

Victims' stories involving and/or specific to Brenten Lydon:

Story #1

Submitted by: (B)

“I WAS SLEEPING WHEN THIS HAPPENED”

Story:

“Mine happened in 2017 in August. It was with Brenten.

He had come over with one of his friends that my “sister” was dating at the time. The day before, I had hung out with him and two of his other friends and everything was fine. I didn't care about him coming over and didn't have any weird feelings about it, so I allowed it to happen. They came over to my grandma's house the night of the 18th (08/18/17) and it was his friend and my sister on the bed and me and Brenton laying on the floor on OPPOSITE sides of the room. I went to bed, and so did everyone else.

I woke up early on the 19th with me pinned against the birdcage in my room and him on the other side of me with one hand on my boob and the other hand (fingers) inside of me. I froze until he was done. After that, I forced both him and his friend to leave. “

Interview Details:

Who was involved (who perpetrated): Brenten Lydon

Victim's age (then/now): 15/21

Perp's age at the time of the incident: 15

When it happened: 2017, night of August 18-19

Where it happened: victim's house

How long victim knew perp before incident: less than 6 months

Drugs/alcohol involved: “no not on my end idk about his”

How victim knew the perp: “mutual friends”

Was victim harassed by perp after the assault?: Yes; “after i had told some of my friends about what happen two days later there were she’ll cases all over my front yard, by my bedroom window and by my garage (we did not own guns) but i knew he did”

Involvement with legal case: yes, spoke to law enforcement

What the victim would’ve wanted to say in court: “you may not remember that day, but still, 7 years later, I’m still suffering and it is burned into the back of my head. And with countless therapy sessions, I’m still a mess and I’m still struggling.”

Message for perp: “just because the court may be done, our voices will be heard”

Story #2

Submitted by: Evelyn, Project Coordinator

“I was crying and his first thought was to make a move on me,”

Story:

This was the first time someone from this group tried to violate me. It’s fairly minor in comparison to my other stories, and especially to that of the other victims, but worth telling nonetheless.

This assault took place sometime in the mid-summer of 2018. I was on and off with a member of the friend group at the time, Brenten Lydon. This was during an “on” period. We had gone to my

friend's (at the time) house, and we were drinking. This story takes place over two separate days.

The first night, nothing happened to me that I could recall, but the second night was where things got weird. It seemed like there was some unspoken plan between Brenten and Andy to sort of 'swap girls,' since my friend had been having relations with Andy the night before. Brenten started flirting a lot with my friend, and I remember at one point, both him and Andy kind of displaying her breasts, pulling them out of her shirt, and both of them fondling her. I'm not exactly sure how much of this was consensual on her part.

At a certain point in the second night, I remember playing truth or dare, and there being a push for me to kiss Andy, and my friend to kiss Brenten. My friend actually agreed to this, but I made it explicitly clear I had no interest in Andy. Tensions began to build up as it became clear to me that my friend was interested in Brenten, and at a certain point, I went outside, crying, and Andy followed.

I had blocked this incident out in my mind until I was being interviewed for the legal case- but now, as I remember it, Andy followed, and then tried to make a move on me as I was crying. This is a very blurry memory for me because of the time gap, and how much I had been drinking.

What I do remember, was Andy coming up to me and pushing his body against me, pinning me against a fence, trying to kiss me, and kissing at my neck. I was crying, and his first thought was to make a move on me.

At the time, I didn't even process this, and just went inside to clean up my face. And as far as I remember, this sort of ended the unpleasant interaction.

Details:

Who was involved: Andy and Brenten

Victim's age at the time of incident: 15

Perp's age at the time of the incident: 17 ?

When it happened: Summer of 2018

Where it happened: friend's house

How long known before incident: just a few months

More than 1 incident? Y

Laws broken: Underage drinking

Drugs/alcohol involved: alcohol

Contact after the fact: yes

Method of introduction: relationship with Brenten

Involvement with legal case? Y

Harassed by perps in general? Y

Harassed after reporting? Y

Story #3

Submitted by: Evelyn, Project Coordinator

“I will never, ever forget the look in his eyes; it haunts me more than any other detail related to any of my experiences with these men. His eyes were dark and soulless- he had the “psychopath stare.””

Story:

This is the second time I was sexually violated by members of this friend group. It happened in November of 2018.

This story started out with me just hanging out with the friend group- we had been out and about,

and then Brenten's brother ended up in the hospital, so we drove him to the ER to see him. After dropping him off, he instructed his friends to drop me off.

Instead of dropping me off, Hani, Andy, Julian and I decided to drink a bottle of Captain Morgan's rum that I had. We drove around town, drinking on it, and doing whatever- I don't really remember.

When things took a turn was when we went to Taco Bell. Hani parked the car, tossed the empty rum bottle in the dumpster, and I was given a proposition. At this point, I was probably drunker than I had ever been before. The men proposed that if I "showed them my tits," they would take me to see Brenten again. I did not agree. This did not stop them- of course, and I remember each of them reaching for me, like I was just an object. It started with Andy, then Julian reached back from the front passenger seat, and then Hani, from the driver's seat.

It was at the point that Hani reached back, where I realized what was happening. The first two had just pulled my breasts out of the tanktop I was wearing, but Hani looked me in the eye, and tried to stick his hand up my legs. I will never, ever forget the look in his eyes; it haunts me more than any other detail related to any of my experiences with these men. His eyes were dark and soulless- he had the "psychopath stare."

I'm not exactly sure how things ended, because of how fuzzy my memory is of that night, but the next thing I remember was being dropped off at my house, and stumbling to get inside. The next morning, Brenten texted me, scolding me for what had happened to me; I'm not sure whether his friends twisted the story, or if he just decided that he wanted to shame me, knowing what really happened.

Details:

Who was involved: Hani, Andy, Julian, Brenten

Victim's age at the time of incident: 15

Perp's age at the time of the incident: all of them were either 17 and 18

When it happened: November 2018

Where it happened: Hani's car

How long known before incident: about 6 months

More than 1 incident? Y

Laws broken: Underage drinking

Drugs/alcohol involved: alcohol

Contact after the fact: yes

Method of introduction: relationship with Brenten

Involvement with legal case? Y

Harassed by perps in general? Y

Harassed after reporting? Y

Story #4:

Submitted by: Evelyn, Project Coordinator

“Andy was filming this whole thing, and the weirdest thing to me, is each thing that they did to us, the others would watch and even touch themselves.”

Story:

This is the final time that I was violated by members of this friend group, and it is the incident that led to the legal case being opened. This happened in January, 2019, the first week of the new Year.

There was a week of build up to the actual event in this story; I had been on my very first drug bender with the group, taking MDMA just about every day for a week.

Fast forward to the end of this week, and the group had invited my friend and I to go “hot tubbing.” For reasons that I will never really know, we decided to go, when we should have been sleeping and letting our brains and bodies recover from the extreme amounts of drug use in the past week.

The group picked us up- it was Hani, Andy, Julian, and another somewhat temporary member of the group, who I had a very brief romantic involvement with. I don't remember much about the time between being picked up and arriving at the hot tub, except picking up some vodka. Most of my memory of this event is actually thanks to the videos that were taken of the assault.

From what I can gather in my memory, the group had this plan of making some sort of pornographic film. I remember them taking off my friend's bra, and starting to man-handle her. At the time, my mind had no way of processing what to do, so I just took mine off too, to make her feel more comfortable.

A few days prior, I remember Hani deciding he had an objective to have sex with my friend, and her explicitly rejecting him, and doing so again while we were acquiring alcohol before getting to the hot tub. Obviously, he paid this no mind.

Andy was filming this whole thing, and the weirdest thing to me, is each thing that they did to us, the others would watch and even touch themselves. I remember Andy sitting next to me and the other friend, as we were doing things, and just watching so closely, and filming, of course. I also recall him running up and grabbing my breast and rear, more than once, and getting it on film.

Much of this incident is truly a blur in my memory, and I only really remember it from watching the videos, like I said, but it was truly gruesome and perverted.

Things escalated when Hani pulled my friend out of the tub, and took her into the sauna. Hani raped my friend two times in that sauna, once without protection, and his friends watched it, and Andy filmed. Neither of us knew how to process, let alone react to this. I remember wiping my friend's mascara from under her eyes, when Hani came up and tried to thrust his penis between my buttocks.

At some point soon after, the men left us there. We went to retrieve our clothing and try to process what happened, and we noticed they had stolen cash from my friend, and some Juul pods.

After the men had left, we decided to call the friend whose apartment complex we were in, just to have somewhere to try and plan getting home. We went there, and shortly after, the men showed up, now having Brenten with them, and he threw a Plan B pill box at my friend and I. They were also messaging the friend whose house we were at, flaunting what they had done.

At some point between then and the next day, they created a group chat on Facebook Messenger, with myself, Brenten, and the group members present in it, and they sent the videos to it. This group chat is still in my Messenger inbox, because I never left it, I think hoping one day I would have the courage to come forward, in spite of the embarrassment I felt for ever putting myself in that situation. And in 2021, I did come forward- law enforcement was sent all of teh videos, and the antagonizing messages from the group chat, and it became evidence in the legal case.

In the group chat, they antagonized me, making fun of me for “smelling like tuna,” which was actually the result of a urinary tract infection, caused by Brenten leaving a condom inside my body a week before, that I hadn’t noticed for hours. They also antagonized me, calling me the rapist- because of their friend and I having relations, and him having trouble staying erect. I have

had contact with this friend many times since, and have confirmed that narrative to be untrue- we were both 15, and our bodies full of drugs, we had no idea what we were doing at that point. The men still antagonized me though, and made jokes about making another “film.” I confronted Hani about raping my friend, and his only defense was calling me a rapist. What sticks with me about this is the fact that his mother repeated the same thing to me, on the day of the sentencing, saying she’d seen the videos, and that I was the “real rapist here.” I didn’t let this bother me though, because I knew the truth, and I found it much more strange that she had just openly admitted not only to watching such explicit content of her own son, but also child pornography.

Details:

Who was involved: Hani, Andy, Julian, Brenten

Victim’s age at the time of incident: 15

Perp’s age at the time of the incident: all of them were either 17 and 18

When it happened: January 2019

Where it happened: apartment complex of their friends

How long known before incident: almost 1 year

More than 1 incident? Y

Laws broken: Underage drinking

Drugs/alcohol involved: alcohol, MDMA

Contact after the fact: yes

Method of introduction: relationship with Brenten

Involvement with legal case? Y

Harassed by perps in general? Y

Harassed after reporting? Y

Story #5:

Submitted by: Jocilyn

“I could hear all of his friends in the background saying “woah omg Hani” but no one did anything to stop it. I then ran into the bathroom and locked myself inside while trying to figure out where to go.”

Summer of 2018

Story:

“My relationship with Hani started in January of 2018. I believe I was 15 at this time and Hani was 18.

The first few months were normal and then around summer he started to be aggressive and mentally abusive. He would tell me I should kill myself. That I should starve myself so that he finds me more attractive. He would ask for sexual favors from other women in front of me. He would degrade me in every way possible. I lost all self worth while being around him.

Towards the end of summer things started to turn physical. One time at his house he manhandled me so much I just cried and hid under his bed to get away. He would grab me and throw me around so hard it left welts.

The biggest incident that occurred was at Julian’s house, Hani, Andy Julian and Brenten were all there. Me and Hani were arguing because I was upset he did cocaine.

During the argument, he grabbed my breasts and I told him not to touch me. He proceeded to grab me sexually again and so I pushed him away from me. He then grabbed my hair and started punching me in the head repeatedly.

I could hear all of his friends in the background saying “woah omg Hani” but no one did anything to stop it. I then ran into the bathroom and locked myself inside while trying to figure out where to go.

After this happened, Hani asked me to not tell anyone what happened. After the altercation Hani, Brenten, and Andy would harass me on Messenger. “

Interview Details:

Who was involved: “Hani, Andy, Brenten and Julian were all there when I was assaulted by hani. They watched and did nothing.”

Victim’s age at the time of incident: “14-15 when I had a relationship to Hani. I am now 20.”

Perp’s age at the time of the incident: “I was 15, Hani was 18 at the time of the incident.”

When it happened: “July/ August of 2018.”

Where it happened: “The Assault took place at Julian’s apartment.”

How long known before incident: “A year or two”

More than 1 incident? Y

Laws broken: “Hani was on cocaine and alcohol when he physically assaulted me.”

Drugs/alcohol involved: “They were on coke and drinking.”

Contact after the fact: “I told Hani that my school principal found out about the assault and was obligated to report it. He was mad at me because of that. The principal made the report and the police said there’s nothing they could do about it. After that he sent me a picture of a random womens’ breasts and I blocked him. Later his friends (Andy and Brenten) harassed me on messenger before I blocked them as well.”

Method of introduction: School

Harassed by perps in general? Y “Hani told me I should try to kill myself again. He Always bashed my weight and body telling me I should stop eating. “

Harassed after reporting? Y

Details: In 2018 the principal of my school filed a report with the police and they did nothing. The abuse and assault that occurred to numerous women afterward could have been avoided if protecting women was taken seriously by the court and police system.

Involvement with legal case: N

Would've wanted to say: "They are a danger to the public. All women and children."