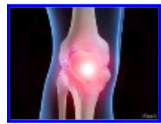


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'Paul Is Dead' Rumor Not Dead (And Neither Is Paul)

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[David Moyer](#) Contributor

(June 18) -- June 18 marks the 68th anniversary of Paul McCartney's birth -- if he had lived.

Yes, that's right, if he had lived.

Because while that old "[Paul is dead](#)" urban legend was supposedly killed when McCartney himself did a news conference in 1969 announcing that the rumors of his death had been "greatly exaggerated," an upcoming new documentary is hoping to exhume it -- with the alleged help of George

Harrison.



WireImage / Getty Images

According to a new documentary, Heather Mills, left, somehow inadvertently caused her ex-husband, Paul McCartney's, death in 1966, more than a year before she was even born.

The death-oriented documentary is called "Paul McCartney Really Is Dead: The Last Testament of George Harrison," and it reviews all the old clues that supposedly were embedded in Beatles records (i.e. when "I'm So Tired" is played backward, John reportedly says, "Paul is dead miss him miss him.").

Documentary director Joel Gilbert claims that recordings made by Harrison were sent anonymously from London and arrived at the office of [Highway 61 Productions](#), a company that specializes in Bob Dylan documentaries, on July 5, 2005, 3 1/2 years after the Beatle guitarist's death.

Why was Gilbert's company lucky enough to get what might be the biggest revelation in rock history? Gilbert thinks it's because of its reputation for Dylan documentaries.

"We're well known for our Bob Dylan films, which we've been making since 2000," he suggested. "In our films, you learn much more than in dramas, like 'I'm Not There,' or other documentaries, like 'No Direction Home.'"

But while there is little in the film that hasn't been discussed at Beatles conventions or bong shops for 40 years, there are two things that make this documentary unique.

First, it is narrated by a person with a Liverpool accent claiming to be Harrison, who supposedly recorded this confession on Dec. 30, 1999, days after the real Harrison was assaulted in his home outside London by an intruder.

Second: The person claiming to be Harrison suggests that McCartney's future ex-wife, Heather Mills, inadvertently caused the singer's death on the morning of Nov. 9, 1966 (which the Beatles supposedly hint on their song "She's Leaving Home": "Wednesday morning at 5 o'clock as the day begins").

Confused? Especially since Mills was born in January 1968, 14 months after her future ex-hubby allegedly "blew his mind out in a car." Well, Gilbert is willing to ride the fine line between objectivity and advocacy.

"There are hundreds of little clues, and even if you believe Paul is alive, the film is a fun romp through Beatles history," he said.



Courtesy of Highway 61 Entertainment

These micro-cassettes allegedly contain a recording of George Harrison revealing how Paul McCartney's ex-wife, Heather Mills, was responsible for his death in 1966, more than a year before her birth.

But, wait? How is Mills allegedly responsible for McCartney's death if she wasn't born yet?

Well, according to the alleged Harrison narrator, it goes like this: On Nov. 9, 1966, McCartney left a Beatles recording session, angry at John Lennon. Driving home, he picked up a woman walking in the rain, whose name was "Rita," and, yes, she was lovely.

When the woman recognized her driver was a famous Beatle, she went nuts and started hugging him, distracting him to the point where he crashed into a truck.

Then "Harrison" claims the three surviving Beatles were called to the scene by a member of MI5, the British equivalent to the CIA, known as "Maxwell."

He said that the death of a Beatle might cause a rash of suicides around the world, and he threatened Lennon, Harrison and Ringo Starr with death unless they agreed to keep McCartney's death a secret and to use the services of William Campbell, the winner of a Paul McCartney lookalike contestant, as his replacement.

The right-handed Campbell was given lessons on playing the bass guitar left-handed and copious amounts of plastic surgery to make his resemblance even closer to McCartney's.

Meanwhile, the one witness, "Rita," was also given plastic surgery and a name change to Heather Mills. According to the documentary, she jumped out of sight until 1993 when she contacted the allegedly fake McCartney and threatened to reveal the secret unless the singer married her.

Then, the documentary claims, she was hit by a police motorcycle a few days later and lost her left leg 6 inches below her knee.



It's a lot to swallow, which is why rock experts like Anthony DeCurtis are calling the theory and documentary "ridiculous!"

DeCurtis, a contributing editor at [Rolling Stone](#), hasn't seen the documentary, but he has interviewed both McCartney and Harrison. After watching the trailer, he came to one inescapable conclusion: "That's not George Harrison's voice!"

On the other hand, Gilbert claims he had the tapes analyzed by three separate voice experts to see whether it was Harrison's, and he says they were all inconclusive. However, he also admits that no attempt was made to contact the Harrison estate.

"The package containing the microcassettes didn't have a return address," he said. "Plus, we didn't know who sent them and didn't want to get anyone in trouble."

Although Gilbert [told FlashNews](#) that he believes his film finally proves once and for all that McCartney really is dead, he was a bit less inclined to be painted into that corner when interviewed by AOL News.

"Either Paul is dead or the Beatles were in on it as an elaborate practical joke," he said. "Still, people have found hundreds of clues and it's hard for all this to be coincidental. There is no doubt that when you look at the albums and play the songs forward -- not just backwards -- that it can't just be random."

DeCurtis is willing to concede that the idea that McCartney might be dead and that the Beatles purposely slipped in all sorts of obscure clues to alert fans is "fun" but says that any conspiracy theory tends to fall apart when you consider all the people who have to be involved in order to make it work.

"[This theory] can never be sustained," he said. "McCartney has an entire family away from the Beatles. To think there would be a plot that they would all have to keep secret is fantastic."

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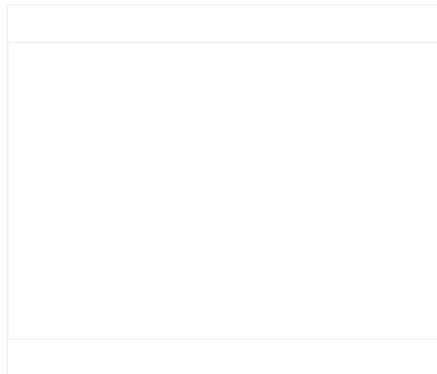
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Wait, What?



Sergei Supinsky, AFP/Getty Images 97 photos

These amateur aviators took to the skies -- albeit briefly. Team "Cossacks" were just one of 39 groups of wannabe pilots who built funny homemade flying machines for the Red Bull Flugtag 2010 competition.

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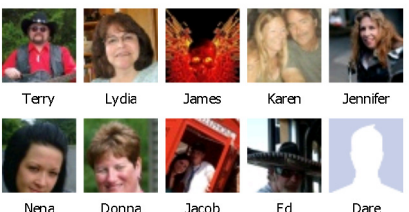
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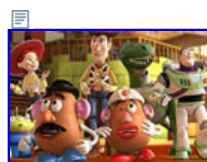


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