

*K.Bivins R.Grain T.Grain K.Brinkley S.Andretti Initial IVs by C33 10.8-9.09

Synopsis:

Kristina- Went into a weird state and thought she was going to die, never experienced that before. Sweat lodge just constructed that afternoon, but Angel Valley does it every year.

Robert & Teresa- Robert yelled "Call 911; get somebody to help these people" at one point outside, due to the number of people down and in distress. Teresa in a state of shock and couldn't move her body. Teresa said people could leave if they wanted, but there was peer pressure, and some people don't know when to quit. She said she could hear Kirby having trouble breathing but not see her, and at one point she yelled out "Turn on your side" which would help her breathe easier. They told me the 36 hours out in the desert weren't bad, just a little cold at night.

Kim - She said the lady in front of her passed out right on top of her, toward the end of the sweat, and someone came and took her out of the lodge. She thought the woman's name was Amy. Kim said there were a lot of people dropping like flies, but then some of them came back in. She said there were people passing out, but there were some guys assigned to come and get them out. She said people were free to leave at any time, and it was clearly explained what was going to happen beforehand. She said when someone would say "I can't do this any more" others would reply, "Oh come on, you're more than that," but she felt in that situation people need to listen to their own bodies. She has heard Ray's sweat lodge is more intense than other sweat lodges. She said many people left early and it was a good thing people did, because they were very helpful to those in distress.

Sandy - she said she had to be carried out when she left. She said she was dizzy and couldn't function after they hosed her down, and then she went into shock and started shaking.

These interviews were recorded and the following is a summary. Some parts of the interviews are inaudible due to the circumstances. Full interviews placed on CD and entered into evidence.

Kristina Bivins, at Verde Valley Hospital, told me there were about 50 people who started in the sweat lodge but everyone was free to go whenever they wanted, so there were not 50 people in the lodge at all times. She said she was not sure why she was in the hospital because it was still kind of a blur to her, but she went into a weird state and thought she was going to die. She said she'd never experienced that before, but her memories are more like a dream. Kristina said they entered the sweat lodge in the afternoon and lasted an hour and a half or so; she said this was not a very long one. She said she didn't remember what happened after the sweat lodge other than she got out of the sweat lodge. She remembered there was going to be a celebration dinner about 45 minutes after the sweat lodge, but she couldn't remember eating. When asked what the

doctors have told her is wrong, she said there is nothing wrong with her other than some scrapes on her legs.

Kristina told me the event ended on "Thursday, but the hotel gave them a free night, so many of them are staying through Sunday. She asked if anyone else was in the hospital, and I told her about eight people were transported with some possibly deceased. Kristina said "That's strange" but didn't have much response to that news. She told me she didn't think the sweat lodge blew up, because she was in there until the end. She told me the sweat lodge was just constructed that afternoon, but Angel Valley does this event every year. She assured me that the people involved in this group were very health-minded, not into ingesting drugs or anything else unhealthy, including caffeine, and most of them are vegetarians.

Robert and Teresa Grain, at the Sedona Medical Center, interviewed together. Both had oxygen masks on, so their responses were somewhat muffled and hard to hear. They told me they came from [REDACTED], and they had been at Angel Valley since Saturday (10/3/09) night. Teresa told me she felt fine until she came out of the sweat lodge, and she was in shock for a long time, and when she started coming out of shock, Robert started becoming nauseous and vomiting with a headache. She said that didn't start until about 7:30 or 8:00 PM, after they were back in their rooms. She said they never lost consciousness, but she was in shock, in an altered state; Robert interjected "It was really fricking hot." He said the purpose of the sweat lodge is to put people into a meditative state, and when they came out of the lodge after two hours, they were hosed down with cold water. Teresa said when she left she wasn't very cognizant of all the people around her who weren't doing well, but Robert was yelling "Call 911; get somebody to help these people." Robert said Teresa couldn't move parts of her body. (He said other things that were inaudible to me.) He said when they came out of the sweat lodge, there were people in distress, but he wasn't sure how long they had been outside because he and Teresa were some of the last out.

I asked them if they had ever done this before, and they said they had not, but they were informed by James Ray that afternoon there was going to be a sweat lodge, and it would be very hot, and they needed to hydrate. Teresa told me they were eating normally until before their 36 hours in the desert, where they had no food or water, until this morning when they had breakfast and started hydrating again. Teresa told me the sweat lodge lasted two to three hours. Robert said the first thing he thought of was that he was dehydrated when he started feeling bad. I asked if James Ray told them what was going to be put on the rocks; Teresa said to her knowledge it was just water and sandalwood. She told me people could leave if they wanted, but there was peer pressure, and some people don't know when to quit and don't know their limits. Robert said they had no point of reference for the heat inside the lodge, as they had never done one of those before. Teresa told me there were 50 people in their group for this week's event. Robert said he thought there were 58 participants plus four workers who went into the sweat lodge. Teresa told me they had done some other weekend events with James Ray prior to this. She also told me that the workers, Megan, Josh, Liz, and Mark were also in the sweat

lodge with them, but Megan and Josh actually work with James Ray; the others come from all over.

I asked Teresa if she knew who the woman might have been who went to the Verde hospital to give them the names of the deceased. She was not aware that anyone had died but said she'd heard Kirby was having a hard time breathing during the sweat lodge. She said if she had asked for help, people would have carried her out, but she never asked. Teresa told me they were supposed to check on the people around them, to be sure they were doing okay, but Kirby was down farther. She said she could hear Kirby having trouble breathing but not see her, and at one point she yelled out "Turn on your side" which would help her breathe easier.

I asked Teresa and Robert if they took anything prior to entering the sweat lodge; they both said no, just water and salt, not even any herbs or things of that sort. They told me the 36 hours out in the desert weren't bad, just a little cold at night.

I interviewed Kim Brinkley at the Sedona Medical Center, and the interview was recorded; the following is a summary.

Kim told me they went on their Vision Quest from Tuesday night through Thursday morning, and they didn't eat or drink anything at all during that time. She said she ate a small breakfast today (Thursday) morning but no lunch, and they hydrated as much as they could. Kim said they probably entered the sweat lodge around a little before 3:00 pm, and she stayed in the entire time. She said they were told it was going to be hot, and if it got too hot, they should get down by the ground. She said she did that almost the whole time. Kim said it was a little hard to breathe right after they would throw the water on the rocks, but then it got easier. She said the lady in front of her passed out right on top of her, toward the end of the sweat. She said she yelled out and someone came and took her out of the lodge. She thought the woman's name was Amy. Kim said there were a lot of people leaving during rounds, like they were dropping like flies, but then some of them came back in. She said there were people passing out, but there were some guys assigned to come and get them out when that happened. When asked, Kim said people were free to leave at any time, and it was clearly explained what was going to happen beforehand. She said she appreciated the experience but probably would not be doing another sweat lodge.

When asked if there was any pressure for people to stay when they wanted to leave, she said there definitely were people doing that. She said she didn't do that because she felt it was every person's own choice if they wanted to leave. She said when someone would say "I can't do this any more" others would reply, "Oh come on, you're more than that," but she felt in that situation people need to listen to their own bodies. Kim said things were kind of fuzzy for her at the end, but she remembers crawling out and her vision was blurry, and she just collapsed at the doorway. She said she didn't remember if someone

pulled her farther out from the door, but she remembered lying in the rocks on the ground. She couldn't feel her arms and legs, so she yelled out for someone to come help get her circulation going. Kim said she was freezing her butt off, and her friend Rosie told her she had hypothermia due to the hot and cold of the lodge and then the water sprayed on her.

Kim told me she has never been to a James Ray sweat lodge or any sweat lodge before, but she has heard Ray's is more intense than other sweat lodges. She said her friends took her to her room and then up to the showers; after that they went to the dining hall, where she just ate some bread. She said she ended up in the hospital after the paramedics came to her room while she was napping and checked her out. Kim said both of her roommates left the sweat lodge early, as did others, and it was a good thing people did, because they were very helpful to those who needed help at the end.

Kim said she didn't notice anything that seemed criminal in any way, because everybody who goes to these knows ahead of time that they are intense events meant to help you work through unresolved emotional issues. She said Ray has nothing but good intentions and just tries to put people to the test and challenge them, but it is what they choose to do.

I interviewed Sandy Andretti at the Sedona Medical Center; the interview was recorded and the following is a summary.

I asked Sandy if she was in the sweat lodge the entire time; she said no. She told me she thought she did six rounds but also thought there were more than seven rounds total. Sandy said she finally decided to go when her coach on one side got up and left and then the gal on the other side of her left. She said she was ready to go after the first round. When asked when she started feeling symptoms, she said she had to be carried out when she left. She said she was dizzy and couldn't function after they hosed her down, and then she went into shock and started shaking. Sandy said she got up and started to try walk, but she still wasn't feeling right. She said she was crying and feeling very bad for spending \$10,000 just to kill herself (in a sweat lodge). Sandy told me when she came out, she didn't care about herself because she was seeing other people in distress and throwing up, and she felt she needed to help them. She said people just kept telling her to worry about herself, not others right then.

I asked Sandy if she noticed anybody having any specific problems while inside the lodge. She said she could hear people, and James Ray and others would tell them to breathe differently. Sandy told me she has been to James Ray events before, but this one was very, very intense compared to the others she's attended. I asked her if there was anything she felt was very wrong or criminal in any way. She said there were people who were on medications who should not have been in the sweat lodge, and they did not eat very much for about three days. She said they had nothing whatsoever from Tuesday night through Thursday morning. Sandy described her symptoms as nausea-like and numbness in her legs and entire body. She said she couldn't move, even when she was outside, and she even said to James Ray afterward "You know what you are one sick fuck," and laughed; she said she compared the experience to childbirth. She said she was

crying, remembering crashes at Indy, feeling horrible, remembering going to hospitals after races, and couldn't believe she paid money to feel that way.

This concludes the initial interviews at the hospitals.

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