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Emotions Run High at Jackson/Murray Trial

Drugs, Money, Power and Drama: Is it worth a life or two?



By Adrienne Papp

In what is shaping up to be one of the most sensational trials in U.S. history, Michael Jackson's physician, Dr. Conrad Murray is on trial for the death of the iconic pop star.

The trail began on Tuesday in a courtroom in downtown Los Angeles on September 27. Fans from all over the world convened at the site and even held a vigil in a prayer circle. Jackson's family was also in attendance and images of the King of Pop were seen all around the courthouse grounds — including posters that Jackson fans waved for a throng of news crews. There was even a Jackson impersonator prowling halls of the courthouse.

As the trial began the audience was narrowed down to an audience of 12 Jurors who heard and watched clips of Jackson singing and dancing in rehearsals two days before his death.

It was the audio recording of Jackson's voice that seemed to have the most emotional impact and brought Jackson's presence back to those in attendance. Both Murray and Jackson's mother broke down and were seen weeping during the playback of the performer's voice and other materials as various performances and audio tapes were introduced by the

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defense, who had not previously disclosed that the recordings were to be used in their opening statements. Jackson's voice echoed hauntingly through the packed courtroom in a low mumbling voice: "I want them to say, 'I've never seen nothing like this in my life. He's the greatest entertainer of all time." As Jackson's mother, Katherine, looked on tearfully, the prosecutor said the recording showed the doctor knew "Michael's state" and continued procuring drugs for him. "Michael Jackson literally put his life in the hands of Conrad Murray," Deputy Dist. Atty. David Walgren said. "That misplaced trust cost Michael Jackson his life."

Jackson died from an overdose of propofol on June 25, 2009. Midazolam and several other sedatives were also found in his system.

Dr. Murray, Jackson's personal physician, is on trial for manslaughter and accused of killing Jackson by providing him with the dangerous anesthetics. Walgren told jurors that Dr. Murray "acted as an employee. He did not act as a medical professional using sound medical judgment."



As the second day of the trial got underway on Wednesday new witnesses including Jackson's personal assistant Amir Williams and paramedics are expected to provide fresh details on what is sure to be one of the most riveting trials to be held in Los Angeles. In addition to the ongoing procedures, Jackson's fans and family have an acute interest in finding out more details about the death of one of the most exciting and popular performers in pop music history.



I anticipate that this trial will be very controversial.

On one end we are dealing with an icon, who admittedly and sadly enough was addicted to various sedatives and painkillers, which of course brought him to a point where almost nothing was enough to make him go to sleep. Why is that so unusual? It is a medical fact.

On the other hand, he was facing a huge tour, and knowing Michael's perfectionist approach to his art, he did want to do his

best, which he himself expressed even under sedation. Therefore, he badly needed the sleep to be able to perform, which justified clearly that it was not the time to start withdrawal and face his addiction. Everyone who has sleep problems, even if not as serious as Jackson's was, knows that once all options for sleep aids have been exhausted, there is very little left any doctor can do in the ordinary way. The body starts tolerating all types of sleep aids and you simply cannot go to sleep unless some miraculous cocktail of pills do the trick. But even that is usually just temporary and of course can be dangerous.

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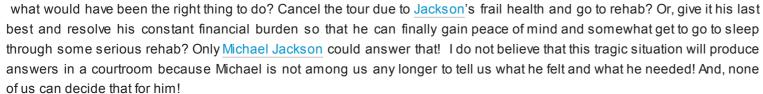
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Was the job of Dr. Murray to get Michael off of these sleep aids, or was his job to get him THROUGH THE CHALLENGES OF THE ADMITTEDLY LARGE TOUR? It's the latter. That is why he was hired. I would not be surprised if the plan would have been that which it seemed: "This is it," said Jackson, knowing and announcing that he will NOT perform more. At which time (after the tour) Dr. Murray or someone else could have started withdrawing him? Which I am sure was his intention too somewhere down the line. Nobody can go on living sleepless. That is pure torture! Just looking at his history, he did realize he had a problem as he was in rehab before. Yet, he needed to get through the tour! It is really a catch 22! I do not know if this very fact is being looked at at all. But, in my opinion it should, - because this is the reality of the story!

Now, could have Michael Jackson afforded rehab BEFORE the tour? A lengthy series of concerts of a lifetime (in the sense that he was saying goodbye), which concert however mainly was put on to ease his financial burdens? No, obviously not. Otherwise, they would have done just that! Michael's financial pressure alone may have contributed to a great degree, if not to the largest degree, to his insomnia. So, he almost had no choice but do the tour! Couple that with other factors and you are looking at a performer who is watched by the whole world in anticipation of a miraculous tour, and the performance of a legend that has sold out in "minutes" way ahead of time! Under these circumstances he simply MUST perform! If any of us cannot sleep for a few nights here and there it is painful enough all by itself, but we do not need to stand up in front of billions to look perfect and give the performance of a lifetime, which is what Michael wanted! How could he have achieved that without medical help in his fragile condition?

This trial is a very, very sad necessity in the sense that yes, we need to know what happened! But, everyone was up against the wall in a situation that could be best described as: could have, should have, would have... And, the question still remains:





About the Author of This Article: Lady Adrienne Papp is a recognized journalist who has written for many publications including Savoir, Beverly Hills 90210, Malibu Beach, Santa Monica Sun, The Beverly Hills Times Brentwood News Bel-Air View Celebrity Society Celeb Staff, It Magazine, Chic Today, LA2DAY, West Side Todayamong many others. She is the President and CEO of Los Angeles / New York-based publicity



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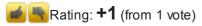


company, Atlantic Publicityand publishing house, Atlantic Publisher. Adrienne writes about world trends, Quantum Physics, entertainment and interviews celebrities, world leaders, inventors, philanthropists and entrepreneurs. She also owns Atlantic United Films that produces and finances true stories made for theatrical release or the silver screen. Spotlight News Magazineis owned by Atlantic United, Incwith Adrienne Pappbeing the majority shareholder.





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Alfred

Sep 30, 2011, 18:18

Very true!

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Eve

THis is awful but the truth is that they were between a rock and a hard place!

Sep 30, 2011, 18:19

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i +1 (from 1 vote)

Steven

Dr. Murray could have done a better job....stay by his bed side, etc....

Sep 30, 2011, 18:20



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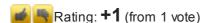
Z.R.

Sep 30, 2011, 18:23

Giving him propofol and leaving the room and leaving him alone was obviously wrong. Even if Murray meant well, he should have been a lot more attentive.



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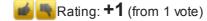
Jim

Sep 30, 2011, 18:24

I like this article. It points out the difficulties in the situation's controversy.



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