



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:00:00] **Mandy Matney:** Hello and welcome. It is hard to believe that we are now in Week Six of the Alex Murdaugh murder trial but here we are. The defense is expected to rest its case this week, then there will be a few rebuttal witnesses from the State before closing arguments begin. But we are almost at the finish line. After the last two days of Alex's testimony last week, I don't think I'm alone when I say I'm looking forward to the day the jury comes back with its verdict. It's been a long road to justice so far. On Friday evening, Liz, Eric, and I sat down for our usual post-trial conversation shortly after Creighton Waters' mic-drop moment with Alex when he showed the jury that Alex's story about being paranoid because of SLED was — shocker — another lie. You might notice we sound a little dazed at the beginning. We were clearly all still processing what the heck just happened. But that's no surprise. Last week was the most dramatic week of the trial that we've seen so far. There's so much to unpack so let's get into it.

[00:01:17] **Liz Farrell:** Cups up, Mandy.

[00:01:18] **Eric Bland:** Cups up. Cups up, Liz and Mandy.

[00:01:20] **Liz Farrell:** This has been a very long week and today was the finale of my least favorite show, the Alex Murdaugh Hour. How are you guys feeling?

[00:01:32] **Mandy Matney:** Exhausted.

[00:01:33] **Eric Bland:** I feel like I need to take a bath in something that can scrub me clean because I feel filthy, yucky, and it was only a four-day trial week, believe it or not. But it certainly felt like two weeks with no break.

[00:01:50] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah, it really did.

[00:01:51] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, the last two days have felt like years. Like I was trying to sit here thinking of what happened before Alex took the stand and I think that that's probably gonna happen with the jury of like it's hard to remember anything else besides that and it's hard to focus on anything else besides that 'cause that was just so intense and crazy.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:02:13] **Eric Bland:** Yeah, I think the I think we don't want to forget that the defense had some really bad experts to come on early. You know, they had the doctor or the assistant pathologist that should be on Green Acres instead of an assistant pathology coroner for Colleton County. And then Mr. Sutton played all five positions on the offensive line. I mean, he was an expert du jour on every subject. And then when he left, he told us how to cook lasagna. I mean, they were bad. The final guy that they had was pretty good about an accident scene, the elderly gentleman, but of course he wasn't given all the information or documents so the murderers road that we were expecting from the defense, I don't think we've seen up until Alex and Alex, you know, started with a bang but certainly ended with a whimper.

[00:03:13] **Liz Farrell:** I hope that's true, Eric. I hope that's true.

[00:03:15] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, I mean the a lot of people I've been especially lawyers who I've been texting have been surprised at — with as expensive as we anticipated this defense team to cost, Eric, did you think they went a little cheap on witnesses so far?

[00:03:33] **Eric Bland:** Oh, yeah. They drafted Mr. Sutton who was in the boating case and they made him into a decibel expert, a phone tossing expert, a bullet trajectory expert, the spread of bullets and the spread of shotgun shells. And I think there was one other subject that he touched on. I think that they're not gonna call every expert. I fully anticipated that they had blood experts and GSR experts and DNA experts. But as Liz and I talked about this week, it was a Trojan horse trial where good on Creighton for misleading Dick for five months thinking that it was gonna be a scientific trial and this trial has turned out to be a technology trial and a lie trial — technology on phone, on the OnStar, as well as on videos and Snapchat. And then, the main piece of evidence has been Alex lied about the kennels. So, Dick spent five months preparing for Bevel and a bloody blue T-shirt and DNA and it hasn't been anything. So, I think they had a lot of these great experts and they're realizing that they can't use them.

[00:04:52] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, that's really interesting.

[00:04:54] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah. I just wanna say I told you so to both of you because I feel like I'm the only woman in America who thought and knew in her heart that Alex Murdaugh would get up on the in the stand.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:05:09] **Mandy Matney:** I knew that. I've said that this whole time.

[00:05:12] **Eric Bland:** Let me tell you, I'm 0 for 3 guys. I'm 0 for 3.

[00:05:15] **Liz Farrell:** My memory is failing me then.

[00:05:16] **Eric Bland:** I said that there wasn't gonna be a trial in January, I said that Buster wasn't gonna testify, and I said Alex wasn't gonna testify, so I'm out.

[00:05:27] **Mandy Matney:** It's well like to everybody else, it's just so why would he do that? Blah, blah, blah. And it's just par for the course, man. Like I have considered Russell and Alex to be very similar and nobody thought Russell would testify and he stood on up there and scooted up to the chair and did the same odd lean over. I like saw a lot of similarities.

[00:05:53] **Eric Bland:** Plus Russell TV.

[00:05:56] **Mandy Matney:** Yes. I and I think if Alex had the opportunity, he would have Russell TV right now but he's in jail so I mean I didn't know what to expect going into this but what did you guys think the last two days? What have you learned in the last two days?

[00:06:19] **Eric Bland:** Ladies before gentlemen. Go, Liz.

[00:06:21] **Liz Farrell:** I wanna say this because so first of all like the going back to the experts real quick, it felt a lot like 30 Rock. Liz Lemon was dating the John Han character who is like so handsome and everyone thought he was so amazing at everything he did. He was a good doctor. He was a great tennis player. But it turns out he can't do anything because he's just his whole life been bolstered out by people complimenting him. So, in many ways, like the defense has proven to be that. Like I have definitely, yeah, obviously I've seen some very smart maneuvers by them. They're definitely not afraid to ask for what they want, which is a life lesson for all of us, even though they know they're annoying everyone and hated. But that's that. I just wanna say like, you know, there's been a lot of moments over the last two days where it's just sort of been jaw-dropping and exhausting and all of that but a lot of bombshells and such, you know, just Alex getting on the stand and suddenly



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

changing everything. But to me and it's still on my mind heavily because I think Mandy and I had fought this so hard and — within the 14th Circuit like, you know, people are saying to us like, oh, if he's not, you guys want him to be found guilty because X, Y, and Z. And it's like, no, we just wanted to get it to this point because of how corrupt the 14th Circuit is, because of what we see in South Carolina. And I think the whole world got to see that corruption in the presentation of the badges — the photo of Alex in the hospital the night of the boat crash with his badge hanging out of his pocket in almost in an obscene way. It was almost like he was flashing people with his genitals. Like I mean and not to be gross but like it's just and he is just like, oh, that? That's just out there. Okay, Harvey Weinstein. Like your badge is hanging out of your pants. It turns out that this man was walking around as a deputy solicitor, like that's the number two guy.

[00:08:19] **Eric Bland:** Oh, blue lights. Don't forget the blue lights.

[00:08:23] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah, with the blue lights. He has blue lights in his car. And the moment when Creighton was like for your five cases over 15 years? I wanna remind listeners that when Mandy FOIA-ed the 14th Circuit Solicitor's Office in the summer of 2021, for a list of cases that Alex prosecuted, they could name one. It was Emmanuel Buckner. It wasn't until recently that we had to FOIA again for it. Suddenly, they have this list of five people and there's been plenty of people who have come to us after this saying I actually remember him involved in X case and I remember him involved in this case. This is a heart and soul of corruption that we were talking about from the beginning and you guys got to see it. This man has been rolling around with two badges, getting whatever he wants. How is he using those in the civil cases? That's what I would like to know. So, that's the stuff. That's the stuff that angers me.

[00:09:13] **Eric Bland:** But don't forget, Liz. There's a bigger thing that has taken place in this trial that no one's talked about but you two have talked about and that is Duffie Stone controlled this investigation from June of 2021 up until Labor Day. And the criticism by the defense is, oh, you guys didn't do this. You didn't go to Alameda or you should have done this and after Alex interviewed you, you should have done this. Don't forget. SLED really didn't come on to control this investigation and Creighton Waters with the statewide grand jury until the Labor Day shooting so if you got a criticism on what was done on this investigation or not done on this investigation, go call Duffie Stone on the phone. Now, I give Creighton credit because he's a



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

prosecutor and he didn't wanna shut down the throat of another prosecutor in this trial but that's the big elephant in the room as I see it. What do you see about that, Mandy?

[00:10:19] **Mandy Matney:** But where's Alan Wilson in this? Like shouldn't Alan Wilson have just taken control over at that point? Like isn't he in charge of isn't he the solicitor in charge of all of the solicitors? Like at what point he should have said this is going to be my investigation anyways and I wanna make sure that it's perfect, instead of having all of these questions that Duffie Stone's office was involved in one way or another. And he should have said that that mucks up the case, that mucks up my investigation. Get out of here and if you don't get out of here, then like I mean I would like to see Alan — Alan Wilson needs to be greatly concerned with what's going on in the 14th Circuit but we've heard nothing.

[00:11:07] **Liz Farrell:** No, he's always concerned about what happens outside of the State way more than what's happening inside the State and that's been consistent from the beginning with this man. And I'm just gonna say too have you seen anything more transgressive than two 14th Circuit solicitors sitting on the defense side? I presume they were sitting on the defense side by going to support police chief Greg Alexander in his public corruption case, which was held in Hampton County 10 years ago. Those two men in the 14th Circuit. So, you have two prosecutors in the 14th Circuit who are sitting behind somebody who is being tried for public corruption and they get to hold onto their badges for another 10 years. There was nothing these men could do. No wrong. Nothing that Duffie Stone would stand up to. Nothing that Alan Wilson will stand up to. It is disgusting and I'm so riled up right now because I've been forced to listen to and not forced but chose to listen to a narcissist, big, giant red bear try to dance with the little man with glasses for 48 hours now, it seems, and it's just it's exhausting like the I get now I.

[00:12:14] **Eric Bland:** And Alex also said that Greg Alexander was the guy that told him to hate SLED, taught him to hate SLED.

[00:12:22] **Liz Farrell:** Oh, and the sheriff. The sheriff of Colleton County.

[00:12:25] **Mandy Matney:** And that's great too because he is a fricking he is a police chief. This he's supposed to work with SLED. Like small-town police chiefs, they are they usually don't investigate murders. They usually have to call SLED for one way or another and Yemassee's super small so. It's funny



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

that like Alex just voluntarily word vomited all of that up about Greg Alexander as we're all just like.

[00:12:52] **Liz Farrell:** There's so many moments where you're like, oh, wait. Wait. Slow down. Like you're naming all the characters.

[00:12:57] **Mandy Matney:** I know. I'm gonna have to re-listen to like all of that this weekend because there was just so much to consume.

[00:13:05] **Eric Bland:** There was a lot of word vomit from Alex, so it's a better word than two words than filibuster but he did word vomit most of the time.

[00:13:14] **Mandy Matney:** Oh my gosh.

[00:13:15] **Liz Farrell:** So, Mandy, do you think that that was a smart decision for the defense to put him up?

[00:13:19] **Mandy Matney:** No. I mean, we'll see what the jury decides, but no.

[00:13:24] **Liz Farrell:** Eric?

[00:13:25] **Eric Bland:** No, with a small and not a capital N. There was really nothing to lose because he's going to get smoked on the financial crimes, whether he got up on the stand and admitted them. We do know he is gonna get smoked on those so what was the downside? Not too much. However, a guy like that tries too hard. He tries to swing too hard and he did pretty good on humanizing his drug addiction the best he could. He did pretty good in humanizing just the difficulties that he was experiencing in life and Creighton had a little bit of feed in mud or sand or whatever you want to say on the financial crimes but when he got to the murder questions, man, did he step in bear traps after bear traps after bear traps.

[00:14:23] **Liz Farrell:** Will one of you just sort of go through the mic drop moment after the cross?

[00:14:28] **Eric Bland:** So, for two days we heard that the only time he decided that the paranoia from this drug addiction, alleged drug addiction, took over was when he felt he was being interrogated by SLED. When SLED came on board, David Owens came on board, and whether David Owens was doing it



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

overtly or covertly, he had gotten enough advice from the law partners and from Danny Henderson and from his brothers.

Everybody he said told me I shouldn't talk to the police. Whatever. Aside from the fact that you want to cooperate when your wife and son is murdered, he got good advice because every husband who survives a spouse killing is gonna be a target. So, he kept saying, for two days, look, my distrust of SLED came about because I felt I was being interrogated and I had a natural instinct to lie and that was my defense mechanism from being a drug addict so that's when I started lying, when they started accusing me. And the lie was I wasn't at the kennel. The only problem was the last thing he was shown was the video of the first responding officer who showed up was a Colleton County sheriff who just was responding to a 911 call and he walks into a murder scene and Alex tells a boldfaced lie when he wasn't under pressure. He volunteered "I hadn't seen my wife and my son." So, now, the whole rationale — I distrust SLED. I lied because of SLED. I lied because of the paranoia of drugs — that he spent two days varnishing this jury on was just thrown out of the window and you could feel the air out of the courtroom. Jim Griffin didn't have any punch left on redirect. I don't think anybody actually was listening to the redirect. We were still processing that Perry Mason moment that Creighton achieved and we were looking for it. And I had forgotten that Alex had started talking to that the Mr. Duncan lieutenant whatever he was, Sergeant Duncan, who came up, I completely forgot about it. And I thought, well, I guess he didn't tell that, you know, that he wasn't at the kennels until he started being questioned in the car. And it was it dropped the mic.

[00:17:12] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah, it did.

[00:17:14] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, I think a lot of people were and a lot of people watching this trial have no idea how real trials go so they expect like things to happen very quickly and were getting frustrated with Creighton at times and he did drag from time to time. But I think it was really important that he got Alex to say a lot of things that I think would've stuck with the jury. And Liz and I always say that Alex kind of tells on himself when he doesn't realize that he's doing it and he did that a lot. Like he used phrases like "I got out of there real quick or real fast" when talking about leaving the murder scene. "They've been watching me like a hawk for years." I wrote a couple of these down because it was just so, I mean, if I'm the jury, those are phrases that are going to stick with me.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:18:10] **Eric Bland:** How about the phrase of "mistaken" instead of "lied?"

[00:18:15] **Mandy Matney:** Oh my gosh.

[00:18:16] **Eric Bland:** We all know what a lie is. A lie is a lie. It's not a mistake.

[00:18:19] **Mandy Matney:** Or a lie of omission or a lie of something.

[00:18:23] **Eric Bland:** Commission. A lot of my stuff was commission instead of, you know, omission.

[00:18:29] **Mandy Matney:** But he said nobody was around who the dogs didn't know. So, it's like, oh my gosh. Do you not realize what you're saying here, Alex? Like I think lying is so easy to him and I didn't realize how it's literally like breathing to him and getting out of something is it's not even.

[00:18:51] **Eric Bland:** He brought the golf cart in play. Did you catch that? The golf cart now is the golf cart's now the five-foot-two vigilante, 12-year-old vigilante.

[00:19:00] **Liz Farrell:** But we have Mark Ball to thank for that. Mark Ball threw that in.

[00:19:03] **Eric Bland:** Yeah. But and he left his wife down there. He took the golf cart. How's she gonna get back?

[00:19:10] **Liz Farrell:** In the dark.

[00:19:12] **Eric Bland:** In the dark.

[00:19:12] **Liz Farrell:** Exactly.

[00:19:13] **Mandy Matney:** In the dark. And she's not responding so you just leave.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:19:16] **Liz Farrell:** And he put it in the in her head that they were she was annoyed at him because she wanted him to come down to the kennels so they're annoyed at each other. He's now created that. I don't know.

[00:19:26] **Eric Bland:** How long did he come down to the kennel for? I still don't get it. He took the golf cart down. He grabbed the chicken, he threw it on top of the doghouse, and he basically said, look, I made a mistake coming down here 'cause I'm gonna start sweating. That's what I heard.

[00:19:39] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah. He said I didn't wanna go down there. He said getting ready to do what I didn't wanna do. And then he was like, which was sweat. And also you're in The Lowcountry, Alex. If you don't wanna sweat, like you just don't exist here.

[00:19:58] **Liz Farrell:** Seriously. We're sweating now. It's February.

[00:20:01] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, it's hot outside already. It is hot in June. Like going to the kennels isn't gonna make you sweat anymore than just existing so.

[00:20:11] **Eric Bland:** I have a question for you two. I know how we felt. We know how our listeners felt 'cause we've been streaming, you know, on the trial stream, you know, for two days. How did Buster feel? Give me your thoughts.

[00:20:27] **Liz Farrell:** Who knows? I don't mean to not be compassionate there but I think after because guess what? He did testify this week. It seems like it was four weeks ago but he did testify this week. And I think I don't wanna diagnose him but like he seems like he's severely disassociated from his body and he's just, I mean, that photo where Alex is walking by Buster during one of the breaks during Buster's testimony and he pats him on the butt and like could you be any more of the master patting his dog? Like it just it felt like he was saying good boy. Like good boy, good job.

[00:21:04] **Eric Bland:** Well, the reason I asked you guys this was because Buster's sitting there and either he learns for the first time that my father kept from me for almost a solid two years that he was with my mothee and my brother right before they died. And now, I fully understand that he waited a



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

solid 42 minutes to call me on the phone and spoke to Roro and Naynay and she-she and whoever else he spoke to.

[00:21:36] **Liz Farrell:** Don't forget Paw-Paw.

[00:21:38] **Eric Bland:** Or Buster actually knew that Alex was lying because of the Snapchat video long time ago and he got on the stand and lied. So, Buster's in a real tough spot because he's gonna have to now judge his father in a way that's gonna be — I think we'll start seeing it if he keeps attending the trial.

[00:22:01] **Liz Farrell:** Mandy made a really good point about Buster and Alex. Mandy, the point you made about the shooting, the roadside thing, where Alex was trying to set it up to look like a murder and for the benefit of his son but you were like, you thought it was a good idea that now you're murdered too so your surviving son now has three family members that are murdered. Like what?

[00:22:26] **Mandy Matney:** Your entire, yeah, there's nothing worse that I could possibly imagine for anybody.

[00:22:31] **Eric Bland:** Why did the shooters leave Alex alone?

[00:22:34] **Mandy Matney:** And Buster?

[00:22:37] **Eric Bland:** Right. Well, Alex brought Buster to the murder scene. He should have told him stay in Rock Hill, go to the police department, get yourself safe. I don't know who is doing the shooting. But what I want to know is why they spared Alex. He was there. He was there six minutes before, so obviously they were watching. They knew his car was in the front. Why did they let him live so that he could possibly identify the murderers? Why did he get spared? Why did Maggie get killed? I get it that Alex said, well, the boating accident, it's somebody to do with the boating accident. But he couldn't really answer who it was. He tried to say it's the somebody on the internet, somebody on the internet who was harassing Paul, even though they've not produced one text message, one internet Snapchat, one Instagram or Facebook message where Paul was threatened and certainly no police reports. But he was spared.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:23:36] **Mandy Matney:** The point that I wanted to make and I think something that has hit me several times, Liz, I think you said it best, I never came up with a word to describe Buster but disassociated is perfect. I just don't think after listening to him on the stand and watching his body language all week and I think the answer to your question, Eric, of like what is Buster thinking, is that like I don't think he has I don't think he has it in him and he has not been taught to think logically and critically about things in the way that the rest of us do. I think that Buster has lived his entire life that's like just go along to get along, put your head down and shut up, and be in this club and everything will be fine and be a Murdaugh and everything will be fine and I think.

[00:24:31] **Eric Bland:** Well, how does he justify his dad keeping that ultimate fact from him for two years, if he did?

[00:24:37] **Mandy Matney:** He doesn't. He doesn't think about it because I was just taken aback when they asked him on the stand "Were you scared?" or "Did you take any security precautions after the murders?" And he said like I don't really feel like carrying a gun around and like my girlfriend's apartment is safe so.

[00:25:01] **Liz Farrell:** He has a girlfriend? I didn't know.

[00:25:03] **Mandy Matney:** And no, we never heard about it.

[00:25:05] **Eric Bland:** No, and he also said the worst thing in the world to security is he said I live in a lot of hotels and I talked to a police officer who told me that more people were targeted in hotels when they come out in the parking lot. That he said I stay at my girlfriend's house and she has cameras and I stay at a lot of hotels. Well, we all know that hotels can be some of the unsafest places to stay where somebody can be picked off. It just made no sense to me how he talked about that he felt he was secure if there's a shooter on the loose.

[00:25:39] **Mandy Matney:** I think I speak for all of us when like we have all been concerned about our safety gravely for a while now. It's just this is a scary situation.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:25:52] **Eric Bland:** And what man who's a target and what man who's a target stays with the loved one who's a girlfriend to put her at risk? That just made no sense to me.

[00:26:03] **Liz Farrell:** We all know why it doesn't make sense. But if Alex hadn't done this, the answer is this was about the boat crash and I have nothing to do with the boat crash. It was Paul they were after. But nobody said that. Nobody said they were after Paul. Like if they're so convinced this is some sort of vigilante killing in this fantasy world that they've created.

[00:26:25] **Eric Bland:** By Tattoo.

[00:26:26] **Liz Farrell:** Right. But who's Tattoo? Oh, from Fantasy Island? Oh my gosh.

[00:26:30] **Eric Bland:** Yeah. The five-foot-two.

[00:26:32] **Liz Farrell:** Yes, exactly. Oh my God. That was this week, too.

[00:26:36] **Eric Bland:** Mandy, how tall are you?

[00:26:37] **Mandy Matney:** Five-four.

[00:26:38] **Eric Bland:** Just so you know, I'm five-10.

[00:26:40] **Mandy Matney:** I'm five-four.

[00:26:40] **Eric Bland:** Liz?

[00:26:41] **Liz Farrell:** Oh, I'm five-10. Yeah, I'm five-10. It wasn't me. I didn't do it.

[00:26:44] **Eric Bland:** Okay, so who's a five-two woman? If it's not a man, is there a woman that's gonna bring on a .308 and a shotgun?

[00:26:53] **Mandy Matney:** No, she doesn't. She comes without the gear.

[00:26:56] **Liz Farrell:** She doesn't have those. She has to use theirs. This is not a BYOG situation.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:27:05] **Eric Bland:** How does she know when to come?

Because according to the — who testified yesterday, he let out a beautiful gem. He's one of his best friends and nobody knows until when Paul's going to lay down to go to bed where he is actually going to be. So, how did they know on June 7th that Paul was gonna be at the kennels at 8:49 at night to be able to do that?

[00:27:30] **Liz Farrell:** They didn't.

[00:27:30] **Mandy Matney:** And Alex would be napping. Napping. Yeah, I mean, it's a very, very impossible situation to imagine, I mean.

[00:27:43] **Eric Bland:** Perfect word. Impossible.

[00:27:44] **Mandy Matney:** I just don't think, yeah, five-two — to the whole, I mean, that was such a joke.

[00:27:52] **Eric Bland:** Did you guys see two jurors crying yesterday? Because I'm seeing like when I was on the news last night, I was being questioned that, oh, there were jurors crying at Alex in the courtroom. Justin Bamberg told me that jurors there were a couple of jurors that turned away but is that propoganda being put out spin being put? Did you guys see it?

[00:28:13] **Liz Farrell:** I believe so 'cause I haven't really read I should say, you know, usually I read all the Post and Courier and the Packet and their take and such. But I do know that there's somebody in that courtroom that likes to puts information in reporters' ears casually as if he's not connected to Dick Harpootlian so it wouldn't surprise me. Court TV was saying that that was John Grisham yesterday, at least I had. I had the the wisdom to ask whether like help me. I don't know. I'm not there. But they reported it as fact and.

[00:28:46] **Mandy Matney:** Oh, they did?

[00:28:47] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah. And so.

[00:28:49] **Mandy Matney:** They've been wrong about several things in the last couple weeks.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:28:52] **Liz Farrell:** Exactly. They've been wrong about several things, yeah. And so, that one feels very much like it was planted.

And who knows? Because there's no photos of the jury. You have to be in the courtroom. We're not in the courtroom because it's we can't do our job from the courtroom, ironically. So, who knows? All we know is nobody that was in the courtroom that I know saw that.

[00:29:15] **Eric Bland:** Confirmed it? Nobody confirmed it.

[00:29:17] **Mandy Matney:** So and that I think leads us into another realm of — Liz and I were talking about this earlier this week. The court of public opinion and how much the defense cares about it. I really believe — so, with the first couple experts, the first few witnesses that the defense called, everybody was just kinda like, this guy? Really? This is it? This is the best money can buy in South Carolina? The guy who was hired for the boat crash. And you could tell when you look at this guy's resume that he — the company that he works for is called accident something. A double homicide is not an accident. It's not. A double murder is not an accident. He specialized in accident reconstruction and he had no knowledge, no training in ballistics. He had no training in firearms like.

[00:30:17] **Eric Bland:** Wait a minute. He had life experiences, he said. He used the word life experience.

[00:30:21] **Mandy Matney:** Oh, he shot at a car in a junkyard or somethin at one point. He said that.

[00:30:25] **Liz Farrell:** He bought like 20 grabbed 20 doors from a junk yard and then shot at them and the prosecution's like, oh, in a lab environment, like a controlled environment? He's like, no, in my office at my office. Yeah, whatever.

[00:30:39] **Mandy Matney:** Anyways, this that made me question are they focused more in the court of a public opinion than they are in the courtroom? Because I swear to God and I would love somebody to look into this who knows more than I do about this but I swear to God there's something going on with bots on Twitter and bots on Twitter who are 'cause they all of a sudden there's all these accounts that will say the kind of the same thing about something but pro-defenses wise, whether it is like today it was like Creighton sucks. The other day it was Judge Newman sucks. And they like go



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

away and come at the same time I swear and I know I sound crazy but PR companies do hire bots as a way to sway public opinion and.

[00:31:32] **Liz Farrell:** You definitely do not sound crazy, by the way.

[00:31:34] **Mandy Matney:** Well, thank you.

[00:31:35] **Liz Farrell:** 'Cause that's, I mean, it's accurate and it's, I mean, you're noting it and I see it.

[00:31:40] **Mandy Matney:** It's crazy. It's crazy. But speaking of that, I mean, we can't underestimate the power that Dick and Jim have to sway the media and to say thing to get somebody to say to Court TV that there is two crying jurors. That word gets out and that means a lot and I mean the they've done a great job, I will say, and it's crazy but I feel like I'm constantly like.

[00:32:13] **Eric Bland:** Other than me naming another lawyer in South Carolina who has been out there consistently and I'm not tooting my own horn but just pushing that I believe the prosecution has done a pretty damn good job with the mess that they were handed. Name one other lawyer that you've seen or heard out there on TV consistently. I mean, I'm battling everybody.

[00:32:36] **Mandy Matney:** I wish that they would have and I think this has to do with who they ask. Like I wish that they would have Mandy Powers Norrell and Sarah Ford. Both of those lawyers. South Carolina.

[00:32:48] **Eric Bland:** I was on with them.

[00:32:49] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah. That was a podcast?

[00:32:52] **Eric Bland:** Podcast, yeah. That was Surviving The Survivor about the Holocaust. He has a Holocaust-surviving mother. But he's a crime guy. He used to work for Fox News. And so, we were on last week. He's a really good guy.

[00:33:07] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, Mandy and — I would like to get each one of them 'cause I gotta know Sarah Ford through the Bowen Turner case and I've gotten to know Mandy through various things in the last couple years. They're



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

both just brilliant attorneys and they're — I'm thankful for just like your input on Twitter and just telling people like, hey, this is actually how the laws work and hey, this is what's going on in South Carolina. But the other South Carolina attorneys that I've seen and every single time you read something that's like that's absurd. Why would they say that? You look up the name and or you text somebody and say is this guy friends with Dick Harpootlian? And they always are. They're all these people are in the same circles and they're connected to people in the media and that's what makes and it does work to a certain extent. And I started this scary question with myself today. I was like what if the three of us weren't in this? Where would public opinion be at this point?

[00:34:10] **Eric Bland:** I don't know who, you know, where would the case be without you, Mandy, you know? Finding the initial \$500,000 Satterfield and then you, Liz and Mandy together, you know, taking on that local 14th Judicial Circuit and writing articles at The Island Packet and then later when you guys went to FITSNews and now then the MMP. Where would you guys be? Where, I mean, where would everybody be?

[00:34:38] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, I don't know.

[00:34:39] **Eric Bland:** There would be no story. Who would — who's left? John Monk and traditional journalists? You guys were the Gonzo journalist who went out on a high wire and wrote some pretty amazing things that all proved true.

[00:34:55] **Liz Farrell:** I think the pressure of — and I don't know why journalists don't understand this or at least I'm not saying they don't understand it. I don't know why in this state it's so much more important to it's almost like a Caste system or something with your sources. Like it's more important to have sources that are considered like powerful than it is to call those out in power. And I think after seeing Alex up on the stand these last two days, I can fully see and understand how they have had so much power in the 14th Circuit in The Lowcountry for so long because that is a personality that would wear you out. And for law enforcement officers who are making, like we've said this before, who are making \$50,000 maybe, for government officials, things like that, DNR officers, these people aren't making a whole lot of money and to come up against somebody like Alex, who he's just gonna talk you into agreeing with him to get him to go away. And I think that that's where I see people like Dick Harpootlian and his sort of control of the media



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

here, it's sort of the same thing. Like I think there's some sort of cache in being friends with the Murdaughs down here and I think it's the same thing in Colombia. It's the same thing in Charleston with having these powerful sources so then the reporter becomes afraid to challenge them in the same way that the law enforcement officer is afraid to challenge the Murdaughs and not be escorted around at a murder scene. So, that's I think that's how it happens. I think that the journalists who work in the state don't even realize it sometimes that they are absolutely being controlled and we have nothing. We have nothing for these people. Dick Harpootlian is not going to call me up. He's not gonna put anything in my ear because he knows that I'm going to question it. He knows I wanna check it. He knows that I'm going to put context to it. I just don't — so that's where I think the failing of journalists is in the state. I know people hate when we talk about journalists like as if we're this is some sort of —

[00:36:57] **Mandy Matney:** Who are also underpaid.

[00:36:58] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah, who are also underpaid. Exactly. Good point. It's like we're being petty. It's not. We're talking about this system and how important it is that you have journalists who can call it out and I don't think we have that.

[00:37:11] **Mandy Matney:** Right. It's like when Eric talks about the lawyers that are bad in his industry. Like it's disappointing to us when people in our profession don't live up to the standards that we do. And when you find out that they cut corners and just don't care. I think the overall thing that I keep taking having to take a step back because I just we both know so much. We all know so much and it's too much and it's overwhelming at times and it's very, very frustrating but.

[00:37:51] **Eric Bland:** Creighton also knew too much. That was a problem with his cross-examination. It's so hard to refine it to 20 topics when there was so much ground to cover. And I finally think he figured it out to slim it down. And when he slimmed it down and went to that timeline, that was the most effective cross-examination that he could have done. So, we'll be right back.

[00:38:24] **Mandy Matney:** I was thinking about this when we were talking about journalists not doing their job and the power of Dick Harpootlian the other day. I had, you know, one of my regular tweets calling Dick out on his crap and somebody responded and said like you obviously don't know Dick



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

Harpootlian. You would want this guy in your circle. You would want this guy in your circles or something like that.

[00:38:48] **Liz Farrell:** Was that Kathleen Parker? Did she?

[00:38:52] **Mandy Matney:** Oh, maybe. But like seriously, that is what the problem is here. It is all these people that ignore bad human behavior because they want these people in their power circles. Like that's why Alex Murdaugh became Alex Murdaugh. And I just wanna scream it from the rooftops. Like you don't have to deal — I don't want I do not want Dick Harpootlian in my circle. No matter how powerful that makes me, no matter how rich that makes me, I don't care. I think that that's a bad circle to be in and if other people are gonna try to wiggle their way in there and forget all of their morals and values just so they can be in his circle or his whatever, that is pathetic and like that's the problem here.

[00:39:39] **Eric Bland:** Now, I will only add. I am disappointed in some of his statements that he's made in the trial and I've tweeted about that. I did not like him saying it was his honor. I didn't like baked beans. I didn't like special agent Worley. And I certainly didn't like the pointing of a gun because as a gun owner and horrific gun things to minimize and laugh about pointing a gun at people and then pointing across and saying "Tempting," it really is a problem. However, I will commend him for a 74-year-old man to do a five-week trial like this plus all the prep. It's not the hardest job in the world. People who work physically and do a lot of harder things, doctors and nurses, the nurses who have to work 20-hour shifts during COVID is much harder. But the guy is slinging it and I give him the props for that. I give Jim Griffin his props because he's tired. You could see it. The guy — he's doing a lot of research, reading a lot of cases. He's doing a lot of cross-examination prep that takes a lot of thought. The mistake I see on the defense side is and we've been I said it on national TV 'cause she's a friend of mine, they should have utilized Maggie Fox very early in this trial. She is have a she's credentialed. She's had trial experience. She's good on her feet. And you've talked about this, Mandy, your disappointment and the lack of diversity on both sides of the aisle, not just on the defense side. You've said that there should be more women, more diversity on the other side of the aisle, the prosecution. So, that's my comment. I'm disappointed in what Dick has done and I really do believe that Jim believed that Alex is innocent. I'm not so sure about Dick.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:41:39] **Liz Farrell:** Do you think that now though? Do you think that after seeing like Creighton?

[00:41:43] **Eric Bland:** No. I saw Jim looking at like oh my goodness, what did I do? Like what's this gonna do for me if he really is found guilty? I don't think Dick Harpootlian will care one second if Alex is found guilty and what it would do to his reputation. He's gonna walk out. He'll go to the state house. He'll call his political people on the phone. He'll be right back in the swing of things. But I think for a guy like Jim Griffin, it could be he's questioning how hard I fought, how hard should I continue to fight?

[00:42:17] **Liz Farrell:** I wanna say something about Maggie Fox too because I agree with you, Eric, and she should have been used more. But I think that speaks to what Mandy was saying and what we're saying about journalism is that in order to compete in this state, I think that you have to, obviously you know this, like you have to be in that circle. You have to. And that's what makes Dick effective in people's eyes and what makes him powerful is his access to people on the higher levels of government or whatever, his relationships. That's what people are paying for — his relationships. I think that the — Maggie Fox is measured. She is clean like her the way she speaks is clean. It's not dramatic. It's focused. And I think that so much value is put on the type of trial lawyers who are more audacious and like Jim can, you know.

[00:43:13] **Mandy Matney:** Overconfidence.

[00:43:14] **Liz Farrell:** Just yeah, the swagger, like the just this sort of.

[00:43:18] **Mandy Matney:** Bombastic. Yeah like.

[00:43:21] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah. And that's what made Buster Murdaugh, the OG Buster Murdaugh so famous in the state. It was because of the theatrics. It was because of that control of the jury and the drama. And so, I think when Dick and Jim and maybe even like Alan Wilson and Creighton and all them, when they look at who what kind of energy you need in the room, they're not looking to a Maggie Fox or a Savannah Goode. They put them in charge of like the it's like the lady jobs. Like you can do the calmer ones. We need to be up there for the swagger. And I don't think they're wrong. And that's what makes me so sad is that I think that that's just juries probably are receptive to.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:44:00] **Eric Bland:** Yeah, I mean, Maggie's two witnesses were 10-minute witnesses. That girl can handle a whole day, okay?

She's that good.

[00:44:09] **Mandy Matney:** Well and I mean but I think that it's funny I was thinking about this the other day. I minored in sociology and that was always like my nerd passion. I love sociology. I love like learning how people interact with each other and how people perceive everybody perceives things differently because of their backgrounds and because of their environments, right? I think it's interesting that the world is kind of turning now; that it is not controlled by — sorry, Eric — older white men, all older white men. I think that now that more voices are being integrated into mainstream and into all into Hollywood and into all these other things that like I think that like I was sitting there this week thinking, as Maggie Fox was talking, that I just liked her more and so, I listened to her more. I literally have to force myself to sit there and listen to Dick Harpootlian and I get text messages from many of my friends who feel the exact same way because our skin crawls when we hear the man. Like he reminds us of so many old gross bosses who we've had in the past who just suck and they're terrible and it's just and have made you feel icky and disgusting and. But I imagine that like there's probably jurors who have that same feeling and so.

[00:45:30] **Eric Bland:** But what's gonna happen if God forbid — not God forbid, what's gonna happen, yeah, God forbid 'cause he'll get away with murder — what would happen if there's a not guilty verdict? And then Dick's gonna be absolutely applauded. They're gonna write books about him. A 74-year-old Goliath. What's gonna happen if there's a hung jury? What are you gonna say, Mandy?

[00:45:48] **Mandy Matney:** He didn't have that hard a job to prove because they already mucked up the investigation to begin with because Alex was on a totally different scale than anybody else would as far as the threshold of evidence against him.

[00:46:04] **Liz Farrell:** Well, mucking it up. I mean, I don't think that any I don't feel strongly about the crime scene, as probably I should.

[00:46:11] **Eric Bland:** Neither do I. I don't think if you brought Cyril Wecht or Henry Lee or the world famous coroners or accident people to come in, I don't think any more blood or footprint evidence or anything would've led to any



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

different spot than to Alex Murdaugh. I think it's been a fool's gold defense where it's saying, well, if you would've done a better job, you would've found the Sugar Hill gang killed Paul and Maggie. No. This case was never a crime scene scientific case. I mean, it was a technology case. It was Alex lying. This is a case about Alex Murdaugh. It wasn't about a better crime scene so I don't like.

[00:47:00] **Liz Farrell:** I think it goes back to what you said though, Eric, on the phone earlier. If you if this jury at this point is going to acquit Alex or, you know, if it's gonna end up to be a hung jury, there's nothing in the world that could convince them that Alex did this then. Like there isn't. There's no more like this is it's all on the table at this point and it's going to come down to whether this is a jury that can be that can see itself I guess convicting a Murdaugh.

[00:47:32] **Eric Bland:** I think what Mandy is saying is we have two systems of justice and she keeps saying it and she's right. For any other person, the bar, we all could high jump over it. It would be easy to say.

[00:47:46] **Mandy Matney:** It would've been a three-day trial.

[00:47:49] **Eric Bland:** They met their burden. The guy's guilty. But because it's Alex Murdaugh, what Mandy's saying is it's an eight-foot-six high jump bar and you're saying, Liz, Wwell, this jury wants video of him doing it. They want Mandy and Liz to be witnesses to him doing it. They want the gun. They want the bullets, the date the gun was purchased. And maybe then they will say guilty. But circumstantial evidence cases, guys, you're gonna hear the law charge is no different than direct evidence. It's not a lesser piece of evidence. It's the same piece of evidence as direct evidence.

[00:48:29] **Liz Farrell:** But there is direct evidence in this case and it goes back to it's the video. It's the that's direct evidence. That's the GMC shows exactly where you were. Like I don't know, you know? And.

[00:48:42] **Mandy Matney:** Right. The people act like every single murder is like a Scooby-Doo case where like there are footprints leading up to the murderer and then like everything just perfectly comes together and it's just, oh, and the guy pulls off his cover. Like that's not what happens in real life. It's just not that.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:49:04] **Liz Farrell:** Except this comes close. Don't you think this is kind of Scooby-Doo-ish?

[00:49:08] **Mandy Matney:** This is kind of stupid, yeah. It's kind of it's very Scooby-Doo, especially with all the nicknames that we've heard recently.

[00:49:14] **Liz Farrell:** I think there's a lot of confusion about Paw-Paw.

[00:49:18] **Eric Bland:** I'm calling you May-May.

[00:49:21] **Mandy Matney:** It's better than Man-Man. I think Liz is Liz-Liz .

[00:49:24] **Eric Bland:** You're May-May and she's Le-Le. You're gonna be Le-Le, Liz.

[00:49:27] **Liz Farrell:** No, I'm good. I think the nickname thing, I mean, I don't think I've loved Creighton more than when he pointed out like Paw-Paw, huh? You never.

[00:49:38] **Eric Bland:** What are your thoughts on that? I mean.

[00:49:40] **Liz Farrell:** Well, Paw-Paw is how he had the name saved into his phone so legitimately, that is what he called. He calls I've spoken with people who are friends with Alex. Yes, he has those kinds of nicknames for them. But the idea of putting on this affect with the jury and God help me. Did they hire a drama coach? Like what?

[00:49:58] **Eric Bland:** Yes. Yes. Absolutely. They hired somebody to absolutely educate him, discuss with him from a psychology standpoint on what to portray, when to look, when to cry, and then they have lawyers to act like Creighton and then act like Jim Griffin. Obviously, Jim acts as Jim. But they have different people who are gonna cross-examine. Some that are gonna be very harsh and accusatory. Others that are going to be very nice to get you to say things that you don't. This was a Broadway play, folks.

[00:50:35] **Liz Farrell:** When do you think they decided to have — because right up until the end, one of their pretrial motions that they filed, they were sort of downplaying this significance of the video. It seemed like they were trying to get. Do you guys remember this when they brought up the video of



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

Alex's voice? Like it seemed like going into this trial like the video, they were still going to assert that he was never down by the kennels. And I think it seemed like all of a sudden, like in the middle or as the trial's happening, we're starting to see like, oh, wow. They're not gonna fight this. But then when did they make the decision that let's tell them that you were there and now let's put all the pieces like let's re — it's almost like a movie that starts in the middle of a movie, you know what I mean? Like it's the middle of the story and then it goes right back to the middle and then it ends? Like a Pulp Fiction or a.

[00:51:25] **Eric Bland:** Jim did it at about a week ago when he made a statement. He said, Alex may have made a mistake when he said he wasn't at the kennels. He used the word "mistake." In the middle, some mistake. Am I gonna forget the last time I see Renee? We've been married 35 years. Am I gonna see the forget the last time that I spoke and laid eyes on Renee and my son Davis? The answer is no. Clearly no.

[00:51:56] **Liz Farrell:** How do you guys think because he did retrofit his entire story now to the evidence that's been presented into the testimony and the parts that didn't have evidence or testimony to support, those are the parts he can't remember. And the video itself obviously is not bringing video back to his jail cell at night to watch so he couldn't really study that. So, the booing stopped every time so that he could focus on the video and really upload that to his big robot head. How do you guys think that that plays with the jury when he's like referring to the records? Like it seems to me that would be like a big red flag that I'm telling you now that the story is, well, according to the records, I was at the house at that time and according to the records, I was driving here that time like. How I don't know how they can sit on that or accept that.

[00:52:47] **Mandy Matney:** It's not believable.

[00:52:49] **Liz Farrell:** But he committed to it.

[00:52:50] **Mandy Matney:** I think and several of my friends pointed this out. They were like baffled by how he described Maggie and Paul and how he couldn't fake that because it's just so robotic.

[00:53:05] **Liz Farrell:** Like he's not capable of something.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:53:08] **Mandy Matney:** He's not capable of describing like out of love and affection in the way that like the rest of us are in talking about another human being. I love Liz 'cause she's funny. Oh my God, she makes me laugh so hard and blah, blah, blah. And I she's caring and empathetic and blah, blah, blah. Instead, it's like Maggie was a girl.

[00:53:30] **Liz Farrell:** Maggie is a girl. That was like one of the first.

[00:53:33] **Eric Bland:** You saw his head was like it was looping. He was searching for what he was gonna say. Then it looped again then it looped again.

[00:53:41] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah. He was like googling his own brain. Like what how do you describe a woman who? She is my wife.

[00:53:47] **Mandy Matney:** She's a girly girl.

[00:53:50] **Liz Farrell:** You should see her address.

[00:53:52] **Mandy Matney:** But she was a boy mom. It's just like very basic things that the rest of the whole world knows about, Mackey.

[00:53:59] **Liz Farrell:** You didn't say she's the love of my life. I've like I feel like I lost a limb, you know? None of that.

[00:54:04] **Mandy Matney:** Right. Like she was.

[00:54:06] **Eric Bland:** I'm gonna say something crazy though. I think people can kill people and still love them later.

[00:54:12] **Liz Farrell:** Of course. No, yes.

[00:54:13] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, totally.

[00:54:15] **Eric Bland:** I like I still think he loves Paul and maybe there was a point that it was a mercy killing, like you said to me earlier this week, Liz. And I think he loves Maggie in a way. Maybe he wasn't a great husband. We don't know what happened inside the four walls. If he was always a good husband



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

or he was, you know, dictatorial or he was abusive or he was, you know, not trustworthy and, you know. But I still think there was love there in a way, not the normal love that you Mandy have for David or I have for Renee or but, you know, he's a complicated man, man. He really is a complicated man.

[00:54:57] **Liz Farrell:** He's far better at this than I give him credit for, I'll say that. Like when people talk about him being smart, I'm always like, oh, I don't think you knew him. But now, I get it. I totally get it.

[00:55:06] **Mandy Matney:** Right. And I think like, Eric, to what you said about I was convinced today on the stand as somebody who has been in an emotionally abusive relationship that Alex was emotionally abusive to Maggie. And I was kind of taken aback and kind of out of air a lot of times listening to him and understanding how hard it would've been to be in a relationship with this man for so long. Because he, I mean, the gaslighting over and over. You're misunderstanding this. At one point he said, Creighton, I know this is frustrating you but and it's like they know how to push your buttons in ways that in ways that nobody else can and does and he is. He's masterful of it. I will have to I did not give him enough credit for his level of manipulation. I had no idea.

[00:56:05] **Eric Bland:** Can't you see Maggie in the kitchen trying to talk to him about something that you know is important to her that about her feelings and the phone rings and he just walks away and starts talking in the phone and gets in his car and drives away and leaves her sitting there like I thought we were having this discussion. Can't you just see that happening?

[00:56:23] **Mandy Matney:** Or like Maggie, you're imagining that you that there's no money in the bank account like.

[00:56:28] **Liz Farrell:** No, I was there.

[00:56:28] **Mandy Matney:** That's your fault or like. I mean, I just can't imagine what was going on, especially as he was under all these all of this pressure and apparently taking enough pills to kill an elephant.

[00:56:41] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah, seriously. What the heck?



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:56:43] **Eric Bland:** That I told Creighton that he should have gotten four Tylenol bottles of 100 pills each and dumped them on the table and said here's a glass of water. Show us how you take 400 pills a day of opioids and that you live.

[00:56:58] **Liz Farrell:** He couldn't even say how many pills he took and that I think I find that so strange. I'm obviously, I'm not an addict. I don't know.

[00:57:05] **Eric Bland:** What if there's an addict on the jury, guys? Where does this come down? A recovering addict, excuse me.

[00:57:11] **Mandy Matney:** I think the question should be more if like how many people in the jury have narcissists in their lives and can understand it because I think that that's a huge, huge part of all of this. Because if you can understand narcissism, then you can see right through everything that Alex did today and yesterday but.

[00:57:33] **Eric Bland:** I do but I do. I will say — and I don't know whether it was practiced or rehearsed — but he did talk about from a drug addict standpoint. Not I'm not saying he is capital A D capital A. I'm not saying capital D. I'm not saying capital A drug addict. I'm saying somebody who, you know, drugs was on a lot of their mind every day and, you know, he was able to convey confidently and convincingly to me. Your thoughts?

[00:58:05] **Liz Farrell:** To me, it felt like he read a book on it or a pamphlet. I know I'm not saying I know that obviously there's evidence of his addiction in the past but I don't know. I don't know. It didn't feel real to me.

[00:58:19] **Mandy Matney:** I just think it doesn't really matter and I think at the end of the day, a lot of juries will see like drugs and most of society, if you're addicted to drugs, means that like you're kind of unhinged and you do not have control of your life. And he was saying himself that he was making bad decisions because he was on the drugs and he was under all this pressure and blah, blah, blah. I think it makes him I think there was a few moments where he might have gotten a little sympathy but then he kind of ruined those.

[00:58:52] **Eric Bland:** How does opioids make you — he said manic.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[00:58:56] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah, I don't know.

[00:58:56] **Mandy Matney:** And paranoid of SLED .

[00:59:00] **Eric Bland:** Well, I got paranoid. But he said gave him energy and made him feel virile and he could accomplish a lot and, you know, hyperactive. I've never heard that as that. Have you guys read about it? Liz, you read about everything. What do you think?

[00:59:15] **Liz Farrell:** I do. I have never, I mean, maybe. I mean, I watched Nurse Jackie. I don't know. Like I really don't have any personal experience with drug addiction, thank God. So, I don't know but I will say, I mean.

[00:59:31] **Eric Bland:** I love Nurse Jackie. I love Edie Falco.

[00:59:33] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah. That was a great show.

[00:59:35] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah. I mean, she certainly showed up for her shifts. I mean, I don't know what to say about that. Like she said she definitely she was able to work. I don't know. Maybe.

[00:59:43] **Mandy Matney:** It all fell apart eventually, though.

[00:59:46] **Liz Farrell:** It did, right? Yeah, for sure.

[00:59:48] **Mandy Matney:** As it always does. Like as somebody who lies and my friends who have dealt with addicts in their lives have told me that like that show is probably the closest to reality when it comes to addicts and how they act and how they manipulate everybody around and, yeah, they make they convince you that everything's okay but it's obviously not and that's what was going on in Alex's life. We'll be right back.

[01:00:24] **Eric Bland:** So, Mark Tinsley, he's a liar. Mushelle's a liar. Blanca's a liar. Jeanne Seckinger's a liar. SLED's a liar. Chris Wilson was close to lying; he was mistaken. And Alex is a drug addict, a liar, and a thief and I've told you that now.

[01:00:45] **Liz Farrell:** And SLED's a liar and.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[01:00:47] **Eric Bland:** I tell you that I'm a liar. I'm a drug addict. A thief.

[01:00:50] **Mandy Matney:** The media, too. Me.

[01:00:52] **Eric Bland:** And you're media. Media lies. So, now, you're supposed to believe me because I come into court yesterday and for the first time, I acknowledge that I lied about the kennel — the most important fact in this case. I lied about it for almost a solid two years and after having pled not guilty on every single financial crime charge and I've been clean for 531 days so my head is no longer screwed up because of drugs. I'm clean. I've been clean for 531 days but I have pled not guilty to every financial crime, including my lawyers getting into court saying there's a defense to the Satterfield case. I'm coming into court now and I'm gonna admit I stole everybody's money so you have to believe me. I didn't kill my wife. And you know what word he never said? Two words that he never said. Never apologized. Never used the word "I apologize" to my clients, the people that trusted me. And the other word he never said is, "I am innocent." He said, I would never intentionally shoot my wife and my son.

[01:02:07] **Liz Farrell:** I would never hurt them, was always the answer.

[01:02:10] **Mandy Matney:** He said the word "hurt" a lot, which was very weird.

[01:02:13] **Eric Bland:** He never said the word "innocent."

[01:02:16] **Liz Farrell:** The word "hurt" is interesting.

[01:02:17] **Eric Bland:** I would've screamed. I would've screamed from the witness stand. I am innocent. I did not do this.

[01:02:25] **Mandy Matney:** And find the real killers.

[01:02:27] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah. I mean, can he be charged with obstruction of justice for misleading SLED for this long? I mean, it feels like he should and lying to a police officer.

[01:02:37] **Eric Bland:** He should. And charge him for all the all of the costs of them investigating and the grand jury indicting on these financial crime



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

cases. And don't gimme the bullshit. I wanted to meet with you guys for the last seven months but you wouldn't. Guess what? His lawyers could have met with him. And when Jim Griffin went on the HBO special in November, he knew then that it was false. He could have — did he? Did he know his statement that Alex was not —

[01:03:10] **Liz Farrell:** I don't know when that was filmed. Because this is a thing with Alex and his attorneys. They shift. So, everything is all about when the evidence comes in otherwise, right?

[01:03:21] **Mandy Matney:** They don't do anything before.

[01:03:22] **Liz Farrell:** And they don't. Yeah. It's always, oh, so it's like the roadside shooting. Oh, you guys found out I was lying so here's the actual story. And then, it's also a lie, by the way, in my opinion. For some reason, Dick, Jim, and Alex think that the solution to the bigger crime, like the problem is the bigger crime, like the murder, is to admit to his smaller crime. So, this shooting happens, roadside alleged shooting happens. He admits to, you know, this smaller crime but then it gets him in trouble. And then, with the Satterfield thing, he wants to get out of jail and he wasn't showing enough contrition for the judge. So, I will offer a confession of judgment. I will confess to that crime because it's a smaller crime. I can admit to the smaller crime, right? It's all it's strategic admission so this is another strategic admission that we're seeing from him, which is it's almost like a pamphlet. Like it's a lie and then it unfolds and it can fold onto itself again. It's you just you can't keep up and I think that's the point.

[01:04:22] **Eric Bland:** Well, what about Mark Tinsley? Let's talk about Zero Dark Tinsley. Where did that come from that he said the conversation that Mark said happened at the Trial Lawyers Convention not that some of it would didn't happen, the conversation never happened. Mushelle Smith. I never brought a blue coat in or a tarp and I never went to her and said 30 to 40 minutes?

[01:04:47] **Liz Farrell:** What about a prosecutor saying that they thought they planted evidence on Greg Alexander? Like you are saying like a really serious thing right now, which means that we can have no trust in SLED, no trust in any part of this system because two people who are prosecutors are saying that SLED planted evidence on somebody or manufactured evidence. That's huge. That's like, I mean, what are you accusing them of from the stand? But



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

going back to Mark, Alex is the demonic Mark Tinsley because Mark Tinsley could do the same thing from the stand, right? He could he was basically playing pinball with Phil Barber from the stand. He controlled that. I mean, he even, I even think he said, I know this is frustrating for you. I'm not giving you the answer I want. Alex was doing the same thing skillfully the way Mark was. But the problem is is that Alex was doing it out of narcissism, not out of brilliance or out of just being an intelligent man and being able to play chess without the pieces. Alex can play chess too but he's it's all self-serving. It's all for evil purposes. I mean, it's to cover a murder. It's to cover crime.

[01:05:59] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah. And I wanna say that if he did it.

[01:06:03] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah, if he did it.

[01:06:04] **Mandy Matney:** And I wanna say that like I keep going back to this but I think that him, the fact that he this guy has the gall to go in front of the jury and go in front of the world and say I know you just heard all these people but they're all lying and oh, yeah. I was lying too. I lied about the financial crimes. I lied to everyone I love, basically. I lied here, I lied there, I lied everywhere. But I'm not lying right now.

[01:06:39] **Liz Farrell:** Right, but not now.

[01:06:40] **Mandy Matney:** And you should believe me. That just shows how he feels that he's better than everybody else and he feels like he's smarter than everybody else and that makes me so angry.

[01:06:50] **Eric Bland:** So, if you and I are dating and I take you to a steak restaurant and I'm gonna buy you this big steak and you take one bite of that \$50 steak and it tastes rotten, you're not gonna eat the rest of the steak. You're gonna send it back and say I don't want it. Well, that's the same way I feel that this jury's gonna say. You lied about the most important fact in this case that caused investigators and police and solicitors to have to waste years. But you lied to your son, more importantly, about this. I don't see a jury getting over that. I'll tell you this. I gotta give props to Mandy. She made a call at like 1:40. I sure hope that Creighton can run out the clock and let the jury go home with Alex getting off the stand and not having new witnesses. Because I'm telling you that's going to sink in and sear in them over the



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

weekend. I was very grateful that there wasn't two more, you know, defense witnesses. What do you think about that?

[01:07:59] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, I think that like I think that that was super important that and of course at times, I get annoyed with people that had just heard of this case yesterday and they're like, all you're talking about is finances. This is a murder case, blah, blah, blah.

[01:08:15] **Liz Farrell:** Right. That's so annoying.

[01:08:16] **Mandy Matney:** For the rest of us, I could sit there and listen because I've been waiting for this guy to be on the stand and to be cornered for years now so.

[01:08:24] **Liz Farrell:** Very good point.

[01:08:24] **Mandy Matney:** I wanted him to be there forever, not really because I'm sick of hearing him. But I think that I think it was very strategic the way that Creighton stretched it out all day. And I think that, I mean.

[01:08:37] **Eric Bland:** I agree.

[01:08:37] **Mandy Matney:** Going back to that show I watched on O. J., the O. J. lawyers were very, very big on how they finished the week and they would make comments to like, you know, what the jury's gonna go home with. They're gonna hear that. They're gonna think about that all weekend and that was really big to each other.

[01:08:52] **Eric Bland:** When did he put the gloves on since you and I had this little debate offline? He put the glove on at the trial or was that pretrial?

[01:08:59] **Mandy Matney:** That was trial. But it wasn't when he was he wasn't on the stand.

[01:09:03] **Eric Bland:** How did he do how did you do it without putting him on the — you sure he wasn't on the stand? I think you gotta be on the stand.

[01:09:11] **Liz Farrell:** No, he was standing at the table.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[01:09:12] **Mandy Matney:** Someone else was on the stand and his attorney got the idea that let's try the gloves on. Let's see if we can.

[01:09:24] **Liz Farrell:** Kind of like with the measuring tape of Alex.

[01:09:29] **Mandy Matney:** Right. Why don't we stand up? And the Marcia Clark did not want him to try on the gloves. Marcia was like I don't want that moment. I don't want it. No.

[01:09:41] **Eric Bland:** The blood makes leather dry and shrink. And then remember his fingers? He put it on like you put on like a baseball glove. He was doing this.

[01:09:49] **Mandy Matney:** And he had plastic gloves on underneath to protect the evidence. So, it was he was like. I was five years old and in kindergarten and I remember when the jury was when —

[01:10:04] **Eric Bland:** When did you start watching this trial?

[01:10:05] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, when I was five years old. My mom and I used to watch true crime all the time.

[01:10:09] **Eric Bland:** Oh my God.

[01:10:12] **Mandy Matney:** But yeah.

[01:10:13] **Eric Bland:** Oh my God.

[01:10:14] **Mandy Matney:** I had a point about that. But, yeah. What the juries walk into for the weekend is a big deal. And the other thing that I wanna mention before we wrap up here today is the I was really, really upset and bothered by the way that he talked about Paul, his son. And it's like. Eric, you're a parent and I am not but I was raised by parents and my parents can list all my flaws immediately. They can tell you everything that's wrong with me. And they would tell anybody like, oh, Mandy's messy. Mandy has time management problem. Mandy, blah, blah, blah. The fact that he stood up there and said if anybody says anything negative about my son Paul, and that means that they have an ulterior motive. That is the problem. That is the



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

problem with the way that he raised Paul. He raised Paul to pretend like he was perfect and anything that he heard about his son besides perfection, he just ignored the problem. And like I cannot get past and I hope that parents are hearing that and understanding that how big of a problem that is when you just ignore, ignore, ignore. And that's what happened with this family.

[01:11:45] **Liz Farrell:** So, it looks like we're going into hopefully what might be the last week of trial. Eric, can you just real quickly just tell us it's so if the State brings up they're just gonna bring in rebuttal witnesses, is that what it's called? It's not like they get to retry the case or anything, right?

[01:12:01] **Eric Bland:** They can bring in witnesses to address what the defense puts on.

[01:12:06] **Liz Farrell:** Creighton will bring on specific witnesses to refute assertions that were made during the defense case, correct?

[01:12:14] **Eric Bland:** For items and matters that he thinks that they did score blood on that they actually made a good point that could cause reasonable doubt. His job is to eliminate what could be considered reasonable doubt and he gets the last word on that. And then, when we broke today, you heard Dick whining about closing arguments. He wanted it to limit the amount of time. The judge said nope. I don't believe in limiting the amount of time. And then Dick said, look, this is a four-week trial. Jim Griffin and I would like to break up the closing argument into two separate parts. The judge said no. That's against the law. I'm not gonna do that. One party's gonna do it, which tells me Jim Griffin is going to do the closing argument if it's only gonna be one person. Creighton I believe will do the major opening and maybe somebody else will do the rebuttal or maybe Creighton does both. But the key thing in the next week that you're going to the battle is gonna be the jury charges and you heard the judge start to make reference to that. The judge has his own set of jury charges, but Dick and Jim are gonna submit about a hundred separate jury charges that are written in a way that are favorable to the defendant. The prosecution's got a hundred charges that are written in a certain way that are more favorable to the prosecution. And they'll have what's known as called a charging conference. And I'm hopeful that that'll be done on TV; that we'll be able to see it. Because it's very, very interesting because the judge is going to tell these jurors when he reads in the law before the closing arguments, you must follow these jury charges. You must. I



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

am in charge of the law. You are in charge of the facts. And after the closing arguments are done, he gives the jury all the evidence. They get 742 pieces of evidence to take back in that jury room. Now, if they have any questions about testimony, they come back in the courtroom and they ask the court can you re-read Alex's testimony on the kennel when I admitted to the when he admitted that he lied about the kennel? They can't take that transcript back. It's read to them. So, if you were to ask me how long is this gonna go? I think we have another, believe it or not, another solid week before the case gets to the jury and then the deliberations could be as little as a day or it could be five days. And then the plea in mitigation, if he's convicted, is gonna be the most interesting thing in the world because these guys gotta start preparing for it. The government has to prepare if he's convicted and the defense has to prepare and that means bringing all the victims in. The State's gonna bring all the victims in, all the financial victims in, and we're gonna get to speak to the Satterfields and the Plylers and Eric Bland.

[01:15:21] **Liz Farrell:** Why would they get to speak about what sentence a murderer should get?

[01:15:24] **Eric Bland:** Because they are a victim that came in under.

[01:15:29] **Liz Farrell:** Oh, that's wild. I feel like it should just honestly just feel like it should be people speaking on behalf of Paul and Maggie but. That's weird.

[01:15:34] **Eric Bland:** It depends on what Creighton decides to do. Now, Dick and Jim, they have to bring in a lot of people who are gonna speak about Alex and Alex has to be.

[01:15:42] **Liz Farrell:** Well, that's gonna be a real who's who of.

[01:15:44] **Mandy Matney:** I can't wait.

[01:15:45] **Eric Bland:** Right. But Alex has to do the most unbelievable high-wire act because he's trying to get mercy from the judge. He doesn't want a life sentence. You get 30 to life. It could be as low as 30 or life. And he's gonna want to have to say, Judge, I've made so many bad decisions in my life but I didn't murder them but I can see how I did things that could lead somebody to conclude to it but I didn't murder him. He's gotta walk that fine



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

line. So, to me, the next week and a half, two weeks is the most interesting time of the trial for a lawyer like me.

[01:16:23] **Liz Farrell:** I did wanna talk about just to say really quickly that our hearts are with the Beach family. It's been four years since the boat crash, which is, like we said, the ground zero of this murder case, as it turns out. And our hearts are with everyone, the Cook family and the Altmans and the Doughtys, to all of them, and or the Cook, I should say the Cook families. There's two Cook families.

[01:16:46] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah. Two of 'em.

[01:16:46] **Eric Bland:** I feel really bad for the Beaches how they were described in this trial by Dolls Cook and by Alex. They don't have any claims against the Murdaughs. I mean, it was bad — a claim. We're not we weren't worried about claims from the against the Murdaughs at all. I mean, that — the poor Beach family. How much more do they have to go through?

[01:17:11] **Liz Farrell:** Well, to have this case and all these new people that are interested in it and becoming introduced to it. It's a whole new like wave. They have to go through waves, right? Like.

[01:17:21] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, and the and just one more thing I wanna say. The way that a lot of these men on the stand dance around talking about Mallory's name and what happened. They do not say the tragic boat crash where Mallory Beach was killed. They say the boat accident or the boat crash. And it just and the way that they describe what happened within the Hampton community is just so wrong because the Hampton community would not have been angry at the Murdaughs if they acted appropriately after what happened if they said we are so sorry. No. What they did was cover it up and what they did was conspire and what they did what Alex did was go around the hospital flashing his badge, trying to convince everybody that it wasn't Paul. And again, that's bad parenting and that's terrible but I hate that the world is hearing about this boat crash in a way that's like Jim is trying to make it look like the Murdaughs should be sympathetic characters in the boat crash and that is not at all what happened.

[01:18:40] **Eric Bland:** Yes. I thought it was the most one of the most vulgar things I've seen in this trial, believe it or not, was him with the badge out of his



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

side pocket like he was some kind of cop in the hospital. It was grotesque. It just was grotesque.

[01:18:56] **Mandy Matney:** His badge that he used to get a table at IHOP one time. That was my fun fact of the week.

[01:19:01] **Eric Bland:** What did you just say? What did you just say?

[01:19:04] **Mandy Matney:** He used his badge to get a table at IHOP at one point in Columbia.

[01:19:08] **Eric Bland:** How did you find that out?

[01:19:09] **Mandy Matney:** I got people.

[01:19:10] **Liz Farrell:** In the pancake industry.

[01:19:13] **Eric Bland:** You have a source in their host department at IHOP?

[01:19:17] **Mandy Matney:** We got sources everywhere. I got bartender sources. I have heard stories about these people for years.

[01:19:23] **Eric Bland:** What, did he flash it? Did he?

[01:19:25] **Mandy Matney:** He literally flashed it and said get me a table.

[01:19:27] **Liz Farrell:** And what do they do? They yank people who are there for their Rooty Tooty Fresh 'N Fruity? Sorry. Sorry, there's —

[01:19:36] **Mandy Matney:** Get you and your pancakes out of here. Alex Murdaugh is here.

[01:19:39] **Liz Farrell:** Celebrity here. He's got a badge.

[01:19:43] **Mandy Matney:** Take your pancakes elsewhere. It's stupid. But, yeah. That's my fun fact of the week and yeah.

[01:19:51] **Liz Farrell:** Goodbye, guys. Thank you for listening. Five stars.



EPISODE 19: Trapping the Bear: Alex Murdaugh's Big Lies Finally Do Him In

[01:19:54] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, five stars, everybody. Cups down.

[01:19:56] **Eric Bland:** Cups down.

[01:19:58] **Liz Farrell:** Cups down.

[01:20:06] **Outro:** This Cup of Justice bonus episode of the Murdaugh Murders Podcast is created and hosted by me, Mandy Matney, with co-host Liz Farrell, our executive editor, and Eric Bland, attorney-at-law, AKA The Jackhammer of Justice. From Luna Shark Productions.

CUP OF
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