

My son met Lacy Johnson through EHarmony. We were told she had been a Production Assistant and learned enough to go out on her own. She made a living from pitching ideas to studios. She said she was also under contract to ABC to develop ideas for them and had been flown to London by the BBC for show development. Her most successful shows were Platinum Weddings and Platinum Babies. We were told she was paid millions of dollars for these shows. She had invested in CA real estate and had other investments such as stocks, etc.

During the fall of 2009, we were told that Lacy's grandmother had died on Halloween. Her father then died at Thanksgiving, followed by the suicide of her uncle (who had left a note blaming Lacy.) We all just felt so bad for her to have to go through all this. In early July of 2010, we were told that Lacy's brother had just died after being in a coma for a week following a drug overdose.

We met Lacy during the Christmas holidays 2009 when we were all in LA for a family wedding and Christmas family reunion. She was wonderful – fit into the family beautifully - just a delightful young woman. We were thrilled that she might become a permanent member of our family.

Shortly after that, we were told that Lacy had pitched a cooking show to the Food Network which they loved, but would only buy on the condition that she would be the host. We were all so excited for her to be getting her own TV show . At first the air date was to be in mid-March (we were told promos had already been running in the LA area although no one we knew had ever seen one), but later it was changed to July 15.

Lacy became engaged to our son in May, and we were thrilled about it. She had a large diamond engagement ring which we were told she had already owned. I assumed the ring had belonged to her deceased mother.

On June 3, we received an urgent message from our son. He told us Lacy had Stage 4 brain cancer and was in Arizona undergoing alternative therapy (ozone treatment) which had shrunk the brain tumor, but another one on her ovaries had grown (which meant she also had ovarian cancer.) Because the Cancer Centers of America would only take cash for this particular treatment, she had had to liquidate some of her assets to cover it. She had been able to come up with \$150,000 but lacked the final \$8825 needed to finish the treatment. Would we be willing to loan her this money until June 23 when she could liquidate more assets and pay us back? We were told she had watched her mother die from cancer made worse by chemo so she had elected to try ozone first. We were devastated by this news. We called Lacy to tell her of course we would help, but because it was the weekend and she needed the money immediately, we would get in touch with the CTA and make arrangements with them to pay whatever she needed. She explained that they only took cash, and if we couldn't help, she would understand. We were able to wire her \$9000 on Monday morning, and she told us she then completed her treatment.

I received a text from Lacy in mid-June asking me to be on her cooking show. I was completely surprised by this and asked her if she was still taping the show (I assumed it would be over now because of her illness.) She said she was absolutely still doing the show. (She told us later she wanted to finish all the shows and then start her chemo at the beginning of August.) We felt somewhat better thinking maybe her treatment had been at least partially successful to enable her to continue the show, but we were also confused and concerned at the delay in her chemo.

The show was scheduled to begin airing on July 15. All of our friends and family were so excited that at least there was something good happening for Lacy through all of this, and we all planned to watch it. I could find nothing about the show during all this time on the Food Network website or schedule, but she assured us it would air on July 15. When the date came and went, we got in touch with Lacy to find out what had happened. She told us that the network executives had found out about her cancer and had panicked. She was actually in the car on her way in to a meeting with them to decide what to do and would let us know what happened. Several days later, she told us they had decided to go ahead with the show and would be developing an entire line of cookware (from which the profits would go to cancer research) to be sold in conjunction with the show. (Since my job had been as a product development coordinator before I retired, I knew that it could take a year or more to go from idea to product so I began to have my doubts about any of this being true.)

During all this time, no mention was made of paying us back the money we had loaned them, but we weren't overly concerned about that – just thought maybe it was taking longer to liquidate things than she had originally thought.

I began to do more digging into things on the internet. The first thing I came up with was a pdf flyer that had been sent out by the Temple Beth Emet in Burbank. There was a picture of Lacy with the caption "Her name is Lacy Johnson. She is 30 years old. She has breast cancer." The temple had set up the Lacy Fund to accept donations for specialized gene therapy she needed to have done at the Mayo Clinic. I was just in total shock. A family member called the temple and was told they had discontinued the fund at the request of someone in Lacy's family. (We later found out her father (Matt Johnson) was a member of this temple, but he had moved away, and they were no longer in contact with him.) (We also found out that Lacy had told other people that she had brain cancer as well as cervical cancer in November of last year. That would mean she has brain, ovarian, cervical and breast cancer and has had no actual treatment other than the supposed ozone.)

We contacted the Food Network and were told they had no records of Lacy or her show, and that in fact, they did all their taping in New York. They only taped The Next Food Network Star in LA, and she was not a part of that show. There was a possibility that she had taped a pilot for them and wasn't in their database with that, but definitely no other show had been filming with her.

I later found out that Lacy had filed joint bankruptcy with her husband in July of 2006. The final decree was issued in December of 2006. They had written off \$40,000 in credit card debt with no assets for either one of them other than basic household necessities. Lacy's job at that time

was listed as receptionist for Film Garden Entertainment. Since Platinum Weddings debuted in July of 2006, there was absolutely no way for her to have been paid what she claimed without it being listed in her assets.

We went to LA in July 2010 to confront Lacy and get to the bottom of all this. She refused to see us and denied everything. We have since discovered that she does not have cancer, has never worked for the Food Network, does not work for any other networks, and in fact has no money whatsoever.