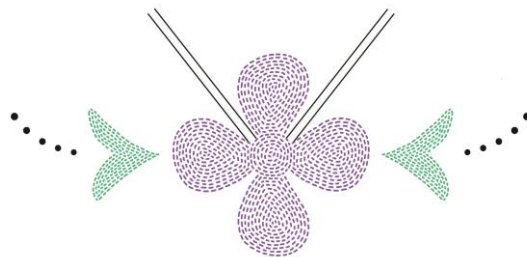


National Inquiry into  
Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls



Enquête nationale  
sur les femmes et les filles  
autochtones disparues et assassinées

**National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls  
Truth-Gathering Process  
Part 1 Statement Gathering  
Ramada Hotel  
Edmonton, Alberta**



**PUBLIC**

**Wednesday August 8, 2018**

**Statement - Volume 453  
Alisha Roode, In relation to Laura Pilon**

**Statement gathered by Kate Langham**

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Documents submitted with testimony: none.

Edmonton, Alberta

--- Upon commencing on Wednesday, August 8, 2018 at 15:13

**MS. KATE LANGHAM:** So, this is Kate Langham, statement gatherer with the National Inquiry for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. It is Wednesday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, and we are here in Edmonton at the Ramada South, and we will begin our statement at 3:13 p.m.

And so, if you would like to introduce yourself?

**MS. ALISHA ROODE:** My name is Alisha Roode, and well, when I was little, my name was Alisha Pilon, and that's what my mom's name was when she died, was Laura Pilon. I don't know.

**MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. And so, you can just start ---

**MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

**MS. KATE LANGHAM:** --- however you -- however you feel comfortable to start.

**MS. ALISHA ROODE:** So, basically, I thought that I would just talk about, like, I don't know, who I knew her as.

**MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

**MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, how her murder, like, affected me as a kid and, like, I guess that's pretty much it.

1                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Perfect.

2                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Because I don't know much  
3 about her. I was, like, four when she passed away, and I  
4 just -- I didn't have a chance to know her at all. My  
5 family kept her like a secret almost from me, and they  
6 never told me the truth about what really happened to her.

7                   I always, like, thought that she got in a  
8 car accident growing up, but I wanted to know, like,  
9 everything about her. So, I would ask so many questions  
10 all the time. I would just be bugging them. Like, they  
11 would go wild, like, "fucking leave me alone". But, I  
12 don't know. I just wanted to know who she was.

13                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Of course.

14                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, they never -- they  
15 would never answer any of my questions. They would always  
16 push it away and, like, I don't know, say things like, "No,  
17 no. It's, like, middle of supper." Like, you know, "Now  
18 is not the time." And, always, like, it was a bad subject  
19 to them.

20                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

21                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, I always wondered  
22 why -- why they were, like, so embarrassed to talk about  
23 her, or why they were so ashamed of, like, to mention her.  
24 Or, how come I wasn't allowed to know who she was? And, I  
25 was the baby out of, like, three kids. I have an older

1 brother and an older sister. And so, they had a chance to  
2 know a little bit about who she was, and I don't know. I  
3 kind of envy that a little bit, but it's funny as you grow  
4 up, you realize that they're envying you because you don't  
5 have any memories. Sometimes that's easier.

6 But, I don't know. I kind of just grew up  
7 wondering. And then eventually, you know, you can't just  
8 wonder forever. So, I started researching and seeing if I  
9 could find something about her online, like a high school  
10 picture or, like, a letter or, like, anything at all.  
11 Anything. A birth certificate, death certificate, anything  
12 at all, and I couldn't find anything, like, for a long  
13 time. It wasn't until I was, like, almost 19 that I seen,  
14 like, a baby picture of myself, and on the baby picture,  
15 it's like the only one I ever seen, my last name was Pilon.  
16 And, I was just like -- I don't know. I didn't know she  
17 was married when she died and, like, I was just so, like,  
18 sheltered from everything, really.

19 And so, it was, like, kind of just clicked  
20 into me, and I was, like, oh, maybe I should, like,  
21 research her name with this last name and see what I can  
22 find, and then she popped up, like, right away on this list  
23 of, like, missing and murdered Indigenous women of Canada  
24 list.

25 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

1                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, I called my uncle  
2 and I asked him if that was her, and he said that it was,  
3 and that's pretty much all that I've ever, like, really  
4 been able to find about her.

5                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Okay.

6                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Even now, like, I don't  
7 know. I keep looking and I keep, like, trying different --  
8 like, punching in different things and, like, punching in  
9 us in relation to her, and, like, just trying to find  
10 anything at all, and that's ultimately why I got involved  
11 with this.

12                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

13                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Is because, like, you  
14 start to wonder and, like -- I don't know. Last year, I  
15 went through, like, a phase where, like, I thought maybe  
16 she wasn't even dead.

17                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. When you don't  
18 have any information, of course; right? You're going to  
19 come up with all sorts of things.

20                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. Your imagination  
21 kind of runs wild.

22                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

23                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And then, I don't know.  
24 I was, like, contacting all these different people and,  
25 like, asking everyone I could. Like, even just people who

1 I thought might remotely even know who she was. And, I  
2 got, like, an email back from the cemetery finally. They  
3 told me that she was there, that, like, so -- that's, like  
4 -- it's a confirmation, but it's not, like, much of one.

5 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

6 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** But, it was still, like,  
7 enough to kind of put things to rest for a bit. I don't  
8 know. I feel like growing up without knowing who she was  
9 made me, like, really lucky because as I grow older and  
10 stuff, I find that, like, I'm very much like her. Like, to  
11 a tee, like, everything. And, I thought it was pretty  
12 crazy how you can not know somebody but still make all the  
13 same choices as them. And, like, down to leaving the  
14 country and like -- or, like, leaving the province and,  
15 like, going across the country at a certain age to, like,  
16 coming back with, like, half-dyed hair. Some of it is  
17 blonde, some of it is black, and then finding out she did  
18 the exact same stuff.

19 Like, I would get a little bit angry because  
20 I would, like, talk to my grandparents, and I would be,  
21 like, "Well, why won't you tell me this stuff?" Because I  
22 could have saved myself from making so many of the same  
23 mistakes as her.

24 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

25 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Then I was like it feels

1           like I never got a chance. Like, a lot of chances or  
2           choices in my life, big ones, were taken away from me  
3           because of that reason. I didn't really know, like, the  
4           details of, like, how she died, because I was told, like,  
5           so many different things growing up. And, like, I don't  
6           know.

7                                I was talking to my sister, like, this past  
8           summer. And, like, the story that I knew was that she got  
9           into a car accident. And, then, after when I found out  
10          that she was on that list, my auntie told me that, like,  
11          she was murdered. And, then, it was, like, my family was,  
12          like, embarrassed of it, because they're, like, I don't  
13          know, they're old-fashioned, and they're from, like, a  
14          different time where covering things up was a lot easier  
15          because you wouldn't bring, like, I don't know,  
16          embarrassment to the family. Or, like, if something  
17          horrible happened. Especially if she was like me and,  
18          like, wild and free, and, like, we just roamed around and  
19          just were happy, got into trouble and stuff like that.

20                              **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

21                              **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** She was, like, a big  
22          jokester and, like, she would mess around with people all  
23          the time, and she would party all the time and, like -- so,  
24          like, when she was -- basically, around the time that she  
25          died, she left me and my brother and my sister at my



1 grandparents, and she was married at that time. And, my  
2 auntie told me that she was having, like, a fight with her  
3 husband, and that he was really abusive towards me, my  
4 brother and my sister, and even her. And, she left us with  
5 my grandparents to keep us safe so that she could get away  
6 from him, because she was scared of him.

7 So, she went to Ontario. And, like, my  
8 uncle said that she was gone that whole summer before, kind  
9 of like me. I don't know. I did the exact same thing.  
10 But, she came back just, like, December, like the 1<sup>st</sup> or  
11 something of December, and I didn't see her, but she talked  
12 to my older sister. She told my older sister that she was  
13 okay and that she was going to come back in a couple of  
14 days. She was just going home to pack up her stuff and,  
15 like, basically say goodbye to everyone there and come home  
16 and, like, we were going to all be able to go back to,  
17 like, living the way that we were.

18 And then, I don't know, she, like, left  
19 Ontario, and my grandma got a call, like, on December 4<sup>th</sup>  
20 saying that they found her or something like that. And,  
21 this is where, like, I've heard two different versions of  
22 the story, where, like, my sister tells me that it was  
23 really bad, and that she was, like -- she was really hurt.  
24 Like, I don't know. It was all bad. I don't know how much  
25 details, like, you want to know, but, like, I guess I could

1 just say what they told me.

2 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Whatever you're  
3 comfortable with sharing. Yeah.

4 MS. ALISHA ROODE: I don't know. I was,  
5 like, 21 or something when my sister told me this. And,  
6 like, as I got older and stuff, she just opened up more and  
7 more over time, and she told me that, like, she was stabbed  
8 a bunch of times, and then they found, like, her body  
9 underneath, like, half underneath her mattress, and she was  
10 half naked or something like that. And then she, like,  
11 didn't go into much more detail after that because she  
12 started crying lots.

13 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

14 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Like, she just told me  
15 that's why she's so protective over me, because, like, you  
16 see things happen and then it's like you've already seen it  
17 before and you want to protect them from making all the  
18 same mistakes. But, you can't because they don't know what  
19 actually happened, so then you just look like you're being  
20 over protective and, like ---

21 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

22 MS. ALISHA ROODE: So, then, being, like,  
23 the younger one, you just want to rebel and you don't even  
24 realize what the hell they're actually talking about at the  
25 time.

1                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

2                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And then, I don't know.  
3                   Like, this past summer when I talked to my sister again,  
4                   she told me, like, I don't know if it would be the second  
5                   half of that story or, like, the ending of it, but she told  
6                   me that my grandma had to fly to Ontario, and she went by  
7                   herself, because she had to take her off of life support or  
8                   something like that. Like, she was so, like -- I don't  
9                   know. She was just hanging on.

10                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

11                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, yeah, my grandma had  
12                  to take her off life support by herself. She came back  
13                  with, like, her ashes and, like, a leather jacket or  
14                  something like that, and that was the only things she  
15                  brought back. It was just those things. And, like,  
16                  that's, like, that's the end of that.

17                  My grandfather was really mean to us growing  
18                  up. Like, they weren't happy that they had to adopt us.  
19                  They weren't happy that they had to take on that burden  
20                  and, like, that's exactly how they seen it; it was like a  
21                  burden. We were, like -- they never signed up for more  
22                  kids and, like, they would talk all the time how you live  
23                  your life. You don't expect to be like basically starting  
24                  over from scratch. And, like, it wasn't until I was, like,  
25                  probably around 19, because I left for Ontario when I was

1 19. So, after all -- I found out all this stuff, I kind of  
2 just up and split.

3 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

4 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Just got on a bus and  
5 just left, and I didn't know that she actually did that  
6 when she was that age.

7 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Okay.

8 MS. ALISHA ROODE: So, I wonder what she  
9 found out.

10 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

11 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Like, they adopted us.  
12 They felt like it was their duty after my mom passed away  
13 that they should adopt us. But, my grandma's mom was sick,  
14 too, at the same time, and she ended up dying on Christmas  
15 Eve. So, that's -- like, when I think back in retrospect,  
16 I know they were really mean to us and shit. Then I try to  
17 think of, like, what they were going through.

18 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

19 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And, like, to lose your  
20 daughter and your mom in the same month, and then have,  
21 like, these three kids that you have to take on and --  
22 like, it would be a lot to handle. So, I get why they've  
23 had, like, shit that they had to deal with before they  
24 could ever come to terms with that. They made a lot of  
25 mistakes and, like, they didn't raise us right, but at

1 least we had them.

2 It wasn't until, yeah, like I was 19 before  
3 I left or whatever, I talked to my grandpa, because he got  
4 cancer. He got prostate cancer. And, I don't know if he  
5 was going through some end-of-life, like, revelation and  
6 shit that he had to, like, come to terms with the stuff  
7 that he had done to us growing up. But, he decided that  
8 now is the time to talk to me and, like, own up to  
9 everything. And, he apologized and stuff one time when we  
10 were sitting outside. And, like, we were just sitting on  
11 the deck having coffee, and he said that he was really  
12 sorry for, like, the way that he treated us, and that he  
13 always, like, blamed us for my mom's death. He always  
14 thought if she didn't have kids then she wouldn't have  
15 wanted to, like, drink and kick back and, like, the stress  
16 of, like, doing that and then picking, like, somebody who  
17 was abusive it and, like, it was just too much for her to  
18 handle. And then he was like, and then just look what  
19 happened to her, and then we get left with you guys, like  
20 -- but, like, something inside of him had to tell him that  
21 that was wrong, for him to, like, come and apologize to me.

22 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

23 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** I don't know. I didn't  
24 really know what to say to him at the time, but I just  
25 said, like, you're really lucky that I am the person that I

1 am, because I was, like, I don't know. The way that you  
2 treated us and, like, how mean you were and everything, I  
3 just said I will never act like that towards somebody. I  
4 don't know. I will always, like, stand up for people and  
5 -- it will probably get me in trouble one day. I always  
6 figured that would be the way that I died or something, was  
7 like protecting somebody else, but ---

8 It's just like you don't have a voice if you  
9 don't choose to use it. So, that's why I stick up for some  
10 people and, like, put myself out there like that. So, I  
11 told him, like, I'm proud of who I am. I'm happy, but I  
12 said, "But, at the same time, you have to think about --  
13 like, my brother and sister, like, [Brother] and [Sister],  
14 they are the people that they are because of you, and  
15 that's something you will have to live with for the rest of  
16 your life." Because my brother is, like, a really angry  
17 alcoholic. He's just so full of so much anger. And, my  
18 sister has, like, detachment issues. She'll, like, she'll  
19 turn her back on us in a second, because it's easier for  
20 her to do that.

21 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Sure.

22 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** We all have, like,  
23 different ways that we view, like, my mom's death and  
24 everything. And, as much as, like, I'm here today and,  
25 like, I'm talking about it, they will not -- they, like --

1           they basically joined my grandparents in the whole hiding  
2           it and like -- and my sister just said that, like, I don't  
3           realize how lucky I am to not have the memories of who she  
4           was, because she was just like if she could bring her back,  
5           she wouldn't. She said that of all the shit that happened  
6           and all that stuff, she just wouldn't. She said that she's  
7           exactly where she should be, and I have issues with that.

8                       **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

9                       **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Because I'm like I don't  
10          care if she was bad. She could have changed. Everybody  
11          should have a second chance.

12                      **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. It's just the way  
13          she's coping with it maybe. And so, that part of you  
14          that's always standing up for people and that really is  
15          comfortable using your voice, is that the piece that  
16          brought you here today? Yeah. Because you wanted to share  
17          some things there?

18                      **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Because I always told her  
19          I would never give up on her. And, like, she doesn't have  
20          a voice. That was taken from her, so -- and, my family  
21          fought so hard to, like, make it so that she never existed.

22                      **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

23                      **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** That I'm just not going  
24          to let that happen.

25                      **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

1                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Because I don't care how  
2 bad she was, how bad, like, our upbringing was. I think I  
3 would rather have had like a shittier mom that, like, was  
4 just an asshole instead of having to deal with foster care  
5 and, like, grow up in that kind of cold-heartedness.

6                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. Did you and your  
7 siblings end up in foster care at times?

8                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Right after my mom died,  
9 because my grandparents -- like, my grandma was too busy  
10 dealing with her own mom.

11                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

12                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** They had to put us in  
13 foster care right away.

14                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

15                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** So, my grandparents had  
16 to, like, fight for us to get out of there after. But, we  
17 ended up -- like, we were really lucky when I was really  
18 little, because I don't have a lot of memories, like, with  
19 my mom. I don't have any, actually. But, like, some of my  
20 earliest memories are from being at this home, and they  
21 ended up being -- like, I don't know if we were in foster  
22 care a lot before my mom passed away.

23                   But, my sister apparently knew how to use  
24 the phone, and she knew, like, when they got to somebody's  
25 house and whatever, she should call my grandma right away



1 and let her know where we are. And, when she called, it  
2 ended up being, like, really good friends of my  
3 grandparents.

4 So, they knew that we were in a good place  
5 and like -- and they were really good people. Like, I  
6 still call them mom and dad to this day, and, like, I'll  
7 still go out to their house for, like, Christmas Eve. And,  
8 like, they're good people. They never, like, raised their  
9 voice at us even when we were shitheads. And, like, they  
10 dealt with a lot of kids coming in and out, but we stuck so  
11 much that, like, their daughters are like my sisters and,  
12 like, you know, I'm like -- I don't know. I have cousins  
13 that are part of that family line and, like, we're not  
14 actually related, but we don't even see it as that.

15 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** For sure.

16 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** They were good. And then  
17 once we got -- like, my grandparents fought for us to be  
18 with them. And, they were so frickin' abusive that we just  
19 -- I always just constantly got put back in foster care.  
20 And then, I don't know what the heck it was, because  
21 growing up, you don't really understand what's really going  
22 on.

23 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

24 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** But, they would always  
25 eventually just -- they wouldn't tell me much of what was

1 going on, but just one day, they would just take me back  
2 there, and it was like some fucking sick joke or something.  
3 Because, like, I knew that they didn't want us. They never  
4 treated us like they wanted us. So, then, you get taken  
5 away and then there's, like, the idea that you might be  
6 with, like, a family that cares.

7 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

8 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And then I used to  
9 actually think that, like, because of, like, my foster mom  
10 and dad, [Foster parents] like, they were so good that I  
11 thought that I was, like -- I thought they would all be  
12 good and everything would always be great, and they would  
13 always treat you like you're one of their own and, like --  
14 but they do not.

15 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

16 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Some of them are, like,  
17 it's just a job. And, they make it known that, like, you  
18 are not part of their family.

19 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

20 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** You're only visiting.  
21 And so, I used to listen really good, and I would just end  
22 up at all these places. And, then, eventually, after a  
23 while, they would just pick me up and take me home. Like,  
24 it was like nothing that had happened mattered.

25 And then they would do all the same shit

1 over again. My grandpa would be really abusive to us and,  
2 like, my grandma would, like -- they both, like, hit us a  
3 lot. They had a lot of anger. And then it was just  
4 constant like that, up until I was, like, probably, like,  
5 16 or 17. It would be, like, a repetitive cycle of going  
6 back into foster care and then living there for, like,  
7 three to six months, and then eventually going back. And  
8 then when I was 12, I just started running away.

9 My grandparents always joked about, like,  
10 the bad things and, like, the things that you would be  
11 embarrassed of and stuff. But, some of them were pretty  
12 funny stories. Like, I guess the first time I ran away, I  
13 was six. And, like, I have a six-year-old right now. So,  
14 to think that she would want to run away from home and  
15 stuff is, like -- like, you have to be a shitty parent to  
16 have your kid, like, fucking -- to, like, be in the mindset  
17 that I was when I was that age and what I was thinking,  
18 what I was going through.

19 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

20 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** I was totally content  
21 with living at the park forever, and, like, going to the  
22 waterslides every day.

23 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

24 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** That was going to be my  
25 life. Yeah. We had a lot of freedom growing up, though.

1 Like, I don't even let my kid outside, out of my sight. I  
2 just can't do it. And then being that age, I'm just, like,  
3 trying to ride a bike halfway across town and like ---

4 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

5 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** But, it would definitely  
6 break my heart to know that, that my kid would rather do  
7 that than, like -- yeah, that does sound pretty good. But,  
8 I don't know. My kid would say, like, every day, "You're  
9 my best friend," and I can honestly never say that I ever  
10 had anything like that.

11 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

12 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** So, I'm pretty sure she  
13 would never think about running away from home, because why  
14 would you run away from your best friend?

15 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

16 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** It doesn't make any  
17 sense. So, I don't know. It's, like, brought a lot of  
18 detachment from everything, because you grow up and you're  
19 always like -- basically when foster care, what that  
20 teaches you is, like, you're always looking for your  
21 family. Like, always. And, it's just about, like, you're  
22 just trying to find where you fit in, and they do a good  
23 job at making you know that you don't fit in anywhere.

24 And then, eventually, one day, you just stop  
25 going back. You go live at a friend's house or, like,

1           somebody's mom will take you in, because they want to,  
2           like, be nice to you and shit and, like, everybody -- all  
3           of my friends' moms, they were like my mom. They all,  
4           like, took me in like that was nothing. Eventually, I  
5           would just stop going back home.

6                           And, the frickin' sad part is they didn't  
7           even care. Like, when I would leave and stuff, they  
8           wouldn't say, like, "Where are you going? What time are  
9           you going to be back? Make sure you're back at a decent  
10          hour." It was just, like, "Okay, bye," and they'd be,  
11          like, sitting there. Like, "All right. I'm going to leave  
12          this phone number here, like, of my friend's house just in  
13          case something happens," right? Nothing. "All right,  
14          then. Bye." Like, fuck, you attempt to parent yourself.

15                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

16                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And never quite, like --  
17          I don't know. They just -- I don't know if they had so  
18          much stuff, like, that they just didn't know how to re-  
19          grasp that parenting mode.

20                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

21                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** We had good moments too,  
22          though. Like, it was bad and they were really hurtful and  
23          stuff, but, like I said, having them was better than not  
24          having them.

25                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

1                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Like, my grandpa would  
2                   take us camping and stuff all the time, and my mom used to  
3                   go with us when we were real little, he said. And, like,  
4                   that was something that, I don't know, that we have in  
5                   common, I guess. Like, as much as we're wild and free and  
6                   stuff like that, we were really down to earth and, like,  
7                   feel more at home when we're in the bush and, like, with  
8                   nature.

9                   And, she was really spiritual. She used to  
10                  write poems all the time and, like, I don't know. She  
11                  liked plays and, like, she's just a really artistic person,  
12                  and that's who I ended up being.

13                 As I got, like, older and I was, like,  
14                 researching her and stuff, I was, like, trying to trick my  
15                 family into telling me bits and pieces about her because,  
16                 like, they would always immediately slough it off. But, if  
17                 I caught one of them when they were drunk or, like, messed  
18                 up or something, they would tell me stuff.

19                 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Smart.

20                 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** And tactical.

21                 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. Well, you have to  
22                 think outside the box. Yeah. So, like, as the years go  
23                 on, I'll find out little bits and pieces. Like, when she  
24                 was in Ontario, she was dating somebody there. And, when  
25                 she came back, she brought him with her and they stayed at

1 my uncle's house for, like, a week. So, like, she was in  
2 town, like, a week before her death with this new boyfriend  
3 or whatever.

4 So, it kind of just, like, started putting  
5 pieces together for me; that if she was married here and he  
6 was a really abusive person, and she went over there and  
7 she found this new guy and was going to come home and start  
8 a new life, like, there's, like, a couple of options there  
9 of, like, stuff that just really sticks out. Like, her ex-  
10 husband probably found her and was, like, no way. Like, if  
11 I can't have you, no one can.

12 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

13 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Or, maybe she decided to  
14 split off with that guy from Ontario and tell him that she  
15 was going to move on with her life. There could be, like,  
16 the same exact scenario there. Like, uh, uh, no way.  
17 People are crazy, whether you know them for two weeks or,  
18 like, for five years. Or, it could just be like something  
19 totally off the wall. I don't know.

20 You, like, research stuff, and you see,  
21 like, the police involvement and stuff like that around  
22 that time. And, like, when my mom died, it was, like, when  
23 a lot of hype was going around about Sandra, like, in  
24 Ontario area, in Thunder Bay.

25 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Okay.

1                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, there was just --  
2                   there was just a huge amount of press saying that there was  
3                   somebody out there and he was hurting these girls who,  
4                   like, lived my mom's lifestyle and, like, were street  
5                   walkers and, like, Aboriginal. And, like, she was in the  
6                   bad side of town and, like, she basically fit right in with  
7                   all these escorts and, like, stuff like that.

8                   Whether or not she did that I'll never --  
9                   like, I'll never know that. But, she definitely put  
10                  herself in the same -- basically the same situations I put  
11                  myself in where you find that, like, where you have nowhere  
12                  else to belong, you try to go with the people that will let  
13                  you in with the least resistance.

14                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** For sure.

15                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, that's usually,  
16                  like, the people of the streets.

17                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yes.

18                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, yeah, there are a  
19                  lot of bad ones, but there are some that watch out for you.  
20                  And, when you don't have any other options, you don't have  
21                  family to turn to when things get hard or, like, you don't  
22                  have a mom even or a dad you can just go back and, like,  
23                  live with them when things fuck up and, like, you screw up  
24                  your life and stuff, that's not an option. So, like, your  
25                  friends are your only option. And, like, there was, like,



1 a time when -- I don't know. I don't know. They ended up  
2 being my family more than my family ever did.

3 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

4 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, whether or not my  
5 mom was murdered and stuff, I most likely would still be  
6 doing the exact same stuff. Like, just trying to help and,  
7 like -- I don't know, just being good, even though I'm,  
8 like, with the wrong crowd or, like, I'm struggling. I  
9 don't have a lot of money and I don't come from, like, a  
10 really awesome background. It's all good.

11 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah, you're a good  
12 person.

13 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. Well, you have to  
14 try.

15 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

16 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Being bad is easy and,  
17 like, being an ass is easy, and being mean to people and,  
18 like, all that stuff; that's easy.

19 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

20 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** It's a lot harder to,  
21 like, go out of your way for somebody and, like, just  
22 genuinely mean it. You don't have to gain anything. And,  
23 like, I don't know. I try to do the stuff and I think  
24 about, like, what she would want. Or, I ask her for  
25 guidance and, like, little things like that. And, like, I

1 don't know. Every once in a while, I feel like I feel her.  
2 Like, she's letting me know that I'm on the right path of  
3 something or, like, I don't know. That's probably why I  
4 ended up making a lot of the same decisions as her, because  
5 I try to think of, like, what she would do or, like --  
6 well, I'm pretty bang on.

7 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah, you're connected  
8 there.

9 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

10 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

11 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** I was really worried last  
12 year because last year, I'm the same age that she was when  
13 she passed away.

14 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Okay.

15 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, she died, like, a  
16 week before my 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. And so, I just -- I don't  
17 know. I had a lot of bad things happen to me in this  
18 timeframe, and I just thought that something horrible was  
19 going to happen to me. I thought I was just going to  
20 follow all in the same footsteps, and I was really scared  
21 last year. And so, I thought, like, well, if I'm going to  
22 die, then at least I want to see, like, a mountain first  
23 or, like, something cool like that.

24 So, I tried to go and, like, tried to do it,  
25 and things kept going wrong, and horrible things kept

1           happening. And then -- well, I didn't die, like, a week  
2           before my -- like, because I didn't die on the exact day  
3           that she died. In my head, that's, like, how it would go,  
4           and then I was just, like, well, obviously that's not how  
5           it goes. I would die, like, a week before my daughter's 5<sup>th</sup>  
6           birthday, not my 5<sup>th</sup> birthday, like, you know?

7                           And then I actually got into, like, this  
8           really serious car accident a week before my daughter's 5<sup>th</sup>  
9           birthday, like, to the day.

10                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Wow.

11                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. So, I don't know.  
12           I don't know if that's, like, the closure I needed or  
13           something but, like, I thought if I was going to die, that  
14           would be the day that I died, and then, like, a horrible  
15           freak accident happens and then I didn't.

16                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yes.

17                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, I tried -- like,  
18           now, it kind of feels like that's the day I started living.

19                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Ah.

20                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Because now I've outlived  
21           her and, like, now I can, like, create my own path.

22                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

23                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, like, just stop  
24           trying to live in her footsteps. It was, like, the single  
25           worst thing and best thing that ever happened to me.

1                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** That's really powerful.

2                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. And, like, it was  
3 hard looking for her, like, all these years and stuff and,  
4 like, frustrating and stuff, but I thought being part of  
5 something like this would be, like, the closest thing to  
6 closure that I will ever get. It's just so that if she is,  
7 like, listening, she can know that, like, I did everything  
8 I could.

9                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

10                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, now she won't be  
11 forgotten.

12                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** That's right. There's a  
13 big, active commemoration here by you coming and sharing  
14 her story, for sure.

15                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. I wish I knew more  
16 about her to tell you guys, or, like, more about her  
17 accident and stuff, but -- I tried to get my family  
18 involved and they would just rather forget it than be part  
19 of something like this.

20                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

21                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** I don't know if they're  
22 scared or, like -- or what. Because, like, even me  
23 researching it, my auntie would tell me just to be careful  
24 and, like -- like, always let on like she knew something  
25 more than what she would say. And, like, her husband at

1 the time, his name was [Aunt's husband]. I would always  
2 speculate that that was who my dad is, because I never knew  
3 who my dad was. Nobody ever told me. And, they would just  
4 simply say, "I don't know."

5 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

6 MS. ALISHA ROODE: No matter what, no matter  
7 how drunk they were, like ---

8 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

9 MS. ALISHA ROODE: No matter what, I would  
10 always, like, try to pop it in there and just, like, "Oh,  
11 by the way, who is my dad?"

12 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

13 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And, they would always  
14 be, like, "I don't know." I'd be, like, "I'm pretty sure  
15 it's [Aunt's husband], isn't it? Yeah, it's definitely  
16 [Aunt's husband]," and just see what they would say, and  
17 then they would just -- like, they were really solid with  
18 that one.

19 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Okay.

20 MS. ALISHA ROODE: But, I always thought  
21 because he would hurt my brother and sister a lot, but he  
22 never hurt me. My auntie said that he would always, like,  
23 favour me and, like, spoil me and stuff. So, I thought of,  
24 like, history and all of these different events where  
25 there's, like, a man and a woman together, and when they

1 split, he will generally hurt, like, her children and then  
2 he'll save his own.

3 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

4 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And so, that's the, like,  
5 only thing that made me think that he's probably my dad.

6 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

7 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** It's because he just  
8 always favoured me and stuff. There have been, like,  
9 instances where they just favour one kid. But, my  
10 grandparents would always say that they got married after I  
11 was born, and I was just, like, that don't mean nothing.  
12 Like, unfortunately, not everyone follows the holy sanction  
13 of marriage. Gees.

14 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Nope.

15 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. Your logic is  
16 gone. But, I would tell my auntie that I was going to try  
17 and find him and just, like, see what he had to say or,  
18 like, maybe befriend him and just see what kind of person  
19 he was. And, she would always just tell me that was a  
20 really bad idea, and she would just say, "Don't do it."  
21 Like, basically make me promise that I wasn't going to go  
22 looking for this guy.

23 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

24 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, like, she was  
25 probably right to do so. Like, I don't know who he is, and

1 I know that if he hurt kids and stuff, then he probably  
2 wasn't the best guy ever. But, it makes me curious. But,  
3 with my luck, I would go find him and he would know exactly  
4 who I was. Because I can't -- I don't know if he's been,  
5 like, watching me my whole life or, like ---

6 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

7 MS. ALISHA ROODE: There have been crazier  
8 things that have happened.

9 MS. KATE LANGHAM: For sure.

10 MS. ALISHA ROODE: So, I just know that if I  
11 find him, I probably will find some answers.

12 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

13 MS. ALISHA ROODE: But, you have to think,  
14 like, at what cost, or, like, what price will I have to pay  
15 for those answers?

16 MS. KATE LANGHAM: That's right.

17 MS. ALISHA ROODE: I don't know. Something  
18 just tells me, though, that, like, I just can't leave it  
19 alone for some reason.

20 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

21 MS. ALISHA ROODE: I just have to keep  
22 digging and keep looking and keep finding, like, as much as  
23 I can until I found out what happened to her.

24 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right. You're a  
25 determined person.

1 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yeah.

2 MS. KATE LANGHAM: For sure. Yeah.

3 MS. ALISHA ROODE: I just know that if  
4 something ever happened to me, I would hope that somebody  
5 would, like, do the same thing for me.

6 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

7 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Like, have my back like  
8 that. Because, like, if you died and something horrible  
9 happened to you, and that person just got away with it ---

10 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

11 MS. ALISHA ROODE: --- well, that's kind of  
12 a scary thing.

13 MS. KATE LANGHAM: So, there was police  
14 involvement, then? There was some sort of an  
15 investigation?

16 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yeah. Like, the Thunder  
17 Bay police.

18 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Okay.

19 MS. ALISHA ROODE: My grandma dealt with it  
20 all, though.

21 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah. And so -- and  
22 didn't share that information with you, obviously.

23 MS. ALISHA ROODE: No.

24 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Do you know what year ---

25 MS. ALISHA ROODE: 1992 is when -- like,



1 December 4<sup>th</sup>, 1992, is when she died.

2 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Okay. In Thunder Bay.

3 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yeah. Everything about,  
4 like, the way she died and everything, from, like, what  
5 they've told me and everything, it was just kind of, like,  
6 the saddest story I ever heard. And, like, after, like,  
7 you know, you find out bits and pieces after, and, like, I  
8 never had a really good relationship with my grandma and  
9 grandpa. But, then, when I found out that, like, my  
10 grandma went there by herself and, like, she only brought  
11 back one thing, I was really angry at them. Like, I wanted  
12 to burn down their house or something.

13 Like, I obviously didn't because that's  
14 crazy but, like, I just couldn't understand how you could  
15 -- like, I don't know, treat somebody like that. How you  
16 would let her die by herself in the hospital. And, like, I  
17 tried to think of all the variables, like, of what you're  
18 going through, too, like, dealing with your mom and all  
19 this stuff.

20 But, like, that's your kid. I wondered why  
21 my grandpa didn't go or, like, why we weren't allowed to go  
22 say goodbye. Even though we're children, like, I think  
23 that's important, because -- I don't know. When you go  
24 pull the plug on somebody, I'd like to think that they  
25 would still be in the room somewhere. And, like, that

1 would make a difference.

2 And, like, her coming back with only one  
3 thing, I thought, like, either she really just hated her so  
4 much that she just couldn't be bothered with bringing  
5 anything back. And, when I asked my grandma about that,  
6 she said that she had nothing, that she had lived in, like,  
7 this little one-room apartment and she didn't have  
8 anything. And, I was just, like, come on, now. We are  
9 women. How the hell does she not have anything there?  
10 We'll pick up rocks and make, like, friggin' -- like,  
11 there's no way that she had nothing there. It just doesn't  
12 make any sense. We make crafts out of sticks. Like, we  
13 don't need anything.

14 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** That's right.

15 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** So, then I was thinking,  
16 like, the only other thing I could think of was that  
17 everything else was, like, kept, because it was a crime  
18 scene. And, if it is the story that they were saying,  
19 like, to be stabbed that many times, like, there's got to  
20 be a lot of blood. So, that was, like, the only other  
21 thing I could think of that didn't end with her being a  
22 dick.

23 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

24 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, I like to think  
25 that, like, as evil as they were and stuff, like, I don't

1 know, that they would have a heart somewhere. It wasn't  
2 until my grandpa was faced with his own, like, death that  
3 he, like, grabbed a frickin' soul. And, like, after my  
4 grandpa told me that stuff, they just went really cold.

5 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Okay.

6 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Like, I don't talk to  
7 them anymore.

8 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah. So, he's still  
9 alive, your grandfather?

10 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yeah.

11 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

12 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yeah. He ended up  
13 getting, like, prostate cancer at the same time as his best  
14 friend. And then his name is [Friend], and his best  
15 friend's name is [Friend] and, like, this is so stupid.  
16 Yeah. And, it was, like, my uncle's wife's dad. And, he  
17 was, like, a doctor, and he was a really nice guy. And,  
18 like, we always went to their house for, like, stupid  
19 birthdays and stuff like that, and they were loaded rich.  
20 Like, their daughter is [Friend's daughter], if that makes  
21 any sense.

22 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah, okay.

23 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Like, that Canadian  
24 singer?

25 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Mm-hmm. Yeah.

1                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, he was just a really  
2 nice guy. I don't know what happens behind closed doors or  
3 whatever, but we would always pretend like he was our  
4 grandpa. That's our grandpa [Friend]. You have your  
5 grandpa [Friend]. Like, we'd trade them and stuff. And  
6 then, yeah, my grandpa was just, like, an old alcoholic  
7 and, like, really harsh. And, like, if you have to think  
8 out of the two, it was, like -- it was wild because he,  
9 like, lost his best friend, the other grandpa or whatever.  
10 He passed away.

11                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

12                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, I think that's,  
13 like, what, like, snapped my grandpa out of everything.  
14 It's because, like, he was such a dick, and now he survived  
15 something, like, pretty major. So, it's kind of like  
16 that's his second chance.

17                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

18                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, like, as soon as he  
19 made peace with what he did, it was just, like, that's all  
20 he had to do and that was done.

21                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

22                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** He could just move on  
23 with his life. And, I just let them. I just stopped  
24 calling them. They were just -- like, I don't know, man.  
25 Sometimes you just -- it doesn't matter if you're blood

1 related or not. You just walk away, and you just don't  
2 care if they fucking call you, because you're, like, too  
3 much has happened. And, like, growing up, my grandpa used  
4 to always say -- because me and my sister would get into  
5 crazy fights. And, he would always tell me to be the  
6 bigger person, and just, like, let it go and, like, you  
7 know, "She's your older sister and she took care of you and  
8 you" -- I'm just, like, holy crap. "Well, when is she  
9 going to let it go?" Like, this is stupid.

10 And, he was actually, like, the person that  
11 taught me a lot of, like, these major life lessons. I  
12 don't know. Like, stupid little sayings and stuff.

13 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** That stick with you?

14 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

15 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

16 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** For sure. So, like, I am  
17 really grateful. That's why I always say, like, I'm happy  
18 that I did have them over, like, nothing. Because you try  
19 to take the good over the bad and, like -- and, like, now,  
20 the bad memories are almost like funny bad memories,  
21 because you're just, like, I can't believe that shit  
22 actually happened to me.

23 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** And, there could be both;  
24 right? You can be pissed off and still be grateful ---

25 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

1                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** --- at the same time. It  
2 doesn't have to be one or the other.

3                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

4                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** There could be both.

5                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** The way that they were  
6 was, like, some kind of, like, joke twist of crap. Like,  
7 birthday presents were, like, I don't know, like, things  
8 that just didn't make sense at all. Like, a gumball  
9 machine and we weren't allowed to chew gum.

10                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

11                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Like, a computer game and  
12 we can't play on the computer, and we're, like, what the  
13 hell? I don't even get it.

14                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

15                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** A CD player with no CDs.  
16 Like, everything was like a joke twist. I'm just like  
17 you're grateful ---

18                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** A setup.

19                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** --- that you got  
20 something, but, at the same time, you're just, like, "You  
21 could have just kept it," like, this is stupid.

22                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

23                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. And, like, I don't  
24 know. Like, one time they gave me, like, a pink snakeskin  
25 Philadelphia Flyer watch, and I'm just like, "Do you not

1 know me at all?" Like, can you say with one piece of  
2 jewellery how much you don't know me? Like, pink? Come on  
3 now. Snake skin? What the hell? A watch? I don't  
4 fucking wear a watch.

5 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

6 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, like, the  
7 Philadelphia Flyers? I just, like, ripped the Leafs all  
8 the time. So, I'm just, like, "You don't even listen when  
9 I talk, do you?" It was just a big joke. But, then you  
10 don't say any of that and you're, like, thank you.

11 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. Yeah.

12 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** It's like dumb stuff like  
13 that growing up that you just -- you never really  
14 understood why.

15 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

16 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Like, a suitcase when I  
17 was 16, and then I was, like, "Okay, I'm going to use  
18 this."

19 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Useful, yeah.

20 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** This is fine. Yeah.  
21 But, like, on the bad -- like, that was, like, stupid shit  
22 that they would just do just to, like, poke fun. Like,  
23 they got me a TV once and a DVD player, and then were,  
24 like, "No, you were really bad this year, so you don't get  
25 it," and then put it in the garage. And, it literally

1 became, like, a staple joke in my house. Like, they'd  
2 always be, like, "Remember that one?" I'm, like, "Shut the  
3 fuck up."

4 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** So funny. Ha, ha, ha.

5 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. And it's still in  
6 the garage, and he still watches TV on it, and it's just,  
7 like, I hate you. Every time I see it, I fucking hate you.  
8 And, he just thinks it's the deadliest ever, and I just  
9 never understood why you would want to mess with a kid like  
10 that and, like, just do stupid stuff like that. It's, like  
11 unnecessary, like, stupid torture stuff.

12 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

13 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And then -- I don't know.  
14 Like, I know that none of this stuff would have happened if  
15 my mom was still alive. Like, for sure. She would have --  
16 and it's most likely why she never lived in her hometown  
17 and, like, was never close to them or anything. She was,  
18 like, the black sheep of the family.

19 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

20 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Like, when they tell me  
21 stories about her, they tell me, like, I don't know,  
22 during, like, a family, like, I don't know, they're taping  
23 everyone at Christmas or something like that. She'll be  
24 the one that's, like, passing all the kids in front of the  
25 camera and, like, messing around like that. Like, pictures



1 of -- like, video of, like, my oldest cousin. He's like,  
2 "Oh, auntie, no," and she's just, like, laughing and stuff.

3 And, like, I don't know. She had the fire  
4 department called to her apartment once because she fell  
5 asleep with, like -- for some reason, the stove, the one  
6 stove was, like, on full blast and I don't know why. It  
7 makes no sense at all, but the fire department was, like,  
8 oh yeah, what the heck is going on here? She's, like, "I'm  
9 making noodles." They're, like, "Oh, with one on high?  
10 That doesn't even make any sense." Like, found stupid  
11 blades nearby and, like, stupid shit like that. Yeah. It  
12 was all bad.

13 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** So, she knew how to have  
14 a good time.

15 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. Yeah. And, my  
16 brother actually has, like, a permanent -- like, scar on  
17 his fucking foot from trying to climb up and get cereal or  
18 something. And, like, this is before we knew what anything  
19 was and, like, you kind of see, like, where my brother's  
20 and sister's, like, view of things came into play.

21 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

22 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Because, like, there's,  
23 like, the funny story of, like, yeah, the fire department  
24 coming, but then there's, like, my brother's scar on his  
25 foot from, like, climbing up on there and stepping on that

1 stove one time. And, it's, like, I don't know. I'm really  
2 grateful that I don't have their memories.

3 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right. But then you get  
4 to make meaning for yourself.

5 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

6 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. And, at the same  
7 time, too, you're looking for information.

8 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah, absolutely.

9 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

10 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** My brother never opened  
11 up about any -- like, at all about it. He never -- he  
12 never talked about her.

13 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

14 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Like, still to this day.  
15 And, actually, we get into a lot of fights now that we're  
16 older, because we used to -- like, my sister ran away when  
17 she was 12. My grandparents told me that she died. And  
18 so, I grew up with my brother, like, just across the hall  
19 whenever I wasn't in foster care, because for some reason,  
20 they only took me. They never took my brother too.

21 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Okay.

22 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, yeah. So, whenever  
23 I would come back, I would stay across the hall from him.  
24 And then when my sister was, like, 18 or something like  
25 that, she was just turning 18 -- we're all three years

1       apart -- she, like, I don't know. My cousin was getting me  
2       all ready for this stupid supper or something, and I just  
3       really didn't know what was going on. I was only, like, 12  
4       or something at the time. And, when we got there, I ended  
5       up, like, ruining the whole event because she came out and,  
6       like, my grandparents thought that I was going to be really  
7       happy or something, that, "Yeah, your sister's here," and  
8       la, la, la.

9                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** She's not dead.

10                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. And, I actually  
11       said that. And then I was, like, "So, mom's, like, here  
12       too; right?" And, I was super excited, and I just, like,  
13       killed the whole friggin' event.

14                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

15                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** I, like, made my auntie  
16       cry and, like -- I don't know. I just didn't understand  
17       it.

18                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Of course not. So, she  
19       came back when she was, like, 18?

20                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

21                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah, okay.

22                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. She came back.

23                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** And, you thought she was  
24       dead for that whole time there.

25                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

1 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Okay.

2 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Like, stuff like that,  
3 that I just never understood why they would do that to us.

4 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

5 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Like, I get it. Maybe  
6 they thought that it would make it easier or something like  
7 that with us to deal with her being gone.

8 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah, but it didn't  
9 really make that easier, did it?

10 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Oh, heck no.

11 MS. KATE LANGHAM: No.

12 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Although you did just  
13 kind of put her in, like -- you're, like, okay, she's gone.

14 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

15 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And, like, you didn't  
16 wonder or anything like that.

17 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Do you know where she was  
18 during that time?

19 MS. ALISHA ROODE: No. She told me that she  
20 had got, like, a boyfriend or something when she was 14 or  
21 something.

22 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

23 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And, she was -- basically  
24 his mom did what, like, a lot of moms did with me, and took  
25 her out of a bad situation, which is my grandpa ---

1                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

2                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** --- and, like, let her  
3 live there and grow up there. And, she, like, finished  
4 high school there and everything.

5                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

6                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** She was good. It wasn't  
7 until I was in high school that I met this girl at the high  
8 school I was going to. I didn't want to, like, start high  
9 school without knowing anyone. And, I was coming from,  
10 like, a smaller school, and I was just, like, which one of  
11 you girls are going to be my best friend? Like, you're  
12 going to be lucky. Yeah.

13                   And then I picked out this one girl. She  
14 just looked cool. She had, like, a jean jacket on and,  
15 like, patches and, like, I don't know. She looked cool. I  
16 feel like it was, like, the end of the eighties. It  
17 wasn't, though.

18                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Nineties, same, same.  
19 Yeah.

20                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. She was really  
21 cool, though, and, like, we hung out every single day. And  
22 then me and my sister kind of, like, getting back together,  
23 and my sister invited me for supper at her in-laws. And,  
24 when I showed up there, this girl from high school was  
25 there, and she's, like, in her pyjamas. And, I was just,

1           like, "Ashley, what the hell are you doing here?" She's,  
2           like, "I live here. What are you doing here?" I was,  
3           like, "What?" Her brother and, like, my sister were  
4           dating, like, the whole time. And then we randomly met on  
5           our own and became friends.

6                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Connected.

7                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And then it was just,  
8           like, yeah. I was, like, holy crap. See? We were meant  
9           to be friends. Like, this was always going to happen.  
10          Whether I decided it or, like, they decided it ---

11                          **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** It was decided.

12                          **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. Yeah. And, like,  
13          my sister split up with her brother and, like, we were,  
14          like, we get each other in the divorce. You guys are  
15          crazy. Like, screw that.

16                          It actually caused a huge rift between me  
17          and my sister, because my sister was never there. She  
18          didn't even know how to be a sister.

19                          **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

20                          **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And then this other girl  
21          came in and basically did everything that you're supposed  
22          to when you're somebody's sister. And, like, that's, like,  
23          how all my family really ended up being, was, like, friends  
24          that decided that they wanted to be there. And, I don't  
25          know. I always thought of it as more because you have the

1 choice.

2 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

3 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Like, you don't have to  
4 be here. We're not blood related. But, you want to be  
5 here and you're going to.

6 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

7 MS. ALISHA ROODE: So, that means more to me  
8 than what they ever did, I guess. Little, like, things  
9 like that. Like, whoever took her from us, took my mom and  
10 stuff, didn't even realize, like, the rift that they were  
11 about to cause ---

12 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

13 MS. ALISHA ROODE: --- and basically broke  
14 our entire family, and we never found our way back.

15 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

16 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And, even though she was,  
17 like, the black sheep and -- she still had more pull on  
18 everything than she even probably knew. That's why I think  
19 I feel her sometimes.

20 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

21 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Because I don't know if I  
22 -- like, if spirits are real and, like, sometimes some get  
23 left behind or they choose to stay or something. Sometimes  
24 I feel like I made her stay because I wasn't going to let  
25 her go.

1                   And, like, growing up, my sister would  
2                   always say, like, "Just leave it alone." And, like, "Just  
3                   forget about it." Like, "Move on with your life." Or, me  
4                   me and my brother, all of our major fights are about my mom  
5                   because I won't let it go and he doesn't want to deal with  
6                   it.

7                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

8                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, like, we don't talk  
9                   anymore.

10                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

11                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, I just don't  
12                  understand why. And, that's, like, the ultimate reason why  
13                  we fight, is because I can't let go and he won't.

14                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right. It's two  
15                  opposites of the same thing.

16                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** We're pulling, like, at a  
17                  frickin' rope or something. And then my mom's in the  
18                  middle.

19                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. Were you or your  
20                  siblings -- like, were you ever offered any counselling or  
21                  anything like that along the way?

22                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** I remember going to a  
23                  counsellor, like, a lot when I was little. And, I found,  
24                  like, with this counsellor was, like, the main reason why I  
25                  kept getting taken away. But, they were never there when I



1 would get taken back.

2 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

3 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And, like, the underlying  
4 issue never changed when I went back, so it just never made  
5 any sense.

6 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

7 MS. ALISHA ROODE: So, eventually, after  
8 time, you just stop talking to them because nothing is  
9 changing and nothing is -- it just didn't matter.

10 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

11 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And then when you meet a  
12 new counsellor, it's almost like you start telling your  
13 story to all of these different strangers and, like, all  
14 they can say is, like, "Oh wow, that's crazy. You're very  
15 strong." I'm, like, okay. And then they're, like, "I  
16 really don't know what to do with that."

17 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

18 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yeah.

19 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Especially as a kid.

20 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yeah. Strong. I don't  
21 feel strong. I cry a lot. I'm, like, barely hanging on.  
22 I have no idea what is strong about this.

23 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yes. What do you think  
24 is needed, you know? What do you think you would have  
25 needed, or what do you wish would have been available to

1           you when you were young, or all throughout?

2                       **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** I did like the  
3           counselling and stuff like that, but we never did anything  
4           together.

5                       **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

6                       **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** So, we never got to work  
7           on things together.

8                       **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

9                       **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** So, it was always, like,  
10          like when I went into foster care, I went by myself, and  
11          they never talked to me and my brother together. Never  
12          gave us the opportunity to, like, be in the same room and,  
13          like, tell them what happened so that you can actually see  
14          what was going on, like, as a bigger picture.

15                      **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right. Help  
16          understanding where each other is coming from.

17                      **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

18                      **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. So, something like  
19          family counselling, or some sort of, like, together work  
20          would have been really helpful, you think, for your family?

21                      **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. I definitely think  
22          so. Because, like, a lot of times, the way you see  
23          something isn't the way someone else sees something.

24                      **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Almost all the time.

25                      **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. So, it might have,

1           like, helped to, like, maybe solve a couple of situations  
2           that didn't need to go as far. Or, like, take other  
3           situations that didn't go as far and take them ---

4                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right. Or, give you guys  
5           some tools to work things out.

6                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** For sure.

7                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Something like that.  
8           Yeah. Yeah, that's a really good point. Anything else?  
9           Like, you've obviously had extensive experience in the  
10          foster care system or -- you know? And, on both sides,  
11          being raised by family and by being in the foster care  
12          system.

13                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

14                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Do you have  
15          recommendations there about changes that need to be made or  
16          things that would have helped you as a young person?

17                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** That they just, I don't  
18          know, need to, like, really watch out who the hell they're  
19          hiring. Because they're, like, a couple of families that  
20          were just evil. Yeah. If there was, like, little boys  
21          that were, like, in their home -- because a lot of these  
22          foster homes have a child that they adopted themselves.

23                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

24                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, like, nine times out  
25          of 10, that child is evil as -- like, evil. I don't even

1 understand it. I think that's why they adopted them, is  
2 because they just knew that they were lost. But, like,  
3 when you throw a bunch of other children who are, like,  
4 traumatized and, like, have all this shit that's happened  
5 to them into the mix with a child like that, it's like they  
6 have their full reign of, like, what they're going to do.

7 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

8 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, they run the show.

9 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right. And, it's really  
10 hard to live with somebody like that.

11 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Oh, for sure. It just  
12 adds to it.

13 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

14 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Because you've already  
15 been, like -- like, dulled down. Like, if you've been  
16 sexually assaulted or, like, if you've been physically  
17 abused or whatever, like, you're already kicked down.

18 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** For sure.

19 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** So, for somebody to come  
20 in with that power and they're just hurting, it's, like,  
21 really, really easy for them to do that. They already  
22 basically win when they come and they already see, like,  
23 everyone's -- like, they're like a lion.

24 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** There's like a power  
25 difference or something there.

1                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. Because we're not  
2                   confident anymore. Like, we kind of lost that with the  
3                   stuff that's happened. So, maybe we would have fought back  
4                   before, but when you have that taken away from you -- I  
5                   don't know. I don't know. Listening to those kids would  
6                   probably make a huge-ass difference.

7                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

8                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, like, the hardest  
9                   thing about being in foster care was when they would, like,  
10                  blatantly make it known that, like, you're not their  
11                  family. I don't even know if that word should be used  
12                  ever.

13                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

14                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Because, like, you --  
15                  everybody should know that, like, that's not your family,  
16                  that you're going to go home to your family and that's your  
17                  family. And, like, you shouldn't get those confused,  
18                  because it causes, like, a lot of separation, like,  
19                  abandonment issues and, like, all kinds of things like  
20                  that.

21                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Like false advertising  
22                  almost.

23                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. For real.

24                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

25                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** So, then, when you

1 finally do figure it out, clue in, or, like, they do little  
2 things to make it known that you're not, it hurts.

3 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** For sure.

4 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** But, other than that, I  
5 don't know. It all made me, like, really strong.

6 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Absolutely.

7 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

8 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

9 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. But, I'm not like  
10 everybody else, though. Like, I don't know. I just fight  
11 it all the time, and I just won't let things like that beat  
12 me. I'll decide.

13 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

14 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Because there are a lot  
15 of things that are, like, trying to push you down and stuff  
16 and, like, I don't know. Just one day at a time.

17 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** That's right. And,  
18 what's life like these days for you?

19 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** I don't know. They're  
20 hard. Like, they were simple, though. I have two  
21 daughters, and my one daughter is now -- she's six. Her  
22 name is [Daughter 1]. And then she has a little  
23 sister, [Daughter 2]. And, like, for their whole lives,  
24 life was great. It's like the happiest that I ever was.  
25 They definitely give me purpose and, like, I didn't need to

1 be around a lot of people and, like -- I don't know. I was  
2 very content with just being a mom.

3 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

4 MS. ALISHA ROODE: I was really happy doing  
5 that. I was excited to do all those little things. But,  
6 life is different and doesn't always -- like, you don't  
7 always have a choice.

8 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

9 MS. ALISHA ROODE: I don't know. I just  
10 wanted to make sure that, like, my oldest, [Daughter 1]--  
11 because we are, like, two peas in a pod. We, like, look  
12 identical and, like, apparently, I look a lot like my mom.  
13 So, like, as my grandpa got older, I don't know. One time  
14 I showed up there and he thought that I was my mom and,  
15 like, that my daughter was me.

16 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

17 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And, he was, like,  
18 talking to my daughter, but he was calling her by my name  
19 and he was -- I don't know. He showed me a side that I had  
20 never seen of him, and he was just, like, talking to me as  
21 though I was my mom and he's, like, "Laura, you're late.  
22 You were supposed to be here two hours ago." And, he's,  
23 like, "Where's Alisha?" And, he's, like, talking to my  
24 daughter, and I was just, like, holy fuck, what the hell?  
25 It's, like, snap out of it.

1                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

2                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** But, it was actually --  
3                   like, it was kind of cool to see, because he was, like, so  
4                   mean, such a mean person, that it was nice to have seen  
5                   that maybe when I was little and, like, she was alive, then  
6                   maybe he was nice.

7                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

8                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, like, he was  
9                   different and, like, maybe that just changed him or  
10                  something.

11                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Ah.

12                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** But, he definitely, like,  
13                  treated my little daughter -- like, he spoiled her. I  
14                  wonder if that's how he was with me.

15                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right. It's almost like  
16                  you got to do some time travel there.

17                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

18                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

19                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** For sure.

20                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Get a little glimpse.

21                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Definitely. Yeah. I  
22                  like watching all of our home videos and stuff like that,  
23                  too.

24                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** I bet.

25                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** But, I find, like, as the



1 years went on, my mom's pictures always disappeared from  
2 the photo albums. And, I only actually have, like, two.  
3 But, I don't know. She looks happy. Like, one of the  
4 photos, she's, like, 17 or 18, and she's on the train.  
5 She's going to Ontario. It's pretty crazy, actually, that  
6 I have that photo. She's, like, passed out on the seat.  
7 Yeah. And then I took the bus to Ontario when I was, like,  
8 19.

9 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

10 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, I got there and,  
11 like, this woman found me out there, like on Facebook of  
12 all things, and she told me who she was. She said that she  
13 was my mom's best friend growing up and that our families  
14 got separated, like, around the time that she died. And,  
15 that my family never told me anything about her. I didn't  
16 even know that she was actually, like, my fucking third  
17 cousin or something like that. And, like, her kids are,  
18 like, I don't know. I call them my cousins, like, my first  
19 cousins. But, like, it's crazy to think that I had family  
20 like that. And, like, she was so close to her. She had  
21 pictures of her and everything.

22 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

23 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, when she contacted  
24 me, I had never even been to Ontario before. I didn't even  
25 know where I was going when I went there. I just, like,

1 pulled out a map and was, like, "London, Ontario. All  
2 right." It was so stupid.

3 But, yeah, my mom was, like, down there in  
4 Barrie.

5 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Okay.

6 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, like, this woman  
7 asked where I was, and I told her, and she was just, like,  
8 I'm only, like, a few hours north of that right now. I was  
9 just, like, "No way. Come and get me." Which probably  
10 isn't, like -- I do a lot of questionable things like that,  
11 where it's, like, a complete stranger in a different  
12 province and you're, like, "Come and get me."

13 But, I don't know. Sometimes you just -- I  
14 used to have a lot of faith in people, I guess, when I was  
15 younger.

16 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

17 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, like, she sent my  
18 uncle and my one cousin to come get me and, like, they're  
19 just wild. They're just buck. He's just drinking. My  
20 cousin's just drinking, and I was, like, holy crap, I guess  
21 I'm driving. But, they actually came and got me, though,  
22 which I thought was, like, pretty wild that my -- I call  
23 her my auntie, but she's, yeah, like, my third cousin, that  
24 she would just be, like, "Go pick up your cousin."

25 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** And then they went.

1                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. And then they  
2 left, like that. And, like, she welcomed me into her  
3 house, like, open arms. Like, even though I was a complete  
4 stranger, it didn't matter.

5                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

6                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, she was just  
7 fighting cancer at the time. So, she had, like, a wig and  
8 stuff. And, like, she smoked a lot of medicinal, like, a  
9 lot. But, I think she needed to. But, it was, like, a  
10 whole other side of things, and she told me a lot about,  
11 like, who my mom was as a person, like, personality-wise.

12                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

13                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, we would just hang  
14 out every day. We would just, like, watch frickin' Maury  
15 (ph) and just hang out. And, like, she said it was weird.  
16 Like you said, it was like going back in time or something  
17 like that.

18                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

19                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** She always felt like -- I  
20 don't know. When we had a moment together and it would be,  
21 like, just us, she would always just look real sad. And,  
22 she just -- I don't know. She said that I would have loved  
23 her.

24                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

25                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Like, I would have, like,

1           yeah. Even though she was wild and stuff, she was just,  
2           like, "She loved you kids, like, more than anything. And,  
3           like, it may seem like she left you guys at the end," she  
4           was, like, "but she did that for you guys." Like,  
5           sometimes you have to make sacrifices like that.

6                       **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** That must have been  
7           really good to get that whole other perspective.

8                       **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

9                       **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

10                      **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Definitely. Someone that  
11           was, like, willing to share and, like, any question I  
12           asked, she answered with, like, stuff that actually was  
13           solid, not "I don't know."

14                      **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. Totally different  
15           from what you heard growing up there.

16                      **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. And then -- well,  
17           when I came back, I told them, like, that I seen her out  
18           there and everything. They weren't too happy and  
19           everything, but it kind of, like, mended our family a  
20           little bit. It brought her back into the picture.

21                      **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. Like, you got what  
22           you needed and without having to get it from them; right?

23                      **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

24                      **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Maybe some relief there  
25           for them?

1                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** For sure. To be around  
2                   somebody that, like, actually truly loved her was really  
3                   nice.

4                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. Yeah.

5                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, like, she actually  
6                   told me about, like, who she was married to before and,  
7                   like, little bits of stuff like that, that I might not have  
8                   ever known.

9                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

10                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, like, as life has  
11                  it, I have, like, run into the people just randomly,  
12                  completely random. Like, my brother's dad, like, she was  
13                  married to him before this [Aunt's husband] guy, and there  
14                  was, like, a lot of, like, whatever. They would talk about  
15                  what happened during that time when she was with him and  
16                  all that stuff. And, I guess he was, like, madly in love  
17                  with her, and he was just crazy for her, and she just was  
18                  too crazy, too wild. Like, she just wanted to go and was  
19                  always getting drunk and just fighting with him, and then  
20                  just basically keeping him on the hook all the time.

21                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

22                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Just mean stuff. So, I  
23                  randomly got stuck out in Nipawin, like, in the winter  
24                  time. Like, completely random. And, he contacted me on  
25                  Facebook, because him and my brother still connect. And

1           then my sister and my brother still connect. So, like,  
2           they found out through la, la, la, that I was there and,  
3           like, he contacted me, and he was just, like, "I know you  
4           don't know who I am," la, la, la, and he told me, like, who  
5           he was, basically. And, he was, like, if you ever need  
6           anything, like, I will come help you out. And, I was,  
7           like, so stuck. I was, like, starving and couldn't figure  
8           it out, and I just, I couldn't -- I couldn't call him. I  
9           just didn't want the first time that we met to be your ex-  
10          girlfriend's kid that now needs something.

11                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

12                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Like, I didn't want to  
13          put any, like, shame to her name or anything like that. It  
14          would be, like, one more thing in your past coming back  
15          after she already broke your heart. And, I told him that,  
16          and he was, like, "No, no, no. It would be okay. Like,  
17          it's all fine. It's not a big deal." And, I was just,  
18          like, I don't know. You'll understand one day.

19                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

20                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** I just wanted to be  
21          different. I don't want to, like -- I don't know. She'd  
22          be proud of me for not, like, giving in like that. And  
23          then I feel like when I finally do meet him, it will mean  
24          more. It will be better. He sent me, like, pictures of  
25          them back in the day.

1 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Okay.

2 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Like, just drunk.

3 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

4 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yeah. And, like, now  
5 I'll talk to him now. He said he doesn't drink anymore,  
6 and, like, he had a family with some other woman and stuff  
7 like that, but he's, like, basically talked about how she  
8 was always the one.

9 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

10 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Like, if she had not died  
11 like that, he was, like, I'd still be sending her drunk  
12 messages. Now it would be drunk texts or something like  
13 that.

14 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

15 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And then back then, it  
16 was, like, drunk love letters.

17 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right. Put it in the  
18 mail.

19 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yeah, phone calls and  
20 stuff.

21 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

22 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Oh man. But, yeah, he  
23 said that she was, like, she was so beautiful. And, like,  
24 we all have, like, these stupid Métis teeth, where it's  
25 like jutting out eye. And, I always figured my dad had to

1 be, like, white or something, because I'm, like, half  
2 normal and then half Métis. Yeah. I don't know. It's my  
3 science mind.

4 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

5 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** My brothers are both --  
6 like, he never wanted to get his teeth fixed because he  
7 looks like her.

8 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Oh okay.

9 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Like, she has both of  
10 them.

11 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

12 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And then, like, his dad  
13 and then my mom were both Métis, 100 percent. So, people  
14 would always bug him and stuff about his teeth, and call  
15 him, like, "can opener," like, stupid shit like that. And,  
16 he just didn't care. He just loved it.

17 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

18 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** He was just, like,  
19 whatever. Like, to him, it was like a deeper meaning.

20 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Of course. Yeah.

21 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. My sister, too,  
22 has that stupid thing. Stupid teeth. It's pretty funny,  
23 though. It's like things like that that other people would  
24 consider, like, maybe like a flaw or something like that.  
25 We're just, like, nah.



1                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Part of you.

2                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah, definitely. If  
3                   that's all you can have, then, like ---

4                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** It's better than nothing.

5                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** For sure.

6                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

7                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. My sister looked a  
8                   lot like my mom too, actually. Like, when you hold their  
9                   pictures up next to each other when they were growing up,  
10                  like, they're just, like, identical.

11                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. So, you've  
12                  mentioned that this is, like, a way that you're sort of  
13                  commemorating and memorializing your mom. Is there  
14                  anything else that you've thought of that you'd like to do  
15                  in the future, or any other ways ---

16                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Well, when I got into  
17                  that car accident, like, two people died. Two, like,  
18                  innocent people. And, I thought because I lived that I'd  
19                  have to, like -- I should -- I can't just be okay. I have  
20                  to, like, be better. I have to be great. I have to be  
21                  amazing. I have to, like, do something where I can save  
22                  people too, or something, or give them something I never  
23                  had. Like, just a chance. Just a chance to do anything  
24                  different.

25                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

1                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Choices. So, I thought  
2                   that if I could do anything that would, like, save a lot of  
3                   people and, like, make a difference in their life, it would  
4                   be, like, some kind of treatment centre. Something where,  
5                   like, we go back to our roots and, like -- because I didn't  
6                   have, like, a family to raise me like that. I always  
7                   thought if you think of like traditional-wise, you think it  
8                   takes, like, a community to raise a family. And so, that's  
9                   how I would want the treatment centre to be. Like,  
10                  everything self-sustainable and everybody pitching in, and  
11                  everybody helping everybody.

12                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

13                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And then, at the end of  
14                  it, because a lot of us don't have anywhere to go back to,  
15                  if you didn't want to go, you didn't have to. You could  
16                  stay and, like, that could be your family.

17                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Creating, like, a  
18                  healthy, sustainable community family for people.

19                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

20                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Okay.

21                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

22                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** So, that's still  
23                  something that you think about ---

24                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Oh yeah, for sure.

25                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** --- that you'd like to --

1           okay.

2                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. Because, like,  
3           basically, like, that idea, too, like, it takes a community  
4           to raise a family. So, when I got to Edmonton and I  
5           thought, like, if I don't have any family, then I'm going  
6           to have to, like, reach out to the community. So, I've  
7           just been reaching a lot. And then, you know, every once  
8           in a while, somebody grabs your hand.

9                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

10                          **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, it's, like, the  
11           strangers that have, like, made the most impact with my  
12           life than anybody else.

13                          **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

14                          **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, they're just -- I  
15           don't know. They're giving me a chance.

16                          **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

17                          **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. So, like, when I  
18           first got an email about this whole thing, it was, like,  
19           last summer. And, I was, like, crying around a lot because  
20           I just got into that car accident and, like, just a lot of  
21           guilt from those people. So, I wasn't, like, an easy  
22           person to be around. And, like, right before that, I  
23           mentioned my daughters and stuff. Well, like, I never had,  
24           like, a dad or a mom to raise me, and they have their dad.  
25           And, like, he was a really abusive person too.

1                   So, when I left him, we went, like, a whole  
2                   summer without seeing him, and then he decided to come back  
3                   in our lives, and he wanted to be a dad to them. And so, I  
4                   thought I would give him a chance.

5                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

6                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And then I thought I  
7                   would do, like, week on, week off.

8                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

9                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, he picked them up on  
10                  his week and then I never seen them again.

11                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Okay.

12                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, it took me, like, I  
13                  don't know. Like, I tried to go to the cops at that time  
14                  and, like, I haven't went to the cops many times in my  
15                  life, but ---

16                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

17                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** --- I asked them for help  
18                  that time, and they just said some stupid-ass sentence like  
19                  possession is nine-tenths of the law, and I don't know.  
20                  You grow up in foster care. You're used to picking you up  
21                  and dropping you off, and that's something that you just  
22                  have to accept. You don't have much of a say with it.

23                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right.

24                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** So, when it happens to  
25                  your kids ---

1                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

2                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** --- you forget that you  
3 have a voice. You forget that's not okay. Even though it  
4 wasn't, like, Social Services picking them up or anything  
5 like that, I just -- I forgot that I had a voice and I -- I  
6 don't know. I didn't try hard enough or something. And, I  
7 just went down into, like, a really dark hole and I just  
8 started giving up.

9                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

10                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, being reckless, and  
11 making a lot of poor choices. And, I didn't want to be  
12 here anymore. There's, like -- and, like, even on top of  
13 me not wanting to be here is I also thought I was going to  
14 die, too. So, it was, like -- it was tough.

15                  **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

16                  **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And then when I got into  
17 that car accident, it gave me something I never had before.  
18 It gave me, like, the will to fucking -- to want to be  
19 here, to want to try. Because I figured if I didn't die  
20 then, then it's not happening. And, like, I might as well  
21 quit now, because that was, like, a wild -- like, I should  
22 have definitely died then. And, if I'm trying all the time  
23 and it's not going to happen, well, then, maybe I should  
24 try something else. So, then, that's when I just try to  
25 think of the opposite of it then. If I just, like, took

1 giving up off the table and I took all that stuff off the  
2 table, then what do I have left? Well, I guess I have to  
3 try.

4 And then, like, three days after that car  
5 accident, I got a call letting me know that my daughter was  
6 in Social Services.

7 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Okay.

8 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** He dropped off my oldest  
9 one in, like, Saskatchewan. Like, just dropped her off at  
10 Social Services. Just abandoned her there. And so, like,  
11 as much as you try to, like, give your children the life  
12 that you, like, you want them to have the better -- best  
13 life that they have, you don't want them to live the same  
14 way that you lived, and then she ended up in the exact same  
15 spot that I was anyway.

16 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** And then life happens.  
17 Yeah.

18 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

19 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** And, is she still in care  
20 in Saskatchewan?

21 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. Like, I found that  
22 out, like, last -- basically around this time. Like,  
23 August, because that car accident was in July.

24 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

25 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And then I just started

1           trying to, like, take steps. So, you go from, like, being  
2           homeless and, like, having nothing to, like, you want to be  
3           somebody that not only, like, she's proud of, but you need  
4           a safe home. You need, like, you need everything ---

5                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

6                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** --- for her to come back  
7           to.

8                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** And, that takes time.

9                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, I've been, like --  
10          I've been working towards it a lot. And, like, I'm getting  
11          there.

12                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

13                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** I'm getting close.

14                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

15                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** I don't know. I say,  
16          like, this stupid saying, and I'm just, like, even the slow  
17          boat gets to its destination eventually.

18                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. Yeah.

19                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** But, like, I thought -- I  
20          was happy that she was in there. Like, I was really  
21          fucking sad for her, because I know what it was like when I  
22          was that age and, like, I just never wanted that for her.

23                   **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** No.

24                   **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** But, I see it as, like, a  
25          chance. I have a better chance of getting her back, her

1 being there, than me not knowing where she is at all.

2 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yes. Yes.

3 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And, I found out that,  
4 like, with him taking the girls like that, I could call,  
5 like, the RCMP and have my youngest daughter, like, picked  
6 up. But, then I was, like, but I can't do that right now,  
7 because I want to make sure that I have everything, like,  
8 yeah. Because when she does come back, then they're going  
9 to be, like, on my butt making sure everything is perfect  
10 for her.

11 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

12 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Because he will try to  
13 find a loop -- like, he will try to do anything he can to  
14 make sure that he ends up with her and not me.

15 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

16 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And, like, I was a  
17 frickin' kick-ass mom before. I was great.

18 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

19 MS. ALISHA ROODE: So, I don't want to take  
20 any chances or anything, like ---

21 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

22 MS. ALISHA ROODE: I want it to be perfect  
23 for them.

24 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

25 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And, like, sometimes



1 that's just the simplest of things. Just, like, a safe  
2 house that they can come out of their own bedrooms. And  
3 then I have to have, like, financial stability, and then  
4 community resources. So, like, I've been looking into,  
5 like, counselling and stuff like that.

6 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

7 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Because I want to be  
8 right with myself, too, like, so that I'm good for them.

9 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah. How old is  
10 [Daughter 2]?

11 MS. ALISHA ROODE: She is four. She just  
12 turned four.

13 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Okay. And, [Daughter 1]  
14 is six now?

15 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yes.

16 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Okay.

17 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Both their birthdays are  
18 -- like, [Daughter 2] is [date of birth] and then [Daughter  
19 1] is [date of birth].

20 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Awesome.

21 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And, like, they're good  
22 little girls. They don't -- they don't have, like, a bad  
23 bone in their body.

24 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Oh, sweetie, it's -- yeah.

25 MS. ALISHA ROODE: So, I hope that I can,

1           like, you know, like, reaching out to all the community  
2           resources and stuff like that, they've been, like, kind of  
3           helping me get my stuff all together.

4                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Good.

5                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Because I want to get  
6           them back young enough so that they don't have any trauma  
7           from this and they don't remember and, like, yeah. So,  
8           changing your life, eh? You go from making poor choices  
9           every single day to, like, a 180. So, that means, like, I  
10          don't go out very often anymore. I stay home and I do art  
11          now. I needed a hobby. Something, like, safe, and  
12          something I could do by myself.

13                          **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

14                          **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, that was, like, just  
15          healthy.

16                          **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

17                          **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** So, I chose painting.  
18          So, that's what I do now.

19                          **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Okay.

20                          **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. It's a quiet life  
21          but, like, when I think of, like, what I'm going to get at  
22          the end, it's worth it. I'm, like, nowhere near who I want  
23          to be or anything like that but, like, I don't know. It's  
24          not about me.

25                          **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** You're doing things.

1           Yeah. Yeah.

2                       **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. I always said that  
3 I wasn't going to be the kind of parent that, like, took  
4 away, like, her dad or anything like that. And then now  
5 that I've gone through all of this, I don't know anymore.  
6 Because I think of, like, how could he do that to them,  
7 too? Because, like, they're the ones, ultimately, that are  
8 suffering.

9                       **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** And, do you have any idea  
10 where he is with [Daughter 2], where they're living?

11                      **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Just in Saskatchewan  
12 somewhere.

13                      **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Okay. In Saskatchewan.

14                      **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** I think. I hope.

15                      **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

16                      **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** He basically, like, cut  
17 me out of everything at that point.

18                      **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

19                      **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Like, the second he  
20 picked them up from daycare, he, like, blocked me on  
21 Facebook. He blocked my number. Like, everything. And, I  
22 didn't exactly know -- like, he didn't have a house at the  
23 time. I just figured he was going to take, like, the girls  
24 to his mom's or, like, to his grandma's or, like, something  
25 like that.

1 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

2 MS. ALISHA ROODE: So, it's not even like I  
3 could show up at his house and, like, attempt to take them  
4 back.

5 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

6 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And, I always said I just  
7 didn't want to introduce trauma into their life like that.  
8 I didn't want it to be, like, an epic fight where I have to  
9 go take them back or, like, anything like that.

10 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right. Yeah. At least  
11 not yet.

12 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yeah.

13 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

14 MS. ALISHA ROODE: I want it to be, like --  
15 where at least when I do, I have backup.

16 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah. That's right.  
17 Yeah.

18 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yeah.

19 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Well, do you have any  
20 other recommendations for the Commission? You've made some  
21 really solid suggestions about what more is needed and what  
22 should be done differently, as well as your dream about the  
23 treatment centre; right?

24 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yeah.

25 MS. KATE LANGHAM: That's a solid

1 recommendation in and of itself. That's something that  
2 would work.

3 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. I think it would  
4 be fun and be somewhere safe where I can raise my kids,  
5 too. And, like, maybe other people can raise their kids  
6 too and, like ---

7 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

8 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** --- become a good thing.  
9 It's a good one.

10 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

11 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah. Actually, I don't  
12 know. I feel good with that.

13 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Okay.

14 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Can't do too much.

15 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right. You don't want to  
16 spread it too thin. Yeah. Is there anything else that you  
17 want the Commission to know?

18 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** No. I just hope with,  
19 like, all of this that it will, like, somehow point people  
20 in the right direction of where to start sniffing and  
21 figure out what actually happened with her.

22 **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

23 **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** And, like, I don't know  
24 that much, but I'm sure if, like, people started asking my  
25 family again after all this time or, like, I don't ever

1 know what happened with the case ---

2 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

3 MS. ALISHA ROODE: --- or anything like  
4 that.

5 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

6 MS. ALISHA ROODE: It would be -- I bet you  
7 my family would want to, like, open up now after all these  
8 years than at the time. And, I know it probably won't make  
9 a difference, like, after so long. Who knows what was even  
10 there for, like, evidence and all that stuff, but ---

11 MS. KATE LANGHAM: It might make a  
12 difference to you.

13 MS. ALISHA ROODE: For sure. To know that  
14 they at least tried ---

15 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah.

16 MS. ALISHA ROODE: --- would definitely,  
17 definitely, like, kind of bring everything to a close.  
18 Yeah. Because I just know as the years went on and stuff,  
19 I don't know if there was, like, a detective that called my  
20 grandparents and stuff like that.

21 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

22 MS. ALISHA ROODE: But, I don't think that  
23 they would have wanted to be involved anyway.

24 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Okay.

25 MS. ALISHA ROODE: They probably would have

1 just pushed it off and -- like, so then, as a detective,  
2 why would you keep going forward with something that nobody  
3 is asking questions about?

4 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

5 MS. ALISHA ROODE: So, it's really easy to,  
6 like, slide something under the rug then.

7 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

8 MS. ALISHA ROODE: It's usually the people  
9 with the families that won't leave them alone ---

10 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Right.

11 MS. ALISHA ROODE: --- and that won't accept  
12 what they're being told. Well, I'm going to be that  
13 family.

14 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah. Yeah.

15 MS. ALISHA ROODE: And, that's pretty much  
16 it. Just to see if they want to reopen. Like, I heard  
17 that they were going to try to look at some of these cases  
18 and stuff.

19 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Yeah. It feels like  
20 we're kind of coming to a close here.

21 MS. ALISHA ROODE: Yeah, I'm good.

22 MS. KATE LANGHAM: Is there anything else  
23 that you want to share while we have this time together?

24 MS. ALISHA ROODE: I pretty much, like, said  
25 everything I need to say about, like, who she was and,

1           like, how it affected me and ---

2                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah.

3                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Just, I don't know. I'm  
4 glad that I even got to say that.

5                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Yeah. Well, you've  
6 shared some really powerful testimony, and I really honour  
7 you for coming here today and doing that. It takes a lot.

8                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Thank you.

9                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Especially when you're  
10 met with so much resistance, and you have been met with so  
11 much resistance around this your whole life. Yet, you've  
12 continued to hold it.

13                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Yeah.

14                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** Right? And, you've  
15 continued to nurture that. And so, yeah, thank you very  
16 much for coming today to share with us.

17                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Thank you for listening.

18                           **MS. KATE LANGHAM:** You bet. So, it is 4:40,  
19 and that brings us to the end of our testimony here today.

20                           **MS. ALISHA ROODE:** Perfect. Thank you.

21           --- Upon adjourning 16:40

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LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE

I, Shirley Chang, Court Transcriber, hereby certify that I have transcribed the foregoing and it is a true and accurate transcript of the digital audio provided in this matter.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Shirley Chang', is written over a horizontal line.

Shirley Chang

September 7, 2018