

Pablo the Mule Dog: My Chat With an Addict's Mother

(lift opening)

**Pablo:** So I thought it'd be interesting to talk to someone who had actually watched the whole addiction process take place first hand in someone's (voice fades as lift closes)

**Pablo:** (muffled voice) Perfect

**Pablo:** Ooh, a sofa. Marvellous. Are you s-sure I'm allowed up here?

**Mother:** Sure Pablo

**Pablo:** So I'm trying to find out about cocaine, I understand you've had some experience with the drug.

**Mother:** My oldest daughter was a cocaine addict.

**Pablo:** I see, how old was she when she became addicted?

**Mother:** I think she started trying when she was about fifteen years old and she was an addict by seventeen.

**Pablo:** Wow, that's quite young, what happened?

**Mother:** Well when she first started taking drugs we didn't really notice in the beginning, we weren't aware because I suppose maybe she was taking it once a week, and then it went on to twice a week, and then it went on to three times, and four times and five then every day of the week. There were signs and symptoms, her appearance, she stopped washing, stopped looking after herself, things started missing in the house, she started hanging out with a lot of older, different people and became very secretive and she became physically and verbally aggressive to her younger brother and sister and myself.

**Pablo:** At what point did you realise how serious the problem was?

**Mother:** One day we got into an argument because she came home and I had started to get quite strict about how she behaved and I said 'Georgie, before you get into your bed, I know you're coming down from drugs, I need you to make your bed before you get into it or you're not sleeping in your bed and you can go out and sleep in the rain' and she pushed me down the stairs and hit me with a fire extinguisher.

**Pablo:** Ouch

**Mother:** And elected to sleep outside in the rain rather than make her bed before she got into it.

**Pablo:** Gosh, why did she treat you like this?

**Mother:** As she became addicted to cocaine, her relationship was with the cocaine. We didn't matter anymore it was all about getting the cocaine and taking the cocaine, that was the only important thing in her life. She would lie to us, steal from us. Do anything she could just to get hold of the money for the cocaine.

**Pablo:** Why do you think she got into cocaine so heavily?

**Mother:** For years I thought it was because I was a really bad mother and it was all my fault, but I guess she was like any other teenager, she thought I'm just going to try this once, just this once, it won't be a problem but it ended up becoming a really big problem.

**Pablo:** Er, I'm kind of scared to ask how she is now.

**Mother:** She's been clean for three years now, but it's been hard, hard, really hard Pablo, I don't recommend it.

**Pablo:** I'm glad you all managed to survive, this has left me feeling a little sad!

**Mother:** Awww.

**Pablo:** Maybe tomorrow I'll want to settle down, until tomorrow I'll just keep moving on. (yelp!)