

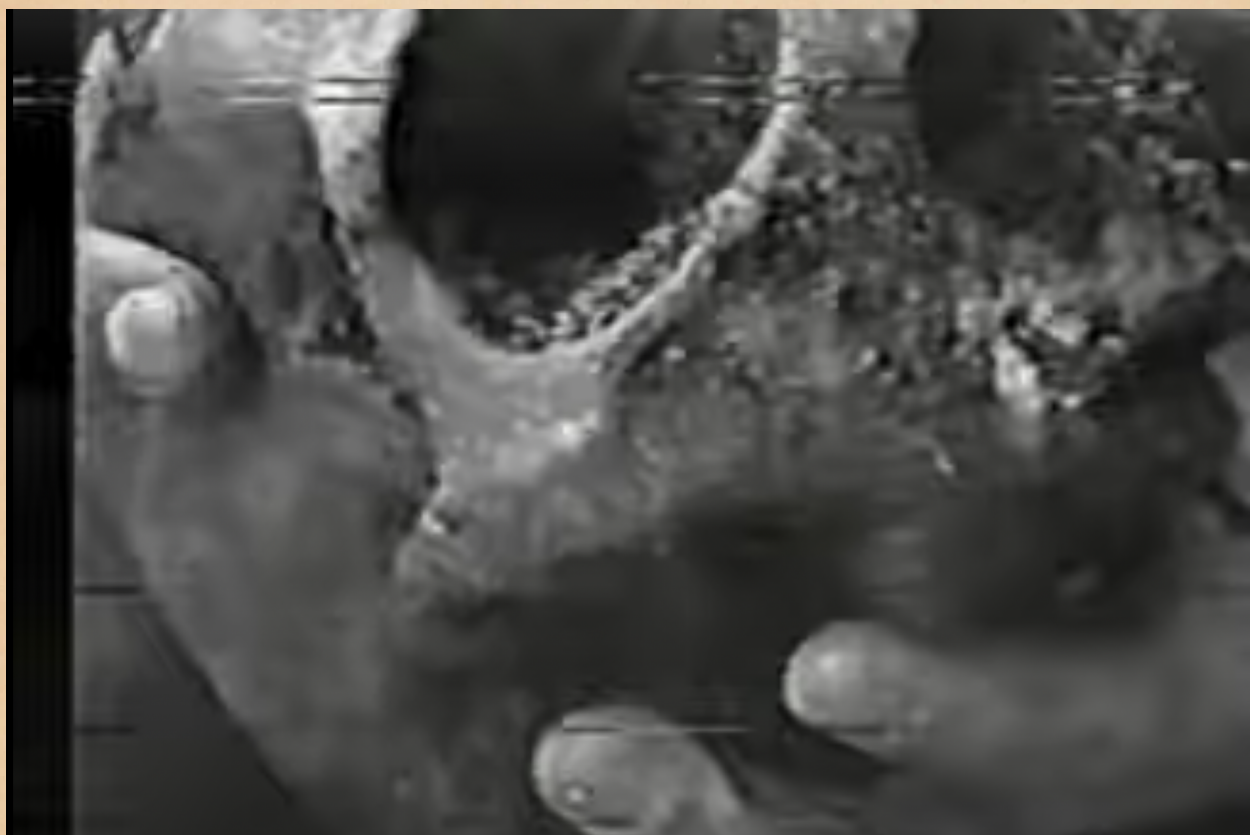
Hook

Bizarre videos with no context are everywhere on the internet. We usually watch them without caring where they originated

The Internet is filled with random videos without context or backstory. Some funny, some strange, and some disturbing. Today, we try to discern fact from fiction on one of those videos, called Grave Robbing For Morons.

Video

[Warning: Some images may be considered graphic to some viewers. These visuals depict skulls and other human bones. Images begin on Page 2.]





- Like many strange videos that get shared online, it's hard to tell if **Grave Robbing for Morons** is real
- The video cuts out sometimes and has static and scan lines, so it is likely recorded on VHS and older than Youtube
- One of its earliest uploads to Youtube was in **2014**
- The **26 minute long video** starts mid conversation with a young man talking to the camera with a skull in his hand
 - Long black hair tied in a messy ponytail, piercings, and a leather jacket
 - They appear to be Hispanic or Latinx, have some scars on his nose and forehead and speaks with a stutter
 - They sound like they could be from New York or New Jersey
 - they seem to be either an older teenager or in their early twenties
- Many compare the video to modern day vlogs with the way the person speaks directly to the camera like a person
- It's hard to tell where they are but there's a stereo and telescope behind them
- on the table they are sitting next there's more bones and a VHS of **Evil Dead 2**, which was released in **1987**
- They start by talking about needing to bring proof that you have "the real thing" or something that identifies the person's body in order to be paid for what you steal
- They tell the viewer how the body will look when it's found saying "it all rots out in a flat line", with the jaw open
 - Suggesting that a spring attached to the side can allow the mouth to open for show
- They switch topics often going on to describe how to clean the bones and prevent damage, and ramble about different things that can go wrong
 - "Don't grab it by the teeth" but by the nose or eyes

- They tell the viewer that the "shirt turns hard" and will need to be broken off
 - They claim that the teeth fell off the skull the stole because the "bone is thin" and the roots pop out easily
- They then tell the viewer how to make the skull clean without cutting it with diluted bleach
- They show ways to know the skull is real, in particular the various cracks, and show that there is still hair left on the skull they stole
- They claim finding the finger bones is very difficult to keep track off due to their size, so to take those first
- They suggest finding "something over sixty year old" and the morbid details and issues in finding newer bodies
- They also say this is only their second time grave robbing and they're no longer scared, but would be if they found a more "fleshy" body
- The person on camera calls themselves Anthony, and begins saying a last name that starts with "Cas" before stopping
- Other names mentioned include Pucci/Bucci, Taco, and Gino and they call themselves trendsetters
- The person behind the camera isn't in the frame long enough to be in focus and see the details of their face
- Before the video ends, Anthony promises to rob from Harry Houdini's grave
 - "If you're watching this video, then you'll know who it was"
- And that there will be another installment of GRFM

Investigation

Grave Robbing for Morons was posted in the subreddit **r/WTF** in **2015** and the top comment from **u/Jesticles** wrote

- *"This is from a DVD called **Ensuring Your Place In Hell Vol. 1** which can be found here."*

- Some online claim the video is actually from volume 2 from the series
 - They shared a link to a DVD trading website primarily for rare horror and other unusual content
 - They added *"Yes he really did rob a grave"*
- This DVD is ripped from a VHS of the same name
- It's unknown when the VHS or the DVD was released
- But GRFM was definitely recorded after **1987**, due to the VHS of Evil Dead 2, but it's unknown how long after
- The channel that uploaded GRFM is called **Simon Predj** and they specialize in archiving VHS oddities on Youtube
 - It is French so it doesn't seem to have any direct connection to the video or compilation tape
- It features four different home made videos, in similar style to GRFM
 - The others are: **Mortuary of the Dead, Exploding Varmints**, and **Cooking with Huck Butko**
- **Sword and Scale**, a true crime podcast, investigated the video in 2017 and even contacted an online seller about it but they didn't have any information on where the DVD came from
 - They purchased the DVD version
- Youtuber **Scaretheater** uploaded an analysis of the DVD in 2016 with clips from each video
- The content of Mortuary of the Dead is simply some young people breaking into a mortuary in a Spanish speaking country
 - It appears real and seems like the group really did break in, but it's hard to say for certain
- Exploding Varmints is from a now closed pest control company and features exactly what you'd expect
- Cooking with Huck Butko featured a young person utilizing gross stuff in his recipes, such as road kill, and feeds the dishes to family and friends
 - **Huck Butko** is a screenwriter, and was one of the writers for the 2010 movie **the Last Exorcism**
 - This was most likely an early film project for Butko

- None of the videos on the collection seem to be connected to each other
- With only one video on the compilation being a confirmed fake, it's hard to say whether or not Grave Robbing for Morons is real or just acting

Who is Anthony?

- Regardless of if the GRFM is real or not, many online wonder who the people are behind the video
 - Particularly, "Anthony", who is the only person who appears on camera
- Like anything on the internet, tons of people have claimed to know Anthony or to have gone to school with him but there are no valid leads
- Some have claimed that Anthony lived in **Red Hook, Brooklyn** and also went by the name **Screws**
 - Nicknamed that because he screwed people over selling them bootleg movies and other random things, including bones
 - They also claimed he had been dead for twenty years
- A graverobber from New York named **Anthony Cassaminas** has been suggested
 - The names sounds like it could be the right person
 - But Cassaminas was arrested in **1999** in his 40s so the ages don't seem to match up
 - However, we don't actually know when the video was recorded
 - And his interests were in the Tiffany glass of the graves, but he may have previous experience with the other aspects of graverobbing
 - **u/amusedresearcher** in **r/nonmurdermysteries** uploaded the picture of Anthony Cassaminas from the microfilm of the newspaper

- some feel it looks like an older version of the Anthony in the video



- Another person that has been suggested is another grave robber from New York named Craig A Bradley
 - But Craig doesn't look anything like Anthony in his mugshot from 2019
- Anthony could also just be a fake name

Theories

Hoax

- It's possible that, like Buck Hutko's videos, Grave Robbing for Morons is a hoax
- Anthony and the other people behind the camera are not actually robbing graves but making content
- The "**shockumentary**" or **mondo** genre was very popular in the 90s and people would sell and trade odd VHSs, and later DVDs, with this type of content
 - Inspired by the 1978 film **Faces of Death**, which depicted people dying, some were staged and some were real found footage
 - Similar to creepy, shock, or "dark web" videos that get shared online today
- The people in the video seem like kids just making things up as they go for the shock value
 - They say to "knock out" any witnesses of the crime and to tell them they were just dreaming
- One of the VHS covers for an individual copy of GRFM features the company "King of the Witches"
 - An independent movie distributor
 - The owner is **Christopher Bouchie** and some believe that they are the "Pucci" mentioned in the video
 - This could be one of their earliest DIY video projects
 - Bouchie has not responded to any inquiries about the video
- They may have found or created bones and tried to create a shockumentary film and traded it around

Real

- It's still possible that the video features real grave robbers
 - Or at least real bones
- Some argue that Anthony and the other's lack of experience makes the video more convincing

- They may not be "professional" grave robbers but may have been new to the scene and created this video to seem cool to outsiders
 - Or they may have found real bones and created this video and told fake stories for fun
- Many have argued that the bones, and the skull held by Anthony in particular, look extremely convincing
 - It's very dirty and full of mud
 - Anthony holds up a set of teeth that appear to match with the skull, claiming that he incorrectly exhumed the body which caused the teeth to break off
 - But some commenters online claim that the skull is fake in subtle ways that experts could see, in particular the slight shine and reflection of the light off the skull
 - And the fact that the styloid process is still intact on such a heavily handled skull
 - though these are comments from anonymous people on the internet
- The skull seems too realistic for young filmmakers to have access to or be able to make themselves in the nineties
- Anthony's hands and his face have cuts and bruises
 - And he mentions that you can get into trouble when robbing graves
 - These injuries could be from those incidents
 - His hands could just be dirty from handling the skull
- Houdini's grave in New York City was actually vandalized multiple times in the 90s, with some claims of grave robbing though these claims were never investigated by police
 - This doesn't mean confirm it was Anthony, but it could have been some kind of goal or

challenge for grave robbers to do that Anthony would know about or say to seem cool

Questions

Who found the tape and added it to the compilation?

Why won't the creators reveal themselves?

Why won't Bouchie respond to questions about the video?

Does part 2 exist?

Links:

GRFM

- Full video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWFosb98Kec>
- <https://unresolved.me/grave-robbing-for-morons>
- https://www.reddit.com/r/nonmurdermysteries/comments/ebsmgv/the_still_unsolved_mystery_of_grave_robbing_for/
- https://www.reddit.com/r/nonmurdermysteries/comments/ibi02z/small_update_to_grave_robbing_for_morons_posts/
- https://www.reddit.com/r/ObscureMedia/comments/insl17/grave_robbing_for_morons_a_vhs_rip_of_a_young_man/
- https://www.reddit.com/r/UnresolvedMysteries/comments/5p1y9u/who_is_behind_the_90s_home_video_grave_robbing/
- <https://www.ranker.com/list/grave-robbing-for-morons-vhs/erin-wisti>
- <https://www.swordandscale.com/grave-robbing-for-morons/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wapweeEyN74>
- https://www.reddit.com/r/WTF/comments/336pcn/grave_robbing_for_morons/
- https://www.reddit.com/r/UnexplainedPhotos/comments/4s3p9v/ensuring_your_place_in_hell_super_weirdobscure/d56s8x4/
- syracuse.com/news/2011/04/oswego_grave_robber_arrested_f.html

- [https://www.nytimes.com/1999/09/05/nyregion/passion-for-graveyard-art-that-took-criminal-turn-tiffany-glass-other-tales.html](https://www.nytimes.com/1999/09/05/nyregion/passion-for-graveyard-art-that-took-criminal-turn-tiffany-glass-other-<u>tales.html</u>)
- <https://web.archive.org/web/20080319141511/http://www.stumpydisks.com/tradeoddball.html>
- <https://imgur.com/a/zyr7Gch>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wapweeEyN74&t=163s>

BRS

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T3oj7xIaAM0>
- <https://theghostinmymachine.com/2019/07/15/the-weird-part-of-youtube-blank-room-soup-freaky-soup-guy-and-the-theft-of-rayray-video-mutaytor-raymond-persi-deep-web-performance-art/>
- <https://nightmaresunleashed.com/2019/03/02/mysteries-of-the-internet-blank-room-soup/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sFd2wTvhOHg>