

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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TAPE NUMBER: 99-001

CASE NUMBER: 99-00521

OFFICER SUBMITTING TAPE: DETECTIVE DAVID LYONS #29274

OFFENSE: MURDER

PERSON TRANSCRIBING TAPE:

Brenda L. Estes

OFFICERS TAKING THE STATEMENT: DETECTIVE DAVID LYONS #29274

Additional information:

Taped interview of Troy Hughes, by Detective Lyons, on 01-03-99, beginning at 1500 hours.

This manuscript was proofread by Detective David Lyons and his changes in the text are underlined.

LYONS: Today's date is Sunday, January 3rd, 1999, at 1500 hours. This is Detective David Lyons, I'm about to bring Troy Hughes into the room and attempt to interview him regarding the case on Bainbridge Drive, where he was brought in by patrol today, on a death investigation.

LYONS: Have a seat in there, you doing okay? Have a seat. You had any sleep, lately?

HUGHES: No. Not really.

LYONS: Sit in this little chair right.. right there.

HUGHES: Oh, man, it's cold in here.

LYONS: Is it cool in here? I think... it's warmer in that room down there. Uh.. remember my name, just now, when I told you, Dave Lyons. And you can call me Dave, while we talk. Uh.. let me get some basic information from you, so I can get to know you a little bit better.

HUGHES: Okay.

LYONS: Uh.. let's see. Is it.. your last name H-U-G-E-S.

HUGHES: H-U-G-H-E-S.

LYONS: Okay. And your first name is Troy?

HUGHES: Right.

LYONS: Your middle name?

HUGHES: Dewayne.

LYONS: D-...

HUGHES: D-E-W-A-I-N.

LYONS: Okay. And address you're living at?

HUGHES: Uh..

LYONS: ?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: What's your phone number out there?

HUGHES: Let me see.. ah.. I think that's right.

LYONS: ?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: You got a work phone number?

HUGHES: No, that's the work phone number.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: You want my home number?

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: It's ..

LYONS: ? Got it. Got a car phone or pager number?

HUGHES: Yeah. A pager.

LYONS: What's that one?

HUGHES: Uh..

LYONS: And your date of birth?

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Where are you headed to?

HUGHES: Back over.. you said you were finished, right?

LYONS: Oh, no. I said date of birth.

HUGHES: Oh!

LYONS: I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Have a seat. No, I'm not.. I'm not speaking right, I've got a head cold. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to confuse you. Ah.. you thought I said you were finished?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Okay. (unintelligible) what's your date of birth?

HUGHES:

LYONS: My error on that, I've got a head cold and I'm a.. my.. I've had a sore throat. What's your social security number?

HUGHES:

LYONS:

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: And ah.. how tall are you?

HUGHES: Ah.. 6'1½".

LYONS: And ah.. how much do you think you weigh?

HUGHES: About 225.

LYONS: Okay. Are you married?

HUGHES: Yes.

LYONS: Okay. Are you left or right handed?

HUGHES: Right handed.

LYONS: Okay. Do you have any known physical or mental impairments? You ever been diagnosed with anything?

HUGHES: Yeah (unintelligible)

LYONS: You on medication?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: Okay. How far did you get in school, Troy?

HUGHES: GED

LYONS: Okay. Any alcoholic beverages, today?

HUGHES: Two beers.

LYONS: Two beers? What time do you think you had those?

HUGHES: About... let me see ah.. between .. twelve and one.

LYONS: Twelve and one?

HUGHES: Yeah. Something like that. Two beers.

LYONS: Any drugs?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: Okay. Do you feel intoxicated now or.. two beers, a guy your size probably wouldn't...

HUGHES: It wouldn't bother me.

LYONS: Yeah. I didn't think so. You could probably drive and everything. Where do you work at?

HUGHES: At ah.. (unintelligible) ... (unintelligible)

LYONS: Okay. You work at two places or just (unintelligible)

HUGHES: Yeah both of them.

LYONS: Where are they located at?

HUGHES: Uh.. (unintelligible) I think the pizza is on Man-O-War.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: I think .. (unintelligible) shopping centers over there I think. Yes, and I ain't sure about that place.

LYONS: Okay. How long have you been there?

HUGHES: Been there a month, two months.

LYONS: Okay. And what's your wife's name?

HUGHES: Kecia Hughes.

LYONS: How do you spell Kecia?

HUGHES: K-E-C-I-A.

LYONS: And how old is she?

HUGHES: Twenty seven.

LYONS: Do you know her date of birth?

HUGHES: Uh..

LYONS: , you think?

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: How long have you all been married?

HUGHES: Three years. Off and on.

LYONS: But you were actually married three years ago?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Okay. Uh.. do you have any kids together?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: Does she have any kids from a previous marriage or anything?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: How many has she got?

HUGHES: Two boys.

LYONS: Okay. And how old are they?

HUGHES: One's , the other one .

LYONS: And what's the year olds name?

HUGHES: His name .

LYONS: How do you spell that?

HUGHES: .

LYONS: And his last name?

HUGHES:

LYONS: And the year old, how olds... what's his name?

HUGHES:

LYONS:

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: And is his last name , also?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Do they live there with you all? Or...

HUGHES: Yeah, they live with us.

LYONS: Where're they at, right now?

HUGHES: I don't know. Probably still in Louisville with their grandmother.

LYONS: Yeah. Is that her mother? Or your mother?

HUGHES: No. (unintelligible) people on their mother's side.

LYONS: Okay. And so she.. they're probably in Louisville with their grandmother? What's her name?

HUGHES: Uh..

LYONS: ?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS:

HUGHES: That's what they call her.

LYONS: And what's her full name?

HUGHES: I don't even know.

LYONS: Okay. And is that.. is that.. Kecia's momma or..

HUGHES: No. That's the boys, their grandmother.

LYONS: Okay. They're over at... family, I guess.

HUGHES: Right.

LYONS: How long they been in Louisville?

HUGHES: Uh.. probably to stay there, it'll probably be (unintelligible)

LYONS: Okay. Well, ah, I'm kinda in the dark on a lot of things. I just got called in from home and everything when they picked you up over there.

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: Want to fill me in, on what's going on? And what's happened in the last couple of days or..

HUGHES: I mean.... what you talking about, what happened?

LYONS: With Kecia, back at the apartment.

HUGHES: Nothing really happened man, just, started arguing, got into it (unintelligible)

LYONS: When did you all start arguing?

HUGHES: Uh.. I can't remember right now.

LYONS: Has it been... today.. yesterday.. day before or...

HUGHES: Probably about two days straight in a row there let me think about it.

LYONS: Okay. Did you all argue there in the apartment?

HUGHES: Yeah. I never argued when we're outside, in public.

LYONS: And you think you argued about two days ago or...

HUGHES: Yeah. Well, yesterday... before three o'clock.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: And then .. the day before we argued.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Okay. What were you all arguing about?

HUGHES: Uh.. basically everything, man. But, I'm like.. I guess me.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Had there been a problem in your all's relationship that .. has been really heavy with you all or...

HUGHES: What kind of problem, you mean?

LYONS: Any.. any.. like when you all were arguing about, is there anything that stands out that causes you all to argue? Money? Ah ...

HUGHES: Naw. ain't nothing....

LYONS: Jobs? Fidelity? People? Everybody staying monogamous in the relationship?

HUGHES: I mean... this one dude work at the hospital in the morning time try to talk to Kecia.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: And I just caught him one day and never said nothing to him.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: So I was going to wait, and I was going to say something to him but .. you know, you know Kecia and I fell out, so,...

LYONS: And this.. was at the hospital.

HUGHES: Yeah. It was at the hospital.

LYONS: Is that where she works?

HUGHES: No. She works in the clinic.

LYONS: In the clinic?

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Okay. Which clinic does she work at?

HUGHES:

LYONS: And where's that at?

HUGHES: On

LYONS: Okay. Well, I've got you. Okay. So you all started arguing two days ago and.. and .. and argued straight through and everything. Can you remember .. what the argument was over? Or..

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: (unintelligible) the only thing.. she say was that ah..(unintelligible) to work. And she came over and she had to put all that stuff up.

LYONS: Who went to work?

HUGHES: Her (unintelligible) went to work.

LYONS: Jordan?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Is it somebody that lives with you all or...

HUGHES: No. Didn't live with us, man, but we used to stay with him before we got (unintelligible) apartment over here, she stayed with him, years ago.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: But ah.. (unintelligible) there one man right there I think will be... (unintelligible)

LYONS: Uh-huh. Now what.. what did you just say?

HUGHES: Huh?

LYONS: I'm .. I'm .. my .. I'm still stuffed up, what did you just say about Jordan or.. . goes to work, right?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Okay. And then.. okay.

HUGHES: And then the wife is there and something like that, and who ever comes over there, they get her.

LYONS: Yeah. Who got her?

HUGHES: I don't know, she ain't street wise smart, that's why they get her like that.

LYONS: Uh-huh. Who? What do you mean, get her? I mean.

HUGHES: They steal from her and stuff.

LYONS: Oh. I see. What kind of stuff do they steal?

HUGHES: Her money. What they can get their hands on.

LYONS: And who's they again? Is it Jordan and them or...

HUGHES: No. No, no, no. Jordan's is uhm, let me see , he's married to (unintelligible) no, he's married to (unintelligible)

LYONS: Okay. But you all used to live with Jordan?

HUGHES: No. We never lived with him.

LYONS: Okay. I got you.

HUGHES: They were just good friends of ours, help us out.

LYONS: Okay. Do you know Jordan's last name?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: Anywhere I .. anywhere... if I wanted to talk to Jordan do you know how I would find Jordan? Like where he works or...

HUGHES: No. I mean.. (unintelligible)

LYONS: He's over.. does he live over in Bainbridge?

HUGHES: I think he lives over with this woman over in Bainbridge.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: Cause he's there every night.

LYONS: Is he white or black?

HUGHES: ..

LYONS: Do you know where he works or anything?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: Does he work anywhere?

HUGHES: Yeah. He works at .. and .. also.

LYONS: .. and ?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: Which ? Richmond Road or...

HUGHES: The one right up the street from ... not far from here (unintelligible) be the first one.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: So you all, you and Kecia started arguing about two days ago.

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Now you can't recall what you all were arguing about or... what started it?

HUGHES: Uh.. Not off hand I can't. I think I asked her a question.

LYONS: Do you remember what you asked her?

HUGHES: Uh-uh. No not really. Just as soon as I asked her a question, she got mad at me. And, I looked at her and I asked her what she got mad for and she didn't say nothing. I told her to speak to me, she didn't say nothing. So then she said, uh, ... (unintelligible) actually, I said, well, know what I'm going to do? She said, well do what ever in the hell

you've got to do, I don't care.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: She said, I don't care what you do, do it. So...

LYONS: Okay. Do you remember what you asked her though? To set her off that .. that much or.. was it a little thing or a big thing or..

HUGHES: I can't remember right now.

LYONS: Can't remember?

HUGHES: Uh-uh. I mean, I know it wouldn't nothing bad because I don't .. you know, I don't.. that kind of person that tells a woman, you know, well, I mean...

LYONS: Did you all have problems before?

HUGHES: Oh, yeah.

LYONS: Just.. what kind of problems or...

HUGHES: Basically, problems, man, just...

LYONS: Run of the mill marriage problems?

HUGHES: Yeah. Something like that.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: Crazy stuff you know.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: (unintelligible) nothing you couldn't handle in though.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Yeah. Uh.. Well, this.. this arguing and everything.. did .. did that culminate in her getting hurt or ...

HUGHES: No. I mean, uh-uh.

LYONS: Where's Kecia, right now?

HUGHES: I don't know where she is?

LYONS: She's back at the apartment.

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: Yeah. And that.. that's what we need to do, is we need to... that's why I'm asking, you know, like what .. what you were arguing over. We need to find out what culminated and what's happened today and... what .. what brought everything to this point and.. you strike me as somebody that's got a lot on your mind. You know. That.. and .. and I'm.. I'm going to assume .. even though I haven't met you the past couple of days, you've.. or the past 24 hours, you've been working a lot of things through your mind, I think.

HUGHES: Oh, definitely.

LYONS: Yeah. And.. and I mean you look tired for one thing, you look very wore out.

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: I'm going to assume that you probably haven't slept that much. Or when was the last time you got some sleep?

HUGHES: Uh.. I don't know, man.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: I really don't know.

LYONS: Yeah. Well, what happened to Kecia?

HUGHES: I don't know, I don't remember what happened to her.

LYONS: You don't remember?

HUGHES: Uh-uh.

LYONS: Do you remember being in a fight with her or..

HUGHES: No. It wouldn't no fight.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: Got into a fight I know I'd hurt her.

LYONS: Uh-huh. Oh, what did you say, that you knew you hurt her or..

HUGHES: Yeah. I knew I would hurt her if we got into a fight.

LYONS: Oh.

HUGHES: So. I wasn't gonna fight her.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: I mean, I love her, regardless, but...

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: The only thing that, the only way Kecia can click me, you know, make me click, would be telling me some lies, that I know is true or messing around on me.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: Something like that, you know.

LYONS: Has that happened?

HUGHES: Well, I think it has. I think it was that she was missing somebody, I really do. Because I was in our room that day, we're planning on getting house and everything. And ah.. she come home and told me she wanted a house.. And I said, why, why, why, and she wouldn't tell me. I came to work the next day. That dude was down there.

LYONS: You know his name?

HUGHES: No, I don't know his name.

LYONS: But he.. he.. does he work down there at the clinic?

HUGHES: Yeah. He work... no, he works at the hospital (unintelligible)

LYONS: Oh, I got you.

HUGHES: And about six-thirty or something like that, and then we pulled out there (unintelligible)

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: (unintelligible) she had to work at seven. She went to the hospital first, he's always there.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: Always. I just don't know (unintelligible)

LYONS: Yeah. When was the last time you talked to Kecia?

HUGHES: I don't.. the last time we talked would be.. well, what kind of conversation first?

LYONS: Just the last time you talked to her and she was okay.

HUGHES: What's today, Sunday?

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: Saturday.

LYONS: Saturday? About what time?

HUGHES: Uh.. Probably from the time we got up until about one...

LYONS: One?

HUGHES: Yeah. Probably about one.

LYONS: Where was that at?

HUGHES: It was there at the house.

LYONS: Uh.. did she leave, did you leave or something or...

HUGHES: No. I left, because I had to go down there, I had went to pick my check up, man, they messed up on it.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: So, when I got my.. I was mad.. so when I got back to the house I was just telling her, I let her see it and everything like that and I need somebody to.. you know, build me back up and she just wouldn't do nothing, so..

LYONS: Uh-huh. Where did you go to pick your check up at?

HUGHES:

LYONS: been working at ?

HUGHES: Yeah. But also.

LYONS: Okay. And they messed it up? You went down Saturday, it was.. after one o'clock and they didn't have your check ready.

HUGHES: No, I went down Friday.

LYONS: Friday? Okay. And ... but you last spoke to her on ...

HUGHES: Saturday.

LYONS: Saturday?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: So your check wouldn't ready on Friday?

HUGHES: Well, actually, they.. your checks are supposed to be ready on Friday as it was... but .. mine (unintelligible) they cheated me out of some money.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: So.. (unintelligible)

LYONS: I got you. Okay. Okay, let's go back to Saturday, at one o'clock, that's the last time you spoke to her?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: What made you all quit talking?

HUGHES: Huh? If I'm not mistaken, she said she don't want to hear no more.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: And I told her she was hearing from me.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: And she said, no I'm not, I'm not going to hear nothing from you or anybody else and I mean that.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: I think that was the last time we said something, to something each other.

LYONS: And then what happened?

HUGHES: Well, we got.. .. it was Friday night (unintelligible) Friday (unintelligible) On Friday night, we didn't do nothing, we just stayed in the front room.. uh.. no, she was in the bed.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: And I was in the front room, watching a movie and she was in the bed watching a movie and stuff and I go back there and.. want to talk to her and stuff like that. She won't have nothing at all.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: Anyway..

LYONS: And that was Friday night? But you all did talk more on Saturday? Up until one in the afternoon, right?

HUGHES: I think I talked man.

LYONS: You talked?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Did she talk back?

HUGHES: A little bit, not much Saturday.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: She didn't do nothing, for real. At all.

LYONS: Uh-huh. So you think she might have messed around with this guy at work, down at ? Do you know his name at all? Or...

HUGHES: No, I don't know his name, I don't.. I mean, the only thing I know about this dude, is that he wears a blue jacket.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: And ah.. he's the clean up person, that's it.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: I done went through all my wife's stuff trying to find something for her to do but I think she keeps it in her (unintelligible) her letters from him. In her office (unintelligible)

LYONS: (unintelligible) Do.. do you think that they write letters back and forth during....

HUGHES: My wife likes to write stuff.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: She probably would have.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: But.. she.. anyway she ain't dumb enough to have em in the house though.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: She had an office down there?

HUGHES: Yeah. She got her own desk and everything.

LYONS: How long do you think she's been seeing this guy?

HUGHES: I don't even know man. I don't even know

LYONS: When was the last time you talked to Kecia, and she was okay?

HUGHES: Uh... Saturday.. Saturday morning. When we talked .. me and her and her.. last time we talked to her boy on the phone.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: When.. when we got off the phone, it was like Kecia was back to her old self again, always mad at somebody or something.

LYONS: Was she mad at somebody? Was she mad at you?

HUGHES: Probably. Was mad at me.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: For what, I don't know. So... I didn't care man.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: I really didn't care, cause, I mean, the only thing I did was like ah.. got in her car, went down to pick my check up from Rally's, went to pay.. uh, Rent to Choice, Rent to Own, went to pay them, the rest I put in my pocket, when I got paid from over there, I put it in my pocket, and uh, that was it.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: Wasn't nothing else.

LYONS: Okay. How did she get hurt?

HUGHES: You're asking the wrong person that.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: You're asking the wrong person that.

LYONS: Who.. who.. who should I talk to about that?

HUGHES: I don't know. I don't know. Cause I mean, I don't know.

LYONS: You okay?

HUGHES: Yeah. I'm okay, man.

LYONS: Look.. look me in the eye. You alright?

HUGHES: Yeah. I'm alright.

LYONS: Spiritually, you're okay?

HUGHES: I love that woman, so much, man.

LYONS: I know.

HUGHES: I.. I was going truly die for her.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: I mean, you know, seriously, because her mother pulled a gun on her before.

LYONS: What's her mom's name?

HUGHES: Uh.. I don't know her first name, last name is Woodward.

LYONS: What's your mom's name?

HUGHES: Harris.

LYONS: Harris? Does she live here in town?

HUGHES: No. My mother lives in

LYONS: ?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Well, ah... you understand that you... that if you were enraged or .. mad or something or if you all were arguing that.. we need to talk about that and that if... if she got hurt, even accidentally or ... something, during that argument, we can talk about that. We're kind of got a little puzzle here, with different pieces laying about and we're trying to get all the pieces together.

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: Ah.. you know, I mean, we.. you knew she was hurt? Right?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: In your apartment. What I what I want to do is just talk real frankly about how she got hurt. What led up to it and what happened after that and I know that's kind of tough but .. that's.. that's part of what I'm kind of feeling from you, as far as, like being on your mind and everything. Okay?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Do you know how she got hurt?

HUGHES: No. I don't remember how she got hurt, man. The only thing I remember was.. I was sitting on the couch and she was on.. no I was sitting on the love seat, she was sitting on the couch.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: And I asked her, I said come over here and talk to me. She said, no. And then that made me mad.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: So, I just sat there and I said, Kecia, come over here and talk to me. She said, Troy, understand I'm,, I'm working, so stand up. And then it was like ah.. she was like... (unintelligible)

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: And then after that, I was like uh, I told her I was mad because... of what.. ah.. I mean not but Rent-A-Center was doing to me. And that made me real mad.

LYONS: What was Rent-A-Center doing to you?

HUGHES: Well, Rent to Own, (unintelligible)

LYONS: Rent to Own? ?

HUGHES:

LYONS: . About shorting you on your check?

HUGHES: Right. Yeah. But ah.. they wouldn't.. they wouldn't give me no more money, I don't like that. If I worked it, I want my money..

LYONS: Sure.

HUGHES: But.. ah.. I think it was.. that's something we was talking about, because, she wanted me to spend more time with her.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: So, ah... but then it was like... uh.. we was sitting on the couch. And at the time it wouldn't an argument, it was really just talking. And ah.. then she said something, told me something smart. So I said something .. real smart back to her. And then like uhm, she grabbed the keys, my

set of keys, and she grabbed em and told me well, I've got the keys and then I looked at her. I said fuck you, and your car. Cause, I mean, I knew.. I knew.. it was over between us a long time ago.

LYONS: Uh-huh. So, she grabbed your keys?

HUGHES: Yeah. She grabbed my keys, just like that. That was it, I mean, she just... because, I mean, .. all I needed from Kecia was telling she cares, and she couldn't even do that.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: She couldn't do that.

LYONS: Did you ask that?

HUGHES: Yeah. I asked her, just do you care? She said, no. She said, comes down to it, don't care what happens to me or nothing. I mean, I've had a lot of women, in my 33 years, Thank God, 33 and had a lot of women but... Kecia meant the world to me.

LYONS: Crazy about her?

HUGHES: Oh, man, was I crazy about her.

LYONS: That's why you married her? Right?

HUGHES: Yeah. That's the only reason I married her, because I was so damn crazy about her.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: Because she meant everything for me. Everything I wanted in a woman, she was there. Until I came home, I came home (unintelligible)

LYONS: Uh-huh. And she took your keys?

HUGHES: Yeah. Well, I got my keys back.

LYONS: Oh. Okay.

HUGHES: So...

LYONS: What happened after that?

HUGHES: I don't even know what happened after that. I know I was mad that... probably about 30 minutes after that, I left.

LYONS: Who left?

HUGHES: I did.

LYONS: You left? What time.. what day was it, Saturday?

HUGHES: Yep.

LYONS: On Saturday, what time do you think?

HUGHES: What time did I leave Saturday?

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: Probably about three o'clock in the afternoon.

LYONS: And thirty minutes before that, you all were.. you were talking? Who was on the couch, was she on the couch, or you on the couch?

HUGHES: She was on the couch. I was.. She been on the couch, I was on the love seat.

LYONS: And she took your keys?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: What all.. is that your car keys, you all each had your own cars or ...

HUGHES: No. The car we had was in her name. I took my name off of it before I went back to prison, they took my name off of it.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: So, I let it be in her name.

LYONS: Got ya... Well, uh... did you .. did you go off or something when she was.. like, when she was telling you she didn't care about you or ..

HUGHES: No. I don't think I went off, man. Because, I mean, no.. I don't think I went off.

LYONS: Okay.

- HUGHES: Because, I mean.. that's the worst problem that we'd had, this time, man. All the other arguments we'd had, we done worked em out. You know. But.. then she really got me mad, because.. she told me that she didn't want to straighten nothing out.
- LYONS: She just didn't want to work anything out?
- HUGHES: Right. No, she didn't want me no more and stuff like that, I couldn't understand why, because.. for once in my life I was being a gentleman.
- LYONS: Yeah.
- HUGHES: You know what I'm saying, I was doing everything right. But when she told me she didn't care, .. I don't know what happened then.
- LYONS: Uh-huh. Do you remember.. do you remember you all getting physical over it at that time or... Hang in there, come here, listen, you're not going to admit and it's hard for me to come in and talk to somebody. It's got to be hard for you because you've never met me before and everything. But there's some things that.. that we know, you know, like one, that she got hurt. Probably didn't get hurt today or anything, you know, that.. that she's been over there for a while. And what I want to try to do is I want to try to take you step by step through this. Try to make as much sense as we.. as, you know, it's okay. You understand that.
- HUGHES: Yeah.
- LYONS: We.. we need people, not even so much me, but we need down the road, we need people to understand, what happened and why things happened. If there's ever been a time when .. when you're going to look for compassion from people, now is the time that you're going to need that and what people are going to ask in return for your requesting that is.. is a good reasonable, common sense explanation for what happened. And .. and the thing is, is, you've made mistakes before in your life and .. and I know neither one of us have a halo over our head, because we're human beings. And.. as human beings we make mistakes. And sometimes things.. some times in the course of making those ... you. You say you've been to the pen before.
- HUGHES: Uh-huh.
- LYONS: What kind of stuff, you been in the pen for?
- HUGHES: Intimidating a Federal witness.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: Stuff like that.

LYONS: Okay. Things that you've put behind you, right? When did you get out of the pen?

HUGHES: Uh.. 1998. August.

LYONS: In August of this year? Last year?

HUGHES: No. This year.

LYONS: Okay. Putting your life back together and carrying on, right?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: And that's your goal. I'm going to assume that's your goal in life.

HUGHES: Correct.

LYONS: Okay. And society understands that and people understand that, is that some people falter and they stumble one way or another, none of us are perfect.

HUGHES: Right.

LYONS: It's just that some of the things we do, some times have different consequences or different effects on other people. Uh.. you.. you and Kecia were arguing and.. and you became enraged or.. if .. if she was hurt accidentally in the course of that argument. I need you to tell me.. the sequence of .. sequence of events that happened. So that when people look at this, they .. they can look at it and say yeah, that's .. I can see where this came to this kind of.. kind of a better situation than this. Am I making sense to you?

HUGHES: Yeah. But I mean... Right now I just can't remember what happened to her..... how it happened.

LYONS: Well.

HUGHES: And I really don't want to.

LYONS: And that might be it. That might be it. Okay. And that could be it, is you may.. you may be blocking this out. Has anybody else been over at the apartment since Saturday.

HUGHES: Not that I know of.

LYONS: No visitors. Have you been over there all.. all of yesterday and today?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: You been coming and going or..

HUGHES: No. I just back.. today...

LYONS: Hang in there, hang in there, I can tell you're nervous.

HUGHES: Today. I just got back.

LYONS: Do you read people when you talk to people? You're 33, right?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: I'm 37, I'll be 38 here soon. And I think by the time you get our age, you know, you get used to talking to people and reading em and stuff. Okay. And I'm kinda feeling from you that .. that you're nervous and that you're concerned about this and that it's a.. a big thing on your chest.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: When .. when they took your jeans out there, we found that note in your pocket.

HUGHES: What note?

LYONS: The note that.. I think it's to your mom.

HUGHES: Uh.

LYONS: Talking about what to do with the .. the things that you and Kecia owned and.. how the TV, I think needs to go to your mom and stuff like that. That tells me that.. that.. if you wrote that note, did you write that note?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Okay. You're a man in anguish. You know what I'm saying? And we have.. you know, like I said, we know that she was hurt and that she was in the apartment for a while. And if you're carrying that around on

your chest and in your soul, that's where that anguish is coming from. You know. I can't.. I would be lying to sit here and say that if I didn't tell you that I know where you're coming from, because I don't. But I can feel it in talking to you. And everything, you talk about certain things. Thank God that you didn't hurt yourself. Okay? Can we talk frankly about this for a minute?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: It may be.. may be good to. It may be good to. Because if you've been bottling this up for the past day or so and everything. I mean, and .. and by reading that note, that's the first thing I was concerned about, is that you had probably considered doing something. And if something did go wrong in the apartment with Kecia, there might be something in your mind, right now, seems reasonable. But there's probably a lot of reasons why you didn't do anything to yourself. Okay. Spiritual. To me, that shows that there is still an open door when people understand something like that.

HUGHES: (cough)

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: So .. the.. the kinds of things that we've got to look at, is that .. you know, they found that .. that .. that very tormented note in your pocket, wouldn't you say?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: Sounds like a very final note. And then that shows that you're going through a lot of emotional pain right now. It shows, also, that you've got a conscience, and that you loved her. I mean, that's very clear in that note. It's a fast note, but it's very clear in there, okay. When we take things like that as part of the puzzle, because I wasn't in that apartment, nobody else was in the apartment. Uh.. probably besides you and Kecia. Was anybody else over when you all were arguing?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Yeah. And if you thought that she was cheating on you, you know, I

think in relationships, we all have things that we would call.. would be breaking points for that relationship.

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Okay. With me and my wife, I think, infidelity is one that.. when we went into marriage understanding that that wasn't going to be tolerated. I've.. I've never understood that. You know, especially, when you take a vow that you don't walk away from that vow. And me and my wife have the understanding that that's not .. that that won't be tolerated. I'm not going to go to her one day and say guess what, I screwed up. I had an affair and ask her to forgive me. And she's not going to do the same thing with me because we've just made that vow that we're not going to. But when one person, that makes that vow, does that, then that's.. that's an irreconcilable difference.

HUGHES: Yeah?

LYONS: And you wouldn't be the first man that was.. that was driven to rage over that. If there's one thing that we hold.. probably as men, in our lives, is.. is that if we find ourselves in love with somebody, it's not that we own them or anything but if we dedicate our lives to loving them and they turn around.. they turn around that or they do something.. otherwise, that crushes us inside.

HUGHES: Yeah. Definitely.

LYONS: It tears us up, so the kind of things I want to try to.. kind of talk to you about and try to fill some voids in this . in this.. there's like missing segments and stuff. We know that she's hurt.

HUGHES: Uh... uh...

LYONS: And that she was in the apartment for a while. I think that way. And we need to try to get some reasonable explanation or some reasonable story as to what happened, and it's got to be the truth. You know.

HUGHES: Well, as far as what?

LYONS: How she got hurt? You need to work with me. And I know it's probably painful. But even just for a few minutes, if you can open your mind to that and .. and go back and.. try to recall. That's what we need to find out.

HUGHES: Any in there.

LYONS: Yeah. Did she.. did she.. did she like front you or get physical with you or...

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Did she.. did she close in on your space, did she .. strike you, throw anything at you, or anything like that?

HUGHES: Uh-uh.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: No, nothing like that man.

LYONS: Do you remember touching her?

HUGHES: I remember grabbing her.

LYONS: Uh-huh. How did you grab her?

HUGHES: I just.. like that.

LYONS: Like .. I mean, like , on her arm.

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: What.. what.. what did she say, at that point, and this.. This is important, why you need to remember what she was saying too. And I need to know what she was saying. That if cer.. if certain things she said triggered responses in you.. we need to understand those. But when.. when you grabbed her like that, was there something in particular. Was it because she wasn't listening to you or weren't wanting to talk to you or work it out or..

HUGHES: No. No. She was bitching all the time. You know, she argues a lot. I used to go out which.. My wife.. may she rest in peace now.... but my wife would argue with you about any little thing. I mean anything, it doesn't matter what it is.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: And I don't like that.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: I don't like stuff... but..

LYONS: But you remember.. where were you all at when .. when you grabbed her at her arms?

HUGHES: In the front room.

LYONS: In the front room? Whereabouts in the front room?

HUGHES: Right where the TV and the couch is.

LYONS: Did she.. did she push you back, did ... did she fall down, did you fall down or..

HUGHES: Yeah. She fell down, I didn't fall down.

LYONS: Okay. She fell down.

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: How.. .. how did she fall?

HUGHES: Because I let her go, when pushed, she just fell.

LYONS: She hit anything or...

HUGHES: I don't know. I think she may have hit the table with.. and mess up the table.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: But I think she got that on (unintelligible)

LYONS: Okay. But like on one of her knees or something.

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Tell you another thing. I haven't been out to your house. I came straight from here, so I haven't seen Kecia, I haven't seen the house. That's why I'm counting .. on.. on a lot of faith in just talking to you, put this together. There are guys that are going to do that.. but that's hours before they.. they tell me anything. And that's why it's important I get from you. So, they tell me though, that she was wrapped up in a blanket. You remember, her being wrapped in a blanket or sheet or anything or ...

HUGHES: Uh-uh, (unintelligible)

LYONS: I .. I haven't seen her. I .. they just said that she was kinda of like.. maybe rolled into a sheet or rolled into a blanket or something like that.

HUGHES: I remember putting a cover over her.

LYONS: The cover on her?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Where was she at when you covered her up?

HUGHES: Laying on the bed.

LYONS: On the bed? Okay.

HUGHES: I put the cover on her since she was asleep.

LYONS: How did she wind up on the bed?

HUGHES: I don't know. Cause, I mean, we started arguing and stuff like that.. and .. I took my key back from her and I went out, when I came back and stuff like that, man...

LYONS: Which key did you take back from her?

HUGHES: My keys. Mine..

LYONS: Your keys....

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: So. How did she die?

HUGHES: I don't know. Cause when I seen that stuff man it was just...

LYONS: When did you see, when did you see it?

HUGHES: Oh.. man, I don't know.

LYONS: When did you see her?

HUGHES: Trying to think, I mean, that's a hard question, right there, I don't know..

LYONS: Saturday or today?

HUGHES: Saying Kecia? Is that who you're talking about?

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: The last time I really seen her, we were talking or just....

LYONS: When.. let me ask you this, when did you know that she was dead?

HUGHES: Uhh... I don't really know, because, I mean I know... Kecia's a nurse too, and she.. she used to tell me about this stuff. The things they used to do and stuff like that, so, I mean... you know, most of the stuff that she knows, I know.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: So. (unintelligible) I find out she gave me stuff like that.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: But ah.. when did you know that.. cause like you said, earlier, when you said rest in peace and everything, when did you know that she had died?

HUGHES: Probably the smell.

LYONS: The smell?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: When did you notice that?

HUGHES: Huh.

LYONS: When did you notice the smell?

HUGHES: (unintelligible) when I came in the house.

LYONS: When .. when did you come back in?

HUGHES: Uh.. today.

LYONS: What time?

HUGHES: Uh... I got back to Kentucky about one o'clock...

LYONS: About... about one o'clock?

HUGHES: Yeah. Somewhere about one o'clock (unintelligible)

LYONS: Where was she at?

HUGHES: Kecia was in the bed.

LYONS: In the bed? And you smelled her?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: Did you know... did you smell .. smell something as you walked in or smelled anything when you went back there?

HUGHES: Yeah. When I walked in the house.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: The dog was barking like crazy and stuff like that and that's the reason I went back there, cause I was going to get the dog some food and stuff.

LYONS: Uh-huh. And you went back and found her in the bed?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: Did you check on her or?

HUGHES: Yeah. Cause I put my ear down there and listen to her heart.

LYONS: Uh-huh. Didn't hear anything?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: What did you do then?

HUGHES: I went and got some uh... Lysol and sprayed it on the floor.

LYONS: Yeah. Why did you spray Lysol?

HUGHES: (unintelligible) because that smell was bothering her, our dog too.
(unintelligible)

LYONS: I've got you. So, you sprayed the Lysol because the smell?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Okay. Did you call the police or anything?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: How come?

HUGHES: I don't really know, man, I just... I don't know.

LYONS: Okay. Do you remember the police coming over to your house today?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: This morning. Do you remember what time they came by?

HUGHES: Uh-uh. I can't think of what time it was, I know, he come over there and started running his chops to me, I know that.

LYONS: What was he saying?

HUGHES: Oh, man. I wouldn't let him in my house.

LYONS: You wouldn't let him in?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: Did you know at that time that she was dead?

HUGHES: At that time (unintelligible)

LYONS: Not at the time they got there.

HUGHES: Uh-uh. She wouldn't dead at that time. Uh-uh. Cause at one o'clock we was finished watching a movie.

LYONS: Who? You and her?

HUGHES: Yeah. Me and the whole crew (unintelligible)

LYONS: I got you.

HUGHES: (unintelligible) movie, so (unintelligible)

LYONS: You and the people work at were watching a movie?

HUGHES: No. No. Uh-uh.

LYONS: Who was watching a movie at one o'clock?

HUGHES: Like who we're talking about again?

LYONS: Talking about Kecia. And when you knew she was dead.

HUGHES: (unintelligible) see, last we was talking about (unintelligible)

LYONS: The police... being there.

HUGHES: What place?

LYONS: The police coming by this.. today and asking about her?

HUGHES: Oh, yeah.

LYONS: Okay. And what I was asking you if.. if.. when they came by if you knew she was dead then?

HUGHES: No, what? Actually, I wouldn't even thinking about it.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: Uh-huh. I really wouldn't thinking about it no more.

LYONS: When you left .. uh.. on Saturday, I think you said you left about three o'clock?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: Did you stay out all night until today at one o'clock or Or did you come back last night?

HUGHES: No. I come back last night.

LYONS: What time did you come back?

HUGHES: No. I came back about.. four o'clock this morning.

LYONS: Where had you been?

HUGHES: St. Louis.

LYONS: St. Louis? Who.. who's car did you take?

HUGHES: Hers.

LYONS: Hers? Who did you see out there?

HUGHES: Uh.. Some girl named , she works down at.

LYONS: What's last name?

HUGHES: This is .

LYONS: ?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: And that... is that her last name or her first name?

HUGHES: That's both of em.

LYONS: or....

HUGHES: No, just .

LYONS: Is.. is that her nickname or something? You know her real name?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: And she works at where?

HUGHES: Uh.. .

LYONS: what's that?

HUGHES: A club.

LYONS: So you drove to St. Louis and drove back?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: And you got back to the apartment about four? Where was Kecia?

HUGHES: I got to the apartment today.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: At. Ah.. .. around three something.

LYONS: About three something?

HUGHES: (unintelligible) get this in the force, I'm out of here, shoo, man, I'm cold.

LYONS: Yeah. What .. so you left the apartment yesterday at three o'clock, right?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: And when's the first time you walked back in the apartment after you left, today?

HUGHES: Uh.. yeah, definitely.

LYONS: Okay. And what time was that?

HUGHES: Five-thirty, something like that.

LYONS: Well, just give you... it's a quarter til four now, so it couldn't be five-thirty, that's why we've got to get our times down a little bit better. Did you come back at four in the morning?

HUGHES: Yeah. I'm saying is, I got.. it was probably about five-thirty.

LYONS: Uh-huh. In the morning?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Okay. And you came back into your apartment at five-thirty in the morning?

HUGHES: Yeah. Well, I came back into the apartment after that time.

LYONS: Okay. Where was Kecia at?

HUGHES: She was in the room.

LYONS: In the room? In bed?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Did you talk to her?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: Did you smell her then?

HUGHES: Might have been smelling then but I just didn't go in the room, period. So... (unintelligible) you know, if she was in love with him, we would argue and I'm tired of arguing with her.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: How did she die? You've got to work with me a little bit Troy. You wrote that note that they found in your pocket, right?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Okay. When did you write that note?

HUGHES: Today.

LYONS: Today? And what.. what brought you to write the note?

HUGHES: Because Ke... I love Kecia.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: She's the only woman that I .. only woman that I really do love.

LYONS: Sure.

HUGHES: No, I mean that.

LYONS: I believe you. I don't have any reason to doubt you.

HUGHES: (unintelligible) I really love her, I never so much as... man, I wouldn't even cheating around on her.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: So I know I was in love with her.

LYONS: So what brought you to write that kind of note, though?

HUGHES: I don't know, man. I (unintelligible) don't know...

**CR# 99-00521
Troy Hughes**

**Tape 99-001
Side One**

LYONS: Did you hurt her and feel bad about it or.....

SIDE ONE OF TAPE ENDS

SIDE TWO OF TAPE BEGINS

LYONS: Yourself.

HUGHES: No. Because (unintelligible) hurt myself.

LYONS: You are?

HUGHES: Yeah, that's what I was thinking about out there, I was thinking about that more than anything in this world.

LYONS: How come?

HUGHES: Make me feel better. That way, she could of... she could of went on with her life and don't have to worry about it, no more.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: (unintelligible) Because I wanted to do it.

LYONS: Are your hands scratched up?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: Over here on this wrist?

HUGHES: No. This right here happened.. Friday, I think, Friday.

LYONS: From .. how.. how did you get that?

HUGHES: Be honest, I don't even know, man.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: Cause I got one.. one .. one, right there.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: I mean, honest, I don't know where none of this stuff came from.

LYONS: Let me see it, real quick. Okay. Well, Troy what we've got uh... What we got to do, is kind of fill in some gaps here and.. make some sense of some things. Even if.. if they sound like they're hard to make sense of.. you said, and we both know Kecia's dead and... that she's probably laid in that apartment for ... better than a day.

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: Something there, which would explain what you smelled, maybe. You know. You know we talked about how you sprayed Lysol and everything but.. the thing we've got to get at, is that, .. how she came to be dead. And you.. you know, you've got a note in your pocket that .. I mean, one person, like me, from the outside reads a note, and it sounds like you're taking responsibility for that, to the point where you're willing to hurt yourself because you're taking responsibility for it. Remember we talked about how... if you're in anguish and if you did something and were a little bit out of control for a minute or something, like that. Or enraged.

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: Or if something happened accidentally.

HUGHES: I would hurt myself before I hurt her...though man.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: I know how much I love her.

LYONS: I know. I know. But the thing is, is that she got hurt. You know what I'm saying. And you were there in the apartment with her, and, you know, when the law came by today to call.. to call on you and check on her and everything, and you hadn't let them in.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: It paint.. it paint's a pretty clear picture about what happened in the end. You know, you've got a note in your pocket that .. sounds like it's taking accountability for what happened to her and.. you know, you're there when the police come by and you're not letting them in, maybe, because you're scared or whatever, or shit, your mind's probably going in a million directions, at that point. It still is, probably.

HUGHES: No. A little bit, all right.

LYONS: What we've got to get down, is the brass tacks of what happened to her, and why, you know, not just what happened to her, why. Hang in there. Take a deep breath. I think it's there in your mind, it's just a matter of trying to... get it back up, and probably form the words to talk about it. At some point, your mom's going to need to understand, everybody's going to need to understand.

HUGHES: (unintelligible) understand now.

LYONS: Huh?

HUGHES: They don't need to understand.

LYONS: You don't think it would help her.

HUGHES: For what?

LYONS: Are you and your mom close?

HUGHES: Yeah. (unintelligible)

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: I don't think it's going to help nobody, I really don't.

LYONS: What? To understand what happened?

HUGHES: Yeah. I don't think that's going to help me none. I can't understand, really so.....

LYONS: Well, I .. I wouldn't agree with you on that. I think it's going to help you.

HUGHES: How?

LYONS: Just going to have people looking and judging you on this here, Troy. They need to know. Have you ever taken anybody's life before?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: I didn't think so. And I mean...

HUGHES: Never in my life.

LYONS: Okay. Let me tell you.... Ah.. there's .. there's probably like two kinds of people that we work with in here. Ah.. the biggest majority of people I sit and talk to like this, in bad situations like this.

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: You know, when things have gone wrong .. are.. human beings that have made mistakes or things have gone wrong that they didn't plan. Okay. That's the biggest .. group of people that we deal with up here.

Then there's the smallest group of people we dealt with.. up here, are real callous people, real harden people, real people, people who .. who don't have a regard for a human life. You know. And I want to tell you now, I've only met a couple of those, out of everybody I've talked to, because a lot of what I do, calls when somebody has died. And part of what I do is I try to get as many pieces of the puzzle together and take them into court. Not.. not to decide myself which way, on anything, but try to present the truth in front of twelve people. Okay. I.. I'm going to tell you now, from sitting here, in the pass few minutes, even though you've been to the pen, I'm not about to buy for a minute, that you're a hardened person or that you are a cold blooded killer. And I don't think you should be viewed that way. I . I .. there's.. you're just not a... but the key to not being viewed that way, and to be viewed by other people as somebody that made a mistake, or have something got out of control or something happened, is to.. is to put some reason, honest reasoning behind that. Okay. Because in the long run, what people are going to ask, is for an explanation. And if it turned out, that weighs heavily on what happens. That's how.. people perceive... you've been.. have you been to trial before on any of your...

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: When you're sitting there, in front of those twelve people, and they're strangers, like you and I are to each other, it all comes down to how they feel about you. It all comes down to .. there's certain things about this that aren't going to change, whether you say anything or not. That.. she's deceased and she's in your apartment and .. she's been there a while and you've got this note in your pocket, and there's a little bit of blood on your clothes bla, bla, bla, no need to get in to all that. I don't think we're going to need to get into all that. What they're going to want.. when they go back and deliberate in that room, they're going to look at Troy, who's 33, and they're going to say, great, the cops can come in there and say this, you know, we can say that she was here and he was here, there was a note in his pocket and they can show them the note and all that crap. What they're going to.. what.. but what they're going to talk about when they go back and talk about you, is who you are and what happened that day. That's.. that's where it helps. Okay.

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: If you were on the jury, and somebody came in front of you in a case like this, here's how you would probably perceive them. If a person comes in and sits there, crosses their arms and hasn't said anything, but says yeah, whatever, I mean, you know, this .. prove it, basically. You know. Or if the person comes in, and who's talked to me, because I

would be the one that would introduce your statement. I'd be the one that would get on the stand, you don't have to testify, I'd be the one up there. But if they... if your attorney got on there and asked did he talk to you, I'd say yeah he talked to me. What he'd tell you happened.. and I would turn to them and tell them what you told me had happened.

HUGHES: Do you work for the government on this or you working for the state?

LYONS: For here in the city.

HUGHES: Oh, I see.

LYONS: I'm city police. Yeah, our Urban County Government Police. But.. do you follow me?

HUGHES: Huh?

LYONS: Do you follow what I'm saying? Is when they.. when they talk about you back there, when they deliberate what they're going to do with you and what the hell they're going to treat you and what.. what.. what they're going to meat out. They need to know what happened, they need to know, they're gotta be in your mind for a few minutes, and then leave that twelve people like that, then they look at you more as a human context, where they say, you know something must have gotten out of control or... or, you know, maybe she did get him enraged so much and.. and everything. They're never going to completely agree, that something this bad should happen. But at the same time, they're going to look at you differently. Okay?

HUGHES: Alright.

LYONS: Now, what I'm afraid of is one reason that you may not want to talk about it, is that part of your note that kinda sounds like that you were considering hurting yourself, and I'm afraid that.. that you've thrown away all hope. You know, for now, it's best far as what your fate holds for you. Okay. And I don't think you should to that. I think that the reason that ^{you are not} ~~you're not~~ a talkⁱⁿ here is that, somebody, somewhere, intervened. And made you pause, and made you think. Because.. there is .. there's still a lot to this that needs to be known, we have to start today with...

HUGHES: I know it.

LYONS: ...what went on in the apartment?

HUGHES: No. I took a whole bunch of pills too, man.

LYONS: What did you take?

HUGHES: I don't know, just a whole bunch of pills.

LYONS: When did you take them?

HUGHES: Tonight.

LYONS: Today?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: You feel okay?

HUGHES: Oh, I'm great man, I'm saying that I took so many of them, I .. I'd drink a beer and get out of here and everything (unintelligible) mess me up.

LYONS: Were you trying to ... to hurt yourself?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Where did you get the pills at?

HUGHES: My wife's been ... they're hers man.

LYONS: Okay. But.. do you know what kind of pills they were?

HUGHES: Different kinds. All different kinds.

LYONS: What time was that? When you had those beers, you talked to me about?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Okay. You're still alive.

HUGHES: I know it.

LYONS: You're talking to me. There's a reason for that.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: There's a reason for that. You feel like that you need to see a doctor over the pills?

HUGHES: Uh-uh. No. (unintelligible)

LYONS: Okay. And did you follow me though, on what I'm talking about, how people are going to perceive you? They can either look at you Troy, like a... I I'm ... I don't want them to look at you like ... if you're in there with her for a while.

HUGHES: (cough)

LYONS: For a day or two... You know. I don't want them to look at it and say, damn, that was freaky. You know what I'm saying?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: I don't think that you need to be viewed that way. But if they understand the anguish and the torment that you went through that led up to that and everything that happened after it, they won't look at it that way. Okay. People understand confusion, hurt, emotional distress, they understand. Their hearts being crushed, those people have been hurt before. They also understand sometimes when you get mad, that sometimes you really get mad, and you say and do things that you normally wouldn't do or you'd swear you wouldn't do. They understand what it's like.. to lose people that they love. Okay?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: It's not.. I mean, what if you've lost her, it's just a matter of how you can put your pieces back together after this and go on.

HUGHES: I don't think I can though. I really truly don't think I can.

LYONS: Cause it's that overwhelming?

HUGHES: Huh?

LYONS: It's that overwhelming?

HUGHES: No. I just, .. I mean, it's like I told her, I don't want to start over.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: Cause it just, I don't know. (unintelligible)

LYONS: I got you.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Well, go back in your mind and.. let's try to piece together how she got hurt. That's very important. Very important. Because some of the things that people are going to wonder is, is how she got hurt and .. if ah.. she died right away or did you.. think that she was just hurt and that she would get better or something like that.

HUGHES: The only thing I remember man is, Kecia was playing with, uh, something that belongs to me and I told her to put it up.

LYONS: What was it?

HUGHES: I don't know, I can't remember what it was. It was something (unintelligible) she got smart, said something, so then she got it in her car. Come to Lexington, come to Lexington, so I followed her all the way to Lexington. And then, I tell you we got into it (unintelligible) got into it, it was argue, argue, argue, argue, argue. So then finally she threw (unintelligible) arguing. Yeah. If she'd been thinking about it, she wanted a divorce.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: I looked at her and I said, man, you want another divorce, huh. She said, Troy, this time I'm serious, I want a divorce. So I just looked at her, and I asked her, I said, well, if that's what you want, I'm going to give it to you, I said, fuck all this shit.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: Cause I need a woman that's going to love me, a woman that's going to stand beside me.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: She said, well, good then. So anyway, uh.. Tuesday, I gave her some money.

LYONS: So that was earlier in the week?

HUGHES: Huh?

LYONS: That was earlier in the week?

HUGHES: Yeah.

- LYONS: But that wasn't Saturday? Yesterday?
- HUGHES: No. I mean uh, yesterday, I wasn't... (unintelligible) yesterday. That's the only thing that happened. That made me mad yesterday was.. that... because all this shit was coming I told Kecia I couldn't handle all this and that, you know, I need somebody, a friend to lean on and stuff like that and she said, that she didn't really care how I felt. I got really mad.
- LYONS: Uh-huh.
- HUGHES: That really made me mad because... I mean, I feel like this, where I mean, you and I are... I mean, when you're with a woman, that's your wife, you're her husband, it's supposed to be fifty fifty.
- LYONS: Should be.
- HUGHES: Know what I'm saying, that's the way it's supposed to be, but.. when she told me to.. you know, she told, she told me that ah... that dude right there (unintelligible) I said, well you know, I want to do it, no, no, no. So, I was, like, it was messed up for real.
- LYONS: Uh-huh.
- HUGHES: Really messed up.
- LYONS: It is, that's why we've got to try to put as much sense in to it, we've got to paint this in the best light we can. You follow me?
- HUGHES: Yeah.
- LYONS: Don't make yourself out to be a cold blooded person in front of other people's eyes, don't make yourself out to be a ghoul, or a freak or anything, be human.
- HUGHES: That's all I can do, man, be human. That's what I was trying to do with my wife, man. I wanted her so bad, I wanted, I mean, I really did.
- LYONS: Uh-huh. I.. I believe you. I think that you've got a.. an air of sincerity about that, that is unquestionable. That's clear in that letter you wrote in your pocket.
- HUGHES: I loved her too much.
- LYONS: I believe that. So what happened?

- HUGHES: I don't know man, I just, the more she talked Saturday, the more I just... think about doing something to her.
- LYONS: Uh-huh.
- HUGHES: And she kept talking and running off at the mouth. Then I got her keys from her, then I left. I went to get her something to eat, I came back and stuff like that, to tell her don't, she still wanted to argue with me, so... I just looked at her, she was crazy or something, told her I didn't want to argue no more. Then she was quiet and I started arguing with her. And then (unintelligible) I went over there without her. But (unintelligible) you know. (unintelligible) We only agreed to go and stuff like that. (unintelligible) damn, (unintelligible)
- LYONS: Hu.. I think... might.. you might have lost me on that. We may not have talked about that before.
- HUGHES: I understand. (unintelligible)
- LYONS: This is all Saturday?
- HUGHES: Yeah. (unintelligible) Things happen, man. (unintelligible) all I gonna do, things happen.
- LYONS: Tell me about those things. Take a deep breath. Hang in there. Tell me about the things that happened or... try to take your mind back, whatever, the point she got hurt.
- HUGHES: I got hurt plenty of times, man, I've got all that stuff stuck back in the back, uh.. it's buried up in there. Just don't wanna bring em up.
- LYONS: I know. But I'm telling you, Troy, we need to.
- HUGHES: (unintelligible)
- LYONS: Yeah. Let me ask you this, I mean, and, you know, and do that and saying so, you know, especially with the letter in your pocket, is that, you're taking the responsibility for this, but I want to know, the details of why and we need to know those. I mean, we need to be able to paint a picture for our people just as accurate as we can. (unintelligible) I mean, how was she wounded? I haven't seen her, I don't know, I mean, that's why I'm asking you too, is that...
- HUGHES: When... I don't know, we was up there in the bed, Friday... Saturday, but I don't do much talking Saturday and she told me she hated me.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: And I'm like, what the hell have I done now. She said, you ain't done nothing, but I don't want to be with you no more. So, I'm kind of like, now that's cool and stuff like that, but... I don't know what happened...

LYONS: Don't shut it off. You're pretty close to telling me, I know what, I.. got an idea what's going on in your mind right now, you're probably... pulling a blind down, when you get to that point, but what time Saturday, do you think that was?

HUGHES: What was?

LYONS: When she.. when you all were talking and she said she hated you.

HUGHES: It was all before three o'clock.

LYONS: Before three o'clock.

HUGHES: Yeah. Every bit of it was before three o'clock.

LYONS: Uh-huh. How did she get her wounds? Think back, this is a real important issue. If we're going to look at it, we need to.. to get an accurate picture of what happened. Open your mind, just for a few minutes. Was she struck with something or... hit against something or ... shot or .. that's the kind of questions that I've got right now that I'm just wondering, cause like I said, I haven't been out there. Hang in there.

HUGHES: I don't know man...

LYONS: Think back... is it hard to talk about .. Think about ...

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: It's everything that's been on your mind the past day and a half, hadn't it?

HUGHES: No. My whole life with Kecia... been on my mind, man.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: (unintelligible) and then I got plenty time to take my life with hers and shit.

LYONS: I know. Just trying to get everything laid out so that we can have a ... an understanding of what happened. You know answer as many questions as we can, like I said, the.. long run when people look at you, I want them to see you, in the light of it.. that the truth brings, that.. not no BS or anything or ... and.. and just in the same thing, I don't want people to look at you as somebody that you're not. Remember, I told you, I've sat in rooms with some really bad pieces of shit.

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: And you're not. You know. And that's a cop talking to somebody that's been to the pen. I don't give a shit about that, we're all human, okay. Because one.. once you do what I do, you've sat in a room with somebody who is a really, the big time piece of shit, Troy. Somebody that can really take a life and do it because they want to, cause it's fun. Hey everybody else after that are human beings. Follow me?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: And I don't want twelve people to look at you, and be afraid of you. And think that ... that after.. after getting out of the pen that, that's what you're all about. Because I don't believe that you are. I think that what happened, in that apartment, is something that happens every day across this country, with two people that are involved in a relationship or they love each other. And they argue. And sometimes it escalates or something happens that no, none of the two people would ever anticipate or plan. And that's a .. far cry from being a calculated killer. And you don't need to be looked at that way. And in.. in order to get to.. you know, because we've already talked about the problems that you all were facing. We were laying the ground work on that. We know that you... I think that if I said that you felt bad about this, would be an understatement and an insult, it's a lot more than feeling bad about something like this, your life's a wreck over it, you went to the point that you considered hurting yourself over it, okay. So, that's a given. The only thing we're missing on here, and needs the hard details that probably happened quick, is how she got hurt. If we get into that, then we pretty well take more of those pieces of that puzzle fit. And we get out of you, of what you represent and who you are and how you feel. Do you remember hurting her? How did she get hurt?

HUGHES: I don't know, how? (unintelligible)

LYONS: Do you... did you have something in your hand or....

HUGHES: The last thing I remember was Kecia making me real mad.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: And that was Saturday, probably about two-thirty.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: Two or three, she made me real mad, I was...

LYONS: Did you snap?

HUGHES: No. I didn't really snap then. But.. (unintelligible) I asked her why she do that. And she said because I can. I just said okay, we both can do it.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: So, then.. (unintelligible) like the word was, asked us all to be quiet (unintelligible) no problem.

LYONS: Somebody asked you all to be quiet?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Somebody that lived in the building or...

HUGHES: No. In a bus, in a bus in Las Vegas.

LYONS: When was this?

HUGHES: Uh.. I guess it was A little bit ago.

LYONS: Yeah. Matter of weeks, months, or

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: Probably.. I don't know.

LYONS: Try to jump back to ... yesterday, about two-thirty.

HUGHES: Uh-huh. (unintelligible) how did I get off on that bus thing, because that's what I was talking about.

LYONS: Confused me for a minute there. Yeah. Because it's hard to talk about I think.

HUGHES: Well, anyway, then, they had the police on the bus already.

LYONS: This was going to Vegas?

HUGHES: Huh?

LYONS: This was when you all were going to Vegas?

HUGHES: Yeah. They had the police on the bus (unintelligible)

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: (unintelligible) drinkin', smokin' (unintelligible). All of a sudden ah.. (unintelligible) came up to the window asked her if she want made the conductor stop. When Kecia and I were sitting in the front room, this was like two thirty or three. She said something... something to me. or I might have said something to her but I think I asked her something.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: I think that's what I don... asked her something. And she got mad because I asked her and I asked her well, why was she getting mad because I'd asked her something. And she went, again with that and I told her to (unintelligible) just you know, ...

LYONS: So, what happened then? You're getting there. Troy, you're probably like a handful of words, of straightening everything out, do you realize that?

HUGHES: Huh?

LYONS: You're like a handful of words from finishing everything off and come.. completing any little.. the mystery that might be involved in this. Looking at it from an investigator's stand point. And that's all that's left to painting a pretty accurate picture of it.

HUGHES: I don't know what it is man.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: I know sometimes I wished I would have never touched her but....

LYONS: I'm sure.

HUGHES: Sometimes I'm glad I did.

LYONS: How come?

HUGHES: Because she's a pain in the ass. And I worried like, for real, but that's... was my wife though, that was different different.

LYONS: You expected a little more out of her?

HUGHES: A lot more than what I got.

LYONS: You said fifty percent earlier, that's... I agree with that... I think we do go into those relationships looking for mutual respect, mutual work on the relationship. Mutual support. I think we all go into those looking for that. And I know when that fifty percent scale slides just a little bit I get.. it.. it.. you look at it like.. it's the most significant thing you've done in your life, when you get married. We hope. And you ex---those are expectations that aren't unreasonable.

HUGHES: Yeah, right.

LYONS: So when you all were sitting out there and .. she's on the love seat and it's about two thirty, yesterday. You all are going at it. Here's the that... the missing pieces that we've got right now is exactly what, 'yeah, I'm responsible' happened there. And I'd rather know the details than just.. than you saying, because you did that in that note. You know, I think, do you feel responsible?

HUGHES: Definitely, man.

LYONS: Definitely?

HUGHES: Yeah. I mean, I done this... I'm not gonna let nobody just take the blame for this..

LYONS: Well...

HUGHES: I already know what these people are going to do anyways, so....

LYONS: What do you think they're going to do?

HUGHES: Probably give me the chair.

LYONS: Look at me. I don't think it's a chair thing, to start out with, okay. And that's what I was talking about earlier, I don't want you ... thinking that... that.. give you.. get what you think is coming to you by getting that. You know.

HUGHES: I've got to have that, man.

LYONS: Okay. Right off the bat, it .. it doesn't... you know, I don't think it's a capitol offense. Did you rape her? Did you kidnap her? Did you rob her? See, when you follow me. If that's a capitol offenses, take something like that.

HUGHES: My wife, just pissed me off, that's all, I was talking stupid man. Because, I mean, I'm like this... and that's what gets me to her. My wife worked one job, I work two jobs.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: One of them like 5 to 9 and the other ones from 10 to 6 o'clock in the morning.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: I do this every single day, except for yesterday, I didn't today, too. Besides that, I do it every single days. And she told me last night, that she didn't appreciate anything I was doing and that... man, that pisses me off.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Do you feel like you're providing her for the house more than anything else, I mean, do you feel like.. and.. you know, like guys, I think we feel that way, do you feel like you're the provider? I mean, that you're out there busting your ass, and making sure the bills are kept up and making sure that everything's kept on in the apartment and things?

HUGHES: That's what I like, man. I like coming home and my lights and stuff is on, having my dinner cooked but...

LYONS: Well, like I said, I think the big missing part is that.. how she was hurt.

HUGHES: What do you mean by that?

LYONS: What caused her injuries, to cause her to die. You going tell me there was, like I say, was .. was .. did you strike with something? Did ah.. did you push her into something? Or is there a weapon involved? Or something like that?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: No weapon or?

HUGHES: Just my hands.

LYONS: How.. how did you use your hands to hurt her? Think back. Did you hit her or choke her or... kick her or anything like that?

HUGHES: I didn't kick her.

LYONS: What were you saying when you used your hands, did you .. did you cover her mouth? Or did you...

HUGHES: No. I did my hand right here on her neck.

LYONS: Around her neck? Choke her out? Did you punch her any?

HUGHES: One time.

LYONS: Where at?

HUGHES: Right here in the head.

LYONS: In the head, did you have anything in your hand when you did that?

HUGHES: Uh-uh.

LYONS: Those, let me see your hands again, turn your hands out like this, turn them over. Let me see your other one again. These.. little marks here...

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: Is that from when you all were fighting?

HUGHES: No.

LYONS: You don't think that was? So, that's .. that's not like teeth marks or anything?

HUGHES: No. Look at this, this right here come up here to (unintelligible) it was like last night or something.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: I looked down and it had blood dripping down and stuff like that.

LYONS: Did she scratch you, at all?

HUGHES: (unintelligible) No, it wouldn't Kecia didn't scratched me.

LYONS: She didn't scratch you?

HUGHES: No. This other girl, who scratched me.

LYONS: scratched you?

HUGHES: Yeah. She scratched me.

LYONS: Why did she scratch you?

HUGHES: Playing around with her.

LYONS: Where did she scratch you at?

HUGHES: On my hand and... trying to tickle me and stuff like that.

LYONS: And that's in St. Louis?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Whereabouts in St. Louis is at?

HUGHES: East St. Louis.

LYONS: East St. Louis? Whereabouts does she live?

HUGHES: I don't know where she lives, man, she works at the

LYONS: Where?

HUGHES: Little club called the

LYONS: ?

HUGHES: Yeah. She works...

LYONS: And they call her ?

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Did ah... did Kecia resist you when you were choking her or ...

striking her or anything, did she hit you back or..

HUGHES: Tried to.

LYONS: Where did she hit you at?

HUGHES: My hand. (unintelligible)

LYONS: Did you tie her up or anything like that? And, I'm asking, I.. I don't know, I haven't been out there. So if I ask you something and it sounds ridiculous, tell me it's ridiculous, okay? Because .. because you're the one I'm going to for the answers on this. I'm not.. I haven't talked to anybody that's been out to the house or anything and.. and it'll be a while before we know anything that happened. I'd like to here from you but... did .. did you choke her with both hands or one hand or...

HUGHES: Hmmmm...

LYONS: And you never had anything in your hands?

HUGHES: No. I ain't never had nothing in my hands, never.

LYONS: What caused you to stop?

HUGHES: Caused me to stop? I don't know. Cause, I know, for a fact, that when I.. when I went off there was no tears... no tears.

LYONS: You didn't have any tears or she didn't?

HUGHES: She did but.. I'm saying, is I could have went on and felt no tears because...

LYONS: That mad?

HUGHES: Yeah. (unintelligible) I want them to have a nice Christmas. Take that stuff in the room back!

LYONS: Yeah. Ah.

HUGHES: Telling you!

LYONS: Who you talking to? Tell me this...

HUGHES: I thought my sons was at the door, I'm tripping....

LYONS: Uh-huh. Okay. Do you need to see a doctor?

HUGHES: I think I'm all right.

LYONS: Okay. Let me ask you this, when ah.. when you.. did you use both hands or one hand? On her neck?

HUGHES: One hand.

LYONS: One.. which hand?

HUGHES: My left hand.

LYONS: Your left hand? Okay. And you're sure those marks aren't like... teeth marks or anything?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: Did she get bloodied up pretty good or .. did she bleed much?

HUGHES: No. Man, she didn't get bloody up that much, that I know of. But like I said, I didn't really hit her.

LYONS: I think you told me, there's some, a little bit of blood on your clothes, is that.. Kecia's ... not these but the clothes that you changed out of when they brought you up here? Is that Kecia's blood or...

HUGHES: No. That's from this... were I took it....

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: I wiped it off on my pants leg...

LYONS: This girl did that?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Uh.. what.. what room were you all in when you were choking her?

HUGHES: The bedroom.

LYONS: The bedroom? Was she.. were you all.. back here talking when.. when this happened or... ?

HUGHES: No. Actually we were talking in the living room...(unintelligible)

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: We started talking in the front room, then ah.. she got up and went to the bedroom, and I followed her.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: I shut the door, and I said I'm going to talk to you. And she was like all right and I got nothing to say and I was like you're not getting out of this door until you talk to me.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Okay. Was she on the bed or on the floor?

HUGHES: Huh?

LYONS: When .. when you.. when you put your hand around her neck was she on the bed or on the floor?

HUGHES: She was on the bed.

LYONS: On the bed? Okay, remember I asked you, what made you stop? Did she pass out?

HUGHES: Yeah, man, or something.

LYONS: You can.. let me ask you this, and this is a tough one, okay? When you choking her, and when you did stop, did you stop because you thought she was dead or because she was...

HUGHES: No. The reason I stopped.. (unintelligible)

LYONS: Yeah. It's a tough one. See, again, I'm trying to kind of walk through with you on ... on what happened and trying to .. keep your mind open at what happened. Because we want an accurate picture. Did you talk to her after this happened?

HUGHES: Uh-uh.

LYONS: Was she unconscious after it happened?

HUGHES: I don't even know.

LYONS: Your mind get blank right about there?

HUGHES: I think we might have talked, one time.

LYONS: You think you struck her one time? Like (unintelligible)

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Okay. And nothing was in your hand when you.. did you strike her any more than that or...

HUGHES: No..

LYONS: Did you .. push her head up against anything or....

HUGHES: Uh-uh.

LYONS: So you didn't beat her?

HUGHES: No. No.

LYONS: What do you think killed her?

HUGHES: Huh.

LYONS: What do you think caused her to die?

HUGHES: Guess it was her turn.

LYONS: Yeah. But I mean in... in regard to .. what you were doing to her? What.. what do you think it was that .. what injury do you think that caused her to die?

HUGHES: The only thing I can think of is it had to be the will of God for her not to die.

LYONS: It's what?

HUGHES: It's the will of God, for her not to die.

LYONS: Well, yeah, and .. and you know, and I think we'll all called home in different ways. I'll,.. I'll agree with you on that one, whether it be by the hand of somebody else or.. or in our sleep. But what I'm saying is, what you were doing to her, what do you think caused her death? You okay?

HUGHES: Yeah. It's time for me to put (unintelligible)

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: I don't know.

LYONS: But you weren't already.. you didn't have anything in your hands?

HUGHES: Uh-uh.

LYONS: Did you wrap her up? Or did you just cover her?

HUGHES: Covered her up.

LYONS: Okay. And this was all over about two-thirty yesterday?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: On Saturday?

HUGHES: Yeah. Because I left town right after that.

LYONS: And you went to St. Louis? Okay. How would we.. this woman you're calling _____, at the _____ in East St. Louis, how will we contact her, I mean, how would I, do you have her phone number?

HUGHES: Yeah. Man, they gave it to me and I just put it down, but when I left up there.

LYONS: Up in St. Louis?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: What.. and you had your wife's car, at that time?

HUGHES: Huh?

LYONS: Whose car were you in when you drove up there?

HUGHES: My wife's car.

LYONS: Your wife's car. And what kind of car is that?

HUGHES: A Sunbird.

LYONS: What color?

HUGHES: Ma...ma.. maroon.

LYONS: Maroon?

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: Where's it at now?

HUGHES: I don't know.

LYONS: Is that the only car you all own?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: Okay. I.. I.. I write a little bit while we're talking cause that ... that's the only way to keep my memory straight on what we're talking... especially when we talk as long as we've talked. Uhm...

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Are you looking for your rag?

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: You alright?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: You sure you don't need to see a doctor?

HUGHES: Uh-uh.

LYONS: Okay. So you weren't armed with anything, you.. you.. do you think when you choked her... did you.. did you.. when you were choking her, do do.. did you feel anything in her throat? Was she yelling at you or...?

HUGHES: She was trying to yell at me, to stop.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: And then when I .. stopped, she said, Troy, please don't do this and I just looked at her.

LYONS: What did you do then?

HUGHES: I wanted to hug her, man, I wanted to kiss her, I wanted to make love to her, and touch her...

LYONS: Uh-huh. I know.

HUGHES: Couldn't do it.

LYONS: What happened then?

HUGHES: Because a second, another part of me, said, Troy, you've got to finish what you started.

LYONS: So what did you do?

HUGHES: Finished what I started.

LYONS: How did you finish it?

HUGHES: By choking her.

LYONS: All right.

HUGHES: That's it.

LYONS: Did she die?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: And this all happened back in the bedroom, right? Okay. You got back from St. Louis about, between where you think four and five-thirty in the morning? Was it still dark when you rolled back in?

HUGHES: You talking about tonight?

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: No. I got back from St. Louis at one or two... three.. about four o'clock, I reckon.

LYONS: Okay. Did you think about calling the police, or calling an ambulance or anything or... ?

HUGHES: I thought about it man but, you know... just thought about it.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: It's not my style to talk to the police about nothing unless they come and ask me the questions or something.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: Me and the police, got two things in common, don't mess with me and I'll mess with them.

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: I mean seriously.

LYONS: Yeah. I got you. I got you.

HUGHES: I don't mess with em. (unintelligible)

LYONS: And the only reason our (unintelligible) our paths crossed today is.. is what happened. Like I said, we're two people, we'd never (unintelligible) probably never bump into each other (unintelligible) Do you understand what I'm trying to say about the importance of getting the story out straight?

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: And.. and honest, you know, it's real important that everything you tell me is factual. It's all bad stuff. But at the same time, that's.. that's how people look at things. That won't move...

HUGHES: Yeah, it depends on the way people look at it, man.

LYONS: Yeah. You know, people can understand if you got pissed off. They understand if something drove you. Uh.. Can I get you anything?

HUGHES: Nah.

LYONS: Pop or anything like that?

HUGHES: I think my wife didn't know she was driving me crazy, because man, I use to tell her all the time, that something was going to happen if she don't slow down.

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: I kept telling her and telling her and telling her that.

LYONS: Had you ever hit her before or anything? You all...

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: It ever go ...

HUGHES: When we first got married, stuff like that.

LYONS: Where did you.. were you all living in Lexington when you got married?

HUGHES: No. We lived in Louisville.

LYONS: Are you all originally from Louisville?

HUGHES: She is.

LYONS: Okay.

HUGHES: Whatever.

LYONS: Did you all report it to the police or anything?

HUGHES: Yeah. (unintelligible) broken some (unintelligible)

LYONS: Uh-huh.

HUGHES: And I figured she (unintelligible)

LYONS: Yeah.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: Sure I can't get you anything?

HUGHES: Yeah, man. So, who are you going to give that paper to?

LYONS: This one? This one stays with me. It's in my file. As this is my notes and my interview with you today, from 1500 or three o'clock to four-thirty. This one stays with my file. Uh.. but I'll be the one that .. like come court time and everything.

HUGHES: Uh-huh.

LYONS: When they ask, I'll be the one to tell what we talked about, okay.

HUGHES: Yeah.

LYONS: And I'll be.. I'll be straight up and honest, I won't go in a court and bull shit and everything. I will.. like I said, I think that's important that.. that people are going to be judging you, judging you fairly and judge you from what was going on in your heart and your mind and not from a perceptual on the outside. And that's .. that's what we're all about down here is.. is trying to bring the truth in. You know...

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: We don't need to compound the tragedy any more than it's all ready been compounded.

HUGHES: (unintelligible)

LYONS: We're not going into that. Let me get... wait right here for just a second, okay. We.. sure you don't want a pop? Water?

HUGHES: Hey, man, that sucks. Diet Pepsi or something.

LYONS: Diet Pepsi? Diet Coke?

HUGHES: Uh-huh. (unintelligible)

LYONS: Wait right here.. Just have a seat.

Door opens and Det. Lyons leaves.

SIDE TWO OF TAPE ENDS