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Travis County District Attorney Margaret Moore today released the following statement:

Today, prosecutors for the Travis County District Attorney's Office secured a fifteen-year prison sentence for Pearl Moen, who stabbed a Hyde Park woman twenty-one times in November of 2015, and then wrote about the thrill of the stabbing in her diary.

Moen was 17 years old at the time of the crime, and had a history of drug use and psychological issues, but no criminal record. She hid in the bushes watching the victim prior to the stabbing, which she carried out because she wanted to know what it would feel like to kill someone. She later depicted the stabbing in several drawings that were discovered by her mother and given to the police.

Moen was charged with attempted murder, which carries a maximum penalty of twenty years in prison and today agreed to a fifteen-year sentence as part of a plea agreement in the 403rd District Court.

The victim is a 23 year old nurse, and asks that she not be named. She spoke directly to Moen after the plea, saying that she was "glad the defendant stabbed her rather than a child, an elderly person or someone who could not defend themselves." The victim added that because of her medical training she was able to use techniques that saved her own life.

ADA Joe Frederick was the lead prosecutor on the case. He said: "The determination the victim showed from moment of the stabbing, through her recovery and prosecution is inspiring. Her strength coupled with community involvement and good detective work is what made this prosecution possible. This office was proud to fight for justice on her behalf."