

Announcer (00:00):

C13 Originals.

Corey Lynn Bailey (00:07):

I was working on my foundation and the first thing that we're thinking of is "How do we start raising money to start making things happen?" One of our board members' father was associated with Jerry Falwell. Up until this past year I had no idea who the Falwells were or anything about them whatsoever.

Andrew Jenks (00:31):

In the summer of 2020, Corey Lynn Bailey was trying to raise money to start a nonprofit foundation when she learned that her business partner had a connection to someone who could help, Jerry Falwell Junior. The Falwells were like the royal family of conservative Christianity. So Corey Lynn and her business partner made plans to meet up with the Falwells in Memphis as they began their family vacation.

Corey Lynn Bailey (00:59):

When the Falwells landed in Memphis, they came in on a private jet and they immediately got whisked away to go meet with Jerry Lee Lewis.

Andrew Jenks (01:14):

Corey Lynn's business partner's father lived in town and he'd arranged for a get together for the Falwells to meet rock and roll legend Jerry Lee Lewis. Jerry Falwell Junior is a big fan of Lewis and his 1957 classic, Great Balls of Fire.

Jerry Falwell Junior (01:31):

I chew my nails and I twiddle my thumbs. I'm really nervous but it sure is fun. Come on baby. You drive me crazy. Goodness, gracious, great balls of fire. That's the first song I ever sang in front of anybody.

Andrew Jenks (01:50):

While Jerry Falwell Junior was singing to Jerry Lee Lewis, Corey Lynn was waiting for the family back at the Peabody Hotel.

Corey Lynn Bailey (01:59):

I had made dinner arrangements inside of the hotel for everyone, including the grandkids, and everybody came.

Andrew Jenks (02:08):

Dinner seemed to Corey Lynn like the perfect time to pitch her nonprofit foundation.

Corey Lynn Bailey (02:13):

I want to tell them about this amazing foundation and what we're doing, but I think that they looked at this trip as "I'm going to relax and chill and have a great time." And then the alcohol started flowing.

Andrew Jenks (02:29):

Falwell Junior was the president of Liberty University, one of the world's largest evangelical Christian schools. And Liberty students are expected to follow a strict moral code called The Liberty Way, or face consequences. Drinking alcohol for example, will result in a \$500 fine, 30 hours of community service and potential expulsion. Employees are also expected to hold themselves to the standard of The Liberty Way or face potential termination.

Corey Lynn Bailey (03:04):

I mean, I didn't know they had all the rules that they have. It was very apparent that both Jerry and Becki had had way too much to drink. I guess if they're not allowed to drink, well that's out the window.

Andrew Jenks (03:17):

Corey Lynn didn't drink at all that night. But she decided to pick up the dinner tab.

Corey Lynn Bailey (03:22):

I remember hearing Becki say "Wait, we're the millionaires. We're the ones always paying. We're not used to people paying for us. What in the world?" So Jerry was very excited about that. So Jerry got up to give me a behind hug and he did come and try to kiss me on the lips and I kind of joked and laughed it off. I'm like ha ha and turned my head and he did give me a kiss on the cheek. He was like "Did y'all see that? Did you see her turn her cheek?" It was very weird for me.

Andrew Jenks (03:54):

After the group left the restaurant most of them continued on to the hotel lobby for more drinks. So Corey Lynn took a seat across from Jerry's wife, Becki Falwell, who she says was speaking with a young musician.

Corey Lynn Bailey (04:08):

Becki was very friendly in the way that she talked with him, asking about his music and she was rubbing his back. She said take her cellphone number and call her and she can help. And then she's like laying her head on the back of his shoulder. I just remember thinking oh my God, my husband would kill me.

Andrew Jenks (04:28):

But Corey Lynn says Jerry Falwell's focus was elsewhere.

Corey Lynn Bailey (04:34):

I noticed three girls that I've never seen before. One of the young ladies knew my business partner's father. Jerry's face did not leave that young lady's chest.

Andrew Jenks (04:50):

And then Corey Lynn says her attention was drawn to one of the girls as well.

Corey Lynn Bailey (04:56):

All I heard was “I’ll take the picture.” And I look and I see my business partner hoisting this young girl’s boobs up and her father’s got the father to take the picture. And I see Jerry go head first into the boobs. So my friend’s underneath like holding the boobs up while Jerry’s face is in the boobs and they all laughed about it, but Becki came unglued. I mean, unglued. All Becki kept saying is “You know what happened before. You know what this shit caused before. This can not get out. We can not go through this again. You better get it off that phone Jerry and you better delete it off that phone.” So it became a war over this girl’s phone. So while we’re battling to get this picture deleted, Jerry is now walking around and all we hear him saying is “Do y’all know who I am? I know Trump, I’ve got him on speed dial.” While we’re trying to put out the fire of the shit storm he just caused.

Andrew Jenks (06:05):

Corey Lynn says that as the lobby bar was getting ready to close the group thinned out.

Corey Lynn Bailey (06:11):

I saw the three young ladies and my friend’s father go to the elevators. Then Jerry came over to Becki and said “I need to go to take my medicine.” I did not see Jerry again for the rest of the night. Fast forward, they’re no longer serving and Becki, in front of everyone, is calling our server, this young lady, a bitch. “Excuse me, bitch, bitch. I need alcohol. Hello. You need to get me alcohol.” And as we were walking out there was a couple and they had their own alcohol sitting at the table. My friend and Becki joined them at the table and was like “Hey, my name’s Becki.” And starts drinking their alcohol.

Corey Lynn Bailey (06:59):

My friend says something about Tito’s and they were like “Oh, we have that up in our room.” So off we go to two women’s rooms, inside their room, random strangers. I mean, all I could think of is you’ve got to be kidding me. I am so tired. Becki is falling against the wall. It was awful and I’m mortified. We end up finally getting Becki to her room and Jerry’s not there. I don’t know where Jerry is. I just know that the next day when we were all downstairs in the lobby that morning, Becki said “Jerry better not have gone into some girl’s room.” I just thought that was really weird, right? I was like well that’s bizarre.

Andrew Jenks (07:50):

That night the group had dinner together again, where Jerry Falwell Junior called Jerry Lee Lewis and conferenced him in with someone he had waiting on hold.

Jerry Falwell Junior (08:00):

This is Jerry Falwell, could you put Jerry Lee on the phone? I’ve got the president on the line. Hey, Mister President, Jerry Lee is the nicest person you’ll ever want to meet.

Donald Trump (08:17):

Jerry Lee Lewis. Jerry Lee, you are the greatest. I'll tell you. It's great to speak to you Jerry. How are you doing?

Jerry Lee Lewis (08:17):

Thank you very much.

Jerry Falwell Junior (08:21):

We went over to his house and I played a song for him, then my buddy and I recorded Great Balls of Fire. And he actually said we did good. I never sang before in my life.

Andrew Jenks (08:39):

Jerry Falwell Junior was at the height of his power and stood at the nexus of religion, education, and politics in America. He and his family and friends continued their vacation the following week, taking the Liberty Jet to Florida to party aboard a donor's mega yacht. But just one month later a bombshell story hit the news and the party was over.

News Announcer (09:03):

This is a scandal that seems to grow deeper and wider by the day for a man who was once at the top of his game in Christian conservative circles.

Andrew Jenks (09:12):

Becki Falwell was having a sexual relationship with a young man, a hotel pool boy who claimed that Jerry sat in the room and watched them. And that was the match that ignited the fire that would not only burn the Falwells but Liberty University as well. And after years of keeping silent, many like Corey Lynn are telling their stories for the first time.

Speaker 10 (09:37):

As soon as you put censorship on something it blows up.

Speaker 8 (09:43):

I remember thinking this can't be real. This can't be.

Speaker 9 (09:44):

People have just given up on Christianity because of how they've been treated.

Speaker 11 (09:50):

It wasn't Liberty University, it was Jerry's university.

Speaker 12 (09:50):

Money. I mean it really did come down to money constantly. That was the decision-maker.

Corey Lynn Bailey (09:55):

For the Falwells it's unfortunate that their life has played out in public, but everything that I ended up reading all matched every single thing that I saw in terms of behavior.

Andrew Jenks (10:11):

As of this episode we've spoken with more than 80 people and counting, former and current students, faculty, staff, high ranking administrators, friends, and those with intimate knowledge of Falwell Junior and Liberty University business. And what has emerged is the most clear picture yet of greed, hypocrisy, fear, politics, sex, power, religion, and of course money. From C13 Originals, a Cadence13 studio, I'm Andrew Jenks and this is Gangster Capitalism, Season three, Jerry Falwell Junior and Liberty University.

Speaker 14 (11:11):

I say ain't nothing you can do, nothing you can say when your time has come you will have to pay. I say [inaudible 00:11:24].

Tom Arnold (11:18):

Hey buddy.

Michael Cohen (11:18):

How are you?

Tom Arnold (11:42):

Happy Fourth of July. Happy Independence Day.

Michael Cohen (11:50):

Same to you. The same to you. How are you doing?

Tom Arnold (11:51):

I'm doing well.

Michael Cohen (11:51):

Tell me, what are you doing about the Fourth of July?

Tom Arnold (11:52):

Well, me and the kids, we went down to Palm Springs for a few days and then...

Andrew Jenks (11:57):

It sounds like a conversation between two old friends. This is comedian, actor, and podcast host Tom Arnold.

Tom Arnold (12:04):

Yeah, you know it's not Iowa where we could get a million things.

Andrew Jenks (12:07):

Tom also had a TV show called The Hunt for the Trump Tapes where he tried to uncover damaging, behind the scenes footage from Trump's TV show, The Apprentice.

Tom Arnold (12:18):

A million dollars worth of fireworks and they're really cool.

Andrew Jenks (12:21):

This is a part of several conversations that Tom surreptitiously recorded between he and Donald Trump's former personal attorney and fixer, Michael Cohen over the course of more than one year, beginning in March of 2019. Arnold gave the recordings to Gangster Capitalism. Here's Tom Arnold.

Tom Arnold (12:43):

I had a resentment against Michael Cohen, plus I knew Michael Cohen knows everything. When Trump didn't bring Michael Cohen into the White House, Michael Cohen's feelings were so hurt. In the Christmas of 2016 Michael Cohen was literally suicidal that he wasn't going in. So he said "I'm going to go up on top of the Regency Hotel and jump off of it." In the spring of 2017 the FBI raided him and then he was in trouble with Trump. So he's turning on Trump. And that's when I thought oh, I got to go to New York and I got to go to the Regency and I'm not leaving there until A, I run into him and B, he completely turns on Trump. I knew Michael Cohen would be the key.

Andrew Jenks (13:28):

So Arnold camped out in the lobby of the Regency Hotel in New York until he ran into Michael Cohen.

Tom Arnold (13:36):

I didn't know how it was going to be. It turned out to be very cordial. He knows me, he knows what I'm up to, he knows what I am to Trump. Michael Cohen trusted me because he knew that Trump hated me 100%. He knew that I was 100% out to get Trump. I mean, there's no half measures. Michael knew that if he was seen with me there's no ambivalence in that. That would upset Trump. That would upset everybody over there at the White House. He knew what he was doing. So part of him wanted to cause trouble and that's how he thought he could get respect. So I knew that about him too. I know oh he's in on this too. He needs me as much as I need him.

Andrew Jenks (14:20):

As their call continues, Cohen relates to Arnold what his relationship with Trump and testifying about it to Congress has cost him.

Michael Cohen (14:29):

After over 100 hours of testimony, including 7 1/2 hours of being beaten up on

national television, international television, you would think that you would have folks stepping up and saying “You know what? This guy’s lost everything.” I mean everything. My family’s happiness and my law license. I lost my business. Everything. My insurance, my bank accounts. All for what? I’m a man all alone. And I shouldn’t be alone anymore. So there’s a lot of crap that’s going on and I’m just disappointed. Darrel doesn’t speak to me anymore. Even the Falwells, who I brought to the table-

Tom Arnold (15:19):

Yes you did, you did.

Michael Cohen (15:20):

None of the evangelicals wanted to support Trump.

Andrew Jenks (15:25):

If you didn’t catch that last statement, Michael Cohen says he brought the Falwells to the table and that none of the evangelicals wanted to support Trump. In order to fully understand both the meaning of that statement and the power of Jerry Falwell Junior we’ll begin with Doctor Randall Balmer, a historian and professor at Dartmouth College who specializes in evangelicalism in America.

Randall Balmer (15:53):

The name Jerry Falwell resonates with a lot of evangelicals, particularly those who are aligned with the religious right. In large measure because Jerry Falwell Senior was the most visible proponent and spokesman for the religious right beginning in the late 1970s.

Jerry Falwell Senior (16:13):

I personally believe that most ministers in this country now have accepted the onus, the responsibility of rendering not only to God that which is God’s but to Caesar that which is Caesar’s, namely good government.

Andrew Jenks (16:26):

It’s hard to overstate Jerry Falwell Senior’s impact on evangelicalism and politics. A famous pastor, televangelist, and conservative activist, he began the political movement known as the Moral Majority which helped to elect Ronald Reagan in 1980. He also founded Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia back in 1971. And when he died in 2007 his son Jerry Junior took over the mantle, both as Liberty’s president and in many ways as the face of the religious right.

Randall Balmer (17:02):

There’s something to a genealogy right? Certainly Jerry Falwell Junior was trading on his very famous name and he understood that anything that he said carried with it a certain amount of weight and influence within the evangelical world.

Andrew Jenks (17:22):

During the run up to the 2016 Republican Presidential Nomination Falwell Junior's was the most sought-after endorsements with candidates falling over themselves to get it.

Rick Tyler (17:34):

Everybody in 2016 wanted Jerry Falwell as one of their principle evangelical endorsements, as a bonafide sense of that community.

Andrew Jenks (17:44):

This is Rick Tyler, the Communications Director for Ted Cruz's 2016 presidential campaign.

Rick Tyler (17:52):

Early in 2015 we had decided as a campaign that we needed to break out and we weighed the possibility of announcing early. It's an easy way to break out because reporters are hungry for presidential stories, there's nobody in the race so everything's all speculation. So we calculated that if we actually went out early we would have a very positive effect. We had a strategy that was basically similar to basketball bracketology. It's actually a strategy Ted Cruz came up with. It divided the Republican Party into four distinct constituency groups. One was the conservative wing, one was the establishment wing, one was the libertarian wing, and one was the evangelical wing.

Rick Tyler (18:42):

So the idea of bracketology was win your zone and then you advance to the next team, right? And I knew Jerry Falwell enough that I had his phone number, could call him. I called Jerry and he was very excited because he had been long wanting to be influential in politics. It's a difficult thing because they're in Lynchburg, Virginia and if you know Virginia it's a very rural community in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. So it's not an easy place to get to. So having proximity to power from Lynchburg is difficult except for the fact that they are the largest Christian school in the world. So I called Jerry and I asked him if it would be okay if we announced and he seemed very excited about it.

Andrew Jenks (19:25):

So on March 23, 2015 Jerry Falwell Junior introduced Ted Cruz to the Liberty students.

Jerry Falwell Junior (19:34):

As you know, Liberty University does not support or oppose candidates for public office, and Senator Cruz's appearance here should not be interpreted by any as an endorsement of his candidacy. So please join me in welcoming back to Liberty University Senator Ted Cruz.

Ted Cruz (19:54):

Thank you so much President Falwell. God bless Liberty University. It is a time for

truth. It is a time for liberty. It is a time to reclaim the constitution of the United States.

Andrew Jenks (20:18):

But the Cruz campaign had to be careful. Liberty is a nonprofit organization and that means they're prohibited from being affiliated with any political campaign or activity.

Rick Tyler (20:32):

It's just a lot of rules that we had to follow. So we couldn't hand out any materials at all. But it didn't really matter because we weren't trying to win Virginia voters at that time. What we were trying to do was put an imprint of the campaign into the evangelical world, make an identity connection that this is Ted Cruz, he's a Baptist, he's an evangelical, he attends church just like you do, and here we are all together. He's announcing for President at your school. So it worked out very very well.

Andrew Jenks (21:02):

Later, after his announcement at Liberty, the Cruz campaign felt confident that they'd earned the all-important Falwell Junior endorsement.

Rick Tyler (21:12):

On a phone call to Rafael Cruz, Ted's father, Rafael assured me and others on the team that Falwell had committed, that he was going to endorse. So I called Falwell and asked him if he would do it that day. Like let's just get it over with. And he demurred. He says "Look, my board is not going to allow me to endorse in this presidential campaign so I'm going to take their advice and not endorse." I was truly disappointed but what could I do? So I told my team that we don't have his endorsement.

Andrew Jenks (21:46):

Falwell told Tyler that his endorsement of a president could give the appearance of the school endorsing a president and that could risk their nonprofit status. He was going to steer clear. Then on January 18, 2016 Donald Trump came to Liberty.

Jerry Falwell Junior (22:10):

Good morning. Thank you for braving the cold and the wind this morning and we are so honored to have all of you here in attendance. But it is my distinct honor and privilege to welcome back to Liberty University a man who I introduced in 2012 as one of the greatest visionaries of our time. As our friendship has grown, so has my admiration for Mister Trump. Matthew 7:16 tells us that by their fruits you shall know them. Donald Trump's life has born fruit. In my opinion, Donald Trump lives a life of loving and helping others as Jesus taught in the great commandment. I said on Sean Hannity's show in December that I see a lot of parallels between my father and Donald Trump. Please welcome back to Liberty University Mister Donald Trump.

Donald Trump (23:02):

It's an honor to be here and especially on Martin Luther King Day. It's an amazing story what's gone on with Liberty University. I mean, what Jerry has done. We've done great with evangelicals. Evangelicals have been amazing. And we're going to protect Christianity. And I can say that. I don't have to be politically correct. We're going to protect it. You know? And I asked Jerry and I asked some of the folks because I hear this is a major theme right here, but 2 Corinthians, right? 2 Corinthians 3:17, that's the whole ballgame. Where the spirit of the Lord, right, where the spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty. And here there is Liberty College, Liberty University. But it is so true. When you think... And that's really... Is that the one? Is that the one you like? I think that's the one you like because I loved it. And it's so representative of what's taken place.

Andrew Jenks (24:03):

Despite the students in attendance laughing at Trump's faux pas referring to second Corinthians as two Corinthians, eight days later Falwell Junior officially endorsed Donald Trump. The first major evangelical figure to do so. Falwell, looking to avoid nonprofit violations said his endorsement was personal and not a reflection of the school. Even though later he was introduced at the 2016 RNC as President of Liberty University. Trump tweeted, "Great honor. Reverend Jerry Falwell Junior of Liberty University, one of the most respected religious leaders in our nation has just endorsed me." Falwell Junior isn't a reverend no has he claimed to be a religious leader. But his endorsement gave Trump a huge lift, which helped him win the Republican nomination and ultimately the presidency. Here's Professor Randall Balmer again.

Randall Balmer (25:05):

Jerry Falwell Junior's endorsement of Donald Trump gave Trump a kind of veneer of religious legitimacy that frankly he could have never have concocted for himself. That certainly took me by surprise, especially because this is a movement that claims to be concerned about family values. Think about that for a moment. You can not have a movement professing to be advocating family values and then endorse Donald Trump as your leader. I mean, you can't do that. It's not plausible. This is a man who can't even fake religious fluency. And for Jerry Falwell Junior with his position as President of Liberty University but also his name, being his father's son, gave Trump a kind of cover for seeking out votes from the religious right. That was an enormously important endorsement.

Andrew Jenks (26:02):

Doctor Balmer certainly wasn't alone in his surprise. Here again is Ted Cruz's communications director Rick Tyler.

Rick Tyler (26:10):

I read in the newspaper that he endorsed Donald Trump. So I sent him a nasty text because he was a good Christian and got on the phone and lied straight to my ear. He didn't tell me the truth. He could have just said, "I'm not going to endorse your

candidate.” I would have respected him for that. But he made up a story about his board not allowing him to endorse and then he turned around and did exactly what he said he wasn’t going to do.

Andrew Jenks (26:37):

The move left Tyler and so many others looking for answers to the question of why such a prominent voice of the religious right would support a thrice married man credibly accused of sexual misconduct by 26 women, who had also by the way back in 2012 told the Liberty students to get a prenup and to get even with adversaries.

Rick Tyler (27:01):

It could be a number of things. It could be exactly what I said, which is that he knew that he wasn’t going to endorse Cruz and he was probably going to hold out for Trump and he just couldn’t man up and tell me the truth. Or there may be something else and I don’t know what that would be. When you’re dealing with Donald Trump and Michael Cohen, anything’s possible.

Andrew Jenks (27:33):

To answer the question of why Falwell Junior made his surprising endorsement of Donald Trump we should hear from the man who claims he brought him to the table.

Michael Cohen (27:44):

So how did the amoral Trump come to be beloved by evangelical voters? A question that remains one of the abiding mysteries to this day.

Andrew Jenks (27:55):

That’s Michael Cohen. Well, not his actual voice, but his own words from the audio version of his book, Disloyal. Cohen says it began with a gathering of the country’s evangelical leaders in Trump Tower back in 2011. Trump was testing the waters of a potential presidential run and looking to forge ties with this important group. Cohen says Trump had them all fooled with his fake piety when they laid their hands on him in prayer. Later Cohen writes that Trump said to him...

Michael Cohen (28:27):

Can you believe that bullshit? Referring to the ritual and the evangelicals. Can you believe people believe that bullshit?

Andrew Jenks (28:37):

But out in the hallway after the meeting, Cohen says he met Jerry and Becki Falwell.

Michael Cohen (28:43):

I fell into a conversation with the couple that would provide the first flutter of a wave to the butterfly wing flapping that rippled outward and led to the devout and

undying devotion to Trump of millions of evangelicals that still mystifies so many Americans. Justin Bieber was the catalyst.

Andrew Jenks (29:05):

According to Cohen, the Falwells wanted to take their 12 year old daughter, Caroline to a Justin Bieber concert, but they needed tickets. Cohen, being the fixer as he liked to call himself, took care of it. "We're friends for life." He says Jerry said to him. Of course with Michael Cohen, favors have a price tag.

Michael Cohen (29:28):

The impact this tiny favor would have on the world was the furthest thing from my mind, but it would indeed come to matter. Part of the art to being a fixer was never, ever asking for anything in return, for myself that is. For others I was more than happy to call in a chit or IOU or however you want to describe the sense of obligation that comes from granting your tween daughter her greatest wish in life, a moment in the presence of The Biebs. This particular favor and another of greater significance would come due in 2016, to the enormous benefit not of me, but the political prospect of candidate Donald Trump.

Andrew Jenks (30:16):

Cohen says he and the Falwells became very close. So close in fact that he says later Jerry Falwell called him about a very sensitive matter.

Michael Cohen (30:26):

This situation began with a phone call as so many did for me as a fixer, from Jerry Falwell Junior telling me a story that stretched back years to a visit he and his wife had taken to Miami. They'd stayed at the five star Fontainebleau Hotel and the pair had become friendly with a kid working at the pool. Jerry called him a pool boy. He said they'd stayed in touch with the pool boy and talked about helping him finance a business with an investment in real estate. Jerry didn't fill me in on all the details, only that a deal was never consummated and the relationship ended with hard feelings. The kid had filed a lawsuit Jerry said, but that wasn't why he'd called me, as I knew. I wasn't the lawyer you called to help with litigation. I was the lawyer you called when you had a problem that needed to be solved or made to go away. "This is personal." Jerry said.

Michael Cohen (31:24):

Jerry continued in a sheepish voice that somehow the pool boy had come into possession of photographs he'd taken on his phone. Jerry said that the terrible thing was that the pool boy was now threatening to shop the photographs to publications as a way to pressure the Falwells to settle the lawsuit on favorable terms.

Andrew Jenks (31:46):

Cohen said the pool boy had sued Falwell and was extorting him with photos. Back to Cohen's conversation with Tom Arnold.

Michael Cohen (31:56):

Even the Falwells, who I brought to the table-

Tom Arnold (31:59):

Yes you did. You did.

Michael Cohen (32:00):

None of the evangelicals wanted to support Trump.

Tom Arnold (32:03):

Right. Well, you definitely brought the Falwells. You did the deal with the pool boy.

Michael Cohen (32:10):

You're wrong about that. It's the reason why I'm calling you.

Tom Arnold (32:12):

Okay got it.

Michael Cohen (32:14):

Because I share it with you and I have the proof on it. There's a bunch of photographs, personal photographs that somehow the guy ended up getting. Whether it was off of Jerry's phone or somehow maybe it got airdropped or whatever the hell the whole thing was. And they're photos. Photos between husband and wife. The evangelicals are kinkier than Tom Arnold.

Andrew Jenks (32:56):

Cohen writes in his book that he took care of things. Saying he "went for the jugular with the pool boy's lawyer to get rid of the photos."

Michael Cohen (33:07):

Catch and kill I thought. But in this case it was just going to be kill. I called Becki and reassured her that the pictures wouldn't get out, but I could hear the sadness and fear in her voice. I reassured her that I wouldn't let her down and I didn't.

Andrew Jenks (33:24):

But on his call with Arnold, Cohen tips his hand. He says he didn't get rid of all of the photos.

Michael Cohen (33:32):

I actually have one of the photos. It's terrible. Even if she has a very nice figure nobody wants their private photos, especially not when you have children and grandchildren. So my heart went out for Becki. I loved them. They were like family to me.

Andrew Jenks (33:55):

Here's Tom Arnold again.

Tom Arnold (33:57):

That conversation I was in Ottawa, Canada filming a movie and I immediately went down that weekend to New York to spend one on one time with him. I could tell he had a lot more to say. I needed to know exactly why Jerry Falwell had decided suddenly to support Donald Trump and he specifically said that he had told Jerry "I don't have to remind you how big I came up for you when you had that situation with all the pictures and it would have been just terrible, awful for you and your wife and your family. And I helped you with that. Now I'm asking you to please show me the same respect. Do me a favor. Please support Donald Trump."

Andrew Jenks (34:48):

Finally Cohen memorializes his success in getting rid of the photos by ending the Falwell story in his book with this.

Michael Cohen (34:57):

There it was, my second chit with the Falwells. In good time I would call in this favor not with me, but for the boss at a crucial moment on his journey to the presidency.

Tom Arnold (35:11):

Michael Cohen 100% believes that it was him and believes that it was this moment when he got Jerry Falwell Junior to suddenly support Trump that propelled him into the White House. And I don't disagree.

Andrew Jenks (35:34):

Gangster Capitalism reached out repeatedly to Jerry and Becki Falwell to participate in this season and after a lengthy conversation in which Jerry and Becki were eager to tell their story themselves and not through PR people, they agreed to do an interview. Then we were contacted by their PR people and after a conversation with them we were informed that the Falwells would not participate. But then we received a message directly from Jerry saying that we could e-mail him questions, which of course we did. And then we heard back from his PR people again saying that they, not the Falwells would be providing answers to our questions, but only on the condition that we reported on them coming from "someone familiar to the situation."

Andrew Jenks (36:25):

After reminding his PR people that Jerry himself has called anonymous sources "cowardly" we of course declined. And then finally we were sent responses to our written questions from Becki answering on Jerry's behalf. One of which was that Michael Cohen never blackmailed Jerry to gain his support of Trump. All of this serves to indicate the Falwells attempt to gain control of a story that has spiraled out of control. But our story is just getting started. On the next episode of Gangster Capitalism, Giancarlo Granda, also known as the pool boy tells his story.

Giancarlo Granda (37:12):

We talked for a bit, I relaxed, and then we went upstairs and Jerry was laying on the bed. He was laying on the bed. He was drunk and he was giggling. He's like "Just go for it."

Andrew Jenks (37:23):

But there's also another young man in this story who's managed to remain out of the public eye and wait until you hear what he has to say.

Gordon Bello (37:32):

I'm with Giancarlo and Becki and then he leaves to go to see Jerry. I stay with Becki that night, we hang out, whatever. Things happen. All that went on.

Andrew Jenks (37:42):

And later this season on Gangster Capitalism,

Speaker 25 (37:45):

It's a culture of absolute loyalty at all costs.

Speaker 26 (37:49):

If you wanted to discuss something or expose something that was not in line with their projected narrative, you were now the enemy.

Speaker 27 (37:58):

It's a classic case of insiders misusing a religious charitable organization for their own benefit.

Speaker 28 (38:04):

I did not want anyone at Liberty to know I was gay. I must not tell anyone otherwise I don't know what could happen.

Speaker 29 (38:11):

I could no longer tell black and brown students to come to this institution that I knew would cause them harm.

Speaker 30 (38:18):

They say we have one of the safest campuses in America but I wasn't safe. I wasn't safe anywhere at all.

Andrew Jenks (38:25):

If you have any tips about Jerry Falwell Junior or Liberty University you can contact us at tips.gangstercapitalism.com or our tip line 317-674-6980. We can ensure anonymity. This has been a creation and presentation of C13 Originals, a Cadence13 Studio, executive produced by Chris Corcoran, Zak Levitt, and myself. Written, produced, and directed by Zak Levitt. Produced by Perry Crowell and myself. Research and production support by Ian Mandt. Editing by Perry Crowell and Bill

Schultz. Mixed and mastered by Bill Schultz. Production coordination by Terence Malengone. Studio coordination by Sean Cherry. Artwork and design by Kurt Courtney. Marketing by Brian Swarth, Josefina Francis, and Melissa Wester. And PR by Hillary Schupf. Original music by Joel Goodman. And our theme song, Your Sins Will Find You Out is by Eli “Paper Boy” Reed.

Speaker 14 (39:31):

Oh there ain't no doubt, all your sins are going to find you out. You better hear me when I tell you now. One more thing...

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