

"LAWNS"

by
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Based on the short story "Lawns"
Mona Simpson

INT. MAILROOM - MORNING

JENNY REMMY (18), blonde and nymph-thin, sorts a fist full of mail, sliding envelopes into narrow cubby-like mailboxes and occasionally pausing to examine an address.

A few feet away, egg shell curtains billow underneath a large air conditioning vent. Early morning light shimmies through them and into the nearly empty student mailroom. It's just Jenny, a brown sack of mail and about a hundred hungry mailboxes.

From outside, the sound of a LAWN MOWER grinds.

Jenny reaches into the sack and pulls out a large misshapen package, wrapped in multi-colored festive paper. Taped to the top, is a thick square-shaped envelope, firm like a starched collar.

It's addressed to: "Glenn Morrow," from a "Donald & Mona Morrow."

Jenny smells the misshapen package, closes her eyes. Beneath the shape of her nose, the silhouette of baked goods bulges through the wrapping.

Jenny carefully lifts the brow of the envelope as not to tear it and pulls out a birthday card with a sketch of a teddy bear holding a balloon.

She opens the card. A twenty dollar bill feathers to the floor.

The inscription inside reads: "Happy Birthday to Our Son! We are so proud of you. Love, Mom and Dad."

Jenny steps over the crisp face of Thomas Jefferson and peaks through the window.

Just outside, GLENN MORROW (19) rides a large lawn mower across overgrown grass. His shirtless chest gleams with sweat.

LAUREN (O.S.)

Isn't that the guy who dropped you
off last night?

Jenny's caught off guard, shudders. She stashes the card inside her loose blouse before facing LAUREN ARMSTRONG (18), Jenny's pre-law roommate and co-worker.

JENNY

Yeah.

Lauren smiles slyly from one side of her mouth. Kinda like Elvis.

LAUREN
What's his name? Greg or something?

Jenny lets the curtain fall from her hand.

JENNY
Glenn. Glenn Morrow.

Lauren notices the twenty abandoned on the floor.

LAUREN
Whoops. I think you dropped something.

JENNY
Oh, geez, thanks.

Jenny bends down, sweeps it up and slides it into her jean pocket.

LAUREN
Looks crisp.

JENNY
My dad sent it to me this morning.

LAUREN
Oh, no. Is it your birthday?

JENNY
No. Just a little something he sent on a whim.

LAUREN
I wish my dad would send me money on a whim. You're dad sounds pretty awesome.

JENNY
Yeah. He's alright.

INT. ANATOMY LAB - DAY

Jenny wears a face shield as she drills into the exposed femur bone of an adult pig with an electric bone saw. The saw GRINDS, unleashing tiny sparks from the friction of metal and bone.

The pig's yellowing skin is pinned back against the dissection table, revealing a cracked rib cage, deflated gray lungs, minor organs stuffed inside like green pearls.

FELLOW STUDENTS, including Glenn, keep their distance as tiny pieces of preserved tissue spurts out from the edge of the saw.

The bone finally CRACKS in half.

Jenny turns off the bone saw and lifts up her face shield.

Glenn leans over the severed pig leg.

GLENN

How'd you know how to do that?

Jenny wipes the blood from the teeth of the bone saw with a thick towel.

JENNY

My father's a surgeon.

GLENN

I knew that.

DR. WILLIAM RICHMOND (stout Anatomy professor) stops by their dissection table and admires Jenny's handy work.

DR. RICHMOND

Let me see.

He slides a gloved finger across the edge of the cut bone.

DR. RICHMOND (CONT'D)

Nice, clean cut.

JENNY

Thanks.

DR. RICHMOND

Your the MacAloon Fellowship recipient, right?

Jenny nods her head "Yes."

DR. RICHMOND (CONT'D)

Well, I can see why.

Dr. Richmond gives Jenny a quick pat on the back and goes back to making his rounds around the anatomy lab.

INT. GLENN'S DORM - AFTERNOON

The package of cookies from the mailroom, sits on a night stand, ripped open.

Glenn sticks a big gooey cookie in his mouth, while Jenny lounges on his boyish single bed and highlights passages out of a "Biochemistry" text book.

At her feet, her cellphone VIBRATES, lights up purple against the flannel comforter. She ignores it.

Glenn wipes cookie crumbs from the side of his mouth as he motions for Jenny to scoot.

GLENN

Amazing.

Jenny tosses the text book at the end of the bed and makes room for Glenn.

JENNY

What?

Glenn takes another cookie, plops down beside his girlfriend.

GLENN

These taste just like the kind my mom makes.

JENNY

Very funny.

Jenny kisses Glenn's cheek.

GLENN

No seriously. These are unbelievable.

JENNY

And you thought I forgot your birthday.

GLENN

Well, it's not like I would expect you to know. How'd you find out, anyways?

Jenny digs into the purse at her side and takes out a large leather wallet, tosses it on the bed.

JENNY

You left your wallet in my room
this morning. Twenty, huh? I
thought you were twenty-one.

GLENN

I never said that.

Glenn leans over to retrieve his wallet, when he spots
Jenny's cellphone VIBRATING like crazy.

JENNY

Sure you did.

Glenn retrieves Jenny's phone, glances at the caller ID. It
reads "Dad."

GLENN

Think fast.

He tosses her the cell.

GLENN (CONT'D)

It's your Dad.

Jenny catches it, sticks it in her purse.

JENNY

I know.

GLENN

You're not going to answer it?

Glenn sticks another cookie in his mouth.

JENNY

No.

Jenny kisses Glenn instead, giggles.

GLENN

What?

JENNY

You've still got cookie in your
mouth.

INT. GLENN'S DORM - EARLY EVENING

Jenny wakes up with Glenn's firm arm collapsed around her
waist.

From inside her purse, she can hear the HUM of her vibrating phone.

EXT. LAWN - NIGHT

Tiny street lanterns give the lawn an eerie orange glow, as Jenny removes her vibrating cellphone from her jeans pocket.

It reads "Dad."

She drops the cellphone onto the ground and sits indian-style beside it, tearing up blades of grass as it vibrates wildly.

A beetle borrows itself in the ground.

Finally, she answers her phone.

JENNY
(into phone)
Dad? What is it?

INT. JENNY'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

DR. STEVEN REMMY (a handsome 50) strokes the arm of Jenny's soft pink sweater, dangling from the back of her desk chair.

Jenny sits at the edge of her bed and stares at the glitter and grim buried into her carpet.

STEVEN
Packed?

JENNY
I wasn't planning on going any
where this weekend.

STEVEN
If you answered your phone earlier,
you would've had more time to pack.

INT./EXT. RENTED MERCEDES - REDWOOD FOREST - NIGHT

Steven grips the wheel of a new Mercedes coup, as he speeds down a dark and narrow rural road.

Jenny tilts her head towards the window. There are no street lights, just giant redwoods that tower on either side of them like insurmountable walls that could collapse at any moment.

JENNY

I recognize this road.

STEVEN

We're going to that resort in the redwoods. I took you and your mother there when you were little, remember?

Jenny frowns, notices a "Map Quest" map on the dashboard.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

I got the wedding suite.

JENNY

You shouldn't have.

STEVEN

Only the best for my girl.

JENNY

Don't say that.

He tries to hold her hand, but she yanks it away.

Her cellphone rings.

STEVEN

Don't answer it.

Jenny retrieves her phone. The caller ID reads: "Glenn."

Steven places his hand firmly against her head, smooths out a few strands of fly-away yellow hair.

INT. HOTEL SUITE BATHROOM - NIGHT

Steven bends over a porcelain jacuzzi bath tub and draws Jenny a bath.

She crosses her legs on a vanity stool in a big white hotel robe, like a movie star.

STEVEN

I got the bubble bath you like.

JENNY

That's nice of you, Daddy.

Steven catches a glimpse of her wiggling toes, leading up to her calves, to the bend of her knee, her crisscrossed thighs . . . She pulls down her robe.

The water is almost to the top of the bathtub.

JENNY (CONT'D)
Your gonna flood the place.

STEVEN
Oh.

Steven turns off the water, bubbles bursting around his sweaty face.

STEVEN (CONT'D)
It's ready.

Jenny stands up and pulls on a tie string, as if she about to remove her robe. But she doesn't.

She glides towards the bathtub instead and towers above her father, as if to toy with him.

JENNY
You can leave now, Daddy. Thanks.

Steven fingers the edge of her robe.

STEVEN
Maybe, I should stay, in case you need anything.

Jenny pulls her robe back, the fabric slipping from his fingers.

JENNY
I won't need anything.

STEVEN
You know I would do anything for my little girl.

JENNY
I know, Daddy.

STEVEN
What do you want?

JENNY
I want to go back to campus.

SEVEN
I'll take you back in the morning.

JENNY
No. Tonight.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Jenny pulls up a pair of white socks, letting her wet hair fall down onto her blouse, staining it with water.

Her cell phone vibrates, almost bouncing off the dresser.

She answers it.

JENNY
(into phone)
Hello?

From inside the bathroom, her father watches her through the cracked doorway. He brushes his teeth, his gold watch catching bits of light.

JENNY (CONT'D)
(into phone)
I'm sorry. I love you too.

INT./EXT. MERCEDES - DAWN

Jenny's wet hair is tied back into a bun, as Steven drives them past massive campus buildings, huge lush lawns.

The sun breaks over the horizon in azures, violets, pinks.

STEVEN
Who was on the phone?

Jenny slides on a pair of oversized sunglasses.

JENNY
Huh?

STEVEN
In the hotel room. You were on the phone.

JENNY
I was talking to Glenn.

STEVEN
Who's Glenn?

JENNY
He's my boyfriend, Daddy.

Steven pulls the car against the curb, turns off the ignition. His eyes well with tears.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Dad?

STEVEN

(sobs)

You don't love me anymore.

Jenny leans her head back against the seat and SIGHS.

JENNY

I just don't love you that way.

Steven's crying so hard that snot drips from the tip of his nose.

STEVEN

I want to die.

Jenny opens the passenger side door.

JENNY

Jesus Christ. You're so pathetic.

STEVEN

I'm sorry.

Steven places his head in Jenny's lap, cries.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

What do you want?

JENNY

For you to stop slobbering all over me.

Jenny butts him off her lap.

JENNY (CONT'D)

You're being gross.

STEVEN

Don't you need me anymore?

JENNY

Get a hold of yourself.

Jenny jumps out of the car, slams the car door with a THUD.

INT. JENNY'S DORM - DAWN

Fresh morning light snakes cross Lauren's sleeping silhouette.

Jenny tiptoes into the room, places her vibrating phone on her dresser, opens the closet, and changes clothes.

LAUREN
Jenny? Is that you?

JENNY
Sorry. Go back to sleep.

LAUREN
(groggy)
That Glenn guy came looking for you last night. He seemed kinda upset.

JENNY
The mailroom's opening up in a half hour. You should get up and get there on time for once.

Lauren covers her head with a pillow.

LAUREN
It's too early.

EXT. LAWN - EARLY MORNING

Jenny watches Glenn ride his lawn mower.

She fakes a great big smile, waves.

Glenn GRINDS the lawn mower to a halt, glares at Jenny.

JENNY
You're mad.

GLENN
I'm not used to waking up and finding the girl gone.

JENNY
I'm not gone.

GLENN
Where did you go?

JENNY
Anatomy lab.

GLENN
All night?

JENNY
What can I say, I'm good with a
scalpel.

Jenny steps onto a large exhaust pipe.

JENNY (CONT'D)
Can I get on?

GLENN
Not today.

Jenny thrusts herself upwards, kisses Glenn on the cheek.

JENNY
C'mon.

GLENN
Jenny, get down.

Jenny jumps back to Earth.

JENNY
Sorry.

INT. MAILROOM - MORNING

A red-faced Jenny tears into letters, packages, leaving
ripped envelopes and wrapping in her wake.

She opens a package with a football inside.

Just then, she hears a door SLAM.

JENNY
Shit.

Quickly, Jenny gathers the opened letters and presents,
stuffs them in her backpack.

FOOTSTEPS.

Through the empty mailboxes, she can see Lauren approach with
two cups of coffee and a backpack slung around her back.

Jenny notices the football, still out in the open, teetering on the table.

The door opens, as Jenny grabs the football and hides it behind her back.

Lauren steps into the mailroom, sets the coffee down.

LAUREN
I bare gifts.

JENNY
Oh, thanks. That was sweet of you.

LAUREN
And did I show you what I got in
the mail yesterday?

Jenny shrugs her shoulders, backs up to the trash can.

Lauren pulls out a DVD set of "Twin Peaks."

LAUREN (CONT'D)
Ta-da.

With stealth, Jenny drops the football into the trash can.

JENNY
When can we watch it?

INT. JENNY'S DORM - NIGHT

Jenny and Lauren lay on their stomachs, swinging their bare feet behind them. Toes painted and drying.

They're watching *Twin Peaks* on a small television set. On the screen, Audrey Horne dances in front of a jute box.

LAUREN
I'm an Audrey. Hands down.

JENNY
You both have nice legs.

LAUREN
How 'bout you?

JENNY
The dead girl: Laura Palmer.

LAUREN
You both have blonde hair.

Jenny's cell phone vibrates on the dresser, making a HUMMING sound.

LAUREN (CONT'D)
Answer your cell phone for once.

There's a KNOCK on the door.

LAUREN (CONT'D)
(calling)
Come in!

Glenn appears in the doorway.

EXT. CAMPUS LAWN - NIGHT

Glenn and Jenny lay on the grass, eyes upturned to the dark clouds floating across the night sky.

Glenn sits up, open his backpack and pulls out a wrapped package and a card.

GLENN
For you.

Glenn hands Jenny the present.

JENNY
I thought you were mad at me.

GLENN
Open it.

Jenny tears into the package, Glenn stops her.

GLENN (CONT'D)
You got to open the envelope first.

Jenny's hands slide open the envelope, pulls out a card, reads it.

GLENN (CONT'D)
I got a job resodding the grass.

JENNY
Cool.

He motions for her to open the package.

GLENN
It got it after you won the McAloon Fellowship.

It's a brand new "Dissection Kit."

JENNY

You didn't have to.

Jenny opens the case. Inside, dissection scissors, dissection probes, forceps, and a row of scalpels shine underneath the lamp light.

Jenny snaps the case shut.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Does this mean we're made up?

GLENN

No.

The sprinklers switch on.

Jenny poises to rise, but Glenn presses his hand against her stomach.

GLENN (CONT'D)

Don't move.

He kisses her, water splattering against them.

INT. CAMPUS MAIL ROOM - MORNING

Jenny sorts mail like a normal employee. No stealing. No reading other people's mail.

She looks outside the window. All she can see is Glenn on that big lawn mower.

She smiles.

OFFICER RODRIGUEZ (O.S.)

Do you work here?

Startled, Jenny swings her head around.

OFFICER MARIA RODRIGUEZ (30s, power suit adorned with police badge) inspects the open mail boxes.

JENNY

Yeah. I'm Jenny.

OFFICER RODRIGUEZ

(without looking up)

There's a meeting in the conference room.

JENNY

About what?

Officer Rodriguez heads for the door.

OFFICER RODRIGUEZ

I'll see you there in five.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Officer Rodriguez places a football on the conference table.

Jenny, Lauren and MATT (overweight sophomore) sit and stare.

OFFICER RODRIGUEZ

So, who's been stealing mail?

Lauren raises her hand.

OFFICER RODRIGUEZ (CONT'D)

This isn't a class room.

LAUREN

Shouldn't we have our lawyers
present?

MATT

Yeah. Isn't it, like, our
constitutional right or something?

OFFICER RODRIGUEZ

We're gonna need fingerprints from
every employee.

LAUREN

Not without a lawyer, you don't.

INT. ANATOMY LAB - DAY

Jenny and Glenn work on her dissection of the pig, their
mouths and noses covered by white masks.

Jenny's using a scalpel to dissect the sexual organs.

She messes up an incision.

JENNY

Damn it!

GLENN

Are you alright?

Jenny slides down her mask.

JENNY

This scalpel is dull.

Glenn also removes his mask.

GLENN

I want to take you to Lake Tahoe
this weekend.

JENNY

I've got too much work for this
class.

GLENN

That's bullshit. Take a 'B' for
once in your life.

JENNY

I've got to get an 'A' to keep the
fellowship. And if Richmond were
to see this dissection as it
stands, he'd lower my grade without
flinching.

GLENN

You're paranoid.

JENNY

If you're not going to help, could
you just leave?

INT. JENNY'S DORM - NIGHT

Jenny sits on her bed and watches her phone vibrate, as she
highlights passages out of an "Anatomy" textbook.

Lauren slinks through the door, with a bagful of groceries.

LAUREN

No wonder Glenn's always pissed at
you.

JENNY

Huh?

LAUREN

You never answer his phone calls.

Lauren unloads the groceries into a mini-fridge.

JENNY

Where did you learn to handle the police like that?

LAUREN

Pre-law has it's perks. Have you called your Dad about a lawyer yet?

Jenny's phone continues to vibrate.

JENNY

No. I was hoping I wouldn't have to.

LAUREN

Jenny.

JENNY

What?

LAUREN

That police officer is going to come back and fingerprint you. And when she does . . . She's gonna link you to that stolen football.

JENNY

What?

LAUREN

You like to go through other people's mail. It's one of your lovable eccentric qualities.

JENNY

Shit.

Lauren takes a seat next to Jenny.

LAUREN

You've gotta get a lawyer. Okay?

Jenny nods her head, her eyes swelling up with tears as her cellphone vibrates.

EXT. CAMPUS LAWN - DUSK

The lawn has been torn apart.

Jenny hikes across the black soil in her lab coat. It's stained with pink and yellow fluid.

She shields her eyes from the bright oranges and pinks of the setting sun.

She stops, takes out her cell phone. For once it is still.

Below, ground worms wiggle, kick up dirt.

She flips open her phone and dials: "Dad."

JENNY
(into phone)
Daddy. I need help.

INT. ANATOMY LAB - DUSK

Jenny works on the dissection of the pig alone. The dimming golden sunlight refracting off her scalpel.

Dr. Richmond emerges from his office.

DR. RICHMOND
Okay, Jenny. Time to lock up.

Jenny begins wiping off her tools.

His heels CLICK against the tile floor as he approaches her, leans over her shoulder and examines her work.

DR. RICHMOND (CONT'D)
You're behind.

JENNY
I know. The building is open during the day on the weekends, right?

Dr. Richmond CLICKS the top of his ball point pen, scribbles a set of numbers onto a scrap piece of paper, hands it to Jenny.

DR. RICHMOND
Here.

Jenny looks quizzically at the numbers.

DR. RICHMOND (CONT'D)
It's the passcode for the building. You can use it all weekend. Night and day.

JENNY

I didn't think students were
allowed to have these.

DR. RICHMOND

If you don't tell anyone you have
it, then no one will know I gave it
to you.

INT. DORM HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jenny sulks down the hallway, leaving a trail of black soil
in her wake.

INT. JENNY'S DORM - NIGHT

Jenny removes her stained lab coat, hangs it in the closet,
begins to undress.

INT. JENNY'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

The outline of Jenny's figure against the shower curtain.

The sound of WATER rushing.

INT. JENNY'S DORM - NIGHT

Jenny steps into her room, robed, a turbaned towel wrapped
around her head.

She GASPS.

Steven sits at her desk, thumbing with her computer.

Jenny takes a seat on her bed, unwraps her hair. Moist
stands of yellow hair tumble down.

JENNY

I thought you were just going to
send a check.

She picks up a comb, brushes her hair.

STEVEN

You sounded upset on the phone. I
got upset.

Steven stands over her, takes the brush from her head and
gently strokes it through a wet tangle.

Jenny notices that her suitcase leans against a night stand.

JENNY

I can't go anywhere this weekend.

STEVEN

Sure you can.

He kisses her on the forehead.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

You're not one of those girls who
thinks Daddy's a checkbook, are
you?

EXT. PARKING LOT - DUSK

Orange lamp lights cast shadows across Jenny's face, bounce
off the shiny hoods of cars.

Steven pops open the trunk of his Mercedes, places her
suitcase next to his.

STEVEN

The door's unlocked.

Jenny goes to open the passenger side door.

He SLAMS the trunk.

Suddenly, Glenn steps into the lamp light.

GLENN

Where ya goin'?

JENNY

Ah, Dad this is Glenn. Glenn, my
Dad. Dr. Remmy.

Glenn's face lightens as he leans over to shake Steven's
hand.

GLENN

Oh. Nice to meet you, sir. You
must be very proud of your
daughter.

Steven stares at Glenn blankly.

JENNY

Excuse me a sec, Daddy.

Jenny takes Glenn's hand, pulls him aside, into the shadows.

JENNY (CONT'D)

(hushed)

I've got to go.

GLENN

I thought you had to much work to do to go anywhere.

JENNY

He's my father.

GLENN

You know how to say 'No,' when you want to.

JENNY

If you're going to be that way, just fuck off.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Jenny slices open a rare steak. Red juices seep across her plate.

She slides a piece of meat into her mouth, while Steven stares at her lips, her tongue.

He hasn't touched his food.

STEVEN

The lawyer will be there on Monday.

JENNY

What's his name?

Steven notices a bit of red juice staining the edge of her mouth. He dips his linen napkin in his water.

STEVEN

(motioning for her to come closer)

Here.

Jenny holds still as her father leans over the table and wipes the skin around her mouth.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Paul Gravitz. I sent you the check, so that you can pay him.

Steven removes the napkin. Jenny's face is clean.

JENNY
Thank you, Daddy.

EXT. CAMPUS LAWN - NIGHT

Glenn tears up more sod and soil, his hands digging into the dark dirt.

In the distance, Lauren treks towards him, holding two lattes.

GLENN
Hey, there, Lauren.

LAUREN
Have you seen Jenny? She's supposed to be in the lab, but I don't think anyone's in there.

GLENN
She went off somewhere with her father.

LAUREN
Weird.

She offers him a latte.

LAUREN (CONT'D)
Want one?

INT. JENNY & LAUREN'S DORM - NIGHT

Lauren sits at Jenny's desk, sipping on her latte.

From the bathroom, we hear the sound of running water.

LAUREN
You should go after her. Girls love that shit.

Glenn comes out of the bathroom, drying his hands against his jeans off with a towel.

GLENN
I don't think so. She told me to fuck off.

LAUREN

A sure sign of affection coming
from Jenny.

GLENN

I think she's going to dump me.
And the fucked-up part is that I
don't know why.

LAUREN

I'm telling you. Go find her.
Don't let the weekend pass with a
fight.

GLENN

She didn't tell me where they were
going.

Jenny motions to the computer screen.

JENNY

I'm guessing they went there.

On the computer is a Map Quest Map and directions to "The
Great Northern Hotel."

INT./ EXT. MERCEDES - REDWOOD FOREST - NIGHT

Steven dives Jenny down that same dark road. Red woods
fading into the distance forever.

Jenny folds a printed-out "Map Quest" map, sets it on the
console.

He tries to hold her hand, but she yanks it away.

JENNY

Don't.

STEVEN

I'm just so happy to see you again.
Did you miss me? I missed you.

JENNY

I can't stay all weekend. I've got
a science project to finish.

Her cellphone is ringing, it's "Glenn."

Steven pulls the car over onto the curb side

JENNY (CONT'D)
Why are we pulled over?

Steven removes a renegade strand of hair from her face.

JENNY (CONT'D)
No.

STEVEN
Come on. It'll be like that time
we went camping.

Her cellphone lights up, vibrates.

INT. GLENN'S CAR - NIGHT

Glenn's calling Jenny on his cell, as he drives down the same
redwood lined road.

He sees the Mercedes parked on the side of the road.

GLENN
What in the hell?

He pulls over.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

Glenn, flashlight in hand, looks through the windows of the
empty car.

GLENN
(calls out)
Jenny.

Nothing.

He dials her number into his cellphone, listens to the
rustling of leaves tangled in a night breeze.

Nothing.

Then he hears it, the low grumbling of a vibrating phone.

He peers inside the Mercedes and there it is. Jenny's
cellphone lies on the passenger seat, lit-up and dancing.

GLENN (CONT'D)
Shit.

EXT. REDWOODS - NIGHT

Glenn treks through the darkness. His flashlight's unsteady beam of light zigzags across giant tree trunks, majestic leaves, roots tangled in soil.

Suddenly, he hears a twig SNAP. The CRUNCHING of leaves, HEAVY BREATHING.

GLENN

Hello?

Glenn steps over a rotting root, letting his flashlight fall onto Jenny's face.

She SCREAMS.

She's spread eagle against dead leaves, her father fucking her, MOANING.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

Vomit splatters against the curb.

Glenn wipes his mouth, leans against the Mercedes, his flashlight swinging from his arm.

Jenny bolts out of the woods, buttoning up her dress. Her face wet with tears.

JENNY

Glenn?

She sees the vomit.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Are you alright?

GLENN

Back the fuck away.

JENNY

I'm sorry.

Glenn stares at the contents of his stomach, as Jenny opens the passenger side door of the Mercedes, retrieves her things.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Please tell me you didn't see that.

She removes an old, rusted scalpel from her purse and stabs her father's front tire, ripping into the black rubber.

GLENN

What in the hell? Fuck this.

He strides towards his car.

JENNY

Wait.

She pulls out her scalpel from the black rubber, follows.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Please.

Glenn slides into the driver's seat, slams the door.

Jenny bangs on the passenger side window, as her father hikes out of the woods. He unlocks his car remotely.

STEVEN

Jenny. Get in the car.

Jenny presses her face to the glass.

JENNY

(mouths to Glenn)

Let me in.

Glenn unlocks the door.

INT./ EXT. GLENN'S CAR - REDWOOD FOREST - NIGHT

Glenn speeds down the dark road, gripping the wheel.

Jenny stares at his stone face.

JENNY

Glenn?

He's unresponsive.

JENNY (CONT'D)

I love you.

Jenny goes to touch his face, but he swats her hand away.

GLENN

Don't touch me. Don't talk to me.

Jenny sits back into her seat, her cellphone vibrates in her pocket.

INT. / EXT. GLENN'S CAR - DORM BUILDING - NIGHT

Jenny's cell phone begins to vibrate, as Glenn pulls over the car, stops the ignition.

GLENN
Aren't you gonna answer it?

Jenny shakes her head, "No."

Glenn pries the phone from her hands.

JENNY
Hey!

GLENN
Come on. Answer it.

JENNY
I don't want to!

He flips open the phone, smashes it against her ear.

STEVEN (V.O.)
(faint)
Hello? Jenny?

Jenny manages to snatch the phone back, snap it shut and take out the battery.

JENNY
I don't want to talk to him.

GLENN
Is he really your father?

Jenny nods her head, "Yes," her eyes big and sorrowful.

GLENN (CONT'D)
How long have you been fucking him?

JENNY
Since I was twelve.

Glenn gets out of the car, walks around the passenger side and opens the door for Jenny.

GLENN
Get out and go home.

JENNY

Please.

Glenn takes Jenny's hand, pulls her out the car, and holds her against his chest for just a moment.

GLENN

Go home.

Glenn's face softens. Jenny tries to kiss him, but he turns his head.

GLENN (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, but I just can't.

JENNY

I won't do it again. I promise.

GLENN

Go home.

INT. JENNY'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Jenny grabs her new dissection kit from her dresser.

Across the room, Lauren's a big lump of comforter and sheets.

LAUREN

(groggily)

Did Glenn find you?

JENNY

Sorry. Go back to sleep.

LAUREN

I wasn't asleep. I had this dream that Glenn found you. You were by the hotel pool and I was there too, swimming in a giant margarita with that guy from English Lit.

JENNY

I'm gonna be in the science lab all night. Here's the code to get in if you need me.

Jenny places a piece of paper next to Lauren's night stand.

LAUREN

I'll bring you coffee in the morning.

JENNY

Thanks.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

-Jenny stands under fluorescent lights and glares at her dissected pig. It's a mess, organs shredded, skin browning.

-She throws the mangled pig in a garbage can.

-Jenny opens industrial refrigerator full of animal cadavers, pulls out a fresh, new pig.

-Jenny slips on her lab coat, gloves. Covers her face with a linen mask.

EXT. CAMPUS - LATE NIGHT

A yellow taxi pulls up to the curb side. Inside, Steven sits.

INT. ANATOMY LAB - LATE NIGHT

Jenny opens her dissection kit from Glenn.

Dissection scissors, dissection probes, forceps, and a row of scalpels gleam, spotless.

With a gloved hand, she removes a scalpel and slices into the new, unscathed pig.

STEVEN (O.S.)

The heart's on the left side.

Jenny swings around. Her father appears through the doorway.

JENNY

Who said I was going for the heart?

Steven steps towards Jenny, removes her face mask.

STEVEN

You look like you've been crying.

She grips her scalpel.

JENNY

You've ruined everything.

STEVEN

He wasn't good enough for you
anyway.

Her father hugs her, presses her head against his chest.

JENNY

Let go of me.

Steven moves his hands around her body, begins to unbutton
her jeans.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Please.

He kisses the nape of her neck, her shoulders.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Get off me.

He just grips her tighter, tugs on her hair, PANTING.

Jenny inhales, feeling the metal tip of her scalpel. She
holds her breath and closes her eyes.

BLACKNESS.

The sound of a GASP. Flesh tearing. GURGLING.

Jenny opens her eyes.

She's stabbed her father in the jugular.

Steven holds his neck, blood gushing in rhythm with his
heartbeat. He's trying to say something, but no sound comes
out.

He stumbles towards Jenny, reaching for her.

She YELPS, dashes out of his way.

Blood spurts from his neck into the air, as he falls to the
ground with a THUD.

Jenny breaths, the sound of air wheezes from her lungs, as
she steps away from the puddle blood. Red smeared on the
spotless white floor.

DARKNESS

SERIES OF SHOTS:

- Scalpels, shiny dissection tools shake from the GRINDING of a saw. Red droplets gather at the edges of a metallic dissection table.

- The sharp edges of scalpels, knives and dissection tools, gleam from a soap tub of water, as Jenny cleans them one by one.

-Jenny kneels on her hands and knees as she Coloreds the floor using a paper towel.

-Jenny wipes down the dissection table.

-Jenny drags a giant garbage bag towards the door, leans it against another garbage bag.

EXT. CAMPUS LAWN - MORNING

Frantic, Jenny digs through the soil with her bare hands. Flecks of dirt cover her face. A giant garbage bag billows at her side.

Jenny reaches inside the garbage bag . . .

INT. CAMPUS MAIL ROOM - MORNING

Jenny reaches inside a black mail bag and pulls out a fist full of letters.

Before she sorts it, Jenny places the mail on the table and walks towards the window, curtains fluttering around her.

LAUREN (O.S.)

There's a guy outside. Says he's your lawyer.

Lauren leans against a row of mailboxes.

Jenny doesn't turn around.

JENNY

Do me a favor and finish sorting the mail on the table.

Lauren complies, takes a handful of envelopes, sticks them in mail cubbies.

LAUREN

I'm glad you got one. That bitch
pig still wants our fingerprints.

Jenny just stares out the window.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

Did your Dad drop you the money
last night?

JENNY

He came by the lab.

LAUREN

Hope you had time to finish your
project. I'm sorry I forgot about
the coffee.

JENNY

It's fine.

Lauren comes across a certified envelope addressed to "Jenny
Remmy." From a "Dr. Steven Remmy."

She places a hand on Jenny's shoulder, tries to hand her the
envelope.

LAUREN

Here.

JENNY

What is it?

LAUREN

You've got a letter.

Outside, Glenn's on his knees covered in black soil as her
resods the torn up lawn with squares of fresh green grass.

JENNY

Just put it in my mailbox.

THE END