

Off to Sidney + A New Life

160

1

Sidney was a small town, our house was on the northside, there was about 5,000 living there but that included farm houses around it.

The house was big, large bedrooms (2) upstairs. Living + Dining room, the kitchen wasn't that big but it fit a table + chairs. There was a door off the kitchen that led ^{down} outside and one went into the basement, the rooms down there were large and had a bedroom and laundry room.

It still looked empty after we got our furniture in it. lots of open space.

Pat had to work in a town about 50 miles away they were training him to install Telephone Cable to homes. He left me the car, which we bought before we left Omaha, it was a pontiac, automatic so I could drive it.

Leah + I unpacked and she loved to run all over the house, she was a happy child. Linda was still a baby not 8 months old yet. We had bought her a swing so she could be in the same room with us when ~~come~~ awake. She loved her swing + she sat and laughed at Leah doing things to make her laugh.

There was a bathroom separating our 2 bedrooms, so I could hear if one of the girls needed me during the night.

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Our TV wouldn't work, I called the man
who sold us the house and he said I had
to install cable. What the hell is that I asked
He said I needed it for TV. We had never
had to have cable in Omaha or California
Now we have to? What a rip off. So we
went without TV.

The Welcome Wagon came to the house
They gave me lots of coupons from most
all the stores. I loaded up the girls and
went all over town getting free stuff.
And I bought groceries. We managed to
get a washer + dryer because I used
cloth diapers, we couldn't afford the new
disposable ones. Then Pat put in for a
training on the job request to the military
He was awarded 94.⁰⁰ a month for a year.
The Tel Co paid really good but we needed
things to fill the fridge up and get for the
house.

I never knew anyone, no one came to say
hi or introduce themselves. Leah + I kept
busy and finally we got cable installed.

Pat would call every night and tell
me in on how the job was going and
he really liked it. I was really happy
because I knew things were going to get

better than Anna, at least Pat wasn't out drinking and ³ kissing Della Ass.

Maria & I talked on the phone all the time I really missed her, she & I were so close it seems we knew each others thoughts.

I told Pat how lonely I was there during the week. He said go visit the neighbors. I was like I was going to walk up to their door & say Here I am your new Neighbor. Then Pat started inviting men he knew that worked with him.

His boss & wife other workers and things got better. I met Scott & his wife, Gene & Claudia

There were several others. Then one day Leah & I were strolling down the street & I met Judy who lived 2 door away and her neighbor Juanda who was married to a Day ^{Catcher} and a Pastor. Things got better, I had friends now.

Judy's husband Leo was a lot older than her they had a son named Kevin and was pregnant with a new child. Leo worked for the city.

I would go to Judy's everyday for coffee & visit. She was really nice. I met Judy's friend Bonnie and so on. Now I felt better.

I must tell you the first time I put on children's TV for Leah, Sesame Street had me singing there songs. But Mr. ~~Father~~ Rogers ~~framed~~ treated me out, looking strange at me saying I so glad you my

neighbor and talking like he was sitting on our
living room floor. Leah loved it, but I thought ~~she~~
~~was~~ was a nut case.

Then Agnes, who lived across the street
came to meet me, Judy had warned me that
she was a nut case. Tall 5'10" with 1
^{front} ~~front~~ tooth missing. She told ~~me~~ she was
friends with the Lady who used to own the
house and what a good house keeper she was.
She encouraged I wasn't a good house keeper.
I told her, she didn't have kids and she
wanted a Show house, mine was to be lived
in. That shut her up. I really didn't
care for her at all. Her husband worked on the
railroad & hardly ever home. She had a 19 yr
old son named Monte.

One night Monte came to our house, he
knew Pat was home, and said he was doing a
Essay on Viet Nam and wanted information. So
he & Pat sat for hours talking about Viet Nam
which was good for Pat because he needed
to forget what happened to him. Since his return
he was a completely different man. If there was a
loud bang, even a door, he jumped, I know he
suffered ~~not~~ mentally over there and that fear
would not ever go away. Now a days they
call PTSD, back then they didn't know about it.

5

The town pat ^{working} was ~~working~~ in was about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr away. He would try to get home every night but it seemed the job required a lot of his time. They would put him up in a motel most the time.

I was patient and the girls kept me busy. Linda wasn't walking yet so she spent her time in her swing while Leech watched T.V. When Linda was sleeping, Leech + I would wander down the street to Goodys to visit and here would come Agnes, rising in to see what we were talking about. All she could talk about was Monte this, Monte that. She had completely lost all her friends, ~~even~~ her husband didn't like coming home. Monte was all she had left.

After a few months Pat started working closer to home and was usually close enough to come home. The office was in Sidney, so most the workers lived there too.

He got a raise, and now we could afford a few things. But Pat seen things other wise, he bought a Motorcycle. I wasn't happy about that at all, he knew Xmas was coming up and the girls need to have a few things, and it was starting to get cold the motorcycle could have waited. He also joined the Volunteer Fire Dept, which took most of his week ends for training plus weekly meetings.

Once in awhile we would go to Omaha to visit his mom + Maria, and all his friends.

I stayed at Maria's, and she had told me she seen

Larry's sister told Don & she had moved to Denver and got the address. Sydney wasn't that far was to leave so I thought I'd try to get Pat to go visit them later. One of our Alaska trips Pat's friend Jim was selling his boat & all the equipment, skis, life jackets ect. without even mentioning it to me he bought it. \$6,000. Our income would be strained but he didn't care.

Christmas was really special to me, I wanted my girls to have nice ones and I had a Montgomery Ward card. I charged 200. for present for them & Pat. He lost it, raised hell about it.

We had a fight, my girls car have a Xmas if you can have motorcycle & Boat anytime. It seemed to me, he felt he came first as it was he only gave me \$20. a week for groceries (Back then hamburger was 5 lb for \$1. but still we needed fruits and Veggies for the girls. We ate a lot of hamburger helpers.

It was winter and Pat was gone a lot because we had a bad Ice storm and poles were down

Back then all telephone ^{lines} poles were ~~above~~ on poles.

They were in the process of converting to under ground cable and that's why Pat was gone a lot.

It was shortly after Christmas ~~when~~ and I was alone most all the time. It was

Cold and the snow never seemed to be under 20 inches at a time so I was confined to the house.

I couldn't wait for spring, Linda was walking now and into everything. And I had to carry her to go visit Judy. Then one night the door bell rang. It was Monte, he wanted to know if we were ok or need anything. I did, needing milk he was so nice about going after it. We sat and visited since he lived across the street no hurry to leave. I really liked him, he was so informative about the city and told me all about his Mom & sisters he was the only son.

After that he was a regular visitor, I don't know what I would have done without him, company in the winter was ~~so~~ ^{now} ~~more~~ ^{existent}.

In ~~January~~ ^{February} Pat wanted us to go to Denver to do something I can't recall, I left the girls with Judy and figured we would stop and see Don and Lucy. The weather was cold but I enjoyed getting out of the house.

We got there and found the address, I was so excited I couldn't wait to see them again. Boy would they be surprised or so I thought. We were the ones with the surprise.

It was an old motel converted into apt, it looked dump and unkempt. We saw Lou standing outside talking to neighbors who had gathered around them.

I jumped out & said "Hi Lon", his eyes were as wide as silver dollars. "How did you find out" he said. Find out what? He said Lucy had hung herself last night. You kidding right? no he said it was true.

We went inside, immediately I smelt pee, the kids were at the neighbors and Don was downstairs giving a statement about what happened.

Lon showed a closet in the kitchen used as a party. It had a smell you never forget, Death, and body fluids from her mouth on the floor.

Lon said he was at work when it happened and it happened around 2 AM.

Don appeared at the door, he didn't even ask me how I knew where they lived or anything, all he said was "Why did she do this?"

They had been on the town with another couple and Lucy acted like she knew the husband (a friend of Don's from work). She was flirting & dancing with him and was drunk. Don got jealous and wanted to leave, when they got home the other couple's Cass' battery was dead so Don gave them a boost, when he got inside Lucy was hanging from an extension cord. He ~~took~~^{cut} he down but she was already dead. The cord was tied into a perfect noose. I ask him why there was blood all over the floor & carpet. He said Lucy had beat herself

up with a beer can. I noticed a paint splotch on the kitchen sink, the ~~flowers~~ ^{Flowers} had died & on the floor and it had been tipped over, the flowers are ^{POISONOUS} and I thought it odd Lucy left them there because of the children. I also noticed a throw rug on the floor in the front of the sink, it had a burnt cigarette on it, and you could see yellow on the sink where it sat before falling down. It hadn't been there long. How odd, Lucy beat herself up, lit a cigarette and decided to hang herself. It didn't add up. My mind went back to Anna when Don had beat her up and she said "Someday he will kill me"

I was beginning to believe her now.

A week or so later without notice Don, Lew & the 4 kids pulled up in an old RV putting his car. I was behind sided, all these people in my home but they were family & I loved Don so much I never complained. Then Don said he was leaving for a few days and could I watch the kids? I had Lew to help so it ~~wasn't~~ ^{wasn't} but a few days. Pat was off working and Lew liked to sleep a lot so I had 6 kids to watch. Monte came over & I told him what had happened and he helped bathe the kids.

A few days later Don reappears in a Uhaul & pulling his car. It was his furniture. He sure needed the beds too. He took me aside of Lew and gave me \$200 cash. To help with groceries! Wow I'd never had

That much before. I also noticed several other \$100 in his wallet.

A month or so later he rented a house not far from where we lived, he took his furniture and went to the local Auction + bought other things to fill it up.

He continued his ^{trips} out of town + started buying things I only dreamed of a 500. Color TV, oil ^{LAMP} lamps and even a newer car. I wondered where the money came from.

Lee said a guy named Dave would come to the house and leave about a dozen ^{Business} ^{envelopes} for Don. He was told Never open one. But he did, it had a photo of a man and details about where he lived + worked, his car make etc. When Don discovered it, he started pushing Lee around ~~mad~~ Mad as hell. "You can get us both killed if you tell anyone what's in those envelopes" he said. I was the only one he told.

Pat joined the Volunteer fire Dept, he had to go to weekends to train, plus he had weekly meetings.

It was about this time of year when I started having sex with Monte, I was tired of not getting the love and attention from Pat, he was always ^{Do.ing} ~~doing~~ something to improve his image and seemed to have forgotten his family. I think back now and I really didn't love Monte I just need compassion

and companionship. I knew it was wrong but I did it anyway. I felt guilty but I kept doing it anyway.

Pat & Don decided to go to the Colorado Rockies to camp and fish, it was still cold at night so I really didn't care I wasn't invited why should I, Monte kept me warm and stayed all night with me. of course my girls never knew I didn't let them see us together in bed.

Pat seemed to like Monte, it was strange the 2 of them in the same room but, we were like a family

Post even invited him to go with us to the Sterling Lake with our boat. I think it was because Monte knew how to drive it and I didn't want no part of getting in the water with land to walk on in it.

He would tell his Mom he was going with some friends to the lake, she thought he meant guys. So after we had left while he drove down to where we were camping. The girls loved it, Linda was ^{about 3} ~~about 3~~. Leah

was 6. I would first while Pat + Monte would take turns
water skiing. We had a camp fire and food. Sat
around telling about our day. Monte told us how
his mom was obsessed with controlling his life, that
he couldn't wait to go to college later that year

"So your Momma, baby are you?" Pat asked, his
 Response ~~response~~ was "She thinks since the young, youngest I
 am a boy So Pat started calling him Monte Baby.
 And before I know It I did too.

That year Monte was a pitcher on his baseball team at school. Pat & I would load up the girls and go to watch, but mostly I went alone because Pat was at meetings ect.

Someone had given me a book on Antelgung hand writing, I did several peoples writing including Monte. When I got done with each one I put their names on the top of the front so I wouldn't get them mixed up. Monte had put his in his room & Agnes found it. She told me to stay away from him and she was going to tell Pat.

That evening she came over with the papers and showed them to him. He cracked up laughing at her. He had already seen them when I got done writing them. Told her to go home and that she was a nut case.

I had serious guilt when I discovered I was pregnant. "Who is the father?" I didn't panic tho I continued on like it was Pat's child.

I met this woman from Texas who lived only a few blocks from us. She had a hubby & 3 adult children
 Lucinda^{Lucinda}, Laura¹⁹ & Eddie 24. They were really a nice family but lived like hillbillies, Laura would come visit me all the time, it was always a welcome sight to see her at the door. She was at my house when Lou came to visit, they hit it off. And even tho he was 10 years older they hit it

off. Before you knew it they were sleeping ^{together} ~~off~~ at Dims not long after he moved in with her family, he fit right in. Lamm's sister Lucinda and Dim started getting it on. I didn't like Lucinda at all, smelly foul mouth a regular bitch. Lucinda moved in with Dim.

We got a telephone call telling us Frank my step father had passed away. I was thrilled I could not wait to see him dead in a casket. Pat took me to Creech where he stayed with Della, they kept the girls while Marcia + I went to the funeral. We saw Uncle Vic and some cousins. We were all shocked he was dead. Now mom can go on with her life and not have to worry about him coming home and catching her + her boyfriends. She wanted to go to Dims to live said she would babysit for him. which she did later.

I was really upset when I started bleeding. my Doctor said I was to not walk much and keep my legs propped up as much as possible. I was only 6 months along and the girls were about 5 + 3. Judy kept Linda at her house when Pat was gone, she even potty trained Linda. I couldn't have made it without her help.

I got a phone call from Della, she said Mary Lee wanted to talk to me. She told me I should get rid of my baby that Pat had enough kids; he didn't need another mouth to feed. I told her to go to hell and

called her a fat slob. I always wondered if Pat put her up to calling, he wasn't the best dad to the girls he had.

On Dec 6 " I was alone on the telephone talking to a Mexican girl friend named Nelly. I told her I just had a big stab in my belly; she said they were on their way to get me. I was 9 months now & due. Judy came & got Leah and I was only in the hospital 1 hr when Pat arrived. We were in a room alone when I felt ~~pressure~~ pressure and I said here it comes. Pat stood over me & his eyes grew so big watching her come out, she shot out & Pat caught her before she hit the floor. My Dr was drunk & didn't come til later, I was put in a room and I still felt pain, then I delivered another baby, the after birth had been taken out but there was still another baby.

It wasn't completely developed and dead.

Then they took me into delivery & cleaned me out. I named her Patricia, hoping in some way it was his, but I was lucky she looked just like me. In this very day I don't know.

Lew had moved to Kansas with Laura and her family. Laura's friend Chase and I became friends. She lived with her mom & Brothers & ~~sisters~~ sisters. After Lew left she told me she had a bad crush on Lew & it

really hurt to see him leave. Lucinda left too, leaving Dan with no baby-sitter. So Cheri took the job, but when he was out of town her brother Chris helped her.

It was a long cold winter, Pat was gone a lot because of Ice & snow breaking pole lines, we got the Hong Kong flu. from him. We were quarantined to our house & medicine was left on our porch, all of us had it, except Patricia. I had never been so sick before or since, I fired soaps for us all and it was a slow recovery, 2 weeks long. Even Pat was down from it.

Summer came and Monte started baseball again. He would come over every night, but this one night was different, I told him Pat was at a fireman's meeting downtown.

He said he had been by there and there was no meeting going on. I ask him to watch the girls & I went & looked. Sure enough no meeting going on. Where was he tonight and all the other nights he was suppose to be at meetings? I sat up til late and ask him. He come up with some excuse that they went to house they planned to burn for practice. I believed him, what a Idiot I was.

Pat come up with every excuse he could

to not be home. He went hunting with friends a week at a time, he + Don went to the Colorado Rockies to fish + camp. ~~They~~ ~~went~~ several times. He wasn't much of a father to the girls and complained about anything I bought for them.

Lee came back from Kansas that summer. It didn't work out with Laura. He + Cheri started a relationship and she wouldn't give him a room at their house til they were married. Pat + I went to the wedding, it was ~~comical~~ comical, when the pastor ask if anyone had a reason why these 2 shouldn't be wed. Speak now, or forever hold your peace. Pat whispered I have no objection other than the fact he's already married. Cheri was pregnant, but she was on the heavy side so you couldn't tell.

Lee supported me, I got a job delivering newspapers and Mavis all over Western Nebraska, even an ~~the~~ Indian reservation. They got a house ~~close~~ close to her mom's. She was a momma baby. Lee run that family.

One day Pat says he needed to see the Doctor he had blue balls, well I had heard of them but I didn't know what caused them. Monte had to explain it to me. What I said

or who was giving him hard on? We had a big fight & I kicked him out. He went to Leas house and was gone for a month. I was going to get a divorce, I had it. Lew came & tell me that he seen Pat kissing Vera, that something was going on when he wasnt there. I decided to get him home. I felt guilt over Patty and felt it was my fault he was cheating on me. So he came home. Patty wasnt even 2 yrs old when I found out I was pregnant again. I was really happy because I felt maybe if we had another child things would get better. Boy was I wrong.

Pat bought us another house on main street. It wasnt as big inside but it had a fenced in back yard and a 4 car garage. He said he needed the garage to work on cars to make extra cash. Now that we would have 4 kids. Making me feel guilty for being pregnant. The house sat next to a liquor store and a family on the other side. It had a kitchen nook and back porch enclosed. It was Dads liquor and the Sheldys on the other. Leona & her adult son Dennis lived there.

Pat was always in the garage with his friends working on cars, and actually made a little money. That summer we took the girls to the ^{CARNIVAL} Carn. and he started playing a game with a soft ball & blew all the money. The girls

didn't get to go on 1 ride. no cotton candy
 Nothing I was really mad. Leah was crying.
 The next day he borrowed money to take us back
 and the girls got had a good time.

Don came by and said he and the kids were
 going to Phoenix on a job. He had a home made
 trailer hooked on the back of his car. It had
 something Dave wanted delivered for him. but it
 was in a crate and Don was load all his
 things behind it in case he get stopped.

We all said our good byes and I didn't think
 I'd hear from him for awhile. but I was wrong
 within a week he was back, scared to death, he
 ask Pat to hide his car in the garage and for us
 to keep the drops closed. Someone was after him
 He told us he was to deliver the trailer to a gas station
 in phoenix, get out of the car & they (his Boss) would
 take the trailer and return it when they get what the
~~contacts~~ out. They rehooked it up. Don took the kids and
 went down the street to a restaurant where he was to be
~~met~~ and payed for his job. They came in the restaurant
 and ask him where the trailer was, he didn't
 know, someone else knew about the trailer & stole
 it. He waited for hours in his camp the camera
 in the gas station showed who did it & they went
 after him.

Later they came back and had someone set

with the kids in his car & took him in another
 He thought they were going to kill him. In the
 back seat of the car was a man with tape on
 his mouth & handcuffed. They took them to a
 construction sight. where they were digging
 grand for a mile. They stopped & took the man out
 of the car, and told Don, This is what happens
 when you steal from us. They cut the mans nose
 off, then his ears then his fingers, using a Bolt
 Cutter, then they threw him in the hole & a caterpillar
 buried him alive. Don thought since he was next
 but they took him back to his car & payed him
 He couldn't get out of Arizona fast enough, he drove
 straight to my house. Luckily he had clothes
 for the kids in the car because he lost all those
 toys & furniture in that trailer

They left after Don rested up, he didn't want
 me to know where he was going because it
 would put me in danger. So they left our
 house saying he had enough no more jobs for
 Don & his friends he was Done.

We had ~~man~~ come and ask if he was my brother
 and where was he. I said he had been there
 but wouldn't tell us where he was going.
 She went to Pats work & even Lew house but
 we didn't know eventually they stopped coming
 around.

A few months went by, and I was getting fat and miserable. Leah started school, and Cheri + Lew had their first baby, it was a girl Lisa Marie. They were so happy until Cheri told me her mom was pregnant, her baby was due in June, just like mine was. My mind went wild, Lew had told me something was going on with Pat + Verla, could this be his child?

Mama came out for Christmas that year, she + Joe took the bus since she couldn't drive. It was great seeing her, she had her new daughter with her, Denise, that she had a year ago. It was hard to believe since Patty was here I hadn't seen her. Pat was so busy in his garage + fire dept we hadn't been to ~~Omaha~~ Omaha. I told her what was going on + she told me what a mistake I made going back to him. But now I was stuck, 4 kids, what was I to do?

Carol Ann was born in June, she came fast with hardly any pain, the pain came when I had my tubes burnt. I didn't want any more kids I was more than I could handle.

It wasn't more than 2 months when we got a phone call telling us ~~from~~ My mom had died, she had been living with Don in Iowa and had been having heart problems. She died instantly. Don was the one that called us. I felt faint

after the news, I couldn't breathe, I was dizzy and knew something was wrong. My Doctor gave me a sedative and I rested the rest of the day. Lew & Cheri were getting ready for the trip to attend the funeral. We all were going to stay at Dallas and Verla kept Lisa at her house.

Don said all the other kids were coming, Marie rode with us. I was afraid of a Brawl like took place at Dads after his death but there was nothing to fight over so it all went well. No one cried all the way through the funeral, Marie & I had bought her a rose colored dress and she had a make up job that made her look like someone else. It was horrible of me but I thought to myself, may you join Frank in Hell. We took photos of all of together and everyone went home. We stayed 2 days at Dallas and we went home too.

Carol was only 8 weeks old when all this took place, and after I returned home my dizziness started all over. I couldn't care for her, the room would spin, I couldn't breathe, Pat took me to several Drs and finally one told me, that because my Mom died so soon after child birth and with my tube surgery, I need hormone to help. And they did, the spells went away.

Pat started getting mean to the girls, making them pick up ~~some~~ tumble weeds out of the yard. And they had stickers all over their hands and was bleeding. and then spanked them if they didn't get them all. I stepped in and told him "If you want the damn things picked up do it yourself" Leave my girls alone. It caused a big fight.

One evening they were playing in the back yard and he told them to pick up their toys and put them on the porch. Linda came flying into the house & ran to her ^{Room} ~~room~~, Pat said get the hell out there and pick up your toys. She said there was a monster out there. And refused to go. He spanked her again and made her stay in her room. Later he was in the back yard and found a lizard, a very big lizard and poisonous. I don't recall he ever told Linda he was sorry, or not.

He was working in the office downtown now, ~~working~~ Manning the telephone boards. Working 4-12

It just seemed he wasn't very happy being a dad to the oldest girls but Patty was his favorite child. She could do no wrong. He played with her, took her in his pickups when he went somewhere.

We did have a few good times tho, Pat

had played Donkey Baseball ^{for} ~~in~~ the Fire Dept
That's where the players had to have a donkey
that they rode or pulled to each base when they
batted, it got really funny. We went to fire dept
competitions on who was the fastest to unload ~~there~~
their trucks and hoses & put out a fire set by
the Fire Dept, we went ~~out~~ looking for Telephone
insulators, that were on poles used as a conductor
for the wire, since Tele poles would soon be a
thing of the past we collected them, we had a
very large collection too.

Pat was doing something outside and caused the neighbor
to lose their power. Dennis came out to see what happened.
Pat invited him in and I gave him a glass of tea.

~~He~~ sat & told us he was a carpet layer & his mom worked
at a cafe 2 blocks away. He seemed really nice & liked
to laugh at small things. He was about 6'2" had
black hair & was skinny.

Not long after one evening 2 men came to our
door holding him up, he was drunk, they thought he
lived at our place, I told them he lived next door
and they proceeded to carry him home.

Pat had spent a lot of money on tools and toys
and our budget was small. So I went ~~out~~ to
~~our cable company~~ just outside town. Pat is
the one who suggested it, he said some of his
Co workers wives worked there. I got hired and

~~Worked~~ worked days for awhile so pat could
 help it. He got to hitching so bad I went
 to nights and so he went to days; so
 he could sleep. I worked 3-12. I was a
 cable tester, I was in a cage with the telephone
 cable rolls & hooked the wires up to test to
 see if the wires were good. One time we had a
 very large order, and Susan my co worker & I
 had to stay late til they were done. It was
 about 2 AM when we got done. I had called
 Pat & told him. It was raining like hell out
 pouring in fact. I got home around 2:30 AM
 & Pat ~~had~~ locked me out, he put a chair
 in front of the door so I couldn't get in.
 I sat in the car, and waited til day break
 when he got ready for work. He let me in
 and put me on the floor & yelled I was a
 fucking ~~whore~~ whore. Someone had called him
 & said I was seen with a man ~~and~~ a car
 in town. Guess who "Verla". I called my
 supervisor & he told Pat where I was.
 He never even apologized to me. So I
 quit my job. I also knew then Verla
 was out to ruin my marriage.

I wanted things to work for us, we
 had 4 little ones to consider, and I loved
 my girls so much. They didn't deserve

to live with their mom + Dad fighting all the time.

I called Della and told her what was going on, all she said was tell you to stop having more children, Pat didn't want more children.

Dennis came evening sober, and apologized for his friends bringing him to our house, we laughed about it and I found the stories he told me about work + friends made me laugh I enjoyed his company, from then on when he came over I had him do fix its that Pat ignored from doing. This went on for months.

~~One day I got a phone call from Dad, he said after Dad did he would look the work for Dad, was back to work. He just got that old Dad and his Day after. I explained to him~~

One time I had him fix something that made me so happy I grabbed him + Kissed him, I meant no harm, after all he was my friend, after that I hardly ever seen him, he stayed away. I just let it go. Then he called me, saying he could never see me again, he was at the bar, I said I understand and about that time the telephone clicked and Pat was on the line, he had been listening to all my phone calls from the office downtown. He said so your lover don't want to see you anymore + hung up. I was in a panic. How do I explain this to him?

Something told me things were going to get ugly. I took the girls & drove to a small town not far away. We slept in the car all night. Since there was no cell phone back then I had no idea what to do so I went home. Pat had moved out and up to Lewis' house with Kella there. I just waited not knowing what to do. Pat called and said I needed an attorney that he was going to divorce me. I never argued with him, I was afraid of him.

I was served papers, so I thought I'd better get a job so I could get a lawyer. I went to the welfare office and showed them the papers. They gave me food stamps and provided me with ~~me~~ a babygate which they paid.

I went to work at Safeplay, a company that made boxing gloves & sport equipment. They made the gloves for all the "Rocky" movies. I worked 7 AM to 5.

I had to take the girls to the doctors & go get them.

My first paycheck went to an attorney.

Pat requested Visitation so I complied, every other Saturday. I didn't work week ends so I had a day to myself to catch up on laundry get groceries ect.

Pat gave me \$25 every other week for Child support. He told me he was going to take my girls away from me & stop paying the mortgage on the house. I needed to take my girls and run, so I took a week end job at Dieder's Steak house as a waitress and sometimes bar tender's. It was one

winter night when I was helping work the bar with
a guy who taught me to mix drinks when Dennis
came in. We never spoke, then some drunk started
a fight and came ~~around~~ ^{AROUND} the bar, I tried to get away
when Dennis pulled me over the bar to help me.
after I got off work he came to the house & I told
him what happened. He told me, Pat had come to
the bar that night we last talked & threatened him,
accusing him of wanting to take all pats toys & tools
etc. Nothing about me or the girls, just his stuff
he told him he could have me but not the girls.

I was so hurt, 10 years of my life was gone. I
was going to lose my girls and life took a shit on
me again. This is when Dennis & I really started
an affair, he was really concerned and I did it
because hes the only one I could turn to.

My attorney said Pat couldnt take the girls unless he
could prove I slept with Dennis when the girls
were in the room. He never told me my legal
rights as far as the house.

Patricia was attacked by Pats dog on a visit to his
house, she got bit pretty bad, I wouldnt let him see the
kids after that & he really got dirty. He hired men
to come to Dudes & get me to go out with them

I never even considered it; he stalked me every
minute.

I had friends tell me they saw Pat at the grocery

store with dolls, also with Jackie Trees the town whore, who by the way almost broke Dennis' sister & his husband up.

Don & the kids showed up one day, he went back on the road after mom died. I welcomed him because he was always there for me. He stayed with me and got food stamps & babysit for me.

That came to an end when I came home & had to take Leah to the hospital. Don had hit her and embedded her ear rings into her ears. I told him he had to leave, I couldn't have my girls hurt by anyone. He stole my food stamps & all the tips I'd put in my closet. I couldn't believe it.

Pat said he foreclosed on the house, I found out later he couldn't with us in there & in the process of a divorce. But we moved to a trailer outside town. It was only 2 bedrooms but we managed. Dennis helped me with money for food and I got a teenager to babysit. Then I came home & had to take Patty to the hospital the babysitter had locked her out of the house and she was burnt bad from the sun.

I had to have Dennis babysit for me. I didn't trust anyone. Leah was a big help and one night Dennis suggested we let the girls live with Pat until we got a bigger

~~House~~
~~house~~ & married. I didn't want to do it, I didn't want to lose my girls but I had no choice really. At least they would be with someone who loved them. I called Pat's attorney and arranged a meeting. I sat the girls down and explained I would be back for them as soon as possible. I hate myself now, because if anyone had explained the law to me, I could have kept the girls with child support, the house & Alimony. But I didn't know.

I cried all that night after they left. I felt so guilty, I loved them so much my life was torn apart, I felt like such a failure as a mom, something I live with everyday, still to this very day.