

ARDEN - Teaser/ Episode 0
Who Did It?

BEA: Do you remember where you were? When you found out Julie Capsom was gone.

NEWSCASTER 1: Julie Capsom, sole heir to the Capsom Epsom Salt fortune, has disappeared.

BEA: Do you remember trying to piece together her final day? How many gaps there were?

NEWSCASTER 2: The next time she was spotted, she was 12 hours away, pacing outside her wrecked car.

BEA: I was an intern at 730 The Wave, Eureka, California, and I was the first reporter on the scene when the police found her car. What they never found, what even their dogs couldn't track, was a body.

NEWSCASTER 3: Followed the scent into a clearing, then seemingly lost track of it.

BEA: That was 10 years ago. No trace of Julie was ever found. No body, no ransom, no goodbye, and no leads. 10 years later and we're still asking: Where is Julie Capsom?

I'm Bea Casely, a journalist with [said w/ a curious amount of disgust] Wheyface Radio: A Radio Station for the Good People. [back to normal] Over the course of twelve episodes I will be digging into one of America's strangest, and most high profile, missing persons cases. Join us, won't you, as we unravel the mystery... on Arden.

[closing music seems to rise, and then...]

BRENDA noisily clears her throat

BRENDA: Do you remember where you were? When you found out Julie Capsom was gone?

NEWSCASTER 1: Julie Capsom, sole heir to the Capsom Epsom Salt fortune, has disappeared.

BRENDA: What about Ralph Montgomery? No? He wasn't an heiress, or a movie star. He was just a kid from Van Nuys who would probably go completely forgotten, if he hadn't gotten involved with Julie Capsom.

NEWSCASTER 2: Police are looking into foul play in the disappearance of Julie Capsom. No suspects have been named yet, but there are rumors Julie had a stalker.

BRENDA: I was a police officer in Eureka, California and I was one of the first cops on the scene when we found Julie's car. Soon the whole force was out looking for her. We even had all our dogs out looking, for all the good it did.

NEWSCASTER 3: Followed the scent into a clearing, then seemingly lost track of it.

BRENDA: We never found Julie, but we found someone.

NEWSCASTER 4: Reports coming in that inside the trunk of Ms. Capsom's car is a human torso, belonging to a young man.

[The sound cuts out, just down to Brenda.]

BRENDA: That was 10 years ago. Someone who was almost certainly Ralph was found dead in the trunk of a missing girl's car, but what we never found was answers. 10 years later and we're still asking: Who Killed Ralph Montgomery?

I'm Brenda Bentley, a private detective who has partnered with Wheyface Radio: A Radio Station for the Good People. Over the course of twelve episodes I will be digging into one of America's most compelling and confusing mysteries, and by god, I am going to solve it. Join us, won't you, as we unravel the mystery... on Arden.

[sounds of Brenda relaxing] Phew. That wasn't so hard.

BEA: You say that now.

BRENDA: You don't think the parallel narrative thing is cheesy? I think that's a little cheesy --

BEA: Cheesy? It's classic literary structure! What I do have a problem with is saying that was Ralph's torso.

BRENDA: It's totally his torso --

BEA: It's not definitively proven to be his torso! Facts, Bentley! If we're going to do this stupid thing, we need facts!

BRENDA: Whose torso could it be? Or do you think Julie Capsom just went on long drives with a random torso in the trunk?

BEA: I know where this road goes down if we start letting your unconfirmed theories in there --

BRENDA: "Goin' for a long drive, ma!" "Have a good time, sweetie, I'll pack you a torso if you get hungry!"

BEA: And this needs to be rock-solid --

BRENDA: You know, we never did really explore the cannibalism angle back in the day. Maybe it's a rich-people-cannibal-cult --

BEA: Well, at least that's better than aliens.

BRENDA:What did you say.

BEA: You heard me.

[BEAT. BRENDA and BEA start yelling at each other simultaneously. Over the yelling:]

ANDY: Arden. A new podcast coming soon. Brought to you by Wheyface Industries. The Good People.