How long would it take for bruises like Beth's to heal?

A bruise usually takes two or three weeks to completely look normal. After two days bruising takes on a blue or purple color. At eight or nine days old, a bruising would turn yellow or brown. So, perhaps this scene takes place one to two weeks after the incident. It doesn't seem like she is completely healed.
Locations

Billings, Montana

Location of Montana within the United States:

(Removed for copyright: States map of the U.S.)

Location of Billings within Montana:

(Removed for copyright: Image of Montana)

Current Population of Billings: 106,954 (as of 2012)
Population in 1980: 66,798
Average income for a household: $35,147
Income per capita: $19,207
12% live below the poverty line
29% have a Bachelor’s degree or higher

Billings Through the 20th Century:

- In 1910, Billings was the sixth-fastest growing community in the United States with a population of 10,031.
- Billings became a center of industry in the early years of the twentieth century with the discovery of oil fields, coal, and natural gas reserves in Montana and Wyoming.
- After World War II, Billings became the major financial, medical and cultural center of the region.
- Billings' growth has remained robust throughout the 1950s.
- With this increase in oil production, Billings became the headquarters for energy sector companies.
• In 1975 and 1976, the Colstrip coal-fire generation plants 1 and 2 were completed; plants 3 and 4 started operating in 1984 and 1986.
• In the 1970s and 1980s, the first high-rise buildings to be built in Montana were constructed in Billings’ downtown area.
• During the 1970s and 1980s, other major buildings were constructed, including the Norwest Building, Granite Tower, the MetraPark arena, the TransWestern Center, and the First Interstate Tower, the tallest building in a five-state area.
• With the completion of large sections of the interstate system in Montana in the 1970s, Billings became a shopping destination for an ever larger area. The 1970s and 1980s saw new shopping districts and shopping centers developed in the Billings area.

Missoula, Montana

(Where Mike lives)
Distance from Billings to Missoula: 345 miles, 4 hours and 54 minutes by car

Population in 2013: 69,122  
Population in 1980: 33,388

Industries in Missoula:

- Throughout most of the 20th century, most of Missoula’s industry came from lumber and coal.
- In 2007, Missoula's lumber industry began to decline and is still in decline.
- Today Missoula has an immediate trade area of approximately 180,000 residents and is determined by the US Department of Commerce to be the regional economic center for the western third of Montana with a population of 300,929.
- Key areas of businesse include health care, retail shopping, transportation, financial services, government/social services, and education.
- The main hospitals are St. Patrick Hospital and Community Medical Center
- Most employment in Missoula is in the service and retail sectors, heavy and civil engineering, construction, truck transportation, and forestry/logging/wood related industries.
- Per capita income: $35,156.

Location of the Hospital 500 miles from Billings:

We had previously discussed the hospital being southwest of Billings, in the northeast tip of Nevada, near the Idaho border. For our purposes, I chose the town of Jackpot, Nevada, which is 544 miles away from Billings. The journey would be eight hours and 24 minutes by car, using I-90 W.
Additionally, Jake’s family is referred to as a “bunch of Okies.”

“Okie” means someone from Oklahoma. Specifically, during the Great Depression, migrants who moved from Oklahoma to Central California to find work were called “Okies” as a derogatory term. Oklahoma is 1430 miles southeast (a 20-hour drive) of Montana.
Brain Damage/Aphasia

Aphasia:

- Aphasia is a disturbance in the ability to comprehend and express language caused by damage in the brain, ranging from having difficulty recalling words to losing the ability to speak, read, or write.
- Most commonly caused by the brain damage that occurs during a stroke.
- Can also be caused by other brain diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease.
- Acute Aphasia develops quickly as a result of head injury or stroke.
- Progressive forms of Aphasia develop over time from a brain tumor or dementia.
- The type of Aphasia and its symptoms can vary.
- Most Acute Aphasia patients can recover some or most skills by working with a speech-language pathologist over the course of two or more years.

Symptoms of Aphasia:

- Inability to comprehend what one hears
- Inability to pronounce words and phrases
- Inability to speak spontaneously
- Inability to form words or name words spontaneously
- Constant repetition of, or inability to repeat phrases/words
- Substituting syllables or words with incorrect syllables/words
- Inability to speak in a way that is grammatically correct
- Major changes in inflexion, tone, pronunciation and rhythm of speech
- Incomplete sentences
- Inability to read or write
Different Variations of Aphasia:

- **Receptive Aphasia**: Addition of unnecessary words, and creation of new "words." For example, someone with Receptive aphasia may say, "You know that smoodle pinkered and that I want to get him round and take care of him like you want before", meaning "The dog needs to go out so I will take him for a walk". They have poor auditory and reading comprehension, and fluent, but nonsensical, oral and written expression.

- **Conduction Aphasia**: Defects in the connections between the speech-comprehension and speech-production areas. Auditory comprehension is near normal, and oral expression is near fluent.

- **Anomic Aphasia**: Difficulty with naming. Comprehension tends to be preserved. It is the Aphasia presentation of Alzheimer's disease.

- **Expressive Aphasia**: Short, meaningful phrases. Characterized as a nonfluent aphasia. Affected people often omit small words such as "is", "and", and "the". Able to understand the speech of others to varying degrees.

- **Global Aphasia**: Completely non-verbal or extremely limited in the ability to speak.

Video Clips:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1aplTvEQ6ew

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e8__Wp0Tpz4

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u09gaosZCVg

This is a link to the National Aphasia Network:

http://www.aphasia.org/
Production History

- First opened at the Promenade Theatre in New York City on December 5, 1985.
- The original production won the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Play and the New York Drama Critics’ Circle Award for Best Play.
- In 2010, there was a major Off-Broadway revival by the New Group at the Acorn Theatre.
- The revival was nominated for two Drama Desk Awards.

Critical Reviews of Productions:

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/19/theater/reviews/19lie.html?pagewanted=all&r=0

http://variety.com/2010/legit/reviews/a‐lie‐of‐the‐mind‐1117942248/

http://www.playbill.com/news/article/carradine‐metcalf‐and‐hamilton‐lead‐starry‐cast‐of‐shepards‐lie‐of‐the‐mind

Essential Quotes from these reviews:

**NY Times:**

Though only one of the addled characters in this drama has been officially diagnosed with brain damage, all appear to be suffering from gravely advanced disorientation. “Who am I?” each seems to be ceaselessly asking. “Where am I?” And “Am I really related to these strange creatures around me?”

“Yes, home is where they have to take you in; it is also where they can suck any sense of autonomous self right out of you. But while “Buried Child” leaned memorably toward exaggerated Gothic effects, “Lie” sticks close to the homey grain of everyday domestic life. Its steadily
increasing absurdity creeps up on you, as in one of those dreams that feel truer than waking existence.”

“As for the lines that separate the members within each household, and their present and past selves, they’re as flimsy and translucent as tissue paper. The walls — between parents and children, husbands and wives, older and younger siblings, the living and the dead — never stop tumbling down. Sometimes this blurring assumes the coziest conversational forms.”

“Home, self, love, genuine connectedness are only necessary myths, always more real in the memory than in the flesh.”

“They try to ‘believe’ they’re the person,” he says, with disgust, of actors. “Try to believe so hard they’re the person that they actually think they become the person.” But that’s the human condition, as Mr. Shepard sees it. Believing you’re the person you pretend to be is the leap of faith that lets you get on with your life. Playing the great pretenders of “A Lie of the Mind,” Mr. Hawke’s cast members leap so high you may feel the safe, solid earth receding beneath you.

**Variety:**

“These people are sons doomed to become their hated fathers; rivalrous siblings riven into good and bad selves; helpless, hopeless men who leave or die or just shut down; and blame-hurling women, addicted to victimhood yet unable to relinquish their belief in the tenuous salvation of love. The understanding that love is possibly the sole truth in the cluttered landscape of the mind is more pathological than consolatory.”

“The actors bring a scratchy, weathered history to the relationship between an irascible patriarch, who insists on being both pampered and left alone to hunt and brood, and a mollifying woman who just wants everyone to act nice.”
“It’s classic Shepard that, as twisted or torn as they may be, the ties still bind. And nowhere do they bind more unbreakably than between Jake and Beth. Even when they’re in different states, Jake remains transfixed by sightings of her across the vast mental landscape of the stage.”

“And the bizarre spectacle of Baylor painstakingly and proudly folding the U.S. flag amid the pathetic shards of his family’s sanity is a barbed joke that arguably cuts deeper in the country’s current state than when the play was written.”
Psychology of Abuse

Quotes on the Psychology of Abuse from *Psychology Today*:

A link to the article: “Behind the Veil: Inside the Mind of Men Who Abuse”:


The article “Anatomy of a Violent Relationship”:


From the article, “Domestic Violence Harms All Family Members”

“Children learn to be what they see and hear on a regular basis, especially at very young ages. To grow up healthy and learn good coping skills, children need to be in a safe nurturing environment with healthy, non-violent caregivers. Children believe that what they see at home is “normal.” If the home is safe and loving and has good boundaries, that becomes the norm. If violence is how people in the home solve problems, that becomes the model for how things “should be done.” Children that grow up in violent homes (3.3 million per year in the US) are strongly impacted by the violence. Those that become healthy, non-violent adults have had at least one person give them a “safe harbor” and help them cope with the trauma of living with violence. Children that grow up in violent homes at a young age, who become violent adults have not had someone to give them sufficient support, nurturing, guidance, boundaries, and a adequately healthy environment for them to overcome their experiences.
DV can be physical, emotional, sexual, verbal, or financial, or can involve restricting contact of family members with people outside of the home. It always involves secrecy and control issues. The secrecy keeps domestic violence alive. Domestic violence is traumatic to the children that witness it. Any significant trauma, such as DV, in the developmental years (0 – 5) can interfere with brain and skill development of the child. Self-soothing, problem solving, communication, cognition, and interpersonal skills can all be negatively impacted, while a safe environment supports the learning of skills that helps them cope with the problems they will inevitably face in the world.

A home with domestic violence is not a safe, nurturing environment. Additionally, it generally will not stop without the help of an outside agency that has more power than the offender, such as the police and the Courts. Similar to a garden with weeds and no nourishment, the garden will not flourish until the gardener weeds the garden, turns up the soil, and adds nourishment for the plants. A home with domestic violence cannot support healthy growth and development. Someone (the gardener) needs to stop the violence (pull the weeds out of the garden), improve family relationships and problem solving (turn up the soil), and support the healthy growth of all family members (add nourishment). The Court is the weed destroyer and the counselor or social worker is the support system that gives the family the help it needs to become strong and healthy.

There are many examples of domestic violence affecting public figures. Domestic violence in the relationship of Whitney Houston and Bobby Brown is well known. How that has and will continue to affect their daughter, Bobbi Kristina, will depend on how involved other relatives were and are in helping to give her safe haven and an alternative nurturing environment. Another example is Bill Clinton who spent the first four years of his life with his grandparents in a nurturing environment while his mother was in nursing school. His young life was
later marred by domestic violence. The nurturing environment in the first four years of life probably gave him the foundation he needed to develop early skills. This, coupled with success in school, helped him cope with the domestic violence in his middle childhood and adolescence. Despite domestic violence during those years, he became president of the United States. However, President Clinton’s half-brother, Roger, born in 1956 when President Clinton was 10 years old, would have been exposed to domestic violence at a younger age than the age of the President during exposure and he reportedly has had a checkered past. Research supports exposure to DV at a very young age interferes with the development of basic coping skills. Therefore, it appears that the domestic violence in the Clinton household may have affected the two brothers differently.

From the article: “Battering: Dangerous Dependency”:

“Not surprisingly, women who rely on their men for money are at a greater risk of suffering from domestic-partner abuse. But while we may imagine these abusive men as strong, independent uber-machos, Robert Bornstein of Adelphi University concluded in his review study that men who are emotionally dependent on their partners are more likely to be abusers.

Bornstein defines emotional dependence as "a marked need for nurturance, protection, and support, even in situations in which a person is capable of functioning autonomously and meeting challenges on his or her own." Again, we think of a dependent person as a weak, passive, helpless creature—but studies show that emotionally dependent men are highly jealous, possessive in relationships, and have trouble managing their anger.

The complicated dynamic at play in these relationships—one that often begs the question, "Why doesn’t she leave him?" needs more teasing
Most frustrating is the downward spiralling pattern dangerously dependent couples follow. Bornstein points out that repeated abuse, for example, may actually cause the woman to be more economically dependent. Depressed, physically depleted, and robbed of her self-confidence, she will have a harder time securing employment or performing well at her job as the violence at home increases, making her feel more trapped than ever.”

Excerpts from the article, “Why Do Battered Women Stay?”

“What adds to the mystery is that most of the women are themselves mystified by their own choice. When pressed, however, many respond by saying “Because I love him”; emotional attachment to the abuser is one of the primary reasons battered women give for why they choose to stay. From an evolutionary psychological perspective, love and other emotions are proximate mechanisms that compel organisms to engage in behavior that, in the context of the ancestral environment, would have increased their inclusive fitness. The fact that women themselves are mystified by their own choice when they follow their emotions and stay with their violent partners seems to suggest the possible operation of evolutionary logic to which the women do not have complete conscious access. But what possible reproductive benefits can staying with violent mates have, when such women are often severely injured, sometimes killed?

From the Dawkinsian (or, more properly, Hamiltonian) gene-centric view of life, there is one thing more important than life itself, and that is reproductive success. Life is important, survival is important, only because you can’t get laid if you are dead. Life is merely a means to reproduction. Organisms (like humans) are only vehicles for their genes, and it is the genes, not the organisms, that are in the driver’s seat. It would therefore underscore the power of the gene-centric view of life, if staying with an abusive partner has some benefit to the victims’ genes,
while it incurs tremendous costs to the victims themselves.

One possible such benefit is that, both in the United States and the United Kingdom, women mated to abusive partners have more sons. In the British sample, women who are mated to abusive husbands on average have one-eleventh more son than those who aren’t (.7912 vs. .7007). The difference increases to one-eighth of a son (.1324) in a multiple regression analysis which includes proper statistical controls for potential confounds. However, abused women have no more daughters than nonabused women (.6787 vs. .6836). And the tendency toward violence, which is largely a function of men’s baseline testosterone levels, is highly heritable. In other words, violent fathers tend to beget violent sons.

Violent men tend not to do well in civilized postindustrial societies like ours; they tend to be overrepresented in prison populations. However, our brain doesn’t know that. The human brain, including all of its evolved psychological mechanisms, are designed for and adapted to the conditions of our ancestral environment. In our ancestral environment, violent men probably did very well in their intrasexual competition for status, and thus for mating opportunities. The most prolific father in recorded history, Moulay Ismail the Bloodthirsty, who had at least 1,042 (but probably closer to 1,400) children in his lifetime, was also reputed to have killed 30,000 people by his own hands. Aggressive, violent, and ruthless men often made the best warriors and political leaders throughout human evolutionary history, until very recently.”

This is some overall info on the psychology of emotional abuse:

“Emotionally abusive behavior is anything that intentionally hurts the feelings of another person. Since almost everyone in intimate relationships does that at some time or other, emotionally abusive behavior must be distinguished from an emotionally abusive relationship, which is more than
the sum of emotionally abusive behaviors.

In emotionally abusive relationships, one party systematically controls the other by undermining his or her confidence, worthiness, growth, trust, or emotional stability, or by provoking fear or shame to manipulate or exploit.

It's important to note emotional abuse is about the effects of behavior, not the words used. You can say the most loving words with sarcasm and silently communicate contempt through body language, rolling eyes, sighs, grimaces, tone of voice, disgusted looks, cold shoulders, banging dishes, stonewalling, cold shoulders, etc. There are dozens of ways to be emotionally abusive.

In some respects, emotional abuse is more devastating than physical violence, due the greater likelihood that victims will blame themselves. If someone hits you, it's easier to see that he or she is the problem, but if the abuse is subtle - saying or implying that you're ugly, a bad parent, stupid, incompetent, not worth attention, or that no one could love you - you are more likely to think you’re the problem. Emotional abuse seems more personal than physical abuse, more about you as a person, more about your spirit. It makes love hurt.”

From the *Psychology Today* article, “Are You Emotionally Abusive?”

“Resentment is a predominant emotional state in our age of entitlement. Because we perceive ourselves to have more of a right to feel good than previous generations, it follows that those around us have an obligation to make us feel good.

Resentment is a misguided attempt to transfer pain to someone else, specifically the shame of failure to feel good, i.e., to create more value, meaning, and purpose in our lives. Blaming this core failure on someone else justifies a sense of self-righteousness, along with low-grade anger, which temporarily feel more powerful. But the temporary empowerment
comes at the cost of making an enemy of the beloved.

One problem with resentment is that it builds under the radar - by the time you're aware that you're resentful it has reached an advanced stage. You don't realize how much it has taken over your life until, through therapy or some life-changing event, you become more compassionate and look back on the years you have wasted being resentful. Eventually, with deep regret, you realize the pain you have suffered and the harm you have inflicted due to resentment.

Because resentment makes you feel like a victim - it feels like someone else is controlling your thoughts, feelings, and behavior - it comes with a built-in retaliation impulse. If you're resentful, you are probably in some way emotionally abusive to the people you love. You have devalued, demeaned, sought to control or manipulate and deliberately hurt the feelings of loved ones. But you've been so focused on what you don't like about their behavior that you haven't noticed what you don't like about your own. You probably have not grasped that resentment has made you into someone you are not.”

“Child Neglect” from Psychology Today

“Child neglect is defined as a type of maltreatment related to the failure to provide needed, age-appropriate care. Unlike physical and sexual abuse, neglect is usually typified by an ongoing pattern of inadequate care and is readily observed by individuals in close contact with the child. Once children are in school, personnel often notice indicators of child neglect such as poor hygiene, poor weight gain, inadequate medical care, or frequent absences from school. Professionals have defined four types of neglect: physical, emotional, educational, and medical.

More children suffer from neglect in the United States than from physical and sexual abuse combined. During 2005, 62.8 percent of victims experienced neglect, 16.6 percent were physically abused, 9.3 percent were sexually abused, 7.1 percent were emotionally or psychologically maltreated, and 2.0 percent were medically neglected. In addition, 14.3 percent of victims experienced such "other" types of maltreatment as
abandonment, threats of harm to the child, and congenital drug addiction. States may code any maltreatment type that does not fall into one of the main categories—physical abuse, neglect, medical neglect, sexual abuse, and psychological or emotional maltreatment—as "other."

In spite of this, neglect has received significantly less attention than physical and sexual abuse by practitioners, researchers, and the media. One explanation may be that neglect is so difficult to identify. Neglect often is an act of omission. But neglecting children's needs can be just as injurious as striking out at them.”

“The Invisible Power of Childhood Neglect” Psychology Today

“A child whose feelings are too often unnoticed, ignored, or misinterpreted by her parents receives a powerful, even if unintended, message from them: “Your feelings don’t matter,” “Your feelings are wrong,” or even “Your feelings are unacceptable.”

Children are adaptive little beings who respond deeply to their parents’ reactions. A child who receives any of these messages enough from his parents will naturally adapt by pushing his feelings down and away so that they are not visible to others. He may push them so far away that they are not visible even to himself.

I have given a name to this process: Childhood Emotional Neglect (CEN). Childhood Emotional Neglect happens when a parent fails to notice or respond enough to a child’s emotional needs.

Notice that a parent’s failure to respond is not an event that happens to a child. Instead, it’s something that fails to happen for a child. Because CEN is not an event, it’s invisible, intangible, and unmemorable. It goes virtually unnoticed by both child and parent. A hundred people could be watching an instance of CEN and not one of them would notice.”
Here’s a link to “Understanding the Causes of Child Neglect”

https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/usermanuals/neglect_93/neglectc.cfm