

## The Aftermath: Document: Preface of the Sleep of Reason (2011)

The document under scrutiny is the preface which is some background information about the James Bulger case. The author comes back on the aftermath of the trial. He explains what both murderers became.

A psychiatrist was taking care of Venables and the young lad was said to have made progress in terms of personal development and behavior. Red bank's medical staff witnessed Venables' kindness and good demeanor. He was seen as an example for the other disruptive teenagers. This fitted the widely spread thought which used to consider Thompson as the more thuggish and leader of the two. People used to think that Venables was the one who had been led astray.

However, it's totally the other way round and Jon was the sneakiest of the pair. In 2001, Jon was not considered as a danger nor a threat anymore. This being said, he would feel guilty all his life and the thought would eat him up. The shrinks found out that Thompson had been abused in his childhood. He had trouble turning the leaf and was still struggling with his violent and tormented past. He might have been beaten up by his parents.

Anyway, in 2001 they were released and sent to semi-independent flats. The Government also set up a program for them.

Everything went good for Thompson and we have never heard from him again. However, things were more complicated for Venables' reinsertion. Actually, he was sent back to prison and given a new identity again.

To conclude, we'll never know what happened and what crossed their minds during the murder of little James. Both boys, may have been victim of child abuse earlier in their life. Investigation still continues today