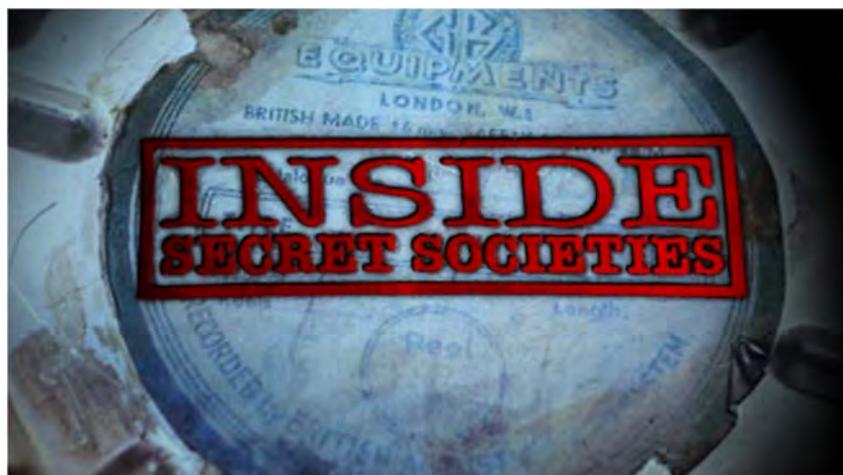


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E N T E R T A I N M E N T

INSIDE SECRET SOCIETIES



EPIISODE DESCRIPTIONS

1. The Klu Klux Klan
2. The Priory of Sion
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The Klu Klux Klan



The Ku Klux Klan is the most notorious white supremacist group in America. Once it had more than a million members, but today it's just a shadow of its former self. And yet the marches, the Cross burnings and the racial hatred continues in the Southern states. Most Klan devotees today come from an increasingly marginalized sector of poor white rural American society. But as the world moves on and this is an age when South Carolina is finally lowering the Rebel flag from its State House in Columbia for the last time; the perfect time then to meet today's Klan members, look at the impact of the group has had on America over the last 150 years, and ask whether America is heading for a new race war.

The Priory of Sion



We investigate the mysterious secret society known as 'The Priory of Sion'. According to Dan Brown's international bestseller 'The Da Vinci Code' it's a real organisation which is able to trace its roots back to the 12th century. It exists, supposedly, to protect incontrovertible, if heretical, information about the marriage of Jesus Christ to Mary Magdalene. We talk to two current Priory members about its history, its secrets and its role in the modern age. We examine claims that the society shelters a great secret centred upon the village of Rennes Le Chateau in France: could this be the burial site of Mary Magdalene and even Jesus himself? We examine the Priory's 'Secret Dossiers' that were released in the late 1970's - and meet a French author who claims that he invented the entire Priory of Sion history back in the 1960's as a hoax.

The Brotherhood of the Blood



Sworn to protect and preserve the Holy Blood of Christ, the Brotherhood of the Blood are a dark and mysterious sect. We embark on a quest to shine a light on a group that has been shrouded in secrecy through the ages; we reveal the extreme methods employed to project their faith and the dark secrets behind their cloaks. Inside Secret Societies joins the Brotherhood parades that carry a relic believed to hold the blood of Jesus Christ. We witness a flagellation ceremony and explore other forms of self-mortification and suffering endured in the belief it will atone for a lifetime of sins. We also investigate the belief held by some people that the actual body or remains of Jesus Christ could still be found today.

The Yakuza



We go on the hunt in Tokyo to investigate the Yakuza, one of the most ruthless organized crime syndicates in the world. Today, the Yakuza are one of the largest gangs in the world. With a reputation for blackmail and violence in a quest for control of Japan's political and economic system, the Yakuza operate a strict code of conduct and execute modern business practices to profit from extortion, prostitution and illegal gambling. The Yakuza has a strict set of rules, which must be obeyed and if broken, can mean the self-amputation of a finger as a punishment. We explore the history of the Yakuza and assess the impact of Japan's underworld today.

Nazi Occult Societies



The Nazis were an infamous force across both Europe and North Africa in the 1930's. But what few people know is that behind the mighty military power, there was a strong belief in ancient mysticism, the occult and even alien contact. Much of its High Command, including both Adolf Hitler & Heinrich Himmler, were initiates of bizarre Secret Societies which held top secret meetings and performed rituals at Wewelsburg Castle in Germany, which was adapted to house the world's most important Holy Relics such as the Holy Grail and the Ark of the Covenant. The Nazis believed that these had super-natural powers and if they could steal them, they would be able to rule the world as a genetically pure, white, super-race.

The Order of the Assassins



The Assassins were one of the mostly deadly, notorious and secretive groups in the Medieval world. Based in lands which are now modern day Syria and Iran, they were a highly-trained group of killers who used ninja-like skills and stealth to kill political leaders across the globe in the 11th and 12th centuries. They were taught how to disguise themselves, and to blend in seamlessly in public places which made them lethally effective killers. But is any of the romance which surrounds these brutally efficient killers true? Or has the truth about their exploits been blurred over the centuries? And have any of their skills and tactics been passed down and copied by today's Islamic terrorists?