

The Pattern Behind the Attacks

A thought experiment

What if the attacks were the visible end of a much longer process?

A place. A person. A fixation. An attack. A replay loop that might connect it all.

SAME
PLACES.
DIFFERENT
QUESTIONS.

PEOPLE
PLACES
PATTERNS
PERSIST



SOME
STORIES
ASK A DIFFERENT
KIND OF QUESTION.

A SAFER
TOMORROW
BEGINS WITH
ANSWERS.

IN THIS SECTION

Start with the place.

The environment may come first. The individual becomes important later.

Instead of starting with a particular woman and following her wherever she happened to live, consider that the setting may come first. The environment creates the conditions; the individual becomes important later.

Then the population changes. An academic break might leave fewer people around without emptying the place. Among those who remain, one woman could catch his attention. That is the anchor drop: the point where general opportunity starts becoming personal.

The attacks may be only the visible end of a much larger process. Place, attention and fixation can all come before the assault. Recording and replay may be later parts of that same story.



THE THREAD THAT CONNECTS IT

Environment first. Individual second. Fixation third.

The assault and the recording may be the later parts of that same story.

THE TIMELINE

Two cities, one timeline

The dates do not explain the theory. They show the pattern it has to explain.



This 14-incident historical list was published in 2017 and reproduced in 2021. The October 2000 and July 2015 entries were described as attempts. The open stretch after 2008 is a gap in the published list, not proof that nothing happened.

THE PAIR TO KEEP IN MIND

June 14, 2004: Manhattan. July 14, 2004: Lawrence.

The shortest interval between consecutive dates in this list.

Two profiles, one thread

Different perspectives can illuminate different parts of the same question.

HEGARTY / MIDWEST MONSTER

Ownership, mastery and vicarious mastery frame the possible reward of control. The discussion also raises insecurity and possible guilt or inadequacy afterward.

JANET WARREN / CASE COMMENTARY

Warren helps frame the beginning: attraction, social awkwardness and reinforcement as an offender becomes more experienced.

THE THREAD BETWEEN THEM



Fixation is the bridge proposed here. The environment explains how someone comes into view. Fixation asks why one person becomes different from everyone else. Ownership and mastery ask what the offender might then want the fantasy to accomplish.

IMPORTANT DISTINCTION

Warren's "videotape" analogy describes her reconstruction of the crimes.

Mental rehearsal before an assault is this project's speculation—not something that passage establishes.

THE PLACE

Maybe the place comes first

The attack address may be the endpoint—not necessarily the beginning.

A person-first explanation begins with a woman: he notices her, follows her, and then learns where she lives. This model begins one step earlier. A large student setting creates many possible encounters; one woman becomes important only after that.

Here, “environment” means the broader student ecosystem, not only the building where an assault occurred. A house could be the residential endpoint of something that began in a much larger social or student-housing setting.

POSSIBLE ENVIRONMENT LINKS

UNIVERSITY COMMONS /
CHASE MANHATTAN



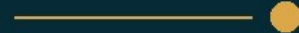
STEWART / HIGHPOINTE



HILLCREST



MORO / AGGIEVILLE



Possible connections within the theory—not verified encounter routes.

WHY IT MATTERS

Place and person do not have to be competing explanations.

The setting can supply the pool; the individual can become psychologically important later.

Who is still there?

A break may change the population before it changes the opportunity.



Historical reporting says all but one incident occurred during a break in college classes. The simplest explanation is fewer roommates and fewer people nearby. This thought experiment asks whether the calendar also changed whom he repeatedly encountered.

The place does not have to become empty. A smaller remaining population could make particular people more familiar. Being alone might be a later circumstance rather than the reason someone first drew his attention.

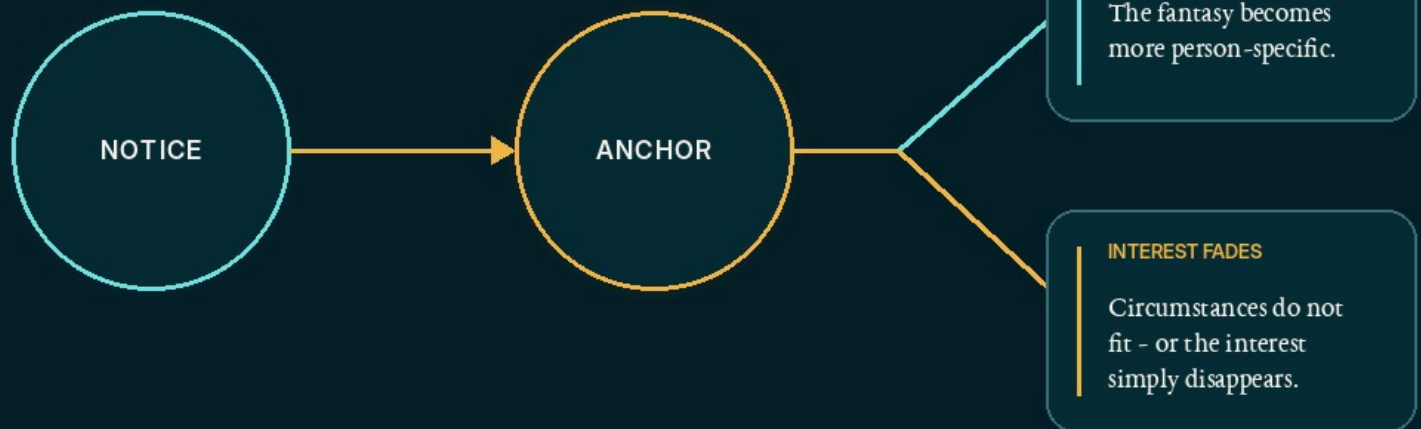
THE CHANGE IN PERSPECTIVE

The calendar may have done more than remove other people.

It may have shaped which person became familiar.

When interest becomes fixation

Attraction is a beginning. Fixation is a different step.



The “anchor drop” is the point where someone stops being merely noticed and starts carrying meaning inside the offender’s fantasy. The spark could be attraction, resemblance, memory, status, confidence, or an imagined rejection. The meaning could exist only in his interpretation.

The abandoned branch matters. Many people could catch his attention without ever becoming an attack. The known assaults could be the visible end of a much larger selection process we cannot see.

THE KEY DISTINCTION

Noticing someone is not the same as fixation.

Fixation is the point where the fantasy becomes person-specific.

TWO DETAILS

Was availability enough?

Two details raise the question of whether a specific person had to fit something already in his mind.

"YOU'RE NOT THE RIGHT ONE"

The reported line comes from Midwest Monster, Episode 2, in the account of the October 2000 aborted attack. Someone was present, yet something apparently did not fit. The useful question is: what did "right" mean to him?

THE HIGHPOINTE QUESTION

During the December 2004 HighPointe incident, did he distinguish between the two women who were present? Public accounts conflict: a 2005 report says two women were assaulted and one raped; a 2009 report says two women were raped.

KEEP THE QUESTION. DO NOT FORCE THE ANSWER.

Presence and intended target are not necessarily the same thing.

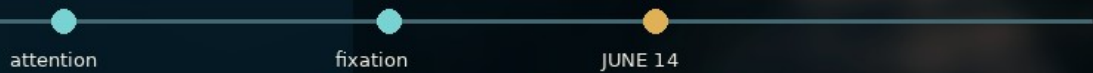
The Episode 2 line leaves his meaning open; the HighPointe accounts remain inconsistent.

Together, these details sharpen the idea of target-specific interest without proving it. Neither should be treated as a clean demonstration of the mechanism. They are valuable because they tell us what evidence would matter.

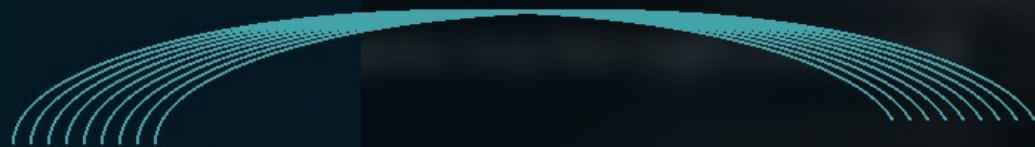
Had the next story already begun?

June 14 in Manhattan. July 14 in Lawrence. Thirty days between outcomes does not tell us when the second process started.

MANHATTAN



LAWRENCE



A complete-reset model says the July selection begins after the June attack. An overlapping model allows some part of the Lawrence process to already be underway. Overlap would not require two fully formed obsessions—only different processes at different stages.

That makes the 30-day interval less mysterious without proving overlap. The strongest question is whether anything tied to the July selection was already happening before June 14.

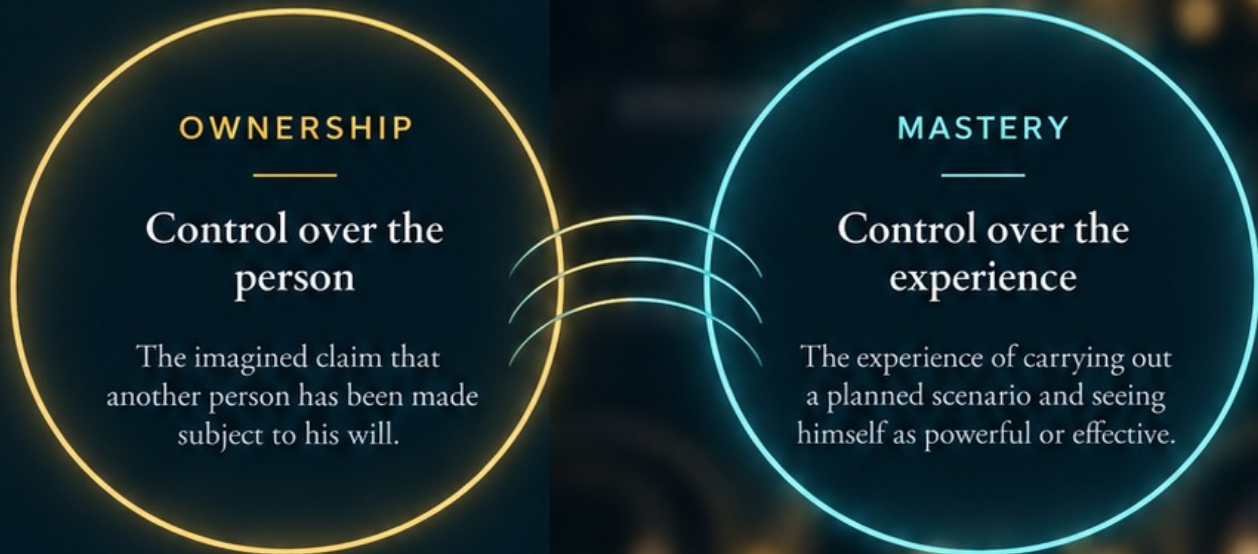
THE DISCRIMINATING QUESTION

Had the July process begun before the June attack?

Evidence of pre-June attention in Lawrence would tell us more than the interval itself.

Ownership and mastery

The assault could serve more than one purpose in the offender's distorted thinking.



Sexual gratification does not have to be the only motive. Control, validation, fantasy, perceived reversal and mastery could coexist. The same assault could create both an imagined claim over another person and a feeling of having successfully executed an internal scenario.

THE NEXT QUESTION

If the assault lets him imagine himself differently, what does the recording preserve?

The woman? The event? Or the feeling of mastery itself?

More than a souvenir?

A recording might preserve an event. It might also preserve the way the offender wants to remember himself inside it.



A survivor account describes a camera and tripod being deliberately set up, with the camera later repositioned. If that account is accurate, the camera may have been part of the experience rather than incidental equipment.

The recording could preserve the woman and the event, but it could also preserve a distorted self-image: observer becomes controller; imagined inadequacy becomes imagined competence.

WHAT IS BEING KEPT?

A record of the woman. A record of the assault. A record of a feeling.

Those possibilities overlap - but they are not psychologically identical.

Returning to the fantasy

The assault ends. The recording might let the imagined experience continue.



Vicarious mastery, as attributed to Hegarty's profile discussion, gives this possibility a name: a recording could allow a return to the desired psychological state without physically repeating the event.

The model does not require guilt. Replay could reinforce gratification or mastery even without remorse. If guilt or inadequacy does follow the assault, replay could hypothetically pull attention back toward the fantasy of control.

THE RECORDING AS A BRIDGE

Fantasy gives the event a meaning. Replay may carry that meaning beyond the event.
The before-during-after continuity is the theory, not a documented sequence.

The whole story

Read this as one possible account—not a reconstruction of what has been proved.

1

PLACE

A student environment creates repeated encounters.

2

ATTENTION

Someone stands out; an ordinary moment acquires meaning.

3

FIXATION

Interest deepens—or collapses and disappears.

4

ATTACK

The fantasy is imposed through violence.

5

REPLAY

A recording may preserve a route back to the fantasy.

THE IDEA IN ONE PASS

A setting brings her into view. An imagined meaning makes her an anchor.

Fixation turns attention into a fantasy of control; recording may keep that fantasy available afterward.

KEEPING IT OPEN

Could this be the wrong story?

A useful theory has to leave room for evidence that would weaken it.

THE PLACE MIGHT COME SECOND

He could have noticed a particular woman elsewhere and followed her into a student setting.

THE BREAK MIGHT CHANGE ONLY OPPORTUNITY

The calendar could matter because other people were absent—or because of the offender's own schedule.

SELECTION MIGHT BE SIMPLER

Some choices could have been situational without the elaborate fixation imagined here.

THE RECORDING MIGHT MEAN SOMETHING ELSE

Camera use does not by itself prove replay, guilt, reinforcement or vicarious mastery.

THREE QUESTIONS WORTH CARRYING FORWARD

What turns attention into fixation? Had July 2004 already begun? What does the recording preserve?

The goal is not to make every detail obey the theory. It is to ask better questions.

THE FULL CYCLE

The full 17-stage cycle

Some stages may overlap. The whole process can stop before an attack.

BEFORE

- 01 **Environment selection**
A student setting provides repeated encounters.
- 02 **Population filter**
A break changes who remains.
- 03 **Broad observation**
Many people may draw passing attention.
- 04 **Candidate emergence**
One woman begins to stand out.
- 05 **Anchor drop**
He attaches a personal meaning to her.
- 06 **Focused observation**
Attention shifts from the setting to the individual.

DEEPENING / ATTACK

- 07 **Information accumulation**
What he learns strengthens or weakens the fantasy.
- 08 **Fixation or abandonment**
The interest deepens—or ends.
- 09 **Fantasy / mental rehearsal**
An imagined scenario becomes more elaborate.
- 10 **Planned enactment**
The imagined scenario becomes an assault.
- 11 **Ownership**
He imagines possession or control over her.
- 12 **Mastery**
He experiences himself as powerful or effective.

AFTER

- 13 **Recording**
The event may be preserved in a physical recording.
- 14 **Aftermath**
Possible guilt or inadequacy conflicts with the fantasy.
- 15 **Replay / vicarious mastery**
Possible viewing revives the desired state.
- 16 **Reinforcement**
The experience may strengthen reliance on fantasy.
- 17 **Next environment / anchor**
Another setting or person becomes significant.

MODEL NOTE

These are stages in the thought experiment - not a checklist of established behavior. Fixation may fail; processes may overlap; replay remains possible rather than proven.

LOOSE ENDS

What still needs checking

Keeping the source questions here lets the main story flow without hiding uncertainty.

HEGARTY / MIDWEST MONSTER

Ownership, mastery and vicarious mastery are attributed to Hegarty's U.S. Marshals discussion. Exact passages and timestamps would strengthen the source record.

EPISODE 2

"You're not the right one" is sourced to Midwest Monster, Episode 2, in the October 2000 aborted-attack account.

CAMERA / TRIPOD

The deliberate camera setup and repositioning account still needs the exact episode passage attached to this board.

WARREN

Her "videotape" analogy in the 2010 article refers to reconstructing the crimes—not offender rehearsal. Rehearsal remains speculation here.

HIGHPOINTE

The 2005 and 2009 accounts differ over what happened to the two women; the target-specificity question remains open.

THE SETTINGS

The environment connections are hypotheses, not verified encounter routes or surveillance histories.

WHAT BELONGS TO THIS PROJECT

The environment > anchor > fixation > attack > recording > replay connection is the thought experiment. Neither profiler is presented as having established the full sequence.

Sources behind the ideas

Reported facts, profiling ideas and speculation are kept distinct.

01 Midwest Monster · Episode 2

Source for “You’re not the right one” in the October 2000 aborted-attack account.

02 Midwest Monster · U.S. Marshals profile segment

Hegarty’s discussion informs the ownership, mastery and vicarious-mastery portions of the board.

03 Lawrence Journal-World · Nov. 12, 2010

Janet Warren’s case commentary and her description of the profiler’s reconstruction process.

04 Lawrence Journal-World · July 27, 2017

Historical reference list, attempt classifications and the reported academic-break pattern.

05 The Lawrence Times · March 22, 2021

A second publication of the date-and-city list used for the timeline.

06 Lawrence Journal-World · May 23, 2005

Contemporary HighPointe reporting: two women assaulted, one raped.

07 Lawrence Journal-World · March 11, 2009

Later HighPointe summary that differs from the 2005 account.

SCOPE

This is a speculative thought experiment, not an official case summary or clinical assessment.
The narrative is meant to organize questions - not identify a suspect or claim the case is solved.