

TC 10:00:34:20

There, it's done

By the end of the operation, Rosemary Kennedy was no more than a trembling rag doll. The lobotomy had failed...

Her father, who had secretly organized the operation, was at a loss, like a murderer in a crime story... What to do?

TC 10:01:04:15

Rosemary was taken to a discreet clinic near New York where all of Hollywood's neurotic stars went to heal their bruised souls.

The life of a recluse awaited her...

What had she done to merit being abandoned by her own?

And then to be inflicted with silence and oblivion?

TC 10:01:59:19

Rosemary, the younger sister of the future president of the United States, was to disappear from the official Kennedy story, so as to make room for the clan's greater ambitions.

On this family photo from the 1930s, bursting with happiness and ambition, nothing reveals the coming drama – illness, loss... the disappearance of the sacrificed child...

This story starts in 1938, when her father, Joseph Patrick Kennedy, is named US Ambassador to Great Britain...

TC 10:02:37:08

On February the 23rd 1938, he boards the Manhattan, heading towards Europe.

His wife Rose was to join him with the children in three groups.

Because the Kennedys travel separately so as to limit the risks.

Rosemary is there to celebrate her father's success.

TC 10:03:06:16

America's new ambassador to Britain, Joseph P Kennedy, as he's about to depart for St. James' court.

What about the British cabinet's crisis, Mr. Ambassador?

No answer.

What about the European situation...

No answer.

What about... Oh, well, skip it...

TC 10:03:22:11

And goodbye from the little Kennedys, wishing their daddy good luck until they'll be together

TC 10:03:38:20

What blindness led President Roosevelt to accept that an infamous opportunist with no experience in diplomacy represent him in London, at the dawn of a global conflict with Hitler?

Joseph Patrick Kennedy is an Irish Catholic, a wealthy business man who grew wealthier and wealthier from his investments in real estate, taxis, mines and movie theatres...

TC 10:04:10:23

He's known for his long-standing relationship with the silent-movie star Gloria Swanson, with whom he set off to conquer Hollywood, and whom he imposes upon the mother of his children, the daughter of Boston's Irish mayor, Rose Fitzgerald...

They call him Joe... His ambition is to embody the American dream...

A true business genius, he gambled on Prohibition, and managed to get richer during the 1929 Crash.

TC 10:04:43:15

He donates heavily towards Roosevelt's victory in 1932, expecting a cabinet position in return. In vain!

He then holds several positions in the administration, but none that he considered worthy.

He goes back and forth between government commissions and the restructuring

of movie studios, such as Paramount, or the newspaper empire of mogul William Randolph Hearst.

The London Ambassadorship is a prestigious appointment, but mostly a consolation for having not been named to Roosevelt's cabinet...

TC 10:05:20:17

In 1938, Joseph and Rose are parents to nine children...
Four boys and five girls, of which the eldest is Rosemary.

These children are his pride, a treasure that he never ceases to push into the limelight...

He is impatient that they all be there with him...

TC 10:05:39:24

*-I've just arrived in England after a very pleasant trip from the United States.
I am looking forward with great anticipation to taking up my duties here.*

-But what about your family of nine, Mister Kennedy?

*-Not wishing to make the housing problem of England any more complicated,
I'm bringing them over in instalments.*

Five on the first trip, two on the next, and two in June.

TC 10:06:05:10

A few weeks later on March the 8th, the Washington leaves port carrying the youngest Kennedy children, the governess, nurse, cook, and the mother Rose...

TC 10:06:30:01

-You want me to talk?

Where do I.. ? ...I talk in here?

(go ahead)

We are all going to Europe and we are very, very happy.

We know we love London...

Thank you very much for asking me to speak!

Go on, Teddy...

This is my first trip to Europe and I'm very excited. I couldn't even sleep last night!

TC 10:06:54:18

In Rose's luggage, there is porcelain, a toaster and linen – because the embassy is not equipped for such a large family...

She is overjoyed with her role as ambassador's wife; she is the envy of her Irish friends in Boston... She wants to get her entrance into high society just right!

The Kennedys bring the spirit of Hollywood to the banks of London's River Thames... and cause a stir for all the country's magazines...

TC 10:07:36:00

At the American Embassy at Princess Gate, Ambassador Joseph Kennedy has been joined by part of his family...

Mrs. Kennedy has come from the United States with five of their nine children. If this is an American invasion, it certainly looks a happy one!

TC 10:07:54:22

Appearance is everything for Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy... she had created a slim, chic, healthy figure for herself... through dieting and cures at Elizabeth Arden.

She is also a devotee of the high fashion collections of Paris, London, New-York....

TC 10:08:17:21

Her image as a perfect wife is completed by the nine children...

Family photos expose an innocent happiness, but they are in fact misleading...

They don't reveal Rose's constant surveillance, the draconian diets that she imposes on the children, the competition she endlessly encourages...

TC 10:08:48:18

Little Rosemary seems happy, but she is unable to follow the rhythm imposed by this family where only the first place counts...

Who noticed that the eldest of the Kennedy girls, Rosemary, was suffering?

Indeed, Rosemary has trouble with writing, forming her letters backwards. And she's behind in all areas at school.

The first exams reveal a "deficiency".

The doctors mention a "mental problem" and advise that she be placed in a specialized institution, but her parents refuse: she's a Kennedy, she'll pull through.

Between 1929 and 1938, Rosemary is bundled from one school to the next, unable to keep up. She's repeatedly dismissed, which only increases her isolation and anxiety.

TC 10:10:03:13

April the 20th 1938, Rosemary and her sister Eunice head off for England...

According to the ambassador they've been finishing their school year in Boston. That's true for Eunice.

But Rosemary has been in a hospital, following a strict diet...

Her mother had demanded that she lose weight to be worthy of a Kennedy.

Here is Rosemary... She's 19 years old.

And here is the only recording we have of her voice.

TC 10:10:43:17

-Bye Rosie.

-Bye Jack.

TC 10:10:46:05

Jack, the future president of the United States, is bidding them farewell, attentive to Rosemary for whom all change is distressing.

TC 10:11:05:15

A new life awaits them on the other side of the Atlantic... so much hope and joy to look forward to.

TC 10:11:23:20

Rosemary's fate will be decided here in London between 1938 and 1940.

TC 10:11:41:04

Rosemary settles into the embassy, impressed by all the lavishness...

She feels like she's in a museum, down to the masterful paintings lent to them by her father's friend, William Randolph Hearst.

Vogue magazine does a full portrait of the Kennedys... a PR article to present this American gang to England... wherever there is a Kennedy, a camera's never far away...

TC 10:12:13:20

The new American ambassador is hard at work....

He meets King George during a ceremony to present his letters of credence...

TC 10:12:21:20

Mr. Joseph P. Kennedy poses for the news cameras before driving in to Buckingham Palace to be received by His Majesty the King.

All this is a new and thrilling experience for America's big man of business who is also President Roosevelt's great personal friend.

TC 10:12:35:08

This London appointment is his social revenge on East Boston, the poor Irish ghetto where Joseph grew up... a triumph for his family!

But no sooner has he taken office than Nazi Germany invades Austria on March the 12th 1938...

Joe refuses to see the danger.

He defends above all the principle that America must not intervene – an isolationist like everyone else in Washington...

TC 10:13:07:12

London will be the happiest period in Rosemary's life... As they wait to find a school that suits her handicap, she's sent to an institution for well to-do young ladies...

But her mother has other, more immediate goals for her: the Queen's ball!

The ambassador's two eldest daughters, Rosemary and Kick, are to be presented to the Queen. It's one of the year's most important events, and there's barely fifteen days for them to prepare.

Rose decides on two fashionable designers:

Kick is to wear Lucien Lelong, Rose and Rosemary will be dressed by Molyneux...

TC 10:13:51:08

The protocol and etiquette are very strict...

To be up to scratch, Rosemary has to rehearse over and over the curtsy that she would perform before her majesty – it's seen as a challenge for clumsy Rosemary.

TC 10:14:13:09

Glorious in her white tulle dress embroidered with silver and lined with white satin, Rosemary seems radiant, sparkling and cheerful...

A charmer, she loves being photographed... wagging tongues say that she likes to laugh even if she didn't always know why...

But today, she's America personified.

On May the 11th, the Kennedy family joins the procession of the kingdom's greatest estates...

TC 10:15:04:03

Nobody can see how different Rosemary is from the others... nor her torments...

Her smile masks her youthful shyness... She seems a little lost in this world...

Her mother is standing nearby, holding her breath, knots in her stomach...

TC 10:15:27:14

Some claim that Rosemary tripped as she reached the royal couple, but no journalist takes note of that...

Her mother is relieved... With the Kennedy reputation at stake, any stumble would have chased away her daughters' suitors.

A week later, the social magazine *The Sketch* devotes a full page to Rosemary: "Miss Rosemary Kennedy, daughter of the 'father of America'"

On that day, she holds first place in the family.

It might seem that her handicap has been forgotten, but Joseph's strong hand on his daughter's arm is there as a reminder that she's always being watched.

And what to say of Teddy's constant snide remarks, her rowdy young brother always calling his sister an empty-head.

TC 10:16:35:09

Early June 1938, Joe Jr. and Jack, the eldest of the Kennedy sons have finished their year at Harvard University.

They work side by side with their father... Jack as a secretary and his elder brother as special assistant to the ambassador...

Joe Jr. is pushed to the fore, because with the Kennedys, the dynasty rests foremost upon the eldest son...

The other children make their lives anyway they can.... Without affection, without even remembering being hugged by their mother.... Who is happy in the meantime to be close to the world's bigwigs.

TC 10:17:35:05

Early July, Rose's father, Boston's former mayor John Francis Fitzgerald comes to England for three weeks to witness his daughter and her husband in all their glory.

Here's Rosemary in the gardens of Windsor...

TC 10:18:04:10

That first summer in Europe the family settle in Valbonne near Cannes...
Then at the Hotel du Cap in Antibes...

Mrs. Kennedy loves the Riviera... with its elite crowd that she enjoys so much...

All day long, the talk is about diets: Joe has gained six pounds, Jean four...

As for Rosemary, she's in trouble: she's put on almost 8 pounds...

The governess Elizabeth Dunn films everything, including neighbor Marlene Dietrich, the movie star...

The ambassador advises the actress on her contracts, and has an affair with her...

In keeping with the times, Rose closes her eyes to the ambassador's infidelities, both in London and on the Riviera...

Marlene Dietrich's daughter, Maria, thirteen years old, spends her days with Rosemary...

Despite their age difference, the young girls adore one another, spending many hours just watching the sea...

TC 10:19:15:04

Here she is! Despite the hormone injections meant to even her moods, despite the pain that could lead to epileptic-fits, she is still determined to meet her parents' expectations.

TC 10:19:51:13

And when the September holidays continue on to Ireland, Maria accompanies Rosemary.

Maria is one of the rare outside witnesses to provide an impartial account of her...

"She was the damaged child of this brilliant family. But she was my friend. Perhaps being two misfits, we felt comfortable in each other's company."

September the 13th 1938... Look at Rosemary... It's her birthday. Twenty years-old...

A cigarette in her hand... striking a pose, a touch provocative...

There can be no doubt that the young lady on these pictures is full of life.... It's hard to believe that her IQ is that of a ten-year-old.

Three years later, Rosemary would be destroyed.

TC 10:21:08:06

That autumn she's admitted to a religious institution directed by a Benedictine sister, Mother Isabel...

They put to practice the principles of the Italian pedagogue Maria Montessori... all age groups, boys and girls together, moving forward at their own rhythm...

Rose and Joe are delighted to have found somewhere adapted to their daughter's needs, where she can lead a calm and regular life.

Rosemary feels at ease surrounded by the young children that she can take care of...

In this school that encourages experimentation, she cooks, sews, and helps the younger ones, building her self-confidence.

The letters to her father are poorly written, with bad grammar – for a twenty-year-old. But this time at the boarding school helps settle Rosemary.

TC 10:22:06:05

In answer to her father who calls her “his little darling daughter,” she writes:

“Dear Father, I hate it when your disappointed in me. Come visit soon. I want to see you. Your daughter who loves you.”

TC 10:22:32:17

At the end of September 1938, Europe is on the edge of chaos.

Britain's prime minister, Chamberlain, accepts to negotiate with Germany in Munich...

Joseph Kennedy favors more concessions to Hitler, so enthusiastically that Roosevelt finally calls him back to Washington.

The ambassador doesn't seem to realize that his arguments in favor of a forced peace, are discrediting him, amongst Roosevelt's friends.

TC 10:23:04:05

I had a great time getting up on that ladder...

Who's going to give me the sign?

When asked by the newspaper men this afternoon what I thought the chances were of appeasement succeeding,

I told them I wasn't sure at all, but it was certainly worthwhile trying.

TC 10:23:22:23

But despite his conciliatory attitude, Joe has nothing in common with those American Nazis who are organizing huge demonstrations in the heart of New York.

Such as these 20,000 people at Madison Square Garden in February 1939, all calling for a total collaboration with Nazi Germany.

TC 10 :23:44:01

...freed from Jewish Moscow-directed domination...

TC 10:23:48:05

Joseph shares neither their enthusiasm nor their brutality.

And while he finds Hitler quite acceptable, he above all wants to avoid any war that might take away his sons.....

TC 10:24:18:00

With the ambassador traveling, Rose and the children spend Christmas break at St. Moritz in Switzerland....

Rosemary manages to have her mother forget that she's any different from the others... though the family films often show her with the younger ones...

“Do you think I’m fat?” she asks everyone... Because her mother forces her to eat alone, under the governess’s watchful eye.

She writes to her father:

“This diet of Elizabeth Arden is very good. I have gone down between 5 and 7 pounds already, living on salads, egg at night, meat once a day. I don’t want to be fat. Wait 'til you see me. I will be thin by then.”

TC 10:25:21:15

The ambassador’s position places the family at the heart of History in progress.

Pope Pius the XI dies in February 1939, and Joseph represents Roosevelt at the funeral...

With Jack, he flies from London to Italy... and the family is reunited at Rome’s central station in March 1939.... Just in time for the election of their old friend Monseigneur Pacelli as Pope Pius the XII...

TC 10:25:56:15

At the Vatican, Rose, a fervent Catholic, has one of her most memorable days... She enjoys a private audience with the Holy Father, taking communion from his hands... a gift from god for her and her family...

And Rosemary is given a blessing to be proud of: the nuns grant her the ‘child of Mary’ diploma, that her mother had also received thirty years earlier.

What’s more, she’s proud to show off that she’s lost four pounds.

The Montessori method suits her perfectly, giving her the confidence that her parents never provided...

Looking for faults in her behavior, there are none to be found.

She seems perfectly happy, and the ambassador and his wife are relieved.

TC 10:27:01:02

The 4th of July, Independence Day.

Joseph and Rose hold a reception at the embassy alongside Kick, Joe, Eunice and Jack... despite her progress, Rosemary is kept apart...

She is however allowed to attend the birthday party for Eunice. Her younger sister is her friend, her favorite sister...

Her father and his friends fill her dance card, thus keeping her from temptation. Because the rumor has started to spread that the ambassador's daughter is "different," perhaps even "uncontrollable" ... a stain on the perfect picture that the Kennedys present....

It's hard to believe, given how pretty and composed she appears... She's praised for her glow and said to be a wonderful dancer.

If she rebels, it's because she wants to dance as much as she pleases... She wants to be as free and courted as her sisters...

And that's precisely what worries the ambassador... A mishap would destroy the clear course he's set for the boys into politics, the girls towards good marriages...

Indeed, she's less and less mentioned in her mother's diary, as if Rose already wants to erase her from the family photo...

TC 10:28:58:12

At around the same time, aboard his van traveling from universities to dispensaries and sometimes even kitchens, a certain Doctor Walter Freeman is developing a cranial "trepanation" technique: the lobotomy...

85% of his patients are women.... So called neurasthenic women dominated by philandering husbands, girls driven hysterical from seclusion, free-spirited women or rebellious children....

Only the father or husband can give the authorization.

Freeman takes care of those deemed "unmanageable" and the like. He doesn't ask questions.

In a few months, his path will cross Rosemary Kennedy's.

TC 10:29:57:20

At the end of August 1939, Hitler sets fire to Europe. Joe urgently calls his wife back from her holidays in Cannes...

On September the 3rd, Germany and France declare war...

TC 10:30:10:18

This country is at war with Germany.

TC 10:30:15:14

Joe Jr., Jack and Kick are at Parliament to witness the event...

The ambassador calls President Roosevelt, his voice choked with fear: "it's the end of the world. It's the end of everything".

His greatest worry is that his eldest son, Joe Junior, his heir, might be killed in the war.

The parents decide that it's safest to send everyone back to the US.

A last meal together, a last day out at the stadium, and the Kennedys take three different ships towards New York.

Rosemary and her father stay alone in London.

The ambassador watches as British mobilization goes forward, and he worries.

During the week, safely sheltered by the nuns, Rosemary can follow her father's activities on the newsreels... and she spends each weekend with him in an embassy that the staff has left empty.

Joseph thinks that his daughter has put on weight... so she promises once again to follow a diet... An infantilized Rosemary... though Mother Isabel finds she is doing better, making progress...

She takes care of the young ones, read stories to them... It takes very little to make her happy...

TC 10:31:46:04

Rosemary learns of her father's departure in the *Times*... The ambassador is going back to the United States for instructions....

TC 10:31:53:18

No, he won't talk about the war, except to advise America to keep out of it. For the camera men he's willing to smile like a true diplomat.

TC 10:32:05:23

She spends Christmas alone in London.

Her letters to the family travel in the diplomatic pouch... out of fear that censors might read them and that her handicap become known...

The ambassador lingers for more than three months with his family, but Roosevelt orders him to return to London....

In February 1940, the public considers him a traitor who has abandoned his post.

TC 10:32:34:12

Joseph P Kennedy, ambassador to Great Britain is no exception as he boards the liner in Manhattan to return to his post in London from which he has been absent for nearly 3 months.

TC 10:32:49:06

At what stage did Joseph Kennedy first come up with the idea of dealing permanently with the "Rosemary problem"?

He had told the nuns that he wanted to simply abandon his daughter in England....

She represents a threat to the boy's career.... And who would want to marry his daughters if the Kennedy heredity is questioned.

The ambassador does nothing to betray his dark thoughts:

“I was happy to see Rosemary last Sunday. She was in a very good mood, but I do think that she’s putting on too much weight and told her in no uncertain terms.”

TC 10:33:37:14

Savage battles sweep Belgium and into France.

Through a nightmare of wreck and ruin caused by bombing and demolition, the war machinery of the Allies hurries to contest the invasion of the Nazi juggernaut...

TC 10:33:49:20

On the morning of May the 10th 1940, Germany invades Belgium and then France.

On May the 29th, Belgium surrenders and the Germans threaten Paris. The ambassador considers London to be at risk.

Overnight, he sends Rosemary to Lisbon to board the last plane to the United States.

He stays by himself...

Did something unsayable happen during his oppressive time alone with his daughter in the empty embassy in Grosvenor Square?

Is it really the fear of bombings that drives him to hurry Rosemary to America?

TC 10:34:40:05

In New York her favorite brother Jack awaits her On the pontoon alongside their youngest sister, Jean... They are both overjoyed to see her again...

The Kennedys lie once again to the press, claiming that Rosemary has just finished a degree in arts in London...

These images capture Rosemary’s last public appearance.

TC 10:35:30:08

Her return home is a nightmare as her brothers and sisters had grown used to

living without her...

The aggressive cacophony is a big change for Rosemary from the calm of school in London.

This whirlwind of activity leaves her dazed, feeling excluded from the conversations and games.

She's said to be rebellious and violent.... And even her younger sister and soulmate, Eunice, would later remember that Rosemary was angry upon her return from London and dangerous even to herself.

Her mother doesn't hide the discomfort that she feels at Rosemary's full figure.

TC 10:36:24:20

In July 1940, she is sent to Fernwood summer camp as an educational assistant.

Rosemary takes care of children, swims and plays with them.... But her mother has not warned the director of her handicap, leading the camp to believe that she has a diploma.

After three weeks, the director Mrs. Sullivan tells the Kennedys of Rosemary's poor behavior... And that she has been going to bars....

It's insinuated that she's had sexual relations with strangers.

At 22 years old, her vulnerability has become a risk...

TC 10:37:12:04

A pregnant Rosemary would be a disaster for this very Catholic family where the men might have countless affairs, but women's sexuality remains famously suppressed.

She's sent away from Fernwood and locked up at St Gertrude's near Washington, an institution for deficient girls...

It's said that her condition worsens... uncomfortable, the nuns claim that the devil has taken over her body...

And her epileptic fits increase.

TC 10:37:58:15

In early September bombs shower down on London... a defeated man, the ambassador sees his authority slip away... By now, Roosevelt is talking directly to Churchill.

The ambassador asks to be called back to Washington. Despite Roosevelt's refusal, he leaves London!

Upon his arrival, the FBI keep close watch on him to avoid any sudden declarations to the press.

All the Kennedy girls greet their father, except for Rosemary...

The ambassador advises his children not to be too attached to their sister

TC 10:38:45:21

Wait a minute, I'm looking for another member of the family...

TC 10:38:56:02

-Mr. Kennedy have you anything to say for us?

-Nothing to say until I've talked with the president.

TC 10:39:04:14

The summer of 1941 is the last the Kennedys would spend together.

The ambassador is tempted to definitively cut off the unhealthy branch...

Seeking a solution for the 'Rosemary question', he talks to specialists and reads medical journals.

An article finally convinces him in May 1941... it describes Walter Freeman as a 'surgeon of the soul'.

With him, the chances of healing are real.... Freeman could make Rosemary

normal! A true household pet, the doctor promises.

Joseph gives Freeman the green light... Rose, the mother, pretends to know nothing about it.

Rosemary's file has a number. Number 10 would be given a lobotomy during the second week of November 1941.

TC 10:40:25:07

Rosemary doesn't know what's awaiting her, she's just happy to please her father... Her only demand is that her curls be spared...

No antiseptic procedure, no anesthesia!

The brain is entered by scraping the lobes with a spatula...

TC 10:41:22:00

As Rosemary ceases agonizingly to spell out the alphabet, the operation ends... The edges of her memory gradually disappear...

The perfect crime....

Rosemary reduced to silence...

Her memories lost forever...

After the operation, the nurse who took part in this butchery changed careers.

Somebody gives Joseph an address near New York...

He takes his damaged child to the Craig House Sanatorium, where she will spend the next 8 years.

TC 10:42:26:04

At Christmas no one inquires about Rosemary's absence....

Because just a few weeks earlier, on December the 3rd 1941, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor has forced America to enter the war...

TC 10:42:48:00

The ambassador is in despair... Rosemary is already forgotten...

The two eldest brothers enlist.

Joe Jr., who his father had chosen to be president of the United States, dies in combat two years later.

His brother Jack takes his place.

TC 10:43:09:04

At Craig House, her father orders that Rosemary be kept away from the living and given no therapy.

She is impaired and mute, her head hanging over her chest....

She communicates mostly through groans...

The price of this secret comes out to over \$50,000 a year.

Neither her father's money nor her handicap can protect Rosemary from the mistreatment and sexual abuse that were common in the institute.

TC 10:44:07:11

A sort of blackmail frees Rosemary from her prison 8 years later.

During this war he didn't want, the ambassador made huge profits through his businesses...

He creates a foundation, as a tax break... and names it after Joe Jr, his eldest son killed during the war.

One day in 1949, his friend the Archbishop of Boston, Cushing, suggests a deal: Joe Jr. Kennedy's foundation should be devoted to those with mental handicaps.

The Archbishop warns Joseph Kennedy of the scandal that Rosemary's existence would have on the career of the future president Jack, just then starting in politics...

In exchange for a few million dollars, Cushing offers to take in Rosemary in the Saint Coletta convent in a far-off corner of Wisconsin...

She'll live there as a recluse until her death...

TC 10:45:16:22

She won't attend her brothers or sisters' weddings, nor any sort of family gatherings, and her absence is never mentioned...

In 1957, in response to the first rumors, the family lies again, saying that she is a teacher at St Coletta... Her story is once again rewritten.

TC 10:45:49:10

During his presidential campaign in 1960, Jack Kennedy is called upon by the mother of a retarded child who asks him about Rosemary...

Jack then visits Rosemary, the first time he's seen her in 21 years!

The recluse recognizes the Democratic candidate that she's seen on television... but not, he is sad to find, her favorite brother.

As he's sworn into office, the President elect thanks the former ambassador: "you did the job with Rosemary, dad, it had to be done..."

But why, after so many years, doesn't Jack or anyone else ask: "Whatever happened to Rosemary?"

Only Eunice seems to suffer openly from her sister's absence...

TC 10:46:50:07

In 1961, after the father is reduced to silence by a stroke, tongues start to loosen...

Eunice, the most touched by Rosemary's drama, speaks up first... She no longer hesitates to talk of her sacrificed sister and her handicap....

She reminds the president of their fault, the fault they all share!

TC 10:47:12:20

...retardation. Almost every American family at some stage will experience or has experienced a case of mental affliction.

TC 10:47:20:22

Eunice does everything in her power to get her brother to promote laws in favor of “retarded people” as they were called.

And she already has a vision for a sports event dedicated to the handicapped...

TC 10:47:40:05

President Kennedy has been assassinated. It's official now, the President is dead...

TC 10:47:46:15

On November the 22nd 1963, Rosemary sees her brother Jack's assassination on television...

She watches the screen for a long moment... then changes the channel, to watch her favorite show: Shirley Temple, the young girl that she would have liked to be...

In June 1968, it's her brother Bobby's turn in Los Angeles– the 3rd Kennedy to die tragically.

Her mother Rose is convinced: the curse began with Rosemary.

The nightmare stops the next year, 1969, when her father, the ambassador, dies...

TC 10:48:37:18

Rosemary never saw her father again, the man who had banished her from the family.

TC 10:48:51:05

In the weeks that follow, the Kennedy children can speak freely.

And yet, no one discusses the circumstances of her disappearance. The word lobotomy is never used. It's called an “accident.”

Through her determination, in November 1968 in Chicago, Eunice inaugurates an Olympic Games for “the mentally handicapped”: The Special Olympics, dedicated to her sister.

As a tribute to Rosemary, she declares that every participant will be a winner...

TC 10:49:35:17

Let me win... but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt!

TC 10:49:43:05

In 1972, their mother Rose publishes her memoirs... in this global bestseller, she never mentions her daughter's name...

TC 10:49:56:10

... mentally and physically as perfect as possible. ... that we had 8 perfectly normal children, some of them brilliant, and then we still had this child who was retarded...

TC 10:50:04:14

She shows no remorse and considers Rosemary's illness to have been a gift of god destined to test her love as a mother....

In the early 1970s, after a 30-year absence, Rosemary appears again amidst the family... She recognizes no one, and no one recognizes her.

From time to time, a memory bubbles up in her head... And fades quickly... But she is once again surrounded by their love...

In those years at Hyannis Port, at dusk, a passerby might see Eunice pushing her mother Rose's wheelchair... With Rosemary, head bowed, walking at their side...

Then Rose the mother, watches one of the many documentaries devoted to the Kennedys... The scenes of misfortune were removed by the family...

They would show a world of nostalgia, in which the ambassador was honest and faithful, in which her eldest son Joe Jr. wasn't killed during the war, and Jack never went to Dallas, or Bobby to Los Angeles, and in which Rosemary remains as she was in London, at the Queen's Ball... Photos that Rosemary Kennedy kept in her room until her death in 2005.