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# THE thread



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 **FOURTH SEASON** BY WAY OF INSANITY



## THE THREAD

Explore history's interlocking lives and events. Turn back the clock, one story at a time. Discover how various strands are woven together to create a historic figure, a big idea or an unthinkable tragedy. From OZY Media. History. Unwound.

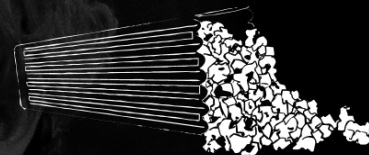
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THE FOURTH SEASON TRAILER



## INSIGHTS INTO THE MIND OF MADNESS

Shortly after midnight on July 20, 2012 in Aurora, Colorado, a man in dark body armor and a gas mask entered a midnight premiere of The Dark Knight Rises with a tactical shotgun, a high-capacity assault rifle, and a sidearm. He threw a canister of tear gas into the crowd and began firing. Soon twelve were dead and fifty-eight were wounded; young children and pregnant women were among them.




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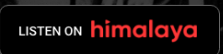
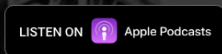
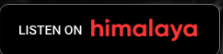
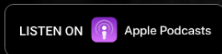
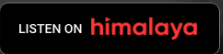
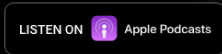
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 EP.2 - FOURTH SEASON

## AN IRRESISTIBLE IMPULSE

The ultimate act of revenge or the act of a woman driven so crazy by domestic violence that she could not comprehend what she was doing? It seemed crazy to raise that defense given the deliberateness of the act, the fact her husband was asleep at the time and more. And prosecutors

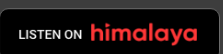
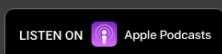
thought the defense had no chance: they were ready to argue that Lorena was not insane and one sign of that is that she acted out of revenge. Revenge, the prosecution argued is a rational act, not an irrational one.



 EP. 5 - FOURTH SEASON

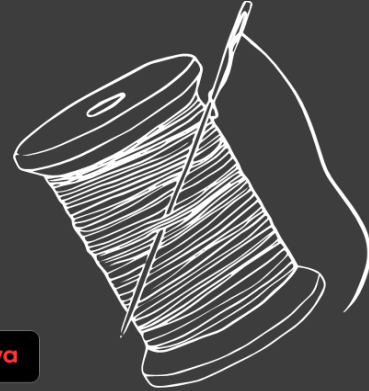
## A STAR-SPANGLED MURDER

Francis Scott Key, the pro-slavery lawyer and amateur poet who penned "The Star-Spangled Banner" after witnessing the British bombardment of Fort McHenry 200 years ago, was famously inspired by the resilient spirit of a young nation. Forty-five years later, Key's other notable creation, his only son Philip Barton Key II, would experience an entirely different side of American life when he was slain in 1859 by a U.S. congressman and disgruntled cuckold named Daniel Sickles.




# AN INSANE DEFENSE?

The 2015 conviction of Aurora gunman James Holmes really begins almost two centuries earlier in England, with the attempted assassination of the king. This episode explores how the insanity defense challenges lawyers, judges and juries in their pursuit of justice, and how it speaks to things that all of us hold dear, such as moral responsibility, free will and even our own sanity.




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# LIVE CURIOUSLY