

The Path not Taken

1.10: Daddy Dearest

by
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TEASER

CUT INTO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - FRONT HALL - NIGHT

Jenny stands in the doorway shocked looking at her father.

JENNY

Dad?

William looks at his daughter.

WILLIAM

Look at you...you've grown up so much.

JENNY

Yeah...a lot happens after fifteen years.

William looks at her.

WILLIAM

I know that I haven't been there but listen to me. There are some things I need to explain.

JENNY

Where were you when your son was dying? How about that?

William just stands there.

WILLIAM

I understand you have reasons to be mad at me.

Jenny scoffs at him as tears begin to form on her eyes.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

If I could just come in--

JENNY

NO!

Jenny slams the door in his face.

Jenny puts her back against the door. She slides down crying.

FLASH TO:

INT. JENNY'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY - FLASHBACK

A younger Jenny runs into the bedroom crying. She runs to her bedroom window.

YOUNG JENNY

DADDY!

The words echo and then....

FLASH TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - FRONT HALL - NIGHT

We focus in on Jenny as she sits crying hearing the word 'Daddy' echo. And on that we...

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE INTO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jenny sits on the couch. Her head in her hands. She tries to comprehend what just happened. Footsteps are heard coming down the stairs. She looks up to see Holly. Jenny stands up and wipes her tears away.

JENNY

Hey...What are you doing up this late?

HOLLY

You were crying...what happened?

JENNY

Nothing. Just had a bad day is all.

Holly looks at her.

HOLLY

No that's not it. Something else happened.

Jenny sits back down.

JENNY

It's my dad...he came back.

Holly's eyes grow wide.

HOLLY

Wait...he came back? I thought he was gone never to be heard from again.

JENNY

That's what I thought...but now that he's back I don't know what to do.

Holly walks over and sits down next to her.

HOLLY

Well, what do you want to do?

JENNY

Part of me wants nothing to do with him but another part of me wants to know the truth.

HOLLY

Maybe you should, you know, figure out the truth. Why he hasn't been here for you, even for Harlan.

Jenny begins to tear up again. We push in on her face and on that we...

CUT TO:

INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Henry paces back and forth on the phone with Jenny.

HENRY

Are you sure he wants to talk?

CUT TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - JENNY'S ROOM - DAY

Jenny sits on her bed on the phone.

JENNY

That's what he said.

CUT TO:

INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

HENRY

Well, are you? Are you going to talk with him?

CUT TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - JENNY'S ROOM - DAY

JENNY

I don't want to. Holly suggested that I do. But this man ruined my life for not being there for me. Ever since he showed up, I feel like I've been reliving all of my memories about him leaving. From the moment they started fighting up until he left.

CUT TO:

INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

HENRY

Do you remember what they said?
Like what they were fighting about

CUT TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - JENNY'S ROOM - DAY

JENNY

No. I always thought it was my
fault. Harlan and Riley tried to
convince me other wise. But I never
believed them...it's when I started
my diaries. I was only five but
Harlan and Riley helped me write
it.

CUT TO:

INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

HENRY

So you started the diaries since
you were five? What did you say?

CUT TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - JENNY'S ROOM - DAY

JENNY

Just that they were fighting. Some
days about when I had fun at
school. Nothing about boys. I
thought they were icky then.

CUT TO:

INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

HENRY

(Laughing)

Well, I thought girls had cooties
then so I was anti-girl liking
then.

CUT TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - JENNY'S ROOM - DAY

Jenny laughs

JENNY

Why do you always do that? Whenever things seem bad...you make them better with just a laugh. And sometimes ice cream.

CUT TO:

INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

HENRY

Because I can't stand to see the people I love hurting or in pain.

CUT TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - JENNY'S ROOM - DAY

JENNY

Hey, Henry?

HENRY (O.S.)

Yeah?

JENNY

What do you think I should do about my Dad?

CUT TO:

INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

HENRY

Jenny, you don't always need my advice all the time. It's time you start to follow what your heart is saying and follow your own instincts.

CUT TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - JENNY'S ROOM - DAY

Jenny stares at nothing. She tries to hold back tears.

JENNY

Okay...I'll talk to you later then.

Jenny hangs up her phone. She looks down at her phone.

FLASH TO:

INT. JENNY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

A young Jenny sits at the kitchen table coloring in a picture of a happy family. In the background we hear her parents fighting. A young boy comes in. This is a younger Harlan possibly 10. Jenny covers her ears. Harlan walks over and removes them.

HARLAN
Hey...are you okay?

Jenny looks up at him.

JENNY
Why do they have to fight?

HARLAN
They just do...

JENNY
Their fighting because of me.
Aren't they?

Harlan laughs

HARLAN
No...they would not fighting
because of you. Parents fight about
stupid things.

JENNY
Stupids not a nice word.

Harlan smiles at his little sister. Another girl walks in,
RILEY.

RILEY
Jenny, lets go up to your room and
play.

Jenny looks over.

JENNY
Okay. This time you have to be Ken.

Riley smiles as Jenny walks out of the room and runs up the
stairs. Riley turns to Harlan.

RILEY
She can't know what they are
fighting about.

HARLAN

I know. If she ever found out...it would ruin her.

(Beat)

Just go upstairs and play with her try and get her to be a normal kid.

Riley just turns and walks away. We push in on Harlan...

FLASH TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - MELLIE'S ROOM - DAY

Mellie lies down in her bed, tissues are all around her. She looks up to her nightstand to see a picture of her and Chris. Her lip quivers and she begins to cry again burying her face into her pillow. There is a knock at the door. Mellie looks up. She sits up and wipes away some of the tears from her face.

MELLIE

Come in.

The door opens and Jenny walks in with her jacket and purse in hand.

JENNY

Hey, I'm going out. I need to take care of a few things.

MELLIE

Why? Is there something wrong?

Jenny walks in and shuts the door behind her.

JENNY

It's my Dad...he's back.

Mellie's eyes grow wide.

MELLIE

Are you serious? How do you know he's back?

JENNY

Remember last night, when we were eating Ice cream and watching bad TV? After you fell asleep, I went back downstairs and the doorbell rang and standing there...was my Dad. A man I have not seen for twenty years.

MELLIE

Oh my god. So what are you going to do?

Jenny takes a deep breath.

JENNY

I'm going to go talk to him. He left his number on the door. I called him and told him to meet me in the square. I want to know the truth. Are you sure you'll be okay?

Mellie gets up and hugs her.

JENNY (CONT'D)

I'll be fine. Don't worry about me. You just rest and try and figure out your future.

Mellie breaks the hug. And Jenny walks out of the room. We leave on Mellie as she goes and sits down on her bed.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROSEMOUNT - TOWN SQUARE - DAY

Jenny stands by the gazebo looking around for William. She doesn't see him .

JENNY (V.O.)

I knew what I was doing. I knew the place I was going to go. But I need to know the truth.

Jenny just walks away.

INT. NEW HAVEN ANIMAL SHELTER - FRONT - DAY

Jenny walks in to see Brooke standing by the counter reading a magazine as a young girl, ALANA stands looking around the store. Jenny walks up to Brooke.

BROOKE

Hey.

JENNY

Hey. Thanks for coming in early. Had some stuff I needed to do.

BROOKE

It's fine. This girl's the only customer we got.

JENNY

And you didn't think to help her?

BROOKE

I'm supposed to help people? I thought I was store sitting?

JENNY

Do you want to get paid?

BROOKE

Well, yeah. I'll go help her.

JENNY

No. I've got it. Just go and see if that shipment of dog toys arrived.

BROOKE

On it boss.

Brooke leaves and goes into the back. Jenny takes off her jacket and throws it behind the counter. She heads over to the girl.

JENNY

Hi. Is there anything I can help you with?

Alana turns around. Jenny takes a step back. As does Alana

ALANA

Woah
(Beat)
Hello doppelganger.

JENNY

This is so weird. You look like me. But in a way we look different.
(Beat)
I'm Jenny Hart.

ALANA

I'm Alana Jones.
(Beat)
A couple of people say that I looked like you but I just never got the chance to meet you...but here you are. And here I am.

JENNY

You live in town?

ALANA

Yeah.

JENNY

That's weird we never ran into each other.

ALANA

Yeah I don't really hang around town that much. But I just thought it would be a nice day to get away.

JENNY

You and me both.

ALANA

Today kinda sucks. I just found out who my real father is after seventeen years. Can you imagine that? This man has never been there for me and then all of a sudden he just shows up.

Jenny's eyes grow wide.

JENNY

That's kinda ironic. My dad just came back.

ALANA

(Laughing)

How weird would it be if we both had the same Dad.

The bell rings and William walks in. Jenny looks at him .

JENNY

Dad...now is not the best time.

Alana stops laughing.

ALANA

Wait...this is your Dad?

Jenny nods.

ALANA (CONT'D)

This is my Dad...

Jenny and Alana both turn to William.

WILLIAM

I see that you've meet your sister.

Both girls look at him confused.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

I think I have some explaining to do.

We push in on Jenny and her reaction and on that we...

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

CUT INTO:

INT. NEW HAVEN ANIMAL SHELTER - FRONT - DAY

We come in where we left off. Both Jenny and Alana staring at William.

ALANA

Wait...she's my sister?

WILLIAM

Half-sister.

Jenny takes a step back looking at William.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

Jenny...I know that things are confusing right now.

JENNY

I'm beyond confused. The only thing confusing me is how you did the same thing you did to me to this girl. Who is by the way my sister!

WILLIAM

I didn't want either of you to know before I told you both. But Jenny, if you just give me some time to explain.

JENNY

No...you had your chance. You could have meet me in the square ten minutes ago to tell me everything. But you didn't show up! You weren't there! Like you weren't there for me for the past twenty years!

William looks at her. Jenny begins to tear up.

JENNY (CONT'D)

(Yelling)

Where were you when I was almost raped by my psychotic ex-boyfriend!? Where were you when I was hit by that car!? Where were you when your only son was killed!? You were never there! And you were never there for this girl either!

WILLIAM

Jenny, please if you just give me
sometime to explain myself.

JENNY

(Yelling)

NO! I don't want to hear anymore
lies! I don't even want to look at
you! You...disgust me...You...are
not my father.

William gives her a stern look. He turns to Alana.

WILLIAM

Fine then. I guess I'll be leaving
then.

William turns away and heads out the door. Alana looks at
Jenny who is shaking with anger as tears fall out of her
eyes.

JENNY

I'm sorry. You know where to find
me if you need to talk.

Jenny walks away leaving Alana confused.

CUT TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - FRONT HALL - DAY

Jenny walks into the front hall shutting the door behind her.
She puts her back up against the door. She puts her face in
her hands.

JENNY (V.O.)

At that moment, it seemed like
everything fell apart. I wanted to
drink the pain away...but I knew if
I did...I would lose everything I
ever loved.

Jenny runs her hands through her hair.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Breathe...just breathe...You don't
need it...you don't need it.

MELLIE (O.C.)

You don't need what?

Jenny looks up to see Mellie walking down the stairs.

JENNY
Hey. Your awake now?

MELLIE
Yeah, I think I should go to the
store take my mind off of things.

JENNY
Okay.

Mellie walks down the stairs and goes to Jenny.

MELLIE
How did it go? With your Dad?

Jenny takes a deep breath.

JENNY
Well, I found out that I'm not the
only child he abandoned.

MELLIE
What do you mean?

JENNY
I meet this girl and we both found
out we have the same father. She's
my half sister.

MELLIE
What?! That's crazy.

Jenny and Mellie walk through the archway going into...

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

They walk in and head for the couch and sit down. On the
floor, the three dogs are asleep.

MELLIE
You have a half sister? And you
never knew about her?

JENNY
Yeah...I'm still trying to process
it. Then 'he' came in.

MELLIE
You're not calling him 'Dad'
anymore?

JENNY
That man doesn't deserve that
title.

(MORE)

JENNY (CONT'D)

If he was my father then he would have been there for me. Through the good and the bad. Like you guys are right now.

Mellie looks at her and smiles.

JENNY (CONT'D)

I've been realizing lately that...I've been a whiny bitch.

Mellie laughs and Jenny smiles.

JENNY (CONT'D)

And I've been using you guys for support when I really should be supporting myself.

MELLIE

Well, we are still gonna support you with whatever you decide to do. And I think with your Dad coming back into town...its a step for you to get better. Facing your past and trying to fix it.

Jenny begins to cry.

MELLIE (CONT'D)

Oh no. Don't you cry because then I'll start to cry.

Mellie begins to tear up. The two of them hug each other.

JENNY

I'm so lucky to have you as a friend.

MELLIE

Me too!

They begin to cry into each others shoulders. They break the hug and look at one another.

MELLIE (CONT'D)

So what are you going to do? About your Dad?

Jenny looks up at her. She wipes away some of her tears.

JENNY

I don't know. All I know is...I just can't deal with him anymore and his lies.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROSEMOUNT - TOWN SQUARE - DAY

William is walking in the square. Alana is next to him.

ALANA

Look, no more awkward walking.

Alana walks in front of him. They both stop.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Why didn't you tell me that I had a sister?

WILLIAM

I just thought it wasn't important.

ALANA

Not important? I just found out yesterday that I grew up not knowing my real father.

WILLIAM

I understand that this is difficult for you to comprehend. You're just a kid.

ALANA

Oh my god! I'm not a kid! I'm seventeen. Not four. I think I can handle the truth.

WILLIAM

Fine. I came here to make ammends with both you and Jenny.

ALANA

But why? You have to have a bigger reason to do it...I heard what Jenny said. You were never there for her...you weren't even there when your own son died!? Your that heartless arn't you?

WILLIAM

No! Not you too. I can't stand having both of my daughters mad at me.

ALANA

And who's fault is that? It's like Jenny said...you were never there for either of us! You could have prevented this you know...you never could have left either of us. You could have been there for all the good times and the bad.

(Beat)

And you just coming here and acting like nothing is wrong...thinking all will be forgiven!? You're wrong. I have parents. I have a family that cares about me. I know I have a future ahead of me...and you know what...your not in it.

Alana turns away from him and walks away.

WILLIAM

Alana! Come back here right now!

Alana keeps walking ignoring him.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

ALANA!

His voice echoes and people turn to look at him.

CUT TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jenny sits on the couch watching TV and writing in her diary. She looks away from her diary and looks around the room and sees a picture of her, Henry and Mellie together in the store having a good time.

JENNY (V.O.)

Everything in my life has changed. I feel different now like a new me has been born. I know I was given a second chance. But what do I do with it? How do I make the best of it?

There is a knocking at the door. Jenny closes her diary and puts it on the coffee table. She gets up.

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - FRONT HALL - DAY

Jenny walks out of the living room and into the front hall. She opens the door to reveal Alana standing there. Tears flowing from her eyes.

JENNY
Alana? What's wrong?

Alana walks in and gives Jenny a hug and she begins to cry harder and harder.

JENNY (CONT'D)
Shh. It's okay. Everything's going to be okay.

CUT TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Alana sits at the table. Her face wet from crying. Jenny is at the stove. She pours the tea pot into a mug, she brings it over to Alana.

JENNY
Here. Drink this.

Alana is a little hesitant.

JENNY (CONT'D)
Don't worry. It's hot chocolate not poison.

Alana takes it but doesn't drink it right away.

JENNY (CONT'D)
Let me guess...you and Dad had a fight?

Alana takes the cup and drinks it.

JENNY (CONT'D)
Okay...
(beat)
Alright...I have all the time in the world. I'll just sit here until you're ready to talk about anything.

They just look at each other. The trees shake in the wind. Dogs bark in the far off distance. Alana sets the cup down on the table.

ALANA
I just don't get why he can just come here and pretend to my Dad.

Jenny looks at her.

JENNY

I know exactly how you feel. He left when I was five. I was able to spend time with him they weren't exactly perfect...but you never got to...

ALANA

You know my mom never told me

(Beat)

That the person I believed was my Dad is not...my Dad.

(Beat)

But I still love the man that raised me. He taught me how to ride bike. Read me bedtime stories. Tucked me in at night. Looked in the closet for monsters.

Jenny shows her a smile.

ALANA (CONT'D)

That's what a Dad really is...they are always there. They don't abandon you.

(Beat)

When I was ten...he got really sick. He was in the hospital for almost a month. I went and saw him whenever I could. And on one day he looked fine. Like he would get better. And I prayed that the doctors would make him better. But the next day it got worse.

Alana begins to tear up.

ALANA (CONT'D)

My mom took me outside...and told me that there was nothing more the doctors could do. I just remember feeling like the world was falling apart...like I lost everything I ever had. We took him home. My entire family was there giving me hugs. It was getting late, and so I went with my best friend Brian to his house. But before I went...I went to say goodbye to my Dad. And he said the last words to me..."I love you baby girl".

(Beat)

I slept in his sister's room. But her never left me.

(MORE)

ALANA (CONT'D)

He slept on the other bed. We woke up and talked about death and losing people...And he said that my Dad would be better and be happy in Heaven.

Alana begins to tear up.

ALANA (CONT'D)

And then his parents came in...and told me...

(beat)

They told me...that he died the night before.

Alana cries now. Tears falling down her face. Jenny looks at her. Jenny's own eyes begin to tear up a little.

ALANA (CONT'D)

And from then on...I had people, some I didn't even know, some I kinda knew, coming up to me telling me that he was a great...but why tell me things I already know. I know what kinda of a man he was...caring...loving...but it still didn't change the fact...that he was gone. He was taken to early from me.

(Beat)

He was going to walk me down the aisle at me wedding. He would take his grandchildren fishing. I would see him grow old with my mom. But all of that was taken away...everything I pictured...gone in an instant.

Alana wipes away some of her tears.

ALANA (CONT'D)

And now this William guy. Thinks he has the right to just walk right in and pretend like nothing is wrong! When it really is!

Alana slams her hands on the table in anger. She stands up and runs her hands through her hair. Her face still wet from tears.

ALANA (CONT'D)

I just wanted to move on with my life! Find the man I wanted to spend the rest of my life with!

(MORE)

ALANA (CONT'D)
Graduate high school! But him
coming in just changed all of that.

Alana stops ranting and breathes heavily.

JENNY
You've just told me a lot. And that
means that you trust me enough to
tell me it.
(beat)
But from what I see...you're still
hurting over your Dad's death...and
you feel as if William coming back
is making you feel like you were
abandoned. And that you feel alone.

Jenny stands up and walks over to Alana. She takes Alana's
hands.

JENNY (CONT'D)
I'm going to tell you something
that someone told me a long time
ago...You're not alone. You never
will be. I promise you that.

Alana cries. She leans in and hugs Jenny.

JENNY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
And in that moment...I knew. I knew
what I could do with my second
chance. I knew the new path I could
take. But the way to get there
would be difficult. But it's a risk
I'm willing to take.

We push in on Jenny and on that we...

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - FRONT HALL/LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Alana lays asleep on the couch. Jenny stands in the archway looking at her. The front door opens and Henry walks in.

HENRY

Hey.

Jenny turns to him and hugs him.

HENRY (CONT'D)

How's everything going?

Jenny breaks the hug and looks at him.

JENNY

Better then I thought. I'm still pissed at the man I want to be my father but I know deep down...he never will be.

Henry looks at her.

JENNY (CONT'D)

What? Do I have something in my teeth?

Jenny goes to scrub her teeth with her finger but Henry stops her.

HENRY

No...That's just very grown up of you to say.

Jenny smiles at him. And he smiles back.

JENNY

I'm not sure if I should take that as an insult or a compliment.

(Beat)

But yeah...I've been realizing lately that I've been acting like a whiny little girl. And not really embracing the second chance I was given five months ago.

Henry continues to look at her.

JENNY (CONT'D)

And when Alana came to the door and I talked to her...I saw the path I want to take. The road that I'm willing to go down.

HENRY

And that is?

JENNY

I want to help people. Some like me. Those going through rough times in the lives. Someone like you.

(Beat)

I want to become a therapist.

Henry's eyes grow wide and he smiles.

HENRY

Jenny...that's great! What made you even think about that?

Jenny leans up against the archway into the living room and Henry goes to the other on opposite to her.

JENNY

Alana made me think of that.

(Beat)

We were sitting in the kitchen talking. She told me how much pain she was feeling for when William came back. And also the pain she was feeling for when the man she believed was her father...died.

HENRY

But she seems so happy. I've seen her around town with Holly, Brooke and Bennett just having fun not having a care of tomorrow.

JENNY

I know. I've never got to know her but still I've seen her acting like a teenage girl who is hiding all the pain from her past and present.

(Beat)

I see part of myself in her. A hurt little girl wanting to know her father. The man that would protect her from bad boys. Teach us how to drive...walk us down the aisle at our wedding.

(MORE)

JENNY (CONT'D)

It's all she ever wanted...but when the man she thought was her father died she, she thought she lost everything. And then seven years later, her real father shows up and changes everything.

Jenny turns towards the couch as Alana tosses and turns. She looks back to Henry.

JENNY (CONT'D)

It's just that...I know how she feels...I always wanted my Dad to walk through the door ever since he left and just fix everything...But her never did.

(Beat)

But I have to let go of the past. I can't think about my Dad, my drinking addiction, Brad...all I really need to look towards to is the future. I have such a bright future ahead of me. I have great friends. People that are willing to help me when I need it. And I think it's damn time I accept it. I died. I was brought back and was given a second chance to fix me life. And now...I'm going to do it.

Henry smiles at her.

HENRY

Jenny...Five months...this is what I've been wanting you to say this...and now you have.

Henry walks over to her and hugs her.

JENNY

Thank you...for being there for me. Through the good and the bad.

HENRY

And I always will be.

They break the hug and look at each other. Henry pushes Jenny's hair back over her ear. They break apart and Henry walks towards the kitchen leaving Jenny. She focuses and goes to follow him.

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Henry is at the fridge and Jenny walks in and sits down at the table.

HENRY

So how are you going to become a therapist. It's a long process.

JENNY

Well, I was thinking of applying at a few local colleges. Just so I can keep my job at the store and pay for books and stuff.

HENRY

Would you have to take other classes aside from physiology?

JENNY

Possibly. But I'll have to worry about that when I get there but I still should consider is so I can get my diploma and stuff.

Henry comes out from the fridge with two bottles of water. He walks over to the table and gives on to Jenny. They open them.

HENRY

Did you go to college? Like before we knew you?

JENNY

For three years. But I dropped out mid Junior year. I was originally an art major.

HENRY

(Laughing)
You can draw?

JENNY

Don't act all surprised.

(Beat)

But yeah...I can. Just haven't done it for six years. But I'm considering starting again to bring some nice art pieces into this house. Give it some color and life.

Henry laughs.

JENNY (CONT'D)

I did take some basic classes like Math, English excreta. I should probably call them and see how much credits have left. I still had a year and a half to finish.

HENRY

Well, lets start there. And I'll help you. I'll even help pay.

Jenny looks at him.

JENNY

No. You are not paying for me. I need to do this on my own.

HENRY

I am doing this. This is a gift. And don't do the whole "I'll pay the bill" thing and then we get into a whole argument about it.

(Beat)

I won't pay for all of it. But I will help you.

Jenny smiles at him.

JENNY

Thank you...You are such an amazing guy.

Henry puts his hand on the table and takes Jenny's hand in his.

HENRY

We are going to do this...together.

Jenny looks at him and he looks at her. We pan away from the two holding hands.

CUT TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - HOLLY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Holly sits on her bed. All over the bed lies pictures of Holly, Bennett, Brooke, and Alana. Some of them outside. Having fun. Some of them in the square sitting down. One of the girls in front of a mirror. Holly looks over and picks up one of her and Bennett heads together and smiling. The door opens and Brooke walks in with Alana, who's hair is somewhat of a mess.

HOLLY

Hey. How are you doing?

Alana goes and sits down on the bed next to Holly, she puts her head in her lap.

ALANA

Better then earlier. Jenny is so amazing... she made me feel...

HOLLY

Better?

Alana nods. Brooke walks over to the bed and looks at the pictures.

BROOKE

What are these for?

Holly looks over at her.

HOLLY

Just sentimental value. I think having a scarp book will help with my life. Just to look back at all the good times.

ALANA

That's nice....

The girls sit there in silence.

BROOKE

So just to break the awkward silence. I am going out.

The other two look at her.

ALANA

Wait? You have a date.

BROOKE

Yes.

HOLLY

With a guy?

BROOKE

I'm pretty sure he's a boy.

The girls scream!

HOLLY

Oh my god! What's his name?!

BROOKE
His name is Oliver. He's a
quarterback at Ridgefield High.

HOLLY
A guy from Ridgefield?

ALANA
They are very hunky.

BROOKE
(Laughing)
Yes he is very hunky! And he has
abs that will make the Situation
look bad!

The girls laugh.

HOLLY
Just don't sleep with him. You
don't want to end up like me.

She points to her belly.

BROOKE
Don't worry. I won't sleep with
him...yet.

Holly throws a pillow at her. Brooke catches it and throws it
back.

HOLLY
Just have fun okay?

BROOKE
I will. Love you guys!

Brooke walks out of the room leaving Alana and Holly alone.

ALANA
Well, I'm going to head home.

HOLLY
Really?

ALANA
Yeah. I need to sleep through
things. Hopefully my so called Dad
won't be there.

HOLLY
Yeah let's hope so. But if you need
anything call okay? My phone will
be right next to me all night.

Alana leans in and hugs her. She then gets up and leaves. Holly looks around her bed. Next to her is a picture of a Ultrasound of her baby. She looks at it. She runs her fingers over it. She then places it into the book.

CUT TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/FRONT HALL - NIGHT

Jenny is sitting on the couch with her laptop. She is scrolling through colleges. Papers are all on top of the table. Maggie lies next to her. The doorbell rings and Maggie looks up and barks.

JENNY

Maggie quiet!

Jenny stands up and Maggie follows. Jenny gets to the front door and opens it. Standing there is William.

WILLIAM

Hello Jenny.

Jenny stands there in shock.

JENNY

What do you want?

William takes her hands.

WILLIAM

To talk.

We push in on Jenny's reaction and on that we...

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/FRONT HALL -
NIGHT

William still stands in the doorway holding Jenny's hand.
Jenny takes her hand away from his.

JENNY

You had your chance remember?

WILLIAM

But you didn't let me explain
myself. Please...that's all I ask.

Jenny looks at him.

JENNY

Fine...But I swear to god you
better tell me the truth.

DISSOLVE TO:

We cut to Jenny sitting on the couch and William sitting on a
chair. They sit there not talking to eachother.

WILLIAM

It's a nice house. You share it
with someone.

Jenny looks up.

JENNY

My friend Mellie. The one that has
been helping me through all this.

WILLIAM

I heard...And I just want to say...

JENNY

How come you weren't there for me?

William takes a deep breath.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Where were you when I was hit by
that car?

WILLIAM

I was scared. I was afraid that you
wouldn't want to see me.

JENNY

Your kidding right?

(Beat)

I would have loved to see you. My father come back to me and help me through all of this.

WILLIAM

Believe me. I wanted to come back...

JENNY

Then why didn't you? You had all of these opportunities come back. And fix everything. To make amends with me, Riley...Harlan.

Jenny begins to tear up.

WILLIAM

I know...Jenny...I...I just wasn't thinking right.

JENNY

You never even called.

(Beat)

Not on my birthdays...Christmas...did you just forget about us? Leave us to suffer...not knowing if our father would be there for us?

WILLIAM

Jenny...You have to know that I love you.

JENNY

No...If you loved me...you would've come back. You would've sent birthday cards. Called at least. Wrote a letter...ANYTHING! Just so I could know my father was thinking about me.

WILLIAM

I was thinking about you. Everyday. And believe me I wanted to come back.

Jenny stands up.

JENNY

How can I believe anything you say?

(Beat)

(MORE)

JENNY (CONT'D)

It's like I said...you were never there. That's all I wanted. Someone to look over me. Tell me not to date this boy and that I would go against you and date him. That's all I ever wanted...I wanted a Dad! And I never got that.

William stands up as well.

WILLIAM

(Angry)

Well you know what? You can't always get what you want Jenny! And I'm sorry that I was never there for you! I had reasons! I can't even look at you!

JENNY

Then what are those reasons!? Why is it you hate me so much!

WILLIAM

(Yelling)

You're not my daughter!

Jenny falls back. Tears fall out of her eyes. Her entire body shaking. She takes breaths trying to comprehend what she just heard...

JENNY

(Crying)

No...No...your lying...please...just tell me your lying. And I'll forget everything...please...Just tell me it's not true.

William looks at her.

WILLIAM

It's true...

Jenny cries harder.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

You are not my daughter. I'm sorry Jenny...

William walks out the room and goes to the front door and walks out. Jenny cries harder and harder. Mellie runs down the stairs.

MELLIE
Jenny?...Jenny what's wrong?

Jenny gets up and runs to Mellie and hugs her.

MELLIE (CONT'D)
It's okay...everything's going to
be okay...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - JENNY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Jenny lies on her bed. Her face still covered in tears. The door opens and Mellie walks in.

MELLIE
Hey...How are you doing?

Jenny just turns away and begins to cry more. Mellie takes a deep breath and walks over to her. She sits down next to her and places her hand on her.

MELLIE (CONT'D)
I don't really know how your
feeling right now. I still can't
believe it. He's not your father?

Jenny turns back around and sits up.

JENNY
Yeah...he's not my Dad...He only
pretended to be.
(Beat)
But apart of me is happy he's not
my father...but the other part is
hurt by it.

MELLIE
What do you mean?

Jenny looks at her.

JENNY
Ever since I was five...after he
left...I always wanted someone to
be my Dad. And my uncle never
really fit that role. I just wanted
him...But he was never there.

Mellie continues to listen.

JENNY (CONT'D)

And when he came back...I felt hurt, betrayed, but I also felt happy. That I would have the chance to have my Dad.

(Beat)

But that all changed. I learned that the man I believed to be my Dad. Wasn't really him.

A single tear falls from Jenny's face. Mellie leans forward and wipes it away.

MELLIE

So...what are your plans now?

Jenny takes a deep breath.

JENNY

I'm going to keep living...I'm not gonna let this man ruin my life anymore. I'm going to continue looking into colleges. I'm going to focus on me...And maybe one day, I'll find out who my real father is.

Mellie smiles.

JENNY (CONT'D)

This is my future. And I'm going to control it from now on. No one else.

Mellie leans in and hugs her.

MELLIE

Yeah...your right.

Mellie breaks the hug.

JENNY

What about you?

We push in on Mellie

SONG: SUDDENLY - ASHLEY TISDALE

DISSOLVE INTO:

INT. JENNY AND MELLIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/FRONT HALL - NIGHT

Mellie walks down the stairs. Her phone in her hand.

On the screen, a Picture of Her and Chris. All of sudden it begins to ring and the caller id says Chris.

Mellie takes a step back. She sits down on the stairs. She clicks the button and brings it up to ear.

MELLIE

Hello? Hey...Look everything I said...it was immature and stupid...I don't ever want to lose you...you're the only man I will ever love. You're actually the only man I'll ever love.

Mellie giggles a little. There is a knock at the door.

MELLIE (CONT'D)

Hang on someone's at the door.

She gets up and answers the door. She opens it to revel Chris standing there. The Song picks up. His phone up to his ear. In his hand is a bouquet of Roses. Mellie hangs up her phone as does Chris.

CHRIS

I just want you to know...I love you.

Mellie goes over to him and lays a big one on him. Chris drops the flowers and hugs Mellie. He picks her up and twirls her around the front porch. The break the kiss and Chris sets her down.

MELLIE

I'm sorry...

CHRIS

You don't have to be...

Mellie puts her hands on his face.

MELLIE

I love you so much.

Mellie leans in and kisses him. The song begins to fade.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ROSEMOUNT - TOWN SQUARE - NIGHT

Brooke sits on a bench in the square. All of sudden someone comes up behind her. She looks and stands up.

BROOKE

About time! I've been waiting for
about thrity minutes! What took
you.

We pan around Brooke and see the man and it's BRAD! He looks
at her smiling.

BRAD

Sorry. I had some things to do.

She smiles and leans in and kisses him.

BRAD (CONT'D)

So you ready to go?

BROOKE

Yup. My parents think that I'm
staying at Holly's. So I'm all
yours tonight.

BRAD

And always remember...that you
always will be.

He leans in and kisses her. They both begin to walk their
hands together. We watch them walk away into the darkness and
on that we...

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT FOUR | END OF EPISODE