

Tobacco Heiress Doris Duke's Billion Dollar Heirs were Imprisoned in a Squalid Basement

It's easy to assume that life would be a breeze if we had unlimited wealth, but money truly can't buy happiness. The following people were all born with a silver spoon in their mouths, but they all secretly suffered emotional and physical hardships, addictions, and abuse that made their lives miserable.



In an August 2013 article entitled, "The Poorest Rich Kids In The World," *Rolling Stone* magazine's Sabrina Rubin Erdely exposed the horrific details behind two teenagers who are the heirs to one of the United States's largest family fortunes. Patterson and Georgia Inman, age fifteen, are the children of Walker Inman, the nephew of tobacco heiress Doris Duke. The Inman twins are set to inherit a trust fund worth one billion dollars when they turn twenty-one, yet both teens recently spent three months in a mental hospital to deal with the trauma of their horrific childhood.

The Duke family once controlled the entire tobacco industry in the U.S. They established the prestigious Duke University, and their charitable foundation gives away millions of dollars every year. However, the heir to that fortune, Walker Inman, was a drug addict who subjected his children to abuse from the time they were two until his death from a meth overdose when they were twelve. Together with his fifth wife, fellow drug and alcohol addict Daralee Inman, Walker routinely locked the kids in a basement that was

smearred with feces, trapped them in their bedrooms, forced them into scalding hot baths, and endangered their lives by driving them around while heavily intoxicated.

While the children were sometimes treated to extravagant luxuries like owning a pet lion and taking exotic vacations, their schooling was sporadic and their lives were so cloistered that they are emotionally and intellectually stunted. They still believe in Santa Claus, for instance, and both suffer from suicidal thoughts and anorexia after being malnourished and underfed for their entire childhood.

Walker Inman often subjected his children to chemical fumes while he was freebasing drugs in front of them. His abuse was both physical and verbal; he was once arrested after smacking Georgia so hard in the face that fellow diners pressed charges because they feared for the girl's life.

The Inman twins now live with their estranged mother, a former stripper, and are undergoing intensive therapy to cope with their traumatic upbringing.