

Andi's Story

Andi was 15 when she first met her abuser at a family party. She noticed him watching her, and she was flattered by the attention. She was interested in starting to date someone. When he approached her, he said he was 18, and she was intrigued with the idea of an older guy.

Daniel took her to the movies, bought her expensive clothes, and showered her with attention. When Andi told Daniel all about her problems with her parents, Daniel really listened and always knew just what to say. Andi felt like he was the only one who truly understood her. She started to think her friends were really boring and immature in comparison to Daniel.

Eventually, Daniel got more aggressive, and suggested they smoke weed and watch porn together. They started attending parties, and Daniel introduced Andi as his girlfriend to all his friends. Daniel made Andi feel special and grown up.

One night, after many drinks, Daniel took Andi upstairs and told her he loved her. They ended up having sex, even though Andi was afraid and did not feel ready. Andi went along with it because she did not want Daniel to break up with her.

At first, Andi's parents thought that her newfound social life involved friends from school, but then they caught her and Daniel together. They told Andi that Daniel was actually 23, and that he had a criminal record. Andi did not care, and her relationship with her parents deteriorated. Finally, she decided to run away and live with Daniel in his apartment. He told her he would take care of her and protect her.

When they moved in together, things immediately changed. Daniel said Andi would have to earn her keep if she wanted food and a roof over her head. He forced Andi to have sex with different men that came by the apartment. When she refused, Daniel would hit her and tell her that she was nothing—that without him, she would be on the streets. Ever since the massive blowup with her parents, Andi knew that she had nowhere else to go, and no money to support herself. Andi felt trapped and helpless.