

THE LAST NEVERGATE™ C H R O N I C L E S

Reference Item Number 0014-0

Description Text of unpublished Oprah 5 interview with twins Victoria Kathleen Dunnigan and Donella Viola Dunnigan in North Castle

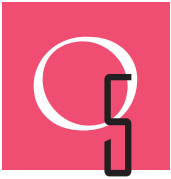
Date Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 2117

Source Clans Dunnigan archives, via Transpoint Independent Archive (TIA)

Background Early in its broadcast on Channel O5, this timedelayed interview was terminated online under curious circumstances. The anti-Dunnigan Felk media clan, which controlled distribution for Channel O5 media products and held a controlling interest in Oprah 5's Genecopy Asset License, claimed foul play by media terrorists. The truth seems otherwise.

Evidently Oprah 5, frustrated with her owners' dictatorial methods and nearing the end of her license period, had tried to replace the scheduled *An Oprah 5 Thanksgiving* with this interview by overriding the distribution satellites. Expensive blackmarket media tech and topnotch hackers required. Clans Dunnigan complicity must be realistically suspected.

Oprah 5 was never seen again; the Felk-owned aircraft that was returning her to New York disappeared over the Rockies. Victoria and Donella raised an outcry, calling for a criminal investigation of Felk interests and seemed to win the high moral ground in the incident although no charges were ever brought in the case. Rumors were rampant: Oprah 5 never left North Castle; her license clock has been removed; her appearance has been altered; she has been Refurbed; she became a shadow Dunnetix media strategist.



DOCUMENT Interview Transcript (as recorded)
TRANSCRIBER Ear2Text Professional 11.72
DATE November 25, 2117
SUBJECT 05 interview with Victoria and Donella Dunnigan
LOCATION Plaid Salon, North Castle, Dunnigans Wall (WG.US.NM)

PAGE
1

OPRAH 5 INTRODUCTION

They're beautiful, they're powerful, they're incredibly energetic, and at 67, look like 27. In fact, they look younger than a third of their 302 children. I met the former Igan twins several years ago at the WorldGov gala celebrating the opening of Transpoint Station out between Mars and Jupiter. At that time, they looked their true ages.

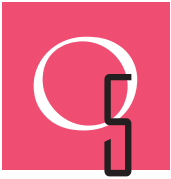
Today, we're all here at the celebrated North Castle on Dunnigans Wall. Outside, a Thanksgiving Day snowstorm is raging, but I'm sitting warm and cozy in the charming Plaid Salon with a crackling fire and Victoria and Donella Dunnigan.

It's easy to forget that I'm sitting with half of the engineers responsible for the ubiquitous PuppyVac, the PickaParrots and all the rest of the whimsical Dunnetix appliance lifeforms. What few remember these days is that the Dunnigan rise to fortune and fame began with their controversial Arm of Fortune jackpots at Las Vegas, Colorado. They have certainly made the most of their winnings, money that has led to innovations like Universal Converters, Opus Refurburators and the controversial Nevergates.

These days, the female half of the founding members of the Clans Dunnigan and Dunnetix LLC spend most of their time with their children. In my tour of North Castle, I had an opportunity to visit the interior "yard" where fifty 5-year old boys and fifty 5-year old girls are playing and learning. I've never seen such chaos. Watching the two moms with these kids, though, I have to tell you that Victoria and Donella have the patience of saints and seemingly enough love to go around. And if being the mothers of three tiers of 100 podborns, now ages 41, 22 and 5 isn't enough motherhood, this year Victoria and Donella proudly gave birth to two natborns, Robert Orville Miles Dunnigan and Diana Faye Lorris Dunnigan, who are a few yards from us right now, crawling around with Wilburt, their PuppyVac 'shepherd'.

OPRAH 5: Ladies, I want to thank you for inviting me to your castle to celebrate Thanksgiving Day with you and your families. I hear we'll be having turkey with all the trimmings...and none of it out of MenuMasters. And thank you for wearing your hair differently so I don't embarrass myself by getting your names mixed up. You really are identical, aren't you?

DONELLA: As identical as identical specs and nearly identical lives can make us. And here



DOCUMENT Interview Transcript (as recorded)
TRANSCRIBER Ear2Text Professional 11.72
DATE November 25, 2117
SUBJECT 05 interview with Victoria and Donella Dunnigan
LOCATION Plaid Salon, North Castle, Dunnigans Wall (WG.US.NM)

PAGE
2

are a couple mnemonics, just in case: Donella's hair is Down and Dark. Victoria's hair is Vibrantly Viridian. And you're right about the food, Oprah; it's all out of the North Castle kitchens. We didn't take you there on our tour this morning because the place is hopeless chaos right now. I hope you're hungry. You look gorgeous, by the way.

VICTORIA: Did we mention that the turkeys are raised right here in the Tusas mountains? Descendents of the wild turkeys that were here when we first arrived in St. Coriander, back in 2074?

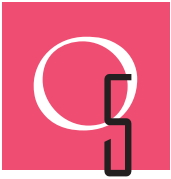
OPRAH 5: No, you didn't say anything about that. But I didn't spend a year putting this interview together to talk about turkeys. You two just look striking. You were certainly, uh, well preserved, when we met at the Transpoint gala, but my eyes are having a hard time reconciling the difference I'm seeing today. I want to know what it feels like to be truly young again.

VICTORIA: The Opus Refurburator people won't let us talk about what actually goes on in their clinics, of course. But I can tell you that getting forty years younger over a couple weeks time takes a little getting used to. And it would be a hormonal nightmare if our hubbies hadn't gone through it at the same time.

DONELLA: They told us we'd get hornier, but mere words can't quite prepare you for the experience of being assaulted by raging hormones again. Not after they've tapered off and your brain is finally more in charge than your glands. You don't really realize how much hormones rule your life until something like this.

OPRAH 5: Better than what the nanochems can do these days?

DONELLA: Well, we can't say about that. Dunnigans aren't very fond of procedures that stir up our brains.



DOCUMENT Interview Transcript (as recorded)
TRANSCRIBER Ear2Text Professional 11.72
DATE November 25, 2117
SUBJECT 05 interview with Victoria and Donella Dunnigan
LOCATION Plaid Salon, North Castle, Dunnigans Wall (WG.US.NM)

PAGE
3

OPRAH 5: Which came first, the idea of Refurb jobs or the idea of going the natborn route after all these podborns?

VICTORIA: Funny you should ask that. Donnie and I had been on a tour of some of the new Nevergate construction sites. Kind of an old-fashioned whistlestop tour. There are a lot of them and they're all over the planet. We probably put 30,000 miles on the mollers in less than a week. The night we got back we were completely exhausted, but the menfolk just had to get a horse's mouth recap before they'd let us sleep. The talk was about stuff like supply problems, construction delays and local political nonsense. Then she drops in this huge nonsequitur: all of a sudden she's telling them about all the pregnant women we saw in Bangkok. I'm sure it was just a probabilistic anomaly, but big-bellied, waddling women really seemed to be everywhere. I'm frowning at her and Donnie stops in mid-sentence and looks over at me. Bang! We had this simultaneous bioclock moment. I rolled my eyes at her and shrugged. Donnie nodded back. One of these little twinnish communications, you know? So then I looked at John and Michael and said these exact words. "Gentlemen, start your engines. Your aging wives want to get pregnant."

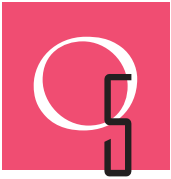
DONELLA: Vickie and I have had a lot of strange moments together, but that one is definitely in the top three.

OPRAH 5: You've got me on the edge of my seat. So did you...

VICTORIA: Tsk, tsk, tsk. Don't go there, Oprah. But no, we didn't. Our hubbies liked the pregnancy idea instantly, but Michael suggested we ought to take the time for a Refurb before we actually got ourselves pregnant. We all agreed on that. Getting pregnant at 65 or so is still a shaky proposition.

OPRAH 5: So after your Refurbs, did you get pregnant the old-fashioned way?

DONELLA: We thought about it, but it's just too much of a crap shoot. Look at those two over there. Do you think we could take a chance with chance in this day and age? There's



DOCUMENT Interview Transcript (as recorded)
TRANSCRIBER Ear2Text Professional 11.72
DATE November 25, 2117
SUBJECT 05 interview with Victoria and Donella Dunnigan
LOCATION Plaid Salon, North Castle, Dunnigans Wall (WG.US.NM)

PAGE
4

not one of us in this room that wasn't genespecified, to one degree or another. Why gamble with life?

OPRAH 5: I understand. So how were your pregnancies? Identical?

VICTORIA: Identical? Yes, I suppose they were. And they were pretty easy as pregnancies go, from what we understand. Swollen ankles and occasional nausea was about as bad as it got. But it's such a very different experience, carrying them inside of you for all that time. With all our podborns we could see the miracle of human development taking place right before our eyes. We could talk to them and croon to them. And you'd be surprised how soon we could see their different personalities emerging. They weren't just fetuses, they were tiny sleepers. It was magical. And all that visual experience made it easy to give them names that fit their tiny personalities. Of course they might argue with us about that, now.

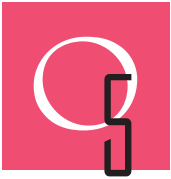
DONELLA: One thing for absolute certain: we wouldn't want to do pregnancy again. Once is interesting. Twice? Naaah. The natborn thing is highly overrated.

OPRAH 5: How did you decide who was going to have the boy and who was going to have the girl?

VICTORIA: Easy. We tossed a coin. That was about the only thing we left to chance in the entire process.

OPRAH 5: Three hundred designer podborns and then, at age 67, you go natural. You two are amazing!

VICTORIA: The really amazing thing is that we can still remember every one of our children's names. Some people are amazed that they're so different from each other, but of course we designed them to be different.



DOCUMENT Interview Transcript (as recorded)
TRANSCRIBER Ear2Text Professional 11.72
DATE November 25, 2117
SUBJECT 05 interview with Victoria and Donella Dunnigan
LOCATION Plaid Salon, North Castle, Dunnigans Wall (WG.US.NM)

PAGE
5

OPRAH 5: Diana and Miles — you call him Miles, not Robert, right? Those two beauties seem to be very ‘normal’, if I can use that word. Right now they seem a little fussy, but that’s pretty normal for six-month olds, I suppose? Are they hungry?

DONELLA: I think you’re right, Oprah. Excellent motherly instincts. It’s time for their afternoon snack. Do you mind if we let them nurse for a few minutes?

OPRAH 5: Mind? Of course not.

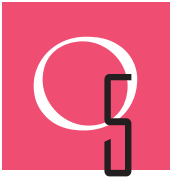
VICTORIA: That’s one of the drawbacks of our tier strategy for rapid clanbuilding. With a hundred babies popping out of pods at the same time, four breasts are just not enough to go around. It’s not a big deal to artificially trigger lactation, so we thought about doing it ourselves....

DONELLA: For about five seconds. We did the math on how many hours a day we’d have little mouths glued to our nipples. Even being full-time cows with artificially amplified milk production, the numbers just don’t work. And think how much we’d have to eat. And, of course, we’d get zero sleep in the bargain.

VICTORIA: So as much as we wanted to nurse them ourselves, Donnie and I decided to honor the realities and get a bunch of wetnurses.

DONELLA: That was fun; trying to find a hundred wet-nurses for the first tier. It took months to get that many lined up. And we had to moller them in and get them housed on the day the first tier was born. And they weren’t exactly cheap. On top of that, Kissever House was still under construction at the time and everything was chaos. If we had it to do all over again, we would have been a little more patient.

VICTORIA: But we were extremely annoyed with the Cories [residents of St. Coriander] at the time. They didn’t like us and still don’t. And we were young, newly rich, and absolutely fearless. We’re a lot older and wiser, now. Even if we don’t look it any more.



DOCUMENT Interview Transcript (as recorded)
TRANSCRIBER Ear2Text Professional 11.72
DATE November 25, 2117
SUBJECT 05 interview with Victoria and Donella Dunnigan
LOCATION Plaid Salon, North Castle, Dunnigans Wall (WG.US.NM)

PAGE
6

OPRAH 5: Question. You have positioned yourselves as co-parents of your first three hundred podborns. You can't do that so easily with these two. Is that a problem? How do your other children react to these two little ones? Jealousy?

VICTORIA: Jealousy. That's an interesting topic. As you probably know, the kinds of jealousy acute enough to be visible to others typically have a genetic component. We've done our best to keep jealousy out of our offspring's gene mix. We think of jealous people as 'containment' types. That is, they tend to be possessive and want to irrationally protect what their emotions tell them they have. Or must have. Most tend not to be 'outreachers,' pragmatists, and innovators — the kinds of people we wanted to build our Clans around.

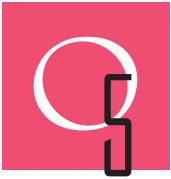
OPRAH 5: So you're saying that you engineered jealousy out of your children?

DONELLA: Correct. At least we hope so. With a hundred kids at a pop we see quite a range along the possessiveness behavior vector. But I don't think any of our kids are what you would think of as jealous types. And as five-year-olds, they're pretty much occupied with their own affairs in any case. Plus, the older tiers don't get back here very often. They have their missions, you know.

OPRAH 5: You two obviously have thought deeply about how to parent such huge broods. And your first tier offspring are starting to make their own marks in the world and don't seem to be suffering from 'rich-kid syndrome'. At least I haven't seen it in the media.

VICTORIA: We're quite proud of our children. We knew the first tiers would have to take a lot of flack for being different when they got into the outside world. But they've been pretty well prepared...they can take care of themselves. And the Clan bond is...it's hard to know how to describe it. But it has strengthened them, too, I think.

DONELLA: As identical twins, we have a hard time imagining what growing up would have been like doing it solo. And then we went and married identical twins. So we can't quite feel what our kids feel and we honor that. And there's something about growing up in a



DOCUMENT Interview Transcript (as recorded)
TRANSCRIBER Ear2Text Professional 11.72
DATE November 25, 2117
SUBJECT 05 interview with Victoria and Donella Dunnigan
LOCATION Plaid Salon, North Castle, Dunnigans Wall (WG.US.NM)

PAGE
7

huge brood that stimulates independence and individuality, but it's layered on top of a stratum of emotional support that's extremely powerful...even if it is hard to describe.

OPRAH 5: I know it's almost turkey time, but two questions have just crossed my mind. How have your own parents reacted to the things you've done? That's the first one.

VICTORIA: Our parents and in-laws all happen to be here today, so you could really ask them yourselves. But if we had to answer for them, I think we could fairly say they have the same difficulty understanding their offspring that every generation has with the ones behind it. But they're tolerant and loving. They were wonderful, supportive parents to us and they're still wonderful people. We're very lucky.

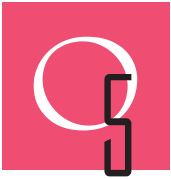
DONELLA: Last question? We're getting hungry.

OPRAH 5: You two now look and feel younger than your first tier offspring. How do they feel about your Refurbs and your new babies?

VICTORIA: They're adults. We're adults. When they have issues with what we do, they seem to have little difficulty bringing them up. We're a pretty open system that way. On purpose. But so far, they seem to think that not having to worry about decaying parents in the near future is a good thing. If we can ever get Opus to bring the price of Refurbs down, it will change the world completely...keep a huge amount of hard-earned wisdom from going to waste.

OPRAH 5: One last question. Where did you get those svelte, slinky, sexy outfits you're wearing? The lampshade half-tops are both fetching and quite practical for nursing mothers.

DONELLA: Why, they're right out of the fabrax, Oprah. This very morning, in fact. If I remember the label, they're part of this month's 05 hot fabrax fashions. Ever heard of that line? Now that we're kids again, we have to stay up on our svelte, slinky, sexy fashions from Oprah.



DOCUMENT Interview Transcript (as recorded)
TRANSCRIBER Ear2Text Professional 11.72
DATE November 25, 2117
SUBJECT 05 interview with Victoria and Donella Dunnigan
LOCATION Plaid Salon, North Castle, Dunnigans Wall (WG.US.NM)

PAGE
8

VICTORIA: Shame on you, Oprah: fishing for compliments like that. [laughter all around] But Diana and Miles seem to like you and you're fun to have around. We hope you'll come by again when they're bigger. Then you'll have to get down on the floor and play with them.

OPRAH 5: Just say when. And thank you two for sharing your amazing motherhood experiences and your amazing home with me. For people who have made such a difference in our world, you are extremely warm and comfortable people to be around. It has been a real pleasure.

VICTORIA AND DONELLA: Ditto, Oprah. Now can we eat?

OPRAH 5: How do you twins manage those synchronous outbursts? Very impressive. Yes, let's eat.