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**MAINE STATE POLICE
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION I
TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW**

INCIDENT #: 20-4-35897

CASE: Homicide
(BORNTNER, KASSIDY)

NAME: AMANDA BORTNER

DOB: [REDACTED]

ADDRESS: 191 Milton Road, Rochester, New Hampshire
TELEPHONE:

EMPLOYMENT: Old Navy, Kittery, Maine

OFFICER: Det. Angela C. Blodgett (11/12/01)

I.D. #: 0292

DATE: 11/12/00

TIME START: 1830 Hrs.

TIME END: 2030 Hrs

PLACE OF INTERVIEW: Maine State Police Troop B Barracks, Gray, Maine

Approved: WSS

Parties present during interview:

AB - Amanda Bortner

ACB - Det. Angela C. Blodgett, Maine State Police, CID I

JAL - Det. Jeffrey A. Linscott, Maine State Police, CID I

BEGIN VIDEO TAPE 1

(Det. Blodgett and Amanda Bortner Enter)

X ACB - This is kind of a funny room. They use it for the polygraphs, but it's very quiet and no one will walk in on us. Um, it is six-thirty (6:30). I guess, has alot been going on the last couple of days?

AB - Yeah. I just like...

ACB - Do you want to just go through that?

AB - It's so hard. I don't feel like, I've never really had, like any really close friends, you know, and all my friends are with him. You know what I mean?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - Like my friend JESSICA and like my parents, my mom, she's there for me but...

ACB - It's not the same?

AB - It's not. I haven't seen her in a long time, and like it, I had a hard life when I was younger. My stepfather, which is there now...

ACB - Yeah.

AB - He had sexually molested me and no one believes me.

ACB - Yup.

AB - You know what I mean? It's just so hard, and I don't know why, like, I like...

ACB - What about, ah, JEN? Has she...

AB - She used to believe me. Ah, and now like, when I asked her today, like we got in a big argument over it right before I left.

ACB - Yup.

AB - I don't know if she does or not anymore, I don't.

ACB - How is she dealing with KASSIDY's death? Is she supportive of you?

AB - Yeah, she's supportive of me. They keep telling me they love me and stuff but, I don't know. And JEFF, like I have talked to him, you know, about him, like when he had her once she came back and she had a black-and-blue butt.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - Like, and um, but he never did it again. They were just talking about how she needed discipline or something, so, you know. And then the time she was really dehydrated and sick was after she came from his house, and it, she was there for like two (2) days. Like, I keep remembering things, you know.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And like, I just wanted to tell you guys that and, um, people keep, like my mom keeps saying, um, today she said, 'I think you know something you're not saying'. But I don't. You know what I mean? I'm saying everything I know.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And it's like, I don't know.

ACB - Well, let's, um...

AB - And I've told you everything about him, and I can't tell you why I want to talk to him.
You know what I mean? I don't know why.

ACB - I know. That's, that's going to be kind of screwy for a while, I think.

AB - I'm just like all screwed in the head, and I don't feel like I have anybody.

ACB - Um, I don't think alot of it has set in yet.

AB - I know it hasn't, and I can't stop crying, and I can't sleep or anything.

ACB - I mean that's, I mean, for the situation your in, that's pretty normal I would think. I don't think your losing your mind. I think that anything else, I mean you can't expect to be together right now.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - And, I mean I understand that, we all have really big concerns about CHAD and what went on, but I know that deep down, I mean your telling me that you didn't see him...

AB - Actually, yeah.

ACB - ...hit her over the head.

AB - You know what I mean? So I don't know.

ACB - So...

AB - And then what...

ACB - And I think your just fighting yourself on it because that's your security blanket for, you know, probably the better part...

AB - I have one...

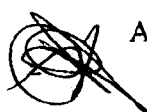
(Knock on Door)

ACB - Yup?

(Det. Linscott Enters)

ACB - Hi.

JAL - Hi.

 ACB - Um, I had talked with MATT and, um, AMANDA hasn't been doing so well today. Um, and, he and I had talked and thought that if it's all right with you that just you and I would talk. Would you rather that than to have JEFF here, because you haven't meet him before?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Um, so if you don't mind, we'll see how we go and then, um, we'll check with you before we end and see if there's anything that we've forgotten to cover...

JAL - Okay. Yup.

ACB - ...um, and go that route.

JAL - Yup.

ACB - I had just talked to him a few minutes ago in the car.

JAL - Okay. Sounds good.

ACB - Great. Thanks, JEFF.

(Det. Linscott Exits)

ACB - Um, I think alot of the stuff we didn't have time to do, we didn't do, the other day, and I think that there's alot more that makes up you, so that I can understand why you react to certain things the way that you do. Um, when, I forget. I don't even know who it was now, maybe it was your sister or somebody. When KASSIDY was conceived, was that like a date-rape situation? Is that what happened or...?

AB - Um, it was the first time I ever got drunk. He took advantage of me.

ACB - Yup.

AB - But I wouldn't call it rape. I don't know. It's, like, difficult.

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ACB - Not something that you intended when you...

AB - No.

ACB - ...went out on a date that night?

AB - Definitely. No.

ACB - Okay. So nobody that you had dated for a long time or anything like that?

AB - No. First person, second person I ever slept with.

ACB - Yeah. And not something you would have done hadn't the alcohol been involved in it?

AB - Definitely. Yeah.

ACB - So, ah, growing up, your natural father, how long were you guys with him?

AB - Not long. I don't remember him much. Like, he hurt my mom. My mom would tell me stories about him beating on her and stuff.

ACB - Yup. Do you remember ever living with him?

AB - Yeah. I remember him, I just remember our house and their yelling, you know, fighting and stuff.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - Other than that, I, my mom was single for a long time and then she met my stepfather.

ACB - How old were you when they got together?

AB - Um, pretty, pretty young. I was probably like in third grade, maybe. Like in third grade, but I don't know...

ACB - And when, is it the current stepfather that had sexually abused you?

AB - Uh hum.

ACB - About how old were you when that happened?

AB - Um, I know what house I lived in. I lived in Springvale, Maine.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And, well actually that wasn't the first time he touched me. He touched me in Brookline, New Hampshire.

ACB - Yup.

AB - But, he never did it for a long time and then he did it right, it wasn't like anything, like, I don't know, I was really, really young, so you know what I mean?

ACB - Yup.

AB - And then in Springvale I had, um, a pack of cigarettes. I was like maybe fourteen (14), fifteen (15).

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And he found them, and he did that and he said that he wasn't going to tell my mom if he, if I let him touch me.

ACB - Yup.

AB - So I let him touch me. And then he never stopped. He would always say stuff like that. You know what I mean?

ACB - How long did that go on?

AB - And I told my mom the first time it happened and she didn't believe me.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - I don't know why. And then I told her again.

ACB - And I think it's probably the same thing that's going on with you and CHAD right now.

AB - And I told her again when I was eighteen (18), and she said she believed me.

ACB - Yup.

AB - But, um, she didn't know what to do and I told her to do whatever, you know?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And then I...

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ACB - So they're still together?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Okay. Have you and your sister, have you every talked to her? Did he ever do anything to her that you remember?

AB - No.

ACB - No?

AB - I asked her, we finally talked about it, like I told CHAD and ah, thought I needed counseling for it and stuff. You know what I mean?

ACB - Yup.

AB - Him and JEFF talked about, I not, me not knowing and I finally told my sister.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - Well, JEFF told my sister and my sister asked me, and I told her and she believed me.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And now, like I don't know.

ACB - Yeah. Ah, how old would you have been when you got pregnant?

AB - Um, sixteen (16), I think.

ACB - Sixteen (16). How did that go over at home? Was it, I mean, more than, more than the regular kind of anger and everything?

AB - Oh, I couldn't even tell my family about it. Um, I was just really scared and at first, I thought about abortion, but then I could never do that, you know?

ACB - Yup.

AB - And, um, I didn't know all the things that I could do, adoption or anything.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And then, ah, I just wanted to have it. It thought I could do it, you know?

ACB - Yup. So eventually...

AB - So, and my mom was supportive. She's like we'll get through this. We'll do it together.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And, we did.

ACB - Um, prenatal care? Did you get, did you go to the doctor's during the pregnancy and all of that stuff?

AB - Oh, yeah. Um hum.

ACB - Um, what hospital was KASSIDY born in?

AB - Biddeford. Um, SM..

ACB - Goodall?

AB - ..MC. No.

ACB - Oh. Southern Maine Medical Center?

AB - Southern Maine... Yeah.

ACB - Okay. And were there any problems with the birth at all?

AB - No problems.

ACB - No. Did you have a vaginal birth or a cesarean?

AB - Um hum. Vaginal.

ACB - Um, no major complications or anything like that? Pretty routine?

AB - Yes.

ACB - Okay. Ah...

AB - I was really scared though because I was with my boyfriend that I was with for almost four (4) years and I couldn't tell him that it could have been another guy's.

ACB - Oh, yeah. Yup.

AB - So, I didn't say it and that's maybe another reason why my mom doesn't believe me. That's what she told me today.

ACB - Yup. Um, so there's a possibility, I mean, do you know in your head who her father was one hundred percent (100%)?

AB - Oh, I know. I'm positive about him.

ACB - Okay. That it was the other guy?

AB - Yes.

ACB - Because of the timing?

AB - Yeah, well, I wasn't that, like when I first got pregnant, I wasn't really sure.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - I just like, like, I don't know, I would just say GABE, you know, because I was with him forever.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And then we had a paternity test and it wasn't GABE, so I know it's him.

ACB - Um...

AB - He'll deny it. I even tried to get child support and stuff, but it would just take me forever.

ACB - Yeah. Um, how much did she weigh when she was born?

AB - Eight-thirteen (8 lbs. 13 oz.).

ACB - So a good size.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Yup? Did you have, did you breast feed or no? No. You had mentioned the other day that you'd had some bonding problems and just overwhelmed right after the birth.

AB - I think it was like postpartum depression. I, I didn't know. Nobody even told me about that, but I just like, I'm just a kid. You know? And then finally, I was like well, I miss her and I wanted to be the mom.

ACB - Yup. So did you live with your mom and step-dad, but mom was pretty much taking care of her or...?

AB - No. I moved out.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And when I saw her, I would come over and see her all the time, but, and then I was just like what am I doing, you know, and I came back and just took care of her.

ACB - Yup. Yeah. Where did you live when...

AB - I lived with them.

ACB - In between, right after, when you had moved out? Where did you stay?

AB - Oh. Right when I had the baby, I forgot about this, I got an apartment because I wanted to do everything on my own with GAGE and her and we were doing pretty good, but then I was the only one working. He lost his job.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And we had a roommate, EMILY CONLEY, one of my old friends, and CORY, her boyfriend, ex-boyfriend.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And they had moved out so we weren't getting any money and we couldn't pay for it so that was really overwhelming.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And, he helped me out with her while I was working. He'd watch her. He was really, really good with her.

ACB - Yup. Did that all go down the tubes after the paternity test? Like, what happened to CHAD?

AB - CHAD? I wasn't with him at the time.

ACB - I'm sorry.

AB - GABE?

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ACB - GABE.

AB - Yeah. That's when it all went down the tubes.

ACB - Pretty much permanent you think or, I mean, how long has it been since you've been with him?

AB - Um, um, we were seeing each other off and on still. He would come by and see me in Auburn. I lived there.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - Um, but not very much.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - It all stopped. I don't know how it really stopped.

ACB - Yeah, it just kind of...

AB - Yeah.

ACB - ...fizzled out? Um, so he was upset about someone else being the father?

AB - Yeah. He was upset. He kind of knew the whole, he kind of knew the whole time.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - Like, it wasn't a shock to him.

ACB - Yup.

AB - Everybody would talk about it. You know?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - It was hard, but, I don't know.

ACB - Um, so when you guys had tried to get the apartment and everything ends up falling through...

AB - We fixed it up and made it really cute inside, painted and wallpaper, because it was a really dump before.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And, oh, we were having problems. Like I thought he was cheating on me and stuff.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - Because I would get phone calls and then people would just hang up. And then someone came to my work once and, um, two girls, and they were talking about him.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And they said something, I can't remember what it was, but they left a note on my car saying GABE, have GABE call me or something.

ACB - The girls did?

AB - Yeah. It was a whole weird situation.

ACB - How long did that last before you ended up going back to your mom?

AB - Um, well, my best friend KATHY, she lives in Texas now. She's like my best friend.

ACB - Yup.

AB - I moved in with her. She had her, well, her mom lived above her and she had kind of like her own apartment downstairs.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And I moved in there with her, and, um, KASSIDY, and then my mom was like, well I told her that it was still hard and I can't do this alone because I didn't have GABE anymore, you know?

ACB - Yup.

AB - So, she's like, she said she'd help me out for a little bit. So she did.

ACB - Yup. Ah, did you end up moving back into your mom's or just KASSIDY went back to your mom's?

AB - Yeah. KASSIDY went to my mom's and I'd see her.

ACB - Okay.

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mean? He had alot of money. He had a nice house. He had a kid. And all I wanted for KASSIDY was a dad and a family, you know?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - So, I would just stay there all the time. We just clicked really well.

ACB - Would she stay over when you stayed over or...?

AB - Yeah. Well, in the beginning she didn't, like, we would do things. Like, we went canoeing. My mom would watch her. I went to New York City once. Went to a Yankees game.

ACB - Yup.

AB - My mom watched her.

ACB - When you guys were just dating before you lived together, did you have any concerns about how he interacted with KASSIDY?

AB - No, like, he was really good with her in the beginning.

ACB - Okay.

AB - And he was, like I thought he was a great father.

ACB - Yeah?

AB - I really did. And that's the one thing that really attracted me to him.

ACB - Yup. He seemed pretty squared away that way?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Um...

AB - He was. And his family, they would just tell me how great of a person he was, and his friends would, and people from...

ACB - Yup. Yeah, I met his sister. She's very nice.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Is she a teacher?

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AB - Yeah. She's like one of the people that I just want to talk to. She's really supportive.

ACB - Yup. She seems really nice. She had told me that, um, she was going to the money management classes with you, ...

AB - Yeah. With me.

ACB - ...that you guys would go together to them.

AB - Yup.

ACB - When, so eventually does your mom and your step-dad move to Buckfield from Auburn and then...

AB - Yep. That's when I was like, um, I was going to move with them because I didn't, CHAD wasn't, I didn't think CHAD was ready for a live-in or anything because he was starting to like, he was going through the divorce finally.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And he was just seeming a little, ah, you know, like he was confused and stuff.

ACB - Yup. That's...

AB - I just didn't feel like he wanted me around so, um, I went to, um, Auburn actually, because they hadn't, they were starting to move, and I helped them. I just took a couple loads up to Buckfield.

ACB - Yup.

AB - Me and my friend, KATHY, and KASSIDY were up there for I think like two (2) days and then he was like 'I miss you', 'I want you'. You know what I mean?

ACB - Yup.

AB - Like he made me feel like I should stay there. Plus, I didn't have my own room in Buckfield. There wasn't any room for me in it, and like my dad and stuff. You know? It was just...

ACB - Now how many brothers and sisters do you have that live with your parents now?

AB - I have, that live with my parents now, two (2) little brothers. I think he's fifteen (15), and a six (6) year old.

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ACB - Yup. And then is there just your sister and you?

AB - And an older brother. His name's CHUCK. He's actually up there right now, but he's never around. He's got epilepsy.

ACB - Oh, goodness.

AB - Yeah. And, um, this is the first time I've seen him since like holidays.

ACB - Yeah. Is he in a home?

AB - No.

ACB - Is it that bad or is he just...?

AB - No. He, he, it is very bad. I think he should be in a home because he would, he has them all the time.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And, like, I thought he did drugs and stuff, but I don't know. You know? Like everybody did in my family. And to make it worse, like the whole town would say it when I lived in Sanford. But, I guess, my mom said he's doing good and he's living with his girlfriend, so.

ACB - Yup. So he has seizures and all that?

AB - All the time.

ACB - Um hum.

AB - It's really bad.

ACB - That's too bad.

AB - Um hum.

ACB - Um, so about how long ago, was it like two (2) months ago that you kind of really moved in with CHAD?

AB - Yeah. Like everyday.

ACB - Up until then, was there anything that concerned you going on with KASSIDY?

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AB - No.

ACB - No.

AB - Actually, I thought I was doing really good with her, you know, I was like teaching her stuff. He was really, like when I first met him, he would say things like, um, like at first he was making me to be a good, better mom. He would say things like 'I don't like a girl that doesn't spend quality time with her kids' and...

ACB - Yup.

AB - ...so I would make sure that I did. You know? I'd do flash cards with her and stuff.

ACB - Yup. How was her, um, like would, did she have like a pretty good attention span for that age and...

AB - She had, I thought she had a really good attention span.

ACB - Yup. And you could do flash cards? Did you do letters and numbers? Or what did...

AB - She just recently learned letters and numbers.

ACB - Um, the flash cards...

AB - ABC's.

ACB - ...what, was the ABC's on the flash cards?

AB - The flash cards were just like cat.

ACB - Cat and dog. Like words for talking?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Um, how was she, did she like to draw or color? That sort of stuff?

AB - Yeah. We did alot of that stuff. We did paints and stuff.

ACB - Yup. So she...

AB - There's tons of that at his house too. Like, one day we, um, took a Polaroid camera and took a picture of her and I just drew a hand print and...

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ACB - Yeah.

AB - I did that stuff. Both of us did all the time.

ACB - So she had a good imagination and would use colors when she was drawing and I'm sure...

AB - Well, I tried to, she knew red and blue. But that was it. And pink.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And she just learned that. But, yeah, she liked to do stuff like that. She would sit in my lap and do stuff like that.

ACB - Yeah. Did you read to her and...?

AB - Yup. CHAD read to her too.

ACB - Yeah. And she would sit and listen to the story and...?

AB - Um hum. Yeah. Like in the beginning, she wouldn't.

ACB - Yeah. It takes a while.

AB - But after awhile I did it with KYLE and her and then they started doing it together.

ACB - Yup. So you didn't have any concerns about her being foggy or not, not being active enough?

AB - No, I didn't. I had no concerns.

ACB - Or any of that stuff? She was one hundred percent (100%), seemed normal, didn't seem, um, delayed in any ways or anything like that?

AB - I thought she didn't until like, um, that two (2) week period.

ACB - Yup. Recent stuff?

AB - Well, but then I didn't see her do anything like, slow or anything. You know what I mean?

ACB - Yup.

AB - Because I was at work the whole week.

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ACB - When would have been the last time she saw her doctor?

AB - This summer.

ACB - This summer?

AB - Yup. She had all her shots up to date.

ACB - For like the one (1) year?

AB - I don't know, there's up to, I mean she's up to date. And then she had her feet checked because she was really clumsy.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And their walking, she's walking inward.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And they said that she'd just grow out of it, but she went to...

ACB - So a little bit pigeon toed?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - So was she not, um, when you say clumsy, would she, she would flip down on her fanny was she was walking and...?

AB - Oh, yeah. She would fall alot.

ACB - Did she put, would she put her hands out to catch herself or...?

AB - Like, someone said that she wouldn't, didn't do that, but I tried thinking of that.

ACB - I think recently someone had mentioned they saw her not catch herself.

AB - I never seen her do that though.

ACB - Okay.

AB - I really haven't.

ACB - So you didn't have, I mean, she would, because I think it's almost instinct.

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AB - Um hum.

ACB - Because I know, sometimes watching kids run their feet get ahead of their bodies or their bodies get ahead of their feet.

AB - Yeah. I don't know. I don't remember.

ACB - Nothing that ever stuck out to you?

AB - Well, she fell off the couch alot like being klutzy. She'd move around alot.

ACB - Wiggling?

AB - And she'd like, she had no fear of like jumping off things.

ACB - Yeah. That's normal for kids I think.

AB - Yeah. Like one (1) time, this really scared me, I was like, she had just started jumping which she really liked. She'd jump off the couch, jump off the table into peoples arms.

ACB - Yup.

ACB - And I was at the bottom of the stairs, stairs and I was like 'come on KASSIDY', 'come on', something along those lines or something like that, but she jumped on top of the stairs. It was the top of the stairs, but I caught her in my arms but she almost like fell. It totally scared me.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - I thought really, it was like 'what'? You know what I mean?

ACB - Yeah, she didn't have any concept.

AB - She was just being a baby. I didn't think there was a problem. That was a long time ago thought when she just...

ACB - Yeah. I think they have to figure out...

AB - Yeah.

ACB - ...you know, they don't have any (inaudible) understanding.

AB - She never did it again. I was like 'never do that again'.

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ACB - Um, until you fall, you don't know.

AB - Yeah. And she didn't like really hurt herself because I caught her like right when she was about to hit her head.

ACB - Yeah. I think that falling off the couch and that sort of stuff, and falling while they're running, is all just part of growing.

AB - Um hum. Normal.

ACB - Yeah. And that's why God makes them so gushy. So they can fall down lots.

AB - That's what I thought. That's why I didn't, like, yeah.

ACB - Um, her appetite?

AB - She ate like a pig. She ate alot.

ACB - Good.

AB - Like, really alot, and everybody would saw 'Wow, she eats alot'. You know?

ACB - Yup.

AB - She ate, seriously, more than I ate.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - She would eat cereal every morning, almost, like even like CHAD's mom was like 'Wow, you give her that much?' I'm like 'yeah, and she asks for more after too.'

ACB - Yup. So she would tell you when she was hungry? She would tell you when she was thirsty?

AB - Yeah. She would say, well I would give it to her before she said it most of the time.

ACB - Yup.

AB - But sometimes she'd say it.

ACB - But she wouldn't hesitate to let you know she was hungry if she was?

AB - Oh, definitely. Yeah. Sometimes, like she would go up to the counter in the kitchen and

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pull the cookies down.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And I remember, yeah, she did that one night when we were on the trampoline. I thought she was sleeping.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And, ah, I would run in and check on her every once in a while. You know?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And I came in and she had the cookies on the floor, but I just like laughed.

ACB - Having dessert?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Um, when was the first time, um, that something, something happened with KASSIDY either that you got frustrated or a babysitter or CHAD, when was the first time something happened that concerned you?

AB - Hum, like if CHAD, he would like totally loose his temper with her and he would like grab her face, check, like I told you. He was really, really rough with her, but I never thought, like I never seen him hit her head or like, I've seen him like throw her on the bed, but I never thought it was really bad and I would always yell at him. But I never thought it, like, 'never do that to her again'. You know?

ACB - Yeah. So that, maybe if we go over your concerns with each individual person. So with CHAD, and this would all be within the last...?

AB - Last month probably.

ACB - Last month or so. So, he would grab her face and it would be hard enough to leave those bruises? Those little bruises?

AB - On her.

ACB - Was it always because she was crying or was it...?

AB - It was always like, no, she wouldn't, if she would just cry or something he wouldn't do it. Like, he was, like, I don't know. It confused me because he, like she was sick once and he was like all there for her, helping her out. You know? Cuddling with her.

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ACB - Yeah.

AB - And, like...

ACB - So when, was it more when he got frustrated with her?

AB - Yeah. He would get frustrated with her because she would kiss me or not, if he would kiss me she would scream and he would get frustrated at that.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And if he would like, even come near me, she would scream.

ACB - How many times do you think, um, or how often, that he would grab her face like that hard enough to leave bruises?

AB - Maybe like twice a week. Like sometimes she wouldn't even cry about it. Sometimes she wouldn't, she'd be, she was just like really moody. I don't know. It was weird, and I didn't know when she was going to do it or when she wouldn't.

ACB - Did her personality start to change? Would she, did you think that she was adjusting?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - (inaudible)

AB - I thought that like him disciplining her was good because she wasn't throwing like the fits. She was like throwing her head back and banging her feet like she used to do with me.

ACB - Yup.

AB - So I thought like he was doing her good and I, you know what I mean?

ACB - Yeah. Now when she would do, um, the temper tantrums, I know my little sister was, did the head banger thing, and she would kick her feet and her head, and bang her head until somebody, until she got what she wanted.

AB - That's the same

ACB - Basically. Or we would just ignore her. My mother would say, 'Ignore her.' until she got tired of doing it.

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AB - Yeah.

ACB - Was it, like how, was it just a standard...

AB - Little kid thing.

ACB - ...coming up on two (2) year old temper tantrum?

AB - Yeah. I think so. She would try to pull out her pigtails out.

ACB - The elastics?

AB - She'd tug on her hair and she'd like do this with her head.

ACB - Yeah. She never knocked herself out or anything?

AB - No. I've seen her knock herself out.

ACB - Okay, um.

AB - But she was not afraid when, I don't know, anywhere, like if we were in the bathroom, bathtub, she'd do it there too. You know?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - If she like couldn't have like the shampoo bottle.

ACB - Yup.

AB - She'd do that.

ACB - Yeah. How, when was the last time she through a temper tantrum like that?

AB - A temper tantrum.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - Um, actually I do remember this. She was eating and she was all done and I said, 'All done?' because that's what I always said and she threw a fit. She threw her feet and her head back and I just kept her the highchair thing there and gave her more food. But that was the last time she did it.

ACB - How long ago do you think that was?

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AB - Not too long ago. Like three (3) weeks ago.

-- NOT True - it w/
me / 30 fl

ACB - And she was in a highchair then? Um, CHAD, the other day, we had talked about him picking her up and just kind of throwing her on the bed or throwing her into a corner.

AB - Um hum.

- lead. Anne Agreedy Tim talked his hands
like she is agreeing

ACB - How hard, I mean, how hard would he yank her arm and toss her? I mean, was there times when it seemed way too hard to you or...?

AB - I, I never, I, it was really rough but I'd never like, I don't know why I didn't think it was too rough. You know?

ACB - Yup. Now did he jerk her arm when he would pick her up or...?

AB - Yeah.

NA True

ACB - And, um, would she kind of, I mean, would she bang into things when she hit, I mean, when she hit the wall and...?

AB - Well, one time he like banged her into the closet, but it wasn't like, I wasn't like 'oh my God', I was just like, I was always like 'be careful with her'. Like one time, um, he threw her on the bed and I picked her up and I'm like 'don't ever touch her again. I'm going to do the discipline.' I remember that, but I was just, I don't know.

ACB - When he threw her into the closet door, um, that was just one time that that had happened?

AB - Um hum.

ACB - And it made a bang when her head hit but it, since we had talked the other day about the hollow, it's one of those hollow doors so you weren't so concerned about it.

- She hit her head.

AB - Yeah. Yeah.

ACB - She didn't seem spacey or anything.

AB - No.

ACB - Okay.

AB - I didn't so.

ACB - How long ago was that do you think?

AB - No too long ago. Um, it's so hard to remember.

ACB - That's all right. Just approximate.

AB - Maybe like two (2) weeks ago. Three (3) weeks ago. I don't know.

ACB - Ah, and he threw her on the bed once. And then we had talked about him pushing her into like the corner to punish her. How many times do you think that happened?

AB - That happened, oh, probably like many times.

ACB - About as many as grabbing the face? Like a couple times a week?

AB - Yeah. Yeah. That was all at the same time.

ACB - That would be, so he would grab her face and push her into the corner?

AB - Yeah. *NOT TRUE*

ACB - Okay. So those kind of go together. Um, would, would she be put in the corner hard enough to bang into it, to fall down, or...?

AB - She'd fall on her butt sometimes.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - She'd just sit there and...

ACB - Do her time out?

AB - I don't understand why he didn't, like I would always say she's too young, she's only this she's not three (3) like your kid. I'd always say she's not three (3).

ACB - Yup.

AB - But he'd be like, 'She knows though AMANDA. You know she knows. She knows good but...' (inaudible).

ACB - Now was the stuff she was doing, I mean...

AB - Really that bad?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - No. I didn't think so.

ACB - It was just he didn't like her reactions.

AB - Yeah. Like screaming for no reason.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - You know what I mean? Like, he'd just keep (inaudible).

ACB - I mean, did you, I mean, I don't know what the dynamics of your relationship were with him or if you felt that he would listen to you, but did you ever try to talk to him about, you know, instead of punishing her because she cries when you kiss me, maybe if you give her attention too at the same time then she wouldn't feel so scared.

AB - He would give her, he'd give her, we did try that. We tried that. Like, he would, everyday he would give her a kisses and hugs and she'd give him kisses and she'd sit on his lap and pinch his nose and say all this stuff.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - He talk her alot of things which, he taught her numbers and stuff too.

ACB - Yup.

AB - He did that like two (2) days before it happened.

ACB - Yup.

AB - He would read her books. It's just like all confusing to me. You know?

Ammon N. Bellum

ACB - Yup. I mean was there a big difference between CHAD that would work with her on, you know, nose, mouth, eyes, and CHAD that would, you know, wing her across the room?

- (Grimace) not Thinking wing her across room

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Um, could you see when it was coming at least?

AB - I don't know. He'd just get all like worked up over it.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And, well she'd just start screaming all of the sudden. I don't know, like maybe, like one time KYLE took the blanket from her.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And, like I would yell at KYLE, I'd be like, 'Give her back the blanket. You guys got to share.' And I'd try to put it on both of them.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And, because he was really spoiled. You know? And he would always fight with her and, but it was kind of like we just all the sudden came into the picture so I kind of understood it. You know?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - But, um, CHAD's like, 'Why is she crying over that?' He got mad over that. For crying just over the blanket.

ACB - Um, we had talked about choking on, I guess it was Thursday, ah, and you had told me how he would put pressure on like her esophagus?

AB - Um hum.

ACB - No how, um, long would he do that? Until she was quiet or until she passed out or...?

AB - No. He just, no, he would just, um, he only did it once. He went like that and she gagged. He, actually, he probably did it a couple times. And she would gag. And then I said, 'Never, ever do that again.' And he never did it again when I saw him do it.

ACB - And he, how many times did he do something like that to you? We had talked about him kind of pushing the flat of his hand against your throat?

AB - Yeah. Um, I remember one time we went to a McDonald's, it was like a dinner thing.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And he was really, really, really, really drunk and he was driving and I didn't have a license at the time so I didn't want to drive.

ACB - Yup.

AB - But I did try driving and then I was like, 'No way. I'm not driving.' And I let him drive, but, um, I don't know how it started but, yeah, he would grab me by the throat and he was

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really, really rough with me and I would try hitting him back and stuff but it never hurt him. You know?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - But, um, he never really did anything that would seriously hurt me and when he did it, it didn't really hurt me really bad.

ACB - So he just kind of like pushing and shove you, or...?

AB - Yeah. I know it's not right but I, I don't know why, you know... but he never did it for a long time and then, um, he'd do it, he'd get mad over stupid things like, oh yeah, this was the second time he did it. I was with my friend, KATHY, but she comes here for the summer and she's in Texas for the winter.

ACB - Yup.

AB - But I was with her. I think my mom had KASSIDY. Yeah, my mom had KASSIDY. And, um, this is, probably like two (2) months into the relationship.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And I wanted to do something with her. We wanted to hang out or something. And, um, I was at her house and, we, I didn't see CHAD that much yet, you know.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - So we missed each other alot and he was like, I was like, 'I think I want to...', I called him and said, 'I think I'm going to go out with KATHY tonight.' And he's like, 'Well, you don't want to see me?' And I had left my birth control at his house and, you know, you can't stop taking it or you'll get your period for the rest of the month.

ACB - Yup.

AB - So, I said, 'Well, I'll stop by and get my birth control.' So, I went there with him, oh, he asked me if I wanted to go on a boat with him and KYLE. And I said, 'I don't know. Maybe. I'll talk it over with KATHY.' So I went there and got found birth control and he came over and, um, well, I had KATHY with me too and her sister.

ACB - Yeah.

~~I asked her~~ She was there
AB - And, um, he took me down to the basement and well, he went down into the basement. He needed laundry, and I just went down there and I was like, 'Why are you doing laundry while I'm here?' You know? And then he just got all mad and he's like, 'I

thought you were going to stay here with me and go on the boat and blah, blah, blah.' And then he, I was like, I raised my voice. He hated it when I raised my voice or something. And he, ah, got really mad and like head-butted me, and it didn't leave a mark or anything but it hurt a little bit. You know? *A Accident.*

ACB - Yup.

AB - And then he like, I can't remember if he got grabbed my throat or not. I don't know. Maybe he did. Maybe he didn't. But I just remember that fight.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - Like that was the first time it ever happened. He said sorry after.

ACB - Um, on, I guess it would have been a Wednesday, the day before KASSIDY died, Wednesday would have been like your third day at work? Is that right?

AB - Um hum. Probably. Yeah.

ACB - Um, do you remember what went on that day, like what time you got up Wednesday?

AB - Oh, I do remember that day. I was looking for a day care center. I was like on the phone all day.

ACB - Um hum.

AB - And, she was fine. She was watching t.v. She was like, actually was watched t.v. together. *- N. True 4 Days or so prior she was all fine*

ACB - Yup.

AB - She was pointing at everything. Telling me what it was.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And I was pointing at everything, like we would do that all day long because I wanted her to learn. You know?

ACB - Yup.

AB - And then I got, I dropped her off at JEFF's house. I'm trying to think if there was anything I'm forgetting. Yeah, I was going to go into work a little bit early because CHAD wanted me to get as many hours as I could get to, I wanted to get overtime.

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ACB - Yeah.

AB - It was my first job in awhile too so I wanted to learn more about it so I'd be better, but, ah...

ACB - So what time do you think you dropped her off?

AB - And I wanted to, ah, like three o'clock (3:00) I think. Three (3:00), three-thirty (3:30). Because I remember going to my sister's work and I was going to look for a dress because I was going, I was supposed to go to dinner this weekend with CHAD.

ACB - Yup.

AB - Um, like dinner for work or something, overnight dinner in Freeport.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - So I was looking for a dress. I couldn't find one and then I went to work at five (5:00).

ACB - Um, so you dropped KASSIDY off with JEFF?

AB - Um hum.

ACB - And she was doing fine?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Ah, like she had, when she had fallen out of the truck at JEFF's and was a little sick for a couple of days, she seemed...

AB - After that she seemed fine.

ACB - She seemed fine?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - She would, didn't have that kind of spacey look or look tired or anything like that? Doing good? Eating well?

AB - No. Um hum.

ACB - Okay. So you work until what time do you think?

AB - Um, oh yeah, that night I worked until late. I worked until eleven-thirty (11:30) that

night. I got home around twelve (12:00), but I remember on my break I went over to Perfumania where my sister works, like I'd always go there on my breaks.

ACB - Um hum.

AB - And I called, um, actually first my sister told me that JEFF said that he never wanted to babysit again.

ACB - He didn't want to babysit again?

AB - He was, a, no. He said, 'You've got to look for a day care soon.' And I was like, 'I've been.' You know? And then, um, like they, they never told me, they told me she would, um, she acted funny. JEFF would. My sister wouldn't. But they would make fun of her, so I wasn't, I didn't know if they were serious or not. You know? I didn't think they were. They would call her retarded just joking around and stuff.

ACB - What kind of things did they complain that she was doing?

AB - JEFF just said she's really slow and like she acts stupid. And I would just get mad at him and punch him. You know? Like, I just thought it was like joking around.

ACB - Yup.

AB - She wouldn't act like that to me. I think about it now, maybe she seemed uncomfortable or something. You know?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - Because I'm like really the only one that she really, well she knew them, but not that well.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And JEN wasn't always there. She was always at work.

ACB - So, ah, you went over and talked to your sister on your break?

AB - Uh hum. Yup.

ACB - And she had mentioned that JEFF was getting tired or watching the baby, wanted to know how the day care hunt was going?

AB - Yeah. And then I called CHAD, and he was on the other line with JEFF.

ACB - Yup.

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AB - And, um, he told me the same thing. He was like, 'Um, I'm not sure if I want to watch her anymore.' But, again, I thought it was joking around. You know? And, um, he told me about the ball and the bat, like the wiffle ball. They were playing in the bedroom and she got hit, and then he told me that she fell. *- I also told her about the eye s & I was a little bit that Jeff could not watch her anymore.*

ACB - Okay. This is, um, I want to do the day before. Like Wednesday.

AB - Oh, this isn't the same day?

ACB - We switched over. I don't think so. Is it not, not the day before.

AB - Wouldn't that be that night, wouldn't it?

ACB - Oh, you're right. Okay. I'm confused.

AB - You want Tuesday?

ACB - No. That's fine. We'll keep going with this. So, ah, so while you're on the phone with CHAD and CHAD had been talking to JEFF, what does he tell you, like what's all the things he told you?

AB - He told me, um, he wasn't sure if he wanted to watch her anymore, um.

ACB - CHAD wasn't sure if he wanted to watch her anymore? Okay.

AB - That, about the ball thing. He's like, 'It seems like every time I watch her, something happens and she gets a bruise or something.' *It was really to trouble the incident.*

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And he said, and, I was holding her, no, I went to get KYLE from the car seat in case, he always yells, 'Get me first. Get me first'.

ACB - Yup.

AB - I always got KASSIDY first anyway.. You know what I mean?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - But, and then I'd just let him out because he can walk, and I'd always just pick her up because she would walk, she'd just walk slower. And he said he, well he got out KASSIDY and set her down, stood her up, and went to get KYLE and when he came

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back she was like face first on the ground like she had fallen without her hands in front of her. He thought that weird.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And...

ACB - I mean, she wasn't, he didn't say she was crying or anything like that?

AB - No. He said she was acting weird. And like, I talked to him after and I was like, 'Why didn't you bring her to the hospital? Why didn't you bring her?' I was like yelling at him. You know? And he was like, 'I don't know. I don't know.'

ACB - So that night, um, that night did you ask him about the hospital?

AB - No.

ACB - Or no because it seemed, he seemed, everything was fine?

AB - It seemed like, he seemed like, he was joking around and like being a jerk. Calling her like stupid. You know what I mean?

ACB - Um hum.

AB - And that night I came home and I like wanted, wanted to see her face. I went upstairs and gave her a kiss on the cheek and touched her hair and looked at her face, and I just saw the red mark right here and the one where she fell off the couch, you know...

ACB - Yeah.

AB - ... it was like little, little right way over here and that's all I saw. And ...

ACB - Yeah, and did you talk with JEFF before, with CHAD before he went to bed?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - So what did you guys talk about?

AB - Nothing, about her.

ACB - Okay.

AB - Nothing about that. Um...

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ACB - Was he upset about anything or ?

AB - He didn't seem upset. Well, we actually got into a little argument. I was like wow I'm really tired I haven't worked in a long time.

ACB - Yup.

AB - Um, because I was going from not working at all to working 8 or 9 hours, 12 hours, you know.

ACB - Yup.

AB - Tired, but nothing that I couldn't handle. And I was just like I need a back massage, you know. I don't know just little stuff.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And, um, we got in a fight because I was like, um, I was like I work hard blah, blah, blah, and I'm like yeah, but you don't have a backbreaking job. I have to go up the ladder all day, you know.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And he got mad over that. Um, he didn't like grab me or anything, but we just got in a little argument over it. He got really mad about it.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And then I went to bed, but he, like I just went to bed and then he came upstairs and we were just kind of fighting, and then he was on the computer all night, he just likes you know.

ACB - Yeah. Did KASSIDY wake up at all during the night?

AB - Um, yeah, she woke up in the morning.

ACB - Do you know about what time?

AB - Um, it was early I think, really early. Yeah, it was early because she had woken me up kind of like for work. Like perfect timing. And, and then, she seemed fine, she acted normal, she was really tired like.

ACB - Yeah. Did you notice any different bruising or anything?

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AB - No, I didn't notice anything, but, then again, like um...you see how thick my glasses are. I didn't have my glasses on. I wear contacts. I don't even wear these. They're from like four years ago.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - But, that's why and, then, um, she had a really bad diaper. Changed her diaper in the morning and I got her dressed. Got her ready to leave.

ACB - How was she feeling? How was she acting?

AB - She was acting normal like. I gave her cereal. Well, actually, CHAD gave her cereal in a bag. I asked him to.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And I got KYLE ready.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - I got KYLE ready. I was getting really mad like because like I'm not used to like having to go to work and get everybody ready, you know?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - So I was kinda getting mad at CHAD because he expects me to get his kid ready, iron his clothes and get him ready for work so I was like, can you get, I picked out KYLE's clothes and I was just like can you get him dressed? Can you feed him? Because I was running late.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And, um, I getting really mad, but ...

ACB - Frustrated ...

AB - Frustrated, yeah, because I was late. And it was like my third day at work, fourth I don't know.

ACB - Yup.

AB - But then I dropped KYLE off and dropped KASSIDY off at JEFF's and ...

ACB - We had talked the other day about you noticing she seemed tired, because ...

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AB - Yes, she seemed tired. Right.

ACB - Was her head bobbing? Was that?

AB - I don't know like she just seemed like I don't know if her head was bobbing. She just seemed maybe a little spacey, but just like tired. I don't know. Nothing that really concerned me, you know?

ACB - Yeah, when you were in a rush trying to do all this stuff

AB - Yeah, I didn't note, maybe I didn't notice it.

ACB - Yeah. What, where was she when you were getting, dealing with CHAD and KYLE's? Was she just sitting down someplace? Or just?

AB - Yeah, she was sitting on the couch watching tv.

ACB - Hum, okay. You dropped off KYLE first at daycare, what time do you think you got to JEFF's?

AB - Um, I was late for work. I don't even think I realized I was late, but I think I walked in to work at like 8:23. I just you can see the clock when you punch in.

ACB - Yup.

AB - But, probably like a couple minutes before that. Probably 8:15.

ACB - And you brought her in because they JEN and JEFF were still sleeping?

AB - I sat her on the bed and I said "Her face looks like shit didn't it." (Inaudible) I didn't really notice anything else.

ACB - Yeah. So you pointed that out to them?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - The face? Did it look like she'd gotten hit with a ball in the face?

AB - Yeah, that's exactly what it looked like. It looked like a circular thing, you know?

ACB - Yeah. You get to work. Does anything happen bef... I guess what's the next big thing that happens?

AB - Um, I get to work. I go on break. Eat some soup. Come back, um, I got a phone call from my sister that's urgent and, um, my sister's like something really bad because JEFF didn't tell her anything. She's like, um, I don't exactly know what happened to KASSIDY, but like her eyes went back or something and I was like oh, my god, you know that happened a long time ago and I didn't do anything, but I thought she was just tired.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - I automatically started crying and I was like scared and then I went into the back to get my stuff and tell them that I was leaving, the managers, and they asked if I needed any help they and I called my sister because I didn't know what hospital they went to and she said Portsmouth, I think. So Portsmouth Hospital. And I was there, you know, they don't know anything and I'm so calling JEFF and I'm calling the house I'm like freaking out, you know?

ACB - Yup.

AB - And then the police guy comes on the phone and he's like, um, go to Kittery Police, I still didn't think, I don't know why. I was just like I didn't think anything of that. You know?

ACB - Yup.

AB - I don't know why. I was like is she okay, okay. They wouldn't tell me anything, but I would never think that she would die. You know what I mean?

ACB - Yup.

AB - I mean that didn't even cross my mind, but I was just praying anyway cause I believe in God and I just prayed that she'd be okay and then I got there. I just stood there and then all the sudden, I started getting really scared.

ACB - Yup.

AB - I was like, "What am I doing here?" and I almost left. I was like, you know?

ACB - Yup.

AB - and I asked the lady again, "Where are they? Where are they?"

ACB - Yup.

AB - And finally they pull up and they come in and I was like Where's KASSIDY? Where's KASSIDY? I'm like, "Where is she?" She was by herself, you know. And then they

took me in a room and they told me and I just started screaming.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And I was like, I couldn't believe it. I was like are you sure you have the right name?

ACB - Yeah. So after we end up talking that night, um, and in the parking lot when you were leaving CHAD talks to you. Let's go over what happens after you leave. Did CHAD and you talk outside? What does he ... Did you ask him anything and what does he have to say?

AB - He says, um, I didn't kill her, I didn't kill her. He's like you know I didn't kill her, AMANDA. I'm like yeah, I just talked to you and I was just I don't know, I don't know what I was feeling, you know?

ACB - Yup.

AB - I was like, I don't know, I don't know, and, for some reason, I don't know why like I ever want to see him. Like I still do.

ACB - Um, hum.

AB - I still like want to talk to him for some reason, I don't know why. Maybe I feel like he's the only one that, you know, ever really like cared, but I don't know. Because I don't know if he did that, you know what I mean? I don't know what happened.

ACB - You end up going for the night with JEN and JEFF to the hotel?

AB - Yeah, and I talked to him almost the whole night.

ACB - Yeah. What were you guys talking about? What did he say?

AB - I was trying to make sense of it all. I was like ...

ACB - Um, hum.

AB - I was trying to get him to admit what he did to her. He would like hurt her and stuff and he was like yeah, Amanda, but I could never really, ... he felt really bad. He was saying, "I'm sorry, sorry." You know I never really did anything horrible that would really traumatize her, you know, and like I don't think he knew anything, I don't know.

ACB - Can you, I mean, so other than like grabbing her face and pushing her in a corner and choking her, um, he didn't say anything about hitting her in the head or pushing her so she banged her head?

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AB - And like, no. No, he never did. And like, um, this happens to me all the time I can't remember what I was going to say.

ACB - That's all right.

AB - I just feel, I think it was kind of important, too.

ACB - We were talking about the phone call during the night and all the things you guys talked about.

AB - Oh, yeah, I kept asking him like what happened that night when I was at work? What happened? What happened? What happened? You know? He just kept, and oh, he told me different something different. He told me that, um, I was like why didn't you have a car seat at home, you know how a car seat works. That's not like him.

ACB - Yup.

AB - And he told me that, um, her tongue was out of her mouth and like her eyes were glazed over and and I was like, "Why didn't you do anything about that?" That's like a big thing, you know?

ACB - Yup.

AB - He was like I don't know how. I don't know why I didn't and she was fine after.

ACB - So when was that that she did that, he said?

AB - He said it was in the car after he picked up JEFF and, then, he called JEFF after and was like, "What did you do to her? What did you do to her?" That's what he's telling me now. So I was like yelling at him, you know. I just don't understand why he didn't take her to the hospital.

ACB - Did he say when you asked him that, Amanda? What did he say about the hospital?

AB - He said, "I don't know why! I don't know!" And I even asked him today on the phone. I was like if that was KYLE would you have brought him to the hospital? And he's like, "I don't know. Oh."

ACB - No, I think so.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - What did he want from you when he was talking to you? Did he, was he interested in

Bartney her into thinking I only care about my kid. You know how that would set a major off

what we had talked about?

AB - No. In the beginning he was and, now, everybody's saying don't talk about anything, you know, and I'm trying to be smart about it. I'm trying not to say anything. Even today talking about it, we shouldn't have. You know, but like his friends and stuff, when I went there, I got my kitty because I have a kitty. I got him and his, he's got a best friend, BRUCE, and I have a friend, MICHELLE, her husband's named BRUCE. I just talked to her today. But they were like don't talk about anything.

ACB - So what else did you guys talk about that first night on the phone?

AB - I just couldn't believe it. That it happened, you know?

ACB - Does he want you to come back to his house ...

AB - No.

ACB - ... or does he end up coming to pick you up? How does that work?

AB - Yeah, he and his sister came and picked me up and we were just going to talk.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - But then, for some reason, I just like want him right now. You know what I mean? Just like a comfort thing for me.

ACB - Yeah. Do you guys end up getting to talk privately or anything?

AB - No.

ACB - With CHAD? No?

AB - No. Everybody was around and stuff. And he was looking for a lawyer and then I was just like I should leave.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - I should go see my mom.

ACB - Did he say why he was looking for a lawyer?

AB - His friends keep telling him to.

ACB - Does that make sense to you?

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AB - I don't know.

ACB - That he doesn't want to talk to us and wants a lawyer?

AB - Why? Is that why?

ACB - I believe that the other day he left and didn't want to talk to them any more.

AB - Oh, really?

ACB - Yeah. Is that not what he told you?

AB - No one tells like anything, other than, I mean like his ex-wife, she's a little weird. Like she told my mom that she called social security, social services on CHAD and now she's telling people that she told them on me. You know what I mean?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - Like I don't get that. My mom's like asking me questions like was TRISTEN ever alone with KASSIDY and all this. It's all con..., You know people keep asking all these weird things and I just want to be left alone. You know what I mean?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And that part of a family. Like CHAD's family, they make me feel better for some reason. Leave me alone. You know what I mean? I don't know why. Like my family I don't talk to my grandparents. I don't talk to my aunts and uncles or anybody.

ACB - Um, hum.

AB - I haven't in years.

ACB - What, um, to, um, Friday night, where do you end up staying Friday night?

AB - At my mom's, I think.

ACB - At your mom's? I had tried ...

AB - Yeah. I had slept at my mom's house. I went to a hotel with JEFF and JEN the first night.

ACB - I had tried calling. It was probably about 4 o'clock and I tried to call you because I thought, I knew that you were with CHAD earlier that day so I called CHAD's car phone

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and left a message that I was trying to reach you.

AB - Yeah, they told me that.

ACB - Did you ask BRUCE AUBE to call the police department?

AB - No.

ACB - Because right after I left that message, BRUCE AUBE called and wanted to know if I had any information on the autopsy and I told him I was only going to talk to you about it.

AB - No.

ACB - Do you think that CHAD asked him ... I just don't understand why BRUCE AUBE would call me about KASSIDY's medical exam.

AB - Probably. Probably, because I wasn't even with CHAD, I was with NICOLE most of the day at a different house. They were telling him not to see me. Like BRUCE ... so CHAD probably did tell BRUCE that.

ACB - One, now Sgt. Stewart explained to you that pending all of these tests which need to be done., um, the medical examiner, she has bruises, a lot of bruises, bruises like on her head and different places and, then, what had killed her is called a subdural hematoma. Basically, it's a bruised brain. Like you been hit on the head and your brain shakes back and forth. So, like shaken baby. Do you know what that ...

AB - Yeah.

ACB - So, you get hit in the head hard enough so that your brain bangs against one side of your skull and then against the other side of your skull and it starts to swell and the pressure builds up and that causes all kinds of problems and, eventually, will kill you. Ah, cause your brain can't function.

AB - Do you think it was when she fell out of the truck?

ACB - That's going to have been too long, I think. It's what, I'm not a doctor, but on child abuse cases that I've worked on, um, one of the child abuse doctors has always taught me that you can't really get that kind of a head injury unless you fall from higher than eight feet.

She fell out of the truck, so she had to fall a pretty high

AB - Yeah.

ACB - So, I mean, even falling from a truck, you're not, cause babies are made to fall. They're ... that's why their heads are so soft is so that they don't have these kinds of head injuries.

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AB - Oh.

ACB - It's easier for me to get a head injury than it is for a little tyke.

AB - But like that that's the first night I saw her do that with her eyes and stuff.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - But I just thought she was tired.

ACB - Yeah. I mean she may have had a a you know concussion or something like that. Um, but I really think that she was hit on the head sometime the night before and I think that that's why she was kind of sleepy looking, groggy ...

AB - Um, hum.

ACB - ... in the morning.

AB - Do you think CHAD might have done that to her?

ACB - I do. I think that he did.

AB - (Inaudible) Do you think like when she fell ...

ACB - No, and I asked Dr. Greenwald, you know, she was standing up and, then, when he came around the truck, she was laying on the ground. And she said no, it wouldn't, it would have to be something with a lot of force ...

AB - Um.

ACB - ... and with just her body weight going, you know, what is she like 2 feet tall or, forward is not. It's gotta be harder than that. Um, I mean, getting hit in the head, getting thrown across the room. Has he ever shaken her when he was mad at her? Or anything like that?

AB - I've never seen him shake her. Like shake her like this? I've never seen him shake her.

ACB - Yeah. Because that causes that this? When you do it really hard and their head is snapping back and forth. That causes that kind of thing.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - And the other thing is, I mean to really, I mean, if I was standing here holding the baby and launch her across the room into the wall, I mean, that's the kind of thing.

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AB - I've never seen him do that either.

ACB - Um,

AB - He would really play with her and he would play really rough with her, grab her by the legs and swing her around by her arms and stuff.

ACB - But he wouldn't let go of her?

AB - No.

ACB - Um ...

AB - I'm trying to think if there's anything else.

ACB - Did he ever get mad at her in the car, I mean, would he have done, backhand her in the car or something like that?

AB - No, she is really, she wouldn't just start crying out of the blue.

ACB - Um.

AB - Like whenever I wasn't around with him with her. He was actually really, really good.

ACB - Hum.

AB - Like I was, like, come over, come back after he had her a while she'd be with him, hugging him. You know what I mean?

ACB - Um.

AB - Like little stuff. So I never thought anything.

ACB - I just don't see how you get a head injury like that without something, some sort of traumatic incident.

AB - Um, hum.

ACB - Um, I mean falling down a flight of stairs onto like a basement floor. You know something hard like that or getting kicked in the head, I mean, that kind of thing is, in my experience and we don't have all the tests back, but in my experience, those are the kind of injuries that cause babies to die from these things. Um, it's pretty, I mean, all babies, I mean, I remember falling off the top bunk of the bunk beds and hitting my head so it's, I

mean, they're kind of made for the normal little things just to get themselves into to get those bumps and bruises and whatnot, but, um, not to the point where they need to be hospitalized.

AB - Um, hum.

ACB - So, did, in talking to him, I mean, has he maintained that he didn't do anything to her?

AB - Oh, yeah. ... he kept, he kept saying I didn't do anything to hurt her. You've got to believe me!

ACB - And do you believe him?

AB - Like when he said that I believed him, but I don't know.

ACB - I mean, somebody is, somebody had to have done something to her. Or seen something like fall off the porch roof. I mean, something big happened to her. I talked to the doctor, Dr. Greenwald, about being ... getting hit in the face with a baseball isn't going to do it. Um, it's got to be something, see, what's going to happen then is it's going to, you're going to be here and you're going to go back and so it's, you know, a you land on your fanny or something like that, but it's not ...

AB - But I also. but I also

ACB - ... enough force.

AB - I also couldn't see him losing his temper when I'm not there, you know what I mean? Like when I was at work. She was just always so good with him when I'm not there.

ACB - Or do you think he just tells you she's so good?

AB - Well, like NICOLE ... She would know, because he was over, she was over there that Sunday. I, when I was at my mom's house with my sister and he was like really, really good with her. Like, even BOB said that it seemed like he was her dad. Like she told me that the other day.

ACB - Um, hum.

AB - Also, I don't think that, he was just so good with her when I was gone. Well, she would use, say things like, "Where's CHAD? Where's CHAD?" When CHAD was at work. Like that. Like little things she would say, "Where's KYLE?" She called him "KIKLE".

ACB - Um, another thing that we need to go over, um, CHAD had brought up when we were talking to him before he said that he wanted to leave and didn't want to talk to us

anymore, is, we had asked him, he was denying that he had grabbed her face.

AB - Oh, he did?

ACB - That sort of thing. And he said, but then I think he finally did, he denied ever holding her face under water. Remember we talked about him putting her face under the faucet. He said that he just splashed water on her. Um, and then he started saying that you had, that he had thrown her in corners, I think, but that you did it, too.

AB - No, I never threw her in a corner. Ever. I can't believe he would say that.

ACB - Okay, so he's just passing the buck.

AB - I might of said go to the corner if she was crying and we were in her room, hole her and put her there.

ACB - But you never grabbed her arm and threw her in the corner?

AB - Oh, never. I would never do that.

ACB - And you never, did you ever grab her face?

AB - Never. Never. I never lost my temper with her. I was like, I don't lose my temper, you know? I'm just not that kind of person.

ACB - So, when you said he hadn't held her face under the faucet, that is just a lie.

AB - He hadn't, he said he hadn't.

ACB - He said he didn't. No. He said that he may have once splashed some water on her face because she was hysterical.

AB - Well, I didn't see it. She was totally screaming at the top of her lungs and I was in the other room and I was like what are you doing after he did it and she had to stop crying and he said, "I put water on her face to get her to stop crying."

ACB - But, she's been afraid of faucets ever since?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - So, it makes you think that he did a little more than just splash some water in her face?

AB - Yeah, but she like, um, she wasn't afraid of water at all. She loved bubble baths. She'd give me bubbles just to get me to give her a bubble bath.

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ACB - Okay.

AB - But I tell her, she was ~~act~~ing so normal in the bath tub. She was splashing away, you know?

ACB - So, did he give her a bath while you were at work?

AB - Yes. Like KYLE and her together.

ACB - And she was fine then?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Did he say what time he put her to bed?

AB - No. I'm guessing like 8:30 because that's what time I'd always put to bed her and KYLE.

ACB - Did he check on her later on that night when you came in?

AB - I don't know. He might have. I don't remember. He might of.

ACB - You're not sure?

AB - I know I did.

ACB - Before him?

AB - When I got there.

ACB - When you got there, when you first got home from work?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - What, when you talked to CHAD today. I mean, what went on with that?

AB - He was (Inaudible)

ACB - One, certainly there are people that had access to KASSIDY, and we do need some more test results done, but I have serious concerns about CHAD. Do you think that it's reasonable for us to ask him to take a Polygraph test?

AB - What's that mean?

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ACB - It's like a lie detector test to see if he did anything to her when you were at work.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - I mean, is that, I mean to me it makes sense that maybe you could resolve whether or not you should trust him or not trust him.

AB - Yeah, I think it's a good idea.

ACB - Okay, so you would support us asking him that?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Um, and I think maybe it might be good for us to do the same thing with JEFF.

AB - I would feel better about it.

ACB - All right, ask them both to do it.

AB - Um, hum.

ACB - Maybe that will help us get to the bottom of it too. I personally wouldn't even if he didn't do anything to her, to KASSIDY, I don't think it's a very good place for you to be. I know that it's, right now, it just feels like the safest place to be.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - But even, I mean, he was calling her, you told me, the other day, he would yell at her and call her stupid, call her a bitch, grab her face.

AB - Yeah. I don't want to go see him or anything. I do, but, you know, I'm not going to, but, um ...

ACB - I mean she, she was half you and I mean do that, I mean, she looks like you, she acts like you, and doing that to her, I mean, really. He's gonna, I mean, it's only a matter of time before he starts doing more stuff to you. I really think that. Um, and why he would take care of, what makes his children any more valuable than your child?

AB - Um, hum.

ACB - When he would be, you know, treat KYLE different than KASSIDY. I mean, those are all indicators of ...

AB - Yeah, I ...

ACB - ... you know, somebody that ...

AB - ... I don't think he like, um, treated KYLE differently, but sometime he would even, like what do you mean treat him differently?

ACB - I mean he never grabbed his face or anything like that, right?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Or called him stupid?

AB - Yeah, that's true, but he wouldn't throw like fits and stuff ...

ACB - That's why, that's why they call the terrible two's.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Because that's what they do. I just think that, I mean, all of us listening to it, I mean, CHAD just seems like the type of person that what CHAD wants is really important and that's what matters and everybody else is just supposed to go along with it.

AB - Ah, huh. Yeah.

ACB - And, you know, it's fine and dandy until you want to, you know, go do something with your friends or, you know, just get some help and it's not convenient, then everybody's, you know, the world's out to get him and, um ...

AB - Um, hum.

ACB - And there's a lot of people like that and it's just a pain in the butt to deal with them. I mean, it's, I honestly can tell you that trying to live with a person like that is harder than just taking care of yourself.

AB - Yeah, it is hard.

ACB - It really is, cause you're taking, what ends up happening is sure he's gonna pay, he's paying the light bill and that sort of stuff, but you're still doing everything else and you're not only taking yourself, but now you're taking care of him and his kid when his kid's there. You know, ironing his clothes and that sort of stuff. I mean, that's not a partnership.

AB - No, not it's not.

ACB - You know, I mean, I don't think you went there intending to be instantly, you know, Alice and Carol all rolled into one.

AB - No, I didn't.

ACB - So I think, I think right now you just need your own space.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - You know, I'm not going to tell you not to talk to him and that sort of stuff. Um, I wish...

AB - I wish like I really wish I couldn't like, I wish that I wouldn't want to talk to him, you know what I mean?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - I wish that I couldn't call him, but I don't know (Inaudible)... but I have a friend, MICHELLE, and they were going to come get me last night to stay with them.

ACB - They have some space?

AB - Yeah, and they would leave me alone and let me think. told them I'd call them after this and ask them what I should do. And they said they'll come pick me up.

ACB - Well, test them out. When you call them and they ask you what went on, tell them ...

AB - What should I say?

ACB - Tell them, you know, that you don't want to discuss it with them.

AB - What do you, like, um, we won't discuss it anymore anyway. We've already had that conversation. We'll, he said we shouldn't discuss it. I always say (Inaudible). He just keeps saying, "Sorry about grabbing her face and all that." He keeps saying he never did anything that night.

ACB - Well, what I keep thinking is, you know, who he should be apologizing to is KASSIDY.

AB - Yeah, (Inaudible), but then when I talk to you, I feel better about the whole, not wanting to talk to him and stuff.

ACB - Yeah, I mean, I know what's going on, I mean, it's the same thing with your mother and stepfather. You know, even if you know something bad about him, you know, how much of their life should, can she, I mean, different people can handle different things ...

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AB - Yeah.

ACB - ... and it might not be that she doesn't want to turn her life upside down and support you, but is she emotionally able to do it?

AB - Yeah,

ACB - Sort of thing.

AB - Yeah, and I understand that with her, but then CHAD would just call my parents idiots.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - He didn't even want me to go see them anymore. You know, he's just like my mom's terrible for not leaving him for that.

ACB - (Inaudible)

AB - I can't count on my stepdad. Like last night, he was like you're not taking any more phone calls. You're not talking to anybody.

ACB - Um, hum.

AB - And everybody's calling and, like, you know, people are calling me who haven't called me in forever, saying things. It was kind of helping me out a little bit, you know?

ACB - Yeah, some support.

AB - Yeah, I don't feel the support like my mom is it, you know, my little brothers, we're not that close. It's weird. And JEFF, you know what I mean, I don't think he would hurt her, but he did bruise her butt once. I yelled at him for it, you know, and I didn't let anything happen again, but ...

ACB - I think he did talk to her about that and ...

AB - And, um, her falling out of the truck. I can't help thinking about that, you know, and if she was really messed up. Why didn't he bring her to the doctor's. I don't know, it's all confusing, you know. And he keeps asking me questions and everyone keeps asking questions.

ACB - Only one thing, I mean honestly, one thing that makes me feel, and I do think that if we asked CHAD to take a Polygraph, that we should ask JEFF to take a Polygraph, too, but JEFF was really up front and told us about the spanking thing.

AB - Oh, he did.

ACB - Um, and he told us about her falling out of the truck and he was very concerned about how that might have contributed to, you know, her being sick or something like that. Someone, there's like a neighbor or something, saw her fall out of the truck, um, and, I mean, he's just been completely up front and, so ...

AB - I didn't know that.

ACB - ... and so upset about this and, I mean, telling us every little detail that he can think of, even if it's stuff that he felt that he did wrong, like the time that he spanked her and everything. And, then, I mean, CHAD was saying that I know are lies because I talked to you. Um, I mean, every time we call JEFF and JEFF, I think, called us on Friday and wanted to know, you know, was there anything else that we need, was there any other way I can help.

AB - Oh, he did?

ACB - Yeah, and CHAD, I just don't see, he doesn't seem to want to help. I mean, I'm working for KASSIDY, basically, that's what I do. I'm just trying to find out what happened to her. And if it was a head injury from two weeks ago, that's fine, but if someone kicked her in the head, threw her across the room ...

AB - You need to know.

ACB - I think she, she deserves that.

AB - Yes, definitely. I want to know, you know?

ACB - Yup, and I think, I just don't think, I mean, I just have concerns that's he's not being honest with us, that he's not being honest with you.

AB - I'm going to try and find, what should I say to him, you know?

ACB - (Inaudible)

AB - (Inaudible) Well, I think we should talk about that in person and I was like just tell me what I told you we talked about her in the car seat today.

ACB - Yup. Did he admit that he that he didn't have it?

AB - Yeah, no, he told me that he had piles of stuff on, all over ... it was on the car seat in the back. My car seat was in my car at the time. I didn't leave it and he had KYLE's car seat

because we use both.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And, um, he said he just had piled up in the back. Piles and piles of papers so ...

ACB - And that's why he didn't put her in it?

AB - ... and I was like. It didn't make sense to me.

ACB - No, just throw them on the floor?

AB - Because he not like that, but, oh, he said he put her in the car seat when he went to pick up KYLE. Cause he picked up KASSIDY, and then he picked up KYLE after at daycare, preschool, whatever you call it.

ACB - Um, hum.

AB - ... but, um,

ACB - Yeah, um, TRAVIS ...

AB - Yeah, what about him?

ACB - Well, what do you think about TRAVIS? Would TRAVIS lie for KYLE? Cause he seems to be.

AB - Lie for KYLE? For CHAD?

ACB - Uh, for CHAD? Yeah.

AB - See ...

ACB - He denied that he had ever, because you had told me that you had confided some concerns to him about should you take her to the doctor?

AB - He lied about that?

ACB - Yeah. Never, you'd never talk to him at all about anything.

AB - Oh, my God, wow.

ACB - Yup.

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AB - See,

ACB - He doesn't know anything that goes on in that house.

AB - I didn't think he would know. Like I said he works for CHAD, I didn't know ...

ACB - Yeah, yeah, but I knew that you had just talked to him about, you know, what do you think, you were a little worried when she had fallen from the truck, should you take her a doctor or not and ...

AB - Actually, like, it was Halloween night. I remember because he had just left with TRISTEN and the boys. And maybe I was like getting my period because I was a little emotional. And I get like that ...

ACB - Right.

AB - ... but, I just started crying and I'm like KASSIDY, she did this, you know about him grabbing me and stuff ... and then I started crying when I told him about KASSIDY. I said, um, there's bruises on her, on her cheek and stuff. You know ... I told him all about KASSIDY and he knew, he seemed to know about it, you know?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And he just was like, AMANDA, you don't have to put up with that. You don't have to put up with that, I'm always there for you. I'm always there for you.

ACB - Obviously, not. Cause he ...

AB - I know.

ACB - He's saying nothing, he knows nothing.

AB - I can't believe that. He's a wicked like burnout, smokes weekends, ... stuff, you know? But I think, I thought he would say something that's why I brought it up.

ACB - Yup. I mean; is I don't know, I guess, I mean I wouldn't consider him to be a friend ...

AB - A friend? Oh, I don't anymore.

ACB - I mean I have friends that, I mean, if they shot someone, they know that I would say, I would tell, I would have to tell, but I would still, you know, support them. They would have to, you know, they would have to go through what they have to go through.

AB - Yup. And you know my friend, NICOLE and JESSICA, um, BRUCE AUBE's

girlfriend, she's a really good, good person and she's very nice to me. Um, I wanted to talk to her and stuff, but, um, even her, she'll say, "Well, I've known CHAD forever and I know CHAD would never do this." Like, they all said that to me, but my friend, MICHELLE, she knows CHAD, but she's, I talked to her today and she's just like AMANDA we'll come get you right now. She's like I don't think you should of talked to CHAD or anybody and she's friends with CHAD, too, and she's like you know, being more smart about it.

ACB - I mean, would they believe the things that you know are true, though? I mean, would they believe that he would grab her face like that and then the choking?

AB - They've seen the way he was with me. She knew that he hurt me. I told her a long time ago. And she knows that ...

ACB - I mean somebody that can lose their temper. My concern is someone that can lose their temper, he's already demonstrated that he can lose control and then he feels bad about it later, which means that he's not a complete, you know, a completely bad person he's got some sense of right and wrong.

AB - Yeah, what she told me today was, um, and I haven't even known this girl for that long. Know her and I've always felt close to her not even knowing her for that long, but she was ...

ACB - Yup.

AB - ... like, um, I love CHAD to death, but I know that he can lose his temper. And she's even said that and she's like you need to find out who did this, AMANDA, even if it was CHAD. Someone has to pay for this. So she was like, she told me to come to her house, she'd come and get me and stuff, you know. I think I'd feel much better with her, you know what I mean?

ACB - Yup.

AB - So I told her I'd call her after this.

ACB - Um. I mean somebody's responsible, the best, the, not having to accept responsibility for it doesn't really help anybody. Even if it was you. Even if, you know, you told me I lost it and I kind of pushed her and she was standing by the stairs and she ended up falling in that direction and ended up fell down the stairs.

AB - Um, hum.

ACB - That, I mean, people can understand how accidents like that happen and nobody's, you know, the tragedy will have still happened, but it doesn't do you any good to go through

life lying to yourself and lying to everybody else. I mean, part of being a good person and being able to accept responsibility and grieve and make amends the best that you can and move on.

AB - Yeah, sure.

ACB - I mean it's all part of it.

AB - Um, hum.

ACB - I mean you can't, I think that taking responsibility for the mistakes that you make, even the big ones that really, really suck

AB - Yeah. Yeah.

ACB - is important. And that's what separates, you know, the good people from the people that just don't care about anybody, but themselves and, I mean, that's why I would encourage you, if CHAD talks to you and tells you, you know, oh, they want me to take a lie detector test sort of thing. I mean, tell him, you know, what if you've got nothing to hide, take it.

AB - Yeah, yeah.

ACB - I mean because it's only going to help. It's going to help KASSIDY, it's going to help you, you know, know ...

AB - Oh, it's definitely going to help me.

ACB - ... Where are your friends and ...

AB - Yeah.

ACB - and where are your enemies?

AB - Um, hum.

ACB - Is there anything else you can think of that we should talk about?

AB - I'm trying to think.

ACB - Is there anything else that's been said about, you know, the night or two before KASSIDY died? You know, the two days before that makes you have concerns?

AB - I don't think so.

ACB - All right. So he hasn't admitted he's, other than talking about the only new thing he's brought up to you is that while he was driving in the car, her tongue started hanging out and her eyes were rolling back? He couldn't explain why he didn't take her to the hospital?

AB - Yeah. He just said, I don't know why. I don't know why.

ACB - Did you ask him why he didn't call you? Why he called JEFF instead of you to find out what to do?

AB - Yeah, I did. He's like, she was acting fine after and, um, ...

ACB - Because he doesn't really even know JEFF that well, does he?

AB - Um, they're not best friends, but he's known him longer than I do, you know. I don't know. They both talk alot. I don't know. I don't know what to think. They make fun her and stuff. It really pissed me off.

ACB - What about, um, when I was at your sister's house, when they were doing the search to find out if there was anything that we should keep for evidence for the Medical Examiner where was the thing that sticks up from the floor ...

AB - I don't know.

ACB - ... that you thought that maybe, I couldn't find anything.

AB - You couldn't find anything?

ACB - I didn't. Does she, did she wear, um, diapers with safety pins or your regular, like, Huggies with elastic.

AB - No, regular Huggies with elastic.

ACB - When I talked with Dr. Greenwald, she hadn't had time, yet, to look at her feet to find out what she thought about those marks and how deep they were.

AB - Yeah. She'd come back from JEFF's house and CHAD pointed them out to me. He was like look at her feet AMANDA, and I was like Oh, my God, what is that, you know? and then I called JEFF right away and JEFF and JEN and they said, oh, it must be the nails in the, like nails or something that stick out from the bottom of the floor.

ACB - The floor?

AB - So, I sent over her slippers, you know.

ACB - Yeah. Their dog's real old isn't he?

AB - Yeah. I know, he's smells bad, too.

ACB - How old is that dog, do you know?

AB - I don't know. My sister hates him, though. My sister's like, well, she doesn't like him because he was like his ex-girlfriend's.

ACB - Oh. Wow, I could tell he was old. Old and gray and he's got like the old dog disease where the hair falls off by his legs and he scratches himself and.

AB - Yeah, we have a dog like that at my mom's house actually.

ACB - Scratches until there's ...

AB - He's got, um, he's got a disease.

ACB - His skin gets raw. I forget what it is.

AB - Yeah, I don't know what it is either.

ACB - I know they get it when they get older.

AB - They eat at themselves.

ACB - Yeah. Let me check, um, with JEFF and just make sure that there's nothing I'm forgetting to go over.

AB - Okay. Um, can I give you the phone number at MICHELLE's house?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - Okay. Then again, my mom would ...

ACB - That's all right. I'll try both.

AB - I understand that my mom might talk me into staying there.

ACB - Oh, not at home?

AB - My dad might be leaving to go truck driving so I might feel better about staying there.

It's 603-863-7374.

ACB - Okay. My suggestion would be, you know, if you want to talk on the phone with him, you know, I'm not going to tell you not to. I wouldn't see him like face-to-face, I think that, emotionally, that's just like too much right now.

AB - Yeah, hum.

ACB - I think that, I think there's some more questions should be answered.

AB - Um, hum.

ACB - And if he hasn't done anything, he should understand that and if he doesn't then something's wrong.

AB - Yeah. Definitely.

ACB - I mean, if he can't understand that your daughter just died.

AB - Wouldn't you ...

ACB - You have concerns about, even if he didn't do anything, I mean, he definitely mistreated her.

AB - Do you think I should say something to him about taking a lie detector test?

ACB - Yeah, that's fine, if you want to.

AB - Yeah. I'll say that today. I'll be like, well, if nothing happened, then can you take a lie detector test for me? And see what he says.

ACB - Yup. We do them right here. We do it all the time in all kinds of cases.

AB - Okay.

ACB - Let me check with JEFF before we head out just to make sure so I don't have to call you later night.

AB - Okay.

(Det. Angela Blodgett Exits)
(Det. Angela Blodgett Enters)

ACB - Okay. All that Jeffrey's questions he has come up with. Some of them we may have

gone over, because I haven't had a chance to talk to him. It's from the other day, he was in New Hampshire over at your house. These are pictures of KASSIDY in the hospital. People were working on her. Um, and I just want to make sure, I know this is hard, but I want to make sure that these bruises, I want to go over with them because there's some, there's more ...

AB - Oh, my God. Oh, my God.

ACB - Like, all up on the side of her head, I mean, is that something you remember?

AB - No, nothing I remembered. Oh, my God.

ACB - See like up under her chin is that anything that you remember?

AB - No.

ACB - So her forehead and everything, um

AB - Why is her arm like that?

ACB - I don't know. Those aren't things that you ...

AB - No.

ACB - ... remember?

AB - Oh, my God, I can't look at those.

ACB - Okay. When, um, CHAD's use of, um, drugs and alcohol, we had talked the other day. Do you guys drink very much?

AB - No. Barely ever. We did once on his birthday, that was like the last time.

ACB - No. Okay.

AB - And barely ever, he did cocaine once a long, long time ago. (Inaudible)

ACB - Okay. So, to your knowledge he's not using cocaine right now?

AB - Oh, no.

ACB - Okay. Where is this money going? Do you know?

AB - IRAs. He's got college fund for his kids, his, like he wanted me to learn more about

that so he put me into a money management class.

ACB - Okay. So his, when he would get angry and grab you or mistreat KASSIDY, it didn't have to do with alcohol or drugs?

AB - Oh, no.

ACB - It was that he was frustrated or he wasn't getting his own way?

AB - He had an anger control problem, I think.

ACB - Did he ever, I know that there were some domestic violence stuff going on with, is it TRISTEN, his ex-wife, and him?

AB - Um, hum.

ACB - Did he ever go to counseling for that that you know of?

AB - Um, hum.

ACB - He did. Do you know where?

AB - I have no idea.

ACB - Was he, he hasn't been going since he's met you, though?

AB - No.

ACB - Okay, but you think that was part of the deal? During his divorce?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - When, when you were talking to CHAD on the phone at the motel with your sister and JEFF, while you staying with them, you had said to CHAD, you know I know that you killed her. You know I love you anyway.

AB - Yeah, they keep saying I said that. I did not say that.

ACB - You don't remember saying that?

AB - No, I was like, they keep telling me that, that's probably one of the reasons they, like make me mad.

ACB - I mean, I don't care if you still love him or if you're confused about that right now.

Basically, what I want to know is, do you know anything more than we had talked about or would you just say that because, based on the conversations and the concerns that I have told you about that I have.

AB - No. What do you mean?

ACB - That you know, I mean, would you say that I know that you killed her just because of the situation or because you saw him here with a baseball bat or something like that?

AB - Yeah, yeah. Because of the situation and everything that happened like, like when we were talking. The questions.

ACB - All the questions that I'd given you.

AB - Yeah, but I don't think that I said that.

ACB - You don't remember?

AB - Like I think I said I don't know if he killed her. You know what I mean?

ACB - Um, when you dropped off AMANDA at your sister's,

AB - KASSIDY?

ACB - Oh, I'm sorry, AMANDA, when you dropped KASSIDY off at your sister's and you went in, and took her into the room and said, you know, "Look at her face." Was she banged up more than just the bruise here? Did she have the bruises on her forehead?

AB - I didn't see the bruises, but, then again, I didn't do her hair that day. Her hair was down. If I would have done her hair, that, usually, I put it in pigtails everyday, almost.

ACB - Are you sure? Because your sister remembers her face being more bruised up.

AB - I really ...

ACB - I mean, what was it that had you upset enough to point it out to them?

AB - Right here and right here, but she had her bangs down too so wouldn't be able to see anything, you know.

ACB - Yup. I mean, did she looked banged up?

AB - She looked exactly what he told me happened. So I didn't really think, you know, anything. But she really didn't look that bad. She didn't, you know. Like the last thing

she had a bruise on her chin.

ACB - Yeah, do you see it in the picture? Bruises on her chin?

AB - Yeah, I saw them right here so I just ...

ACB - Do you think that they weren't there when you dropped her off or is there a possibility that they were there and you didn't notice them?

AB - Maybe I didn't notice them.

ACB - So you're 100 % sure? I just hope that, at this point, you know, I just kind of want to get through this with you and, I think, that you're a big part of it, that you wouldn't hold back anything.

AB - Yeah, no, I'm not holding back anything from you. I'm seriously telling you I don't remember seeing any like, those bruises I saw in the pictures.

ACB - On her forehead? Or on her chin?

AB - No, because then I probably would have been, you know, really confused when thinking about it.

ACB - So you ...

AB - I would have thought something else happened, probably.

ACB - So you did believe the story about the baseball?

AB - Um, hum.

ACB - Were you mad about it?

AB - Yeah, I was mad about it.

ACB - Okay. When we ask if JEFF and CHAD would take a Polygraph, you wouldn't have a problem taking one either?

AB - No.

ACB - Just to clear any suspicion that you had done anything to her during the night or anything like that.

AB - No, not at all. Definitely, I'll take one.

ACB - Okay. What other reasons, and we've gone over this kind of Friday, but we haven't really talked about it today. Thursday we went over it. One of the hold ups on you getting child care was the bruises that kept coming back because CHAD kept grabbing her face. And we had also talked about that's one of the reasons why you didn't take her to a doctor.

AB - Um, hum. Um, hum.

ACB - About when she had fallen from the truck, and she had that episode where her eyes rolled back. Did you ever discuss with CHAD about taking her to the hospital or childcare and discuss, you know, the bruises have to stop so that I can take care of my kid.

AB - Yeah, I did do that actually. I was like I don't ever want to see a bruise on her and he actually I think he was all paranoid about it, too.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And JEFF was too because JEFF, she had a bruise right here pretty bad from JEFF's house, I don't remember what happened, I think it was like she fell or something, but he was all paranoid about it, too. Because when she fell out of the truck, he told me he was like oh, God, AMANDA's going to kill me. I remember him saying that.

ACB - Yeah. Was JEFF, uh, CHAD, were, I mean, did he not want you to take her to a doctor because he would see bruises? Did he ever tell you, "No, don't take her to a doctor until the bruises get better."

AB - When she was sick?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - When she was like dehydrated? No, like I didn't end up taking her up after because she's got better so fast, you know?

ACB - Yeah. So daycare, I mean, obviously, it was easier to use your sister for the time being.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - You were uncomfortable taking her looking like that to daycare?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Because you knew there would be questions?

AB - I didn't even think about that until CHAD said something about it.

ACB - So it was CHAD that brought it up?

AB - Yeah, well actually, I was, I was like I'm going to daycare tomorrow to see how it is and see if I like it and if they'll take KASSIDY and he's like you're not taking her now with bruises on her face.

ACB - How long ago was that, do you think?

AB - Um, maybe about two or three weeks ago.

ACB - Okay. Did you ever talk about it with him again? Did it come up again? Did he not want you to take her to daycare?

AB - I don't know if it came up again, it might have. I don't think he would just not want me to take her, but ...

ACB - So you did, I mean, as far as you accepting responsibility for the things that you did have some control over. I mean, you definitely that if you took her to the doctor looking like that or if you took her to daycare, someone was going to ask you questions.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - I mean, people had already been asking questions.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - And you were having to come up with stories.

AB - Yeah, my friends, my friends were asking questions.

ACB - So it was ...

AB - But I never thought it was like a big, ... you know what I mean. You know I'd go to the grocery store and I'd never think twice about it.

ACB - Yeah. But it was big enough, I mean, deep down you know what he was doing was wrong.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Cause, I mean, you knew you felt ashamed enough to lie about it, right?

AB - Yeah, but I didn't, for some reason, like, I in my head I thought she bruised easily and I just didn't think, like, it was that big of a deal. I didn't think it was that bad. I didn't think she was hurting from it, you know. To me, like, she was getting disciplined. He kept telling me she needed discipline, you know.

ACB - Looking back, do you were just making excuses?

AB - Looking back, it's like, wow, what were you doing, you know.

ACB - So you recognize that as a bad decision?

AB - Now I do. Oh, yeah, definitely. Everything.

ACB - What is the story with EMILY CONROY? Some bizarre thing that CHAD wanted pictures of your pregnant friend's breasts?

AB - Oh, yeah, he was just a pig about it. He was asking her one day, and then joking around about it you know.

ACB - So, he wanted you to take pictures of EMILY's breasts because they were enlarged because she was due.

AB - Yeah, I thought it was just a joke. You know what I mean?

ACB - Did he have you take them?

AB - No.

ACB - No?

AB - No.

ACB - When, he would, apparently, pester you to have threesomes. Is that ...

AB - Yeah, I don't know, I just thought it was a guy thing.

ACB - Yeah. Did that happen once or more than once?

AB - Yeah, it happened once.

ACB - Okay. With another girl or another guy?

AB - Another girl. I would never do it like, and I definitely did it for him, you know.

ACB - Yeah, I mean, did anything go on during that bit that made you concerned about his thinking patterns or anything like that? Or you just thought it was a guy thing?

4. [REDACTED] was a something cause like guys would talk about it, you know.

ACB - Yeah. I think a lot of them talk about it, but very few actually do it. I think it's one of those things.

AB - Wow.

ACB - Was CHAD, I mean, pretty much, he's been described as being a little bit of a pervert, always you know making comments and that sort of thing. Is that pretty accurate?

AB - Well, he's definitely a pig. ~~give him a pig. I think I know his home.~~
know what I mean?

ACB - Yeah. But he would comment on other women in front of you and that sort of thing, right?

AB - Yeah, I always hit him or something for it, but...

ACB - Yeah, um. (Inaudible)

AB - Yeah, he would. Like the other day he was looking on the Internet with his friend, BRUCE, at this web site. What is it called? "Are you hot or not" and they like have to answer whether they think the girl is cute or whatever.

ACB - DIS [REDACTED] b6
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] b7C

AB - Yeah.

ACB - I mean, did you kind of try to turn a blind eye to your better judgment when it came to him?

AB - Yeah. Yeah. Definitely.

ACB - I mean, do you think that you're going to be able to do what's right for you until we can get this settled and find out what happened to KASSIDY? Do you think you're got enough, enough in you to see you through at least that?

AB - Yeah. I think so. I think so.

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ACB - Okay. Is there anything else you think we should talk about?

AB - I don't think so.

ACB - Okay, on the bruises on KASSIDY's face, you honestly can't remember those bruises being there?

AB - I really don't remember them.

ACB - Okay, but you do think it's possible that they were there?

AB - But then again, another, another thing is like I'm wearing one contact.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - Just one because it broke, it ripped. But I have new ones in right now, but, obviously, I had to pick them up, you know.

ACB - If those bruises, those bruises there, it that pretty much par for the course? Or would that be worse than ever?

AB - What do you mean?

ACB - As far as the bruises on her.

AB - What do you mean? Like?

ACB - Would this, that be normal bruises for her face or would that be the worst time you'd ever seen her bruised up?

AB - If I saw it there? That would be the worst time right there.

ACB - Yeah. This would be the worst bruises?

AB - Oh, yeah.

ACB - The top of her head, I recall, bruises on the top of her head like around the front of the forehead on top of her head, do you know where they came from? They seemed like different, they were at different stages of healing. Some seemed old, some seemed new.

AB - I have no idea. I have no idea.

ACB - Yeah. Do you think, I mean, how can you explain to me, um, like not noticing these things? What do you think was going on in your head that you weren't seeing what

everybody else was seeing?

AB - I don't know what was going on in my head. Stupidity, maybe. You mean like the bruises on her face not being concern over it?

ACB - Yeah, I mean, the bruises that I know were on her head more than a week ago, because they're yellow, I mean, they're all healed up now.

AB - Um, hum. I remember, actually, I was holding her once and I hit her on the door by accident, you know, I was walking and trying to balance (Inaudible), but I didn't think it was hard enough to even bruise her.

ACB - I mean, was it enough for her to cry?

AB - No. Like would hurt herself and she wouldn't even cry like when I pierced her ears, she didn't even cry. She ripped them out. I, I wasn't there when she ripped them out. I think I went to Martha's Vineyard. My mom had her.

ACB - How long ago was that?

AB - A while ago, a long time ago.

ACB - Yeah

AB - I think my mom took them out because she hated the fact I had them done.

ACB - Yeah.

AB - And my mom would cut her hair and stuff.

ACB - Yeah. I mean do you think that you just chose not to deal with it?

AB - With the bruises?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - I just never thought they were that bad. I never thought, like, ...

ACB - I mean, do you recognize now that you were just kind of telling yourself what you wanted to believe? And that you recognize them as bad now?

AB - Now I do, yeah. But I don't know, it's so weird, so confusing. I don't know what I was thinking, you know?

ACB - Yeah.

AB - I don't know why I stayed there, you know what I mean?

ACB - Had you ever seen CHAD or had you ever hit her in the stomach or kicked her?

AB - Me?

ACB - Yeah. Either you or CHAD?

AB - Never. Never ever.

ACB - No?

AB - Yeah, they said something about bruising on her stomach.

ACB - Yeah. I've ...

AB - But then JEFF told me he was like ...

ACB - JEFF did do some CPR kind of the wrong way on her stomach, but I don't know if the doctor's been able to figure out yet, you know, where ...

AB - I think I would have saw on her stomach when I was changing her. Cause ...

ACB - Something on her stomach, recently?

AB - Yeah, you know what I mean, because you take off her clothes and, oh yeah, JEFF and WILL, I was like, I went into WILL's house right after that night and we were talking about it and I'm like yeah, they said she had bruises all over her body and JEFF and WILL were like we didn't see any bruises on her body. And I was like, yeah, they said they were all over her. On her stomach, whatever.

ACB - Sometimes they take, well you know how sometimes bruises are deep and sometimes it takes a day before it'll show up, but once you pass away, I mean, they can, they show up in blood cooling and stuff like that sometimes will change what things look like. Sometimes things will look like bruises that aren't. Sometimes real bruises will come to the surface. When was it that you thought you saw a bruise on her stomach?

AB - Yeah. What do you mean? I never did.

ACB - Oh, I thought that you said when you were changing her?

AB - No, I said I didn't.

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ACB - Oh, you didn't notice anything. So you think there's a possibility that that may be all from the CPR attempts?

AB - Yeah. That's what JEFF said to me. I mean, and that's what WILL said. JEFF said that they didn't see anything on her stomach, but on her today.

ACB - So, you've never seen anybody, or you, yourself, have never kicked her or anything like that?

AB - Never.

ACB - How many times do you think CHAD had thrown her into a corner or someplace where she hit her head?

AB - I can't count how many times. Probably ...

ACB - Couple times a week?

AB - Yeah, about twice a week.

ACB - And that would be part of the whole, she's crying at an inappropriate time and he would get frustrated and go grab her face and grab her arm and toss her into the nearest corner or ...

AB - Yup. Yeah. Yeah.

ACB - Okay. I can't think over anything else. I think that's just about it. Let me just duck into JEFF's office.

AB - How do you do this job?

ACB - Well, I'm helping. I help the babies.

AB - It must be so hard for you, huh?

ACB - No. Its good in the end. Somebody's got to do it, right?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - Let me just check with JEFF and make sure there's nothing else.

(Det. Blodgett Exits)
(Det. Blodgett Enters)

ACB - The only other thing that JEFF could think of, when he was at your house the other day, I guess, there was magic marker, like, scribbling, drawing on the wall.

AB - Yeah. KYLE did that.

ACB - KYLE did that?

AB - Yeah.

ACB - So that's, has that been there for a while.

AB - Yeah. Well, not too long. He did it when I was watching him.

ACB - Is it anything that CHAD got upset about?

AB - Yeah, he did. He just smacked him in the butt and made him go upstairs I think. I think he did that. His mom got even more mad about it.

ACB - Yeah. But it was nothing that KASSIDY got in trouble for?

AB - No.

ACB - Okay. I can't think of anything else.

AB - Actually, I got, well, I wasn't really mad. I just scrubbed it off.

ACB - Well, why don't, well tomorrow's Monday anyway, so we'll check with the doctor and see, did MATT explain to you that some of the slides, the microscopic slides that they do, might take as long as a week?

AB - Um, hum. He said something like that.

ACB - But I think that it would be good if, even before that, we could schedule Polygraph tests for CHAD and JEFF and I mean JEFF, our JEFF, as I pointed out that it's not really fair to expect them to do it without you to do it, too. Because you ...

AB - Oh, okay. I'll do it.

ACB - I mean, you're definitely the primary caregiver and everything and I think that that gives you all the more right should CHAD give you garbage about you know, why should you do that.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - You have that you, in all fairness, I mean, you're going to do it so that your family doesn't have questions about you.

AB - What do, what do you do? What is it?

ACB - Basically, it's, we do a right in this room actually. There's like a computer thing, I don't know if you've seen them on tv. There's a laptop computer and they, you talk to the Polygraph Examiner for a while and he gets health questions and stuff like that and, basically, they do your blood pressure and there's like a thing that goes on your finger and one that goes like around your stomach and he would ask you yes/no questions. You know, "Did you kill KASSIDY?" Nothing ambiguous about it. You know, "Did you ever hit her in the head hard enough to make her go unconscious?" No question that you're going to make a mistake and not know how to answer.

AB - Yeah.

ACB - And I think they ask only ten questions and some of them are like standard ones like: "What's your name? Is your name AMANDA?"

AB - What if I get nervous about the whole test?

ACB - Yeah, and that will show what your, what your normalness is and I had to take one when I joined the State Police and it's not, it's nothing.

AB - Yeah, I've seen it on tv.

ACB - Nothing is crazy about it and nothing intrusive or anything like that.

AB - Yeah, I'll definitely take one.

ACB - I will use mom's number as my first contact number for you and, then, if she says that you're at MICHELLE's, I can try MICHELLE's too. You should feel free to call in and check with us, like every day, and that's fine. You're not going to bother us.

AB - Okay.

ACB - We're going to be working on this, pretty much exclusively anyway.

AB - Okay.

ACB - Do you have the 800 number?

AB - Um, um.

AMANDA BORTNER

11/12/00

1830 Hours

20-4-35897

DET. BLODGETT

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ACB - Let me go white it down. Come on. You can come on out.

(Det. Blodgett and Amanda Bortner Exit)