

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,820

This episode is brought to you by Thorne and I have some incredible news for any of you

2

00:00:03,820 --> 00:00:07,960

that are in the military, first responder or medical professions.

3

00:00:07,960 --> 00:00:15,860

In an effort to give back, Thorne is now offering you an ongoing 35% off each and every one

4

00:00:15,860 --> 00:00:19,780

of your purchases of their incredible nutritional solutions.

5

00:00:19,780 --> 00:00:27,280

Now Thorne is the official supplement of CrossFit, the UFC, the Mayo Clinic, the Human Performance

6

00:00:27,280 --> 00:00:31,480

Project and multiple special operations organizations.

7

00:00:31,480 --> 00:00:36,420

I myself have used them for several years and that is why I brought them on as a sponsor.

8

00:00:36,420 --> 00:00:42,080

Some of my favorite products they have are their Multivitamin Elite, their Whey Protein,

9

00:00:42,080 --> 00:00:45,840

the Super EPA and then most recently, Cynaquil.

10

00:00:45,840 --> 00:00:50,120

As a firefighter, a stuntman and a martial artist, I've had my share of brain trauma

11

00:00:50,120 --> 00:00:55,520

and sleep deprivation and Cynaquil is their latest brain health supplement.

12

00:00:55,520 --> 00:01:02,640

Now to qualify for the 35% off, go to thorn.com, T-H-O-R-N-E dot com.

13

00:01:02,640 --> 00:01:05,460

Click on sign in and then create a new account.

14

00:01:05,460 --> 00:01:09,800

You will see the opportunity to register as a first responder or member of military.

15

00:01:09,800 --> 00:01:14,680

When you click on that, it will take you through verification with GovX.

16

00:01:14,680 --> 00:01:18,980

You'll simply choose a profession, provide one piece of documentation and then you are

17

00:01:18,980 --> 00:01:20,920

verified for life.

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00:01:20,920 --> 00:01:26,720

From that point onwards, you will continue to receive 35% off through Thorn.

19

00:01:26,720 --> 00:01:34,360

For those of you who don't qualify, there is still the 10% off using the code BTS10

20

00:01:34,360 --> 00:01:36,240

for a one time purchase.

21

00:01:36,240 --> 00:01:42,040

To learn more about Thorn, go to episode 323 of the Behind the Shield podcast with Joel

22

00:01:42,040 --> 00:01:45,500

Titiro and Wes Barnett.

23

00:01:45,500 --> 00:01:51,320

This episode is sponsored by a company I've used for well over a decade and that is 511.

24

00:01:51,320 --> 00:01:56,720

I wore their uniforms back in Anaheim, California and have used their products ever since.

25

00:01:56,720 --> 00:02:03,280

From their incredibly strong yet light footwear to their cut uniforms for both male and female

26

00:02:03,280 --> 00:02:07,880

responders, I found them hands down the best work wear in all the departments that I've

27

00:02:07,880 --> 00:02:09,360

worked for.

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00:02:09,360 --> 00:02:13,660

Outside of the fire service, I use their luggage for everything and I travel a lot and they

29

00:02:13,660 --> 00:02:19,960

are also now sponsoring the 7X team as we embark around the world on the Human Performance

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00:02:19,960 --> 00:02:20,960

project.

31

00:02:20,960 --> 00:02:25,040

We have Murph coming up in May and again I bought their plate carrier.

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00:02:25,040 --> 00:02:30,000

I ended up buying real ballistic plates rather than the fake weight plates and that has been

33

00:02:30,000 --> 00:02:33,840

my ride or die through Murph the last few years as well.

34

00:02:33,840 --> 00:02:37,800

One area I want to talk about that I haven't in previous sponsorship spots is their brick

35

00:02:37,800 --> 00:02:39,640

and mortar element.

36

00:02:39,640 --> 00:02:44,360

They were predominantly an online company up till more recently but now they are approaching

37

00:02:44,360 --> 00:02:47,080

100 stores all over the US.

38

00:02:47,080 --> 00:02:52,160

My local store is here in Gainesville Florida and I've been multiple times and the discounts

39

00:02:52,160 --> 00:02:55,400

you see online are applied also in the stores.

40

00:02:55,400 --> 00:03:02,040

So as I mentioned 511 is offering you 15% off every purchase that you make but I do

41

00:03:02,040 --> 00:03:07,080

want to say more often than not they have an even deeper discount especially around

42

00:03:07,080 --> 00:03:08,720

holiday times.

43

00:03:08,720 --> 00:03:18,680

But if you use the code SHIELD15 you will get 15% off your order or in the stores every

44

00:03:18,680 --> 00:03:20,520

time you make a purchase.

45

00:03:20,520 --> 00:03:25,820

And if you want to hear more about 511 who they stand for and who works with them listen

46

00:03:25,820 --> 00:03:34,040

to episode 580 of Behind the Shield podcast with 511 regional director Will Ayres.

47

00:03:34,040 --> 00:03:37,340

Welcome to the Behind the Shield podcast as always my name is James Gearing and this week

48

00:03:37,340 --> 00:03:44,240

it is my absolute honor to welcome on the show Layla and Ali Rogan and Troy Dishard.

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00:03:44,240 --> 00:03:49,200

Now I'm so excited to bring you this conversation because it is such a great example of the

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00:03:49,200 --> 00:03:54,580

absolute imperative nature of training in the first responder professions.

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00:03:54,580 --> 00:04:02,520

On May 22nd 2022 Layla was riding an ATV and had a near fatal accident resulting in a massive

52

00:04:02,520 --> 00:04:04,320

TBI.

53

00:04:04,320 --> 00:04:08,520

As you will hear from the events that followed from the Good Samaritan that initially found

54

00:04:08,520 --> 00:04:14,120

her, the high level of training the first responders had, the continued chain of care

55

00:04:14,120 --> 00:04:18,740

in the hospital and extending into the therapy side.

56

00:04:18,740 --> 00:04:23,600

Another essential part of this conversation is simply to underline the danger of ATVs

57

00:04:23,600 --> 00:04:26,520

when not ridden properly in the right area.

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00:04:26,520 --> 00:04:30,840

So I hope this serves as a cautionary tale obviously from the side of safety but also

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00:04:30,840 --> 00:04:35,000

diligence in training in the first responder professions.

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00:04:35,000 --> 00:04:40,400

Now before we get to this amazing conversation as I say every week, please just take a moment.

61

00:04:40,400 --> 00:04:45,520

Go to whichever app you listen to this on, subscribe to the show, leave feedback and

62

00:04:45,520 --> 00:04:47,560

leave a rating.

63

00:04:47,560 --> 00:04:52,720

Every single five star rating truly does elevate this podcast therefore making it easier for

64

00:04:52,720 --> 00:04:54,360

others to find.

65

00:04:54,360 --> 00:04:59,840

And this is a free library of well over 900 episodes now.

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00:04:59,840 --> 00:05:05,720

So all I ask in return is that you help share these incredible men and women stories so

67

00:05:05,720 --> 00:05:11,400

I can get them to every single person on planet earth who needs to hear them.

68

00:05:11,400 --> 00:05:18,480

So with that being said, I introduce to you Layla and Allison Rogan and Troy Deschard.

69

00:05:18,480 --> 00:05:38,440

Enjoy.

70

00:05:38,440 --> 00:05:42,880

Well Layla, Ali and Troy, I want to start by saying thank you all so much for taking

71

00:05:42,880 --> 00:05:45,680

the time and coming on the Behind the Shield podcast today.

72

00:05:45,680 --> 00:05:46,680

Absolutely.

73

00:05:46,680 --> 00:05:47,680

Thanks for having me.

74

00:05:47,680 --> 00:05:48,680

Yeah, we're fans.

75

00:05:48,680 --> 00:05:50,960

So this was a cool opportunity.

76

00:05:50,960 --> 00:05:51,960

Beautiful.

77

00:05:51,960 --> 00:05:54,200  
Well, let's start with Layla and Ali.

78  
00:05:54,200 --> 00:05:57,000  
Where on planet earth are we finding you guys this afternoon?

79  
00:05:57,000 --> 00:06:00,000  
Wellington, Florida.

80  
00:06:00,000 --> 00:06:01,280  
And where is that close to?

81  
00:06:01,280 --> 00:06:02,760  
West Palm Beach.

82  
00:06:02,760 --> 00:06:05,280  
Oh, I'm in there.

83  
00:06:05,280 --> 00:06:06,280  
Beautiful.

84  
00:06:06,280 --> 00:06:07,880  
And what about you Troy?

85  
00:06:07,880 --> 00:06:09,080  
I'm same.

86  
00:06:09,080 --> 00:06:11,600  
West Palm Beach, Florida.

87  
00:06:11,600 --> 00:06:12,600  
All right.

88

00:06:12,600 --> 00:06:13,880

Well, let's let's stay with Troy for a second.

89

00:06:13,880 --> 00:06:17,760

I just want to get some of your kind of story into the fire service and then we'll switch

90

00:06:17,760 --> 00:06:22,640

over to the Rogan family and start walking through, you know, Ali's journey and beyond.

91

00:06:22,640 --> 00:06:28,120

So when Troy, when did you begin the fire service?

92

00:06:28,120 --> 00:06:31,640

I started in 2005.

93

00:06:31,640 --> 00:06:32,960

Pretty much right out of high school.

94

00:06:32,960 --> 00:06:36,040

I knew what I wanted to do.

95

00:06:36,040 --> 00:06:40,000

Went to fire academy, EMT and paramedic school.

96

00:06:40,000 --> 00:06:45,000

Was lucky enough to get picked up by Palm Beach County in 2005.

97

00:06:45,000 --> 00:06:47,520

And the rest is history.

98

00:06:47,520 --> 00:06:55,160

I'll be finishing my 19th year here in a few months and have risen through the ranks.

99

00:06:55,160 --> 00:07:01,480

Did some time on Trauma Hawk, our helicopter, which I'm sure you'll hear a little bit about.

100

00:07:01,480 --> 00:07:09,800

And now I currently am an EMS captain for Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, which we oversee

101

00:07:09,800 --> 00:07:17,720

all of the EMS activities, all the paramedics in our response area, our battalion.

102

00:07:17,720 --> 00:07:20,240

There's nine of us on duty each day.

103

00:07:20,240 --> 00:07:21,240

Fantastic.

104

00:07:21,240 --> 00:07:22,240

All right.

105

00:07:22,240 --> 00:07:25,160

Just want to give some kind of backstory before we get to that point.

106

00:07:25,160 --> 00:07:30,640

So Ali, talk to me about kind of your journey prior to having children and what were the

107

00:07:30,640 --> 00:07:31,880

professions that you were in?

108

00:07:31,880 --> 00:07:37,160

And then talk to me about, you know, the birth of your child.

109

00:07:37,160 --> 00:07:42,000

Prior to kids, I really I thought I was going to go to be an artist or something in the

110

00:07:42,000 --> 00:07:43,000  
field.

111  
00:07:43,000 --> 00:07:47,600  
I went to art school for college and then landed in finance somehow and then became

112  
00:07:47,600 --> 00:07:48,600  
a mom.

113  
00:07:48,600 --> 00:07:50,520  
So it did kind of change all of it.

114  
00:07:50,520 --> 00:07:55,560  
I wasn't very good at it, to be honest, but I my whole path changed.

115  
00:07:55,560 --> 00:07:59,040  
I loved being a parent, I think more than I've ever loved anything.

116  
00:07:59,040 --> 00:08:03,680  
So I ended up I went from saying I'm never having children to having three children.

117  
00:08:03,680 --> 00:08:05,080  
And I said I was never getting married.

118  
00:08:05,080 --> 00:08:07,880  
And I did that as well.

119  
00:08:07,880 --> 00:08:09,400  
Never seen.

120  
00:08:09,400 --> 00:08:13,600  
Let's go to you, Leila, then and kind of walk through your early life.

121

00:08:13,600 --> 00:08:18,760

So things I like to ask people firstly, what about sports and athletics?

122

00:08:18,760 --> 00:08:20,880

What were you playing kind of prior to the incident?

123

00:08:20,880 --> 00:08:24,520

What did you do before dance or just dance?

124

00:08:24,520 --> 00:08:25,520

Just start with that.

125

00:08:25,520 --> 00:08:30,800

OK, I did dance until I was five and five, six, five, six.

126

00:08:30,800 --> 00:08:33,400

And then who told me to do cheer?

127

00:08:33,400 --> 00:08:34,400

A neighbor.

128

00:08:34,400 --> 00:08:38,720

My neighbor told me to do cheer, all starts here.

129

00:08:38,720 --> 00:08:42,640

And I just tried it out and I fell in love with it.

130

00:08:42,640 --> 00:08:49,240

And I did cheer for five to 13, so eight years.

131

00:08:49,240 --> 00:08:54,720

And then I quit and did just private private lessons under season.

132

00:08:54,720 --> 00:08:55,720  
And I got my accident.

133  
00:08:55,720 --> 00:08:57,200  
So I can't go back.

134  
00:08:57,200 --> 00:08:58,200  
Well, I can.

135  
00:08:58,200 --> 00:08:59,200  
I'm gonna.

136  
00:08:59,200 --> 00:09:02,480  
But I just I couldn't go back then.

137  
00:09:02,480 --> 00:09:05,640  
So yeah, basically done cheer and dance my whole life.

138  
00:09:05,640 --> 00:09:07,920  
Like gymnastics, a lot of gymnastics stuff in there.

139  
00:09:07,920 --> 00:09:11,360  
It's not really gymnastics.

140  
00:09:11,360 --> 00:09:13,080  
So what about the switch to privates then?

141  
00:09:13,080 --> 00:09:18,120  
What made you make that switch and what did you get out of that that you didn't from the

142  
00:09:18,120 --> 00:09:19,520  
other group that you were with?

143

00:09:19,520 --> 00:09:25,680

Well, it's because my gym had two locations and they opened one that was in coconut.

144

00:09:25,680 --> 00:09:27,600

Is this a gym or is it?

145

00:09:27,600 --> 00:09:32,320

This is a gym and they opened one in Wellington here.

146

00:09:32,320 --> 00:09:38,920

And so I went there and then I was there three years and then they closed.

147

00:09:38,920 --> 00:09:43,080

So they were close like they moved to go in a creek, which is a little far from me.

148

00:09:43,080 --> 00:09:44,080

It's like an hour.

149

00:09:44,080 --> 00:09:48,680

And I was like, I'm not driving that much three times a week, if more, because I have

150

00:09:48,680 --> 00:09:50,440

to do classes and stuff.

151

00:09:50,440 --> 00:09:52,400

So I just just stopped doing it.

152

00:09:52,400 --> 00:09:53,400

Nobody had lessons.

153

00:09:53,400 --> 00:09:55,520

I don't have to work once a week.

154

00:09:55,520 --> 00:09:57,920  
And then I just yeah, I tried out.

155  
00:09:57,920 --> 00:10:01,360  
I found out what team I made the day of my accident.

156  
00:10:01,360 --> 00:10:05,440  
It was the highest level I've ever been on to.

157  
00:10:05,440 --> 00:10:08,600  
Now what about career aspirations when you were the same kind of age?

158  
00:10:08,600 --> 00:10:11,160  
What were you dreaming of becoming when you graduated?

159  
00:10:11,160 --> 00:10:14,280  
I used to want to be a business manager.

160  
00:10:14,280 --> 00:10:18,040  
I didn't know what company what I wanted to be a business manager of.

161  
00:10:18,040 --> 00:10:19,160  
I used to say your own.

162  
00:10:19,160 --> 00:10:20,520  
I want to be in charge.

163  
00:10:20,520 --> 00:10:23,440  
Yeah, I just want to be in charge.

164  
00:10:23,440 --> 00:10:29,200  
But then after my accident, I want to be a physical therapist now or something along

165

00:10:29,200 --> 00:10:30,200  
with medical field.

166  
00:10:30,200 --> 00:10:32,640  
I want to be in there.

167  
00:10:32,640 --> 00:10:35,280  
But yeah.

168  
00:10:35,280 --> 00:10:36,880  
All right.

169  
00:10:36,880 --> 00:10:45,080  
Well, staying with Layla, then walk me through the day of May 22nd, 2022.

170  
00:10:45,080 --> 00:10:49,160  
So the events prior to the accident and then we'll get to the accident itself.

171  
00:10:49,160 --> 00:10:50,640  
You know, that's a great question.

172  
00:10:50,640 --> 00:10:52,560  
I don't exactly remember it.

173  
00:10:52,560 --> 00:10:55,000  
I have no from what I've been told.

174  
00:10:55,000 --> 00:10:57,920  
What I've been told was I woke up that morning.

175  
00:10:57,920 --> 00:11:02,760  
It was a normal morning and she went to the beach and I asked her to come get me.

176

00:11:02,760 --> 00:11:05,560

And then she said after the beach and I was OK.

177

00:11:05,560 --> 00:11:09,960

So I went on ATV to take time, like makeup time, whatever.

178

00:11:09,960 --> 00:11:13,280

And then I got my accident.

179

00:11:13,280 --> 00:11:18,000

But yeah, that's all I know.

180

00:11:18,000 --> 00:11:21,880

Well, Ali, then I know we talked before.

181

00:11:21,880 --> 00:11:25,880

So walk me through what you've heard as far as how that day actually panned out.

182

00:11:25,880 --> 00:11:30,000

And then let's get to the accident itself and then we'll bring Troy in through the EMS

183

00:11:30,000 --> 00:11:31,000

eyes.

184

00:11:31,000 --> 00:11:32,000

Yeah.

185

00:11:32,000 --> 00:11:35,840

So we she was actually supposed to come to the beach with us, but she was with friends

186

00:11:35,840 --> 00:11:38,280

and we said she said she'd get a ride there.

187

00:11:38,280 --> 00:11:44,240

So we went until I got a phone call that said first the first phone call, the person that

188

00:11:44,240 --> 00:11:46,100

couldn't hear them on the phone.

189

00:11:46,100 --> 00:11:49,840

So I tracked her on a location app and I could see where she was.

190

00:11:49,840 --> 00:11:53,560

I knew somebody who lived local to where her spot was.

191

00:11:53,560 --> 00:11:57,880

And I said, can you open your door to my daughter to answer her phone?

192

00:11:57,880 --> 00:12:03,880

And they they said she's probably watching the big ATV accident that just happened down

193

00:12:03,880 --> 00:12:04,880

the street.

194

00:12:04,880 --> 00:12:06,800

And we knew like we just knew.

195

00:12:06,800 --> 00:12:10,120

So he said they're med flighting her to St. Mary's.

196

00:12:10,120 --> 00:12:12,000

Just get there.

197

00:12:12,000 --> 00:12:16,960

And there was another bystander who was with her prior to paramedics getting there who

198

00:12:16,960 --> 00:12:22,800

had he was an army medic, a former army medic that he found her.

199

00:12:22,800 --> 00:12:26,820

He was the one on the 911 call that said, you know, she has agonal respirations.

200

00:12:26,820 --> 00:12:29,640

You need everything here, like all resources.

201

00:12:29,640 --> 00:12:34,640

So he did reposition her and get her somewhat breathing normally again until paramedics

202

00:12:34,640 --> 00:12:36,400

got there.

203

00:12:36,400 --> 00:12:39,260

And what have you been told as far as the events leading up?

204

00:12:39,260 --> 00:12:42,200

You know, how how she find herself on the ATV?

205

00:12:42,200 --> 00:12:44,080

You know, was there a helmet?

206

00:12:44,080 --> 00:12:48,820

Just kind of the details of the the events prior.

207

00:12:48,820 --> 00:12:50,840

She was not wearing a helmet.

208

00:12:50,840 --> 00:12:55,520

Her dad actually said to her when he dropped her at the house the day before, don't get

209

00:12:55,520 --> 00:12:56,520  
on that ATV.

210  
00:12:56,520 --> 00:12:57,520  
It will bite you.

211  
00:12:57,520 --> 00:12:59,000  
It was the last words he said to her.

212  
00:12:59,000 --> 00:13:00,800  
And she did it anyway.

213  
00:13:00,800 --> 00:13:02,560  
And so she and it was fast.

214  
00:13:02,560 --> 00:13:04,880  
It was like I don't know how fast they normally go.

215  
00:13:04,880 --> 00:13:10,480  
But from what I understood, she was going probably about 50, 55 miles an hour, no helmet,

216  
00:13:10,480 --> 00:13:15,640  
took a turn too fast, lost control, tried to correct and went into the back of a parked

217  
00:13:15,640 --> 00:13:16,640  
SUV.

218  
00:13:16,640 --> 00:13:19,080  
Brutal, absolutely brutal.

219  
00:13:19,080 --> 00:13:24,640  
Well, Troy, so talk to me about getting toned out, you know, what your position was at that

220

00:13:24,640 --> 00:13:27,600  
point and then what you saw when you arrived.

221  
00:13:27,600 --> 00:13:30,040  
Yeah, absolutely.

222  
00:13:30,040 --> 00:13:34,520  
So I was actually at the fire station that responded to Layla's call.

223  
00:13:34,520 --> 00:13:41,000  
And these types of accidents would get my response anyways, anything involving an ATV,

224  
00:13:41,000 --> 00:13:43,880  
a motorcycle, anything like that.

225  
00:13:43,880 --> 00:13:47,600  
Typically an EMS captain is dispatched with it.

226  
00:13:47,600 --> 00:13:56,640  
So I happened to be right at that at the station when the call came in and came in, went out

227  
00:13:56,640 --> 00:13:59,760  
to the truck and saw the notes on the call.

228  
00:13:59,760 --> 00:14:05,640  
At the same time, another EMS captain in a neighboring battalion was also kind of close

229  
00:14:05,640 --> 00:14:06,640  
by.

230  
00:14:06,640 --> 00:14:10,680  
So he assigned himself as well.

231

00:14:10,680 --> 00:14:12,160

So we continued going.

232

00:14:12,160 --> 00:14:17,800

And I could tell through the dispatcher's voice as information kept coming in, now there's

233

00:14:17,800 --> 00:14:22,880

two patients, you know, one of them's, you know, unresponsive with agonal breathing.

234

00:14:22,880 --> 00:14:26,720

And it didn't sound good at all.

235

00:14:26,720 --> 00:14:30,840

And the vehicle that I drive is a truck or an SUV.

236

00:14:30,840 --> 00:14:36,920

We can go a little bit faster than the rescues and the engines do.

237

00:14:36,920 --> 00:14:44,080

So you know, a little inside joke for me, I'm not used to being first on scene of these

238

00:14:44,080 --> 00:14:45,080

types of calls.

239

00:14:45,080 --> 00:14:51,560

You know, my role coming in is usually to assist and to augment the crews that are already

240

00:14:51,560 --> 00:14:54,020

on scene starting stuff.

241

00:14:54,020 --> 00:14:55,400

So I'm not normally a first responder.

242

00:14:55,400 --> 00:14:58,360  
I'm at least a second responder.

243  
00:14:58,360 --> 00:15:06,120  
But today I was a first responder on this day where I rounded the corner with that other

244  
00:15:06,120 --> 00:15:10,800  
EMS captain who was directly in front of me.

245  
00:15:10,800 --> 00:15:14,200  
And there was no rescue behind us right away.

246  
00:15:14,200 --> 00:15:17,960  
So we were the first two people there.

247  
00:15:17,960 --> 00:15:23,360  
And being that there were two patients, we each kind of went to work.

248  
00:15:23,360 --> 00:15:27,400  
And I was lucky enough to come across Layla first.

249  
00:15:27,400 --> 00:15:30,520  
And you know, she was in rough shape.

250  
00:15:30,520 --> 00:15:36,480  
She's being cared for by the Army medic first responder that was there.

251  
00:15:36,480 --> 00:15:42,560  
And you know, I've been doing this a while now where I can look at a patient and go sick

252  
00:15:42,560 --> 00:15:44,200  
or not sick.

253

00:15:44,200 --> 00:15:46,000

And Layla was sick.

254

00:15:46,000 --> 00:15:52,240

So quickly realizing, OK, this is what we have.

255

00:15:52,240 --> 00:15:55,040

She's going to meet our trauma alert criteria.

256

00:15:55,040 --> 00:15:57,080

She's severely injured.

257

00:15:57,080 --> 00:16:03,000

The other patient was as well, you know, in trying to communicate all that information

258

00:16:03,000 --> 00:16:04,000

back.

259

00:16:04,000 --> 00:16:07,200

It seems like, you know, 10 or 15 minutes.

260

00:16:07,200 --> 00:16:12,880

It was probably only maybe a minute or two before the rescue and the engine and everybody

261

00:16:12,880 --> 00:16:14,640

else showed up to help.

262

00:16:14,640 --> 00:16:17,560

But it just seems so much slower.

263

00:16:17,560 --> 00:16:22,280

Time slows down when you have a critical patient like that.

264

00:16:22,280 --> 00:16:24,280

And we got to work.

265

00:16:24,280 --> 00:16:28,200

You know, Layla was the priority of the two.

266

00:16:28,200 --> 00:16:32,120

And we triaged really rapidly in between me and the other captain there.

267

00:16:32,120 --> 00:16:35,240

We decided that Layla needed to go first.

268

00:16:35,240 --> 00:16:41,000

So once the team got there, we loaded her up and did our thing.

269

00:16:41,000 --> 00:16:42,000

You said there was two patients.

270

00:16:42,000 --> 00:16:45,680

Was the other one on the ATV as well or were they a bypass?

271

00:16:45,680 --> 00:16:46,680

ATVs?

272

00:16:46,680 --> 00:16:48,840

OK, OK, gotcha.

273

00:16:48,840 --> 00:16:54,200

So firstly, as far as, you know, initial assessment, what were you seeing by that point?

274

00:16:54,200 --> 00:16:59,200

What kind of vitals have been relayed by the medic?

275

00:16:59,200 --> 00:17:05,360

So my it was very surreal because obviously he didn't have any equipment.

276

00:17:05,360 --> 00:17:11,840

He was trained and told over the 911 phone to don't move her, leave her there, which

277

00:17:11,840 --> 00:17:13,400

is probably the best thing.

278

00:17:13,400 --> 00:17:23,000

He did roll her so that, you know, that she was bleeding a lot from her face and that

279

00:17:23,000 --> 00:17:28,080

he rolled her to her, you know, left her there and rolled her head to the side so that all

280

00:17:28,080 --> 00:17:30,320

that fluid would drain out.

281

00:17:30,320 --> 00:17:32,320

So that was a huge plus.

282

00:17:32,320 --> 00:17:36,680

But you know, she was unresponsive.

283

00:17:36,680 --> 00:17:44,080

She was breathing on her own, albeit, you know, with a lot of facial injuries.

284

00:17:44,080 --> 00:17:47,860

And I'm not used to seeing patients.

285

00:17:47,860 --> 00:17:53,240

We do training like this where, you know, we'll have EMS competitions where a patient

286

00:17:53,240 --> 00:17:56,080  
will be in these precarious situations.

287  
00:17:56,080 --> 00:18:02,400  
Layla was still laying face down on the on the on the front of the ATV.

288  
00:18:02,400 --> 00:18:05,240  
So that's exactly what he was told to do.

289  
00:18:05,240 --> 00:18:07,440  
Don't move her, leave her right where she is.

290  
00:18:07,440 --> 00:18:11,380  
Normally, you know, the patient's on the ground or by the time I get there, they may already

291  
00:18:11,380 --> 00:18:13,680  
in the back of the rescue.

292  
00:18:13,680 --> 00:18:22,040  
So and again, with me arriving very quickly, you know, we go into our triage mode and trying

293  
00:18:22,040 --> 00:18:24,900  
to assess and do that type of thing.

294  
00:18:24,900 --> 00:18:28,480  
But Layla was in bad shape.

295  
00:18:28,480 --> 00:18:33,520  
You know, we got her off got her off the the ATV, put her on a long spine board, put a

296  
00:18:33,520 --> 00:18:35,200  
collar around her neck.

297

00:18:35,200 --> 00:18:40,840

You know, I immediately directed somebody to assist her ventilations, which is something

298

00:18:40,840 --> 00:18:44,520

that we we train for and that we do regularly.

299

00:18:44,520 --> 00:18:51,020

You know, in my role, then I step back and I start kind of directing the call and how

300

00:18:51,020 --> 00:18:54,760

things are supposed to go and what needs to get done.

301

00:18:54,760 --> 00:18:58,300

All of that's happening as we're loading her into the back of the truck.

302

00:18:58,300 --> 00:19:02,080

And we're headed to the landing zone where we we had our helicopter coming in.

303

00:19:02,080 --> 00:19:04,440

She's, you know, a trauma patient.

304

00:19:04,440 --> 00:19:10,180

And our trauma center from where the accident was is probably a good 30 to 40 minute drive

305

00:19:10,180 --> 00:19:11,200

by ground.

306

00:19:11,200 --> 00:19:15,600

So she needs she didn't she couldn't wait that long.

307

00:19:15,600 --> 00:19:17,560

So we called for our helicopter.

308

00:19:17,560 --> 00:19:23,840

They were on the way to the landing zone and everything happened very, very quickly.

309

00:19:23,840 --> 00:19:28,640

But but methodically calls that you know, this is these are calls that we run all the

310

00:19:28,640 --> 00:19:30,800

time.

311

00:19:30,800 --> 00:19:34,240

You know, they just don't always have such good outcomes.

312

00:19:34,240 --> 00:19:36,760

Do you have the ability to RSI in your county?

313

00:19:36,760 --> 00:19:38,000

We do.

314

00:19:38,000 --> 00:19:45,040

So we do we call it DSI delayed sequence induction or intubation.

315

00:19:45,040 --> 00:19:50,320

But it is it's something that all of our lieutenants and our paramedics are thoroughly trained

316

00:19:50,320 --> 00:19:51,560

on.

317

00:19:51,560 --> 00:19:55,240

I carry the paralytic on my truck.

318

00:19:55,240 --> 00:19:58,480

So I bring that to the call.

319

00:19:58,480 --> 00:20:02,080

But all of that stuff is is what's happening.

320

00:20:02,080 --> 00:20:09,320

You know, IVRI in this case, we ended up doing iOS on Layla, which is the needle that goes

321

00:20:09,320 --> 00:20:16,120

right into the bone to get access.

322

00:20:16,120 --> 00:20:17,120

And Layla's heard all this.

323

00:20:17,120 --> 00:20:19,720

She very interested in all this.

324

00:20:19,720 --> 00:20:21,200

I was shocked at that.

325

00:20:21,200 --> 00:20:24,400

But so we ended up getting that in.

326

00:20:24,400 --> 00:20:28,480

And then of course, making sure that her oxygen saturation is where it needs to be.

327

00:20:28,480 --> 00:20:32,680

And she stabilized there and her blood pressure is where it needs to be.

328

00:20:32,680 --> 00:20:36,320

And that's adequate enough just to perform the procedure.

329

00:20:36,320 --> 00:20:42,160

A lot of the training that we've done and all of the advancement that my agency brings

330

00:20:42,160 --> 00:20:51,240

to the table is that we we've realized and we've learned that the procedure itself can

331

00:20:51,240 --> 00:20:59,520

be harmful to patients if we don't set them up with their hemodynamics and their oxygenation

332

00:20:59,520 --> 00:21:03,400

status ahead of time.

333

00:21:03,400 --> 00:21:09,800

Fortunately, that wasn't the challenging part of Layla's case.

334

00:21:09,800 --> 00:21:16,500

Her blood pressure was maintaining at the time and her oxygen saturation was being corrected

335

00:21:16,500 --> 00:21:20,000

and fixed with suctioning and all of that stuff.

336

00:21:20,000 --> 00:21:24,360

So that was being taken care of.

337

00:21:24,360 --> 00:21:30,880

At the time, it was Layla's head injury that I felt was going to be the challenging part

338

00:21:30,880 --> 00:21:31,880

of her.

339

00:21:31,880 --> 00:21:36,280

We didn't know about any of the other unforeseen injuries that she ended up having.

340

00:21:36,280 --> 00:21:44,160

But when I see patients like Layla and she was posturing and doing things that in the

341

00:21:44,160 --> 00:21:54,240

past very devastating brain injury patients do, it's not been a very positive outcome.

342

00:21:54,240 --> 00:21:59,680

So it was also that was on my mind.

343

00:21:59,680 --> 00:22:07,000

I'm preparing the crew and letting them know, okay, we're doing everything that we can do.

344

00:22:07,000 --> 00:22:12,000

But just so we all understand, this is an extremely critical, very, very bad injury

345

00:22:12,000 --> 00:22:19,080

because that's another aspect of my job is making sure that the crew gets the support

346

00:22:19,080 --> 00:22:25,920

and the CISD and all of that stuff that happens after the fact as well.

347

00:22:25,920 --> 00:22:31,040

With you having critical care experience already and already working on the helicopter, what

348

00:22:31,040 --> 00:22:36,820

are some of the things that you did or you could advise medics out there that would set

349

00:22:36,820 --> 00:22:40,560

the crew on the helicopter up for success with this kind of injury?

350

00:22:40,560 --> 00:22:48,240

Well, absolutely, my goal is to make sure when the helicopter crew arrives from being

351

00:22:48,240 --> 00:22:52,800

on the other side, my goal now is to make sure that this patient is set up ready for

352

00:22:52,800 --> 00:22:53,800  
them.

353

00:22:53,800 --> 00:22:59,360

That everything that can be done is done or is almost done by the time that they get there.

354

00:22:59,360 --> 00:23:01,520

I don't want to be behind the eight ball.

355

00:23:01,520 --> 00:23:03,680

That just speeds everything else up.

356

00:23:03,680 --> 00:23:12,400

So obviously knowing that her airway is going to need to be controlled, that was the massive

357

00:23:12,400 --> 00:23:18,880

amount of facial injuries that she had, the bleeding that was going on there and the head

358

00:23:18,880 --> 00:23:20,360

injury that she had.

359

00:23:20,360 --> 00:23:26,280

It is not ideal to do any of that in the back of an aircraft.

360

00:23:26,280 --> 00:23:29,480

It's very difficult to do.

361

00:23:29,480 --> 00:23:33,600

So I knew that needed to get done.

362

00:23:33,600 --> 00:23:38,200

That information was relayed to them to expect an intubated patient.

363

00:23:38,200 --> 00:23:42,120

That allows them to, if they're going to use the ventilator, they can set that up.

364

00:23:42,120 --> 00:23:45,200

They can have all that ready to go.

365

00:23:45,200 --> 00:23:51,240

Allows them to be prepared for post sedation drugs that are going to need to be given after

366

00:23:51,240 --> 00:23:54,440

the fact, those types of things.

367

00:23:54,440 --> 00:24:00,360

And as I recall, as they walked in, one of the flight medics, Frank, showed up and he

368

00:24:00,360 --> 00:24:01,360

walked right in the door.

369

00:24:01,360 --> 00:24:02,520

He's like, what do we got?

370

00:24:02,520 --> 00:24:07,440

And we were in the middle of actually placing the tube at that point.

371

00:24:07,440 --> 00:24:09,920

So she had already received her sedation.

372

00:24:09,920 --> 00:24:18,000

She had already been chemically paralyzed and the intubation was moving along pretty

373

00:24:18,000 --> 00:24:19,000

quick.

374

00:24:19,000 --> 00:24:25,940

So that's something that I have a lot of experience with.

375

00:24:25,940 --> 00:24:31,840

So to me, I felt that was going to be the most challenging part of it, which it was,

376

00:24:31,840 --> 00:24:36,720

but it was something that I knew had to be done before she could be loaded for the helicopter.

377

00:24:36,720 --> 00:24:41,080

So it was a good job that it was you that responded at that point and not someone that

378

00:24:41,080 --> 00:24:47,300

maybe had, I mean, not being critical at all, but someone with critical care experience

379

00:24:47,300 --> 00:24:49,040

arriving first versus-

380

00:24:49,040 --> 00:24:52,880

We have a very good group of EMS captains.

381

00:24:52,880 --> 00:24:56,960

All of us, many of us were on the helicopter at one point.

382

00:24:56,960 --> 00:25:02,760

I would have been really comfortable with our group of people, but that's why they

383

00:25:02,760 --> 00:25:05,260

send us to those calls.

384

00:25:05,260 --> 00:25:07,800

Our group is, we train on this all the time.

385

00:25:07,800 --> 00:25:10,360  
We train new people on this all the time.

386  
00:25:10,360 --> 00:25:14,480  
Our lieutenants and our paramedics go through this training on a regular basis.

387  
00:25:14,480 --> 00:25:16,360  
And I do this with my crews.

388  
00:25:16,360 --> 00:25:20,540  
And that's why one of the things that I've used now since Layla's case is it validates

389  
00:25:20,540 --> 00:25:27,120  
why we train so hard and do what we do and why I kind of have a high standard for this

390  
00:25:27,120 --> 00:25:29,400  
type of stuff.

391  
00:25:29,400 --> 00:25:34,400  
So I don't want to pat myself on the back because I do think anybody could have done

392  
00:25:34,400 --> 00:25:38,140  
the same thing in my position.

393  
00:25:38,140 --> 00:25:42,440  
But it's like those things, you don't want to see these types of calls happen.

394  
00:25:42,440 --> 00:25:47,840  
But if they're going to happen, I want to be there because I feel like I can help.

395  
00:25:47,840 --> 00:25:51,840  
I think it underlines the importance of training no matter what rank you're in.

396

00:25:51,840 --> 00:25:54,920  
It's a thousand percent.

397  
00:25:54,920 --> 00:25:57,080  
It's continuous.

398  
00:25:57,080 --> 00:25:59,640  
I still train every week.

399  
00:25:59,640 --> 00:26:04,320  
I'm doing something with a crew somewhere.

400  
00:26:04,320 --> 00:26:05,920  
I float the county now.

401  
00:26:05,920 --> 00:26:13,680  
So it just allows me now to see more people than I used to with my own small battalion.

402  
00:26:13,680 --> 00:26:19,280  
Now I float the county, I'm in a different battalion every shift, which I enjoy.

403  
00:26:19,280 --> 00:26:23,520  
And it just brings fresh perspectives into things.

404  
00:26:23,520 --> 00:26:27,240  
And I have had many of these calls since.

405  
00:26:27,240 --> 00:26:30,160  
And for the most part, they all go pretty well.

406  
00:26:30,160 --> 00:26:32,000  
There's some hiccups here or there.

407

00:26:32,000 --> 00:26:34,000

But training is key.

408

00:26:34,000 --> 00:26:42,280

If we don't train for it, then when it actually is game day and it's Layla's game, we're

409

00:26:42,280 --> 00:26:46,960

not going to do as well or perform as well as we did.

410

00:26:46,960 --> 00:26:47,960

Absolutely.

411

00:26:47,960 --> 00:26:51,280

Well, Ali, I want to bring you in in a second from the hospital on.

412

00:26:51,280 --> 00:26:53,360

But just one more thing for you, Troy.

413

00:26:53,360 --> 00:26:56,320

You hand off to the helicopter crew.

414

00:26:56,320 --> 00:27:02,760

Were there any challenges on that flight or was it pretty smooth as far as their role?

415

00:27:02,760 --> 00:27:06,560

No, it's very quick.

416

00:27:06,560 --> 00:27:12,080

And what I like more about being on the ground, and I love flying, it's one of the best

417

00:27:12,080 --> 00:27:13,400

jobs I had.

418

00:27:13,400 --> 00:27:16,220

But the flight, everything happens so fast.

419

00:27:16,220 --> 00:27:18,000

It's super fast.

420

00:27:18,000 --> 00:27:21,480

And it just seems like you don't have enough time to get anything done that you want to

421

00:27:21,480 --> 00:27:23,400

get done.

422

00:27:23,400 --> 00:27:31,120

So being that everything had been done prior to them arriving, it made that transition

423

00:27:31,120 --> 00:27:32,120

very seamless.

424

00:27:32,120 --> 00:27:33,120

It's a team.

425

00:27:33,120 --> 00:27:37,960

So what I know I can't get to, I know they're going to do.

426

00:27:37,960 --> 00:27:44,200

And if I give them a soup sandwich, they have a lot to fix or it's going to continue to

427

00:27:44,200 --> 00:27:45,920

be a soup sandwich.

428

00:27:45,920 --> 00:27:53,920

In this case, Layla was packaged with a bow and everything was done the best that I felt

429

00:27:53,920 --> 00:27:54,920  
we could do it.

430  
00:27:54,920 --> 00:27:58,880  
So they had very little to do other than just provide supportive care, making sure that

431  
00:27:58,880 --> 00:28:03,900  
her vitals stayed fine and really getting her to the hospital as quickly as possible.

432  
00:28:03,900 --> 00:28:10,840  
And then that constantly is, we set the table, they transported, they set their stuff up.

433  
00:28:10,840 --> 00:28:15,600  
So the hospital now is on point to be able to just continue that.

434  
00:28:15,600 --> 00:28:20,480  
And if the call starts well, typically it ends well, vice versa.

435  
00:28:20,480 --> 00:28:23,480  
So I would like to think that I don't think they had any issues.

436  
00:28:23,480 --> 00:28:24,720  
I didn't hear of any.

437  
00:28:24,720 --> 00:28:27,400  
I think everything went fairly flawless for them as well.

438  
00:28:27,400 --> 00:28:34,000  
I'm sure they gave her some pain medication and further sedation on the way and got her

439  
00:28:34,000 --> 00:28:37,080  
to the hospital probably at less than 10 minute flight.

440

00:28:37,080 --> 00:28:38,080

It was like nine.

441

00:28:38,080 --> 00:28:41,520

It was like almost on the nose like the whole thing.

442

00:28:41,520 --> 00:28:42,520

It was great.

443

00:28:42,520 --> 00:28:48,360

It's super, it's very fast, which was a challenge when I ended up going to the helicopter.

444

00:28:48,360 --> 00:28:53,320

I don't think street medics are used to working that quickly.

445

00:28:53,320 --> 00:28:59,600

And that was a challenge that I obviously enjoyed at the time.

446

00:28:59,600 --> 00:29:03,960

It's just getting to try having to do so much in such a short period of time.

447

00:29:03,960 --> 00:29:10,240

It's a luxury that now that I'm on the ground, I realized it's completely different work.

448

00:29:10,240 --> 00:29:15,080

I used to work about 10 minutes from our trauma center, so I can totally relate.

449

00:29:15,080 --> 00:29:17,320

Yeah, very, very small amount.

450

00:29:17,320 --> 00:29:24,160

It's extremely fast paced and now we've added in further things or we're doing blood in

451

00:29:24,160 --> 00:29:29,840

the field and doing those types of things as well, which Layla may have been a candidate

452

00:29:29,840 --> 00:29:30,840

for as well.

453

00:29:30,840 --> 00:29:34,280

At the time, we weren't carrying that, but now we are.

454

00:29:34,280 --> 00:29:40,520

We're just continually to progress as the science and as EMS as a whole around the world

455

00:29:40,520 --> 00:29:41,520

is progressing.

456

00:29:41,520 --> 00:29:46,880

They're just adding more and more things for us to do, life saving things, awesome things.

457

00:29:46,880 --> 00:29:54,880

So, hopefully, we continue to keep up with the trends.

458

00:29:54,880 --> 00:29:55,880

Beautiful.

459

00:29:55,880 --> 00:29:56,880

All right.

460

00:29:56,880 --> 00:29:59,680

Well, Ali, so you are on the phone.

461

00:29:59,680 --> 00:30:02,560

She might be watching that ATV accident.

462

00:30:02,560 --> 00:30:07,680

Walk me through how that gets you to the hospital and then what were you receiving as far as

463

00:30:07,680 --> 00:30:09,960

some of the diagnosis by that point?

464

00:30:09,960 --> 00:30:15,840

So, we, my friend, went over and confirmed it was Layla and said they're taking her to

465

00:30:15,840 --> 00:30:20,040

St. Mary's and we were a lot closer to St. Mary's than they were.

466

00:30:20,040 --> 00:30:21,480

They were by our house.

467

00:30:21,480 --> 00:30:23,040

We were east.

468

00:30:23,040 --> 00:30:27,240

So we packed up as fast as we could, headed to the hospital.

469

00:30:27,240 --> 00:30:30,160

We actually got there simultaneous with the helicopter.

470

00:30:30,160 --> 00:30:34,960

We saw her land and I never really, I don't know, I never, I mean, I've seen them, but

471

00:30:34,960 --> 00:30:40,440

you don't really think about what's happening until it's happening to your person or you.

472

00:30:40,440 --> 00:30:43,960

And so, when she landed, I didn't even know the protocol.

473

00:30:43,960 --> 00:30:48,480

Like I assumed I can just run up in there and hug my daughter and no, that's not the

474

00:30:48,480 --> 00:30:49,480

case.

475

00:30:49,480 --> 00:30:50,480

You have to go inside.

476

00:30:50,480 --> 00:30:55,720

And so, they brought us to the trauma base, which I had never seen that before.

477

00:30:55,720 --> 00:30:56,720

And she was out.

478

00:30:56,720 --> 00:30:58,440

She had everything you described.

479

00:30:58,440 --> 00:31:03,080

She was intubated, which I never even knew what that was for before that day or understood

480

00:31:03,080 --> 00:31:04,080

it.

481

00:31:04,080 --> 00:31:05,080

She had the neck brace on.

482

00:31:05,080 --> 00:31:06,080

She was unresponsive.

483

00:31:06,080 --> 00:31:10,840

She looked like she was sleeping, but very beaten, very, very beaten.

484

00:31:10,840 --> 00:31:16,760

And when they came in, I think they had scanned her, but they hadn't done the MRI yet.

485

00:31:16,760 --> 00:31:21,280

But she had, they warned us there's multiple brain bleeds.

486

00:31:21,280 --> 00:31:23,880

They kept telling us about a dissected carotid artery.

487

00:31:23,880 --> 00:31:26,440

She had damage to the right carotid.

488

00:31:26,440 --> 00:31:29,280

I didn't even know what your carotid artery did before that day.

489

00:31:29,280 --> 00:31:31,040

I don't even think I did know that day.

490

00:31:31,040 --> 00:31:34,880

I was just so, they were just coming at us with her jaws broken.

491

00:31:34,880 --> 00:31:37,520

There's internal bleeding, there's liver damage, the brain bleeds.

492

00:31:37,520 --> 00:31:41,920

And then before we knew it, we're going to move her upstairs to ICU.

493

00:31:41,920 --> 00:31:46,720

We're going to drill into her skull and put this monitor in there to monitor the pressure.

494

00:31:46,720 --> 00:31:50,840

And if the brain swells, which we were told was likely would happen with that kind of

495

00:31:50,840 --> 00:31:56,240

injury, then they would have to cut the skull open and relieve the pressure.

496

00:31:56,240 --> 00:32:01,080

But then I know this now because I've gone back and researched it, but then we didn't

497

00:32:01,080 --> 00:32:02,100

know what they were saying.

498

00:32:02,100 --> 00:32:06,520

It was just thing after thing of medical jargon that I had never heard of.

499

00:32:06,520 --> 00:32:10,060

I didn't know that there was a trauma wing of the hospital.

500

00:32:10,060 --> 00:32:13,560

You just don't think about it until you're living it.

501

00:32:13,560 --> 00:32:17,640

It was so much new information for us and new places.

502

00:32:17,640 --> 00:32:24,080

And then from there, after a few days, she didn't swell, which they kind of made it sound

503

00:32:24,080 --> 00:32:26,040

like it wasn't necessarily a good thing.

504

00:32:26,040 --> 00:32:29,800

It wasn't how one would respond with that type of injury.

505

00:32:29,800 --> 00:32:30,960

So they removed it.

506

00:32:30,960 --> 00:32:36,500

They did the MRI and we were told she had a diffused axonal injury, which they greatly

507

00:32:36,500 --> 00:32:42,840

gave them on a one to three, three being severe damage to the stem and not a good outcome

508

00:32:42,840 --> 00:32:44,680

typically in Layla was a three.

509

00:32:44,680 --> 00:32:48,360

So it was just like, you know, there was just no good news.

510

00:32:48,360 --> 00:32:50,840

Honestly, it was just like best case scenario.

511

00:32:50,840 --> 00:32:56,560

She lives and more than likely will remain unconscious is what we were told.

512

00:32:56,560 --> 00:33:01,400

So with the dissection of the carotid artery, I mean, that sounds absolutely horrendous

513

00:33:01,400 --> 00:33:06,720

when when they kind of went deeper into that, was it just a slight lesion then as opposed

514

00:33:06,720 --> 00:33:10,220

to, you know, a severe because I mean, you'd think you'd literally bleed out in seconds

515

00:33:10,220 --> 00:33:12,840

if that was truly dissected.

516

00:33:12,840 --> 00:33:17,160

I mean, the way they explain it to me, it's like a like the walls are almost shredded

517

00:33:17,160 --> 00:33:18,160  
and torn.

518  
00:33:18,160 --> 00:33:21,620  
OK, so what's more likely to happen is blood clots and strokes.

519  
00:33:21,620 --> 00:33:25,360  
But they really couldn't address it because how they would normally address it was through

520  
00:33:25,360 --> 00:33:26,440  
blood thinners.

521  
00:33:26,440 --> 00:33:29,560  
They couldn't do blood thinners because her brain was bleeding.

522  
00:33:29,560 --> 00:33:31,840  
So it was kind of like this could kill her.

523  
00:33:31,840 --> 00:33:33,160  
This could also kill her.

524  
00:33:33,160 --> 00:33:37,040  
It's just what's going to kill her first is how it felt.

525  
00:33:37,040 --> 00:33:39,880  
And then we kind of like she still has the dissected carotid artery.

526  
00:33:39,880 --> 00:33:42,840  
She'll probably have it her whole life in a perfect world.

527  
00:33:42,840 --> 00:33:44,640  
It never has to have any intervention.

528

00:33:44,640 --> 00:33:46,160

But we've been prepared.

529

00:33:46,160 --> 00:33:50,400

You know, she could need a stent when she's older at some point, as long as it's it's

530

00:33:50,400 --> 00:33:52,720

kind of a mystery why it's not causing issues.

531

00:33:52,720 --> 00:33:55,520

They still haven't fully understood that.

532

00:33:55,520 --> 00:33:59,960

But same thing with her healing and recovery, like it just makes no sense.

533

00:33:59,960 --> 00:34:00,960

Good.

534

00:34:00,960 --> 00:34:01,960

I'm glad it doesn't.

535

00:34:01,960 --> 00:34:02,960

Yeah.

536

00:34:02,960 --> 00:34:03,960

All right.

537

00:34:03,960 --> 00:34:08,040

Well, then for the family side, because at this point, obviously, Layla is still unconscious.

538

00:34:08,040 --> 00:34:12,160

So talk to me about the emotional impact of this one minute.

539

00:34:12,160 --> 00:34:14,760

Your daughter is literally out having the time of her life.

540

00:34:14,760 --> 00:34:17,760

The next minute you're sitting in a trauma center.

541

00:34:17,760 --> 00:34:21,840

It's like there's really not words that can even describe that.

542

00:34:21,840 --> 00:34:23,200

It's such a physical pain.

543

00:34:23,200 --> 00:34:25,520

Like you hurt all over when it's your kid.

544

00:34:25,520 --> 00:34:29,040

Like it was just so physical and so overwhelming.

545

00:34:29,040 --> 00:34:30,120

Like you can't breathe.

546

00:34:30,120 --> 00:34:31,120

You just can't function.

547

00:34:31,120 --> 00:34:32,440

And it was you.

548

00:34:32,440 --> 00:34:35,960

But you also at the same time kind of go into denial.

549

00:34:35,960 --> 00:34:40,160

Like there was like like one of my friends who was with us during it, she's like they

550

00:34:40,160 --> 00:34:43,120

were telling you like these horrible things and you were just like, she's going to be

551

00:34:43,120 --> 00:34:44,120

OK, right?

552

00:34:44,120 --> 00:34:48,200

Like I just couldn't accept this was how this was going to end.

553

00:34:48,200 --> 00:34:50,520

Like you almost do it to protect yourself.

554

00:34:50,520 --> 00:34:55,000

But then, you know, typically doctors were making rounds and reiterating it to us.

555

00:34:55,000 --> 00:34:59,400

So eventually you start to come to grips with they told us to make our peace.

556

00:34:59,400 --> 00:35:03,880

Like I guess the first 72 hours are pretty critical and usually when they lose them.

557

00:35:03,880 --> 00:35:07,840

So they were saying, bring in the family, bring in the siblings, like let give people

558

00:35:07,840 --> 00:35:09,680

the chance to say goodbye.

559

00:35:09,680 --> 00:35:10,680

And I couldn't do it.

560

00:35:10,680 --> 00:35:11,680

I just couldn't.

561

00:35:11,680 --> 00:35:12,680

I couldn't accept it.

562

00:35:12,680 --> 00:35:17,220

It was just not it didn't feel like this is how that was supposed to end.

563

00:35:17,220 --> 00:35:20,880

Like there is no way you could even make peace with that.

564

00:35:20,880 --> 00:35:23,000

72 hours is not enough time.

565

00:35:23,000 --> 00:35:24,280

Like there is no way.

566

00:35:24,280 --> 00:35:30,080

Well, I think trending is so important when it comes to injury and illness.

567

00:35:30,080 --> 00:35:34,600

And if she's continuing to spiral down, then obviously that's not a good sign at all.

568

00:35:34,600 --> 00:35:39,680

At what point did they realize that it was either staying where it was or slight improvements

569

00:35:39,680 --> 00:35:42,760

were happening conversely to what they were fearing?

570

00:35:42,760 --> 00:35:47,360

It was probably at least a week and a half and probably closer to two weeks.

571

00:35:47,360 --> 00:35:52,480

She first was neuro storming, which is where the body won't regulate heartbeat and blood

572

00:35:52,480 --> 00:35:55,020  
pressure and her temperature.

573

00:35:55,020 --> 00:35:59,160  
She would spike really high and they would throw like, like, like you would put like

574

00:35:59,160 --> 00:36:01,820  
fish on ice is what they were doing to my daughter.

575

00:36:01,820 --> 00:36:03,680  
They would just pack her with ice.

576

00:36:03,680 --> 00:36:07,620  
Her skin was like rock hard because it was just so cold.

577

00:36:07,620 --> 00:36:09,160  
Temperature would come down.

578

00:36:09,160 --> 00:36:10,160  
Fever would go back up.

579

00:36:10,160 --> 00:36:12,640  
I mean, it just, that was our cycle for so long.

580

00:36:12,640 --> 00:36:16,440  
And that's usually when you lose them is through those things.

581

00:36:16,440 --> 00:36:20,200  
But like she just kept getting to the next day and getting to the next day.

582

00:36:20,200 --> 00:36:25,760  
I mean, I think that they at one point thought, okay, vitals are strong.

583

00:36:25,760 --> 00:36:29,360

She's probably going to live, but I don't think they anticipated she was going to wake

584

00:36:29,360 --> 00:36:32,320

up and talk and walk and do any of that.

585

00:36:32,320 --> 00:36:35,780

I mean, that's what waking up from a coma can look like for some.

586

00:36:35,780 --> 00:36:39,760

And that's like, we didn't get that, you know, to us, like the movies, someone's in a coma

587

00:36:39,760 --> 00:36:44,000

and they wake up and they're confused, but they're, they're talking and they're every,

588

00:36:44,000 --> 00:36:45,000

everything's back to normal.

589

00:36:45,000 --> 00:36:46,640

And it's not the case at all.

590

00:36:46,640 --> 00:36:51,160

They lie to you in the movies because it's very, it could be, it looks different for

591

00:36:51,160 --> 00:36:52,160

everyone.

592

00:36:52,160 --> 00:36:56,960

And for her, it was just, she's probably going to remain vegetative and, but she's alive.

593

00:36:56,960 --> 00:37:00,940

And like the next step was, okay, how do we prepare for her future care?

594

00:37:00,940 --> 00:37:05,880

So it was like each step that she got to, we had to like learn this is what our life

595

00:37:05,880 --> 00:37:07,600

will look like now.

596

00:37:07,600 --> 00:37:09,760

But then she would the next day do something else.

597

00:37:09,760 --> 00:37:14,600

I think it was, I want to say two weeks in when she started moving, like the fingers,

598

00:37:14,600 --> 00:37:18,240

the toes, and we would ask her all the time, but she never did it.

599

00:37:18,240 --> 00:37:24,480

And she started responding with like toe wiggling and fingers moving and, but still very unresponsive,

600

00:37:24,480 --> 00:37:25,480

still in a coma.

601

00:37:25,480 --> 00:37:30,520

Like she was still in a coma for up to, it was five weeks before they labeled her emerged.

602

00:37:30,520 --> 00:37:33,320

No, it's crazy.

603

00:37:33,320 --> 00:37:35,680

It's like not at all what they tell you on TV.

604

00:37:35,680 --> 00:37:37,400

That was like the biggest thing to me.

605

00:37:37,400 --> 00:37:40,280

And I kept saying like, how can you not fix this?

606

00:37:40,280 --> 00:37:43,320

And they just, they're so little, they know about the brain.

607

00:37:43,320 --> 00:37:45,840

And I was so frustrated, like, this is America.

608

00:37:45,840 --> 00:37:47,720

How do we not know how to fix this?

609

00:37:47,720 --> 00:37:51,680

I think I said that to like several doctors, like, why isn't there a medicine?

610

00:37:51,680 --> 00:37:54,840

Why isn't there something like, why can't you fix this?

611

00:37:54,840 --> 00:38:00,560

And they said that the brain is like the most, there's so many unknowns and everyone is different.

612

00:38:00,560 --> 00:38:02,080

Some wake up and most don't.

613

00:38:02,080 --> 00:38:04,240

And you just don't know what it's a roll of the dice.

614

00:38:04,240 --> 00:38:06,240

You don't know what you're going to get.

615

00:38:06,240 --> 00:38:11,240

I've made that very comment a lot when I look back at my career, because I just was the

616

00:38:11,240 --> 00:38:13,480

black cloud, as we call it in the fire service.

617

00:38:13,480 --> 00:38:18,720

And everyone that went into cardiac arrest, not the pre-cos to save loads of those, but

618

00:38:18,720 --> 00:38:24,720

the ones that went into cardiac arrest, I never saved a single person in 14 years, which

619

00:38:24,720 --> 00:38:28,360

is brutal because you do all the training and they're like, James, if you just do this,

620

00:38:28,360 --> 00:38:30,440

this and this, then you get the scientist rhythm.

621

00:38:30,440 --> 00:38:33,600

And then they get up and they bake you a cake and they come to the fire station and everyone

622

00:38:33,600 --> 00:38:35,640

hugs on the newspaper.

623

00:38:35,640 --> 00:38:36,640

Nope.

624

00:38:36,640 --> 00:38:42,360

So, you know, when you look at the way that we are educated in medicine, sometimes it

625

00:38:42,360 --> 00:38:45,640

is, you do A, B and C and outcome D will be the result.

626

00:38:45,640 --> 00:38:50,440

And it can set us up for failure, you know, operationally and emotionally.

627

00:38:50,440 --> 00:38:53,960

Now, I think it's the same with the average person.

628

00:38:53,960 --> 00:38:55,640

We show up on an engine or a rescue.

629

00:38:55,640 --> 00:38:57,360

We come out with all our gear.

630

00:38:57,360 --> 00:39:00,560

You put the pads on, like, why isn't my grandmother waking up?

631

00:39:00,560 --> 00:39:02,200

Because we've set these false expectations.

632

00:39:02,200 --> 00:39:04,520

So it's interesting you say that because you're absolutely right.

633

00:39:04,520 --> 00:39:08,720

And even in the firefighter documentaries, it's always the rescues.

634

00:39:08,720 --> 00:39:15,120

It's always the saves, which is a very, very small part of our actual cardiac arrest survival.

635

00:39:15,120 --> 00:39:16,120

Yeah.

636

00:39:16,120 --> 00:39:18,480

My son is actually a firefighter.

637

00:39:18,480 --> 00:39:24,920

He had just he was 19 when he started his career and three months, about three months

638

00:39:24,920 --> 00:39:26,360

before her accident.

639

00:39:26,360 --> 00:39:32,640

So he was, you know, dealing with the whole experience of being new and he would call

640

00:39:32,640 --> 00:39:34,600

it the stress and it was very stressful.

641

00:39:34,600 --> 00:39:39,680

And here's my 19 year old son who's calling me every third day after shift and just unloading

642

00:39:39,680 --> 00:39:42,480

all the things he saw and did.

643

00:39:42,480 --> 00:39:45,680

And it was like, I felt like we went right from that.

644

00:39:45,680 --> 00:39:48,280

I'm trying so hard to support him and be there for him.

645

00:39:48,280 --> 00:39:50,320

And then this happens to his sister.

646

00:39:50,320 --> 00:39:53,080

So it was like all the calls he described to me.

647

00:39:53,080 --> 00:39:57,920

I remember I think like there's no way they're letting my 19 year old son do and see these

648

00:39:57,920 --> 00:39:58,920

things.

649

00:39:58,920 --> 00:40:02,000

And then I'm thinking maybe, you know, he's not getting it right.

650

00:40:02,000 --> 00:40:03,380

I'm not understanding it right.

651

00:40:03,380 --> 00:40:07,680

And then I'm living it, you know, three months later, I'm like, wow, he wasn't kidding.

652

00:40:07,680 --> 00:40:08,680

This is horrible.

653

00:40:08,680 --> 00:40:11,760

Like this is some bad stuff you're going to see on these calls.

654

00:40:11,760 --> 00:40:12,760

Absolutely.

655

00:40:12,760 --> 00:40:17,240

It must have been terrible for him knowing, you know, the outcomes in the real world of

656

00:40:17,240 --> 00:40:18,720

some of these accidents.

657

00:40:18,720 --> 00:40:19,720

Yeah.

658

00:40:19,720 --> 00:40:22,640

And he was really just trying to like prove himself to the department.

659

00:40:22,640 --> 00:40:26,360

And like we knew, you know, the first year he'd be on probation and we were trying to

660

00:40:26,360 --> 00:40:28,360

like just support him through it.

661

00:40:28,360 --> 00:40:29,360

And then it was impossible.

662

00:40:29,360 --> 00:40:33,600

Like it was impossible to support him and then we're dealing with this.

663

00:40:33,600 --> 00:40:35,480

And so we had to kind of put him on the back burner.

664

00:40:35,480 --> 00:40:39,560

He took it in stride and he's a great kid, but now he's almost 22.

665

00:40:39,560 --> 00:40:43,240

And I still say that, but he's still a little baby to me.

666

00:40:43,240 --> 00:40:44,240

And he did.

667

00:40:44,240 --> 00:40:47,600

I mean, it was a tough year because he didn't really have us as president.

668

00:40:47,600 --> 00:40:50,000

And he was trying so hard to like comfort us.

669

00:40:50,000 --> 00:40:51,880

And you know, he like grew up overnight.

670

00:40:51,880 --> 00:40:55,800

I felt like my little boy was a completely different.

671

00:40:55,800 --> 00:40:57,680

He wasn't a little boy anymore because of it.

672

00:40:57,680 --> 00:41:02,640

Like he had to and he did come and see her and he knew he knew those machines and he

673

00:41:02,640 --> 00:41:04,600

knew the medications.

674

00:41:04,600 --> 00:41:05,600

I didn't know.

675

00:41:05,600 --> 00:41:09,640

Like my ignorance was almost bliss because I didn't understand any of it.

676

00:41:09,640 --> 00:41:11,440

To me, it was like, OK, she's here.

677

00:41:11,440 --> 00:41:12,440

She's not.

678

00:41:12,440 --> 00:41:13,440

She's alive.

679

00:41:13,440 --> 00:41:14,520

So this has to be OK.

680

00:41:14,520 --> 00:41:20,040

And he knew, you know, he understood the medicine side behind all the equipment and the machines.

681

00:41:20,040 --> 00:41:21,040

And it was hard for him.

682

00:41:21,040 --> 00:41:22,720

It was really hard.

683

00:41:22,720 --> 00:41:26,280

That's got to be even worse sometimes because, you know, knowing too much.

684

00:41:26,280 --> 00:41:27,280

Yes.

685

00:41:27,280 --> 00:41:28,280

It hurts you sometimes.

686

00:41:28,280 --> 00:41:29,280

Yeah.

687

00:41:29,280 --> 00:41:30,280

Yeah.

688

00:41:30,280 --> 00:41:34,800

And he didn't even like he was so scared to like tell the department and ask for time

689

00:41:34,800 --> 00:41:35,800

off.

690

00:41:35,800 --> 00:41:36,800

And I was like, what are you doing?

691

00:41:36,800 --> 00:41:37,800

Like, this is serious.

692

00:41:37,800 --> 00:41:40,360

And he took and he takes his job very seriously.

693

00:41:40,360 --> 00:41:43,640

So it was not her timing was terrible on that.

694

00:41:43,640 --> 00:41:47,440

We were supposed to be like, it was right before summer.

695

00:41:47,440 --> 00:41:48,440

I didn't miss any school.

696

00:41:48,440 --> 00:41:51,440

Well, that time he was.

697

00:41:51,440 --> 00:41:53,760

I knew what I was doing.

698

00:41:53,760 --> 00:41:54,760

Yeah.

699

00:41:54,760 --> 00:41:56,320

She timed it well as far as school.

700

00:41:56,320 --> 00:41:58,200

She didn't miss any school.

701

00:41:58,200 --> 00:42:01,000

Well, one more area of that dynamic before we move on.

702

00:42:01,000 --> 00:42:06,720

I've had quite a few people now who have had children either with with accidents or with

703

00:42:06,720 --> 00:42:11,560

some sort of cancer or something horrendous where it needed a lot of the parents attention,

704

00:42:11,560 --> 00:42:15,400

a lot of time in hospital, a lot of visiting specialists.

705

00:42:15,400 --> 00:42:21,280

And they had to be very aware of of the attention being drawn from the other siblings as well.

706

00:42:21,280 --> 00:42:22,840

What was that juggling like?

707

00:42:22,840 --> 00:42:27,280

Because of course, Layla is your number one priority because she's fighting for her life,

708

00:42:27,280 --> 00:42:29,520

but you still have two other children as well.

709

00:42:29,520 --> 00:42:31,400

Yeah, it was easier.

710

00:42:31,400 --> 00:42:33,000

My son made it easy.

711

00:42:33,000 --> 00:42:37,000

But my little one, you know, she was 10 at the time and, you know, she's old enough to

712

00:42:37,000 --> 00:42:42,000

know something's really wrong, but too young to understand how bad this was.

713

00:42:42,000 --> 00:42:43,980

And she's very attached to me.

714

00:42:43,980 --> 00:42:46,320

So it was a lot of separation.

715

00:42:46,320 --> 00:42:51,120

That was probably that was almost harder than watching Layla go through everything because

716

00:42:51,120 --> 00:42:56,640

she was just in so much pain and just repeatedly begged her exact words over and over.

717

00:42:56,640 --> 00:42:58,040

I just want our old life back.

718

00:42:58,040 --> 00:42:59,480

I just want our old life back.

719

00:42:59,480 --> 00:43:03,640

And I couldn't promise her that, you know, I knew chances are it's never going to look

720

00:43:03,640 --> 00:43:04,640

like our old life.

721

00:43:04,640 --> 00:43:07,240

And but I knew we'd figure it out.

722

00:43:07,240 --> 00:43:08,480

We'd find our norm.

723

00:43:08,480 --> 00:43:10,280

We would get there eventually.

724

00:43:10,280 --> 00:43:14,160

Like she really wanted to be involved in like helping with her sister.

725

00:43:14,160 --> 00:43:15,800

She's super empathetic.

726

00:43:15,800 --> 00:43:19,480

And I couldn't even I didn't think she could handle even seeing her like that.

727

00:43:19,480 --> 00:43:24,760

Like I couldn't bear that until Layla was talking and functioning a little bit better.

728

00:43:24,760 --> 00:43:29,760

So it was that was almost harder than Layla is dealing with the little one.

729

00:43:29,760 --> 00:43:30,760

It's horrible.

730

00:43:30,760 --> 00:43:33,280

Like and I'd stress that to other people going through it.

731

00:43:33,280 --> 00:43:36,280

Don't forget the little ones because it is hard.

732

00:43:36,280 --> 00:43:37,280

It is hard.

733

00:43:37,280 --> 00:43:44,040

Layla likes all the attention, even when she doesn't ever think it's true.

734

00:43:44,040 --> 00:43:45,040

All right.

735

00:43:45,040 --> 00:43:46,040

Well, then let's walk through.

736

00:43:46,040 --> 00:43:51,480

We've been about, you know, five weeks and you start to see the emergence now.

737

00:43:51,480 --> 00:43:56,320

Walk me through what you witnessed and then let's bring Layla in as far as, you know,

738

00:43:56,320 --> 00:44:00,560

her experience when she finally came around, was conscious enough to start processing what

739

00:44:00,560 --> 00:44:01,560

was going on.

740

00:44:01,560 --> 00:44:02,560

Yes.

741

00:44:02,560 --> 00:44:07,200

So they the title emerged as what they use when you're waking up from a coma.

742

00:44:07,200 --> 00:44:11,960

So I'm thinking again, it's the day she opens her eyes and she can walk and talk to her.

743

00:44:11,960 --> 00:44:12,960

Her eyes are open.

744

00:44:12,960 --> 00:44:14,840

There is just like no one's there.

745

00:44:14,840 --> 00:44:16,120

So they bring you in.

746

00:44:16,120 --> 00:44:21,240

We were at a we had our med flighted to a hospital in Georgia, a rehab that specializes

747

00:44:21,240 --> 00:44:23,120

in her injury.

748

00:44:23,120 --> 00:44:27,720

And they said we're going to do CRS testing, which stands for coma recovery scale.

749

00:44:27,720 --> 00:44:32,280

We want to see how awake she is until she gets to a certain level.

750

00:44:32,280 --> 00:44:36,640

Then they say she's emerged, which means you're no longer in a coma.

751

00:44:36,640 --> 00:44:39,280

And I had I'm like, she doesn't do anything measurable.

752

00:44:39,280 --> 00:44:41,200

I remember thinking like, what are you measuring?

753

00:44:41,200 --> 00:44:42,200

She doesn't talk.

754

00:44:42,200 --> 00:44:44,520

She doesn't walk like I didn't get it.

755

00:44:44,520 --> 00:44:49,240

And it was something as simple as they held up a hairbrush and a ball.

756

00:44:49,240 --> 00:44:53,160

And they said, I mean, she had to be like taken out of the bed with a lift.

757

00:44:53,160 --> 00:44:54,160

She was in a wheelchair.

758

00:44:54,160 --> 00:44:55,400

She couldn't even pick her head up.

759

00:44:55,400 --> 00:44:57,840

Like everybody's holding different parts of her.

760

00:44:57,840 --> 00:44:59,760

And they said, Leila, can you look at the hairbrush?

761

00:44:59,760 --> 00:45:05,080

And it was just her eyes moving to the hairbrush was the first thing that they were like, look

762

00:45:05,080 --> 00:45:06,080

at the ball.

763

00:45:06,080 --> 00:45:09,480

Then they just kept moving on through the steps of and then she got to a point where

764

00:45:09,480 --> 00:45:12,480

she could point that day to yes and no.

765

00:45:12,480 --> 00:45:15,760

And she knew things about her life, how many dogs she had.

766

00:45:15,760 --> 00:45:17,680

She knew her dog's name.

767

00:45:17,680 --> 00:45:22,200

And we were just shocked because if you saw the way she was just lying there so lifeless,

768

00:45:22,200 --> 00:45:24,120

I was like, she can't do any of this stuff.

769

00:45:24,120 --> 00:45:27,160

And then she could, I guess we just never asked.

770

00:45:27,160 --> 00:45:30,360

So it was a matter of they knew more than we knew.

771

00:45:30,360 --> 00:45:33,440

And then you have to perform those tasks for three days.

772

00:45:33,440 --> 00:45:37,560

And then they label you emerge, which just basically means you can tolerate longer therapies.

773

00:45:37,560 --> 00:45:42,880

And then they start trying things like walking and eventually eating.

774

00:45:42,880 --> 00:45:44,280

The talking came way later.

775

00:45:44,280 --> 00:45:46,320

That was like towards the end.

776

00:45:46,320 --> 00:45:48,000

The walking actually came first.

777

00:45:48,000 --> 00:45:49,960

Yeah, I've had like texting.

778

00:45:49,960 --> 00:45:50,960

She could text.

779

00:45:50,960 --> 00:45:57,720

She could communicate with text, but she was clearly really confused the first couple of

780

00:45:57,720 --> 00:45:58,720

weeks.

781

00:45:58,720 --> 00:46:00,360

I mean, she repeatedly asked us if she was dead.

782

00:46:00,360 --> 00:46:02,200

That was her favorite question.

783

00:46:02,200 --> 00:46:03,320

And she forgot everything.

784

00:46:03,320 --> 00:46:08,680

So maybe 10 minutes was the length of her memory and the same questions would start

785

00:46:08,680 --> 00:46:09,680

all over.

786

00:46:09,680 --> 00:46:10,680

Why are we here?

787

00:46:10,680 --> 00:46:11,680

Why do we have to do this?

788

00:46:11,680 --> 00:46:12,680

Am I dead?

789

00:46:12,680 --> 00:46:14,840

Why do the days feel like they were playing?

790

00:46:14,840 --> 00:46:16,960

She was very, very confused.

791

00:46:16,960 --> 00:46:21,640

But just as time went on, you could see the confusion start to clear.

792

00:46:21,640 --> 00:46:28,680

But I wouldn't even say she was fully clear for probably at least two months.

793

00:46:28,680 --> 00:46:29,680

It takes a while.

794

00:46:29,680 --> 00:46:30,680

And that was fast.

795

00:46:30,680 --> 00:46:34,720

I think I did it a lot faster than people typically do.

796

00:46:34,720 --> 00:46:40,560

So Layla, your perspective, what are your earliest memories and kind of walk me through

797

00:46:40,560 --> 00:46:45,320

your perception, like your experience of not only how you were thinking in your memory,

798

00:46:45,320 --> 00:46:49,320

but also your physical body at that point?

799

00:46:49,320 --> 00:46:53,640

I don't exactly remember it at all.

800

00:46:53,640 --> 00:46:56,680

But I do remember wanting to be home, like she said.

801

00:46:56,680 --> 00:46:58,480

I have like asking if I was dead.

802

00:46:58,480 --> 00:46:59,480

I remember that.

803

00:46:59,480 --> 00:47:06,360

And I remember just feeling so lost and not knowing what was going on and who these people

804

00:47:06,360 --> 00:47:07,360

were.

805

00:47:07,360 --> 00:47:13,000

I throw out a lot of people and I didn't know who they were and who were these random people

806

00:47:13,000 --> 00:47:14,000

so close to me.

807

00:47:14,000 --> 00:47:15,000

What are they doing?

808

00:47:15,000 --> 00:47:16,000

She forgot her dad one day.

809

00:47:16,000 --> 00:47:17,000

I didn't know who her dad was.

810

00:47:17,000 --> 00:47:18,000

I don't know how it feels.

811

00:47:18,000 --> 00:47:27,640

So then what could you do at that point then?

812

00:47:27,640 --> 00:47:28,880

Could you swallow water?

813

00:47:28,880 --> 00:47:32,400

What was the worst part of you conscious?

814

00:47:32,400 --> 00:47:38,240

Well, I had to be cleared for all these things.

815

00:47:38,240 --> 00:47:40,640

So it's not a matter of like, could I do them?

816

00:47:40,640 --> 00:47:46,560

It was like, if I'm allowed to, like it took a while for me to be clear to eat two filet

817

00:47:46,560 --> 00:47:47,560

nuggets.

818

00:47:47,560 --> 00:47:50,640

I had to clear for that.

819

00:47:50,640 --> 00:47:53,560

And at first was on a mashed potatoes diet.

820

00:47:53,560 --> 00:47:55,120

I don't like mashed potatoes.

821

00:47:55,120 --> 00:47:57,120

So yeah, egg bites.

822

00:47:57,120 --> 00:48:01,320

Yeah, there was like certain foods I could eat.

823

00:48:01,320 --> 00:48:02,640

I definitely could do it.

824

00:48:02,640 --> 00:48:04,840

I just wasn't allowed to.

825

00:48:04,840 --> 00:48:11,800

So you wouldn't see me chowing down on a filet, but like, you know.

826

00:48:11,800 --> 00:48:13,840

When you got cleared for chick filet, it wasn't on Sunday.

827

00:48:13,840 --> 00:48:15,840

That would have been really annoying.

828

00:48:15,840 --> 00:48:18,880

Wait till Monday.

829

00:48:18,880 --> 00:48:21,640

She was persistent.

830

00:48:21,640 --> 00:48:27,240

She was persistent, as confused as she was, she would make me write it because she knew

831

00:48:27,240 --> 00:48:31,160

she'd forget it and say, ask Jen, who was our therapist, her physical therapist or speech

832

00:48:31,160 --> 00:48:33,360

therapist, ask Jen for nuggets.

833

00:48:33,360 --> 00:48:37,360

And she would keep the note in the bed so that when she saw Jen, I still do that.

834

00:48:37,360 --> 00:48:38,760

I still write things down.

835

00:48:38,760 --> 00:48:39,760

I want my nuggets.

836

00:48:39,760 --> 00:48:41,800

And they were like, not yet, not yet.

837

00:48:41,800 --> 00:48:43,440

She was pretty determined to get those nuggets.

838

00:48:43,440 --> 00:48:45,800

And like I'd always said like nuggets, nuggets.

839

00:48:45,800 --> 00:48:48,600

I always say that.

840

00:48:48,600 --> 00:48:51,000

Well what about the physical journey then?

841

00:48:51,000 --> 00:48:55,040

And as you mentioned, you were a cheerleader, you were a gymnast.

842

00:48:55,040 --> 00:48:59,080

Now you're in a hospital bed and a wheelchair.

843

00:48:59,080 --> 00:49:05,320

When did you start realizing in your mind that you were going to get back on your feet?

844

00:49:05,320 --> 00:49:07,840

You were going to get back to cheer at some point?

845

00:49:07,840 --> 00:49:11,960

It kind of wasn't like I started realizing it.

846

00:49:11,960 --> 00:49:16,040

I just like made like my work ethic that I wanted to get back.

847

00:49:16,040 --> 00:49:19,120

So that was like my motivation to like do everything.

848

00:49:19,120 --> 00:49:25,560

Like there's a video of like recently, it was like six months ago of me doing back handsprings

849

00:49:25,560 --> 00:49:26,560

and stuff.

850

00:49:26,560 --> 00:49:27,880

That was only six months after my accident.

851

00:49:27,880 --> 00:49:31,440

Like you're already doing, if you know what that is, it's a flip and cheer.

852

00:49:31,440 --> 00:49:34,280

You go, it's like a back flip.

853

00:49:34,280 --> 00:49:36,600

And it's just like things like that.

854

00:49:36,600 --> 00:49:41,320

Like when I see those videos, I get like happy and excited because like I know I can do that.

855

00:49:41,320 --> 00:49:43,240

And like it's just like kind of like a validation.

856

00:49:43,240 --> 00:49:45,680

Like yeah, I can do that.

857

00:49:45,680 --> 00:49:47,720

So that was a huge milestone for you.

858

00:49:47,720 --> 00:49:49,760

What were some of the smaller ones before?

859

00:49:49,760 --> 00:49:52,520

I mean, you're still not cleared for chicken nuggets at this point.

860

00:49:52,520 --> 00:49:58,280

So what are some of the physical, you know, the walk, the jump, some of these other areas?

861

00:49:58,280 --> 00:50:02,600

She was really determined to like, you're not allowed to independent walk.

862

00:50:02,600 --> 00:50:07,640

This was a big fight and she would just get up out of bed and like go get something across

863

00:50:07,640 --> 00:50:08,640

the line.

864

00:50:08,640 --> 00:50:10,320

I knew I could mentally do it.

865

00:50:10,320 --> 00:50:12,200

She did know, but she wasn't allowed to.

866

00:50:12,200 --> 00:50:15,920

So there was many times like, Layla, you can't just, well, I can do it.

867

00:50:15,920 --> 00:50:18,880

I'm like, I knew I was just in front of the window.

868

00:50:18,880 --> 00:50:19,880

Yeah.

869

00:50:19,880 --> 00:50:24,000

One time like I was, I mean, I'm like parking her wheelchair and she didn't walk that well.

870

00:50:24,000 --> 00:50:28,120

I'm parking the wheelchair and then I had to like do things to the bed before I transferred

871

00:50:28,120 --> 00:50:29,120

her in.

872

00:50:29,120 --> 00:50:33,720

And then I go to transfer and she's gone and she's at the window, like looking down to

873

00:50:33,720 --> 00:50:35,360

looking at Atlanta.

874

00:50:35,360 --> 00:50:38,400

And I'm like, well, you know, she just did that stuff.

875

00:50:38,400 --> 00:50:39,960

And it made, I mean, everybody thought it was great.

876

00:50:39,960 --> 00:50:43,720

They're like, she's determined that that determination is what's going to get her out of here.

877

00:50:43,720 --> 00:50:45,840

But I'm like, she's terrified me.

878

00:50:45,840 --> 00:50:48,520

Like I don't know what's okay.

879

00:50:48,520 --> 00:50:50,320

And what the consequences are.

880

00:50:50,320 --> 00:50:58,240

If she does fall, like it was, I don't fall.

881

00:50:58,240 --> 00:51:02,520

So what about the, the normal trend then?

882

00:51:02,520 --> 00:51:05,960

I mean, I'm assuming that once they've got this treatment program for her, well, this

883

00:51:05,960 --> 00:51:07,840

is based on this kind of person.

884

00:51:07,840 --> 00:51:12,720

But as you mentioned, her injuries were such, they weren't even sure she was going to survive.

885

00:51:12,720 --> 00:51:17,200

So as she's improving and kind of exceeding expectations, were they allowing her to do

886

00:51:17,200 --> 00:51:18,200

more and more?

887

00:51:18,200 --> 00:51:19,200

Yeah.

888

00:51:19,200 --> 00:51:23,320

But I think like they really weren't, I mean, they're prepared for it, but at the same time,

889

00:51:23,320 --> 00:51:24,600

they weren't prepared for it.

890

00:51:24,600 --> 00:51:28,200

Like they frequently said to me, I mean, I had nurses break down crying.

891

00:51:28,200 --> 00:51:30,280

They're like, you know, we know it's possible.

892

00:51:30,280 --> 00:51:35,680

You read about that small percentage of someone who did this, but the fact that I not only

893

00:51:35,680 --> 00:51:37,000

met her, I got to work.

894

00:51:37,000 --> 00:51:38,040

I was her therapist.

895

00:51:38,040 --> 00:51:40,200

So it was, she was kind of a big deal there.

896

00:51:40,200 --> 00:51:41,200

It was funny.

897

00:51:41,200 --> 00:51:43,000

People frequently would come to the room.

898

00:51:43,000 --> 00:51:44,000

They wanted to meet her.

899

00:51:44,000 --> 00:51:46,160

You know, this is the girl that did the impossible.

900

00:51:46,160 --> 00:51:49,440

Like with her injury, it doesn't end like this.

901

00:51:49,440 --> 00:51:54,600

And that's like, I joke and say she's false advertising because it just doesn't tip it.

902

00:51:54,600 --> 00:51:58,560

We've been working with other people with brain injury and I haven't seen anything like

903

00:51:58,560 --> 00:52:01,960

this where I'm like, there's no like protocol for it.

904

00:52:01,960 --> 00:52:02,960

That's the problem.

905

00:52:02,960 --> 00:52:03,960

There is nothing like her.

906

00:52:03,960 --> 00:52:04,960

Sure.

907

00:52:04,960 --> 00:52:07,960

One of a kind.

908

00:52:07,960 --> 00:52:09,160

Stubborn.

909

00:52:09,160 --> 00:52:12,040

So what about the emotional side?

910

00:52:12,040 --> 00:52:16,520

I mean, again, you know, such a jarring event added in with a massive TBI, which we know

911

00:52:16,520 --> 00:52:20,720

can upset some of the emotional side too.

912

00:52:20,720 --> 00:52:27,120

How Layla, how were you able to navigate, you know, the challenges that you had and

913

00:52:27,120 --> 00:52:29,480

then get yourself back to where you are today?

914

00:52:29,480 --> 00:52:30,480

Persistence.

915

00:52:30,480 --> 00:52:31,480

A lot of persistence.

916

00:52:31,480 --> 00:52:32,480

I was stubborn.

917

00:52:32,480 --> 00:52:33,480

I still am stubborn.

918

00:52:33,480 --> 00:52:36,480

So many people went to school and they said you shouldn't go back to school.

919

00:52:36,480 --> 00:52:37,480

Oh, so funny story.

920

00:52:37,480 --> 00:52:49,360

So I got home literally like a week before school started days and yeah, days, whatever.

921

00:52:49,360 --> 00:52:52,880

And so I like wanted to go back.

922

00:52:52,880 --> 00:52:54,680

Like not many kids want to go to school.

923

00:52:54,680 --> 00:52:55,680

I don't like school.

924

00:52:55,680 --> 00:52:56,680

Don't get me wrong.

925

00:52:56,680 --> 00:53:02,160

I do not like school, but I love academic validation of any validation, but academic

926

00:53:02,160 --> 00:53:03,160

validation.

927

00:53:03,160 --> 00:53:04,680

I love that.

928

00:53:04,680 --> 00:53:09,360

So it's just like I wanted to go back and go back because I before my accident, I was

929

00:53:09,360 --> 00:53:11,360

getting like strays, all this stuff.

930

00:53:11,360 --> 00:53:14,740

So I wanted to go back to that because like that felt really good.

931

00:53:14,740 --> 00:53:19,440

So I called my principal and I asked so I was like against doctor's orders.

932

00:53:19,440 --> 00:53:22,080

I was like, what are your thoughts about me coming back?

933

00:53:22,080 --> 00:53:24,360

Can I figure this out?

934

00:53:24,360 --> 00:53:27,160

And then didn't he text email you?

935

00:53:27,160 --> 00:53:29,380

They called me and I didn't even know she had done that.

936

00:53:29,380 --> 00:53:32,800

She was still when we got home, she was still like, there was, she's out of it.

937

00:53:32,800 --> 00:53:33,800

There was a little confusion.

938

00:53:33,800 --> 00:53:39,640

It was a different daughter that, you know, I had before and the school called and said,

939

00:53:39,640 --> 00:53:42,600

Leila contacted us about coming back and I was like, what?

940

00:53:42,600 --> 00:53:45,800

You know, she's not clear to do that.

941

00:53:45,800 --> 00:53:50,440

And so then we did, we brought up the neurologist and I said, and she works her, she argues

942

00:53:50,440 --> 00:53:51,440

with him.

943

00:53:51,440 --> 00:53:54,320

He thinks it's hilarious, but he's, she argued and argued.

944

00:53:54,320 --> 00:53:58,080

Everyone told her it was too soon, but she just two weeks later, two weeks later, I was

945

00:53:58,080 --> 00:54:01,720

back and I got all A's, B's and C's.

946

00:54:01,720 --> 00:54:06,280

With then second quarter, A's and B's, third quarter, A's and B's, fourth quarter, A's

947

00:54:06,280 --> 00:54:09,240

and B's, on or three quarters last year.

948

00:54:09,240 --> 00:54:10,720

That's the most I've ever made it in high school.

949

00:54:10,720 --> 00:54:14,600

Even my freshman year when I was like a genius, only two times.

950

00:54:14,600 --> 00:54:21,200

But sophomore year, the year when I was not very much in there at all, I've made it three

951

00:54:21,200 --> 00:54:22,600

times this year.

952

00:54:22,600 --> 00:54:25,120

I'm on track to make it three times again.

953

00:54:25,120 --> 00:54:26,120

Amazing.

954

00:54:26,120 --> 00:54:27,120

Just relax.

955

00:54:27,120 --> 00:54:28,600

Determined, real determined.

956

00:54:28,600 --> 00:54:30,920

And she was already on the sidelines cheering.

957

00:54:30,920 --> 00:54:35,360

That was one of her motivators is she wanted to make the first game.

958

00:54:35,360 --> 00:54:37,960

She wanted to be there for the first cheerleading game.

959

00:54:37,960 --> 00:54:42,160

And I'm like, not just be there, be in the, yeah.

960

00:54:42,160 --> 00:54:43,160

Yeah.

961

00:54:43,160 --> 00:54:44,160

In there.

962

00:54:44,160 --> 00:54:46,480

So they were with every, I mean, we had so many accommodations.

963

00:54:46,480 --> 00:54:49,440

Like it's just, there was nothing built for what she was doing.

964

00:54:49,440 --> 00:54:53,160

Typically people do like hospital homebound where it's almost like a hybrid.

965

00:54:53,160 --> 00:54:55,960

We were working from home or you're homeschooling.

966

00:54:55,960 --> 00:54:58,800

You're not going in person with this kind of injury.

967

00:54:58,800 --> 00:55:01,840

But she insisted and the school worked with us.

968

00:55:01,840 --> 00:55:07,000

I mean, every accommodation, some of them we had to like make up because I was like,

969

00:55:07,000 --> 00:55:10,840

I don't even know if she can physically do what she thinks she can do.

970

00:55:10,840 --> 00:55:12,880

And it was hard, but she just kept getting better at it.

971

00:55:12,880 --> 00:55:16,760

But she's very determined with everything.

972

00:55:16,760 --> 00:55:20,160

How were you received by your schoolmates and your teachers when you first went back

973

00:55:20,160 --> 00:55:21,160

to school?

974

00:55:21,160 --> 00:55:24,160

Like a famous person.

975

00:55:24,160 --> 00:55:27,160

Like a hero.

976

00:55:27,160 --> 00:55:28,160

Celebrity.

977

00:55:28,160 --> 00:55:29,160

Yeah.

978

00:55:29,160 --> 00:55:31,600

I don't really remember.

979

00:55:31,600 --> 00:55:32,600

It's a little hazy, I think.

980

00:55:32,600 --> 00:55:35,800

I mean, we remember, but a lot of it she doesn't remember.

981

00:55:35,800 --> 00:55:40,760

But it was, I mean, to see the kids suffer, like her peers suffer, that was hard too.

982

00:55:40,760 --> 00:55:43,000

Cause kids just aren't built to process that.

983

00:55:43,000 --> 00:55:45,240

And especially when we thought we were going to lose it.

984

00:55:45,240 --> 00:55:49,360

And to see the kids going through this emotion that, you know, they're going to potentially

985

00:55:49,360 --> 00:55:53,080

lose, you know, a classmate and you know, kids think they're invincible.

986

00:55:53,080 --> 00:55:59,560

So she made it, she made death real to them, you know, where kids don't think of that.

987

00:55:59,560 --> 00:56:04,000

And I felt like it changed like our whole community, her school, her friends, like everybody

988

00:56:04,000 --> 00:56:08,320

was so invested in this, hopefully going to be a miracle.

989

00:56:08,320 --> 00:56:12,840

And I honestly like had my doubts, but it, you know, it worked out and I felt like everyone

990

00:56:12,840 --> 00:56:14,160

celebrated that with us.

991

00:56:14,160 --> 00:56:18,000

Like it really impacted so many people besides just our family.

992

00:56:18,000 --> 00:56:21,440

I bet a lot of your friends were afraid to ask how your summer was.

993

00:56:21,440 --> 00:56:23,680

Cause your story was going to blow theirs out of the water.

994

00:56:23,680 --> 00:56:24,680

No, they knew.

995

00:56:24,680 --> 00:56:25,680

They didn't know I was dying.

996

00:56:25,680 --> 00:56:26,680

They knew what it was.

997

00:56:26,680 --> 00:56:27,680

Yeah.

998

00:56:27,680 --> 00:56:28,680

Oh my God, I hear that all the time.

999

00:56:28,680 --> 00:56:34,400

Where it's like, your college essay is going to be so good.

1000

00:56:34,400 --> 00:56:38,080

I'm just thinking like, what if I just like made a plot twist and didn't write my college

1001

00:56:38,080 --> 00:56:40,080

essay on my accident, like something else?

1002

00:56:40,080 --> 00:56:41,080

Like, I don't know.

1003

00:56:41,080 --> 00:56:42,080

Something inspiring.

1004

00:56:42,080 --> 00:56:43,080

Something else I've done.

1005

00:56:43,080 --> 00:56:44,080

Of all the things I've done, you know?

1006

00:56:44,080 --> 00:56:45,080

Find something else.

1007

00:56:45,080 --> 00:56:46,080

There we go.

1008

00:56:46,080 --> 00:56:47,080

You're still young.

1009

00:56:47,080 --> 00:56:48,080

Are you a junior or something?

1010

00:56:48,080 --> 00:56:51,720

Now, junior, same as my son.

1011

00:56:51,720 --> 00:56:59,200

So I want to talk about where you want to go from here, but just to kind of tie Troy

1012

00:56:59,200 --> 00:57:00,200

back in.

1013

00:57:00,200 --> 00:57:04,680

I think when we first connected, I saw a visit to the fire station.

1014

00:57:04,680 --> 00:57:07,200

So kind of walk me through that.

1015

00:57:07,200 --> 00:57:08,200

Yeah.

1016

00:57:08,200 --> 00:57:15,640

So, um, art, it helps that, that Layla has, uh, and, and Ali have a music studio.

1017

00:57:15,640 --> 00:57:21,680

And, uh, and, and Ali have a mutual friend who's one of our chiefs in the fire department.

1018

00:57:21,680 --> 00:57:26,120

So, um, you know, like Amanda, Amanda called me the night of the accident, wanting to know

1019

00:57:26,120 --> 00:57:32,360

information and it was the same type of thing, but she's kind of been the department liaison,

1020

00:57:32,360 --> 00:57:38,840

I guess, kind of with between your family and the department, which, um, whenever there's

1021

00:57:38,840 --> 00:57:43,840

something like this, like you alluded to earlier, you know, whenever we do have a save and,

1022

00:57:43,840 --> 00:57:49,560

you know, a cardiac arrest survivor, um, we always do try to incorporate them and bring

1023

00:57:49,560 --> 00:57:52,840

them back to the fire station and let them meet the crew.

1024

00:57:52,840 --> 00:58:00,000

And that's all part of, you know, like the, the, the mental health aspect of the closure,

1025

00:58:00,000 --> 00:58:08,240

you know, of, of allowing, um, our folks to see that and to meet that person and to validate

1026

00:58:08,240 --> 00:58:09,240

everything that they did.

1027

00:58:09,240 --> 00:58:14,080

And it's also great for the survivors to come back and a lot of them do, you know, want

1028

00:58:14,080 --> 00:58:17,040

to, uh, to meet the crews that worked on them.

1029

00:58:17,040 --> 00:58:20,240

Um, so that day happened.

1030

00:58:20,240 --> 00:58:26,320

Um, you know, we were able to coordinate that where it took some, it took some challenges.

1031

00:58:26,320 --> 00:58:33,680

I think it was during the summertime and everybody was off and there was such a, a larger response

1032

00:58:33,680 --> 00:58:40,240

to this call because not only was it, there were, um, you know, multiple, there were two

1033

00:58:40,240 --> 00:58:44,200

rescues, there were two engines, there was the helicopter people.

1034

00:58:44,200 --> 00:58:49,520

Um, so I think you had to meet everybody over a few different visits, right?

1035

00:58:49,520 --> 00:58:55,800

Um, but you got to meet the dispatcher, um, you know, uh, Dana, who is she's, they are,

1036

00:58:55,800 --> 00:59:02,480

the dispatchers are, are, uh, for sure the first responders because they, they, they often

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00:59:02,480 --> 00:59:07,160

get forgotten about and, but they are the ones that they're the first call and they

1038

00:59:07,160 --> 00:59:11,240

set the table and make sure that the right resources get rolling and provide any of that

1039

00:59:11,240 --> 00:59:12,880

pre-arrival instruction stuff.

1040

00:59:12,880 --> 00:59:19,720

So, um, you know, our department has made it a point to invite them as well because

1041

00:59:19,720 --> 00:59:25,040

they more than we do, even they just hang up the phone and go on and take the next call

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00:59:25,040 --> 00:59:31,260

and, and, and they oftentimes don't get to follow up on, you know, the outcomes, um,

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00:59:31,260 --> 00:59:37,920

just like us, you know, we, we don't very rarely, uh, Layla is a very, um, unique case,

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00:59:37,920 --> 00:59:43,560

um, out of all, you know, patients like in her situation and even in, you know, cardiac

1045

00:59:43,560 --> 00:59:51,120

arrest, it's not very common that, that we get to follow up and actually meet somebody

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00:59:51,120 --> 00:59:57,120

who was as critically injured or sick as Layla.

1047

00:59:57,120 --> 00:59:58,220

That's not normal.

1048

00:59:58,220 --> 01:00:03,360

It's not like, you know, the, the, there are the stories you hear about, but they don't

1049

01:00:03,360 --> 01:00:04,360

happen.

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01:00:04,360 --> 01:00:05,360

They're very few and far between.

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01:00:05,360 --> 01:00:06,360

So, yep.

1052

01:00:06,360 --> 01:00:10,400

So Layla and Allie and the whole crew got together at the fire station.

1053

01:00:10,400 --> 01:00:15,360

Um, I, I recall that there was some dancing being done.

1054

01:00:15,360 --> 01:00:24,080

Um, I don't know how many thousands of likes and views that got on YouTube, but I'm sure

1055

01:00:24,080 --> 01:00:28,800  
it was on a few channels, you went viral.

1056  
01:00:28,800 --> 01:00:29,800  
Um, but yeah.

1057  
01:00:29,800 --> 01:00:34,680  
Um, and that happened a couple of times, you know, we've, we've gotten together a few times,

1058  
01:00:34,680 --> 01:00:40,120  
you know, for different things of, um, just like, you know, Layla was a celebrity at school.

1059  
01:00:40,120 --> 01:00:45,320  
Uh, she's kind of the celebrity within, within the fire department, you know, and, and, you

1060  
01:00:45,320 --> 01:00:49,120  
know, people who don't even know Layla and people who have never weren't even on her

1061  
01:00:49,120 --> 01:00:56,360  
call, um, refer to her by name, you know, and they, they, they'll call me and ask about

1062  
01:00:56,360 --> 01:01:03,160  
her, you know, throughout the year, you know, and, you know, so, um, it's good for us to

1063  
01:01:03,160 --> 01:01:08,280  
see that because we don't, we don't see that, you know, we don't get that, um, that closure

1064  
01:01:08,280 --> 01:01:09,280  
a lot of the times.

1065  
01:01:09,280 --> 01:01:18,000  
And it's something that, you know, it, like I said before, it gives us the reason to continue

1066

01:01:18,000 --> 01:01:24,680  
training so hard and, and, you know, always staying on top of things, because if, if there

1067  
01:01:24,680 --> 01:01:30,000  
were no survivors, then it, like you said, it would have, uh, it's like, you know, why

1068  
01:01:30,000 --> 01:01:31,360  
are we doing this?

1069  
01:01:31,360 --> 01:01:36,560  
So when you mentioned dispatchers, I mean that they are the unsung heroes of the fire

1070  
01:01:36,560 --> 01:01:37,760  
service hands down.

1071  
01:01:37,760 --> 01:01:43,760  
They are, they are, and they, you know, they're, they're truly the first responders and they,

1072  
01:01:43,760 --> 01:01:48,760  
they lose, you know, a sense or two while they're at it.

1073  
01:01:48,760 --> 01:01:52,800  
Not only can they not see what's going on, um, they can now, I guess there's some cool

1074  
01:01:52,800 --> 01:01:59,920  
technology where you can FaceTime 911 in some places, but, um, they, they're trying to deal

1075  
01:01:59,920 --> 01:02:04,360  
with everything over the phone and it's usually not a very calm person.

1076  
01:02:04,360 --> 01:02:09,520  
You know, it's a hysterical caller on the other end that they're trying to calm down

1077

01:02:09,520 --> 01:02:14,640

so they can understand, find out what's going on and then get the right resources going.

1078

01:02:14,640 --> 01:02:20,880

And in our system, the same dispatchers, there, there's, you know, many of them in one room,

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01:02:20,880 --> 01:02:27,200

but, um, the person that's talking to me, responding to the call is either on the phone

1080

01:02:27,200 --> 01:02:30,520

with the caller or sitting right next to the person that is, you know, they're, they're

1081

01:02:30,520 --> 01:02:31,940

talking together.

1082

01:02:31,940 --> 01:02:35,920

So if I have a question they can relay and you can just tell in their voice, a lot of

1083

01:02:35,920 --> 01:02:41,040

times when we go to these calls, um, like I could tell in Dana's voice and Dana is a

1084

01:02:41,040 --> 01:02:47,160

very proactive dispatcher where she's, um, she's going to start the right resources,

1085

01:02:47,160 --> 01:02:49,160

whether I ask for it or not.

1086

01:02:49,160 --> 01:02:53,280

Um, and that every dispatcher does that, but she's been doing it long enough to where she

1087

01:02:53,280 --> 01:02:59,080

knows, okay, we need to get the trauma hawk on standby for this call and, or we need to

1088

01:02:59,080 --> 01:03:03,480  
start another rescue or another EMS cat, whatever it is.

1089  
01:03:03,480 --> 01:03:09,080  
Um, and she doesn't get excited, but for Layla's, she, you could tell, I could tell the, the

1090  
01:03:09,080 --> 01:03:13,000  
tone of her voice was a little bit more stressed than normal.

1091  
01:03:13,000 --> 01:03:17,800  
So that obviously you, you read into that when I can hear, you know, I know most of

1092  
01:03:17,800 --> 01:03:24,160  
the dispatchers and whenever you hear a change like that, that kinda is one of the non, I

1093  
01:03:24,160 --> 01:03:28,340  
guess it is a verbal cue, but it's a, it's just, I don't even think about it.

1094  
01:03:28,340 --> 01:03:31,640  
It's something that, that something's off here.

1095  
01:03:31,640 --> 01:03:34,960  
You know, this is, this is a, gonna be a real deal.

1096  
01:03:34,960 --> 01:03:40,640  
Well, the thing with the dispatchers as well, if you and I go and work a code or an extrication,

1097  
01:03:40,640 --> 01:03:44,540  
you have all that adrenaline, but then you have that physical exertion.

1098  
01:03:44,540 --> 01:03:47,640  
They sit in the chair, they just hang up and all of that.

1099

01:03:47,640 --> 01:03:50,120

And they hang up and go right onto the next one.

1100

01:03:50,120 --> 01:03:55,440

And, and a lot of times we know the outcome, you know, we were there.

1101

01:03:55,440 --> 01:04:06,600

So even though in Layla's case, she, she proved me wrong, thankfully.

1102

01:04:06,600 --> 01:04:11,360

But the, the outcome is something that we usually have and we have that closure at least,

1103

01:04:11,360 --> 01:04:14,620

or we'll follow up with the hospital, but the dispatchers don't.

1104

01:04:14,620 --> 01:04:22,540

So, you know, I always try now to, to, if, if there is a positive outcome, you know,

1105

01:04:22,540 --> 01:04:27,000

most of the time I think the dispatchers just assume, you know, it's not a positive outcome

1106

01:04:27,000 --> 01:04:28,000

either.

1107

01:04:28,000 --> 01:04:30,960

But, you know, when there is one, I want to let them know.

1108

01:04:30,960 --> 01:04:34,480

So I'll make a phone call and talk to them and just say, just so you know, you know,

1109

01:04:34,480 --> 01:04:38,400

we got pulses back or whatever the situation is.

1110

01:04:38,400 --> 01:04:43,080

But I'll be completely honest, the people that asked me about Layla's call, you know,

1111

01:04:43,080 --> 01:04:48,000

that night and even the weeks after I wasn't optimistic.

1112

01:04:48,000 --> 01:04:54,560

I think that's just doing this job long enough has, has kind of just, I don't know if it's,

1113

01:04:54,560 --> 01:05:00,240

if it's hardened me or made me a pessimist or whatever.

1114

01:05:00,240 --> 01:05:05,240

But you know, I wasn't hopeful that, that, you know, we were going to see the Layla we

1115

01:05:05,240 --> 01:05:10,620

see today, you know, walking, talking, doing backflips, you know, I followed a Facebook

1116

01:05:10,620 --> 01:05:14,720

page and I watched and, you know, just as, you know, Amanda would come into the office

1117

01:05:14,720 --> 01:05:21,440

and she would, you know, talk to me and I'll be like, okay, yeah, I'm following, but I'm

1118

01:05:21,440 --> 01:05:28,120

still wasn't a hundred percent optimistic as to exactly, you know, how remarkable of

1119

01:05:28,120 --> 01:05:31,000

a recovery Layla was going to make.

1120

01:05:31,000 --> 01:05:36,760

Well speaking of that Layla, when, when something like this happens and someone emerges, you

1121

01:05:36,760 --> 01:05:40,360

know, victorious for lack of a better word, whether it's a mental health struggle, whether

1122

01:05:40,360 --> 01:05:44,720

it's a physical health struggle, more often than not, they become a kind of beacon for

1123

01:05:44,720 --> 01:05:46,920

other people that are going through that.

1124

01:05:46,920 --> 01:05:50,840

Did you find yourself in a position where you were able to help other families that

1125

01:05:50,840 --> 01:05:53,240

maybe had some children that were injured?

1126

01:05:53,240 --> 01:05:54,240

Yeah.

1127

01:05:54,240 --> 01:05:55,240

We've helped two.

1128

01:05:55,240 --> 01:05:56,240

Well, I've helped.

1129

01:05:56,240 --> 01:05:57,240

You've been with Nathan?

1130

01:05:57,240 --> 01:05:58,240

Well, two.

1131

01:05:58,240 --> 01:06:05,440

We've helped 25 families, but two, she got to be really hands on.

1132

01:06:05,440 --> 01:06:09,720

But tell them about your first time seeing Nathan.

1133

01:06:09,720 --> 01:06:12,640

So do I go into detail?

1134

01:06:12,640 --> 01:06:13,640

Okay.

1135

01:06:13,640 --> 01:06:17,080

This is last night.

1136

01:06:17,080 --> 01:06:18,080

Nathan is a kid.

1137

01:06:18,080 --> 01:06:23,080

He's 23, I think he's 22 now.

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01:06:23,080 --> 01:06:24,080

22.

1139

01:06:24,080 --> 01:06:31,880

And he, um, my mom, when she like found out about the call or found out about the case,

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01:06:31,880 --> 01:06:32,880

accident.

1141

01:06:32,880 --> 01:06:33,880

Yeah.

1142

01:06:33,880 --> 01:06:35,600

And she found out about it.

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01:06:35,600 --> 01:06:39,880

She like warned me and told me that like, like, prepared me that it's going to be a

1144

01:06:39,880 --> 01:06:40,880

lot.

1145

01:06:40,880 --> 01:06:45,160

Like I may not be able to handle it that if I need to leave the room, I can all this stuff.

1146

01:06:45,160 --> 01:06:48,200

And then we went to his room and he was in the bed.

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01:06:48,200 --> 01:06:49,760

Was he sleeping the first thing?

1148

01:06:49,760 --> 01:06:52,240

He was eyes open, but unconscious.

1149

01:06:52,240 --> 01:06:54,160

Like it's kind of like I described.

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01:06:54,160 --> 01:06:58,240

And like she walked, I, we walked in, I could just like tell she was like waiting for me

1151

01:06:58,240 --> 01:07:00,680

to like break down or like freak out.

1152

01:07:00,680 --> 01:07:04,600

And I just got, I just like, I don't know.

1153

01:07:04,600 --> 01:07:07,920

I see everyone as like the same person.

1154

01:07:07,920 --> 01:07:11,720

Cause like personally, like when I was like in a wheelchair or like when I was in the

1155

01:07:11,720 --> 01:07:16,560

bed, I wouldn't want to be treated like I'm five or like just like, I'm like unable to

1156

01:07:16,560 --> 01:07:17,720

do stuff.

1157

01:07:17,720 --> 01:07:22,440

So I treat everyone the same cause like, I wouldn't want to be treated like that.

1158

01:07:22,440 --> 01:07:23,440

I would hate it.

1159

01:07:23,440 --> 01:07:26,080

So like me personally, I know how I would feel.

1160

01:07:26,080 --> 01:07:29,280

Maybe they wouldn't feel the same, but it's like, so I'm going to do that.

1161

01:07:29,280 --> 01:07:30,280

Right.

1162

01:07:30,280 --> 01:07:34,320

So I'm going to act like they're awake and talking to me and like, yeah.

1163

01:07:34,320 --> 01:07:35,320

Yeah.

1164

01:07:35,320 --> 01:07:36,560

The family's appreciated though.

1165

01:07:36,560 --> 01:07:38,680

I wasn't sure how she would take it.

1166

01:07:38,680 --> 01:07:39,680

She wanted to come.

1167

01:07:39,680 --> 01:07:40,680

She wanted to help.

1168

01:07:40,680 --> 01:07:42,480

Um, there's still friends to this day.

1169

01:07:42,480 --> 01:07:43,480

Yeah.

1170

01:07:43,480 --> 01:07:47,080

Um, Palm beach County ran that call too, and did an amazing job.

1171

01:07:47,080 --> 01:07:50,160

And he, like, I think that's what he loves about Layla.

1172

01:07:50,160 --> 01:07:54,200

She doesn't treat him like someone with a brain injury or someone with a disability.

1173

01:07:54,200 --> 01:07:55,880

And she just roughs them up.

1174

01:07:55,880 --> 01:07:59,000

She's super rough with them to the point where I'm like, easy, you know, you're going to

1175

01:07:59,000 --> 01:08:00,000

hurt them.

1176

01:08:00,000 --> 01:08:01,480

And his mom is like, he loves it.

1177

01:08:01,480 --> 01:08:02,480

Are you kidding?

1178

01:08:02,480 --> 01:08:05,200

She treats them like a normal person where most people don't.

1179

01:08:05,200 --> 01:08:09,560

You know, then you have Layla who's like trying to make him make some more of those videos

1180

01:08:09,560 --> 01:08:13,040

or she's shoving them or playing with them.

1181

01:08:13,040 --> 01:08:15,160

But she has like a real calling for it.

1182

01:08:15,160 --> 01:08:19,200

I'm like, it's scary because you don't know what she's going to do sometimes.

1183

01:08:19,200 --> 01:08:20,200

I know.

1184

01:08:20,200 --> 01:08:28,240

You do, but it's been cool to see her give back, you know, to those people and, you know,

1185

01:08:28,240 --> 01:08:31,960

kind of like, cause it's scary on the other side of this, especially when you're, you

1186

01:08:31,960 --> 01:08:36,320

know, we're only two years out and it's probably the first two years or if they say are the

1187

01:08:36,320 --> 01:08:40,160

hardest, we just had a really remarkable recovery.

1188

01:08:40,160 --> 01:08:45,880

So I don't, we try to like help the ones who don't, it doesn't typically end like this.

1189

01:08:45,880 --> 01:08:48,720

I think it's just a beautiful element of hope though.

1190

01:08:48,720 --> 01:08:52,320

It doesn't mean that the other people are guaranteed to be able to get through that

1191

01:08:52,320 --> 01:08:56,120

journey, but you know, the belief side is part of healing.

1192

01:08:56,120 --> 01:08:57,840

You know, I mean, the body is incredible.

1193

01:08:57,840 --> 01:09:02,640

And it's funny because when I was younger going into science, we were told once brain

1194

01:09:02,640 --> 01:09:04,480

tissue is, is dead, it's dead.

1195

01:09:04,480 --> 01:09:05,480

That's it.

1196

01:09:05,480 --> 01:09:06,760

You know, if you have a concussion or whatever, that's it.

1197

01:09:06,760 --> 01:09:08,800

You know, nerves are severed.

1198

01:09:08,800 --> 01:09:09,800

That's it.

1199

01:09:09,800 --> 01:09:14,800

And now you see, no, no, you have long nerves can regenerate brain can regenerate.

1200

01:09:14,800 --> 01:09:20,720

So now you get, you add that belief, you know, if someone's has that minute potential of

1201

01:09:20,720 --> 01:09:25,440

actually surviving and you add that element of hope, like Layla's story, and that might

1202

01:09:25,440 --> 01:09:29,840

be the, the, just that minute difference between not surviving and surviving.

1203

01:09:29,840 --> 01:09:30,840

Yeah.

1204

01:09:30,840 --> 01:09:34,720

And I think a lot of recovery and I share this with a lot of the families, a lot of

1205

01:09:34,720 --> 01:09:40,320

the recovery is in the hands of the caretakers or whoever is taking care of that person where

1206

01:09:40,320 --> 01:09:45,160

I'm like, the more involved you are, the more, you know, we were super involved in her recovery.

1207

01:09:45,160 --> 01:09:49,200

We like did so much, anything they taught us or trained us, we were going to run and

1208

01:09:49,200 --> 01:09:50,200

do it with Layla.

1209

01:09:50,200 --> 01:09:53,280

So it was almost like we were constantly working with her.

1210

01:09:53,280 --> 01:09:58,520

She was, you know, she's easy to train because she was usually pretty eager to do it.

1211

01:09:58,520 --> 01:10:02,360

But I, it's so much is on the caretakers where I just stress that I know it's hard.

1212

01:10:02,360 --> 01:10:03,360

I know you feel beaten.

1213

01:10:03,360 --> 01:10:07,720

You just want to like crawl into the corner and cry, but cry later, you know, while they

1214

01:10:07,720 --> 01:10:09,560

need you, like you just got to do the work.

1215

01:10:09,560 --> 01:10:12,800

You have to work and you have to work them and then yeah, you're going to break down.

1216

01:10:12,800 --> 01:10:17,560

But a lot of it falls in the hands of the caretakers and what you're willing to do

1217

01:10:17,560 --> 01:10:19,160

for your person.

1218

01:10:19,160 --> 01:10:21,160

Like it plays a big role in it.

1219

01:10:21,160 --> 01:10:22,160

It really does.

1220

01:10:22,160 --> 01:10:27,720

Well, Layla, speaking of all the medical professionals that you interacted with, you meant you kind

1221

01:10:27,720 --> 01:10:29,960

of touched on this at the beginning.

1222

01:10:29,960 --> 01:10:33,280

What has that inspired you as far as your career journey?

1223

01:10:33,280 --> 01:10:40,560

I don't, I can't like go into detail on that, but like, I just want to be like them and

1224

01:10:40,560 --> 01:10:43,480

I see how they like help other people.

1225

01:10:43,480 --> 01:10:47,440

And like, I've like been able to watch them like do their jobs.

1226

01:10:47,440 --> 01:10:51,320

I know they're not really doing much, but like, you don't understand.

1227

01:10:51,320 --> 01:10:54,680

It's a lot like me and I just see like the little things that go into it.

1228

01:10:54,680 --> 01:10:58,680

And I just like want to like study that and like learn everything they're doing and be

1229

01:10:58,680 --> 01:11:06,400

able to like regenerate, replicate what they're doing.

1230

01:11:06,400 --> 01:11:10,760

And with your own style, because you definitely have your own style.

1231

01:11:10,760 --> 01:11:12,760

And what about from the athletic point of view?

1232

01:11:12,760 --> 01:11:14,560

I mean, you're still passionate about cheer.

1233

01:11:14,560 --> 01:11:18,160

So where do you hope to go in a few years?

1234

01:11:18,160 --> 01:11:21,960

I hope to win worlds.

1235

01:11:21,960 --> 01:11:23,600

I'm being dead serious.

1236

01:11:23,600 --> 01:11:25,360

I want to win worlds.

1237

01:11:25,360 --> 01:11:26,360

She's taking it to the team.

1238

01:11:26,360 --> 01:11:28,240

She's allowed to be doing all those flips.

1239

01:11:28,240 --> 01:11:29,240

No, I got cleared.

1240

01:11:29,240 --> 01:11:30,240

I got cleared.

1241

01:11:30,240 --> 01:11:31,240

What are you talking about?

1242

01:11:31,240 --> 01:11:32,240

What are you talking about?

1243

01:11:32,240 --> 01:11:33,240

I got cleared.

1244

01:11:33,240 --> 01:11:34,240

Thank you very much.

1245

01:11:34,240 --> 01:11:39,640

I had to, I went to my neurologist and I had, I wrote him a whole thing in my notes app

1246

01:11:39,640 --> 01:11:42,920

about why I should be cleared and like convinced him.

1247

01:11:42,920 --> 01:11:45,040

He wrote me a note that like basically-

1248

01:11:45,040 --> 01:11:48,680

She was stumbling for a year before he gave her that letter.

1249

01:11:48,680 --> 01:11:50,640

For us to submit that.

1250

01:11:50,640 --> 01:11:54,720

But I'm saying then I wrote them, I wrote them all those notes, whatever.

1251

01:11:54,720 --> 01:11:59,680

And then he's, he basically cleared me, but he said like with restrictions, but I have

1252

01:11:59,680 --> 01:12:04,000

an appointment in June and I'm going to get fully cleared and I'm going to go back to

1253

01:12:04,000 --> 01:12:05,720

cheer and I'm going to win worlds.

1254

01:12:05,720 --> 01:12:10,400

I'm like saying right here, I'm going to win worlds.

1255

01:12:10,400 --> 01:12:12,400

You heard it here first.

1256

01:12:12,400 --> 01:12:18,040

All right, well then Ali, let's talk about the book.

1257

01:12:18,040 --> 01:12:21,520

So you mentioned about emerging being coming out of a coma.

1258

01:12:21,520 --> 01:12:25,720

So talk to me about the book that you've written to talk about everything we've talked about

1259

01:12:25,720 --> 01:12:26,720

today.

1260

01:12:26,720 --> 01:12:27,720

Yeah.

1261

01:12:27,720 --> 01:12:32,120

So it's basically when this happened, it was Amanda who we were discussing earlier, our

1262

01:12:32,120 --> 01:12:33,360

mutual friend.

1263

01:12:33,360 --> 01:12:39,040

She created a Facebook page for, for like the news to go out about what was going on

1264

01:12:39,040 --> 01:12:40,040

with Layla.

1265

01:12:40,040 --> 01:12:43,280

She had no intentions of even writing on the page.

1266

01:12:43,280 --> 01:12:46,200

Amanda was going to get those messages out with the updates.

1267

01:12:46,200 --> 01:12:48,560

And it was right around day three.

1268

01:12:48,560 --> 01:12:50,280

I just wanted to write it myself.

1269

01:12:50,280 --> 01:12:54,280

They had formed like a whole prayer vigil under her window and it was, it meant a lot

1270

01:12:54,280 --> 01:12:55,280

to me.

1271

01:12:55,280 --> 01:12:59,040

So I wanted to be able to get on there and say, thank you and give my own update, which

1272

01:12:59,040 --> 01:13:00,040

that ended up.

1273

01:13:00,040 --> 01:13:04,200

I wrote 58 consecutive posts through the course of it.

1274

01:13:04,200 --> 01:13:08,800

And that was really the amount, like the 58 plus the three days from the day we started

1275

01:13:08,800 --> 01:13:11,200

to the day she walked out of the Shepherd Center.

1276

01:13:11,200 --> 01:13:16,760

Then a lot of it was just me being super vulnerable, what this felt like, what was happening, you

1277

01:13:16,760 --> 01:13:18,640

know, the way it was impacting people.

1278

01:13:18,640 --> 01:13:22,680

And I kept hearing over and over, you know, when it was over, even during it, you should

1279

01:13:22,680 --> 01:13:23,680

really write a book.

1280

01:13:23,680 --> 01:13:24,680

You should really write a book.

1281

01:13:24,680 --> 01:13:25,680

And I kind of laughed.

1282

01:13:25,680 --> 01:13:26,680

I was like, I'm in finance.

1283

01:13:26,680 --> 01:13:28,920

I don't do, I'm not an English person.

1284

01:13:28,920 --> 01:13:29,920

I like to read.

1285

01:13:29,920 --> 01:13:30,920

That was it.

1286

01:13:30,920 --> 01:13:36,960

So I finally just, once we were home, not right away, it was probably like six months

1287

01:13:36,960 --> 01:13:41,160

after we were home, I'm like, I'm going to do it because there was so many people that,

1288

01:13:41,160 --> 01:13:46,200

you know, like me, you have no idea what you're stepping into when your person has a brain

1289

01:13:46,200 --> 01:13:47,200

injury.

1290

01:13:47,200 --> 01:13:51,800

Like it's again, I keep comparing it to what you think because of the TV or movies.

1291

01:13:51,800 --> 01:13:52,880

And it's not like that.

1292

01:13:52,880 --> 01:13:56,840

So I really, and it's raw and it's super, you know, it's for some people, it's hard

1293

01:13:56,840 --> 01:14:00,040

to read, especially if you know, or because the beginning days were really tough.

1294

01:14:00,040 --> 01:14:04,640

So it kind of takes you through my day by day because I had it all journal because of

1295

01:14:04,640 --> 01:14:06,280

that Facebook page.

1296

01:14:06,280 --> 01:14:11,040

So it's basically those journal entries with a little bit more stuff that I didn't release

1297

01:14:11,040 --> 01:14:15,000

to the world then, you know, cause it was just, I tried to keep everyone as positive

1298

01:14:15,000 --> 01:14:16,560

as we wanted them to be.

1299

01:14:16,560 --> 01:14:20,840

And we still had hope for Layla, but so it kind of just takes you through that, you know,

1300

01:14:20,840 --> 01:14:25,920

the two months, the first two months from when it started to when she walked out.

1301

01:14:25,920 --> 01:14:30,320

And I hope it gives people hope, you know, the brain injury people that have read it,

1302

01:14:30,320 --> 01:14:34,200

some of them I knew, some of them found us online have really enjoyed it.

1303

01:14:34,200 --> 01:14:38,440

And then like, it's, it's really accurate, you know, what you're living and what you're

1304

01:14:38,440 --> 01:14:40,480

feeling and the emotions you go through.

1305

01:14:40,480 --> 01:14:43,260

And there's, there was like no books on it either.

1306

01:14:43,260 --> 01:14:44,880

And that was something I like to read.

1307

01:14:44,880 --> 01:14:48,920

So I kept asking nurses and doctors like, how is there no books on this?

1308

01:14:48,920 --> 01:14:50,960

Like someone's personal story.

1309

01:14:50,960 --> 01:14:55,840

There was like one and it was written like 30 years ago and it was super outdated and

1310

01:14:55,840 --> 01:14:58,720

it was from, it was a spouse.

1311

01:14:58,720 --> 01:15:01,480

So in my case, it's my daughter.

1312

01:15:01,480 --> 01:15:05,400

And a lot of times it is, you know, your kid that did something to cause the brain injury.

1313

01:15:05,400 --> 01:15:08,880

So I just thought, okay, I guess I'm going to be the one that writes it.

1314

01:15:08,880 --> 01:15:09,880

And I did.

1315

01:15:09,880 --> 01:15:12,000

And it was really healing to write it.

1316

01:15:12,000 --> 01:15:15,860

I felt like to relive it again was hard, but I knew how it ended.

1317

01:15:15,860 --> 01:15:20,360

So it was a little easier, you know, talking about it the second time around.

1318

01:15:20,360 --> 01:15:25,400

And just one more kind of topic prevention before we go to some closing questions.

1319

01:15:25,400 --> 01:15:30,560

If you could relive it, I mean, what happened happened, you know, and advice was given and

1320

01:15:30,560 --> 01:15:35,800

choices were made, but between, you know, not pointing the fingers or blame or anything

1321

01:15:35,800 --> 01:15:41,000

like that, but if you could redo that day, what would be done differently or maybe weeks

1322

01:15:41,000 --> 01:15:45,560

prior to maybe avoid that accident happening?

1323

01:15:45,560 --> 01:15:46,560

She's pretty tough.

1324

01:15:46,560 --> 01:15:51,040

You know, she doesn't really take no well for an answer.

1325

01:15:51,040 --> 01:15:53,440

So I even said this in the book.

1326

01:15:53,440 --> 01:15:55,200

I said, I wish I made her come that day.

1327

01:15:55,200 --> 01:15:58,520

I knew when she started to argue, I don't want to come.

1328

01:15:58,520 --> 01:16:02,280

And it was like a very rare day when my whole family was available and we were going to

1329

01:16:02,280 --> 01:16:04,000

the beach and it was all I wanted.

1330

01:16:04,000 --> 01:16:08,640

And I knew if I argue with her, she'll come, she'll probably be mad at me for the first

1331

01:16:08,640 --> 01:16:09,640

hour of it.

1332

01:16:09,640 --> 01:16:10,640

We're going to fight.

1333

01:16:10,640 --> 01:16:13,440

I didn't want to ruin that family day with a fight.

1334

01:16:13,440 --> 01:16:15,160

And I should have chosen the fight.

1335

01:16:15,160 --> 01:16:16,480

You know, I think of that all the time.

1336

01:16:16,480 --> 01:16:17,840

Why do you choose the fight?

1337

01:16:17,840 --> 01:16:21,120

But I didn't, you know, I didn't, I was tired.

1338

01:16:21,120 --> 01:16:22,380

I didn't want to argue with her.

1339

01:16:22,380 --> 01:16:25,460

So that's what I probably because it would have stopped the whole thing.

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01:16:25,460 --> 01:16:33,000

She would have been in my car, you know, heading down there versus bored, crashing ATVs.

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01:16:33,000 --> 01:16:38,720

But from, from the actual ATV point, I mean, a vehicle is obviously appropriate in certain

1342

01:16:38,720 --> 01:16:43,840

conditions, environments, certain, you know, safety gear, et cetera, because we can't watch

1343

01:16:43,840 --> 01:16:45,560

over our children the whole time.

1344

01:16:45,560 --> 01:16:48,280

And obviously we have to loosen the apron strings.

1345

01:16:48,280 --> 01:16:52,160

Otherwise they end up being completely bonkers because we've helicopter parented them.

1346

01:16:52,160 --> 01:16:53,160

So there is that middle ground.

1347

01:16:53,160 --> 01:16:56,840

And I mean, you're a first responder is even more terrifying because you see the things

1348

01:16:56,840 --> 01:16:58,420

that happen out there.

1349

01:16:58,420 --> 01:17:02,840

But are there any, any things, you know, for an ATV owner or anything, someone that might

1350

01:17:02,840 --> 01:17:07,760

potentially be using that, that maybe could have resulted in just a fun ride versus an

1351

01:17:07,760 --> 01:17:08,760

accident?

1352

01:17:08,760 --> 01:17:13,280

I mean, we saw a lot of people at that brain rehab.

1353

01:17:13,280 --> 01:17:17,160

I would say like a good 25% were just ATVs.

1354

01:17:17,160 --> 01:17:21,500

So this is happening a lot on those things.

1355

01:17:21,500 --> 01:17:25,600

Way more than I had realized, I knew that, you know, the house she was at, they had one,

1356

01:17:25,600 --> 01:17:26,960

we didn't really stress it enough.

1357

01:17:26,960 --> 01:17:31,880

We didn't really understand them, I guess, and how common injury was with them.

1358

01:17:31,880 --> 01:17:35,480

She should have never been riding it in a development on a street.

1359

01:17:35,480 --> 01:17:36,880

You know, that was the first thing.

1360

01:17:36,880 --> 01:17:39,640

Yes, of course she should have had the helmet on.

1361

01:17:39,640 --> 01:17:41,560

But it's because I'm not against ATVs.

1362

01:17:41,560 --> 01:17:42,880

I think they're, they're great.

1363

01:17:42,880 --> 01:17:43,880

They're fun.

1364

01:17:43,880 --> 01:17:48,600

If they're in the right environment and situation, like if she was in a big open field, like

1365

01:17:48,600 --> 01:17:52,280

in a place that's kind of designed for this, that would have been fine.

1366

01:17:52,280 --> 01:17:54,080

She was in a community.

1367

01:17:54,080 --> 01:17:57,880

She should have never been riding it on a, like a residential road.

1368

01:17:57,880 --> 01:18:00,780

That was her first mistake was that.

1369

01:18:00,780 --> 01:18:02,760

So that's really what I tell people, be aware.

1370

01:18:02,760 --> 01:18:05,360

I know the people treat them like they're toys.

1371

01:18:05,360 --> 01:18:06,360

They're not toys.

1372

01:18:06,360 --> 01:18:07,360

Same thing with golf carts.

1373

01:18:07,360 --> 01:18:09,560

I'm like, you need to really be aware.

1374

01:18:09,560 --> 01:18:14,560

We saw so many head injuries at that hospital and you don't end up at the Shepherd Center

1375

01:18:14,560 --> 01:18:19,800

unless you have a major head injury and a ton of it was ATVs and golf carts.

1376

01:18:19,800 --> 01:18:22,440

Like that really did shock me.

1377

01:18:22,440 --> 01:18:25,280

I was like, these things are so much more dangerous than I thought.

1378

01:18:25,280 --> 01:18:30,120

You know, and it's, we still hear about them now all the time of how common it is, how

1379

01:18:30,120 --> 01:18:31,120

frequent.

1380

01:18:31,120 --> 01:18:34,920

I mean, we have a little boy that we, he's not what he was in high school, but he's paralyzed.

1381

01:18:34,920 --> 01:18:36,720

You know, he from, it was an ATV.

1382

01:18:36,720 --> 01:18:38,240

He jumped off the back of an ATV.

1383

01:18:38,240 --> 01:18:41,520

So it's, I think it's just the, the nature of them.

1384

01:18:41,520 --> 01:18:45,160

You get on them and you think I'm invincible and nothing's going to hurt me on these things.

1385

01:18:45,160 --> 01:18:47,040

And I was guilty of it too.

1386

01:18:47,040 --> 01:18:51,800

Like I didn't really get it until my daughter was the consequence of that, you know, care

1387

01:18:51,800 --> 01:18:54,400

freeness with them, but they are, they're machines.

1388

01:18:54,400 --> 01:18:55,400

You know, they're like cars.

1389

01:18:55,400 --> 01:18:57,520

Well, a lot of them go as fast as cars.

1390

01:18:57,520 --> 01:18:58,800

This one in particular did.

1391

01:18:58,800 --> 01:19:02,280

And so you really just environment to me was everything.

1392

01:19:02,280 --> 01:19:06,360

Like I'd still let her get on one and it would probably be hard at first, but in the right

1393

01:19:06,360 --> 01:19:10,680

environment, like I'm all about like the right environment and the right precautions.

1394

01:19:10,680 --> 01:19:12,680

And maybe someone who I don't know how to ride them.

1395

01:19:12,680 --> 01:19:14,160

So I wouldn't teach her to do it.

1396

01:19:14,160 --> 01:19:16,640

She would probably need someone who understood them better than me.

1397

01:19:16,640 --> 01:19:17,640

Yeah.

1398

01:19:17,640 --> 01:19:18,640

And I think it's just an important takeaway.

1399

01:19:18,640 --> 01:19:20,080

You know, this happened.

1400

01:19:20,080 --> 01:19:22,800

What else can we learn may prevent someone else in the future.

1401

01:19:22,800 --> 01:19:25,560

Troy, is there anything you want to add to that particular topic?

1402

01:19:25,560 --> 01:19:31,280

No, I mean, everything that she just said at, it's such a common call.

1403

01:19:31,280 --> 01:19:37,360

And maybe that's it's, you know, again, the general public probably doesn't hear about

1404

01:19:37,360 --> 01:19:46,320

every time, but that's a call that I get dispatched to weekly, you know, in certain areas more

1405

01:19:46,320 --> 01:19:50,920

than most, especially in the area that this accident happened.

1406

01:19:50,920 --> 01:19:54,440

My battalion was very, very common.

1407

01:19:54,440 --> 01:20:01,520

Not so much in the neighborhood, like Ali said, but I can't tell you how many ATV and

1408

01:20:01,520 --> 01:20:03,080

motorcycle accidents.

1409

01:20:03,080 --> 01:20:04,440

The helmets are key.

1410

01:20:04,440 --> 01:20:13,320

You know, the brain, like we, there's so much we don't know about it, but we do know that

1411

01:20:13,320 --> 01:20:18,480

with a helmet, you're going to fare better than without.

1412

01:20:18,480 --> 01:20:27,200

But it's an extremely common accident that unless you're doing this and responding to

1413

01:20:27,200 --> 01:20:30,160

those types of calls, you probably don't know about as much.

1414

01:20:30,160 --> 01:20:31,160

It's that common.

1415

01:20:31,160 --> 01:20:32,160

Absolutely.

1416

01:20:32,160 --> 01:20:33,800

We'll stay in on you, Troy.

1417

01:20:33,800 --> 01:20:38,880

If people want to reach out to you online, where are the best places?

1418

01:20:38,880 --> 01:20:42,640

Oh, like they can.

1419

01:20:42,640 --> 01:20:43,840

My Facebook is kind of closed.

1420

01:20:43,840 --> 01:20:44,840

I keep that private.

1421

01:20:44,840 --> 01:20:46,480

They won't know who I am.

1422

01:20:46,480 --> 01:20:47,920

They can friend request me if they want.

1423

01:20:47,920 --> 01:20:49,760

They just look me up.

1424

01:20:49,760 --> 01:20:55,040

But best way I can give you my email address, my personal email, which is very easy.

1425

01:20:55,040 --> 01:21:00,200

It's Troy Deschard, just as it's spelled at outlook.com.

1426

01:21:00,200 --> 01:21:07,240

That's my personal email and just let me know if you have any questions.

1427

01:21:07,240 --> 01:21:10,040

That's the easiest way to get in touch with me.

1428

01:21:10,040 --> 01:21:11,040

Brilliant.

1429

01:21:11,040 --> 01:21:13,840

All right, Ali, yourself and then the book.

1430

01:21:13,840 --> 01:21:15,160

Where can people find those?

1431

01:21:15,160 --> 01:21:18,480

Both kind of in the same place.

1432

01:21:18,480 --> 01:21:24,240

She started an Instagram page is probably the best way and it's Layla's underscore TBI

1433

01:21:24,240 --> 01:21:26,240

underscore journey.

1434

01:21:26,240 --> 01:21:29,600

You can also see a lot of pictures of the stuff we're describing on there.

1435

01:21:29,600 --> 01:21:33,200

And then there is a link for the book on there as well.

1436

01:21:33,200 --> 01:21:37,000

And the email wanted to email me that's on there at the top.

1437

01:21:37,000 --> 01:21:38,000

Excellent.

1438

01:21:38,000 --> 01:21:41,760

And then Layla, we found out where we can reach out to you on Instagram.

1439

01:21:41,760 --> 01:21:45,520

How can people get you Chick-fil-A, Bolle or Starbucks vouchers and Venmo?

1440

01:21:45,520 --> 01:21:47,520

I told you I'd put it in.

1441

01:21:47,520 --> 01:21:50,520

Let me think about that.

1442

01:21:50,520 --> 01:21:51,520

What?

1443

01:21:51,520 --> 01:21:53,160

I mean, you probably have to.

1444

01:21:53,160 --> 01:21:54,880

I don't want to release my number.

1445

01:21:54,880 --> 01:21:57,400

But they can message you on the Instagram.

1446

01:21:57,400 --> 01:21:59,920

Yeah, if someone wanted to send something to you.

1447

01:21:59,920 --> 01:22:03,960

The Instagram, the little TBI one, not my main one.

1448

01:22:03,960 --> 01:22:12,480

Send that to me on there or that's a good don't have an email to that whole thing.

1449

01:22:12,480 --> 01:22:14,920

Yeah, to the account.

1450

01:22:14,920 --> 01:22:16,880

You can use my email.

1451

01:22:16,880 --> 01:22:17,880

It's on the Instagram.

1452

01:22:17,880 --> 01:22:18,880

It's Layla's.

1453

01:22:18,880 --> 01:22:22,560

It's on the link in the bio, isn't it?

1454

01:22:22,560 --> 01:22:23,560

Yeah.

1455

01:22:23,560 --> 01:22:24,560

Like in description.

1456

01:22:24,560 --> 01:22:25,560

There we go.

1457

01:22:25,560 --> 01:22:31,360

I would love Starbucks, Bolle, Chick-fil-A's egg because I'm not as obsessed anymore.

1458

01:22:31,360 --> 01:22:34,960

But Starbucks and Bolle, I will love you forever.

1459

01:22:34,960 --> 01:22:39,800

I'm actually going to Starbucks after this.

1460

01:22:39,800 --> 01:22:40,800

There we go.

1461

01:22:40,800 --> 01:22:41,800

You got to get a fresh kitchen though.

1462

01:22:41,800 --> 01:22:42,800

Like I said, I know there's one in Davie.

1463

01:22:42,800 --> 01:22:45,200

So if you're further south, you got to hit that up.

1464

01:22:45,200 --> 01:22:47,400

I'm still in there, so I'll have to check it out.

1465

01:22:47,400 --> 01:22:48,400

We have to go there.

1466

01:22:48,400 --> 01:22:49,400

It's as good as Bolle.

1467

01:22:49,400 --> 01:22:50,400

It's better.

1468

01:22:50,400 --> 01:22:51,400

I'm trusting you.

1469

01:22:51,400 --> 01:22:52,400

Yeah, let me know.

1470

01:22:52,400 --> 01:22:53,400

All right.

1471

01:22:53,400 --> 01:22:57,600

Well, I just want to say thank you so much.

1472

01:22:57,600 --> 01:23:02,800

It's been an incredible conversation to kind of hear just obviously some short elements

1473

01:23:02,800 --> 01:23:08,880

about where you guys were before this happened and your journey into certain professions

1474

01:23:08,880 --> 01:23:12,320

and then the impact of this on all of you.

1475

01:23:12,320 --> 01:23:17,240

And then the professionalism from the EMS and hospital side.

1476

01:23:17,240 --> 01:23:22,520

And obviously, as you said, the caretaking elements, the sibling elements, and then Layla's

1477

01:23:22,520 --> 01:23:24,600

strength and courage and journey that she's been through.

1478

01:23:24,600 --> 01:23:28,600

So I want to thank you all so much for being so generous with your time and coming on the

1479

01:23:28,600 --> 01:23:30,240

Behind the Shield podcast today.

1480

01:23:30,240 --> 01:23:31,240

Thank you.

1481

01:23:31,240 --> 01:23:32,240

Thanks for having us.

1482

01:23:32,240 --> 01:23:53,240

Thanks for having us.