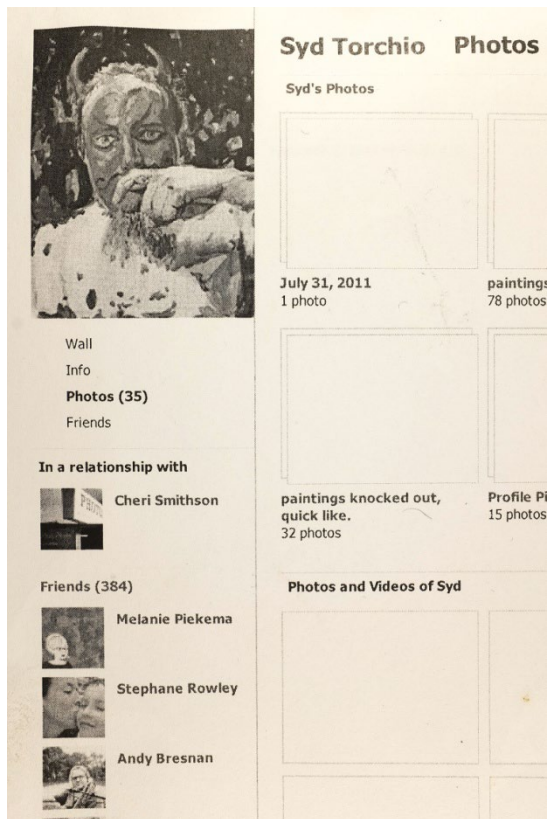


The Relationship Lie:

Some adults have affairs. Some couples are open about that and either one or both partners agree that that is the structure they both want in their relationship. That is a choice both parties make together. An affair is a hidden act. I chose to remain



in our relationship after Cheri's first affair for our son, but at some point in 2011 that became untenable. Cheri had used our mortgage money, without me knowing, to have an affair after which we lost our house to foreclosure in 2010. She had been travelling with last minute plane tickets for over a year to Philadelphia and DC with Syd Torchio, a mutual friend of many of Cheri's Athens, GA friends. In late August 2011 I moved our son and I out and into our Derrydown home, creating peace our son's and my life for the first time five years. Cheri and I weren't arguing at that point. In fact, we agreed that we would mirror the same custody schedule that Eve had with her dad: 5/5, 2/2. Our son called his mom each night he was in our home, and then called me from your other home the other nights. He sad, but we talked every time he needed to—as we'd always done. Six weeks later on October 8, 2011, on a Saturday morning, I had just made use homemade pancakes and Emmett and I were eating breakfast when there was a knock at the door. It was his mom. She was crying, asking to come in. She sat with us at the table saying she wanted to reconcile. You were raising your arms, excitedly chanting "Team Love! Team Love!..." the name Emmett and Eve coined for our family. Though that was not the time to have that discussion as there could be no deep discussion about what she was asking for in that moment, I agreed to talk about it. Later that morning Cheri and I agreed to live together, apart. I went back to working at Eureka!,

her elementary school aftercare business, as I was still volunteering at Grady Hospital an looking for work in the Great Recession. I'd never not worked in my life but I wasn't alone, half The IRC Atlanta staff was laid off, me in March of '11. She slept at our home when Emmett was home and I stayed at her home when the kids were there. Cheri and I were together every day for the next several months, no arguing, almost back to a loving relationship. But she couldn't have an adult discussion about what she did, so I wasn't about to suggest we move back in together. Turns out she began a relationship with Lee Redfern who she married one month after our "reconciliation ended" on February 21-2012. That'll be a whole other page in this file. The second photo is from Cheri's facebook posts about Emmett's stepdad Lee's abuse toward her and Emmett as their marriage was ending in 2019, forwarded to me by a mutual friend who loves our son—allowing that instead of following our Final Custody Order. I mention this information not because I was injured but because Cheri was willing to lose our home, her business, and allow for abuse in their home, ignoring our Final Custody Order—all events that hurt our son—period.

