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**Spring mother sentenced to 28 years for starving stepson**

HOUSTON- A Spring woman was sentenced by a jury to 28 years for starving her five-year-old stepson and locking him away in a crawlspace the family dubbed the “Harry Potter Room,” prosecutors announced Monday.

“He was nearly starved to death,” Assistant District Attorney Stephen Driver said. “Doctors compared his state of malnourishment to that of a Holocaust survivor.”

Tammi Bleimeyer, 38, was sentenced late Monday by a jury that after ten days of witness testimony in the 178<sup>th</sup> State District Court, found her guilty late last week of Injury to a Child-Serious Bodily Injury.

The boy was forced to sleep beneath the stairs in an unfinished crawl space with exposed nails and wiring.

He wore only a diaper and was often given only a slice of bread to eat – and that was snatched away from him if he took too long to eat it.

He weighed 29 pounds when he was rescued after an older sibling told a family friend about the abuses the younger boy was suffering in addition to him having his head slammed into a wall and possibly being tasered.

The boy’s biological father, Bradley Bleimeyer, 28, previously pled guilty and was sentenced to 15 years in prison in 2016.

Tammi Bleimeyer, who appeared on the Dr. Phil Show shortly after her arrest in 2014, was prosecuted by Driver and Assistant District Attorney Ashlea Sheridan.

The boy is now in the care of his biological mother.

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