

RESTRICTED

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE CONSTABULARY

EDWARD KING

Recorded Interview 1

Date: 7/10/1989

Duration - 23 minutes

Location - Nottinghamshire Central Police Station

Conducted by Officers from Nottinghamshire Police

POLICE This interview is being tape recorded. I am officer Jules Pearson. Present is Edward King, Caitlin Smith from Child Protection Services, and myself. You said earlier that you rather I call you Eddie. Would you prefer that?

EK Yes.

POLICE Thank you, Eddie. Can I ask how you are feeling at the present time?

EK I don't know. Nervous, I guess.

POLICE Well there is nothing for you to worry about, Eddie, we are just getting a sense of what has happened. If at any point, you or Caitlin think we need to stop as you are finding it too difficult, you just say the word and we stop. Is that okay with you?

EK Yes.

POLICE Just remind me how old you are, Eddie.

EK Sixteen.

POLICE And how much are you aware of, of what has happened?

EK Well, I know my mum and dad have been arrested. I'm not entirely sure what for.

POLICE What do you know of why they've been arrested?

EK Well, I know police came into the house while I was sleeping, then I got up, and I saw mum and dad being handcuffed.

POLICE And what did you do then?

EK Nothing. I just... Watched, I guess. Then a man from the police came and talked to me and said that I wasn't in trouble but they wanted to bring me down the station to check that I was okay.

POLICE And how much are you aware of in terms of your parent's arrest?

EK Dunno.

POLICE Have you noticed your parents doing anything strange recently?

EK No. Not any different to what they would normally do.

POLICE You say what they would normally do - what would they normally do, Eddie?

EK Get drunk and shout a lot. Sometimes there'll be bangs against the wall. I don't always stay. Sometimes I go stay at my friend's.

POLICE And which friend is this?

EK Jenny.

POLICE And this is the friend whose parents have agreed to temporary custody?

EK Not temporary. I'm staying there. I'm never going back.

POLICE And what else do you know about why your parents have been arrested?

EK Dunno.

POLICE Okay. Would you like me to tell you?

(It is noted that EK had a long pause at this point, in which he looked to Caitlin.)

POLICE It's okay, Eddie, I don't have to if you don't want me to.

(Another long pause.)

POLICE For the record, Eddie has nodded in confirmation. Well, Eddie, your mother and father have been arrested under suspicion of attempted murder. At the moment, we don't know anything for sure, but we have strong enough evidence to be fairly certain at this point. You don't seem very surprised by this, Eddie.

EK I'm not. Sometimes bad things happen around me.

POLICE Around you?

EK Sometimes I see things move. Or people get hurt. I never mean it, but...

POLICE What do you mean by get hurt?

EK Bad things happen to people who annoy me. I don't do anything, but it happens.

POLICE What bad things?

EK Sometimes they fall over, or something hits them, or they are sick, or something. I don't know. Jenny says it's

just coincidence. I think it's just coincidence.

POLICE Has anything bad happened like this while you've been with your parents?

EK No.

POLICE Well your parents are accused of committing this act away from your house, Eddie. Far away. Nowhere near where you were. So, you are not at all responsible, do you understand?

(Silence.)

POLICE Do you understand that, Eddie?

EK Can I go now?

POLICE Did you want a break?

CAITLIN Did you want to stop, Eddie?

EK I just don't want to talk about me.

POLICE That's okay, Eddie, we don't have to talk about you. You said that your parents sometimes make large bangs, what do you mean by that?

EK They argue on the other side of the wall. I can hear them in my bedroom, at night, shouting things.

POLICE And what kind of things do they shout?

EK That I was a mistake. That they hate each other. That they wish the other one was dead.

POLICE Have you ever seen them physical hurt each other?

(Long pause.)

EK Dunno.

POLICE Do you know what I mean by physical hurt, Eddie?

EK Like, punch and kick and stuff.

POLICE Yes. Have you ever seen them do that?

EK Yes. Dad does it all the time to Mum. And he used to do it to me, then I started leaving when I heard them, started going to Jenny's.

POLICE And have you ever seen them hurt anyone else, Eddie?

(Long silence.)

POLICE Let the record be shown that Eddie has shrugged his shoulders.

EK You need to stop.

POLICE Sorry, Eddie?

CAITLIN Do you need to stop the interview, Eddie?

EK No. You need to stop.

POLICE Eddie, are you okay? Your eyes... They seem to have glazed over. Eddie? Eddie? Caitlin, do you have any idea what has happened?

CAITLIN Eddie? Eddie, are you all right? I think we need to stop the interview.

EK You need to stop.

POLICE Who are you talking to, Eddie?

EK You. It's going to get you. It's going to hurt you.

POLICE What's going to hurt me, Eddie? Are you going to hurt me?

EK Lamashtu is here.

POLICE Oh my God, Eddie, what's going on?

CAITLIN Move the chairs, he's having a seizure.

POLICE We need a medic in interrogation room B.

CAITLIN Eddie? Eddie can you hear me?

POLICE Move the chairs so he doesn't hit his head.

CAITLIN I don't understand. He has no history of epilepsy.

POLICE Sometimes these things happen. Eddie?
Ed-

[recording ends]