

UNLUCKY: Series 1

"UNLUCKY CHANGE"

*Episode 107*

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CONFIDENTIAL

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FADE IN:

"For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath."

Matthew 14:29 KJV

INT. JERRY'S HOME - BEDROOM - DAY (1)

Jerry lies on his back in bed under the covers. Eyes closed. Peaceful.

[ DREAM SECQUENCE ]

NANCY and her two children stand close to the bed, eyes beamed at Jerry.

NANCY

Jerry. Jerry.

--Jerry!

Jerry quickly awakens. Eyes Nancy and her kids. Amanda stares with evil eyes with a BAT and Jake holds his SLINGSHOT tight.

JERRY

What are you doing here?

Nancy angrily responds.

NANCY

I've come back for what's mine, Jerry.

JERRY

What do you mean?

NANCY

Where's my money, Jerry?

JERRY

What money?

NANCY

The money you owe me. I had to move out of my house because I couldn't afford to live anywhere else.

JERRY

No, no, no, Nancy. You didn't live there. Stop lying.

NANCY

I never said I owned the house, that's just where we were squatting for a little bit. It's been hard, Jerry. No help from you!

AMANDA

That's right bad man.

JAKE

Yeah.

Amanda hits Jerry's leg with the BAT. Jake walks around to the foot of the bed. Pulls the sling shot back.

JERRY

Ouch! Why did you do that?

AMANDA

That's for mama. Now Jake is going to put you in the long deep sleep.

JAKE

You won't ever wake up.

Jake and Amanda laughs hysterically.

NANCY

We're broke, Jerry! I know you making a lot of money now. I helped you and now you need to help us! Give me my money!

JERRY

I appreciated the help, Nancy... but you gave me an expired lottery ticket. What do you have to say about that?

NANCY

It was a winning ticket. Don't blame me because you took so long to cash it.

JERRY

It's your fault!

NANCY

Your fault!

JERRY

Your fault!

NANCY

Yours.

JERRY

Yours!

They continue back and forth until...

AMANDA

The bad man is back. Let's take him out.

JAKE

Don't yell at my mama!

Amanda hits Jerry's leg again, Jake let's go of the shot. Hits him smack in the face.

TITLE CARD:

"UNLUCKY"

INT. JERRY'S HOME - BEDROOM - DAY (2)

Mary hovers over Jerry's body on the bed. She looks down directly over his face.

MARY

Com'on, Lucky. --Lucky!

She holds his nose, appears to breathe into his mouth frantically...

Jerry slowly opens his eyes. Mary's face is buried into his. He abruptly gets up and pushes her back and spits out of his mouth.

JERRY

Pssft! Oh my God! --What are you doing!?

MARY

Oh, thank God!

JERRY

Mama, why are you trying to kiss me!?

MARY

I'm not sweetie. -I was trying to give you C.P.R.

JERRY

C.P.R.?

MARY

Yeah, that's right. You were screaming so loud like a little girl. I had to come in here and rescue you.

JERRY

What?

MARY (V.O.)

I was sound asleep on the couch in the living room and you woke me up out of my sleep. You were screaming so loud, very

high pitched, like a little girl who just saw a ghost or something...

FLASH BACK TO:

INT. JERRY'S HOME - LIVING ROOM AREA - DAY (3)

Mary sits on the couch, eyes glued to her PHONE SCREEN. She scrolls through PHOTOS of a MANSION for a beat. Smiles.

Suddenly, she quickly turns and looks towards the room. A strange scream sound emits from the distance.

JERRY

(girly)

Aaaaaaaaaahh!

MARY

What is that? Lucky!? Are you okay?

JERRY

Aaaaaaaaaahh!

Mary gets up off the couch slowly, but quickly makes her way towards Jerry's room.

INT. JERRY'S HOME - BEDROOM - DAY (4)

Mary opens the door. Jerry lies in the bed with his eyes close. Mouth opens and closes as he screams. She approaches.

JERRY

Aaaaaaaaaahh!

MARY

Lucky, what's wrong? Wake up, wake up!

After he screams, his head falls to the side. Breathing stops. Mary shakes him for a moment.

After a beat Mary puts her ear to his mouth.

MARY

Lucky! Oh my God he's not breathing. -  
Sorry son, I have to do mouth to mouth...

Mary puts her head down towards his face...

FLASH BACK TO:

[ PRESENT TIME ]

Mary stares at Jerry.

MARY

You see what I mean now? I saved your  
life.

JERRY

Next time, just let me die before you  
think about giving me mouth to mouth. You  
understand?

MARY

That's ridiculous. I'm not going to let  
you die. You're my good luck charm.

JERRY

Well, luckily I'm not dead right now. I  
don't know where your mouth's been.

MARY

Lucky? Don't say things like that.

But I'm glad you're alright. Why in the  
world were you screaming?

JERRY

I didn't know I was screaming. I had this  
weird nightmare. It felt like I was awake  
right here in my room.

MARY

What happened?

JERRY

I saw Nancy. She was upset that I started making all of this money and I didn't help her.

MARY

That's interesting. What do you think that means?

JERRY

Well, I've been thinking a lot about how I can help families like us, like Nancy. You know, single mothers who find themselves struggling to make ends meet like we did. I think I can help. I've talked to some other gamers about getting together and working on a project. We're going to meet next week about it. You mind speaking? Telling your story to help raise more money?

MARY

Oh, no. I don't mind. Is it okay if I tell people about your little episode this morning?

Mary laughs. Jerry smiles.

JERRY

No, mama. Please don't.

MARY

Okay, I won't embarrass you. Sounds amazing.

But I did want to show you this home I was looking at. Here, check this out... It's only a million dollars.

Mary hands Jerry the PHONE. He looks.

JERRY

Only a million, huh? Looks real nice. Whatever you want mama.

MARY

Great! Look at the bathrooms...

They continue to look at the phone together. A beat.

INT. JERRY'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY (5)

Mary closes Jerry's room door and comes in and sits down on the couch.

She scrolls through her PHONE for a moment and holds the PHONE to her ear. She looks back at the room randomly and speaks in a low voice.

MARY

Hey.

I just had a good talk with Lucky. He's actually taking a step in the right direction.

Is there anything I should do?

So, do you have some availability next week?

...

Mary looks back. She continues on the phone...

INT. BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY (6)

SUPER: One Week Later

A semi-large crowd slightly fill the room. Several chairs, white walls, a PODIUM with a small mic stands alone at the front. Sounds of chatter flow throughout.

Jerry, wearing a SUIT and a TIE, approaches the PODIUM.

JERRY

Hello everyone. Thank you so much for coming. If you are here, then you know we are trying to save the world one family at a time. We want to help single mothers

who are out there struggling to make ends meet. With your help and support, we will be able to connect with and instantly change their situation. It was something I always needed growing up. I didn't have a father in the home as a young boy and I think I put my faith in the wrong thing.

Now, my mama is here to tell you our story. If you would please welcome... Mama.

Mary gets up from her seat and approaches Jerry. Gives him a big hug, then stands in front of the podium. Jerry sits.

MARY

Hi everybody. I'm so proud and thankful for my son, Lucky. All of his life I called him Lucky, but for the wrong reasons. I do apologize son for putting all of that pressure on you to win the lottery. I hoped one day that he would win, since I never could.

It was hard not having his daddy around, but I didn't know what else to do. It's been a long hard road. Over forty years of never winning anything. One day, everything changed. That was until I met... Nancy.

Jerry sits up tall. Footsteps sound off from a distance.

JERRY

What? Nancy...?

Mary continues.

MARY (CONT'D)

Nancy helped me understand the importance of not depend on the lottery to earn millions of dollars. But to look at the gift God has put inside each of us to make our dreams come true. I'll let her talk about how she was able to help Lucky turn his life around. Please give it up for the Psychologist, Dr. Nancy Wells.

The crowd claps in unison. Nancy approaches the podium.

NANCY

Good afternoon everyone.

(to Jerry)

Hello, Jerry. I know you're surprised, but this was the only way to make it happen. I'm sorry...

(back to crowd)

So, I am a Christian, a single mother, a Psychologist -PhD, a millionaire. I've made money doing various things you may not believe. One of them is playing rock paper scissors. As you found out first hand, Jerry. I believe people shouldn't depend on the lottery to save them. They need to depend on the gifts that God gives. We all have a gift.

I did my dissertation on a specific study that's near and dear to my heart. It's called: "A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of the effects of playing the lottery and their behavioral and mental health outcomes among poor families."

Let me ask you a question, do rich people play the lottery? Think about that. The government makes about thirty billion dollars a year on the lottery. How many people lose money and time playing it? Think about that. You have to be extremely lucky to win. Every time you play, your probability does not go up, neither does playing multiple tickets at once. So, I have concluded that it's not the answer to your problem.

NANCY (V.O.)

What I did was found someone who played the lottery religiously. That was Jerry. I came into the store for days looking for someone special to test my theory. He showed up every day, and I needed to find

more information about him. I followed him  
home and spoke to his mother...

FLASH BACK TO:

INT. LOCAL GROCERY STORE - DAY (7)

Nancy stares from a far behind a few things in the store.  
Jerry waits in the lottery ticket line.

EXT. JERRY'S HOME - FRONT YARD AREA - DAY (8)

Jerry exits the front door, wearing his JANITOR UNIFORM.  
He walks down the street into the distance. A beat.

Nancy approaches the front door. She knocks...

[ KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK ]

Mary eventually opens the door. Pokes her head out, eyes  
her up and down.

MARY

Who are you and what do you want?

NANCY

My name is Nancy Wells and I want to help  
you get rich.

Who just left?

MARY

Get off my property, no cray-crays are  
allowed around here or in my house.  
Talking about getting rich.

Mary makes her way back into the house. Nancy gets her  
attention...

NANCY

I'll give you ten thousand dollars.

Mary stops in her track. Turns around.

MARY

What?

NANCY

I will pay you ten thousand dollars.

Mary comes closer. Nancy pulls out a STACK OF MONEY. She holds it up. Mary reaches for it.

MARY

I'll take it.

Nancy pulls back.

NANCY

Nope, not yet. You have to agree to help me, first. Who was that?

MARY

Sure, I'll help you. -That was my son Lucky.

Do I get the money?

NANCY

Yes, but after we talk and you agree to move forward.

I'm Dr. Nancy Wells.

MARY

Hi, I'm Mary Halls. Nice to meet you.

NANCY

Can we please go inside to talk?

MARY

Okay, come on in.

Mary opens the door wider and let's Nancy inside.

INT. JERRY'S HOME - LIVINGROOM- DAY (9)

Mary and Nancy sit down on the couch facing one another. They converse.

NANCY

So, I'm doing a study on people who consistently play the lottery. I would like to understand the effects of their behavior and mental health.

MARY

Why do you want to do that?

NANCY

Well, I'm under the impression that people who play the lottery don't need to. I believe that the lottery can prevent people from accomplishing their dreams if they believe that's the only way to get there.

MARY

If we won the lottery I would finally be able to buy the house I want and live the life I've always wanted. I'm a single mother and it's been hard raising Lucky by myself. He's my good luck charm. I think.

NANCY

That's exactly it. You believe that's the only way to get the life you want. I want to change that. The lottery only gives you impossible odds. How long have you all been playing?

MARY

Twenty years plus another twenty by myself.

NANCY

Have you made any progress?

MARY

No.

NANCY

That's my point. You will die before you win.

MARY

What?

NANCY

I'm a millionaire.

MARY

How?

NANCY

I invested in myself. I became a rock paper scissors champion. I won tournaments throughout the nation. I cracked the code.

MARY

Nobody makes money playing no stupid rock paper scissors.

NANCY

Yes, you can. That's my point. You can make millions doing a lot of things. You just have to develop your gift.

What does Lucky like to do in his free time?

MARY

He plays those stupid video games.

NANCY

Really? Did you know that the video game market is worth over two hundred billion dollars?

MARY

No. That's a lot. We don't get that money so it don't matter.

NANCY

But the market is big enough to earn money if you're a top player. As with anything you do in life.

This is perfect. I would like to study Lucky and see if he can rise to the challenge and take your lives to the next level...

BACK TO:

INT. BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY (10)

Nancy continues her story at the podium. Jerry stares with wide eyes. Mary looks on.

Three people walk in behind Nancy: Terrance, Elizabeth and the Window Teller.

NANCY (CONT'D)

It took some effort from these awesome people standing here behind me. Thank you all for helping to make this happen.

Once we got started, Jerry showed that he was destined to win the lottery when he found out he could have won. He put so much time and effort into going after what he wanted. We were able to help channel that towards something he was already doing. His gaming. He's a millionaire now because his horizons expanded with a new opportunity and he went after it.

Understand that you have to create the life you want. Don't just wait for it to come, because it won't. You have to master your own luck.

Use your God given gift before it's too late.

FADE OUT

THE END