



« **AL — Why did you choose not have surgery ?**

DD — Well, with Ethel, I went to the doctor's. And he was dead, his fingers broken off. I always suspected Dell for having an anger issue and doing that to my doctor to get revenge. That is why I chose to save him when he tried to hung himself.

AL — But, why did you do that, after all the awful things he made you live ? Could you explain it, please ?

DD — He accepted me when I needed it. He made me happy for the first time in my life. He made me love myself. So, yes, he was a bit rough but I had love for him at one time, and I could not hate him. He was also Jimmy's father, Ethel just died. And I wished that someone could have done that when I wanted to die. He did not deserve it.

AL — After that, how was your relationship with him ?

DD — He tried to get me back. He told me that he would change, he would not hurt me anymore. I think we were not meant to be together forever, he did not made me happy anymore. And I suspected him to be dangerous for the other Freaks.

AL — May you tell us about Dandy ? Who was he ?

He was the man that killed us all. He gathered us to kill the freaks, he was the worst one of us. I survived thanks to Amazon Eve, she was my best friend and sacrificed herself for me. He tried to kill me twice. With the other survivors, we trapped him and we made sure that he would not hurt anyone in the future anymore.

AL — Are you in a freak show now ?

DD — I am not. I stopped the shows, but I still play piano. I often meet Jimmy and Bette. I am now married and have one child. And I am expecting a baby.

AL — Congratulations ! But how do you live your difference now ?

DD — I am not ashamed of my body anymore. I am proud of who I am, and do not want to be operated anymore. I am happy, surrounded by my family and friends.



AL — Why do you finally choose to talk about your life in those freak shows ?

DD — We often see those places as zoos, where we can have fun mocking people based on physical things they obviously cannot control or choose. I would like people to see the double-edged sword those are. As freaks, we live being animals, shows objects, money machines, exposed as sculptures, mocked as if we do not have feelings. But those shows also gather outcasts, it creates a huge family of people who see through a body and only care about the people's heart. It can be awful or extremely reassuring for us.

AL — To finish, do you have any final message that you would like to pass ?

DD — I would like to say that we should definitely not judge people based on their body differences. Somebody ugly or disabled is not meant to be mean or bad. And human are not allow to treat other humans as animals because they decide to do so, or because they are different to them.

AL — So we will end with these beautiful words. Thank you for agreeing to be interviewed and for you precious testimony, Desiree. »

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