

1 IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

2 WARREN COUNTY, OHIO

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4 STATE OF OHIO, : CASE NO. 17CR33292

5 PLAINTIFF, :

6 -VS- :

7 BROOKE SKYLAR RICHARDSON, : JUDGE DONALD E. ODA II

8 DEFENDANT. :

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13 INTERVIEW OF BROOKE SKYLAR RICHARDSON

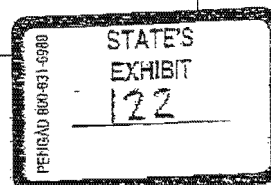
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23 INTERVIEW DATE:

Deena Schlimm

24 July 20, 2017

Court Reporter



1 LT. FAINE: It feels so much cooler
2 in here. It feels so much cooler in here than it
3 does --

4 DET. CARTER: Hi Skylar, I'm Brandi.
5 Katie can't be here so just she asked me to come.
6 I'm friends with her so she was like, hey, can you
7 be me today?

8 LT. FAINE: She is friends with
9 Katie and she is a detective. Brandi's a
10 detective that works with me. So she's here today
11 to talk to you.

12 DET. CARTER: I'll just turn my
13 phone-off. Is your phone off?

14 SKYLAR: I don't have a phone.

15 DET. CARTER: I know mine will start
16 going crazy.

17 LT. FAINE: That's a mean question
18 because we have her phone.

19 DET. CARTER: Oh, I'm so sorry. I'm
20 so sorry, Skylar --

21 LT. FAINE: The other day -- no, the
22 other day, the reason I did that, I was talking to
23 her dad and I said well, would you want me to call
24 her direct on her phone or do you want me to call
25 you and he said don't you have her phone? I was

1 like, oh, my gosh, I do. I feel a little a little
2 bit silly.

3 DET. CARTER: You all right? What's
4 wrong?

5 SKYLAR: I'm nervous.

6 DET. CARTER: What are you nervous
7 about?

8 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

9 DET. CARTER: It's a lot, it's a
10 lot.

11 LT. FAINE: This just like the other
12 day, Skylar, as far as -- I mean I know you're
13 super nervous. I understand, but just the way,
14 you know, Katie and I talked to you the other day,
15 it's the same thing. So I mean I think if you
16 look back to Friday if you remember sitting here
17 with us there wasn't anything real bad or we never
18 started yelling at you or anything like that. So
19 we didn't do anything like threatening or menacing

20 so. And I understand that, but today's going to
21 be just the same, okay? We won't be here as long
22 as we were the other day.

23 SKYLAR: And I'll get to go home
24 with my parents?

25 LT. FAINE: I'm sorry?

1 SKYLAR: I'll get to go home with my
2 parents?

3 LT. FAINE: I think so, yeah. Yeah,
4 that's our plan. And that's what I just told your
5 dad, remember when we were -- when we were
6 outside.

7 DET. CARTER: Just take some deep
8 breaths. And just try -- I know it's a hard
9 situation, but deep breaths. We've got some
10 paperwork crap we have to do with everybody and
11 then we'll talk. But just deep breaths.

12 LT. FAINE: And then -- you didn't
13 know your Social Security. This is just the --

14 DET. CARTER: No 18 year old knows
15 their Social Security, do they?

16 LT. FAINE: This is the same. This
17 is the same thing that we did the other day. Are
18 you still working right now?

19 SKYLAR: Yeah.

20 LT. FAINE: Is it at the Y?

21 SKYLAR: Yeah.

22 LT. FAINE: Which one?

23 SKYLAR: The Atrium.

24 LT. FAINE: Oh, you're at the
25 Atrium.

1 DET. CARTER: What do you do there?

2 SKYLAR: I work in child watch.

3 DET. CARTER: What's your -- like
4 are you in the infant room or the toddler room
5 or --

6 SKYLAR: It's just called child
7 watch. I watch everything from six weeks to nine
8 years old.

9 DET. CARTER: Okay. So you do it
10 all?

11 SKYLAR: Uh-huh.

12 DET. CARTER: Okay.

13 SKYLAR: Do I get to keep my job?

14 DET. CARTER: No, we're just asking
15 you where you worked, it's just like conversation.
16 We're just --

17 SKYLAR: Okay.

18 LT. FAINE: We were talking amongst
19 ourselves earlier whether it was Country Side, was

20 it Springboro. You know, we're down in Lebanon so
21 the Countryside -- you know, was it Country Side,
22 Springboro?

23 DET. CARTER: How long have you been
24 there?

25 SKYLAR: Almost a year. I've been

1 working there since September of last year.

2 DET. CARTER: What's your favorite
3 age?

4 SKYLAR: Um, Probably the older kids
5 like six to nine years old.

6 DET. CARTER: Yeah. I like that
7 age, but they whine a little too much for me. I
8 like the little bit older.

9 LT. FAINE: Brooke, we're going to
10 do just like we did the other day. I mean Skylar,
11 I see Brooke sitting right there -- but you go by
12 the Skylar. I'll read these things out loud and
13 then put your initial there if you can. It's the
14 same exact form that we had the other day. You
15 have the right to remain silent. Anything you say
16 can and will be used against you in a court of
17 law. You have the right to talk to a lawyer and
18 have him present with you while you're being
19 questioned. If you cannot afford to hire a

20 lawyer, one will be appointed to represent you
21 before questioning if you wish. You can decide at
22 any time to exercise these rights and not answer
23 any questions or make any statements.

24 Okay. If you will read this one and
25 then you agree with it, sign. I'm not going to

1 have you read it out loud because the other day
2 you read it out loud. So if you just read that,
3 but at least please read it and then if you're
4 okay with it, just sign your name on that first
5 line when you get done.

6 DET. CARTER: Do you want a water or
7 anything?

8 SKYLAR: No, thank you.

9 DET. CARTER: I just wanted to make
10 sure.

11 LT. FAINE: 7/20 is the -- is the
12 date.

13 DET. CARTER: Did you graduate yet?

14 SKYLAR: Mm-hmm.

15 LT. FAINE: She's going to -- you're
16 going to UC. She's going to go to UC.

17 DET. CARTER: Good school. Are you
18 going to commute or are you going to live there?

19 SKYLAR: Live there.

20 DET. CARTER: That will be fun.

21 LT. FAINE: Okay. Like when you
22 first walked in I just wanted to ask you how
23 things are going but it's probably pretty rough.
24 I mean just -- just waiting or how are things with
25 mom and dad?

1 SKYLAR: Better.

2 LT. FAINE: Have you guys had a
3 chance to talk or --

4 SKYLAR: Yeah, I've been talking to
5 my mom a lot.

6 LT. FAINE: A lot? Okay. Are they
7 doing okay? I mean I know this is really hard for
8 you but it's hard for them as parents too. Do
9 they seem like they're doing okay or --

10 SKYLAR: Mm-hmm, yeah.

11 LT. FAINE: Okay. Do you think do
12 they have a better of idea of what's going now
13 since all that happen -- you've had a chance --
14 and I'm just kind of curious. I mean I kind of
15 wonder for them because I know they were just
16 really hoping to get some answers the other day.
17 And I was like, well, it will be so much easier,
18 you know, if you talk to Skylar. You know, and
19 you guys just talk.

20 So what I will do, right now is I'll
21 kind of tell you what we've been doing since I
22 last saw you on Friday. That was Friday, right?
23 Yeah. Friday, so, you know, we took phones and
24 stuff so we're doing like what I described to you
25 that analysis of the phones and stuff. But then

1 also the coroner's office has been working with
2 the remains, with her remains to do their part of
3 the investigation. Okay?

4 And do you ever watch any shows like
5 that where they show the forensic anthropology
6 stuff? I mean because a lot of people do now, and
7 you know you see the stuff that they can do and it
8 is like unbelievable how, you know, they can do
9 that stuff and just examine that stuff. So then
10 they're like medical doctors who've been going to
11 school probably half as long as you've been alive.
12 So they've been doing their part while we're doing
13 our part.

14 And so as a result of that and then
15 us having a lot of conversation with the two
16 doctors primarily that have really been -- really
17 been looking at her remains. We have some more
18 questions, okay?

19 DET. CARTER: Did you tell them to
20 go ahead --

21 LT. FAINE: I'm sorry?

22 DET. CARTER: The team, did you text
23 them?

24 SKYLAR: At our house?

25 DET. CARTER: No. We've got another

1 situation going on down at the main office and I
2 just -- it just like popped in by head before
3 kinda got started to make sure that he told them
4 to go ahead. He's like the only boss here.

5 LT. FAINE: And you have the
6 (inaudible).

7 DET. CARTER: Yeah. Do you want me
8 to tell them?

9 LT. FAINE: Yeah, can you?

10 DET. CARTER: He's the only the boss
11 this week, Skylar, so it becomes -- trying to make
12 sure that everybody does what they're supposed to
13 do. You know how that works at work, right?
14 You've got to make sure everybody's doing their
15 job even though the boss isn't there. He's our
16 only boss because the other one is out of town.

17 LT. FAINE: Okay. Also they've been
18 doing their part and we stay in close
19 communication with them while they're doing it,

20 you know, while their doing their investigation.
21 But as a result of information that we're getting
22 through the course of talking with them, like I
23 said, we've got -- we've got some more questions
24 and for lack of a better way -- a better way to
25 say it, we know there's some more that happened

1 than what you shared the other day, okay?

2 And I'm just going to be honest. I
3 don't know how to say it any other way, but we
4 know there was more that happened, okay, than what
5 you and I talked about the other day. So having
6 said that, let me go back and kind of just replay
7 just so we refresh what you and I talked about on
8 Friday. We talked about -- and I'll just try to
9 paraphrase and you can correct me if I say
10 something that you don't feel like it's what we
11 said Friday, okay?

12 SKYLAR: Are you going to take me
13 away?

14 LT. FAINE: I'm sorry?

15 SKYLAR: Are you guys going to take
16 me away?

17 LT. FAINE: Wait a sec, why would
18 you say that?

19 SKYLAR: I'm just so scared.

20 LT. FAINE: What?

21 SKYLAR: I'm just so scared.

22 LT. FAINE: Okay. But listen --

23 DET. CARTER: Just breathe.

24 LT. FAINE: Yeah, just try to be
25 calm.

1 DET. CARTER: We're just trying to
2 find out what happened.

3 LT. FAINE: This is just like the
4 other day. Remember I kept telling you that just
5 like nothing real bad -- we're not here because
6 you did anything bad like that or threaten you, or
7 nothing like that. We're just trying to find out,
8 you know, the truth for her. Remember we talked
9 about that. And you, yourself, is like I know she
10 deserved -- I know she deserved better.

11 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

12 LT. FAINE: So do we. Remember, so
13 do we. I talked to you, I know you are a scared
14 18-year-old girl that until Friday you carried
15 this on your own, you know, and we know that.
16 And, you know, I mean, we talked a long time
17 Friday, okay? And it never turned nasty or
18 anything like that. It's not going to today.

19 Okay? But, you know, we talked how May 7th -- and
20 you were really certain May 7th is the day, right,
21 that you delivered her. And it was in the
22 bathroom sometime -- maybe sometime in the middle
23 of the night because your parents were home and
24 asleep. You delivered her in the bathroom. She
25 wasn't breathing or anything. Her eyes didn't

1 open. There was no heart beat, and you checked.
2 You pushed. You didn't want to push too hard
3 because she was a brand new baby, but you pushed
4 just to check and there was no heart beat. You
5 held her for a little bit there like on your lap.
6 And then you wrapped her in a towel and you went
7 downstairs with her into the garage. Got maybe
8 it's called like -- I'm just going to call like
9 your mom's garden shovel or something like that.
10 And took her out and put her in that shallow grave
11 right out in the backyard. And you didn't put the
12 towel in there, you just put her in there and
13 covered her up. Okay? Is that -- does that sound
14 right like what we talked about Friday? Okay.

15 Well, now where we are -- obviously,
16 you know, we were there a long time that day and
17 everything digging up her remains and everything.
18 But now after speaking with the doctors who have
19 been doing this, you know, they've been working a
20 lot of hours just with her remains, you know, just
21 tiny bone by tiny bone and everything. And they
22 have a lot of evidence that they have presented to
23 us where they know now from a medically scientific
24 certainty they know there were other things that
25 happened.

1 So I want to know if -- if you want
2 to tell us, you know, more of the truth about what
3 happened because we know there was a lot more.

4 DET. CARTER: We just want to put
5 her to rest. We want her -- here's the thing,
6 listen, honey, I know that this is terrible
7 situation, okay? Just listen to me, okay? You
8 are not the only 18-year-old girl who's been in
9 this situation that it was too late to have an
10 abortion and your entire life is about to be
11 fucked, okay? So just breathe. But the important
12 thing about it is not me, not you, not him, what
13 matters is her. Okay?

14 I think that you want to give her a
15 proper burial and you want to give her a proper
16 final resting situation. But in order to do that
17 we need to know everything, okay? You cannot go
18 back and change anything that you did. But we can
19 have it out there and you can just say it, okay?

20 If you need to close your eyes to say it if you
21 need to whatever, but it's very important that you
22 tell us everything that happened because the
23 doctors already know, okay? They've already
24 shared with us what happened.

25 Now, there's things we don't know

1 like why or kind of what you were thinking or, you
2 know, what would -- what would push someone to
3 feel like this was the only option, you know --

4 SKYLAR: You think I killed her?

5 DET. CARTER: That's not what I'm
6 saying. That's not what I'm saying. What I'm
7 saying is what happened when you decided that you
8 were -- before you buried her, okay? So all of
9 those things we need to know, okay. They're going
10 to be able to tell us medically what happened. So
11 it's really important because I want to know why,
12 I want to know, you know, did you feel like that
13 was your only option? Did you feel like you had
14 no choice? You know, so those are some things
15 that we know. Okay?

16 We obviously know she was buried
17 because we found her. And then there's things
18 that they can tell from the tissue and stuff
19 that's left, okay? So we know that some more

20 things happened. I think -- I think, I think you
21 were trying to, I don't know maybe minimize what
22 was there, make it easier, I don't know but there
23 were some other things that happened before she
24 was put in the ground. Let's talk about that,
25 okay.

1 SKYLAR: The cord might have been
2 wrapped around her neck a little.

3 DET. CARTER: When she came out or
4 after?

5 SKYLAR: When she came out.

6 DET. CARTER: Okay. So did you see
7 it wrapped around the neck?

8 SKYLAR: A little. (Inaudible).

9 DET. CARTER: Yeah. So like it's
10 around her neck? And what color was she when she
11 came out?

12 SKYLAR: White I think.

13 DET. CARTER: Well, they're all
14 white because they've got sticky, goopy stuff on
15 them. What about like her fingers or whatever,
16 were they pink, were they red, were they --

17 SKYLAR: I don't remember.

18 DET. CARTER: That's fine. Where
19 was the cord? Was it like here? Was it on the

20 side? Was it wrapped all the way around her?

21 SKYLAR: Maybe just a little around
22 her.

23 DET. CARTER: Okay. And what'd you
24 do? You tried to get it off but couldn't?

25 SKYLAR: Just a little, yeah.

1 DET. CARTER: Okay. It just
2 wouldn't come off? Okay. Is it possible that she
3 maybe breathed a little bit like maybe, you know,
4 before --

5 SKYLAR: Maybe.

6 DET. CARTER: Okay, okay. So you
7 tried to get the cord off and couldn't, was there
8 a time -- I've had a baby, he has not but I have.
9 So there's not just a baby that comes out, there's
10 a whole lot of other crap that comes out. So is
11 it possible that -- because you were on the toilet
12 when you had her?

13 SKYLAR: Yeah.

14 DET. CARTER: Okay. Is it possible
15 that she went down in the toilet for a second?

16 SKYLAR: Yeah.

17 DET. CARTER: Okay.

18 SKYLAR: I tried to catch her, but I
19 couldn't. She fell.

20 DET. CARTER: There's no way, she's
21 too slippery, you can't catch her.

22 SKYLAR: She fell. She might have
23 bumped her head a little.

24 DET. CARTER: Okay. So were you
25 sitting on the toilet? Were you squatting over

1 it?

2 SKYLAR: I was sitting on the
3 toilet.

4 DET. CARTER: Okay. So she falls
5 in, and are you like in shock? Like I mean I
6 would be in shock if a baby just came out of me in
7 the toilet. So how long do you think she was in
8 the water?

9 SKYLAR: I don't remember.

10 DET. CARTER: Five minutes, two
11 minutes?

12 SKYLAR: Two minutes maybe.

13 DET. CARTER: Okay. Was she moving
14 at all?

15 SKYLAR: I don't think --

16 DET. CARTER: A little kick or
17 anything?

18 SKYLAR: Maybe, but I didn't look --

19 DET. CARTER: Well, it's hard to

20 look at. So what did you -- did you notice the
21 cord was around her neck after you saw her in the
22 toilet or before?

23 SKYLAR: Everything just came out at
24 once, maybe just a little.

25 LT. FAINE: Now, sorry -- was she --

1 I guess she was probably head first into the
2 toilet because she would have came out. So
3 like -- like how did it -- how did she look as you
4 looked down in the toilet and saw her? I mean did
5 you -- I assume there was water, probably the
6 normal amount of water in the toilet, so do you
7 know was her head part under the water?

8 SKYLAR: I don't think, no.

9 LT. FAINE: Okay. How did she look
10 as you looked down into the toilet?

11 DET. CARTER: Maybe did you not look
12 at her? I don't know --

13 SKYLAR: I looked (inaudible.)

14 DET. CARTER: Were there like
15 bubbles or anything? Sometimes there's like
16 bubbles. Do you remember seeing any when you
17 looked at her face? Was her face in the water or
18 like to the side or was it not? If you remember.
19 Okay. But she was head first. When you said

20 maybe she hit her head, did you hear something
21 that maybe made you think that?

22 SKYLAR: Well, she just plopped out.

23 DET. CARTER: Yeah, they come out
24 pretty fast especially when you're young.

25 SKYLAR: I think she hit might have

1 her head.

2 DET. CARTER: Okay.

3 SKYLAR: I mean I wanted to catch
4 her.

5 DET. CARTER: You can't, they're too
6 slippery even like with a doctor, doctors have
7 a --

8 LT. FAINE: Doctors have a hardest
9 time too. Even when the doctor is sitting there
10 waiting they still have the hardest time.

11 DET. CARTER: They're covered in the
12 goop. Okay. So maybe she was breathing. She was
13 left in the toilet for a couple of minutes. If I
14 say something wrong, correct me, don't -- and then
15 did you like walk away? Did you kind of stand
16 back and think what am I going to do now? What
17 you'd do?

18 SKYLAR: I kinda (inaudible). I was
19 bleeding so much.

20 DET. CARTER: A lot of blood. What
21 about the placenta? It's big like -- it looks
22 like a big thing of meat, what did you do with
23 that?

24 SKYLAR: It came out a little after.

25 DET. CARTER: Okay. What did you do

1 with that?

2 SKYLAR: I buried it with her.

3 DET. CARTER: Okay. Did the
4 placenta go in the toilet like on top of her or --

5 SKYLAR: No, it came after she was
6 out.

7 DET. CARTER: Okay. So she was in
8 the toilet for a couple of minutes. What do you
9 do after she's in the toilet for a couple of
10 minutes, what do you do with her?

11 SKYLAR: I put her in the towel.

12 DET. CARTER: Okay. Then what?

13 SKYLAR: I hold her. Maybe hold her
14 too tight.

15 DET. CARTER: Do you feel like she
16 was breathing when you were holding her and you
17 held her too tight?

18 SKYLAR: (Shaking head no.)

19 LT. FAINE: Okay.

20 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

21 LT. FAINE: When you -- so can you
22 describe for me like taking her out of the toilet.
23 Like how did you take her out -- because you put
24 her in the towel, how did you take her out of
25 the --

1 SKYLAR: By her hand.

2 LT. FAINE: You're acting with your
3 hands like you moved it to -- are you being
4 careful because it's a baby or do you
5 remember like where you lift her? Did you try to
6 get like her neck? I'm just picturing her head
7 first and trying to reach in and --

8 SKYLAR: I tried to get her
9 carefully with my hand.

10 LT. FAINE: Okay. And again we're
11 just trying to ask because we weren't there and
12 were just trying to make sure, you know,
13 exactly --

14 SKYLAR: I just wanted her to be at
15 rest.

16 DET. CARTER: You know, nobody
17 really fully I think rests in peace unless you
18 know that's exactly what happened. And if you
19 watch any of those shows like you see people like

20 20 years later family members are trying to find
21 out what happened so that they can be at rest and
22 so can the family member that died. So that's all
23 we're trying to do is find out what happened so
24 that we can put the medical stuff with, you know,
25 what happened. And that's only going to come from

1 you, Skylar. Nobody else was there. You were all
2 alone. I know your parents were in the next room,
3 but you were all alone. It was just you and her.
4 So you're the only one that can help us, she
5 can't, okay?

6 So you need to do the right thing
7 right now and just tell us everything that
8 happened. Even if it sucks to say it, just tell
9 us everything that happened and we can move on,
10 okay?

11 LT. FAINE: You know, Brandi and I,
12 we talk to so many people that after the fact, you
13 know, they're like that feeling once they finally
14 tell the truth and then get it out because I bet
15 it has probably bothered you some because I can
16 tell that you care. It bothered you some since
17 Friday, since we talked, you know, since you knew
18 I didn't get the truth and you still had to carry
19 that, you know, carry that weight with you.

20 So like Brandi said -- let's start
21 there. So now you picked her out from the toilet
22 and you wrapped her in a towel and held her
23 easily. And just be truthful now and let's go
24 from there and tell us the truth.

25 DET. CARTER: You said something

1 really interesting, you said you think maybe I
2 held her too tight. Tell me what that means.

3 SKYLAR: I didn't think she was
4 breathing and I squeezed her too hard.

5 DET. CARTER: Okay.

6 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

7 DET. CARTER: I know.

8 SKYLAR: I squeezed her.

9 DET. CARTER: It's okay, you can't
10 it -- it's okay, you were trying.

11 SKYLAR: I think I'm the one who
12 killed her.

13 DET. CARTER: Okay. Okay.

14 SKYLAR: I think I killed her. You
15 think I killed her on purpose.

16 DET. CARTER: Skylar, no one
17 believes that.

18 SKYLAR: I squeezed her. I loved
19 her.

20 DET. CARTER: Skylar, no one
21 believes that you would do anything to harm her on
22 purpose. No one believes that, okay?

23 SKYLAR: I'm going to go to jail.

24 DET. CARTER: Listen to me --

25 LT. FAINE: Sweetheart, we are

1 just --

2 DET. CARTER: Those are not
3 questions we can answer for you right now.

4 LT. FAINE: We are in the same -- we
5 are in the same place. We just are still -- you
6 know, you're talking about a lot of the different
7 stuff that the doc -- we're just still trying to
8 do right by her. We're so focused, like Brandi
9 said, it's not me you or --

10 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

11 DET. CARTER: It's about her.

12 LT. FAINE: It's important --

13 DET. CARTER: Did you give her a
14 name yet? What's her name.

15 SKYLAR: Annabelle.

16 DET. CARTER: Annabelle, okay. Can
17 I call her Annabelle?

18 SKYLAR: Okay.

19 DET. CARTER: So it's about

20 Annabelle, okay? You can't change -- you can't go
21 back and change anything. I don't have a magic
22 wand, okay?

23 SKYLAR: I am so sorry.

24 DET. CARTER: Let's just keep
25 talking about what happened and then it will all

1 be out and we'll be done, okay?

2 SKYLAR: Can I go home with my
3 parents?

4 DET. CARTER: I can't answer that
5 for your right now, okay? I don't know what all
6 happened. I haven't finished talking to you,
7 okay? All right. You think you squeezed her too
8 hard because she -- and I feel like when you say
9 that maybe you thought she was breathing before
10 and you didn't mean to. I don't think you meant
11 to, but you squeezed her too hard. How long do
12 you think you were squeezing her?

13 SKYLAR: Just a little bit, a little
14 bit.

15 DET. CARTER: Okay. What makes you
16 think you squeezed her too hard? Like what makes
17 you think that looking back now, not then, but
18 looking back now?

19 SKYLAR: I squeezed hard, like not
20 so hard, but just like, I just (inaudible).

21 DET. CARTER: And you think that's
22 when she died?

23 SKYLAR: Maybe.

24 DET. CARTER: Do you think maybe she
25 could have been in the toilet or --

1 SKYLAR: Yeah, maybe because I was
2 spotting. In April, early April I was spotting.

3 DET. CARTER: But you don't have any
4 health issues, right, you're pretty healthy?

5 SKYLAR: No.

6 DET. CARTER: You're 18, so okay.
7 Did she look pretty healthy? I mean you've
8 probably seen babies before, did she look pretty
9 healthy?

10 SKYLAR: She was kind of big.

11 DET. CARTER: Yeah. Like that's
12 pretty healthy. I think that's a good thing when
13 babies look bigger than you expect them to.
14 You're not a smoker, right?

15 SKYLAR: No.

16 DET. CARTER: That's good. Because
17 if she was tiny that would have meant you smoked.
18 So you think maybe that's when it happened. And
19 then you're squeezing her and then do you realize

20 that that's when she's like not alive or when do
21 you think?

22 SKYLAR: No, I didn't think she was
23 alive before.

24 DET. CARTER: Okay. So what did you
25 do after you were squeezing her, what did you do?

1 SKYLAR: I buried her.

2 DET. CARTER: Before that?

3 SKYLAR: I just held her.

4 DET. CARTER: Tell me about the
5 fire.

6 SKYLAR: What fire?

7 DET. CARTER: There's some evidence
8 to show that there was some burning on her.

9 SKYLAR: Burned her? I promise
10 anything I didn't burn her. My dad has lots of
11 bonfires, but I didn't burn her.

12 DET. CARTER: There's been some
13 charring and stuff on some of her bones so --

14 SKYLAR: I didn't burn her.

15 DET. CARTER: Are you sure?

16 SKYLAR: I swear on anything.

17 DET. CARTER: Are you sure?

18 SKYLAR: That I'm sure. That I'm
19 sure -- I'm sure of.

20 DET. CARTER: You didn't -- like was
21 there -- did you like -- did you burn anything
22 around her? Did you try to like, like maybe like
23 melt the dirt or anything?

24 SKYLAR: No.

25 DET. CARTER: Was there any reason

1 for any of that?

2 SKYLAR: No.

3 LT. FAINE: Was there -- was
4 there -- I know you said the other day there was
5 no one else that knew or involved or anything.
6 But was there anyone else? I mean now that you're
7 telling some more truth, you're telling us a lot
8 more truth today, is there someone else that
9 helped you this day or anything?

10 SKYLAR: No. And I did nothing with
11 fire, nothing.

12 DET. CARTER: Okay.

13 LT. FAINE: Is it possible
14 originally you put her in the fire pit before you
15 --

16 SKYLAR: No.

17 LT. FAINE: I don't mean with a lit
18 fire, but put her in the fire pit?

19 SKYLAR: No.

20 DET. CARTER: Okay. Not a fire, but
21 what about like some other heat source? Was there
22 any heat involved in anything? This would have
23 been after she was dead, so it's not like --

24 SKYLAR: No.

25 DET. CARTER: No microwave, no oven?

1 SKYLAR: No.

2 DET. CARTER: Or nothing like --
3 there's basically her bones have -- not all of
4 them but some of them have some charring which
5 means that there was some burning. That's what
6 we're trying to figure out. And if there's nobody
7 else involved and there's no one else that knew
8 about this and you were all alone, unfortunately.

9 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

10 DET. CARTER: That's what we're
11 trying to figure out. I think there's an
12 explanation for what happened with something. I
13 think there's some sort of way that we can figure
14 out what happened with something, because, you
15 know, that doesn't just happen, you know, that
16 your bones get like that. And from all accounts
17 she looked like a pretty healthy normal baby from
18 what you're saying. I don't think -- there's just
19 no way it would just happen. So I was thinking

20 maybe you were just trying to kind of get rid of
21 something. Or I don't know, but I mean you buried
22 her, it's not like you just threw her in the
23 trash, so that's good.

24 SKYLAR: No, I --

25 DET. CARTER: Anything that you can

1 think of like anything at all? Again, you were in
2 shock. I'm sure it was a terrible, terrible,
3 night. You were all alone. Just think about if
4 there was anything that could explain that.
5 Because that's -- I mean that's a medical fact.
6 I'm not just telling you that. I'm not, you know,
7 just making it up. I mean something happened with
8 some fire or some heat source. So we have to
9 think about maybe you were out of your mind. I
10 don't know, something happened. But there was
11 something with a fire.

12 LT. FAINE: And, Skylar, we're
13 not -- you're so close and all we want is just the
14 truth. And the reason that Brandi's asking that
15 question and the only reason is because there is
16 forensic medical evidence where they have been
17 through there, some of what she said, not all of
18 them, but there are some different vertebra and
19 some ribs and stuff that is charred. And then there
20 was some fatty tissue that has burn on one side
21 and not the other. So the doctors know that there
22 was fire of some sort or some kind of burning.
23 They know for certain. And no matter what you
24 tell us we're never going to like all of a sudden
25 judge you or jump up and say you're going to jail.

1 We're not doing any of that, but there's still a
2 lot more that we don't know that we just -- you're
3 so close. Just give us all the truth that's left.

4 SKYLAR: And I have given you all
5 the truth. I told you about squeezing her and I
6 think that might have killed her, but that I
7 really -- I --

8 DET. CARTER: It's not -- it's not
9 on her face. It's not on her upper body, it's all
10 like lower body. So I wonder if maybe it was just
11 one of those things where you just thought well
12 maybe I can do this and -- because I think like
13 with cremation like I'm going to have some ashes
14 that I can keep of my daughter and keep those
15 because then you realize it wasn't a good idea
16 because you're a good person. That's what I think
17 happened because there is some charring, but it's
18 not all the bones. And I think, I think you
19 decided, okay, this isn't a good idea, this isn't

20 what I want to do, this isn't what I want for my
21 daughter.

22 LT. FAINE: Annabelle deserves
23 better -- and you just took her and --

24 DET. CARTER: That's what I think
25 happen because her entire body is not burned, it's

1 not like it's some horrific thing. There was some
2 sort of fire or some sort of heat or something.
3 And like I said, I don't think that you just threw
4 her in a fire, that's not what I'm saying. I
5 don't believe that you would do that. I think
6 there was some sort of attempt, and then you were
7 like oh gosh, this isn't what I want for my
8 daughter and then you stopped.

9 SKYLAR: At this point I would tell
10 you.

11 DET. CARTER: We just need to know
12 why there was a fire.

13 SKYLAR: The towel was black.

14 DET. CARTER: No. This is actually
15 like, like the bone doctor basically has said that
16 there's charring on the bones, yeah. Did you
17 maybe put them like after she was in the ground
18 like maybe some fire there or --

19 SKYLAR: I took flowers from the
20 fire pit.

21 DET. CARTER: But that wouldn't burn
22 the bones unless they were on fire.

23 LT. FAINE: We just -- you're so
24 close, Skylar, you know just --

25 DET. CARTER: We know -- I mean we

1 know there was some sort of fire.

2 SKYLAR: I don't understand it.

3 LT. FAINE: Yeah, and I know -- like
4 the other day, I just wanted to do right by her --
5 I wanted to do right by her. Well, we have a
6 friend -- you know, we have these bracelets on
7 that say 822, he was one our best friends who was
8 killed and, you know, he was cremated because that
9 is a very acceptable -- and that's when I first
10 heard this I wondered well maybe she was going to
11 try to cremate her because that's, you know,
12 that's very acceptable, that's normal. It's in
13 the Bible, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. I mean
14 we're cremated to get back to ashes, to get back
15 to the original form we were created from.

16 DET. CARTER: You can keep her with
17 you.

18 LT. FAINE: And I know Annabelle was
19 important to you so you wanted to do it right.

20 But then maybe it didn't -- maybe it didn't feel
21 right so you're like I can't do this. And then
22 you -- that would make sense why just part of it
23 was and just one side. So you take her back and
24 then you take her back where you can give her a
25 more standard burial with flowers. But, Skylar,

1 we just -- we need to because the evidence tells
2 us what the truth is. But you're the only one
3 that can take us through it, you know, and give us
4 the why.

5 The evidence tells us what happened,
6 but we don't know what is the why and you're the
7 only one that can provide that. Because even
8 though it was hard, we both know. Brandi already
9 I can tell knows from spending a little bit of
10 time with you. I've talked to you two times now
11 that you were -- and you were just trying to do
12 the right thing by Annabelle because I can tell
13 you immediately loved her. So you're trying to do
14 the right thing, but now the way to finish the
15 right thing is just help us. Get us all the way
16 to the truth, let it go. You know, let this off
17 of your shoulders. We have -- we know what
18 happened so please just share the truth with us
19 and help us understand it, just -- okay?

20 DET. CARTER: And we know it wasn't
21 this horrifically weird thing that you might have
22 seen on some Lifetime movie that you kids like to
23 watch, but this is a thing where I truly believe
24 that there was an attempt maybe for cremation
25 because if cremate someone, you know they have

1 ashes. I have my mom's ashes. You know, I like
2 to keep them close to me. It's very important to
3 me to have those. It makes me feel like she's
4 still here kind of. So I know you put her in the
5 backyard so she would be close to you. But, you
6 know, ashes you can carry around. So that's kind
7 of where my thinking is.

8 But we already know that there was
9 some sort heat, fire element. I don't know what
10 happened, I wasn't there. But I know there was
11 because the bones were charred. And it wasn't
12 something that, you know, someone else could have
13 done because no one else knew she was there except
14 you. And you've had to carry this all by yourself
15 this whole time and do it all yourself with no
16 help. So, you know, don't think that we're going
17 to judge you. Don't think that we're going to
18 think you're some horrible person. You know, I
19 think I know where your heart and mind were, you
20 know, with the fire, whatever it was. I think I
21 know where your heart and mind were, but you have
22 to tell us because I can't assume that I know you
23 that well.

24 But there, you know, the evidence is
25 there. There is no other explanation. You know,

1 it's not self combustion, that doesn't really
2 happen except on Myth Busters. So we just need to
3 know what happened, again so we can put her at
4 rest. We can her that final -- we know everything
5 that happened. We know, you know, in what order
6 it happened. And we can just put her at rest.
7 Give her a proper memorial. You guys can do all
8 of this with her remains.

9 SKYLAR: I didn't do it.

10 DET. CARTER: Well, I would assume
11 your family is going to want to plan something
12 when they get her back. But we can't release her
13 until we know everything. So we have to kind
14 of -- this is the last mystery to solve is these
15 charred bones to know exactly what happened. I
16 mean I think I know but I don't know everything.
17 So we need you to tell us. You were there. You
18 know, it's not a judgment, Skylar, it's not
19 anybody looking at you. It's literally you and
20 Annabelle and you're trying to do to the right
21 thing and fix whatever you can fix at that point
22 in time. No one's judging whatever you chose to
23 do then, okay. We just need to know what
24 happened, that's all. Try to spit it out. Tell
25 us what happened. I'm not judging you.

1 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

2 DET. CARTER: You've got to tell me.

3 I don't want to put words in your mouth, Skylar.

4 I don't want you to -- you know, I want you -- I

5 think I know based on what I know of you so far.

6 But I want you to tell me everything that

7 happened, everything that was going through you

8 mind so that I can understand. I want to hear it

9 from you.

10 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

11 DET. CARTER: So you're holding her,

12 squeezing her, what happens right after that?

13 Just kind of walk me through like everything. So

14 you're holding her, you squeeze her and then what

15 are you -- what are you thinking? Just kind of

16 like close your eyes, put yourself back there and

17 just walk me through it like I was there. I want

18 to feel like I was there with you to know what

19 happened.

20 SKYLAR: Do I get to go home with my
21 parents today?

22 LT. FAINE: I'm sorry?

23 SKYLAR: Do I get to go home with my
24 parents today?

25 LT. FAINE: I think so.

1 DET. CARTER: We don't know what
2 happened. We can't answer that. We have to
3 finish talking to you.

4 LT. FAINE: I'm still not -- we're
5 still just -- you're so close. We're still just
6 waiting to hear. I guess all I can think about
7 right now is Annabelle. You know, like I think
8 about her remains just still being sifted through
9 and sifted through by doctors and doctors. And I
10 think about your dad already contacting me asking
11 could he have her remains so you guys can do a
12 burial. And I feel awful but none of that can
13 happen because the investigation just keeps going
14 and going because we don't have the truth yet.
15 And it can be weeks, you know, for them to just
16 keep going on and on and on and yet I feel like
17 you have the ability to give us the truth so
18 quickly to solve those questions and I want that
19 to happen.

20 I want to get her remains released.
21 I mean I guess I should say I want to get her -- I
22 think it more of it as her. I want to get her
23 released so your family can do what they want to
24 do. You know, your dad is very sincere. I talked
25 to him two days ago and he's really just hoping.

1 They want to do that so badly and I want it for
2 you guys.

3 DET. CARTER: And there are so many
4 questions, Skylar, that we can't answer until we
5 know everything. Honestly, you know, we aren't
6 our own boss, we have bosses, we have all kinds of
7 people that we have to report to. So I can't get
8 an answer to any of those questions for you or
9 anything about Annabelle until we know everything.
10 We would have to know not just what happened, but
11 why? What were you thinking? What was in your
12 mind? What was kind of, you know, going through
13 your head? All of those things are important
14 things to know. So I can't honestly answer those
15 questions until we know what happened.

16 We know medically what happened, but
17 there's a big difference. I think you would agree
18 between someone throwing someone in a fire and
19 someone having a reason and some sort of
20 justification for why that happened. Does that
21 make sense? Okay. That's what -- I know you keep
22 asking that question and I honestly if I knew the
23 answer I would tell you, but I don't. I don't
24 know everything. I have medical information and I
25 have a little bit from you and I have this huge

1 kind of hole in the middle. And that's all I've
2 got, so I don't ever want to lie to anyone and I
3 don't ever want to tell you something that's not
4 true. So I can't answer that right now until I'm
5 know everything that happened, okay?

6 But right now it's about Annabelle.
7 It's not about me, it's not about you, it's not
8 about him, it's about Annabelle and knowing what
9 happened. And knowing that someone didn't just
10 throw her on a fire and then -- yeah, that sort of
11 thing. So I don't think that's what happened.
12 Just walk me through. You're squeezing her, just
13 walk me through everything. Tell me everything
14 that you were thinking and everything you did just
15 so I know, like I was there.

16 SKYLAR: I thought I could cremate
17 her. I had a lighter and just --

18 DET. CARTER: Where'd you put her?

19 SKYLAR: In a bag.

20 DET. CARTER: No, I mean like before
21 the lighter where was she?

22 SKYLAR: In the ground. And I
23 grabbed a shovel.

24 DET. CARTER: Okay. Was she -- so
25 you're holding her, and then you grab the shovel

1 and the lighter, like one of those camping
2 lighters or just like a cigarette lighter?

3 SKYLAR: Just a lighter.

4 DET. CARTER: Like a clicker with a
5 long thing --

6 LT. FAINE: Like a long one?

7 SKYLAR: Yeah.

8 DET. CARTER: So where do you take
9 her to try to cremate her?

10 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

11 DET. CARTER: Try to remember like
12 where.

13 SKYLAR: She was in there.

14 DET. CARTER: In the hole? So you
15 dug the hole first? Okay? And then you put her
16 in the hole? Then what'd you do?

17 SKYLAR: I buried her.

18 DET. CARTER: Where'd you put --
19 it's all right. Look, it is what it is, you can't

20 change it, Skylar.

21 LT. FAINE: (Inaudible.)

22 SKYLAR: I'm so scared I'm going to
23 prison.

24 DET. CARTER: You were telling us
25 what happened, nothing's going to change what

1 happened, okay? But your intention was to try to
2 cremate her. So what part did you try to light?

3 SKYLAR: I guess I just --
4 (inaudible).

5 DET. CARTER: What part of the
6 remains? Like did you start like at the bottom,
7 at the top?

8 SKYLAR: At the bottom.

9 DET. CARTER: Okay.

10 LT. FAINE: Did you have anything
11 else or use anything to help try to light it? You
12 know, because usually at the crematorium there's
13 things that make it intense to help the process.
14 You didn't have anything to like any kind of
15 lighter fluid or gasoline or anything to try to --
16 something to try to help, help light?

17 SKYLAR: No.

18 LT. FAINE: I'm sorry?

19 SKYLAR: No.

20 LT. FAINE: You didn't?

21 DET. CARTER: Like the lighter on
22 like the feet or something?

23 SKYLAR: Yeah.

24 DET. CARTER: I don't want to put
25 words in your mouth. Like feet, legs? I mean you

1 didn't put it on her face.

2 SKYLAR: No.

3 LT. FAINE: And the towel was not on
4 then, right? The other day you said it wasn't
5 when you put her in the ground. So the towel was
6 not on, I just want to make sure that's still --
7 okay.

8 DET. CARTER: And then did it
9 ever -- did the remains ever catch fire? Like was
10 there an actual fire?

11 SKYLAR: Maybe.

12 LT. FAINE: Maybe?

13 SKYLAR: Maybe. A little
14 (inaudible).

15 DET. CARTER: Okay.

16 LT. FAINE: Was it dark outside or
17 was it daytime?

18 SKYLAR: Dark.

19 LT. FAINE: It was dark, okay.

20 SKYLAR: I think (inaudible).

21 LT. FAINE: Okay. And are you --
22 are you telling us the truth when you say this
23 took place right in the same hole where you buried
24 her?

25 SKYLAR: Yeah.

1 LT. FAINE: Okay. No, I'm just
2 asking just to make sure. I know you came out --
3 I mean like I said, you've been cooperative with
4 me. Remember you came out Friday and showed us
5 exactly where she was and everything so, you know,
6 which helped us and it helped get her quicker. So
7 it helped Annabelle. See, everything you do,
8 every time you tell us the truth it continues to
9 help her because like Brandi said it fills in this
10 hole and just keeps making it smaller. And then
11 we're going to get it all the way closed and we're
12 going to get her, you know, back to your family
13 where she belongs so -- so there can be a real,
14 you know, true burial where she's honored. And
15 like you said the other day, you were crying hard
16 Friday, you're like she deserved better, she
17 deserved better. You're right she does and she's
18 about to get -- you know, she's about to get
19 better like she deserves better. Better than
20 being in lab with doctors, you know, just
21 searching and sifting and poking and everything,
22 you know, now we're getting the truth from you so
23 we can be done with all of that. Can you -- so
24 tell -- how big would you describe the fire, would
25 you say big? Would you say small? Was it tall?

1 How like --

2 SKYLAR: I don't remember.

3 DET. CARTER: How far up did it go?

4 Like, was it like shin? I know maybe your legs
5 are super little, but like was it like this much?

6 Like, you know, if you want to use your forearms,
7 was it like this far up? Was it this far up? Do
8 you know how far up the fire went?

9 SKYLAR: No. (Inaudible.)

10 DET. CARTER: Okay. What about to
11 her chest area, stomach?

12 SKYLAR: Maybe. Maybe -- I tried to
13 put it out like --

14 DET. CARTER: What made you decide
15 you wanted get it out?

16 SKYLAR: It was wrong.

17 LT. FAINE: It just felt wrong?

18 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

19 DET. CARTER: Was she moving at that
20 point or making any --

21 SKYLAR: No, no.

22 DET. CARTER: There wasn't any noise
23 or anything, it was just -- okay.

24 LT. FAINE: So when you tried to get
25 it out, what did you do? How did you try to put

1 it out?

2 DET. CARTER: You didn't get burned,
3 did you?

4 SKYLAR: No. (Inaudible) shoo --

5 LT. FAINE: Just shoo like try to
6 get the flames, the flames down or --

7 SKYLAR: Yeah. Just get it off.

8 LT. FAINE: Okay. Just try do it
9 quickly and like you changed your mind. You said
10 it felt wrong so you changed your mind and --
11 okay. Which we understand. I can see that being
12 a natural reaction. You didn't feel like it was
13 right for her -- was it -- were you successful? I
14 mean once you were doing that were you able to put
15 the fire out or did you have to do -- did you have
16 to go get water or anything to help you?

17 SKYLAR: I don't think.

18 LT. FAINE: Because a lot of times
19 it's hard to get a fire out even with just dirt.

20 SKYLAR: No.

21 DET. CARTER: So you were able to
22 get it out before it reached her face maybe? How
23 long -- just let me ask you this because I know
24 cremation can take a while, how long do you think
25 once you kind of started the fire, how long do you

1 think that it went on before you put it out, like
2 ten, 20, 30 minutes? I know you're out there in
3 the dark and you were probably still in shock a
4 little bit and all of that but --

5 LT. FAINE: And not exact -- and
6 even you won't know an exact, a minute, two
7 minutes, 45 seconds, three minutes just --

8 DET. CARTER: Thirty minutes?

9 SKYLAR: (Inaudible) I don't think.

10 DET. CARTER: So at some point --
11 let me ask you this, what made you -- I know you
12 said you thought it was wrong, what made you I
13 have to put this out? Was it some another
14 thought? Was it as it was getting closer to her
15 face or was it just, you know, the smell or was
16 there another thing that just kinda made you
17 realize I shouldn't do this?

18 SKYLAR: No.

19 DET. CARTER: You just felt like it
20 was wrong?

21 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

22 LT. FAINE: What about -- what about
23 were you not concerned -- I mean just because like
24 it's a beautiful place where you live and I know
25 it's kind of big, but it's open, what about

1 someone seeing it, were you worried about someone
2 seeing a fire back there at that time of the night
3 and --

4 SKYLAR: No. All that was on my
5 mind was (inaudible).

6 LT. FAINE: I mean as I
7 understand -- that's why I asked that because that
8 would be understandable if that was, if that was
9 true, you know, because that's obviously -- that's
10 why I said earlier if it was dark that's going to
11 draw attention and it's going to make you worry
12 about someone coming out. And if you feel like
13 you're maybe doing something wrong and you're not
14 going to want someone to walk out and --

15 So you're able to -- you're able to
16 get all the flames out, right? You were able to
17 do that?

18 SKYLAR: Yeah.

19 LT. FAINE: Okay. And just by --

20 are you sure you didn't use anything, any water or
21 anything, you just got them out by using dirt?

22 SKYLAR: Dirt too, yeah.

23 LT. FAINE: Okay, using the dirt.

24 What do you do next?

25 SKYLAR: I buried her.

1 LT. FAINE: Then what did you do?

2 SKYLAR: I put the pot kind of on
3 top of her.

4 DET. CARTER: Then what?

5 LT. FAINE: Which is the pot that
6 was there when we went out.

7 DET. CARTER: Then what did you do
8 for yourself? Like what did you do -- I mean at
9 this point you've been through a lot, so what do
10 you do?

11 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

12 DET. CARTER: Okay. Is that where
13 you put it in the trash can thing outside?

14 SKYLAR: (Nodding.)

15 DET. CARTER: Okay. And you said
16 you buried the placenta too, right? Did you put
17 that in -- what order did you put that in verses
18 her?

19 SKYLAR: After, I think.

20 DET. CARTER: Was it after the fire
21 or with the fire? Just like if you have an idea
22 if that was in there or not. This is kind of a
23 weird thing to kind of carry around. Like it's an
24 odd, it's an odd matter. Was it -- let me ask you
25 this, was it still attached? Like did you cut the

1 cord?

2 SKYLAR: The cord came out. I
3 didn't cut anything.

4 DET. CARTER: You didn't cut the
5 cord from her?

6 SKYLAR: No.

7 DET. CARTER: Because the cord is
8 attached. Was it still attached to the placenta;
9 do you remember?

10 SKYLAR: No.

11 DET. CARTER: Okay.

12 SKYLAR: I don't remember, it might
13 have been.

14 DET. CARTER: Usually the cord is
15 attached to the baby and then it's attached to the
16 placenta which is inside of you but it comes out
17 after birth. So usually it's still attached. So
18 like when babies are born they cut the cord, you
19 know, so that the baby can be separate from the
20 placenta. Did you ever cut it?

21 SKYLAR: No, no.

22 DET. CARTER: So it still would have
23 been attached then to her?

24 SKYLAR: Maybe, I didn't think it
25 was attached to her.

1 DET. CARTER: Okay. So you maybe
2 put the placenta in before, but you're not sure?
3 Okay. So that may have burned as well? So let me
4 just ask you this very important question, okay,
5 because it's really important. I mean you've
6 already told us most of it, okay. At what
7 point -- I feel like, you know, you're a mom now,
8 you had a kid, I know she didn't make it but you
9 had a kid, so you have that kind of intuition. At
10 what point do you feel like she stopped breathing?
11 Was it in the toilet? When you were squeezing
12 her?

13 SKYLAR: I didn't think she was
14 breathing when she came out.

15 DET. CARTER: Okay. What made you
16 think that?

17 SKYLAR: I don't know.

18 DET. CARTER: Did you like see her
19 little chest rise even once?

20 SKYLAR: No, I wasn't looking at
21 that.

22 DET. CARTER: Did you like -- did
23 her little toes move or anything her fingers?
24 Okay.

25 LT. FAINE: Did you hear anything

1 like little gurgle sounds like --

2 SKYLAR: I don't know.

3 LT. FAINE: Like a little gurgle
4 sound? You know, this is -- this is important
5 because I know you're telling us a lot of truth
6 now, but it's been really hard to get to the
7 truth, you know. And like when we first asked you
8 about the fire, you know, that was just based on
9 not because we were there, but just based on all
10 the evidence that the doctors gave us. When we
11 first said that, you know, like you leaned back
12 and you're like oh, my gosh, no, no way I --

13 SKYLAR: I know.

14 LT. FAINE: But then as it turns out
15 you know you decide, okay, I am going to -- I am
16 just going to tell them that. So, you know, this
17 has -- Annabelle, she was a good sized, I mean she
18 was a good sized little girl. You're a healthy
19 ~~girl, you know, and from what it sounds like you~~
20 had a regular labor and if there's such thing as a
21 regular labor that sounds like a fast delivery, it
22 sounds like you kind of had a regular one and you
23 really -- you seemed sincere like you felt like
24 you might have made her stop breathing. You said
25 you felt guilty because you felt like you might

1 have accidentally killed her when you squeezed her
2 so hard.

3 DET. CARTER: That's why he's asking
4 you why.

5 LT. FAINE: But the only way you're
6 going to feel like you accidentally did that is if
7 you had some reason to know she was alive before
8 that. Do you see what I'm --

9 SKYLAR: So what are you guys
10 saying?

11 LT. FAINE: I'm saying --

12 SKYLAR: Like if anything maybe I
13 second guessed myself.

14 DET. CARTER: No, like, what we were
15 just saying is we were just trying to figure out
16 what happened, and you said -- I mean you got
17 really upset and really kind of broke down and
18 said I feel like I killed her when I was squeezing
19 her.

20 SKYLAR: I just didn't -- like there
21 was so much I didn't do I could have paid
22 attention to.

23 DET. CARTER: Like what? What do
24 you feel like -- I mean looking back you can't
25 change it, but looking back what do you feel like

1 you should have done?

2 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

3 DET. CARTER: Maybe got her out of
4 the toilet faster?

5 LT. FAINE: That's what I was going
6 -- that's what I was going to ask, Skylar, what
7 was it -- I mean I know -- I know this pregnancy
8 wasn't what you planned or anything, but I also
9 know -- I think that as of you being a mom I think
10 you basically felt like you kind of fell in love
11 with Annabelle right when you saw her. I feel
12 that. I've never been a mom, but I do know
13 there's -- I don't think there's a stronger bond
14 in the whole world than there is between a mother
15 and their children, boy or girl, whichever they
16 have. So --

17 DET. CARTER: You owe that to her to
18 tell --

19 LT. FAINE: -- I think you
20 immediately fell in love with her and you, you
21 made those -- you said you worried that you
22 accidentally, you did something and there were so
23 many more things you could have done. You're
24 still -- you're just holding something back. You
25 know, I think that -- I don't know if you heard

1 her cry. I don't know if she whimpered, but
2 there's something that you're holding back for
3 whatever reason and you're so close. And it's
4 kind of like the fire because it's so hard to say,
5 we don't think -- I think I can speak for both of
6 us, I don't think you killed her. But I think you
7 had signs that she was alive at least just a
8 little bit, you know, but I don't think you killed
9 her. But I believe that based on everything and
10 talking to you and I just believe that there were
11 signs that she was alive at first. And then I
12 don't think you tried to kill her. But I think
13 there were signs that she was, and I want you to
14 please for her just tell me what -- tell us what
15 those were. How did you know at first, you know,
16 that she was probably alive just a little bit?

17 SKYLAR: Maybe I thought I saw her
18 chest when I was cleaning up and I -- I don't know
19 if I --

20 LT. FAINE: And don't -- I'm not
21 trying to get you to say maybes or anything, just
22 please just share the truth with us. Skylar,
23 you're so, you're so close and you were so sincere
24 when you were worried that you did something
25 accidental. We both know -- we all three know you

1 didn't do anything on purpose, but I know you were
2 so sincere. Like one thing, Skylar, we talk to so
3 many people and if you could see yourself from
4 across here there are certain things when you do
5 like when you got to that part, just your facial
6 expression was that you were so sincere like you
7 truly felt awful like you did something. But you
8 knew you didn't do it on purpose. So those
9 feelings were genuine. But what that also tells
10 me for 100 percent sure, I know that somehow you
11 know she was alive like before that. And that's
12 why you're worried you didn't do something that
13 could have helped.

14 SKYLAR: Well, I think she might
15 have made a noise.

16 LT. FAINE: Made a noise? What kind
17 of noise?

18 SKYLAR: Maybe a little noise, a
19 gurgle. But I didn't know if it was something

20 else like -- and then I didn't hear another one.

21 LT. FAINE: Didn't hear another one?
22 Okay, which is nature because that's what -- I
23 mean again I'm not a mom but I've been in the
24 delivery room for four of them and then there's,
25 there's like kind of a gurgle sound and the

1 doctors will suction out, you know, that --

2 SKYLAR: Yeah, but I didn't hear it
3 again.

4 LT. FAINE: I'm sorry?

5 SKYLAR: I didn't hear it again.

6 LT. FAINE: Okay.

7 DET. CARTER: Was that like when she
8 was in the toilet or was that when you were
9 squeezing her?

10 SKYLAR: I think it was when she was
11 in the toilet.

12 DET. CARTER: You heard like one
13 gurgle and then not another sound?

14 LT. FAINE: Like, she said then you
15 thought then maybe heard one more gurgle?

16 SKYLAR: No, I said I didn't hear
17 another one I don't think.

18 DET. CARTER: Just the one.

19 ~~LT. FAINE: What else -- what else~~

20 made you think that at first she was alive beside
21 the gurgle sound? Tell us about -- because one
22 thing babies will do is I know even as they're
23 getting ready to do that suction like the second
24 when they first come out, you know, their -- like
25 their arms they're kind of like this or -- they

1 don't --

2 SKYLAR: She might have moved but I
3 didn't look right away. I was like in shock, I
4 don't --

5 LT. FAINE: I understand.

6 DET. CARTER: Yeah, a baby just fell
7 out of you, I mean that would be shocking.

8 LT. FAINE: That would be shocking.
9 You're doing this by yourself in your bathroom.
10 You're parents are home. But when you did -- when
11 you did finally look, what else were you able to
12 see or hear? Did you see an arm -- either arm
13 move or both arms move at some point when you did
14 look?

15 It's okay, we're just trying to
16 get -- I'm just trying to know -- I want to be
17 able to tell the doctor what all signs you saw.
18 How do you know the baby was alive just a little
19 bit, that Annabelle was alive a little bit. I'm
20 just trying to help that.

21 SKYLAR: I saw her arms maybe a
22 little bit moving (inaudible).

23 DET. CARTER: Was that also when she
24 was in the toilet?

25 SKYLAR: Yeah, I think and I picked

1 her up I don't know what happened.

2 LT. FAINE: What about legs because
3 I guess they would have been the closest part?

4 SKYLAR: Maybe, but the way she was
5 squished up.

6 LT. FAINE: Oh, okay. And when you
7 say, "maybe," what does that mean because we're
8 not trying to put words in your mouth, Skylar, at
9 all. I just -- I know that you made it clear that
10 she was alive at first --

11 DET. CARTER: I mean you know what
12 happened. We know, you just have to say it.

13 LT. FAINE: It's okay, like I told
14 you, nothing changes. Every time you tell us the
15 truth nothing is changing, you know --

16 SKYLAR: Yeah, I'm just really ready
17 for it to be over. I don't want to go to jail.

18 LT. FAINE: Dear, I know you are so,
19 ~~you are so ready. And what's, what's good is~~

20 you're finally -- think about all the truth you've
21 told today compared to where we were last Friday.
22 Okay.

23 DET. CARTER: Think about how proud
24 Annabelle would be to have you as a mom for being
25 honest about what happened.

1 LT. FAINE: It's okay.

2 DET. CARTER: What'd you say?

3 SKYLAR: I'm scared.

4 DET. CARTER: I know. Do you think
5 that leaving her in the toilet is what stopped her
6 breathing? Because I know before you said you
7 thought it was when you squeezed her, but --

8 SKYLAR: Yeah, I don't know. I
9 just --

10 LT. FAINE: Or when you pulled --
11 when you got her out of the toilet I guess the way
12 we'll know that, Skylar, is when you got her out
13 of the toilet did you still have more signs and
14 that's -- so then that's what made you think the
15 squeezing did it or --

16 SKYLAR: Maybe. I didn't think I
17 saw a heart beat.

18 LT. FAINE: I can understand that,
19 ~~it's kind of like a shallow -- I mean a brand new~~
20 baby's heart beat is kind of -- kind of different
21 and they're so tiny, you're not going to feel her
22 wrist or anything. But when you -- I would think
23 especially when you did get her out of the toilet,
24 you know, you got her more upright and there was
25 no water and everything and then especially you

1 may or may not get a gurgle sound. I would think
2 you would probably have some movement then or feel
3 her like squirm a little bit as you hold her.

4 DET. CARTER: If she was still alive
5 then. We're just trying to figure out was it, you
6 know, her in the toilet that's when it happened or
7 because I know you said you heard the gurgle in
8 the toilet and then you didn't hear anymore.

9 SKYLAR: No, I don't think no unless
10 I didn't hear it because of the towel while I was
11 holding her.

12 DET. CARTER: At what point, because
13 there's always that defining moment, at what
14 moment did you know that she was gone? Because
15 you can just, I mean people kind of turn different
16 colors and you can tell.

17 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

18 DET. CARTER: You just didn't look
19 at her. Okay. That's a very honest answer,

20 Skylar. Did you look at her -- like did you ever
21 look at her face or just that was something you
22 were trying to avoid?

23 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

24 LT. FAINE: Do you -- can you
25 remember do you know if she had any hair?

1 SKYLAR: Yeah.

2 LT. FAINE: She did. Okay. Because
3 some, you know, some babies have a lot. Some just
4 some fuzz and some have none. So do you think
5 that she did?

6 SKYLAR: (Nodding.)

7 LT. FAINE: Okay. What color was
8 it?

9 SKYLAR: Dark maybe.

10 LT. FAINE: Just dark?

11 SKYLAR: Maybe.

12 LT. FAINE: Okay. It's, okay.

13 DET. CARTER: Just breathe.

14 SKYLAR: I want my mom and dad.

15 DET. CARTER: I know, but I don't
16 know if they're still here or if they ran to get
17 something to drink or not.

18 LT. FAINE: I think they were just
19 ~~going to wait.~~

20 DET. CARTER: -- something
21 (inaudible).

22 LT. FAINE: In her face, could you
23 tell like in her face did she look like you? I
24 mean did she -- sometimes it's hard to tell with
25 babies because they kind of just look like

1 themselves, but did you feel like she looked like
2 you when you saw her face?

3 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

4 LT. FAINE: Or like one of your
5 parents or anything like that or --

6 DET. CARTER: So probably -- well,
7 not probably, what I'm hearing you say and please
8 correct me if I'm wrong, is there was no movement
9 or signs of life after the toilet that you
10 remember?

11 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

12 DET. CARTER: Well, you're not a
13 doctor. I don't expect you to be able to, you
14 know -- I just wanted to be clear about, you know,
15 what point you thought she was gone. That's all,
16 I just kind of wanted to know for her.

17 LT. FAINE: Let's ask it this way,
18 Skylar, how long -- and again, I don't expect you
19 ~~to know exactly, but how long do you think that~~
20 she was alive like just your closest guess? I
21 mean I know you're not sure how long she was in
22 the toilet, but how long would be your closest
23 guess how long she was alive?

24 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

25 DET. CARTER: A lot. It's a lot to

1 do with a team of doctors let alone by yourself,
2 so I get it. Just try to think so that we have an
3 idea how long she was alive.

4 SKYLAR: (Inaudible) yeah, maybe.

5 DET. CARTER: Okay. And I know you
6 said earlier you thought maybe and we're not
7 holding you to it, Skylar, but maybe she was in
8 the toilet a couple of minutes while you were kind
9 of freaking out. Okay. That's all right. Okay,
10 that's fine. Just breathe. You've got to keep
11 breathing. Take deep breaths.

12 SKYLAR: Are we almost done?

13 LT. FAINE: I think so, yeah. We're
14 just -- we're getting close.

15 DET. CARTER: Do you want some water
16 now? Do you want some water or something to
17 drink?

18 SKYLAR: I want to go home.

19 ~~LT. FAINE: This is where -- this is~~
20 where we are at. This is the last thing, Skylar,
21 when I say this is where we're at, this point is
22 the last part because it's -- we're just trying to
23 figure out now this is like how long she was
24 alive, you know. We know that you had some
25 indications that she was. We also believe that

1 you did not do -- you know, I mean babies are born
2 and unfortunately die shortly after they're born
3 and it happens literally every day. I hate to say
4 that but that literally happens every, every
5 single day. And I'm just trying to -- just trying
6 to get a close idea is it -- do we think of it was
7 two minutes? Do we think it was five minutes? Do
8 we think it was ten minutes? You know, it
9 doesn't -- it doesn't change things if it was five
10 minutes or ten minutes or 20 minutes, or 30
11 minutes.

12 SKYLAR: I can't remember, it was so
13 long ago. Five minutes (inaudible).

14 DET. CARTER: Five minutes that she
15 was alive or five minutes that she was in the
16 toilet?

17 SKYLAR: Maybe she was alive. I
18 don't know.

19 DET. CARTER: Okay.

20 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

21 LT. FAINE: Was she ever -- was she
22 ever loud enough that you were worried maybe
23 somebody might hear her?

24 SKYLAR: No.

25 LT. FAINE: She wasn't loud enough

1 to --

2 SKYLAR: I don't think so.

3 LT. FAINE: You don't think she was
4 or -- because I know in the house you're upstairs,
5 you're in the bathroom and it could -- you know,
6 the rooms were -- the rooms are kind of close.
7 Did she cry? Because if she was -- if she was
8 alive that long I would definitely expect she
9 would cry at least a little bit. I wasn't there
10 but it would be -- it would be very natural if she
11 would cry. And I think you would -- you would
12 know that because moms, you know, they're more
13 sensitive to their baby's crying than anyone, you
14 know. And this is -- this is Annabelle and you're
15 her mom and I just -- did you hear her cry?

16 SKYLAR: Maybe a little bit. But
17 she was in the water, I didn't know if I heard
18 right.

19 LT. FAINE: It's okay.

20 SKYLAR: I mean just a gurgle.

21 (Inaudible.)

22 LT. FAINE: You didn't kill her.
23 Now we're just trying to get the truth so we can
24 bring her home, okay?

25 SKYLAR: Yeah.

1 LT. FAINE: We told you so much.
2 We're not trying to, to be mean to you or judge
3 you.

4 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

5 LT. FAINE: We're not, we won't. No
6 matter what you say, it's not going to happen no
7 matter -- we've both been doing this for so long.
8 We're both parents of kids older than you. We're
9 neither one going to all of a sudden become
10 something different. So no matter what you say,
11 it's not -- you know, we -- we've got children,
12 even children we've never met, you know, so we're
13 just in the same situation I think where your
14 parents are and I can tell now that you are just
15 wanting to get all the truth out for Annabelle,
16 you know, because like you said, Skylar, she
17 deserves it more than anything. She deserves it
18 more than anything.

19 ~~When you -- is that what made you~~
20 worry about the squeezing I would assume is the
21 crying that you heard was that before you
22 squeezed?

23 SKYLAR: I think.

24 LT. FAINE: Did you hear any crying
25 after or did you hear --

1 SKYLAR: Just a little crying.

2 LT. FAINE: A little cry?

3 SKYLAR: Maybe just a little crying.

4 LT. FAINE: Okay.

5 DET. CARTER: Was that in the toilet
6 or outside of the toilet?

7 SKYLAR: In the toilet.

8 DET. CARTER: Okay. You've been
9 pretty consistent about the fact that the only
10 noise you really heard was when she was in the
11 toilet; is that right?

12 SKYLAR: Yeah.

13 DET. CARTER: Okay. The only
14 movement you saw was when she was in the toilet?

15 SKYLAR: Yeah.

16 DET. CARTER: I don't think you -- I
17 don't think she strayed from that. I know you
18 were worried about squeezing her and holding her,
19 ~~but the only noise you heard her make was in the~~
20 toilet; is that right?

21 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

22 DET. CARTER: Okay. Is there
23 anything else that we need to know or that we need
24 to know about Annabelle, or that Annabelle needs
25 to know from you, anything you can think of?

1 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

2 DET. CARTER: I know, I know.

3 You're her mom, is there anything else that you
4 feel like you need to say or feel like you need to
5 bring forth for Annabelle? We're not going to
6 judge you, obviously.

7 LT. FAINE: I'll be back in a sec.

8 DET. CARTER: You feel like you told
9 us everything because we know everything -- he
10 probably has to pee. He's old so he has to pee a
11 lot. Do you feel like, you know -- so when you
12 face Annabelle up there you told us everything
13 that we need to know. You told us everything?
14 There's nothing else? Okay.

15 SKYLAR: Am I going to jail?

16 DET. CARTER: I don't know what's
17 going to happen. That is not up to us, okay. Do
18 you feel like -- you keep saying that, do you feel
19 like you should be?

20 SKYLAR: I'm so scared. I don't
21 think I should. I tried.

22 DET. CARTER: Okay. I don't know
23 what's going to happen because those are the
24 decisions I can't make because that's not --
25 that's not what I do. But I will tell you that,

1 you know, you being honest with us here today and
2 cooperative and telling us what happened for
3 Annabelle, that's what matters, okay? I don't
4 control the future. I don't know what's going to
5 happen to you. I know that, you know, you're a
6 young girl and you've got your whole future ahead
7 of you. You just need to think about Annabelle.

8 SKYLAR: Yeah.

9 DET. CARTER: Okay. And be proud of
10 yourself for being honest today. Because a lot of
11 people would have lied, you know. A lot of people
12 that don't care about their kids would have lied.
13 Okay. Obviously you were honest. Okay. You
14 obviously care about Annabelle. You're worried
15 about, you know, her, her resting and you worry
16 about her. But this will help the doctors get
17 everything processed and then they can get the
18 remains back to your family and then you guys can
19 ~~plan whatever you guys want to do. What do they~~

20 want to do? Do they want to do a funeral? Do
21 they want to do --

22 SKYLAR: I want do a funeral.

23 DET. CARTER: What do your parents
24 want to do?

25 SKYLAR: I'm not sure. (Inaudible.)

1 DET. CARTER: Were just waiting for
2 him to come back and then. Like I said, I think
3 we are the only ones here. I don't know if there
4 is anybody else here, so we have to wait for him
5 to come back. I think they ran to Speedway, they
6 said they were going to get something but I don't
7 know. Actually, my phone's been on the floor
8 while we were talking. I'm sure you heard it
9 buzzing like crazy. I heard my phone going off,
10 but, hell, it could be anything. What kind of
11 schedule to you work at the Y? Do you work like
12 full-time?

13 SKYLAR: No.

14 DET. CARTER: No, okay.

15 SKYLAR: Like two days a week.

16 DET. CARTER: Like how many hours?

17 SKYLAR: Four or five.

18 DET. CARTER: How would -- so is it

19 ~~like recovering from the birth, was that hard? I~~
20 know there's a lot, a lot of bleeding. Lots and
21 lots of bleeding. Did you have any complications?
22 Are you worried about anything with your body or
23 anything? Okay. Feel okay? Don't feel like you
24 need to see a doctor? Have you seen a doctor
25 since?

1 SKYLAR: (Shaking head.)

2 DET. CARTER: Okay. Do you feel
3 like you need to get checked out and make sure
4 you're okay?

5 SKYLAR: (Shaking head.)

6 DET. CARTER: I know when I had a
7 kid I was 21, I felt like my entire insides were
8 falling out so I saw a doctor.

9 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

10 DET. CARTER: I think that might be
11 what he's doing, I'm not sure. He's not texting
12 me so I don't know.

13 SKYLAR: So I'm stuck in here?

14 DET. CARTER: You and I are both
15 stuck here right now. I can't leave either. I'm
16 guessing your parents don't know anything about
17 what we talked about today.

18 SKYLAR: I'll talk to them.

19 ~~DET. CARTER: I'm sure they'll want~~
20 to hear from you (inaudible). I have a 19 year
21 old. I know it would come better from me or from
22 my kid than it would somebody else, so it will be
23 a difficult conversation to have I'm sure. I
24 think you are an 18-year-old girl who just had a
25 terrible situation that maybe they made some bad

1 decisions and had to deal with, you know. I mean
2 you're young, you were all alone. You never told
3 anyone? I don't think I could keep that like that
4 is a lot to keep to yourself, you know. Did you
5 ever want to tell your parents? Yeah. Were you
6 afraid they would be mad at you or -- yeah. It's
7 a lot to keep inside for a long time.

8 SKYLAR: Am I going to go to jail?

9 DET. CARTER: That's my judgment
10 call. Like I told you before like I don't judge.
11 I feel like, you know, there's a whole host of
12 things that were going on in your mind at the
13 time. And that's really not up to me to decide.
14 You know, I've not been in your shoes. I was
15 young when I had my daughter but it was a
16 different set of circumstances, you know. I don't
17 know -- I don't know your family. I don't know if
18 you have the kind of parents that like mine
19 ~~probably would have killed me if I -- you know, if~~
20 I got pregnant. You know, I really would have
21 probably been in fear to tell them. But I was out
22 of the house when I got pregnant so it's a
23 different circumstance.

24 I do know like I told you before,
25 Skylar, you know, this isn't a situation where you

1 had her and threw her in the trash. You've seen
2 that on the news, people just through there kids
3 away with the trash. You didn't do that. You
4 tried to cremate her, tried to bury her. You
5 know, you tried to keep her close to you.

6 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

7 DET. CARTER: I don't know if he's
8 talking to them right now or not, so we have to
9 wait for him to come back here. I don't know.

10 SKYLAR: Do you think they'll take
11 me away today?

12 DET. CARTER: No. He might be
13 talking to them right now, I don't know.

14 SKYLAR: But do you think they'll
15 take me away?

16 DET. CARTER: I don't know. I don't
17 know what's going to happen, I really don't.

18 (Inaudible). There he is. She's just worried
19 about her parents and where they were.

20 LT. FAINE: That's where I've been
21 talking to them.

22 DET. CARTER: I told her you were
23 probably were talking to them.

24 LT. FAINE: I was talking to your
25 parents. Not -- I haven't told them what we

1 talked about -- I didn't tell them anything that
2 we talked today.

3 SKYLAR: Yeah, I need to tell them.

4 LT. FAINE: I didn't tell them
5 literally anything that we talked about today. I
6 just told her that -- your dad I said like I told
7 you when I first called you, we had more questions
8 that came up as a result of the coroner's
9 investigation. I said we're speaking with Skylar.
10 I said she's being honest. I said, you know,
11 still just a very remorseful young -- you're
12 remorseful. I'm sorry, I just want to make sure,
13 a very remorseful young woman and still a
14 scared -- a scared girl but she's helping answer a
15 lot of the questions that, you know, resulted as a
16 result of the examination from the doctors. And I
17 said the stuff she is -- you know, she's helping
18 us understand so -- and that's where we are.

19 ~~SKYLAR: Okay.~~

20 DET. CARTER: She just expressed
21 that she wanted tell them, you know, what --

22 LT. FAINE: And I said -- you're 18
23 years old, if you were still 17, but you were
24 close, you were -- this would be a completely
25 different situation. That's what I was telling

1 your dad. I said I'm sorry, it's not -- I don't
2 have a reason to tell them that and you've earned
3 the right because you're 18 years old and you're
4 Annabelle's mom. You know, you have the right to
5 be the one, you know, to do that. And I know it's
6 going to be hard, I know that I'm sure but --

7 DET. CARTER: How do you want -- do
8 you want to do that here? Like do you want her
9 to talk to them and tell them like --

10 SKYLAR: Do I get to go home?

11 LT. FAINE: She's asking you how you
12 --

13 DET. CARTER: I'm not asking you if
14 you want to do it here with --

15 SKYLAR: No, I want to go home and
16 tell them.

17 DET. CARTER: Okay. You don't want
18 to do here. I'm just asking. I would want to do
19 ~~it here because I wouldn't want to be alone with~~

20 them, but I was just curious. Okay. So do we
21 have a plan from here?

22 LT. FAINE: I have -- I had a lot of
23 bottles of Diet Pepsi so I need to step out to the
24 restroom. That's my immediate plan, I'm sorry --

25 DET. CARTER: Do you want some water

1 or anything?

2 SKYLAR: No.

3 LT. FAINE: -- if that's too much
4 information, but I'll be right back.

5 DET. CARTER: I know, I know.

6 SKYLAR: (Inaudible) in here.

7 DET. CARTER: I know, me too.

8 SKYLAR: Do I get to go home? Will
9 I go to prison?

10 DET. CARTER: You won't -- no.

11 Prison is like after -- like you'd have to go to
12 court first before you would go to prison. You'd
13 have go to court and talk to the judge and there'd
14 have to be (inaudible) to go to prison. Prison is
15 like you go to serve time if you get time. You'll
16 either go home -- you won't stay here. Either
17 you'll go home with your parents or stay in the
18 jail in Lebanon. But it wouldn't be -- you won't
19 go to prison. I don't know if you'll ever go to
20 prison, it's up to the judge.

21 SKYLAR: Will I have to go to court?

22 DET. CARTER: I think so, probably.
23 I don't know for what yet, though, that's the
24 thing. Those are all decisions that somebody with
25 a law degree makes. You'll probably have to go to

1 court. It could be for any number of things, but,
2 yeah, you may go to court. That's your
3 opportunity to talk to the judge like you talked
4 to us, Skylar, and be honest and -- do you know
5 what I mean? Like I think that's going to be your
6 biggest thing is that you -- you want to deal with
7 what's happened. You care about Annabelle.

8 SKYLAR: Do you hate me?

9 DET. CARTER: I don't hate you. I'm
10 worried about you. I think you did the right
11 thing today. That makes me not hate you. Like I
12 said, you could have thrown her in the trash, you
13 could have come in here and lied. You could have
14 said I don't give a shit about Annabelle. You
15 didn't, you came in here and you told us what
16 happened, right? You told us what happened
17 because you care about her.

18 SKYLAR: I want my mom and dad.

19 ~~DET. CARTER: What do you think --~~

20 how do you think they're going to feel after you
21 tell them what happened? I don't know them so --

22 SKYLAR: Maybe they'll understand.

23 DET. CARTER: Understand what?

24 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

25 DET. CARTER: Skylar, you're 18, you

1 got a whole life in front of you. Like I told
2 you, you don't have a magic wand, I don't have a
3 magic wand, neither one of us can erase what
4 happened, but you can deal with it whatever that
5 means. I don't know -- you deal with it whatever
6 that means. You have get through it. You learn
7 from it and then you move on. You have a whole
8 life ahead of you. You're 18, okay. You have a
9 whole life ahead of you. And then you'll be old
10 like me at 41 and this will all be behind you. It
11 won't take that long, but I'm just saying, you
12 know.

13 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

14 DET. CARTER: When you're 41, I
15 don't think so.

16 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

17 DET. CARTER: No, they don't keep
18 anybody here. This is just like the -- like they
19 ~~just have the rooms here.~~

20 SKYLAR: Will they going to put me
21 in jail for it?

22 DET. CARTER: I don't know. I don't
23 even know if you're going to jail. When did you
24 turn 18?

25 SKYLAR: March.

1 DET. CARTER: March, March what?

2 SKYLAR: Ninth. (Inaudible.)

3 DET. CARTER: I don't know if he's
4 out talking to your parents again or --

5 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

6 DET. CARTER: I bet you do.

7 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

8 DET. CARTER: It's pretty scary, but
9 I'm here, I'm not going to go anywhere. He knows
10 what's happening.

11 SKYLAR: Hold my hand please.
12 (Inaudible.)

13 DET. CARTER: You'll get through it.
14 You are going to get through this, Skylar, you
15 know you'll get through this, you will. This does
16 not have to define the rest of your life.

17 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

18 DET. CARTER: I can't (inaudible)
19 ~~him. But I can stay with you, but as soon as he~~
20 comes back in, okay? I'm not allowed to leave you
21 here alone, okay. I want to make sure you are
22 safe. I know this feels like the end of the world
23 right now, but you have to just get through it,
24 face it, get through it, okay? You can't change
25 it, you can't fix it, you can't go back and do

1 anything different. You just have to get through
2 it.

3 SKYLAR: I know, I know.

4 DET. CARTER: That's how life works.
5 We've all screwed up. We've all done stupid
6 stuff. You just have to work through it. Take
7 whatever consequences there are and just move
8 forward.

9 SKYLAR: Yeah.

10 DET. CARTER: You're 18, okay.
11 You've got your whole life ahead of you. You'll
12 get through this. It will change you. You'll be
13 a completely different person. But you'll get
14 through this and then you move forward. One day
15 at a time, right? Welcome to being an adult, it's
16 not as much fun as they make it sound. What's
17 your mom's name?

18 SKYLAR: Kim.

19 ~~DET. CARTER: Kim? What's your~~
20 dad's name?

21 SKYLAR: Scott.

22 DET. CARTER: Scott, okay. You're
23 the only child?

24 SKYLAR: No, I have a brother.

25 DET. CARTER: How old is he?

1 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

2 DET. CARTER: Are you guys kind of
3 close in age? Does he live with you then?

4 SKYLAR: (Nodding.)

5 DET. CARTER: Did he have any
6 suspicion that you were pregnant or anything?

7 SKYLAR: (Shaking head.)

8 DET. CARTER: Did anybody?

9 SKYLAR: (Shaking head.)

10 DET. CARTER: I think it would be
11 hard to hide because you're so tiny.

12 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

13 DET. CARTER: Yeah. You just do
14 that anyway?

15 SKYLAR: Yeah.

16 DET. CARTER: Big sweatshirts,
17 hoodies?

18 SKYLAR: Yeah. (Inaudible.)

19 ~~DET. CARTER: You need some? My~~
20 fingers are cramped up. No, you're fine, you're
21 fine. They're just cramping a little bit.

22 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

23 DET. CARTER: That's not our call,
24 we're just waiting to hear what they want us to
25 do.

1 SKYLAR: Yeah.

2 DET. CARTER: (Inaudible) no matter
3 what happens. One day at a time, right? One
4 minute at a time if you have to. Take it all --
5 you know. It will be okay eventually. Not right
6 away, but eventually.

7 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

8 DET. CARTER: Of course.

9 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

10 DET. CARTER: Honestly, Skylar, I do
11 not know. I mean I honestly don't know until we
12 finish our interviews with people and keep them
13 talking and know all the facts, then we call our
14 boss and say what do they want us to do. It's not
15 even our decision that we make.

16 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

17 DET. CARTER: I don't think it will
18 be too much longer. I just -- I'm not sure what
19 ~~they're doing out there so I'm assuming that~~

20 they're waiting for a phone call. But those are
21 decisions that are made by other people, not us.
22 They tell us what to do. It's pretty much how
23 life works. Everybody has a boss, right?

24 SKYLAR: What's the worst thing that
25 ever happened to you?

1 DET. CARTER: Well, when I was 20 my
2 mom was killed.

3 SKYLAR: How'd she die?

4 DET. CARTER: My stepdad killed her.
5 And it sucked for quite a while and then it got
6 better. At the time, however, I thought that my
7 life was over and I was not going to make it. So
8 that might be how you're feeling today like it's
9 over, life's over. I know. It's not true. You
10 feel that way though. I know as a mom I've been
11 telling you that you shouldn't feel that way or
12 that it's not going to happen or help but it does
13 get better. It takes time. I really want you to
14 hold on to the knowledge, though, that you did the
15 right thing and you told everything. I think
16 that's far more important than anything else
17 because you have to -- you have to live with that.
18 You know, if you would have lied and continued to
19 ~~not tell the truth, you know, not really put~~
20 everything to rest, you would have to live with
21 that, you know. It's important. You did the
22 right thing for Annabelle, ultimately for you, for
23 your family what they know happened. And for you
24 so you don't have to live with it all by yourself.
25 It's a lot to hold onto with no one else knowing.

1 I think it might have initially made you really
2 hard just keeping all that inside.

3 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

4 DET. CARTER: I don't know.

5 (Inaudible). That's all up to a judge. They
6 don't make that decision here.

7 SKYLAR: I was just asking.

8 DET. CARTER: Well, it depends on
9 what you're charged with. I don't know. Do you
10 see what I'm saying, I don't know what charges
11 there would be and all of that. I mean --

12 SKYLAR: Can I be here for life?

13 DET. CARTER: I don't know. I don't
14 think so. I can't -- like your whole life, like
15 forever, until you die? I don't think so. It's
16 really unlikely. It's not up to me, it's up to a
17 judge who you'll have an opportunity to talk to.
18 The person that makes those decisions, Skylar,
19 ~~you'll have a chance to talk to.~~

20 I'm just going to be on the other
21 side of this door, okay? Just right here.

22 Okay. So here's the deal, I think
23 you already know that you're not going home. We
24 just got the answers. So my question for you is
25 you've been so cooperative with us, we want to

1 extend you every courtesy, do you want to talk to
2 your parents here before you go? Do you want to
3 do that or do you just want to wait and talk to
4 them later? It's totally up to you.

5 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

6 DET. CARTER: That's up to a judge.
7 Like I told you, I'm not BSing you, all of these
8 decisions from here on out are up to a judge. So
9 when you get out all -- but my question right now
10 which we control is, do you want to have a
11 conversation with your parents so that they
12 understand why you're going or do you not -- it's
13 up to you, you're 18, you can do whatever you want
14 to do. Do you want to talk to them here, we would
15 be in the room just because we have to make sure
16 everybody is safe. Do you want to talk to them
17 here or do you just want to have a conversation
18 with them later? That is up to you. No one's
~~19 judging you, whatever you decide to do.~~

20 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

21 DET. CARTER: I mean if you want to
22 talk to them -- the problem is if you want to talk
23 to them they're going to want to know why you're
24 going to jail. We have not told them anything.
25 You are 18, we have not told them anything.

1 LT. FAINE: Yeah, I haven't told
2 your mom and dad anything.

3 DET. CARTER: They know nothing.
4 They don't know you're going to jail so --

5 LT. FAINE: All I told them was
6 there was more evidence due to the forensic
7 examination just like I told you when we started.
8 I said -- and I said, and Skylar's being -- I feel
9 like she's being honest. That's all I told them.
10 I said, you know --

11 DET. CARTER: That's why we wanted
12 to know if you wanted to talk to them or not. Or
13 we can just tell them that we-can't tell them
14 anything because you're 18 and that you're going
15 to jail. They're going to see -- I mean I'm just
16 asking you because they're going to see -- they'll
17 eventually, you know how the news is. You know
18 how they've already been, they're ridiculous. So
19 ~~they're going to see whatever they decide to~~
20 charge you with, they're going to see that. So
21 it's up to you if you want to have that
22 conversation over the phone when you're in jail or
23 if you want to have it here before you go. We're
24 just asking what you want to do. It's up to you.
25 We can tell them whatever you want us to tell

1 them. We don't have to tell them anything because
2 you're 18. But it's up to you if you want to talk
3 them here or you want to just -- they can find out
4 later.

5 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

6 DET. CARTER: Eventually, we talked
7 about that. You're 18. You know, one day at a
8 time. But, yeah, I mean at some point you'll talk
9 to a judge and he can decide what conditions that
10 you can go home on or what is going to happen.
11 It's all up to the judge, the dude that wears the
12 black robe, not us.

13 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

14 DET. CARTER: Yeah, but they're
15 going to ask you.

16 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

17 DET. CARTER: That's part of it.

18 LT. FAINE: But, you know, you -- we
19 ~~can't speculate what it will be like. You may be~~

20 here and they ask you and you could say I did --
21 this is up to you because I don't want to talk
22 about it. I wanted to see you before, before they
23 took me. You know that's --

24 DET. CARTER: You can tell them as
25 little or as much -- you're 18 so you can -- you

1 can say I'm done, I don't want to talk to you
2 anymore, I just want to say goodbye and we can
3 make them leave if you want.

4 SKYLAR: Will there be a trial?

5 DET. CARTER: That's all down the
6 road.

7 LT. FAINE: Yeah. You're
8 thinking -- you're thinking so far ahead, you
9 know.

10 DET. CARTER: That's way down the
11 road.

12 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

13 LT. FAINE: No, that's your --

14 SKYLAR: (Inaudible) in jail?

15 DET. CARTER: No. What's going to
16 happen is you'll see a judge in a couple days,
17 okay?

18 LT. FAINE: What is today?

19 ~~DET. CARTER: Today is Thursday~~

20 LT. FAINE: She will see a judge at
21 Franklin court tomorrow probably because they have
22 Friday --

23 DET. CARTER: Yes.

24 LT. FAINE: You will see a judge
25 tomorrow.

1 DET. CARTER: So you'll be able to
2 talkish to a judge tomorrow. He'll decide if
3 you're going to stay in jail or not. And then
4 there will be a series of court things that happen
5 after that. Okay? It's not all immediate, but
6 it's always up to the judge when you're going to
7 get out of jail, okay?

8 SKYLAR: Okay.

9 DET. CARTER: But you will talk to a
10 judge tomorrow, okay.

11 SKYLAR: I want to say goodbye to my
12 parents.

13 DET. CARTER: You want to say
14 goodbye, okay. I'll go get them.

15 LT. FAINE: I'll do it.

16 DET. CARTER: One day at a time,
17 okay?

18 SKYLAR: One day at a time?

19 ~~DET. CARTER: One day at a time.~~

20 SKYLAR: Do you think the judge will
21 be nice?

22 DET. CARTER: You know, judges are
23 usually just pretty like -- especially the first
24 time you talk to him it's really going to be very
25 like his job is to make sure, you know, these are

1 what your charges are, do you understand those?
2 Like that's going to be his role and then, you
3 know, figuring out what to do from there. So it's
4 not going to be a long thing tomorrow, it'll be
5 pretty quick. And then the hearing's after that
6 once you get an attorney, you know, all the court
7 system, you know, whatever happens then things
8 will be a little bit different. So it's just a
9 whole process that happens.

10 SKYLAR: Will the judge possibly let
11 me come home?

12 DET. CARTER: Yeah, sometimes
13 they'll do like you have to put up a bond, like
14 your parents would have to put up a bond. The
15 judge decides all of that. He might have you be
16 like on a -- have you seen those people like
17 monitors on their ankles? Sometimes he does that.
18 Sometimes you're on house arrest. Sometimes --
19 ~~you know. There's all kinds of things that can~~
20 happen. He could release you. He can keep you.
21 He can tell you where you are allowed to go or not
22 go if you are released. All those kinds of things
23 so -- there's a whole list of things the judge can
24 do and he pretty much makes those decisions and
25 tells you what to do.

1 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

2 DET. CARTER: They're jail clothes,
3 they're not prison -- they're just -- I mean
4 they're just scrubs. You've seen scrubs before?
5 Yeah, they're just scrubs. Different colored
6 scrubs. They'll do all that when you get there.
7 Do you have anything in your pockets that you want
8 your parents to take, like anything at all?
9 Jewelry that you want then to take.

10 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

11 DET. CARTER: No, they'll make you
12 take all your jewelry off. So if you don't want
13 to take it in there, you want to give it to your
14 parents, I would do that. That just looks like
15 nice real gold stuff so give them any jewelry you
16 have. Because they're going to take your property
17 and put it in a bag and put it in a locker, but I
18 just wouldn't want anything that meant a lot to me
19 to go there.

20 SKYLAR: (Inaudible) in jail?

21 DET. CARTER: They will or they'll
22 appoint you one. That will all happen when you go
23 to court, they'll ask you.

24 SKYLAR: (Inaudible).

25 DET. CARTER: I would imagine. Just

1 give them any jewelry that you have so that you
2 don't have to worry about it. Just make sure your
3 pockets are empty and all that kind of stuff that
4 might be in there. There's nothing hidden in your
5 bra?

6 SKYLAR: No. Where is the jail?

7 DET. CARTER: It's in Lebanon. Have
8 you ever been to juvenile court or like to get
9 fingerprinted or anything like that? Did you have
10 to get fingerprinted to work at the Y? Okay.
11 It's just down in Lebanon like where all the
12 government buildings are. Did you have a
13 passport? Okay. So you know the building where
14 you got your passport, right, on the opposite side
15 of the street kind of behind the small building is
16 where the jail is.

17 SKYLAR: Will I sleep there?

18 DET. CARTER: Hmm?

19 SKYLAR: Will I sleep there?

20 DET. CARTER: Yeah. Do you want any
21 water? I'm just going to grab some. You sure you
22 don't want any?

23 SKYLAR: No. Where are my parents?

24 DET. CARTER: He might just be
25 talking to them just to kind of prepare them.

1 Sure you don't want a cup of water? You sure?

2 SKYLAR: What time do you think I'll
3 see the judge tomorrow?

4 DET. CARTER: I honestly cannot --
5 every court has different times that they do the
6 arraignments. And I can't remember what time
7 Franklin courts are tomorrow. I know some of them
8 are at like 11 a.m. So what will happen is you
9 will either be on a video monitor like a TV
10 monitor where you'll talk to the judge or they'll
11 take you up there to actually go to court. And I
12 don't know which one it is because I hardly ever
13 come to Franklin court. I can't remember, but one
14 of the two will happen. They'll pick you up in a
15 bus or, you know, have you on a video monitor
16 sometime tomorrow. I just can't remember what
17 time their's are. I want to say 11, but I think
18 that's county court.

19 SKYLAR: If I do end up staying in
20 jail, can I have visitors?

21 DET. CARTER: Mm-hmm. Yeah, they
22 have -- you can make phone calls. You can have
23 visitors. There's specific days and times that
24 people can come visit you and they have to be like
25 -- they have to know like -- they have to check

1 them out make sure, you know, whatever. Yeah, you
2 can have visitors, you can use the phone. They
3 have like a phone system that you can set up --
4 that your parents can set up and all that. You
5 won't just like be there, you know, without being
6 able to talk to anybody.

7 SKYLAR: Will I have anyone to talk
8 to?

9 DET. CARTER: What do you mean?

10 SKYLAR: Will I be all by myself?

11 DET. CARTER: It depends on how full
12 they are and where they have space. Sometimes --
13 like parts of jail are just like individual like
14 cells or rooms. Parts of it are like a dorm where
15 you have like a big common area. So it really
16 just depends on where they have room to put you.
17 I don't know how many females are in there right
18 now. So initially you'll probably go in one of
19 those rooms where it's just you kind of like the

20 intake stuff and then they'll figure out where
21 they're going to put you. I think they're going
22 to make sure that you're safe. We always try to
23 make sure people are safe. You're young so
24 they'll probably keep you separate.

25 LT. FAINE: That's the detective

1 from my department, Brandi, who's been here with
2 me today. She is in here with us.

3 SKYLAR: Mommy. (Inaudible.) Will
4 you take my jewelry for me. (Inaudible.)

5 MR. RICHARDSON: Honey, tell us
6 what's going on. The police said you have to tell
7 us, you're 18. They can't tell us.

8 SKYLAR: I tried to cremate the baby
9 just a little.

10 MR. RICHARDSON: You tried to
11 cremate the baby?

12 SKYLAR: Yeah. A little, I did it a
13 little.

14 MRS. RICHARDSON: (Inaudible).

15 SKYLAR: (Inaudible) I didn't kill
16 her though.

17 MR. RICHARDSON: So you delivered a
18 live baby, is that what you're say?

19 SKYLAR: Yeah, but I wasn't really

20 sure. I didn't think she had a heart beat. Do
21 you still love me?

22 MR. RICHARDSON: Honey, we still
23 love you, but this is a horrible mess.

24 SKYLAR: Yeah.

25 MR. RICHARDSON: Honey, we love you.

1 SKYLAR: (Inaudible.)

2 MR. RICHARDSON: You absolutely have
3 to go? Does she absolutely have to go to jail?

4 LT. FAINE: Yeah.
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