STATEMENT OF SAMUEL SKELETON (DEFENDANT)

My name is Samuel Skeleton. I am 30 years old and currently unemployed. I used to work in a shop that traded with bowie-knives and fowling-pieces. In the present case I am the defendant and I am here to tell you the truth.

I must admit that the problem between me and the victim, Bill Bull is an old one. We do not get on well. The reason for this is my ex-girlfriend, Sunny Solarium who is currently Bill's girlfriend. Let me explain why. A few days before the night in question I got an SMS from Sunny. She wrote me that she would spend that night in the Giant Discotheque and that she wanted to meet me. I was still in love with her so I decided to go. When I saw her in the disco I wanted to say 'hello' to her so I walked up to her in order to greet her. But the victim was also there and before I had been able to say anything he started yelling at me and he shouted 'Leave Sunny alone! She is my girlfriend!', and things like this. I tried to explain him that I had got an SMS from Sunny earlier but he did not believe me and called me a liar. At this point my brother – who came with me to the disco – grabbed my arm and took me outside. I needed some fresh air because I was really sad about Sunny. I was sad but not angry.

I was considering leaving the scene when I saw Bill. He came after me and behaved really aggressively. He was frightening and started to ask questions about the SMS that Sunny had sent to me. I did not want to talk about it anymore as I felt it totally useless. At that point it became clear to me that Sunny had only played with my emotions but Bill insisted on talking. When I refused to talk with him again, he grabbed me and lifted me up in the air. When I threatened him to call the police he put me down but he continued the attack and I wanted to stop him. You know he is a very tall and strong man, and he behaved really aggressively and look at me – I am short and very thin. In order to stop him I took my penknife out of my pocket. I just wanted to show him that I can defend myself; I thought that if he saw the knife he would stop fighting and shouting and I would be able to leave.

I did not want to hurt him at all, but he raised his arm and wanted to hit me. I was frightened and he moved so suddenly that I instinctively closed my eyes and reached out with my arms as I wanted to beat off the attack. At that point I completely forgot about the knife in my hand. I did not want to stub him; I just wanted to stop his arm. Anyway when I opened my eyes I saw Bill stepping back, his foot slipped on the edge of the pavement and fell backwards. I was shocked when I saw that he did not move, but I could not deal with him as Sunny suddenly appeared and started shouting at me and she was hysteric.

I would like to emphasize that I did not want to kill him. I just wanted to defend myself by showing him that I had a knife. I hoped that this would stop his attack and aggressive behavior. Believe me! If I had wanted to kill him I would have done it and my knife would have ended up in his heart and he would not have got away with a superficial scar on his side. I had the right to defend myself. I do not feel guilty, that is why I did not leave the scene after the incident and waited for the police. However I regret that Bill fell badly and now he is in coma.

/S/ Samuel Skeleton

WITNESS STATEMENT OF BRUCE SKELETON

My name is Bruce Skeleton and I am the brother of the defendant. I teach P.E. at a local high school, I like all kinds of sports, including dance, that is why we often go out with my brother. Giant Discotheque is not my favorite place, however, my brother insisted on going there, because his ex-girlfriend, Sunny wrote him a message that she would be there. I hate this girl, she ruined my brother! She plays with men and leaves them if she finds someone else with better financial background. She always lied to my brother and after breaking with him, she kept in touch with him: phoned and wrote him, but everything was a bad joke – she is the devil!

When we met in the disco, she was not alone but accompanied by her new boyfriend. It was her usual behavior – she just wanted to see my brother suffering. Some days before the accident she was kissing my brother, but a friend of the victim saw them and reported it to the victim. Therefore, I knew that this meeting in the disco would not bring any good. The victim started to shout at my brother and seemed very aggressive. On the other hand, my brother was still in love with Sunny, so he also became angry. I was afraid that the victim would attack my brother as he had an aggressive personality and as far as I know, he took part in an aggression-treatment program. Thus, I grabbed the arm of my brother and dragged him out of the disco.

We decided to go home, however, the victim came after us and continued to quarrel with my brother, moreover, he caught my brother and shoved away. I saw that the training was not successful in his case: he could not control his behavior and movements and was so aggressive! I tried to calm him down verbally, but it was useless, he also wanted to smack my

brother. My brother became very frightened and pulled out his knife from his belt, and he did not want to attack the victim, he just wanted to demonstrate that he could defend himself. However, he wounded the victim by chance, but it was the failure of the victim, my brother is totally innocent! And the fact that the victim fell was a coincidence, there is nothing to do with my brother. I am sorry for the victim, but you can see that if my brother had not had a knife, he would be dead now! Fortunately, there was a doctor standing near the entrance, who could examine the victim.

The worst thing was that after the accident Sunny ran into my brother, and I believed that she would hit him. My brother could not defend himself, as he was under the effect of the accident, was shocked and was anxious about the status of the victim.

/S/ Bruce Skeleton

WITNESS STATEMENT OF SUNNY SOLARIUM

My name is Sunny Solarium. I am 18 years old and I work in Dark City. I am the girlfriend of the victim. I met the victim, Bill Bull on a journey. I was there with my ex-boyfriend, Mr. Gates. I loved him but he was too old for me, so when I met Billy on the beach I decided to break up with Mr. Gates and moved to Billy's hotel room. He is very kind and he runs his own fitness club.

On that day we went out together with Billy. We wanted to have fun and enjoy ourselves. We were dancing on the dance floor when I saw the defendant, Samuel Skeleton. He was staring at me. I dated him about one year ago, but we broke up. He was cute but he did not have enough money. He was madly in love with me and when I left him for Billy, he threatened me. He told me that he was going to kill my next boyfriends. I thought it was not serious as he did nothing against Mr. Gates.

Anyway, we were dancing with Billy and suddenly Samuel showed up. He started shouting at us and stated that I sent him a few messages. It is not true. I did not send him any messages. He was just mad. Billy did not want to argue with him, so we left the dance floor. But after leaving he started asking questions from me about our relationship. As he was not satisfied with the answers, I gave him he decided to ask Samuel about the details. By this time Samuel had already left the building of the discotheque with his brother and Billy went after them.

By this time, I was fed up with the whole situation and decided to go home by taxi. I also went out of the building and saw a taxi waiting in front of the entrance. I wanted to get into it but before I was able to reach the door of the cab a man suddenly grabbed it and wanted to get into the taxi in front of me. He was drunk. He was hardly able to stand. Of course, I did not want to give him my taxi, so we started arguing.

The next thing I heard was a huge thump. I turned in the direction of the sound and saw my dear Billy lying on the ground. I ran to him and wanted to help the doctor, but Samuel grabbed me and whispered into my ear. He said ’I told you that you cannot be someone else’s.’

I am sure that Samuel wanted to kill my sweet Billy. He is very aggressive. It is true that Billy also had problems with behaving – he had a few incidents with the local police because of some fights, but he would have never attacked Samuel.

/S/ Sunny Solarium

(The mobile phone of the defendant was confiscated and in its memory three love messages were found sent by Sunny Solarium to the defendant.)

WITNESS STATEMENT OF JOE TIPSY

My name is Joe Tipsy and I am 25 years old. I am still studying at the University of Dark City to become a successful engineer. Vivid student life attracts me a lot, that is why I spend my seventh year here. My favorite place is the Giant Discotheque, where I spend most of my nights drinking beer or something serious with friends.

On 25 September I also met some of my classmates in this place and I felt a bit tired after some glasses of tequila, brandy and beer. Obviously, I was not drunk, I stand alcohol, but I still found it better to go home. I called a taxi and some minutes later left the disco. When I reached the cab, a pretty young woman (Ms. Sunny Solarium as it became clear later) wanted to get into the car. I told her that it was my taxi and she should have called another one, but instead of obeisance she started to quarrel with me. She looked so great that I offered to give her a lift either to her house or my home. I do think that she also liked my idea, but suddenly we heard a big noise.

Even if I concentrated on the girl, before the noise I saw two men near the entrance of the disco fighting against each other. The one was a huge man with strong muscles (the victim, as it turned out later); I am sure that he was a bodybuilder and made a really frightening impression. The other man, the defendant looked like skinny and was attacked by the victim, then the defendant did something with a knife and the huge man fell. That is only what I remember but I must emphasize that the skinny guy needed to defend himself because of the attack. I do not think that he wanted to kill anyone; my impression was that he only wanted to show the victim that he was armed and ready to defend himself in case of a serious attack.

When we heard the noise, the girl made a turn and had a look at the men fighting some minutes ago, then started to run towards the victim, who fell to the ground. At this point I realized that I would go home alone, and wanted to get into the cab, but the driver also ran to the scene, so I sat in the car and fell asleep on the back seat.

/S/ Joe Tipsy

WITNESS STATEMENT OF SAMY NACERI

My name is Samy Naceri and I am 35 years old. I work as a taxi driver at the Speed Company and like nightshifts a lot. That time the whole city is quite, and I am the Lord of the Streets with my pretty well-equipped car – that is more than cool.

On 25 September I was also on nightshift and at quarter past ten received a call from the Giant Discotheque. With my magic car I arrived at the disco as quick as lightning and waited for my passenger. A young lady, Ms. Solarium wanted to get into my cab instead of a man, who called me. In this very second, my passenger also arrived – he was totally drunk – and started to quarrel with the lady. In fact, I did not pay so much attention to them, as I am of the calm type, moreover, something more interesting and important raised my attention.

You know, in front of pubs and discos it is usual that drunk men shout at each other, start fighting, but in a situation like this, it is useful if there is someone sober, who can cast a chill over the company. I often undertake this role, I am a good mediator. This evening, I saw the victim and the defendant in front of the disco behaving in an aggressive way. Unfortunately, I could not hear anything, because Ms. Solarium and Mr. Tipsy were too loud. Suddenly, the victim being tall and strong grabbed the slim defendant, lifted him and dropped on the floor. It

was not enough for the victim, he continued the attack and I suppose that he wanted to slap the defendant in the face, as he started to raise his arm. At this point I decided to get out of the car and intervene, but I could not do anything, as the defendant whipped out a knife from his belt and parried the blow. Accidentally, he wounded the victim, but did not stab, I am sure. It was not intentional at all. The most serious problem was that when the victim wanted to step back, his feet slipped from the edge of the pavement and fell backwards. Such is life – he wanted to hit someone, who was smaller and weaker, so it was his punishment.

By the time I arrived there, Dr. House had arranged to call the ambulance. Ms. Solarium also rushed to the scene, but he did not deal with his boyfriend so much, rather he shouted at the defendant and wanted to hit him. This behavior was strange for me; however, being sure that the victim would receive the necessary treatment, I returned to my car, since I had a passenger.

/S/ Samy Naceri

WITNESS STATEMENT OF GREGORY HOUSE

My name is Gregory House, I am 26 years old. I studied medicine at the University of Dark City, I am specialized in psychology. I know the victim as he used to take part in aggression treatment training. I was his conductor. At that time, he tried to solve every conflict with fight but after the training things seemed to improve. I did a really good job.

On the evening of the day in question, I went out with my friends. I succeeded in passing my last exam and thought it would be nice to party. We had fun, we danced and enjoyed ourselves. I did not drink alcohol because I came by car and I had to drive. Around half past eleven we came out of the building of the disco with one of my friends because we wanted to smoke and it is forbidden in the building. Anyway, we were smoking and talking when suddenly we heard shouting.

I turned around and saw the victim and the defendant. They were standing very closely in front of each other and the defendant was yelling at the victim and wanted to hit him. He acted very aggressively and I heard him shouting ’I’ll kill you!’.

The victim wanted to stop the defendant, grabbed him and lifted him. He could do it easily as he is very strong and the defendant is very thin. When the victim released the defendant, the

defendant had a knife in his hand and stubbed towards the victim. The victim suddenly stepped back but he was standing on the pavement and his feet slipped on the edge, so he fell backwards. I saw that he hit his head on the pavement and did not move any more. He immediately became unconscious. I rushed there and examined him. For one moment I thought he was dead. I asked one of the people there to call the ambulance and I stayed with the victim.

If you want to hear my opinion about the case, I think the victim was only defending himself. I know what I am talking about, I am specialized in psychology. The defendant was very aggressive and wanted to kill the victim. The victim had problems in the past but after the aggression treatment training he became the most peaceful man in the world. Believe me! If this is not the case, I can give my diploma back.

/S/ Gregory House

(According to the opinion of the expert the wound caused by the knife was not a stub but rather a deep cut. The result is due to horizontal movements with the knife and not stubbing.)

WITNESS STATEMENT OF KEVIN COSTNER

My name is Kevin Costner. I am 30 years old and I work as a security guard at the Giant Discotheque. I was working on the evening of this event. In the disco there are only three guards working. However, it is a very big place so we cannot stand in one place during the whole night. We have to walk around and check if everything is okay and we have to take care of both the area of the discotheque and the area in front of it.

On that night around half past eleven I was walking around the dance floor and saw that two men – the victim and the defendant – were arguing. They both seemed to be very angry, but the defendant was particularly aggressive. I was just about to go there and take them out of the building when a man – the brother of the defendant – went up to them and grabbed the arm of the defendant and pulled him from the dance floor. They went out and the victim left the dance floor.

A few minutes later I went outside and I saw the two men shouting at each other. I wanted to go there and intervene but before I could do that the victim lifted the defendant and put him down on the other side. Then suddenly I saw the defendant. He had a knife in his hand, and he

told the victim something. I could not hear exactly what it was because of the loud noise. After it he stabbed the victim with the knife. I think he wanted to stab him to death because he aimed at his heart. The victim was lucky that he could jump aside. If he had not done that now he would be dead.

/S/ Kevin Costner

(Kevin Costner was charged with giving false witness statement for money in a civil law case. The procedure is pending in front of the court, and the decision has not yet been made.)