

Anything For Love  
Tylar Marie Witt

(Theme music) Ring around the rosy; A pocketful of posies; Ashes, ashes; We all fall down

**Sherry:** Welcome to the Parricide Podcast. I'm Sherry...

**Marie:** ...and I'm Marie.

**Sherry:** This is the second part of the episode of Tylar Witt; a girl who engaged the services of her boyfriend to murder her mother. If you haven't heard Part 1, you might want to go back and do that right now.

**Marie:** In Part 1 you'll learn about Tylar and her relationship with her mother, Joanne. We also take you through the deceptive romance Tylar entered into that abruptly ended with her being found naked in a secret sex room - and how things, again, went sideways. You don't want to miss it.

(musical interlude)

**Sherry:** Joanne knew she didn't trust her daughter, but she didn't know everything. She didn't know that at night, after she fell asleep, Tylar and Boston would sneak some time together. They also began having sex in the house again while Joanne was at work. On May 17<sup>th</sup> - so just three days after she had forged that agreement with Boston - Tylar went to hang out with her friends, and to see Boston on the sneak, and decided not to bother responding when Joanne called and texted looking for her. Of course, Joanne was immediately convinced that Tylar was out seeing Boston, and this didn't set well with her. It dragged on long enough that Joanne suspected Tylar had run away with Boston. Tylar 's luck had run out.

Joanne made good on her promise and called the police to make a complaint against Boston for Statutory Rape; asking them to help her find her daughter, whom she feared had run away with her rapist. She related the story of how - when she'd returned home early the day after being assured that nothing was going on - she'd clearly interrupted a sexual tryst between Tylar and Boston. Finding Tylar naked and hiding in that furnace room. When Tylar called to be picked up that night, the police were at the house talking to her mother.

**Marie:** That's what's so crazy! She literally has to call her mom to get a ride.

**Sherry:** She's 14!

**Marie:** Yeah. And she's running around - this is just so...incongruous.

**Sherry:** Um-hmm. It's - I don't know how she was missing the clues. You are a child.

**Marie:** Yeah. Like, you are not old enough to be doing these things and making these choices. You can't even drive.

**Sherry:** Right. But Boston is also missing the clues. He strikes a deal with someone to keep himself out of prison, and then is mad...

**Marie:** Yeah. ...when he doesn't follow it, and she follows through.

**Sherry:** Which is what we're coming up to.

So, anyway, the police showed up in place of her mother to give her a ride home. Which did not please her. They interviewed her all the way home. And they also located Boston and interviewed him. Both kids maintained that nothing had ever happened between them. Joanne was just a crazy mother who'd misread a situation and gone all hysterical on them. Both of them admitted - yes - they were very close; almost like siblings. Tylar had actually gone into that furnace room to change into a dress she wanted to show Boston. She'd gone in there to *avoid* being naked in front of him. "Oh!" the police said. They informed Joanne there wasn't enough evidence to charge Boston, because both kids had said it wasn't true. You know, 19-year-old boarders let the 14-year-old daughter of the house into their secret sex closet (filled with drugs and sex toys) for all sorts of innocent reasons.

**Marie:** That's ridiculous! And also, like - this is a small point - but like you don't need to take off your bra and underwear to try on a dress.

**Sherry:** (pause) Maybe we need to see that dress.

**Marie:** (laughter) I know! I'm like okay cops, come on!

**Sherry:** Another 14-year-old not dressed appropriately. (laughter)

**Marie:** I guess. But, my goodness, like...

**Sherry:** I mean - panty lines - come on!

**Marie:** I guess so. But, really, if for every charge of Statutory Rape, you had to have both of them saying, 'Oh, yes. We definitely had sex.' No one would ever be charged!

**Sherry:** No, they wouldn't at all. But Tylar was furious with her mother. She was tired of having to talk to the police. And when she got home, she got fairly physical with Joanne. She was screaming at her and hurting her while yelling, "Call the police. Call the police and have them come get me. Then I won't have to be here anymore!"

And when Joanne refused to call the police on her own abusive daughter, Tylar...well just listen for yourself. This recording is brought to you courtesy of CBS News:

**Dispatch (recording):** 911

**Tylar (recording):** Um, excuse me. I need to report vandalism and, um, physical abuse.

**Dispatch (recording):** When did this happen?

**Tylar (recording):** Um, my daughter, Tylar Witt, has physically assaulted me and she's vandalizing my home.

**Dispatch (recording):** Where is she right now?

**Tylar (recording):** She's upstairs.

**Dispatch (recording):** Do you need to go to a safe place?

**Tylar (recording):** No. I can go outside.

**Dispatch (recording):** How old is your daughter?

**Tylar (recording):** She's 14.

**Dispatch (recording):** Did she assault you, also?

**Tylar (recording):** Yes, she did.

**Dispatch (recording):** And she's 14?

**Tylar (recording):** She would not go back into her room. I tried to push her back into her room, and we started to get into a fight and I'm bleeding.

**Dispatch (recording):** Do you need a medic?

**Tylar (recording):** No.

**Dispatch (recording):** Are you home alone with her?

**Tylar (recording):** Yes.

**Dispatch (recording):** Where are you injured?

**Tylar (recording):** Um, I have a cut above...on my chin and on my right hand. And some scratches down y arm.

**Dispatch (recording):** And your daughter's now upstairs in her room?

**Tylar (recording):** Yes.

**Dispatch (recording):** What's her name?

**Tylar (recording):** Tylar. t-y-l-a-r.

**Dispatch (recording):** She's always been in the house all evening?

**Tylar (recording):** Yes - no. I had to call the police because - she told me where she was, but that was after I had called the police. I didn't know where she was.

**Dispatch (recording):** Uh huh.

**Tylar (recording):** So, they had to search for her.

**Dispatch (recording):** Is she on probation or anything?

**Tylar (recording):** No, she's not.

**Dispatch (recording):** Has she been drinking? Or using narcotics this evening?

**Tylar (recording):** No, she's not.

**Dispatch (recording):** Does she have any weapons?

**Tylar (recording):** (pause) No.

(long pause)

**Dispatch (recording):** What's she upset about this evening?

**Joanne (recording):** Hello?

**Dispatch (recording):** Yes?

**Joanne (recording):** That was my daughter.

**Tylar (recording – yelling in the background):** Go ahead. Finish the report and send me to jail!

**Dispatch (recording):** Is your name Joanne?

**Tylar (recording – yelling in the background):** I'm out of here!

**Dispatch (recording):** Mrs. Witt?

**Joanne (recording):** Yes.

**Tylar (recording – yelling in the background):** (unintelligible yelling)

**Dispatch (recording):** What is your first name?

**Joanne (recording):** Joanne.

**Tylar (recording – yelling in the background):** (unintelligible yelling) Why won't you let me leave!

**Dispatch (recording):** Are you safe?

**Joanne (recording – tearfully):** I don't know. (Tylar continues having a fit in the background)

**Dispatch (recording):** Are you injured at all?

**Joanne (recording):** Yeah, a little bit.

**Dispatch (recording):** We have deputies on their way.

**Joanne (recording):** Thank you.

**Marie:** That's so sad. You can hear how sad her mom is at the end; and how scared she is.

**Sherry:** Yes. It's very evident that Tylar is the abuser in this relationship.

**Marie:** Yeah. I'm like - she didn't want to get her in trouble. But I feel like what happened - from what I've seen and, like, read about Domestic Violence - I feel like Tylar did this to punish her mom. And make her feel like she can't do anything or she's - she's being punished for calling the police. She beat her up, and then she called the cops when her mom didn't want to and... To be like, 'Look. Look what you made me do. Look. You're gonna ruin my life. You're ruining my life.'

**Sherry:** Classic abuser.

**Marie:** Yeah. It's really sad. Like, she's in the background screaming at her, "Why won't you let me leave!?" And it's like...you're 14?

**Sherry:** That's the major reason. And you're not a real joy to be around. So, think about that, dear.

**Marie:** Yeah. She...it was just really sad. And to hear her mom at the end. She just sounded so sad and so scared.

**Sherry:** Um-hmm. Anyway. Around this time, Tylar wrote a note to Joanne. One Joanne would never receive. According to the book, *Star-Crossed Killers*, it said: "As much as you think I don't love you; I do. Not just because I'm your daughter, but because you are my best friend. Nothing I ever said to you in anger is true. I would never kill you or hate you." She went on to say she didn't feel loved. And that if things didn't change, she would kill herself. Then she ended the note with snark... "I'm sure that would make you happy."

**Marie:** Well, it sounds like that whole note was filled with malarkey. She obviously *wasn't* her best friend. And she obviously would, in fact, kill her. And I don't think her mom would have been happy for a second if Tylar had killed herself.

**Sherry:** No.

**Marie:** She obviously wanted her to have a good life. She's sitting there bleeding and doesn't want her daughter arrested.

**Sherry:** Um-hmm.

**Marie:** It's horrible.

**Sherry:** And Tylar was trying to push her into a corner where she could do what she wanted, and her mom wouldn't have the power to stop her.

**Marie:** Yeah. I mean all she was doing was being manipulative!

**Sherry:** Um-hmm. She was.

Well, Tylar and Boston continued to sneak around and have sex. In fact, Joanne would take time from work to take her daughter to summer school, and Tylar would wait until her mom turned the corner in the car and she'd run get in Boston's car - where he was hiding and waiting. She and Boston decided Joanne's threat was empty. No one was going to arrest Boston for Statutory Rape, or it would have happened by now, right? Tylar could be with Boston anytime she wanted.

**Marie:** This is why 14-year-olds need to be careful, because they don't think things through. Just because it hasn't happened yet, doesn't mean it's not going to. And eventually - if you're doing something bad - you're going to be caught.

**Sherry:** Well, when you're 14-years-old you don't know enough to think things through. You don't have the life experience.

**Marie:** And I think that's really hard - and they both seem to be under this delusion that they're special. They've really romanticized a very dark and unhealthy relationship.

**Sherry:** One where a little girl has been turned to drugs.

**Marie:** And she's being used sexually by an adult.

**Sherry:** And, of course, her mother is upset. And, of course, her mother is going after her.

**Marie:** I mean, she's trying to protect her daughter.

**Sherry:** Um-hmm. She was. And she wasn't done. Joanne wasn't done at all. She was firm in that resolve to protect Tylar. And she knew that they were sneaking around. Not enough evidence to keep Boston away from Tylar? Joanne said, "Hold my beer." And she went looking for what could be deemed adequate evidence of Statutory Rape. And - guess what she found?

**Marie:** Tylar 's diary. Because -

**Sherry:** Ding ding ding!

**Marie:** - 14-year-olds are dumb and write down every bad thing they've ever done.

**Sherry:** Yes, they do! And this diary was explicit and filled with dates and times and details. It was also laced with vitriol aimed at Joanne. One entry called Joanne insane; and went on to say, "I just wish she would die somehow, some way, and leave me the [f word deleted] alone.

**Marie:** Wow.

**Sherry:** Tylar was really a pretty hateful girl.

**Marie:** So, obviously a diary that says 'I wish my mom would die' is kind of scary, but I'm sure she's not the only teenage girl who's ever written that. Like, what is the warning sign that she's serious?

**Sherry:** That's something that's kind of difficult to figure out - and what we are actually working toward at the Parricide Prevention Institute. When gathering data on Youthful Parricide for research purposes, we collect information on a million variables - but three of the variables that are showing big red flags in this story - well, actually there are four. First is you've got a liar on your hands. The reason parents don't like kids who lie - or adults don't like kids who lie - is because, usually, that shows trouble.

**Marie:** Um-hmm. And you can back yourself into a corner with it.

**Sherry:** Right. And we do collect that data. But the three that I've looked at here, that really kind of stand out even more than the liar are: 1) Threatening a Parent - and this is "Did the child advise the parents of murderous intent? Did the child injure or beat or attempt to murder the parent in the past?" Well, she's physically abused her mother. She's told her she wants her dead.

**Marie:** She's written in her diary about it a lot.

**Sherry:** And talked to her friends about it.

**Marie:** Right.

**Sherry:** So. I have an N of 362 - so 362 Youthful Parricide offenders in this study. 61% of the Youthful Offenders threatened, menaced, or tried to kill their parent prior to the offense. We've talked about the five different types of kids who kill their parents, and this - these warning signs are all impacted differently by the type of kid you're dealing with. Which is why it's so important to, kind of, pay attention to who the kid is.

So, if you have a child who is Erratic or Mission Oriented, this is a *major* warning sign. They're significantly more likely to menace, hurt, or threaten a parent prior to the murder. This has a significance of .001.

**Marie:** That's really high, right?

**Sherry:** That means it's got a 1 in 1,000 probability of being by chance.

**Marie:** Okay, so it's very high.

**Sherry:** Yeah.

**Marie:** Okay.

**Sherry:** Okay. So, Threatening a Parent.

**Marie:** So, that's a pretty big one.

**Sherry:** Another one is 2) Voicing Intent to Others – “Did the child tell others (parents not included; because that’s when they threatened or menaced) of their murderous intent? Has the child engaged an accomplice?” If the child engages an accomplice, this is an automatic yes; because they've talked to someone and made plans. If they casually are telling their friends, “I want to kill my mother. Oh, I just want to kill her.” Like Tylar was - this is a major warning sign for kids who fall into the Erratic category. Every single kid in the Erratic category voiced intent prior to the murder. Every. Single. One.

**Marie:** I’m going to bet right now that she's an Erratic.

**Sherry:** She is!

**Marie:** She behaves, like, just the way you describe her. I’d be, like, ‘Wow, this kid is a mess.’ Which is what I think of when I think of the Erratics.

**Sherry:** And when you think of someone who's Erratic, you think, “Oh, they're out of control.” No. Sometimes they're deeply in control - but they're using their Erratic behavior *to* control.

**Marie:** Which you see with a lot of partner violence, too.

**Sherry:** You do. I mean, this is all under the auspices of Domestic Violence - and you start seeing those connections.

**Marie:** Yeah.

**Sherry:** But this is also likely to happen if the child falls into the AlphaBrat or the Mission Oriented categories.

**Marie:** Okay, um, that makes sense. Because the Alpha Brats usually have an accomplice, and then Mission Oriented - they're just getting their plan in place.

**Sherry:** That's right. These guys are also significantly more likely to manifest their behaviors at a less than .001 probability.

**Marie:** Wow!

**Sherry:** The third one – (pause) this one takes a minute to describe. So, it's Runaway or Suicide. And most people go, 'Runaway? Suicide? Those can't be one category.' But they are - because they're both Leaving Behaviors.

**Marie:** Oh!

**Sherry:** So, if they try to commit suicide, they're trying to leave. If they're trying to run away, they're trying to leave. So, we are looking that at them, combined, as Leaving Behaviors.

**Marie:** Oh, that puts that, "Why won't you let me leave" in a whole new light, doesn't it?

**Sherry:** Oh, yeah. And we had 502 parricides in this study. 37% of the Youthful Offenders ran away from home or experienced suicidal ideation prior to the offense.

**Marie:** That seems pretty low. It's less than half.

**Sherry:** It is! It's as significant as the others - probability is at .001. But look; I'll show you.

**Marie:** Okay. (papers rustling)

**Sherry:** Look at this chart - and what do you see?

**Marie:** Oh, wow. So, most of the groups are not running away or attempting suicide. But the Erratics - a strong majority of them are. The Anarchists? Really, no. The Alpha Brats? Somewhat. But the Erratics - it's a lot.

**Sherry:** Most definitely. And that's why you need to really look at the kid if you're predicting if the parents are in trouble. If you know what we know - and you look at Tylar's life - her mother was in deep, deep trouble. And no one really understood it.

**Marie:** No, they were all focused on saving Tylar from this boy, instead of saving Joanne from imminent death.

**Sherry:** Um-hmm. Anyway, that's why we think the Parricide Prevention Institute is important.

**Marie:** Yeah. Trying to understand what is, really, a scary sign is really important for not having this happen over and over again.

**Sherry:** It is! And people who are in the situation need to be able to say, 'Oh, red flag!' If you don't recognize the red flags - if you think it's all you abusing the kid (and you're never abusing the kid) and you think you're safe; because you aren't abusing your child.

**Marie:** That's not the truth.

**Sherry:** Right. And it's dangerous.

**Marie:** It would be wonderful if it was as simple as, 'Don't abuse your children.'

**Sherry:** Um-hmm. I wish it were that.

**Marie:** Yeah. The world is rarely that simple.

**Marie:** No, it isn't.



(musical interlude)

**Sherry:** Anyway, back to our story. So, now Joanne had the diary - the evidence she needed to keep Boston away from her daughter for good. But, still, she wavered. She really wanted to do what was best for her daughter; and she didn't want to destroy Boston's future.

**Marie:** Yeah. It's hard to think about taking this explicit diary of your 14-year-old the police.

**Sherry:** And it's hard to think about destroying a 19-year-old's future.

**Marie:** Yeah - especially if he seems like he has some redeeming qualities.

**Sherry:** Um-hmm. So, she decided that if the kids would come clean and face the consequences of their choices; if Boston would truly stay away from Tylar. If Tylar would understand why that needed to happen. Then she would keep that diary private. She shared her decision with the police, and they gave interviews one more try. And, again, Tylar and Boston held fast that the crazy mother was the only problem here. So, Joanne gave the diary to the police to support her allegations - on Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Marie:** That is so hard! Because now she knows that this information that her daughter has written is probably going to become public knowledge. This is going to be part of a trial. People are going to read about these things that have happened to your daughter - and that's hard for a parent.

**Sherry:** And, as necessary as it was, she also feels that she has breached her daughter's privacy. And parents hate to take their children's private mistakes and make them public, because that also hurts your child's future in another way.

**Marie:** And it's embarrassing, and just very hard.

**Sherry:** According to Joanne's work friends, Tylar had been beyond livid when she found out. In response to her tantrum, her mother had told her, "When you've calmed down, we'll talk about it." So, again, Joanne is the queen of calm. I don't know how she did it.

**Marie:** Yeah. She's trying really hard to model that good parenting - where you hold space for your children, and you don't react to them with anger.

**Sherry:** But it doesn't work for all children.

**Marie:** No. There's no perfect parenting style, unfortunately.

**Sherry:** Well because all kids are different. We have five different kinds of kids. And if you treat them all the same you get different outcomes. You have to treat them differently if you want the same outcome.

Anyway, Cici testified - after the murder - that Tylar had called Boston on June 10th and they'd had a long and intense telephone call. That was when Tylar told him that her mother had turned her explicit diary into the police. After the call, Boston threw up in the sink. He told Cici that he thought maybe he had the flu - but she was pretty sure it was something in that phone call that had made him physically ill.

Later that day, Mattie B texted him saying Tylar was bad news and, as a friend, he needed to tell him to dump her before she ruined his entire life. He couldn't be a math teacher if he was on the Sex Offender Registry. Boston told him it wasn't Tylar who was ruining his life, it was that Joanne Witt who was

continuing to destroy his life because she wouldn't stop calling the police on him for having sex with her daughter.

**Marie:** The sad thing is she really tried to give him an out. Like, if he would have just knocked it off, he wouldn't be in trouble. but he's mad at her for doing the only thing she could do - as a parent and as a sane adult.

**Sherry:** Well, he struck a deal with her and he's not keeping up his end of the deal. But he thinks that she's supposed to keep up her end of the deal. 'Let's make a deal. I have no intention of keeping my end of the deal, but I'm going to hold your feet to the fire on your end.'

**Marie:** And if you don't, you're insane. That's bizarre.

**Sherry:** It is. And it tells you a little bit about who Boston is.

**Marie:** Don't you think it's interesting that they've never texted each other? Like, she's calling him.

**Sherry:** Uh-huh, well, this was in 2009 - so I don't think it was because texting wasn't a thing. I wonder how much she was, at this point, trying to keep things off the radar.

**Marie:** Probably. I mean, once she figured out, 'Oh my diary is written evidence.' Maybe she thought, 'I should probably stop making that?'

**Sherry:** Um-um. She started calling him before that.

**Marie:** Really? She started that - so she was calling him even though she was writing in her diary? Why?

**Sherry:** I think she wanted to make sure that everything that was said between the two of them was off the record.

**Marie:** Oh, okay. Like, in case he wanted to show it to someone else?

**Sherry:** Right. Because in 2009 most kids were texting all the time.

**Marie:** Yeah. That's when - um - they had all those funny ads for the girl who could text a thousand words a minute or whatever. (laughter)

**Sherry:** That's right. I forgot about that.

**Marie:** I don't know if anyone remembers that.

**Sherry:** Yeah. So, I mean - it's kind of...there's a lot of things in here that are oddities, I think.

**Marie:** Yeah.

**Sherry:** Anyway. On the morning of June 11<sup>th</sup> - so remember - that was on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Marie:** Okay.

**Sherry:** Okay. So, on the 10th the notebook gets handed to the police. On the 10<sup>th</sup>, Tylar has a phone call that makes Boston throw up.

**Marie:** Okay.

**Sherry:** Okay. On the morning of June 11<sup>th</sup>, Tylar called Boston and asked him to sneak over to her house. She'd meet him on the back porch. Tylar had suggested committing a Romeo and Juliet-type suicide before. And Tylar told him (at this meeting on the porch) that it was time; they needed to commit a Romeo and Juliet style suicide so they could be together forever.

**Marie:** I think that maybe...she had not gotten far enough in school. Because Romeo and Juliet did not make a suicide pact.

**Sherry:** Nope.

**Marie:** If she had just waited to do these insane things until she graduated from high school, she would have known better, right?

**Sherry:** She would have read the story.

**Marie:** Yeah.

**Sherry:** This was not a love story - that was a political tome.

**Marie:** Yeah, and Romeo and Juliet didn't want to die for each other - they wanted to live together. Which is a little bit more romantic.

**Sherry:** Right. So, again, 14-year-old; way too young.

**Marie:** Yeah.

**Sherry:** Well, Boston wasn't sure about that. Boston is 19.

**Marie:** Yeah, he's a little bit older, and goes, 'Hmm. Maybe I don't want to die.'

**Sherry:** He's head over heels in love with this girl - and he's willing to kill for her - but he's not sure he's ready for suicide. So, she's spoken about committing suicide together several times and on this day, she really pushes the idea until he agrees. And once he agreed, she said they needed to murder her mother first.

**Marie:** See. That never makes sense to me. If you're going to kill yourself anyway, why take someone else down with you?

**Sherry:** She had kind of a lame-ass story to go with it - and he bought it. But it always is like that.

**Marie:** Yeah.

**Sherry:** But she told him - this again shows planning; Booty Bumper style planning - she told him they couldn't use a knife from the house, and she suggested he bring a knife along with him for the murder. And he agreed to it.

**Marie:** Yeah. So, he may be older but he's not much wiser.

**Sherry:** These Booty Bumpers are pretty wise. Boston's friend, Dutch, testified that on June 11<sup>th</sup> - the same day that they decided about the suicide and murder - Dutch had a cigarette break with Tylar. Tylar was going on and on about how she wanted her mother dead. He kind of laughed at her and called bullshit. He had a lot of Emo friends and felt all of this talk about death, parental hatred, and suicide was

just that - all talk. Dutch called her on it - saying she'd be sad if her mother were dead. Tylar vehemently denied this, saying she would be genuinely *happy* happy - not sad at all.

**Marie:** That's pretty messed up.

**Sherry:** So, remember, Tylar lies. Tylar lies a lot. In fact, after she's been in prison - she gives an interview where she talks about the problem she has with lying. She's an inveterate liar. You've heard several of her lies throughout this episode. She told a lot of stories about things that happened the last day of Joanne's life. These stories tend to shine a good light on Tylar and support the lies she has told in the past. The stories are refuted by those in her life who remain alive today. As such, we will not be relaying the stories Tylar told regarding this period of time, because Tylar is an unreliable narrator. But do know this - there was no mention of alcohol in Joanne's system at autopsy.

**Marie:** It's a terrible lie. Because it's a very easy one to check. Like, if you're an alcoholic there's a lot of physical evidence.

**Sherry:** Again, a 14-year-old.

**Marie:** Yeah. It's just sad.

**Sherry:** And a lot of people are still saying, 'Oh, she was an alcoholic.'

**Marie:** It seems like a lot of times - when it comes to a parent being murdered - people are willing to accept whatever the child says.

**Sherry:** Um-hmm. And they are willing to think only bad things about the person who has died.

**Marie:** Yeah.

**Sherry:** Anyway. Since the eviction, Boston - like we said before - didn't visit Tylar's house through the front door. To do that he would have had to enter through the security gate. Joanne would have known he was there. This is kind of hard to imagine (we'll put a picture of it up on our website), but their home is in a cul-de-sac and the backyard of the home is on a road.

**Marie:** Okay.

**Sherry:** And there's their house, and then another house, and then an adjacent school parking lot. Okay?

**Marie:** Um-hmm.

**Sherry:** And he...Boston would park in that parking lot at the school, go across the school's playground - or field - walk down the road (a house-and-a-half in length) to sneak into her house. Then he'd have to jump a fence there.

**Marie:** It's a lot of effort to do something you really know you shouldn't do.

**Sherry:** Well, and that was to avoid detection. This is what allowed him to visit Tylar while remaining under the radar.

The night of the murder - June 11<sup>th</sup> - morphed into June 12<sup>th</sup> at midnight. Steven had driven to the schoolyard on the 11<sup>th</sup> and waited approximately an hour for Tylar to signal for him. This is the only agreement they have between their stories of what went down that night.

**Marie:** Ah. It's time for the finger pointing, right?

**Sherry:** Right. True love.

Tylar told her friends she'd snuck Steven in the back way of the house after she had drugged her mother with a healthy dose of Vicodin - which she had slipped into her mother's drink. At trial, Tylar changes this to a dose of vitamins. Detectives said she actually had Valium - not Vicodin - in her system.

**Marie:** Why would you slip someone vitamins to drug them?

**Sherry:** So that you don't go to prison for drugging them. (laughter)

**Marie:** I guess so.

**Sherry:** Together, they snuck up the stairs and crept into Joanne's bedroom. Boston holding the knife he'd brought from work. Tylar holding a knife she'd taken from the kitchen. BUT Tylar also told the investigators a third story - which I think is closer to the truth - so I'm going to interrupt myself to tell that one right now.

Tylar said Boston snuck up to the house after getting the all-clear and Tylar met him outside. They smoked a couple of cigarettes together and talked about the trip to San Francisco. Then Tylar told investigators she said, "Okay. I'll go inside, you go upstairs and then just go through the door. Her door is open."

Which is different than the two of them creeping up the stairs like a couple of Ninja Turtles with knives in their hands - and probably closer to what most Booty Bumpers do - the guy is the hitman.

**Marie:** For sure.

**Sherry:** So, there was Story One. Here's back to Story Two.

So, back to the story Tylar testified to in court. She claims she lost her nerve once the two of them had snuck up the stairs. She dropped her knife onto a cabinet top in the hall - but instead of stopping the murder, she placed her hands over her ears, closed her eyes, and hummed to block out the noise of her mother fighting for her life.

**Marie:** That has to be some loud humming.

**Sherry:** Yeah. I don't think that's actually possible - but that's what she said. After the murder, Boston emerged from the room; his pants soaked in blood. She claims that at that point she told Boston everything was going to be okay. Boston placed a SpongeBob blanket over her mom. Tylar reminded him to pick up the knife he'd set down on the bed. He did so, leaving a bloody outline of it on the sheet.

**Marie:** Well, why didn't she just pick it up herself?

**Sherry:** Fingerprints.

**Marie:** Ah!

**Sherry:** She wanted to make sure only his fingerprints were everywhere.

**Marie:** And it worked! It was just his fingerprints and just his DNA.

**Sherry:** Right. Then they shut the bedroom window to ensure any future smells would not escape the house, and they turned on the air conditioner - and they left together.

**Marie:** So, she was remorseful?

**Sherry:** Well, I wouldn't go that far.

**Marie:** What did she say about it?

**Sherry:** It's more about what she does - and less about what she says. Regardless of what she said, we can turn down the volume and watch what she did next. Instead of stopping Boston - or even calling an ambulance - she left with him. So, I think you know my opinion regarding the verity of her claims of remorse.

**Marie:** Yeah. That doesn't sound like someone who's guilt stricken.

(musical interlude)

**Sherry:** We're out of time for today. So, next week we'll relay Boston's version of the murder, describe the teens' trip to San Francisco, and their lame suicide attempt. And then we'll wrap up by telling you what happened in court.

**Marie:** We'd like to thank Claire, Liz, Marcia, and Rebecca for joining us on our Patreon page. Welcome, Welcome! We can't tell you how much we appreciate your support! If you're interested in doing something priceless to help our show, please follow and review the Parricide Podcast wherever you listen; follow the Parricide Podcast on Instagram and Facebook; and share our show with two of your favorite podcast listeners. Those three things are incredibly valuable. And while you're at it, do it for another podcast you enjoy.

**Sherry:** We'd like to thank the Sacramento Bee, the Modesto Bee, the Reno Gazette Journal, My Life of Crime, Star-Crossed Killers by Robert Scott, and Dreamin' Demon for a host of information and pictures that we use to bring you this episode.

**Marie:** While we were creating and recording this episode, we were saddened to hear of the death of one of our favorite musical artists; Meatloaf. He was one of the greats - and we keep thinking about one of his songs - because if parents would play this song for their sons from...well...probably from birth forward, perhaps we could interrupt the playbook moves used by Booty Bumpers. We thought we'd end our show with an excerpt from this song.

**Sherry:** This is for you, Meatloaf!

**Meatloaf:** And I would do anything for love; But I won't do that.

**Sherry:** This has been the Parricide Podcast.

**Marie:** Good night, and always sleep with one eye open.

(outro music) Ashes, ashes; We all fall down.