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The Moretti's - A Different Family Dynamic

Chapter 120

Thursday Daybreak – Route 9 between Saratoga Springs and Francis Corners, New York – 6 March 2003

Saratoga County, NY is the home of Saratoga Springs, Saratoga Lake, Saratoga Race Course, and the area is basically a summertime resort area. The name of the county is derived from an Indian term for *'the side hill'*. During the summer the population of the area swells and shrinks to a population of less than twenty-three thousand during the winter months. It is one of sixty-two counties in New York State and its main claim to fame opens in August and closes on Labor Day. Saratoga Race Course opened on August 3, 1893 and is the oldest organized sporting venue of any kind in the United States. The Travers Stakes is the oldest thoroughbred horse race in the United States and is the main race of the season at the Saratoga Race Course. The other venue that draws people to the area is Saratoga Lake. It is 8.5 miles long and as much as 1.5 miles wide. At the northern end it starts at Kayderosseras Creek and ends at the outlet to Fish Creek at its southern end. Most of the shoreline of the lake is privately owned, public access is limited, and New York Route 9P is the only roadway that takes you to the lake.

West of Saratoga Lake is New York Route 9. It is a four lane divided highway that winds north to the Canadian border just west of the major Plattsburg crossing. Outside of Saratoga Springs just north of the company named Shadow Products the highway crosses a relatively small creek that is fed by Saratoga Lake. It is not easily seen from the roadway as it is located in a deep ravine which is hidden by the trees growing along and up its sides that cover it completely year round.

The accident reconstruction engineers, known to Howard Cohen through his legal association with the Moretti family; used their mapping software, the month of the year, and sunrise/sunset times to pick the spot where they were going to place Elizabeth and her automobile. When they arrived on scene it turned out that the intersection of the highway and the creek was a perfect place to stage the accident based upon the limited sight lines and the small amount of frontal damage present on Elizabeth Goldsmith's car. The trouble for the engineers was their ability to set up the site between the hours of midnight and an hour before sunrise. The two men and one woman assigned the task were more than competent and to their amazement they had assistance from the local precinct of the New York State Police. Three New York State troopers aligned with the Moretti family through Howard Cohen aided the accident reconstruction engineers who were direct employees of a Moretti holding company. They placed the vehicle and Elizabeth's body in such a way that the driver of any vehicle passing by would have no idea the car was cradled nose down by the branches of trees on the southern edge of the ravine. The engineers were amazed that the branches supported the vehicle and that they could produce tire tracks that could only be made by the vehicle leaving the roadway.

The senior engineer's phone call to the private cellular phone of Howard Cohen in New York City was short and sweet. They estimated it would take more than a week to find the vehicle. If it was found before then, it could only be termed a miracle.