Tanning Bed Legend

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Tanning Bed Dangers
Legend

Informant: Kayla Lee is my mother. She is 48 years old and was born and raised in North Logan, Utah. She is a Member of the LDS Church. She has a master degree in Chemistry and Mathematics and works part time as a math teacher at various high schools in the area. She is a mother of 4 children and currently lives in North Logan, Utah

Context: My mother related this story to me as we were sitting in our living room discussing different types of folklore. She said she was told this story by her mother as a caution against tanning beds. It seems to be akin to an old wives tale in format and purpose

Text: I heard an urban legend back in the nice ‘80’s about someone who would go to tanning beds all the time, and then they actually started feeling sick and they literally cooked their insides

Texture: Kayla told this in a conversational manner, pausing for dramatic effect when she reached the climactic “cooked their insides” moment. It was clear from the start she didn’t necessarily believe this story especially after she identified it as an “Urban Legend”