

**Murder Trial**

# Mother Cross-examined

Mrs Hulme said that when Juliet and Pauline first became friends Pauline's mother was pleased about the association. She and Dr Hulme were anxious about defects in Juliet's personality before these events.

On their return from overseas last year Juliet seemed restless unless Pauline was going to see her.

While they were away they received only two or three very small letters at first, and then nothing until there was a small note after many appeals from Mrs Hulme.

On the night of June 22, Juliet was in a state of collapse. She refused to talk about the accident and wanted to talk about anything else.

When it was time to go to sleep, Juliet insisted on reciting all her favourite poems, and did this until she was too sleepy to do it any more. She did not seem to grasp the reality of the situation at all.

## Questions

Mr Gresson: Have you seen Juliet since—Yes. I have seen her several times.

Does she seem to grip the reality of the situation to-day?—I would say definitely not.

Did you at any stage say anything to encourage Parker to think she could accompany Juliet overseas?—No. I told her that before she could travel, she must be educated to support herself and have her parents' consent. We could take no responsibility for her.

And as for the trip to America?—I told them it was quite impracticable.

How did she behave at Ilam?—She said that she was unhappy at home. She said that her mother did not understand her or love her. She said that she was happier with us than she had ever been.

Often after she had related a quarrel between her mother and her, she was very upset, and Juliet would also be upset to the point of quarrelling," said Mrs Hulme.

## To Ilam

"When we encouraged her to come to Ilam, we thought she came with her mother's consent."

"Pauline gave me to understand quite clearly that her mother often subjected her to severe corporal punishment," said Mrs Hulme.

When the girls returned from Victoria Park, their version was that it was an accident. In the early stages she and Dr Hulme definitely thought that was so.

Mr Gresson: It was in the middle of 1952 that Juliet and Pauline struck up this friendship?—Yes.

In the latter part of the year they went off for an excursion into the country on their bicycles?—Yes.

When they returned they were without some of their outer clothing?—They had left their windbreakers behind, and had to go back with Dr Hulme to try and locate them.

Did the friendship become much closer from that date?—It certainly became very important to both of them from that date.

## From Bench

His Honor: Did it appear so in relation to that incident?—It was about that time that we realised that unless they could make an appointment to see each other at regular intervals they were distressed.

Mr Gresson: You have seen Juliet's correspondence with Parker?—Yes.

It seems that their affection was intensified after Juliet was in the Sanatorium?—Yes.

They wrote to each other in the characters in their books?—Yes.

Juliet writes first as Charles II, Emperor of Borovnia, and then as his mistress Deborah, who has a son to the Emperor?—Yes.

And she also writes as some of the minor characters?—Yes.

Pauline writes as Lancelot Trelawney, a soldier of fortune, who weds the Empress of Volumnia and becomes Emperor and as their daughter Mariolot?—Yes.

## Writings

At first their writings were merely extravagant grandiose, but later murder, suicide, sudden death, imprisonment and bloodshed entered to a disproportionate degree?—Yes.

To Dr Haslam, Mrs Hulme said that Ilam was a big, old-fashioned house in spacious grounds planted in shrubberies.

Rightly or wrongly, Pauline managed to convey the impression that she was not happy in her own home. She was certainly happy at Ilam.

The Riepers and the Hulmes were both concerned about the relationship between the two girls.

The two girls did a certain amount of acting and dressing up together. If they were not together they tried to communicate with each other by telephone. Their literary efforts were also a joint effort as far as one could see, and they were full of admiration for each other's talents in that direction.

Asked by Dr Haslam about a diary reference to a "temple," Mrs Hulme said she knew they had a secret place in the garden, but they kept it well to themselves. She had no idea it had such peculiar significance.

Asked about a reference in the 1954 diary to the girls getting round together at night, Mrs Hulme said this was without her knowledge. "The reference of April 23 in Pauline Parker's diary to an incident in a bedroom, said Mrs Hulme, was to an occasion when Mr Perry was taken ill. He had been unwell for about a fortnight suffering severe pain.

"That night, I heard a noise, and wondered if all was well. I got up, put on my dressing gown, and went through the dividing door to his flat and called him.

"He was in obvious pain. I went downstairs and made a cup of tea, and took it up to him, together with one for myself.

"He was in his dressing gown, and I, in mine.

"While we were having this cup of tea, I heard the dividing doors open.

## Called

"I called out 'Does anyone want me?' thinking that one of the children might want me.

"There was no answer, but Juliet, in her bare feet, appeared at the door. The door was open—there was no latch on it—and the light was on.

"I asked, 'Do you want me, darling?' and she replied, 'So you are here.'

"I asked her to come in and have a cup of tea, and she did. Mr Perry, who was feeling better, got her a cup and saucer.

"Juliet seemed to be amused at a secret joke of her own, and when I asked her what it was she replied, 'Oh, the balloon has gone up.'

"When I asked her to explain, she replied, 'I was hoping to catch you out.'

## Questioned

"I had no idea what she was referring to. Mr Perry also questioned her.

"I felt that Juliet was behaving badly, and that her sense of humour was in bad taste. I remember her saying to Mr Perry 'Pauline and I had hoped to get £100.'

"I took her back to her room and stayed with her about half an hour until she was ready to go to sleep again.

"It was only when I read Pauline's diary recently that I had any idea of the significance of that incident."

## Reference

Did you know that in the diary next day there was a reference to Dr Hulme telling them to take no notice of the incident?—That is so.

Mrs Hulme said there was also reference in the diary to Dr Hulme telling the girls that he and Mrs Hulme might be likely to part, and the future was uncertain. She understood that Dr Hulme had told them that.

Re-examined by Mr Brown, Mrs Hulme said Juliet was not allowed to play-act when in the family circle, but when alone or with Pauline or her brother she entered so completely the atmosphere of her characters that it was difficult very often to make contact with her as "our Juliet."

Were there occasions when she would join in the family circle?—Oh, yes.

So she was not in the realm of fantasy all the time?—No, but she did resent being brought back to the family circle.

## Her Horse

Juliet was not well enough to spend much time with her horse, but her affection seemed to wane. Later she was with the horse once a week rather than once a day.

She went once or twice a week to the pictures, depending on her health, and liked going. She later talked about the pictures.

Juliet was fond of a family dog; a spaniel, said Mrs Hulme. Juliet would play with her brother, Jonathan, when persuaded by her (Mrs Hulme) to do so.

There is a diary reference to a trip to Port Levy on June 15?—I went there for the day.

Did your daughter go?—No, I don't think so.

Mr Brown referred to further entries in the diary, and Mrs Hulme agreed that Juliet liked music.

Mrs Hulme said the children definitely did not go to Port Levy.

Why then does the girl Parker write about her and Juliet being at Port Levy?—So much I read



Mr A. W. Brown, the Crown Prosecutor, arriving at the Supreme Court to-day for the resumption of the trial.

In the 1954 diary is incorrect. This is just one of the incorrect statements. The children had both been at Port Levy the previous year, and Pauline may have been thinking back to that visit.

Mr Brown: Of their activities you know of, were they correctly described in the diary?—They were recorded in a very distorted and untruthful way.

Referring to an entry in Pauline Parker's diary for June 15, Mrs Hulme said that the girls had quite definitely not been to Port Levy on that date, as stated in the diary.

Mr Brown then read the entry in Pauline Parker's diary about the incident of the night of April 23, as follows: