

## Ellis Maxwell

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**From:** CHARLES COX [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 25, 2009 2:25 AM  
**To:** Ellis Maxwell  
**Subject:** Probably another long shot

So in February 2009, Josh and Susan came for a visit here in Washington State. They stayed with us, at least Susan and the boys did. Josh due his odd hours spent most days and a few nights with his father Steve Powell. On occasion he would take the boys with him for part of a day. Susan refused to stay at his house, but did go over a few times. An odd incident took place. Josh asked Susan to allow his father to record her reading a Doctor Suess book, allegedly as some type of ground work for a Dr. Suess "books on tape" or for the boy's (REDACTED) as part of a journal or bedtime series. It sounded odd to me, but Susan said it seemed ok, except she wasn't very clear as to why he wanted to do it. But she cooperated. The trouble came when Josh decided to take all of our Dr Suess collection, (34 books) over to "record". He just took them without asking, and my wife got upset. There was a large argument over the situation and the books were returned. Josh and Susan had a significant yelling match over her not being supportive of his family, and Josh's complete disregard for other peoples property and feelings. It was loud enough our neighbors might remember it. Josh retreated to his father's house, and I believe spent the night, and several others until they left for home in Utah. My wife can be rather blunt, persistent and out spoken, and made several personal accusations against his father and Josh and their lack of respect for anyone, Josh's failure to treat Susan as a wife, etc. alleging incompetence, perversion, stupidity, etc. so I expected that Josh and his father might have been offended. They were not, after the books were returned a few hours later, Josh acted and sounded like nothing had happened, and seemed puzzled that my wife was still upset. He acted as if returning the books was sufficient for all to be forgiven, ignored how he had been treating Susan and proceeded with business as usual. He asked if he could borrow the books and asked Susan to complete the recording she had started.

Susan did continue some recording some books in Steven Powell's home studio, I asked her if she felt safe, and she said it was fine as far as she could tell they were just recording her reading, and that her doing so seemed to satisfy Josh and his Father.

The routine for the children was always the same at our house or their when I visited. Around 8-9pm at the latest, they helped the boys brush their teeth, and then let them choose a book to read before bed. Susan would tell Josh to read them a book, which meant they would crawl onto his lap, and flip the pages as Josh tried to read it to them. Other times Josh was busy with some computer project and Susan or I would have to read with them. Then the boys were put to bed, and Susan and sometimes Josh watched some television. I usually left not later then 10 when I was in Utah so I could get back to my hotel.

But the recording thing now bothers me. Was Josh planning on using the recordings of Susan to play for the boys after she was gone? Or was his Dad still fixated on Susan and wanted to record her? Basically if Susan did not go along with these recording sessions she was a bad wife.

When Josh would tell Susan he was going to be over at 10am have the boys ready they were going on an outing, he would not show up until noon or later and be in a hurry blaming Susan for not having the boys ready. I never saw him lift a finger to help her with the boys unless she demanded it.

I watched the interview with the family that had dinner with Josh and Susan. I noted a few things, the woman stated Josh put a blanket on Susan. I have never seen Josh get a blanket for Susan, help her with her coat, carry her coat, prepare a meal, or wash dishes, put shoes or coats on the children. The only time I ever saw him lift a finger to help her was when she directly asked him to. It did not appear to be meanness just a general lack of concern for her. In my experience he ignored her, or ordered he to do things, complained she was slow at some task he had assigned her.

I also noted that the Woman said Susan was tired, I have never seen her want to take a nap on a Sunday afternoon, or any other time after a meal, once the clean up was done, she immediately turned her

attention to the boys, playing with them or getting them ready for bed. The only time she would relax was after the boys were in bed, and the house was clean.

Josh worked on his lap top while she was in Labor, with [REDACTED], sitting in the same room while others held her hand, until I went over to him between contractions, and told him, I suggest you put down the computer and help your wife she needs you. He then got up and held her hand, and the baby was out within 5 minutes. Susan praised her husband for coming to her side when she needed him most. I never told her I had to tell him to do so. We had to take Susan to the hospital because Josh needed to back up his computer so he could work on his laptop while in the hospital.

Now for a really out there question. Where is the limestone mine, is it near a road? I was looking at a list of old mines in the State and the name kind of stood out to me as I scrolled through the list.

I know you are doing all you can. I guess I am getting desperate. Thanks and have a Merry Christmas, life goes on and I guess I have to have patience.

We have taken steps to legally address the custody of the children, should it become necessary.