

## "Home Invasions"

By Aquil Basheer



It's about damn time! She said out loud to herself, they had finally arrived! Jan was really disturbed; as she hurried to the door, she thought about the few choice words she would relay to the movers. They were two hours late and she had an extremely busy schedule to keep, not to mention she was a half day behind in her work.

Just as she swung the door open with the passion of an emotionally scorned female who was about to unleash a barrage of choice words, her eyes met an unforeseen terror that she would never forget. The man at the door possessed eyes that were filled with the color of death, she was so fixed on his eyes she did not even see the other two predators which were directly behind him enter the house. In her moment of rage, long before she could initiate any type of response, she was being thrown to the bare, hard floor. As reality kicked in, she knew it was too late; she would not recover from what she had just done. She only hoped she would survive this encounter.

As her head hit the floor, she felt an extremely intense thump (her skull had just been fractured.) She then felt the knee on her neck, the cold mental on her face, and the distinct words that followed: "say a word, just one word, and you're a dead piece of meat!" Her mind was racing; she thought to herself "what the hell have I just done?"

"If I could only push the clock back 15 minutes, if I hadn't been so upset!" She knew it was too late for this type of thinking; none of this psychology was going to help her now. She thought silently to herself, "if I better concentrate on my survival, what am I going to do?" Maybe they will just rob me and leave me alone; maybe they're good guys who are just in need of a little money." She was dead wrong! The predators had come in not only to rob her but to have some "fun" with their intended prey. They wanted to spend a little isolated time with her; their intent was to "enjoy" their moments with her before they terminated her life. What Jan failed to realize was the fact that she had been specifically picked! The house had been watched for some time, the predators knew she would be there by herself, why they even knew what her probable response would be due to the fact that they had come to her door once before, the time they had delivered pizza, the same time she had let them in the house, left them unattended while she retrieved the money to pay them.

You see, they had done this many

before, they were very successful at their craft and they had never left any witnesses. They understood witnesses were a liability they could not afford.

Home invasions are one of the most horrific crimes of violence today. 40% of the victims of these types of assaults are injured or killed! The usual intent of the predator of this type of act is mayhem, torture, extreme bodily injury, and probably death! They are coming to their desired location with the mindset of inflicting comprehensive damage. Their main intent is not robbery; if that was the case they would wait until the victim was not at home. These types of individuals want you at home, alone; they are looking for and prefer an interaction with you!

### Two ways home intruders make entry

Crash in/ Smash  
(Burst in with overwhelming force).  
Trick, deception, ruses, con  
(looking for help, solicitors).

Escape, Escape, Escape! In-advance family plans are by far the most effective strategy. Survival decisions must be made long beforehand. It is mandatory that each family member know what he or she is going to do and they must be trained to carry out their assignment, under pressure! Secure & reinforce the physical structure of the house. Construct a Safe Room (secured room with communications equipment (phone), solid core door-minimum one hour durability, food & water for 24 hours, and anything else you might need for an extended stay)! All entry and egress ways must be protected & maintained clear. Motion detectors tied to emergency lighting & secured fencing should be put in place, deter the opportunity for an easy strike by target hardening of place, person, & procedures. No one should ever be let in the home when you are by yourself and under all circumstances every individual (service personnel, emergency responders, etc.) must be qualified! (Thoroughly checked & validated.)

There is no happy ending to this account, Jan was found by her husband, she had been severely raped, tortured, & left for dead, she survived with severe disabilities that will be with her for the rest of her life. The moral of this story is to understand you are on your own! Non-personalized evaluations of your "Risk Factors" in conjunction with Controlled, Beforehand, In-advanced planning under pressure will probably prolong & save your life!