

WILLIAM THOMAS ROSS

SWORN BEFORE ME THIS 20th DAY  
OF JUNE 1994

(613) 726-9244

[Signature]  
A Commissioner, etc.

I, Brian Alexson, of Ottawa, Ont. am acquainted with Catherine Lois Eleanore Ross. This statement was prepared by Bill Ross based on interviews with me. I worked together on this statement with Bill until I felt my views were accurately reflected.

I first met Catherine in 1985 at which time I was living with Bill. Catherine came to a St. Patricks day party at our house, met Bill and never left. Bill and Catherine started living together right away and were married in December of the same year.

I saw Bill and Catherine socially over the years. Whenever we went out, Catherine always drank doubles (alcohol) and always wanted to go home early, claiming to be tired. Sometimes, it appeared she had been drinking before arriving. When we went to their house for dinner, the routine was always the same. We would arrive, Catherine would spend the evening in the kitchen cooking up a storm and drinking rum. She was often yelling at the children to stay out of her space (wherever she was). The children always ate by themselves in the livingroom, watching TV. Bill would socialise and take care of the children. He would do bath, read them a story and put them to bed. We would eat after 9:00 PM, Soon after (or during) dinner, Catherine was always tired and immediately went to bed (sometimes in the living room chair). We would visit with Bill for awhile and then go home. It was usually obvious that Catherine had drank too much alcohol.

Last summer (1993), I asked Bill if he wanted to design a product with me. Bill was intrigued by the idea and also wanted to learn how well we worked together since we have discussed working together in the past. He said it was in his interest, since he might be able to use the results for one of his pet projects. He said that there was one problem. Catherine would not let him do any extra work unless he paid her to help with his responsibilities for the children. It seemed very selfish and short sighted to me for Catherine to demand payment to allow Bill to work for family goals.

When I was at Bill's home working with him, Catherine made it very uncomfortable for us to work. Bill was in and out taking care of the kids, since Catherine didn't appear interested in them. Catherine made it very clear that she didn't approve of us working. Some days, on weekends, she would just lie in bed all day watching TV, yelling out instructions to Bill to take care of the children. She would let the children run wild and do nothing about it while we were trying to work. She would not let the children in the bedroom with her. Bill did most if not all of the kid stuff including bike rides in the afternoon. Catherine was very abusive to Bill while I was there. At the times Bill bothered to reply to Catherine's abuse, it was in an


extremely patient manner. During the week, Catherine did bath the children, I assume for her "cut". Bill read them a story and did the go to bed routine (bathroom ...). One time, we had a major breakthrough and felt very good about it. We went downstairs to get a beer to celebrate. Catherine was there and the non-verbal hostility she was projecting put a quick damper on our good mood.

Having lived with Bill when he met Catherine, kept close contact with him over the years and worked in his lab with him, I can attest that the value of Bill's office and lab equipment has not changed since he met Catherine. He has sold and modernised over the years, but the stuff depreciates really quickly. For instance, when Bill met Catherine, he had a computer worth \$4,000. Now he has a much better computer worth \$2,000. The same can be said about his lab and equipment in general. If anything, it is worth less than at the start of the marriage.

I have never seen Catherine affectionate to or playing with the children. I have never seen them on her lap. I have seen Bill playing with and affectionate to the children. They sit on his lap when he reads them stories (every evening that I have been there).

In January 1994, My wife and I went out with Bill and Catherine to celebrate (we thought) Catherine's birthday. Catherine appeared intoxicated when they arrived. Catherine ordered a double ceaser. While we were chatting, Catherine launched into an unprovoked verbal attack on Bill which lasted all evening. Catherine was very abusive and irrational towards Bill. One part I clearly remember is that Bill said to Catherine that if two people cannot get along and compromise, the thing to do is separate and that it was totally unfair and impossible to demand that a person change their basic nature. Catherine indicated that nothing less would do. Catherine ordered another double rum and the evening ended prematurely. The next day Catherine phoned to apologise for her behavior, which we accepted.

I think that Catherine is basically a nice person and sincerely believes in her values. She does not make a very good partner for Bill, since Bill wants to accomplish and build for his family while Catherine wants to spend and be pampered. Catherine does not seem to comprehend the relationship between planning, effort and results. I could never understand Catherine's complaints about Bill being a poor provider, since her lifestyle is equal to or better than all of their friends. Bill has treated Catherine well with gifts and quality of life. I think he has tried to accommodate her values to the best of his ability.

  
May 26, 1994

Statement, Bill + Catherine