

Testimony of John Kercher, born 11 December 1942

Questioning by Maresca, Civil counsel for Kercher family (page 21)

Maresca Yes the first question is how many times in recent years, we know that John the father did not live with Meredith, how often he met his daughter, where he would meet her and in what kind of relationship he had with her, obviously.

Interpreter (...)

Kercher (...)

Interpreter She would come to my house more or less twice a week before going to University, also when she was in England we spoke every day or every other day, when she was in England we sometimes went to the theatre together, she really liked it when her father read her stories and when she was in Italy we spoke every day for ten, fifteen minutes and the last time I spoke with her was the first of November, it was the afternoon towards quarter past two but I was in the bank and so for this reason we only spoke for a few minutes and this is the last time that I spoke with her.

Maresca What did she say to you that last time on the first of November?

Interpreter (...)

Kercher (...)

Interpreter She called and she said: "I just want to hear how you are" and daddy responded that it was expensive to call like this maybe it's better I call you this evening and she said she was going out with her friends that evening and daddy responded that he would call her the next day.

Maresca What did she recount to him about her experience in the days in which they spoke to each other while she was in Perugia, about her experience in Italy and Perugia?

Interpreter (...)

Kercher (...)

Interpreter She liked it a lot and she spoke a really lot about the Chocolate Festival, she really loved pizza and at times she said she went dancing and at times also to the University to eat... to see a film, she really liked to study here although in the beginning she found it a bit difficult but when she started she enjoyed herself a really lot.

Maresca Do you remember about any episode in particular that she reported to you about her... Meredith's cohabitation in the house, about the friends that she frequented, the friends and so on.

Interpreter (...)

Kercher (...)

Interpreter She didn't know some of the English at the beginning but then they became friends and they went out together some of the time.

Maresca Do you remember if she reported anything about Amanda Knox, any

episode?

Interpreter (...)

Kercher (...)

Interpreter She only spoke about this twice, she was surprised that she had started a relationship with somebody soon after her arrival and then she spoke to me two weeks earlier that it bothered her that Amanda didn't flush.

Maresca The flush.

Kercher (...)

Interpreter She spoke of cleaning, that she didn't take care to clean the bathroom after using it.

Maresca Can you tell us in your opinion, if he thinks, his daughter [translator's note: Stephanie] has already replied but we also ask him, if Meredith was of a robust constitution and in any case used to defending herself if in his opinion she would have defended herself against the attack?

Interpreter (...)

Kercher (...)

Interpreter She was able to do so, when she was 17 she did a course in Karate and was quite strong and I believe she would have been able to resist.

Maresca How did you find out about Meredith's death? You, the mother Arline, the other children.

Interpreter (...)

Kercher (...)

Interpreter It was 5 O'clock of the second of November, Arline called him telling him she'd seen on the news...

Maresca Who called?

Interpreter Arline the wife, the mother called to say she had seen on the news that a female student had been found dead in Perugia.

Kercher (...)

Interpreter I tried to call Meredith on her mobile towards 5 and I tried about a dozen times but it was on... that automatic thing that comes on...

Maresca The voicemail.

Interpreter Yes, exactly, the voicemail.

Kercher (...)

Interpreter At half past five I called (incomprehensible) but there was still no response, I searched for the number of the national newspapers and I called one of them, this was towards 6 in the afternoon but they didn't have any news, two hours later they called me back and they told me they had the name of the female student and the name was Meredith, this is how I found out.

Maresca What did you hope for Meredith's future and what did Meredith hope for her future?

Interpreter (...)

Kercher	(...)
Interpreter	She had various options that she was considering, he said that one of the options was to be a journalist and another to be... to work in Brussels for the European Commission.
Maresca	And what did he hope for...
Interpreter	(...)
Kercher	(...)
Interpreter	Everything that she wanted.
Maresca	Ok, no more questions your Honor.

Questioning by Prosecutor Mignini (page 24)

Mignini	Listen, the last telephone call you said was first of November.
Interpreter	(...)
Mignini	At what time?
Interpreter	(...)
Kercher	(...)
Interpreter	Towards quarter past two in the afternoon.
Mignini	Is this London time?
Interpreter	(...)
Kercher	(...)
Interpreter	Yes.
Mignini	If I'm not mistaken it's an hour behind.
Interpreter	Quarter past three Italian time.
Mignini	Did you know where Meredith called from?
Interpreter	(...)
Kercher	(...)
Interpreter	No.
Mignini	No. Was there anyone with her?
Interpreter	(...)
Kercher	(...)
Interpreter	Well it was an unusual time that she called because she always called in the afternoon but he believes it was a public holiday here and so she didn't have lessons but otherwise he doesn't know whether or not she was with someone.
Mignini	So she didn't usually call at that time?
Interpreter	(...)
Kercher	(...)

Interpreter	No, only because of the reason that she didn't have to go to University.
Mignini	No more questions.
Judge Massei	Are there any more questions?
Defense Counsel	None your Honor.
Judge Massei	No questions from the defense, there are no more questions, the witness can go.