

## 1/8/18 - BARTON McNEIL'S REMARKS FOLLOWING EPISODE 11 OF SEASON TWO OF SUSPECT CONVICTIONS

Dear SUSPECT CONVICTIONS listeners;

Nearing the end of this season's SUSPECT CONVICTIONS, the eleventh installment of the series titled "FIGHTING FOR THEIR COUSIN", aired on Bloomington's Public Radio WGLT FM affiliate on January 5, 2018, and has since been available as a podcast. This episode concerned the enormous contribution to the cause of justice on the part of my cousins, Chris Ross and Grace Schlafer, to whom I'm greatly in debt.

Thanks again is due the many listeners who have stayed with this program throughout. Thanks also go out to series co-producers Scott Reeder and Willis Kern for shining a spotlight on a horrendous ongoing series of injustices that central Illinois residents likely knew nothing about until recently.

Railroaded straight into a sentence of life in prison, or what may more accurately be described as a sentence death-by-prison on the installment plan, I am the innocent father of the late Christina McNeil, my 3-year old daughter murdered in 1998.

Apparent to me from the outset - and surely also known to Bloomington police detectives and to the McLean County State's Attorney's office long before my one-sided trial, my daughter was instead murdered by my estranged girlfriend, Misook Nowlin, who, now an obvious genuine serial killer, went on to also murder others - one subsequent victim known by all to have been Nowlin's mother in law, Wenlan Tyda.

The Nowlin-friendly Bloomington Police Department authorities most responsible for my wrongful conviction and bearing responsibility for abetting further (easily foreseen) serial murders, one resulting in the death of Ms. Wenlan Linda Tyda, include Bloomington Police Illinois Department detectives Larry Shepherd and Marvin Arnold, and Crime Scene Technician, Thomas "Tom" Sanders. But they are not the lone perpetrators of such injustices. Others bear responsibility for these gross misdeeds also.

Prosecutors most responsible for aiding the getaway of then-obvious child-killer Nowlin (at the expense of Christina's own father), paving the path to serial killings to follow, and guilty of trying to take my own life through their wrongful sentence of life in prison, include arch railroader, then-McLean County State's Attorney Charles Reynard, Assistant State's Attorney Teena Griffin, and Assistant State's Attorney Stephanie Wong, their hands soaked in the blood of Wenlan Linda Tyda and other Nowlin murder victims. By the language in murder-related criminal statutes, these folks are themselves guilty of abetting Nowlin murders, and guilty of their ongoing attempt to take the life of Christina's father via lifelong prison incarceration.

While not originally involved in the railroading of Christina's innocent father, today Nowlin's continued child-murder getaway is being abetted by current McLean County State's Attorney Jason Chambers and Assistant State's Attorney Mary Koll. Invoking my long-known wrongful conviction, they're pretending to be unaware of Nowlin's responsibility for my child's killing, furthering their predecessor's effort to cover for Christina's killer.

While I'm much indebted to SUSPECT CONVICTIONS for their discussion of so many previously unaired truths about my daughter's murder, there are a number of other vital circumstances I believe worthy of addressing, if only in the interest of public safety. Now with an audience willing to consider the truth of my pursuit of those who stole my daughter's life, I'll take this opportunity to share with listeners that which has been so long concealed from the public.

Because of a host of mostly-documented facts & circumstances, some beyond the scope of my remarks, within a few weeks of the murder it became apparent to me that Misook Nowlin hadn't acted entirely alone in the killing of Christina. Eventually I came to learn who else was in direct contact with Nowlin very near to the time of Christina's death.

All persons personally known to me through Misook Nowlin, when questioned by the police about their own suspicious presence with Misook Nowlin on the night of Christina's death, those in her innermost circle did all they could to cover for her, none able to account for their own whereabouts from 11:00pm onwards. In numerous letters to police, to prosecutors, to my public defenders, and to the judge himself long before my trial, I expressed my certainty of Misook Nowlin's involvement of others in her murder of my daughter, so this is no claim I began making recently.

Closer to Misook Nowlin than anyone else at the time of Christina's death, was Misook Nowlin's husband throughout the entirety of my live-in relations with his wife, who I had essentially stolen from Andy Nowlin - a powerful motive itself for him to have been a party to a murder scheme. Indeed, we know from phone records and from the police questioning of both Nowlins that the last phone call made by Misook Nowlin in the lead up to Christina's murder, was to Andy Nowlin at 10:52pm, me finding Christina strangely awakened in her bedroom about an hour and a half later.

According to Andy Nowlin's own sworn testimony at a March 4, 1999, evidentiary court hearing, the subject of the above 9-minute call he received from Misook concerned their two-week ongoing discussions of a plot to set me up - a crucial revelation he had apparently declined to share with police investigators when first questioned about his contact with Misook Nowlin on the night of Christina's murder.

Some six or so weeks after Christina's death, Misook Nowlin located the very bed my daughter had been murdered on, while she served a sentence of community service at the Salvation Army thrift store, where the bed had been donated by my landlord. Misook had been sentenced for a domestic violence offence, an offence in which I myself had been the victim of Nowlin's unlawful restraint conviction several months before Christina's death.

Nowlin's unlawful restraint arrest resulted from her having bodily blocked my effort to remove Christina from our apartment during one of Nowlin's violent episodes that occurred in 1997 when Christina was two years old. In point of fact, Christina was murdered the very day before Nowlin's scheduled June 17 unlawful restraint sentencing hearing, at which I was expected to give victim impact testimony. Instead of my testifying against Nowlin regarding her propensity for domestic violence, I was instead arrested for Christina's murder - Nowlin's court hearing being suddenly postponed until next month, at which she was sentenced to community service at the Salvation Army thrift store.

Notably, Nowlin's domestic violence charge that obviously related to me and Christina alike, was prosecuted by Assistant State's Attorney Stephanie Wong, who would soon co-prosecute me for Christina's murder! But one example of prosecutorial concealment, Assistant State's Attorney Stephani Wong and partner, Assistant State's Attorney Teena Griffin, refused to disclose to the defense, to the court, or to the public any mention of Nowlin's recent domestic violence conviction, much less the case's several circumstances so relevant to Christina's murder soon to follow.

Ultimately sentenced to community service at the Salvation Army thrift store, upon Nowlin's discovery of the presence of Christina's deathbed during the course of her work there, accompanied by daughter, Michelle Nowlin - it was Andy Nowlin who transported the deathbed back to Misook Nowlin's apartment, on which Michelle was to sleep. This abhorrent event is starkly demonstrative of the Nowlin clan's repugnant character.

A couple of weeks after the Nowlin's joint retrieval of Christina's deathbed in July, Misook Nowlin was arrested yet again for domestic battery in early August, this time for having savagely beat her own daughter - Michelle Nowlin further claiming that Misook had also recently smothered her while threatening to kill her. As told by Michelle Nowlin to her school principal Ms. Aissia Frazier, the abused child told her that if Michelle continued to act up, Misook would kill Michelle "like Christina was killed".

It was Michelle Nowlin herself who told the police and DCFS investigators of her parents' retrieval of the bed Christina had been murdered upon, a bed Michelle knew well as one she had slept on many times when it had been in the kids' bedroom at the apartment I had recently shared with Michelle's mother. I took the bed with me when I

moved away from Misook Nowlin two months before Christina's murder as our relationship of approximately three years was no longer working out. Obviously directly related to who had really murdered my daughter, authorities responsible for my soon-to-be wrongful conviction were also a part of this "separate" child abuse investigation, namely: Bloomington police detective Larry Shepherd, and Assistant State's Attorneys Teena Griffin and Stephani Wong. As with Nowlin's prior domestic violence conviction, this event too went undisclosed by my prosecutors.

Be reminded also that, aside from Andy Nowlin himself, I had also long maintained that both Nowlin parents Andy and Misook had directly involved then-8-year old Michelle Nowlin in their scheme to kill my daughter. Hardly an unwarranted belief at the time, years later during the two-day event of Misook Nowlin's premeditated murder of her mother-in-law, Nowlin had intentionally and directly forced the participation of her then-6-year old son, Donovan Wang during the murder and latter burial of Donovan's "grandma" Ms. Linda Wenlan Tyda. Several months prior to the murder, Misook again involved her 6-year old son Donovan in a scheme to steal expensive clothing from a department store with 6-year old Donovan forced to be pushed around in a baby stroller so that Misook could hide her stolen loot in the baby stroller despite Donovan being a first grader and no longer in need of being in a baby stroller. It was this circumstance, Donovan being pushed around the store by Misook, that caught the stores security personnel's attention.

Far from Donovan Wang's involvement throughout the entirety of the event of his grandmother's murder being inadvertent, so too did this highly bizarre child-abusive circumstance perfectly mirror my own longtime loudly-expressed certainty that the Nowlin parents had directly involved daughter-Michelle in Christina's murder years earlier. Such an unusual child-involving murder-related circumstance, Misook Nowlin's direct involvement of her young son in the murder of Ms. Linda Wenlan Tyda, perfectly conforming to my long-vocal certainty that the Nowlin parents had directly involved daughter-Michelle in the killing of Christina - serves as a testament to the Nowlin-gang's child-involving serial killer modus operandi.

Aside from a host of other parallel circumstances, this one-of-a-kind (now two!) child-involving circumstance directly links Christina's 1998 Bloomington murder, to Misook Nowlin's later Bloomington murder of Wenlan Tyda.

More recently Andy Nowlin was seen defending his serial-killer ex-wife during two separate true crime TV programs about Misook Nowlin's murder of Wenlan Tyda, which aired both on the Investigation Discovery channel, and on the Oxygen Channel.

In particular, Andy Nowlin attempted to defend his psychotic ex-wife's involvement of her young son, Donovan Wang, in the murder of her mother-in-law - intently aware as

Andy Nowlin certainly was of the implications of Misook Nowlin's involvement of her young son in the murder of Wenlan Tyda, to my longtime outspoken certainty that (BOTH) Nowlin (PARENTS) had directly involved then-8-year old daughter Michelle in the murder of Christina years earlier. Andy Nowlin's remarks in this regard are self-incriminating - his motive obvious.

More than that, divorced from Misook Nowlin now for over 20 years - Andy Nowlin himself admitting that his ex-wife was shallow, materialistic, a chronic disloyal cheater, a kleptomaniac, a domestic violence repeat offender, a vicious beater of her own daughter, and now a stone cold killer of her last husband's mother. One doesn't have to wonder for too long to surmise what self-serving motive might warrant Andy Nowlin to utter a thought in defense of his psycho-killer ex-wife.

Less in defense of his wicked ex-wife, Andy Nowlin's interview remarks are instead in his own defense, aware as he is of my longtime certainty that BOTH NOWLIN PARENTS directly involved Michelle Nowlin in their murder of Christina, just as the world knows today that Misook Nowlin directly involved her young son in her later murder of her mother-in-law, Ms. Tyda.

More recently still, interviewed by radio podcast producer Scott Reeder, Andy Nowlin was heard to make a confession of his own.

Passing himself as a "distant" ex-husband, not previously documented in 1998 police reports regarding the questioning of Andy Nowlin over his multiple personal contacts with Misook Nowlin on the night of Christina's murder - heard on SUSPECT CONVICTIONS episode 5, Andy Nowlin carelessly boasted to Scott Reeder that he'd been having close, intimate, and secret relations with his then-still married wife during the course of her live-in relations with me.

A shortsighted public admission given everyone's late-coming recognition of Misook Nowlin's child-murder guilt - though hardly a surprise to me, Andy Nowlin's foolish boast tends to further conform to my long certainty of his own involvement in Christina's murder. Admittedly far closer to Misook Nowlin than previously known, Andy Nowlin's then-secret intimate relations with his wife was also obviously far nearer in time to my daughter's killing than was previously known. As such, so now exists an even greater likelihood still of Andy Nowlin's participation in what he himself had testified during my March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1999 Pre-Trial "Offer to Show Proof" hearing was Misook Nowlin's two-week ongoing scheme to "set me up".

EXCERPT FROM JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup>, 1998 POLICE NARRATIVE INTERVIEW OF ANDY NOWLIN BY BLOOMINGTON POLICE DETECTIVE LARRY SHEPHERD. NOTE

THE LACK OF SUBSTANCE OF WHAT WAS SPOKEN BETWEEN MISOOK AND ANDY THE EVENING OF CHRISTINA'S MURDER. WHY WOULDN'T HAVE DETECTIVE SHEPHERD ASKED OR WHY WOULD HE HAVE EXCLUDED IT FROM HIS INTERVIEW NOTES? WHAT IS SAID BY ANDY SPEAKS VOLUMES AS HE PROTECTS MISOOK FROM BARTON'S ACCUSATIONS. LESS THAN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE BELOW INTERVIEW, MISOOK IS CHARGED WITH FELONY ABUSE OF DAUGHTER MICHELLE NOWLIN AND IS LATER CONVICTED OF THIS CRIME.

Bloomington Police Department

Investigative Supplemental Report



ORIGINAL

Offense Description: First Degree Murder  
Primary Person Involved: Christina McNeil

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Case Number: 98 4610

- On this date I did contact, Andy Ray Nowlin, RR2 Box 141 Heyworth Il. HM: 473-3852 WK: 452-4411. Andy is the Ex-Husband of Misook Nowlin. Misook had told me that Andy had come to her residence on the morning of 06 16 98. I got general information from Andy. He states that He and Misook split in May of 1995, Misook left because She was seeing Barton. He states that they only became officially divorced about a month and a half ago. He states that since there breakup they have remained on good terms. He states that He has become mediator between Misook and Barton. Andy states that Misook called him on Monday about 11 or 12p. He states that she told him that Her and Barton were having problems and that Barton was getting a new job with Applebees and would be moving to Pekin for the job. She was asking Andy what He thought She should do about the situation, Andy advised her that she should forget about him. I then asked him if he had gone over to her residence on Tuesday morning. He said that he had. He went there to get clothes for there daughter Michelle. He say's that He has a key to her residence and that He used the key to get in. He said He went in to where Misook was and She was asleep. It appeared to him as if she was in a sound sleep as if she had been there awhile. This was between 6:10 and 6:20A. He knows this as He was on his way to work and He was running a little late.

I asked Him his opinion of Barton and Andy thought him to be a Cold Snake. He said that he wasn't very social and it seemed when someone wanted to talk to him about something that he had no interest in Barton would just blow them off. I asked him about Misook and Michelle. He said that Misook and Michelle were like Mother and Daughter. He said Misook was a good mother and caregiver. He said that Misook doesn't get to see Michelle as much anymore because she works two jobs. She did have Michelle last Sunday which would have been the 14th of June. He said that when Misook doesn't see her she does call and talk to her.

I asked him about how he thought Misook and Christina got along. He said that he thought they got along fine that Misook was really good to her also.

EXCERPT FROM ANDY NOWLIN'S TESTIMONY FROM THIS DATE:

A N D Y   N O W L I N

called as a witness herein on behalf of the Defendant, having been first duly sworn on his oath, was examined and testified as follows, to-wit:

1 Q I'd call your attention to the day before Mi Sook  
2 was found -- I'm sorry, Christina was found dead and ask you  
3 whether on that day you had seen personally or spoken over the  
4 telephone with Mi Sook?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Do you remember about what time of day? Was that a  
7 telephone call or personal visit?

8 A Telephone call the night prior.

9 Q About what time did you receive that call, if you  
10 know?

11 A I'm going to say anywhere between nine to 10:30.

12 Q Okay. And what did Mi Sook tell you when she called  
13 you?

A Exact things we talked about, I don't know. She was just talking, just a variety of things.

Q Okay. Did she talk to you about any problems she  
was having with her relationship with Barton?

A I believe so.

Q Do you remember any particulars of that?

A I think she said that he was going to leave her or  
was moving out.

Q Even though you and Mi Sook had been divorced, you still kept in touch with each other. She would call you, you would talk with her?



1 A We had a child together, yes.

2 Q Okay. Did she say anything to you about wanting to  
3 set Barton up?

4 A As far as ---

5 Q Well, for anything.

6 A Yes.

7 Q What did she say?

8 A She wanted to know if I could get a hold of some  
9 marijuana.

10 Q And did she say why she wanted the marijuana?

11 A She wanted to put it in his car.

12 Q And this was a discussion with you the night before  
13 Christina was found dead. Is that correct?

14 A I believe so. She asked about it maybe -- might  
15 have been a week prior, but then every time we spoke she had  
16 mentioned that.

17 Q Okay. Did she -- did she say why she wanted to set  
18 him up?

19 A Get him in trouble, I guess.

20 Q Why did she want to get him in trouble? Did she  
21 say, if she said?

22 A I don't really recall any particular reason.

23 Q Did you talk with Mi Sook or see her the next day?

24 A Yes.

As previously recounted during a 2011 interview on Bloomington's WJBC AM radio station, during my live-in relations with Misook Nowlin, Christina was petrified by the presence of Andy Nowlin. Never fearful of anyone else, Christina was strangely mortified at the mere sight of Andy Nowlin, for reasons I couldn't discern at the time, whenever he would stop by the Bloomington apartment that I shared with his (marginally-separated) wife, say, to drop off Michelle for the night.



Having later died at the hands of Misook Nowlin, it wasn't hard to surmise the nature of Christina's intense aversion to Andy Nowlin, especially if there was any truth to prosecutors' claim that my daughter may have been the victim of recent sexual abuse. In my absence, Andy Nowlin must have done something unspeakable to my daughter to account for the intensity of her fear of him.

Because of the many documented facts and circumstances above, and because of what I personally witnessed more than once regarding the intensity of Christina's fright at the mere sight of Misook Nowlin's then-husband, Andy Nowlin, I'm convinced that, facilitated by Misook Nowlin during my live-in relations with her, Andy Nowlin raped my 3-year old daughter, probably repeatedly. More than a now-obvious child-murdering serial killer, this would make Misook Nowlin a genuine child sex trafficker, perhaps relating to her seeming child-killer immunity.

Were Christina the victim of sex abuse at the hands of, or facilitated by killer-Misook Nowlin, and were the child rapist a male - Andy Nowlin is at the very top of the list of males secretly closer to Misook Nowlin than anyone, by his own incredible recent admission, who may have been raping my daughter, fully accounting for Christina's intense fear of him.

Were this in fact the case, child-rapist Andy Nowlin would be as intensely motivated himself, as was Misook Nowlin, to kill Christina - especially once Misook Nowlin's ability to facilitate further sex abuse at the hands of Andy Nowlin, and her ability to maintain Christina's silence through her routine contact with Christina, had ceased due to my ending of relations with Misook Nowlin.

As the murderous Nowlin duo was surely aware, removed from Misook Nowlin's coercive influence, it was only a matter of time before Christina was going to share with her parents what the Nowlin's had been doing to her. A certain consequence of my breakup with Misook Nowlin that she and Andy Nowlin were unwilling to risk, Andy Nowlin would've been just as motivated to kill rape-victim Christina, as was Misook Nowlin herself.

Accordingly, it's not hard to imagine the true nature of Misook Nowlin's two-week plotting with Andy Nowlin to "set me up", which, according to Andy Nowlin's own sworn testimony, was the subject of the late night call he received from Misook Nowlin.

Mysteriously awakened in her bedroom an hour or so following Misook Nowlin's late-night "set up" call to Andy Nowlin, his recent admission of intimate and secret relations with Misook Nowlin far closer in time to Christina's killing than previously presumed, makes Andy Nowlin's involvement in Christina's murder alongside Misook Nowlin, all the more certain.

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Unrelated to Andy Nowlin's involvement in Christina's murder, the subject of SUSPECT CONVICTIONS episode 11 was the intense innocence advocacy on my behalf on the part of my cousins, Chris Ross and Grace Schlafer, who hardly knew me at all. Struck by how much effort my previously distant cousins have invested in attempting to exonerate me, Scott Reeder asked them both about this. The answer to this question is simple.

They we're not about to stick their necks out on my behalf over some probability that I might be innocent. Nor were they willing to advocate on my behalf out of some (distant) family loyalty. They're advocacy on my behalf was the result of their easy recognition of my genuine innocence, and easy recognition of Misook Nowlin's responsibility for my daughter's murder - an unavoidable conclusion resulting merely from an objective examination of the true facts and circumstances surrounding Christina's death.

Scott Reeder was especially struck by Grace Schafer's certainty of my innocence a full 8 years BEFORE Misook Nowlin's killed Wenlan Tyda, a telling event that convinced everyone else of my innocence, and of Misook Nowlin's child-killer guilt. While it's true that Misook Nowlin's further murder(s) serves as a testament to her responsibility for Christina's murder, this truism didn't need another Nowlin murder, to recognize - as a lens to look back at my daughter's murder through. It only prompted others to look at it more recently.

The fact is, any objective examination of my case wholly apart from Misook Nowlin's later murder would have resulted at the same inescapable truth. - Barton