

The Elizabeth Smart Case

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BACKGROUND:

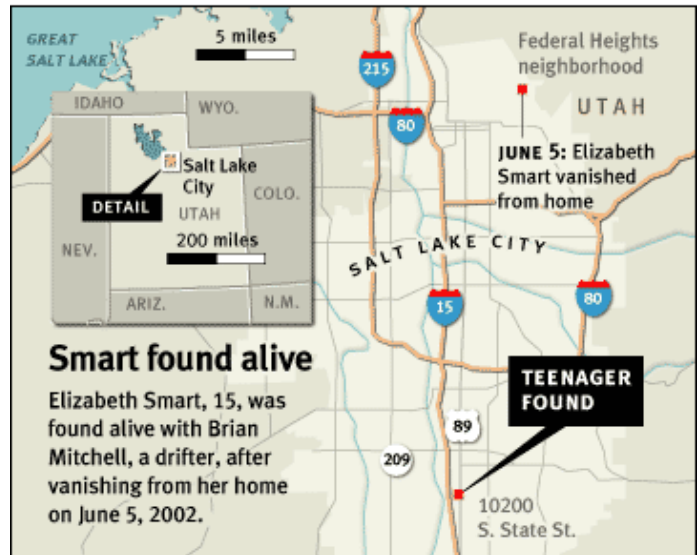
Key dates in the Elizabeth Smart disappearance:

- June 5, 2002: Mary Katherine Smart tells parents that her 14-year-old sister Elizabeth was taken from their home at gunpoint.
- June 6: Hundreds of volunteers search streets and foothills of Salt Lake City. Police pursue more than 100 tips.
- June 14: Handyman Richard Albert Ricci, who once worked at Smart home, arrested on a parole violation unrelated to Elizabeth's case. Ricci questioned about the Smart case; considered top suspect.
- June 22: Transient Brett Michael Edmunds, seen in Smart neighborhood the week of disappearance, questioned by police in a West Virginia hospital. Edmunds turns out to know nothing about the disappearance.
- July 31: Ricci pleads innocent to unrelated burglary and theft charges.
- Aug. 30: Ricci dies three days after suffering a brain hemorrhage and collapsing in his jail cell.
- Sept. 17: Twice daily briefings by the Smarts suspended.
- Nov. 3: Elizabeth Smart turns 15.
- Feb. 3, 2003: Smart family releases sketch of Brian David Mitchell, who worked as handyman for family. Elizabeth's sister said he resembled man in house the night teen disappeared.
- March 12: Elizabeth Smart found alive in suburban Salt Lake City.

STORY:

Police found Elizabeth on Wednesday walking in a Salt Lake City suburb with Wanda

Barzee and Brian Mitchell, a shaggy-haired vagabond once hired to help fix the roof on the Smart home. Authorities said the three had been living under bridges and in tents in Utah and California, apparently panhandling to eat. Prosecutors said aggravated kidnapping and other charges from the Smart case would probably be



filed against Mitchell and Barzee on Monday.

Sources with the FBI and the Salt Lake City police told NBC News on condition of anonymity that Elizabeth had been interviewed for about an hour and provided remarkably clear details about her capture. Her information had led police to witnesses who corroborated her stories, they said. Some of the information Elizabeth provided involved the alleged attempt to kidnap her cousin. According to a July 24 sheriff's report, the screen on Jessica Wright's bedroom window was cut and a chair was found beneath it. The intruder fled when the family heard noises in the night and called authorities. A chair was similarly found under the kitchen window at the Smarts' home after Elizabeth disappeared and the screen had been cut from the outside.

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Elizabeth also confirmed to the FBI that she had been forced into a “polygamist relationship” with Mitchell. The sources did not elaborate, but an FBI official who spoke with Elizabeth described “a Patty Hearst-like situation,” a reference to the 1974 kidnapping of the newspaper heiress who was “brainwashed” into sympathizing with her radical captors.

The sources said Mitchell, who left the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the late 1990s, was “strongly” extremist in his religious views and had been preaching to officers during his interrogation.

POLYGAMY: Brian Mitchell, the self-styled prophet accused of snatching the teen from her home at knifepoint, wrote in a 27-page manifesto last year about taking multiple wives, and authorities say he may have taken Elizabeth for that reason and then tried to kidnap her cousin.



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A mental health worker who spoke to Mitchell’s wife, Wanda Barzee, in jail said Saturday that Barzee told her Mitchell had a revelation instructing him to take seven wives. Vicki Cottrell, who has known Barzee for 28 years and is executive director of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Utah, met with Barzee in jail Friday. She said Barzee told her that on Thanksgiving Day 2000, the couple received a revelation that Mitchell was to have seven wives.

Barzee also told Cottrell that the couple heard revelations about where to stay, including an area in the mountains above San Diego, where Mitchell pleaded guilty to vandalizing a church. He served less than a week in jail.

In a later revelation, Cottrell said, Barzee was told by God that the trio needed to return to Salt Lake City. Cottrell said she hoped Barzee had “maybe some glimpses of something they had done that was very wrong and needed to be dealt with.” Barzee told Cottrell that during prayer

during Mitchell's jail time, it was revealed to her that when the group returned to Salt Lake City they would be picked up and “put in jail by the evildoers of the world.”

QUESTIONED A DAY EARLIER: On Saturday, authorities said that Elizabeth Smart and her two alleged captors were probably questioned by police outside a Burger King in North Las Vegas last week. Two officers responded to a call from restaurant workers that three people were “hanging out in front of the business.” The three looked like transients, did not provide identification and did not want to answer the questions. The trio gave their names as Peter, Juliet and Augustine Marshall to the North Las Vegas policemen that questioned them. They were not arrested and no police report was filed.

Elizabeth, Brian Mitchell and Wanda Barzee were picked up the following day near Salt Lake City by officers who recognized Elizabeth, even though she repeatedly denied her identity.

Mitchell used the alias Peter Marshall when he was arrested; Barza used the name Juliet Marshall.

CELEBRATING ELIZABETH’S RETURN: Late Friday, people gathered at a downtown park to celebrate Elizabeth’s return. She did not attend, but she sent an autographed poster thanking the public for their support.

“I’m the luckiest girl in the world! Thank you for your love and prayers. It’s a wish come true!! I’m home! I love you all,” Elizabeth wrote — her first public comments since returning to her family. Elizabeth’s father, Ed Smart, said he had not asked Elizabeth questions about her ordeal because he didn’t want to traumatize her further.

SIDE CASE: The Salt Lake police handling of suspicions of Mitchell that dated back to October or before has become a focus of attention from the public and the Smart family. The former chief investigator of Elizabeth’s case acknowledged Friday that he made the wrong choice in waiting for four months to release a sketch of Mitchell based on a description from Elizabeth’s sister. In addition, Mitchell was taken in and released by police at least twice during the

nine months Elizabeth was held captive.

Mayor Rocky Anderson announced that an independent panel would be formed to review the handling of the case. "This is not to intimate that there is anything wrong; but there have been so many questions raised," said Anderson Thursday.

Elizabeth's sister, Mary Katherine, 10, provided a description of Mitchell in October after suddenly recalling that the figure she saw the night of Elizabeth's disappearance looked like Mitchell, a handyman who had worked at the family's house months earlier. The sketch was not released until Feb. 3. A sister of Mitchell's thought it was him and provided a photograph that was also released. Two couples in Sandy, Utah, saw the photo on TV reports and contacted police about seeing Mitchell with two veiled women (Elizabeth and Barzee).

SIGNIFICANCE:

Why didn't she run away? Why didn't she readily admit she was Elizabeth Smart when police found her with the couple who had allegedly held her captive for nine months? How could she walk by all those posters with her picture on them and not say anything?

These are the questions swirling since 15-year-old Elizabeth Smart was reunited with her parents in Salt Lake City and as evidence emerges that she stayed close to her captors even when they went to public places. Yet as perplexing as those questions seem, psychologists and other specialists are not surprised she didn't bolt.

Elizabeth's ordeal is being compared to cases where hostages come to identify with their captors and cult leaders exercise psychological control over vulnerable, often young, recruits. Though little is known about what the girl endured after she was allegedly kidnapped at knifepoint from her bedroom, a body of research might offer insights into the girl's behavior.

In what has come to be known as Stockholm syndrome, coined after a robbery at a Swedish bank in 1973, hostages can become emotionally attached to their captors. The first stage is terror; the second is isolation from the outside world. Gradually the victim shifts from

trying to please the abductors for fear of being hurt to simply trying to please them. The people depriving the hostages of freedom are the same ones providing food and shelter.

Perhaps the most famous case of a kidnap victim taking on the identity of her kidnappers is that of heiress Patty Hearst. She was abducted by the radical Symbionese Liberation Army in 1974 and later jailed for participating with them in a bank heist.

Serbian PM Assassinated

BACKGROUND:

Serbia and Montenegro, the two republics still left in the old Yugoslav federation, had agreed

in March 2002 to scrap remnants of the ex-communist state formed after World War II and to create a new, looser union of Serbia and Montenegro. The



EU-brokered deal was intended to prevent further changes to Balkan borders by settling Montenegrin demands for independence.

Controversy surrounding it led almost immediately to the collapse of the government in Montenegro where its supporters came into conflict both with those who felt it failed to give the republic enough independence and with those who thought it gave too much. However, the position of parties in favor of the agreement was strengthened when they won the next elections.

The constitutional charter for the new union was agreed in December 2002. It is to have a federal presidency and federal defense and foreign ministries but the two republics are to be semi-independent states in charge of their own economies. Kosovo is *de facto* an international protectorate but legally remains part of Serbia.

The union arrangement is to remain in place for a minimum of three years after which the two republics will decide whether to keep it.

The Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia, consisting of Serbia, Montenegro, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia, was proclaimed in 1945. Under authoritarian communist leader Josip Broz Tito the lid was kept on ethnic tensions. The federation lasted for over 10 years after his death in 1980 but under Serbian nationalist leader Slobodan Milosevic it fell apart in bloodshed through the 1990s.

The secession of Slovenia and Macedonia came relatively peacefully but there were devastating wars in Croatia and Bosnia. Serbia and Montenegro together formed the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia between 1992 and 2003.

In 1998 violence flared in the province of Kosovo in Serbia. The Kosovo Liberation Army, supported by the majority ethnic Albanians, came out in open rebellion against Serbian rule.

International pressure grew on President Milosevic amid the escalating violence and Nato launched air strikes against Yugoslavia in 1999.

Montenegrin leaders distanced themselves from Milosevic's handling of Kosovo, and after his downfall in 2000 were keen for independence. Those plans were shelved with the agreement to establish the union of Serbia and Montenegro.

Serbian Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic was the prime mover in the handing over of Slobodan Milosevic to the war crimes tribunal in The Hague. The authorities blamed organized criminal groups with links to Milosevic for his killing.

STORY:

Belgrade, March 15, 2003 - Serbian Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic was laid to rest Saturday in the Lane of the Great of Belgrade's New Cemetery. President of the EU's Council of Ministers, Greek Foreign Minister George Papandreou, Serbian Minister of Justice Vladan Batic, Serbian Minister of Finance and Economy Bozidar Djelic, and Federal Interior Minister Zoran Zivkovic, also deputy president of the Democratic Party, each paid tribute to the late

Prime Minister. More than 100,000 people followed the Prime Minister on his final stroll through the streets of Belgrade.

The casket of the Prime Minister - draped in the red, blue and white Serbian flag - was displayed this morning in Saint Sava's Cathedral in central Belgrade. Tens of thousands of people came to pay their final respects.

Along with the late Prime Minister's mother Mila, widow Ruzica, daughter Jovana and son Luka, the funeral was attended by numerous foreign dignitaries, members of the Serbian government, Montenegrin officials, Serbia and Montenegro President Svetozar Marovic, Democratic Party representatives, delegations of other religious communities and citizens carrying flowers, candles and photographs of the slain PM.

Djindjic was shot outside government buildings in the capital on Wednesday. Mladan Micic - The Rat - was detained along with six other people at a house in the village of Smoljinac. Weapons, ammunition, surveillance devices and car number plates were seized in the raid. A police spokesman said evidence important to the investigation into Djindjic's death had also been recovered. Micic is believed suspected of being one of the leaders of the so-called Zemun crime gang, which authorities have linked to Djindjic's killing. Police have arrested about 200 people since Djindjic's assassination.



SIGNIFICANCE:

None of Djindjic's allies has a broad following, despite promising to continue reforms initiated by Djindjic. Zoran Zivkovic, nominated by the ruling Democratic Party to succeed Djindjic, hardly has the charisma or political skills of the slain premier, nor the international stature of German-educated Djindjic.

WHO YOU NEED TO KNOW:**Prime Minister of Serbia
Dr. Zoran Djindjic**

Zoran Djindjic was the prime minister of the Republic of Serbia. Born on 1 August 1952 in Bosnia, Djindjic became politically active during his student years at the University of Belgrade. In the 1970s, he associated with Yugoslavia's New Left

philosophers, a group of reform-minded socialists focused around the journal Praxis. After spending several months in jail for attempting to create an autonomous non-communist student organization with fellow students from Croatia and Slovenia, Djindjic moved to Germany, where he earned a doctorate in philosophy under Jürgen Habermas in 1979. He remained in Germany for most of the 1980s, returning to Yugoslavia in 1989 to teach philosophy at Novi Sad University.

In 1989 Djindjic joined a group of Serb dissident writers and intellectuals to found the Democratic Party. One year later, he was voted the Chairman of the Democratic Party Executive Board; in January 1994, he was elected the party's president. He became a member of the Serb Parliament in 1990. Following 88 days of mass protests over electoral manipulation during local elections in 1996, he was elected Belgrade's first non-communist mayor since World War II.

Djindjic is widely believed to be the chief strategist and main organizer behind the September 2000 Yugoslav presidential elections and October 2000 uprising that resulted in the overthrow of former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic. He is also credited with masterminding the December 2000 Serbian elections, in which the Democratic Opposition of Serbia (DOS), a coalition of 18 parties spanning a broad range of the political spectrum, won 65 percent of the

popular vote. The DOS elected Djindjic to be prime minister of Serbia in 2001.

Djindjic's articles and essays have been published in a number of scholarly journals. He is also the author of three books: *Serbia between the East and West*, *Yugoslavia - the Partially Formed State*, and *The Autumn of Dialectics and Subjectivity and Violence*.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY:**March 17, 1762****First St. Patrick's
Day Parade**

In New York City, the first parade honoring the Catholic feast day of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, is held by Irish soldiers serving in the British army.

Saint Patrick, who was born in the late 5th century, was one of the most successful Christian missionaries in history. Born in Britain to a Christian family of Roman citizenship, he was taken prisoner at the age of 16 by a group of Irish raiders who attacked his family's estate. They took him to Ireland, and he spent six years in captivity before escaping back to Britain. Believing he had been called by God to Christianize Ireland, he joined the Catholic Church and studied for 15 years before being consecrated as the church's second missionary to Ireland. Patrick began his mission to Ireland in 432, and by his death in 460, the island was almost entirely Christian.

Early Irish settlers to the American colonies, many of whom were indentured servants, brought the Irish tradition of celebrating St. Patrick's feast day to America. The first recorded St. Patrick's Day parade was held not in Ireland but in New York City in 1762, and with the dramatic increase of Irish immigrants to the United States in the mid-19th century, the March 17th celebration became widespread. Today, millions with Irish ancestry celebrate their cultural identity and history by enjoying St. Patrick's Day parades and engaging in general revelry.

ENTERTAINMENT:

Rock Hall of Fame Inductees



The annual Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony featured the spirit of 1970s British punk, some anti-war sentiments and

probably the loudest noise ever heard at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

In what's often the case at the glittery ceremony, the honor also brought together a long-estranged group, in this case the Police. The British trio played publicly Monday for the first time in 18 years, singing the reggae-tinged "Roxanne," the obsessive hit, "Every Breath You Take" and "Message in a Bottle." Ego splintered the band in the mid-1980s. And it hasn't dulled with time: singer Sting said Stewart Copeland grumbled about the song selection for the reunion because there wasn't enough drumming in them.

Hopes for another big reunion were dashed when Joe Strummer, lead singer of the Clash, died on Dec. 22. The surviving members were saluted by guitarist the Edge of U2 and Tom Morello of Audioslave, who both recalled being awed by a Clash concert when they were teenagers.

A third potential reunion, of Elvis Costello and his longtime backing trio, the Attractions, was scuttled by bad blood. Costello currently tours with two of its members, but has long feuded with bass player Bruce Thomas. Costello and his new band played their adrenalized anthem, "Pump it Up," and "Deep, Dark Truthful Mirror."

Australian hard rockers AC/DC made the staid Waldorf Astoria paint peel with thunderous versions of "Highway to Hell" and "You Shook Me All Night Long," the latter joined by Aerosmith lead singer Steven Tyler.

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame is in Cleveland but the induction ceremonies are held in New York. Highlights of the ceremony were shown on VH1 Sunday.

SPORTS:

NCAA TOURNEY

In a season full of scandal, the NCAA tournament selection committee restored some order to college basketball. Kentucky, Arizona, Texas and Oklahoma got the top spots on a Selection Sunday that offered very little controversy, from what teams got in to where they have to travel. Sure, the Florida Gators received a No. 2 seed despite losing three straight games, and Boston College (18-11) was left out even though it won its Big East division. For the most part, however, coaches and players had little to complain about. That doesn't mean it was easy handing out the at-large berths.

Texas will play in the South, Oklahoma in the East, Arizona out West and Kentucky in the Midwest, all vying for a chance to reach the Final Four, April 5 and 7 in New Orleans.

There were still questions about the effect a war would have on the tournament. NCAA officials were busy making contingency plans for security and possible postponements, but the event would not be canceled. CBS has said it might switch some games to ESPN if there is a war with Iraq. It could also shift the games to another of the networks owned by CBS' parent company, Viacom, such as MTV, UPN, BET or TNN.

In this season of parity on the court and troubles off it, Duke, the No. 3 seed in the West, ended its run of five straight years as a top seed. Georgia, expected to be a highly seeded team, Michigan and Fresno State declared themselves ineligible for the tournament because of possible NCAA violations or academic fraud.

The Big 12 and SEConference are sending six teams. Five teams from the Big Ten and Pac-10 were selected, while the Atlantic Coast Conf., Conf. USA and Big East are sending four.

The tournament begins Tuesday night in Dayton, Ohio, the start of a basketball odyssey that will also go through regional sites Minneapolis, Anaheim, San Antonio, and Albany, before reaching New Orleans.

FEATURE:

What is the 'Stockholm Syndrome'?

In 1973, four Swedes held in a bank vault for six days during a robbery became attached to their captors, a phenomenon dubbed the Stockholm Syndrome. According to psychologists, the abused bond to their abusers as a means to endure violence.

At 10:15 A.M. on Thursday, August 23rd, 1973 the "Sveriges Kreditbank" of Stockholm, Sweden was rocked by sub-machine gun fire.(1) "The party has just begun", announced a 32 year old prison escapee named Jan-Erik Olsson. "The party", indeed, continued for some 131 hours, or five and a half days, as Olsson held four of the bank's employees hostage in an 11 by 47 foot vault until late in the evening of August 28th.

While the "Sveriges Kreditbank" robbery itself may not have been of world shattering importance, later interviews with the four hostages yielded surprising results -- results that have been confirmed in numerous other "hostage situations" in the years that followed. Even though the captives themselves were not able to explain it, they displayed a strange association with their captors, identifying with them while fearing those who sought to end their captivity. In some cases they later testified on behalf of or raised money for the legal defense of their captors. The Swedish location of the "Sveriges Kreditbank" gave its name to this mental aberration as "The Stockholm Syndrome".

Long-term psychological study of this and similar hostage situations has defined a fairly clear and characteristic set of symptoms for the Stockholm Syndrome:

The captives begin to identify with their captors. At least at first this is a defensive mechanism, based on the (often unconscious) idea that the captor will not hurt the captive if he is cooperative and even positively supportive. The

captive seeks to win the favor of the captor in an almost childlike way. Victims have to concentrate on survival, requiring avoidance of direct, honest reaction to destructive treatment. They become highly attuned to pleasure and displeasure reactions of victimizers. As a result, victims know much about captors, less about themselves. Victims are encouraged to develop psychological characteristics pleasing to captors: dependency, lack of initiative, inability to act, decide, and think, etc.

The captive often realizes that action taken by his would-be rescuers is very likely to hurt him instead of obtaining his release. Attempts at rescue may turn a tolerable situation into a lethal one. If the bullets of the authorities don't get him, quite possibly those of the provoked captor will.

Long term captivity builds even stronger attachment to the captor as he becomes known as a human being with his own problems and aspirations. Particularly in political or ideological situations, longer captivity also allows the captive to become familiar with the captor's point of view and his grievances against authority. He may come to believe that the captor's position is just.

The captive seeks to distance himself emotionally from the situation by denial that it is actually taking place. He fancies that "it is all a dream", or loses himself in excessive periods of sleep, or in delusions of being magically rescued. He may try to forget the situation by engaging in useless but time consuming "busy work". Depending on his degree of identification with the captor he may deny that the captor is at fault, holding that the would-be rescuers and their insistence on punishing the captor are really to blame for his situation.

The Stockholm Syndrome is an emotional attachment, a bond of interdependence between captive and captor. The victims' need to survive is stronger than his impulse to hate the captor. The victim comes to see the captor as a 'good guy', even a savior. Former hostages have visited their captors in jail, recommended counsel, and even started defense funds.

Quote of the Week:

Labor is often the father of pleasure

--Proverb

Fact of the Week:

Rats multiply so quickly that in 18 months, two rats could have over a million descendants.

Word of the Week:

Lycopod (i'ko*pod) n. A plant to an order intermediate between mosses and ferns; in some respects allied to the conifer.

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Have a Great Week!

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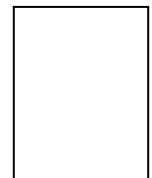
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