

ADAM FLANDERS AND DETECTIVE THOMPSON VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS

0:03:11 - "I'm on a medication. It's similar to klonopin...I got really depressed the other night, and got suicidal, and I swallowed the entire bottle, which was probably about 50 or 60 pills."

0:05:40 - "[Chris] is this really aggressive person, and when he came up the stairs, I pulled out the knife and I just started slashing away and everything, and um, I don't know who I hit. I was just afraid he was going to do something to me for being in his house."

0:06:21 - "I can't remember much of - I can, I can kind of remember some of tonight. The medications are making me feel funny." ("OK, so when was the last time you took the medication?") "Um, four, five, or six this morning. And I took the whole bottle."

0:07:40 - "And then [Josh] told me to come back in and hide in the closet, um, and then he came up to me crying, and saying that he was sorry, and that he didn't know what to do, and that Danielle was calling the police, and then Chris came up, and he was all, he was really like, very scary. And so I held out the knife and stuff, and he actually came at me, and I don't know if swing is the right word [indicating broad swiping/stabbing motion]...kind of like, 'Stay away from me.'"

0:11:22 - "I just got so scared of this father, I mean, like, throughout our relationship, he's been a really scary person, and I had that knife on me, and it was a self-defense. I always have it on me, and just like I had that Japanese throwing star that night at that OUT meeting and everything. And then he started coming at me, just like he always comes at Josh and stuff, so then I just kind of like closed my eyes and stuff [swinging motion], like 'stay away' kind of thing."

0:13:30 ("It had actually gotten to the point where you pulled his shirt off when [Josh] was trying to get away from you?") "Um, he slipped out of his shirt to get away from me." ("And you had also made a statement that, you know, you were thinking about harming yourself and possibly Josh also?") "I just said that --" ("You were pretty angry with the way the relationship was going--") "No, I just said that I wanted to kill myself."

0:16:18 - "Josh at the time was on probation and his dad told him that he'd put him in jail unless Josh said that I raped him in court, because he was always trying to get protection from abuse orders against me."

0:19:11 - ("How did you get up here from Belfast?") "I drove." ("You drove? And, did you park out front of the house where the mom saw you, or --") "No, I, I actually couldn't remember where I parked...I don't know why I can't remember where I

parked. It's really stupid. I can't remember. I just think it's the medication, I can't, they're just mixing everything. I'm trying my best to clear them up though [laughs]."

0:25:15 - "Josh was up there with me, and I saw Chris, and Chris came up, and he was really pissed that I was there. He's always been pissed about me and Josh's relationship. I don't know, he used to have good days and bad days, I think it's because of the bipolar, but I don't know what bipolar is at all, so, I mean, except mood swings, but, um, so he had come up and he was standing by the stairs, 'cause there's like stairs that lead up to Josh's room, and then there's Josh's room, and he was standing by the stairs. And then, he was like, he looked like he was gonna attack me or something, so I had my knife out."

0:26:34 - "And Chris came up and he acted all, he was acting all aggressive and threatening and so I grabbed my knife because I was afraid. And then I just closed my eyes and I just, just started." ("So when you grabbed the knife you were still in the closet?") "Yeah and then I came out with it, because I saw Chris's, Chris's look, and I started just kind of swinging and stuff. Swinging's not even the right word. More like blindly, blindly, blindly trying to keep people to stay away from me, 'cause I thought he might hurt me or something 'cause I've seen him hurt Josh, and I wasn't gonna let him hurt me."

0:27:52 - ("So you left the bag in the closet, you stepped out, what happened after that? I mean, did you tell Chris to stay away from you or anything like that?") "I told him not to come any closer, and I just had my knife out [gesturing with arm out at length], and I was just like, 'don't come any closer Chris,' and I was just, I didn't say his name actually, I just said don't come any closer, and I was just, I didn't know what to do, I was afraid 'cause I didn't know what to do. And then he came closer, and stuff, and I just kind of started like, stay away [closed eyes, left to right swiping motion], I don't know how to describe it, just kind of slashing, like, don't, just stay away slashing kind of thing, and then um, and he kept coming closer, and then finally he restrained me. I just just kind of stabbing all over the place, just to see if he would stay away. Usually if someone's swinging a knife around you, you don't come near them. It's just, I've seen what he does to Josh."

0:29:57 - ("OK, my understanding was that your pants were off") "They may, really? They may (murmuring), I think I started taking them off, because they are unbuttoned right now...I almost got them off. I think I almost got them off?" ("Well according to the officers there were no pants on when they got there.") "Maybe I had them completely off."

0:31:10 - ("This is what I think happened. After talking with you in Belfast, I definitely got the impression that there was some serious, um, uh, you seriously loved Josh, and the breakup between you and Josh was pretty devastating...and it was to the point that you felt you needed to confront him at the Lincoln Center, to the point where you were willing to take your own life. I mean, that's some serious love for another person. And things since that point still haven't been going well, you know,

between his parents, um, whatever they're doing to him, with their innuendo, they're opinions, trying to force their will on him on how things should be, um, and you know how Josh really is. And, it was just one of these things that, you know Josh, and because of his sexuality, you know Josh better than his parents actually do. They don't understand him like you do. And, you know, we have a situation where it's, I could almost call him a soul mate to you, you know? But you've got the family involved and um they may be swaying him against you, and maybe saying things about you, and that, and any person, I can see bringing some serious issues of anger, um, I know if I had a girlfriend, and we were getting along great and for whatever reason her parents didn't like me and they started saying things about me. Well, I mean, they don't understand how he wants to be. They don't understand how sexuality. They don't understand how, you know, why would he want to be with you. You know, and it's the parent's thing. Parents always have that rosy picture of, you know, you've got the son or the daughter getting married to the guy or the girl, but it's always the opposite sex, it's never, you know, it's not, nowadays you have a totally different acceptance that's out there, and his parents didn't seem to have that, and Josh was being swayed by that it seems to me...")

0:36:20 - "He kept, he started calling me on his cell phone and I actually made a police report to ask them to tell him to stop calling me and everything, and he did stop calling me. And then he started threatening me and saying that, if, that all he'd have to do is just say that I contacted him and that would be enough, and I know that's enough, even if I never contacted him and he said I did, it would be enough to put me in jail because they'd just go on his word. So I was like, well, do I want to go to jail for nothing, or do I want to keep in contact with him? What's easier? That's how the law works." ("Well, what I think happened tonight, was I think you were looking for closure. I think you were looking for closure in a definite sort of way.") "I wouldn't have killed him." ("OK? I think you were, you had brought the knife") "But I always have that on me." ("But that you had purposefully brought the knife tonight to show him how much he means to you") "What do you think that I was going to kill myself?" ("I think you were probably going to hurt yourself tonight while you were with him, just to show him--") "I definitely am now. I'm looking at a year or two."

0:38:34 - ("Tell me what you were planning to do tonight") "I don't even know how to kill myself. Last night I tried to do it with those stupid pills and they're still having an effect on me --"

0:40:35

("I'm sure there had to have been, at some level, some sort of anger that he was doing to you, he was threatening you to turn you in.") "Yeah, but it was his father's doing, it's always been his father. But it's not worth killing someone for." ("Well, but --") "I mean, myself, because I'm depressed."

0:41:14 - ("His dad was there, you were in control. You actually controlled that situation for the moment") "For a second I thought I did, but as soon as he came after me, I didn't have the control because he restrained me, he was stronger than

me." ("But for that one split moment you had control and you could have done anything.") "Sort of." ("You could have lashed at him if you'd wanted to") "Sort of - I felt more afraid and like cornered, like 'Don't come near me, don't hurt me, I know how you hurt Josh' [suggesting eyes closed with hand outstretched]." ("Adam, I don't believe that's the way you felt, though. You're a very strong-willed person, you're a very strong person.") "But he's scary." ("Still though, after talking to you for that long period of time [presumably in Belfast], I know that you're a strong person, you know you have a very strong, internally you're very strong, and there was a point there that you were in control. You actually had the opportunity and you were so mad at his dad that maybe it wasn't such a bad thing to swipe at him, just to let him know how angry you felt. And the fact that Josh jumped in I'm sure didn't help matters any. For that split second you were in control. And when you thrust the knife out towards his dad--") "I think if I had had a gun I would have had a lot more control" ("But still, even with the knife, you had something his dad didn't have. You had that power at that point, and I believe at that point --") "To do what with?" ("Well that's the thing. I believe at that point it was time for you to make things right between you and Josh, to get rid of that big stumbling block that you and Josh had, being his dad.") "I didn't come to the house to murder his dad. If anything I came there to sneak in so I could see Josh. Have closure for those two or three hours, then sneak back out. And then maybe talk online. ("But when you held that knife in your hands, you had to have known that at that point --") I mean yeah, there was anger when I was holding the hand, but there was also fear, they go hand in hand in some ways, but I didn't intend on hurting Chris or anything, I mean, not unless he hurt me first, or not unless I had to, or--" ("But you're standing in a closet, and you took the knife out of the bag, you set the bag down.") "If I wasn't afraid, why would I stand in the closet? Why wouldn't I be downstairs?" ("Because Josh asked to come out of, asked you to hide in the closet. You did that for Josh.") "But it was also out of fear. I don't do everything just because Josh does." ("I understand that, but there was another reason other than fear. You had a lot of anger at Josh's dad. You had a level of anger towards Josh, for the threats that he had made towards you, and you were looking for closure.") "But I wasn't looking to kill someone or physically hurt someone." ("I'm not saying you were looking to kill someone. But maybe prove the point to them that you're somebody to be reckoned with, you're somebody they can't mess with, you're somebody they need to look at with some level of decency.") "When I came there tonight I just came there with the intention of going in, sneaking in - we had done this many times before - seeing Josh, having sex with him, talking for a little while about things, having things like we used to during our 14 months together, and then carefully sneaking out. We've done that like at least 3 or 4 times before. It was just typical and I've always had a knife on me before. I mean, it was nothing atypical, it was just that night there was a major panic 'cause all of a sudden Josh --" ("You haven't always carried a knife") "Yes I have." ("No, we both know you haven't always carried a knife") "How have I not, well, a throwing star, and that qualifies, I think, for all intensive purposes, as a knife --" ("Eh, a big difference between a throwing star and a kitchen knife.") "Yeah, but with a throwing star, I mean, just blades have. I mean, either way it's, I mean, you could kill someone with either one."

0:46:24 - ("After talking with some folks this evening, it appears that there was a level of anger, and you were angry.") "I was afraid." ("No, you were angry.") "I don't see what I had to be angry about." ("You had a lot to be angry about. You've got a father who doesn't understand") "Yeah, but at that point --" ("You've got Josh, who had threatened to turn you in for your communications with each other. I think Josh was an accident. Josh getting hit with the knife, I think that was an accident, because I believe you when you say you loved Josh. OK? I do believe that") "What do you mean Josh getting hit with the knife? He was sitting on the bed." ("Josh was stabbed a couple of times") "He was sitting on the bed." ("Well how did he get stabbed? You stabbed Josh three times.") "He was sitting on the bed." ("How did you stab him? See this is, this is what --") "Are you just making this up?" ("No, this is, this is --") "Is this some kind of attorney (???)?" ("This is why there's some things that aren't making any sense right now. The things that we talked about before, I was with you 100 percent.") "Are you, are you--" ("And I wanna be with you 100 percent here, it's just, what you're telling me the chain of events that happened aren't quite fitting what --") "Josh was on the bed." ("So how did he get stabbed? Why is he in the hospital right now?") "I don't believe you." ("You were angry") "I don't believe he got stabbed --" ("You were angry, did you black out?") "I don't, I just don't believe he got stabbed. He was sitting on the bed and Chris was coming at me and I held out the --" ("I wouldn't be here if he didn't. I wouldn't be here right now.") "Why would I stab Josh?" ("That's what I'm trying to find out. Was it an accident?") "I don't know." [starting to become weepy now] ("Tell me what happened") "I don't, I told you what happened. Chris came up, and I was trying to protect myself with the knife, and then he restrained me. Obviously the knife wasn't good enough to scare him, from attacking me, and Josh was sitting on the bed." ("So how did Josh get tagged a couple of times with the blade?") "I don't know." ("See this is what I need. Were you in, did you go into a fit of anger, did you just lose it?") "I was just afraid, I held out the knife, and Chris started coming at me, and I started just moving the knife like this [indicating shielding my face, closing eyes, swinging/jabbing motion with arm]. I just just, and that was it. And Josh was sitting there, I mean, that's too far to be the bed [indicating away], the bed was like right here, Chris is like at the door [pointing adjacent], standing there, I'm like 'Go away Chris, call the police, tell them it's a false report, tell them that I'll leave,' and then he started coming at me, I had the knife, and I'm like, 'Don't come any closer' and, that was it, and then he started coming at me, and so I just started swinging the knife at him, and I pretty much had my eyes closed because that's what you do when you're afraid. You just, just start stabbing, and I just remember a lot of people crying and screaming and stuff, it was like a big panic. Why would I stab Josh? That's stupid. (Josh had threatened you, Josh had wronged you, Josh had broken your heart--") "Yeah but that's --" ("To the point of taking your own life") "Yeah, but he gave me a chance. He said like in a year, like after my conditions were over, that we could have --" ("Do you actually believe he meant that?") "On some levels, I mean if he could break up with me so instantly, he could get back with me so instantly, too, I mean it was only a year, or 11 months. It was even before he graduated. I could have seen him, could have been back with him. He said that

once his parents were out of his life."

0:51:08 - ("No doubt in my mind he might have been an accident, ok, the couple of times he got nicked with the blade was an accident.") "I still don't believe that he got hit, but--" [go to reach for cup, have to catch myself to prevent myself from falling out of the chair"] ("But dad on the other hand, I think there was some issues with dad") "Did he get cut?" ("Mhmm") "Then he probably deserved it then. But I didn't plan on cutting anyone on purpose."

0:51:59 - "There had to have been some kind of satisfaction just to let him know that 'Hey, he is not in charge of you. He's not the one who runs what you think--'" "But he is. He still is because I am here and probably certainly going to jail. ("Let's not worry about that") "But if you think about it ahead of time." ("Let's talk about the moment, ok? Let's talk about the moment, 'cause I know you're angry with Josh's dad, I know you've been angry with Josh's dad.") "Yeah, that's true" ("So there had to have been some kind, at the lowest level, a little bit of satisfaction knowing that you showed him he's not the one that determines what you do. You showed him that you are the one that's in charge.") "I'm just trying to figure out how you have time for satisfaction and stuff like that, when you're standing, and you know the police are on your way, and--" ("But it's the moment, it's the moment.")

0:53:40 - ("You know they've called the cops on you for being there, and there's his dad --") "Yeah, and so I'm afraid and I don't know what to do." ("And this is your last chance.") "If his dad had been smart he would have just stayed there and the officers would have come and arrested me and taken my knife away, but his dad tried to take it into his own hands and come after me." ("And you lashed at him") "No, not deliberately. I didn't step forward at him, I was just like [again, hiding face, closing eyes, holding arm outstretched]" ("Well you came out of the closet to him") "I was already out of the closet by then. ("With the knife") "Yes, and I just told him don't come any closer, and they had already called the police and I knew they had already called the police, and that's probably one of the thoughts in my mind was, well the worst I'll get is having contact with Josh at this point because I haven't tried to kill anyone or anything, but then he came after me. He should have just stood there and let the police come. The police came in minutes after he got there, probably not even that."

0:54:47 - ("But you went there knowing there could have been a problem.") "The biggest problem I thought there could have been was that they could have reported me and I would have gone to jail for like a few days" ("Well you obviously thought there was more of a situation than that because you brought a knife with you!") "I always have that knife on me." ("You don't always have that knife with you Adam!") "How would you know whether I have that knife on me or not? I had the Japanese throwing star on me that night" ("Big difference") "I honestly don't - the police report certainly put 'knife' that night as the Japanese throwing star. I had that Japanese throwing star that night and they put 'knife' in the police report. They certainly considered it - you can certainly do the same thing with it." ("But you went to Josh's

tonight knowing full well that there could be a confrontation between you and his dad and his mom.") "I didn't think his dad would be stupid enough to come after me to try to, like, I don't know what he was going to do to me." ("But you were prepared for that.") "I'm always prepared for that, in case someone comes after me." ("What were you prepared to do?") "I wasn't gonna kill him" ("But what were you prepared to do?") "Just scare him, at least. I mean, a knife usually scares people." ("And if it doesn't? What do you do next?") "Well he restrained me. I had plenty of chances to stab him, and he restrained me. Chris restrained me, his father restrained me. I had plenty of chances to stab him. Don't you think I had plenty of chances to stab him? I mean he's not an expert in, I don't know, police force or martial arts or something. I mean, I could have stabbed Chris, I probably could have killed him if I wanted to, but I didn't. He restrained me. I was just trying to get him to not attack me. The way he attacked Josh."

0:59:32 - "And he started, he tried to restrain me, and the knife was going all over the place, and 'cause I didn't want him to attack me, and I almost couldn't breathe, I mean, I felt like he was choking me, and I couldn't get away."

(After Thompson leaves, it picks back up at 1:23)

1:25:02 - "What kind of penalty am I looking at, I mean, besides?" ("We're not sure, we don't know if this was self-defense, we don't know what's going on, but we need to get your side of the story so that you have an accurate representation of yourself.")