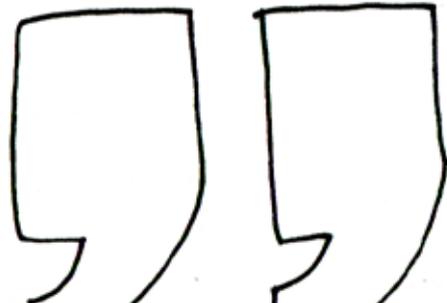




A FAMILY

BROKEN

DIVIDED



STORY & ARTWORK  
AYSHEA SIDDALL

# B R O K E N

This is about the how a close family  
is ripped apart when a controlling  
partner creates a gulf between  
the family.

Based on a true story,  
all names have been altered.

# ALL SHE WANTED

Sarah had two kids by two different Dads. She had been engaged 3 times so far. The first time she had it all planned out, she wanted to be married with a child by the time she was 25.

When this went wrong she went looking for a new man and was pregnant within 6 months. She left Sheffield to move in with her new boyfriend. The relationship was over before their son George was even 12 months old. On her return to Sheffield she purchased a second home, she would live in this whilst renting out her first property.

A few years later she found a new man, within weeks of meeting him she was

pregnant and planning a wedding. This relationship didn't even last until the end of the pregnancy. He left her one day whilst she was at work, she returned home to find he had emptied her house of anything small enough to fit in his car. He has never been involved in his child's life.

So there Sarah was alone again, unmarried with two children. Shortly after the second child Joshua was born she started talking to Jon, a man she used to work with. He



## WITHIN WEEKS OF MEETING HIM SHE WAS PREGNANT

had recently split up with his wife and was now working as a Police Officer.

She was quickly pregnant and engaged again after an intense relationship. She moved into the house he used to share with his wife and her eldest started attending the local school. She was happy - she had finally found a man that would take care of her and protect her.



THE ONLY MAN

I HAVE EVER

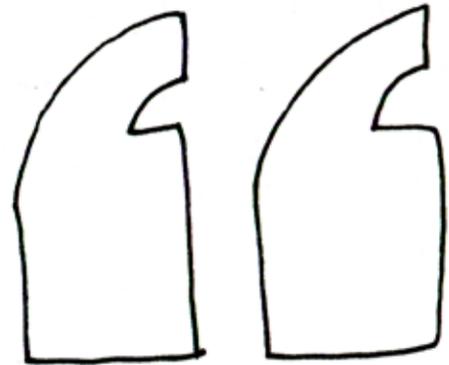
LOVED



— SARAH

# ACCUSATIONS

It didn't take long before her world was shattered, his ex-wife accused him of being abusive and controlling. She said he didn't like her working so she eventually quit work her job, he would control her financially, emotionally and also restrict where she could go. Jon would send his mother round to their house whilst



**HIS EX-WIFE ACCUSED HIM OF BEING ABUSIVE AND CONTROLLING**

he was at work to take away her car keys. She also alleged that he had been abusing a 15 year old girl during their relationship.

George's Dad accused him of hurting his son and George's school said the



same too – that her new man Jon was physically abusing George.

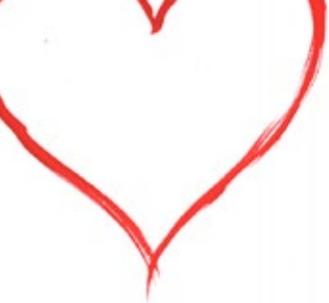
Jon was arrested and suspended from work for 12 months whilst the allegations were being investigated. George and Jon were not allowed under the same roof, so Sarah sent George to live with his Grandparents. She was worried that Jon might kill himself if she left him on his own.

During the investigation, the police found CCTV cameras in the children's bedrooms. This was dismissed by Sarah and Jon as nothing sinister as they used the CCTV to aid them with discipline.

The police checked Jon's laptop, they found a CCTV recording of 14 year Lizzy and her older sister Ashleigh - one of Sarah's friends. They had been getting undressed ready to go out in one of the bedrooms.

Sarah, worried that Jon would faces charges, raced round to Ashleigh's house. She explained that they had accidentally recorded her and her sister getting undressed. She asked her if she would tell the police that she knew about the CCTV and she was told to get undressed in the bathroom but forgot. At the same time she asked Ashleigh if she would be a bridesmaid.

Eventually the charges were dropped and Jon was allowed to live with George again. They moved to Sheffield to make a fresh start and carried on planning their wedding.



JON -

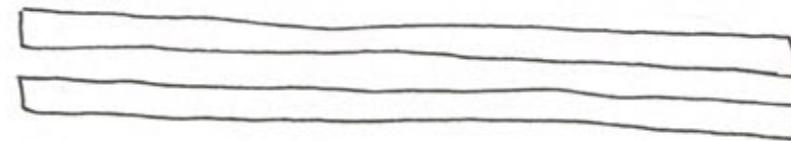


they are

ALL

MY

SONS



# TOO MANY WITNESSES

Sarah's Mum, Gale, and Dad, Robert, were still suspicious. They had seen him bullying George and couldn't get his actions towards him out of their minds.

One day George and his younger brother Joshua were playing on George's drum kit at their Grandparent's house. Each were taking it in turns to hit the drums. George accidentally hit Joshua so Jon picked up the other drumstick to whack George's hand with it. He only stopped because he realised Gale was watching.

Sarah had a really good relationship with her cousin Rebecca, she was regularly round at hers with Jon and the kids. Until one day she fell out with her and said she was never bringing the children round again.

When Gale asked Rebecca why they had fallen out she replied that she had enough of watching Jon's behaviour

**G G SHE SAW JON PIN GEORGE TO THE FLOOR , ,**

towards George. The final straw was when she saw Jon pin George to the floor and shout in his face.

Although Gale was concerned for her grandchildren she was worried that if she said anything to her daughter that Sarah would fall out with her. She had done so before and refused to let her see her Grandchildren. She felt it was better to keep stum and keep in contact with her grandsons.

“ HE’S NOT  
LIKE THAT!  
”

*Sarah -*

“ I KNOW  
WHAT  
I SAW!  
”

*- William*

# PUSHING AWAY

Sarah was due to visit her mum bringing the children with her. But on the day Gale received a familiar call, yet again Sarah had to cancel as Jon had taken the family car to work. He had his own motorbike but would often borrow the family car.

During the planning of the wedding Jon made it clear that he did not want Ashleigh to be a bridesmaid, he also didn't like Sarah's long-time friend Peter. Most of the wedding guests were from Jon's side, nearly every suggestion from Sarah's side of the family was knocked down apart from a few close relatives.

# GG

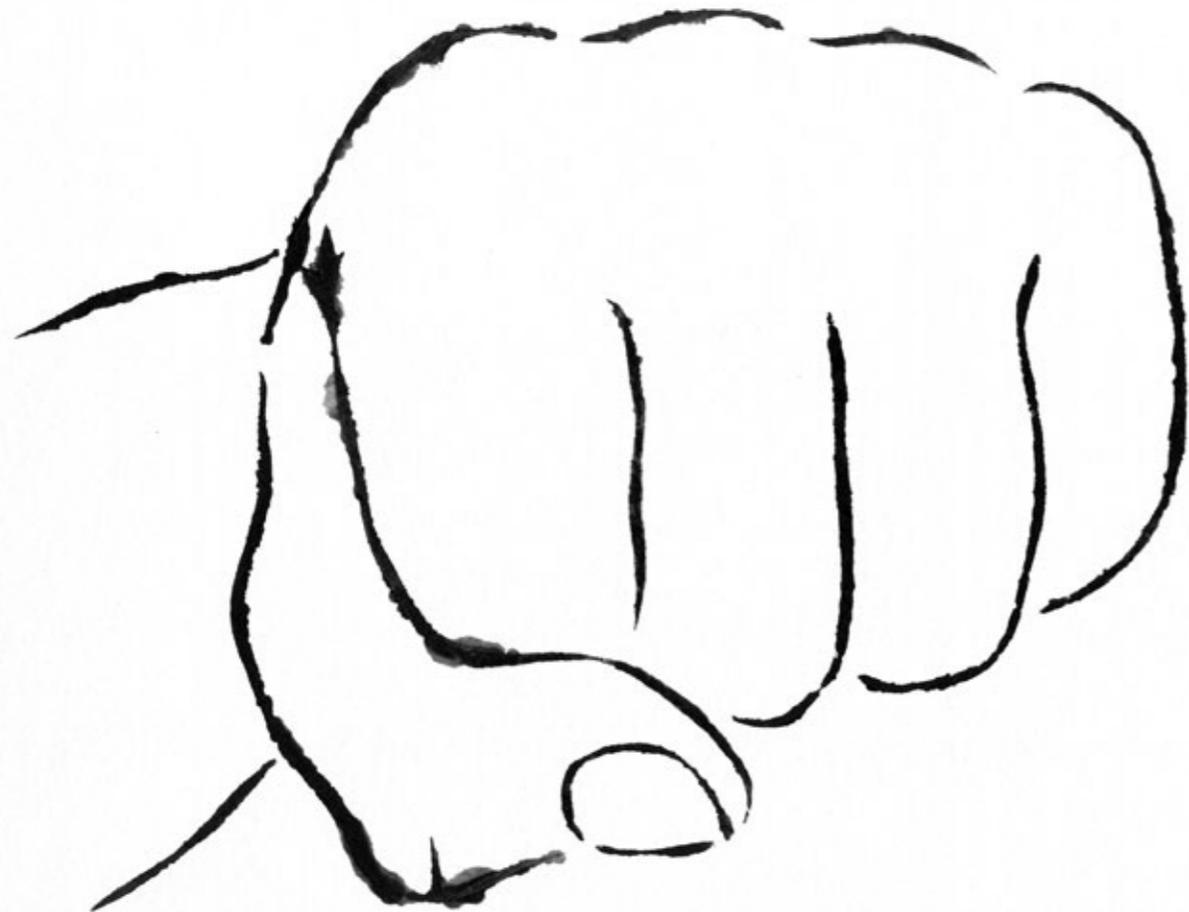
Eventually Sarah and Jon invited her Grandmother but she was so unhappy about what had been happening that she declined to come. This set off Sarah and Jon, they blamed

**GEORGE WAS FORCED INTO  
THE CAR BY JON**

# ”

Gale for spinning lies about them. Sarah again refused to let her parents see their grandchildren.

Gale tried to speak to Sarah but she had blocked her mum's number. Gale came to George's school at the end of the day, she thought she could catch Sarah and talk things through. Sarah and Jon refused to speak to her and they would not let George see his grandmother, George was forced into the car by Jon.



**I SAW HIM**

**HIT**

**3 YEAR OLD**

**TWICE.**

*Joshua*

*- William*



# FINAL STRAW

This time Robert saw red, Sarah has stopped them seeing their Grandchildren one too many times.

The fact that Jon had been suspended from work had been kept quiet until now. Robert ranted on Facebook about Jon had been accused of - the allegations, all the things Gale, Robert and other family members had seen were put on the internet for the world to see.

Jon and Sarah complained to the police that the Facebook post was harassment. Robert was warned by the Police to not post anything about them again.



Shortly after, Sarah fell out with her brother William because he accused

**HE ACCUSED JON OF HITTING JOSHUA**

tried to stay out of things. As hard as it was he didn't want to fall out with his sister.

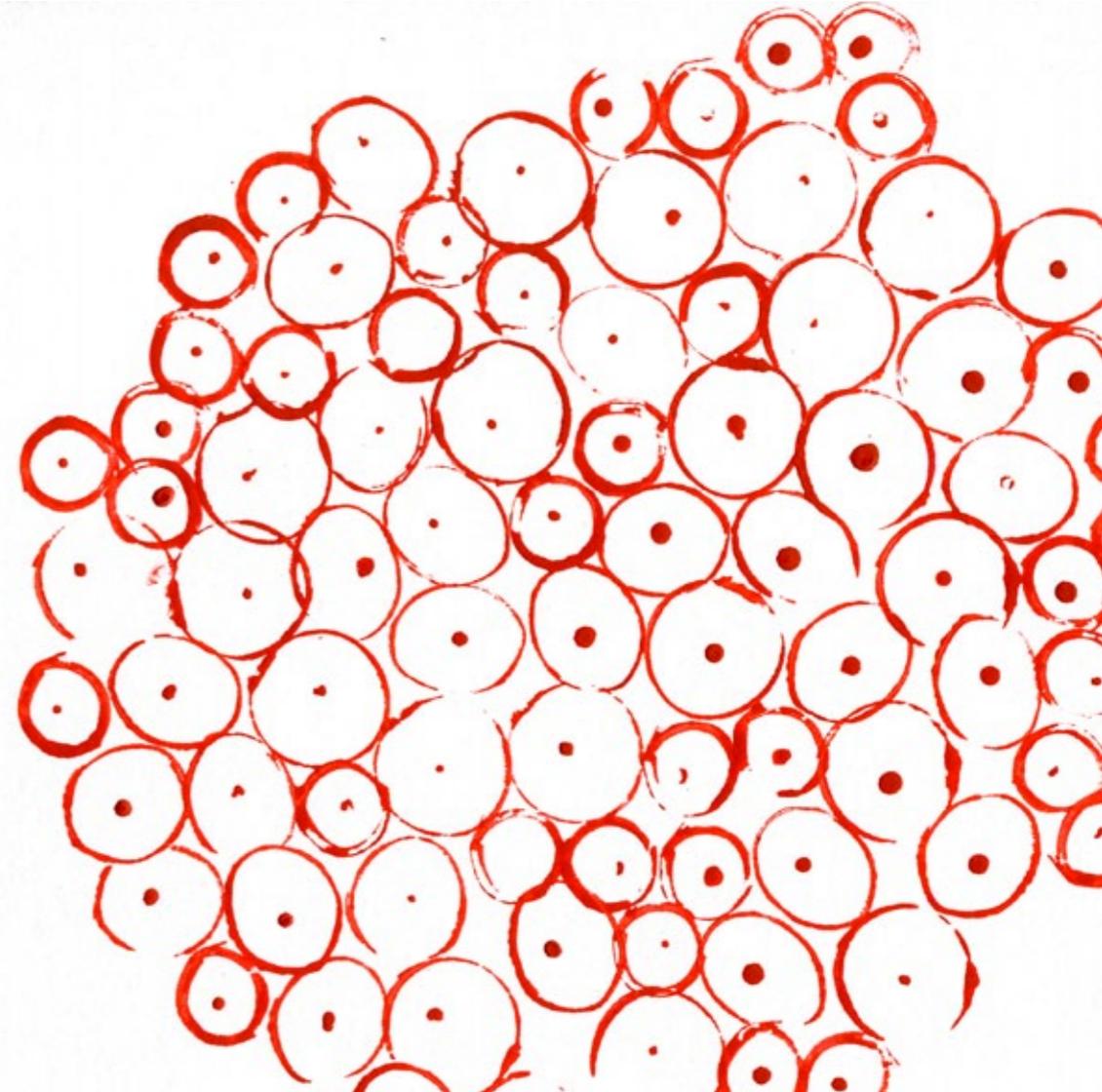


Jon of hitting Joshua. Her other brother, Noah, and his wife, Louise,

“ YOU COULDN'T  
SPAWN A CHILD  
AS SWEET AS ”

*George*

- Robert



# COMPLETE

A couple of months after the wedding Sarah sold one of her houses. The money from the house sale went to pay for the wedding and also the debts Jon had accrued before they met. With no job she was now financially reliant on her husband.

Some months later it was Joshua's birthday, Gale sent a card in the post. Sarah phoned the Police complaining it was harassment.

Both Noah and Louise could no longer face speaking to Sarah, they couldn't believe what she had done.

# ISOLATION

Sarah finally got what she wanted – a husband. She just had to sacrifice her family, friends, income and the happiness of her children.

And now she is isolated Jon is free to do what he wants because Sarah has no one to turn to. She may realise one day what Jon is like but whether she will be strong enough to leave him is another matter.



True love

Death do us part

True love

Our Strength is

in each Other

in each Other

in each Other

together forever

together forever

Mr & Mrs

Mr & Mrs

Drip, Drip, Drip. That's how they do it. They don't push you away from your friends and family straight away. They don't take away your financial freedom on the second date. They do it slowly, so slowly that you might never notice what you've lost.

You've become accustomed to a life where you are always with your partner and when your not they call you all the time. You automatically check with your partner about every little thing. You don't think about going out with your friends because you've fallen out with them.

Maybe if your lucky you might still get to see your family but why would you want to? I mean your family don't care about you do they? They don't have your best interests at heart only your partner truly loves and cares about you.