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Rosebud Podcast Episode 2 Transcript

This podcast may contain information that may not be suitable for all listeners. Listener discretion is advised. This investigation is ongoing. Information for this podcast was obtained through police interviews and reports, taken throughout the investigation by the Boynton Beach Police Department.

Welcome to Rosebud, the Victoria Rose Miller story. My name is Maxx-Anne Miller, the host for this podcast. This podcast is presented by the Boynton Beach Police Department. The topic of this podcast is the life and untimely death of Victoria Rose Miller. Last episode, we talked about Vicky's normal childhood and loving family. But things started to change when she turned 13. Now, while her family showed her enormous amounts of love and care, it wouldn't protect her from what came next. Vicky was in middle school at the time when things started going south for her. She started to get detention, which can typically just be a rough patch in a teenager's life, but Vicky really started to struggle.

Vicky was removed from her home and was placed into different group homes and foster homes due to a variety of different reasons including an unfounded criminal allegation. Vicky was the only one of Roy Miller's four daughters removed from the home. Vicky started having problems of her own in the foster homes. I mean, imagine being a teenage girl and being ripped apart from her family to live with complete strangers. That's an awful lot to handle for a 13-year-old girl to handle. Vicky tried to remove herself from individuals in the foster homes that she didn't like. When she had no luck of preventing or stopping different people from bothering or harming her, she would often run away. She would run away, then come back to the homes, hoping for change. If there were no changes, she would try to run away and go back to her family. Since she wasn't allowed to live with her family, her father had no choice but to return her to the group homes or foster homes. If he didn't, Roy and Joann could have been in further jeopardy and lost custody over her other three daughters.

So Vicky would continually run away from the different homes and then placed with other families or individuals, only for the process to repeat itself. Whether Vicky stayed on the streets, at a friends, at a strangers, or with her family, this wasn't good for her development. Trying to go to school, keep up with grades, and being a normal adolescent is difficult enough, let alone trying to figure out where you're going to lay your head at night. On top of that, Vicky was having other problems.

Vicky's mental health deteriorated at the same time as this was all taking place. She began experiencing bipolar disorder, which people can have symptoms of depression and mania. Her disorder often added more difficulties to her life. Including the lack of stability of her living situation, Vicky's doctors were trying to find the right doses and medications to help her. This process of trial and error were hard when Vicky didn't want to take her medication. At one point she had to be institutionalized, which she responded by obviously running away. Being only 13

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when diagnosed made returning to a normal lifestyle complicated especially when she had little stability. Vicky didn't even like taking medication so she was never on it habitually, which could have worsened her mental health. Being forced into a mental institution is often a shocking and traumatic experience for anyone, let alone a teenaged girl who was trying, but unsuccessful to get acclimated towards mood-altering medication.

Now, it's difficult to enter Vicky's mindset and thoughts during this time because she's not here to tell us directly what went on. We can only partially step into her shoes, and leave the laces untied because this isn't a first-hand account of her life. The one thing that's easy to understand is that Vicky was vulnerable and needed help which she wasn't able to get. Removing her from the people that are the closest to her was tough because she didn't have her support system comforting and taking care of her.

Vicky's family fought tooth and nail to get her back, doing everything they could from afar to help her without risking the possibility of never getting her back. She faced trying times in different homes, meeting people that weren't good for her. She retaliated by running away and hoping for a fresh start, only to be disappointed over and over again. It's not surprising that she struggled mentally through this time in her life. She was at a young age when she was forced to grow up and face these hardships.

Now, we don't know if the help she got for her mental health actually helped or hurt her, or whether the diagnosis was even correct. All we know is that Vicky would never have the chance to return to the normal life she once knew and that we need to find out what happened to her. Stay tuned for the next episode where we'll talk about Vicky's dating life.

Vicky was a blonde hair, blue-eyed 18-year old who weighed approximately 125 pounds and was 5'7 at the time of her death. If you have any information about Vicky's homicide, you can anonymously report a tip at Palm Beach County Crime Stoppers at 1-800-458-TIPS (8477) or reach the Boynton Beach Police Department at GleicherJ@BBFL.US.

This has been a production of the Boynton Beach Police Department. For transcripts of this podcast, photos, videos, and additional content, please visit our department website, BBPD.org, and follow us on Instagram at rosebud podcast.

Thank you for listening. If you or someone you know suffer from depression or bipolar disorder, please contact the Depression and Bipolar Disorder Support Alliance at 1-800-826-3632. You can also contact the National Alliance on Mental Illness at 1-800-950-6264 or text NAMI to 741741.