

STEPHEN BELBER. So why'd you go along with Aaron that night?

RUSSELL HENDERSON. At first I told Aaron I didn't want to. I kept saying no. But he kept wanting to, so finally I just, I went along.

STEPHEN BELBER. Why?

RUSSELL HENDERSON. I guess I'm more of a follower. And he's a leader. So I just went along.

STEPHEN BELBER. OK, but when you did rob Matthew, why did you take him to the fence? I mean, you had his wallet in the truck, no?

RUSSELL HENDERSON. We were just gonna rob him and leave him out there, so that he'd be stuck out there.

STEPHEN BELBER. Can you tell me what happened when you got out to the fence?

RUSSELL HENDERSON. Aaron told me to tie him to the fence. But I didn't actually tie him. I just wrapped the rope around his hands. Because, you know, I figured ... I wanted him to be able to leave.

~~STEPHEN BELBER. And so, when Aaron started hitting him over and over —?~~

RUSSELL HENDERSON. I just wanted it to stop. I wanted to hide. Make it go away. So I just did what I always did. I hid. Tried to escape. Pretend like it's not happening. Instead of being more ... strong. I didn't think I could stop him. That's why I went back to the truck.

~~STEPHEN BELBER. Well, one story I've always heard is that you tried to stop him from beating Matthew.~~

RUSSELL HENDERSON. (A nod.) Let's just say I tried to stop him but I didn't try enough. You know what I mean? I didn't ... It's mostly just, you know, shame. That I didn't do more.

~~STEPHEN BELBER. What do you wish you'd have done differently?~~

RUSSELL HENDERSON. I wish I'd have stopped him.

I made the wrong choice to go along with it from the beginning. I made the wrong choice to tie him up, I made the wrong choice not to get help. I've thought a lot about it, about every single thing I did, and I just wish I could ... change what I did.

STEPHEN BELBER. Your grandmother told me you'd taken a victim empathy course?

RUSSELL HENDERSON. Yeah. And what they have you do is

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