. It was made up.

**Carly.** Made up? Why would someone do that?

**H-dad.** According to a top UFO researcher, people lie about UFO sightings for three reasons... One - to create mischief. Two - To make money off their story. Three - To make UFO experts look foolish.

**Carly.** I don't know about that. The diner folks who thought they saw it seemed pretty convinced. Theory 2?

**H-dad.** The government conducted an experiment on the residents of The Berkshires.

**Carly.** Whoa! What kind of experiment? Mind control? Induced memories? Flying saucer identification tests?

**Nibbles.** Maybe testing people's reaction to bright lights?

**Carly.** I feel like I'm being tested on *dim* lights down in the BUTTHED basement. And let me tell ya, the results are not good.

**H-dad.** The goals of the alleged experiments are unclear.

**Carly.** Okay. Any more theories?

**H-dad.** Theory 3: It really happened.

**Carly.** (gasp of excitement). Really? So it's possible that this UFO was real? That it *actually* came from outer space?

**H-dad.** Researchers call it the most convincing UFO sighting in history. In 2015, the Great Barrington Historical Society thoroughly researched the event, including having the boy you spoke with, Thomas Reed, they brought him in for a polygraph test.

**Carly.** Oh a lie detector test! What did they find?

**H-dad.** He passed the test, and as a result....locating audio clip:

(Soundbite static crackle, then a refined voice reading a statement)

**Audio File.** *To all interested parties, The Great Barrington Historical Society has formally and officially inducted the first off-world/UFO case in US History...*

**Carly.** A Historical Society? That's pretty convincing. But how do I know for sure? How do I decide what the truth is, when everybody on both sides seems so sure about what they believe?

**Nibbles.** You know, once you human beings really believe something, it can be very difficult to convince you otherwise. Maybe the truth depends on what information you have.

**Carly.** That's a really good point. The information we have is pretty limited, but it sure does seem like there was *something* up in the sky last night...

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

**P.A Voice.** Attention! Lunch break scheduled to end in 5 minutes. All eating and miscellaneous lunch adventures must end in 5 minutes.

**Carly.** Uh oh miscellaneous lunch adventures , that's us! We have to get back to the elevator. Let's go!

**Nibbles.** You got the pie right? Oh watch my tail.

(Soundbite: Elevator doors open and close. Travel noise, and then DING)

**Odie.** Welcome back, basement companion. Did you find any aliens?

**Carly.** Not quite. There were lots of people who saw the bright lights, and some of them believe 100% that it was a UFO from out of this world. But then others seem convinced there must be a more logical, "not- aliens" explanation. Honestly I don't know how I'm supposed to get a clear answer, it's like the truth is this slippery thing, it's like.

(Sound bite Wind chimes / flashback noise)

**Odie.** One who knows the truth in their heart need not persuade others.

**Carly.** (gasps) It's like sometimes there are things that are true, or are true to you, and it doesn't matter WHAT other people think. That's what you meant with your riddle!

**Odie.** Exactly correct. Sometimes you have to be okay with people not believing what you believe.

**Carly.** And THAT is some real truth. Wow. Thanks for all your help today Odie.

**Odie.** You're welcome, basement companion. Till next time.

(Soundbite Carly walking back to her desk)

**Carly.** Hey Nibbles, you ever wonder what it would be like to go to space?

(Soundbite rat squeaking, followed by footsteps coming down metal stairs)

**Lewis.** (calling out) Hey, Heeeeyyyyy there, Carly Q.

**Carly.** Shh, Nibbles. Lewis is coming.

**Lewis.** Oh noo, are you STILL pretending that rat can understand you?

**Carly.** I'm not pretending.

**Lewis.** No...? Okay, what's his name?

**Carly.** Nibbles. And she's a she.

**Lewis.** Nibbles, listen up: I want you to prove that you can understand us. Sing the birthday song while dancing the cha-cha, ready? One, two, three go!

(Silence)

**Lewis.** And she's just sitting there. What a surprise!

**Carly.** You know what Lewis? I don't have to prove anything to you, and neither does Nibbles. You're entitled to your opinion, but I have the facts and my own personal experience to back me up.

**Lewis.** Well la-dee-dah-dah-dah. Okay Carly Q, whatever you say. Enjoy "conversing" with your rat friend.

**Carly.** Thank you. I will!

(Soundbite Footsteps as he walks away)

**Carly.** Wow, what a day. When I walked in this morning, I certainly wouldn't have guessed that I'd travel back to 1969 to investigate a UFO. But that's what I love about doing this: every day's a new discovery!

(Soundbite lots of rat squeaking)

**Carly.** Okay, You've got some moves there my rat sister. Happy Happy birthday to you too! And if you're wondering what I'll find on my next time-sealed adventure... Well, I guess you'll just have tune in next time. Until then, this is Carly Q, signing off of this UFP, Unidentified Flying Podcast. And remember: you never heard this! Unless you're an alien, then call me.