

1 the pain of her not being here. They loved her so much.

2 I raised her for three years with the help of my
3 friend and my family and in those three years Phoenix was
4 taught how to treat people, Phoenix was taught how to treat
5 people so that people would treat her with respect. She
6 learned how to walk, she learned how to use the washroom.
7 She had her own room with her own bedroom suite. She had a
8 cat, toys, pretty things and most important she never knew
9 what pain was. She knew when it was time to go to bed and
10 she was never locked up.

11 She loved to play guitar, read, draw, and watch
12 movies, among other things and knowing the complete opposite
13 was done to her bothers the hell out of me. It disturbs me
14 beyond words. I loved her so much and she knew that, I
15 always told her that. Her love is still here with me and it
16 will never be lost or forgot in time. She keeps my life
17 going as I will always keep the memory of hers going.

18 One thing I know, there is nothing I can do to
19 bring my daughter back and I hope this will never happen to
20 any child again and plan to do my part in ensuring a future
21 for other children. My heart aches and never stops.

22 You cannot possibly begin to imagine how hard this
23 is to type. It is just as hard to think about. Seeing her
24 talked about in the papers like we never existed in her
25 life. I want the record to show she was loved by me. I
26 always wanted Phoenix and she was never a burden of any kind
27 to me ever.

28 Thank you, Steve Sinclair.

29 THE COURT: You're now reading your own statement,
30 Ms. Edwards?

31 MS. EDWARDS: Yes.

32 THE COURT: Go ahead.

33 MS. EDWARDS: I loved Phoenix immensely and it is
34 beyond words to describe how I felt about that precious

1 child and the honour it was for me to raise her for three
2 years. In all honesty, I believe she was a gift sent to me
3 from the heavens.

4 I recall wanting another child, thinking it might
5 bring my ex-husband and me together again and I remember
6 praying to be blessed with one and six months later
7 Phoenix was placed into my arms for safekeeping by her
8 father.

9 I fell madly in love with this child the moment I
10 laid eyes on her. She was perfect. Her skin was the colour
11 of a china doll. Her eyes so deep you could not see to her
12 soul, big brown mesmerizing saucers. She had a smile that
13 lit up the universe and she had such infectious laughter.
14 Sometimes Phoenix and my ex-husband would just sit and look
15 at each other and laugh until their sides hurt and they
16 could laugh no more at one another's laughter. It would
17 light your heart up in a second. It did not matter your
18 mood and my heart breaks into a thousand pieces knowing how
19 he loved her as his own and the way him and Steve shared a
20 fatherly bond thinking only of Phoenix, double the love, as
21 Steve would say this himself.

22 I know her death hit him like a ton of bricks. If
23 given the chance, we would have raised her into adulthood
24 alongside our own children, given her everything that we
25 gave to them whether we were together or not.

26 She was the closest to Rohan I think. He treated
27 her like a queen. I swear if Phoenix wanted to sit down or
28 lay where you were sitting on the sofa, he would tell you to
29 give it up for her and she mischievously used that a lot but
30 that was fine with everyone, even my children.

31 My oldest boy just can't comprehend what happened
32 to her. He has a brain in his head and he knows, but it
33 angers him and it scares me. I pray every day that he too
34 can channel his anger in a positive way, remembering her the

1 way she was and the way he wants to.

2 My middle child, I know he has his own opinion.
3 He keeps it to himself. A very smart young man. I do not
4 worry much about him as he had taught me a lot about these
5 emotions I feel.

6 My oldest girl, well she was blessed with a child
7 of her own the year we heard the horrible news, who of which
8 she named for her and is just a blessing in every way. Her
9 name is [REDACTED] and that is what the phoenix
10 represents, so I know that she too will be all right in
11 time, a smart, caring, young woman.

12 Phoenix Victory Hope will always be considered my
13 daughter and their sister. Forget the word foster because
14 none of us felt in our hearts there was any difference by
15 blood. The word foster has its implications we do not wish
16 to accept collectively as her family, not just us but most
17 Phoenix's biological families on both sides. We are her
18 collective family, united for her in life and we are still
19 united with her death -- I'm sorry -- we are still united.
20 Her death has only made the ties stronger. We love that
21 little girl with all of our hearts and we'll miss her
22 forever.

23 Phoenix was my daughter by choice and it was my
24 honour to raise her for three years and fight for her memory
25 and justice now. You see Phoenix's heart belongs to me and
26 mine to her. I know this and she knows, as so many people
27 that actually mattered in her life do and I will always be
28 comforted by that fact and feel people have the right to
29 know this.

30 I feel that the accused not only took her life,
31 but they robbed Phoenix of a benevolence that was rightly
32 hers and mine too. This feeling does not get better with
33 time and it will never go away. Not a day goes by that I
34 don't think of her or what she would be doing. Phoenix

1 would be in grade two and I can see her now, all inquisitive
2 and curious, showing other kids how to rock out and have
3 fun.

4 I truly hope Madame Lady Justice will see past
5 biological and see just family. It was beautiful, it was
6 rare. I hope she can see in her wisdom truly. Nonetheless
7 there are many aunties and uncles and cousins and friends of
8 Phoenix Sinclair and we want the whole world to see Phoenix
9 was well loved by all who knew her and cared for her. You
10 see, Phoenix will never be forgotten by any of us.

11 When I heard rumours of her being with CFS in 2006
12 I was excited to have the chance to bring her back into my
13 life, but devastatingly three days later we learned that it
14 was just a lie Samantha had told the authorities and that
15 Phoenix was actually dead and had been for some time. I was
16 crushed in that moment. I had never felt so much pain ever.
17 I had never so much as had to deal with anyone I loved
18 dearly dying and Phoenix was the first. I wasn't sure how
19 to handle my feelings. The more that surfaced on her death
20 the more it left me feeling angry at Samantha and this man.
21 Thinking horrendous thoughts to myself and what I would like
22 to do to them, but I knew these feelings and thoughts were
23 not right to feel, let alone healthy and decided to channel
24 my rage. I felt completely compelled to fight for justice
25 for Phoenix to get the truth out and to find the answer as
26 to how this could happen.

27 Enraged that they were enabled to do this, I put
28 my life on hold and drove everyone in the media and in the
29 government nuts, just to prove to them Phoenix was truly
30 raised by us, maybe not conventionally but she had what she
31 needed and that was love and all the things that come along
32 with love.

33 By my own doing and my choices, my employment
34 became affected and I eventually left my job on an

1 indefinite leave of absence with the guarantee of my boss
2 that the job would always be there. Yes, my finances
3 suffered tremendously and I live day to day now. But with
4 the help of my mate in life we get by and again this was our
5 choice to make and no one's fault but our own, believing
6 Phoenix was worth it. I do not regret any of the
7 decisions that I have made in the last two and a half years
8 period.

9 My days became filled with phone calls and letter
10 writing to the authorities on every level of government
11 dedicated to honouring Phoenix and justice for her and after
12 time other children like her. This horrendous event just
13 took over my life with a life of its own and I thank God it
14 has done it in a way that makes me stronger every day and I
15 cannot and do not wish to control it or change it but live
16 my own life around it.

17 I lost my place.

18 MR. SAULL: You'll get it back.

19 MS. EDWARDS: There I go, yeah. Every waking
20 moment I think of her memories and thoughts flood my mind
21 and heart and I am driven to do what's needed to be done to
22 ensure that her memory serve a greater purpose than that of
23 just a tragic little girl who was brutally abused and
24 eventually murdered. Dubbed by all the press and every
25 would-be activist as the forgotten child nobody loved,
26 twisting and bending the truth, I know I had the strength in
27 me to deal with this and I will overcome this disrespect
28 when the two accused are sentenced for the crimes they have
29 committed.

30 I slowly became out of touch with friends. Once
31 an outgoing person who enjoyed spending weekends and spare
32 moments jamming on the guitar with my friends, I no longer
33 do this for the hours spent. My relationship began to
34 suffer. It truly changed the dynamics of my relationship

1 which I now just realize I have survived.

2 I have come to terms with what these people did to
3 Phoenix but I will never understand how or why they could
4 take a wonderfully bright child so full of love and
5 affection with excitement for life and just turn her into
6 what they did and I know her spirit is free and it shall
7 live forever in our hearts and in people's minds. That is
8 how the family and I want her remembered. This is how I
9 want her remembered. At this time it is excruciatingly hard
10 to forget the horrendous and heinous horrors that they
11 committed against her, while others kept their crime secret
12 for so long. Sometimes I have nightmares, hearing screams,
13 but then I wake up and I hear her sweet voice.

14 They say time heals all wounds but I don't think
15 the sorrow will ever heal. Every bone in her body was
16 broken, brutal acts. It's hard to think of Phoenix without
17 knowing deep down in the pit of my gut and the vastness of
18 my heart how she suffered what I personally feel are
19 injuries worse than Christ. This is what I believe, whether
20 others choose to or not.

21 Lord knows I have tried to forgive them for what
22 they did, I truly have, but have resigned at this -- I'm
23 sorry -- I have resigned at this knowing that the accused
24 are both seeking forgiveness by society and will most likely
25 get it, feeling that I should leave it up to the judge and
26 to God and I choose to save my sympathy for those who truly
27 deserve it.

28 Thank you, Your Honour. Kimberley Edwards.

29 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Edwards.

30 Ms. Kematch, is there anything you'd like to
31 say?

32 THE ACCUSED KEMATCH: I do have a lot to say. I
33 could tell you guys a lot, but I only have so much time and
34 I know everybody is seeking the truth and this isn't the