

The Path Not Taken 1.03: The Story of Us

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Four Stories & One Turn of Events

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**TEASER**

FADE IN

**INT. NEW HAVEN ANIMAL SHELTER - FRONT - DAY**

We fade in on Jenny picking up a puppy and holding it in her hands as she walks around with it.

Mellie walks in.

MELLIE

Hey. How are you doing?

JENNY

Well Charlie here just peed all over the rug and now he won't stop whining.

MELLIE

Really? It seems like you're a Dog Whisperer.

JENNY

Maybe. But he's the only one in the liter that won't get picked.

MELLIE

Well he's taking a liking to you isn't he?

JENNY

Yeah, he is.

MELLIE

Take him home.

Jenny turns to Mellie in shock.

MELLIE

He needs a good family and a person that will take care of him. And Maggie could be needing a buddy.

JENNY

Well ,they are the same age. Same breed. I can see little puppies in our future.

MELLIE

Maybe. Take him home and see if Maggie likes him. Then we can see how it goes from there.

(CONTINUED)

Mellie walks over to the counter and begins to go through papers on it.

JENNY  
What's up with you?

MELLIE  
Nothing.

Jenny sets the puppy down onto the floor.

JENNY  
No. You have been treating me differently for the past two weeks. Ever since I told you about my drinking addiction....

MELLIE  
Nothing has changed. I'm just being me...

JENNY  
But why?

MELLIE  
Jenny you're my friend. You're the only thing in this life I care about. I can't lose you again....

JENNY  
I'm not going to die again....

Jenny smiles at Mellie as Mellie smiles back at her.

**EXT. ORLANDO AIRPORT - DAY**

Harlen leans against his car. He looks at his watch thinking he's late.

JEWEL  
Harlen?!

Harlen looks up to see JEWEL SEVER ,his grandmother.

HARLEN  
Grandma! Hey!

Harlen runs over from his car to the front of the airport to where his grandma is standing with her bags next to her.

(CONTINUED)

JEWEL

Well dear it's about time you got here.

HARLEN

I got here three hours ago.

JEWEL

Well darling I just wanted to see if you are more responsible.

He leans in and hugs her and she hugs him back.

JEWEL

How's your sister doing?

HARLEN

She's fine. Still recovering from accident but she's doing better now a days.

JEWEL

That's good. So I believe that you are getting a new job? Where are you working now?

HARLEN

Just at the Stargate Cooperation ,a medical distribution area. It brings me to Miami and lets me help Jenny along the way.

JEWEL

Does she know yet?

HARLEN

About Dad? No...Not yet.

JEWEL

Will we ever tell her?

HARLEN

Not until Mom's ready.

We pull away from the two and we....

**BLACKOUT**

END OF TEASER

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ACT ONE - MELLIE'S STORY

FADE IN

INT. NEW HAVEN ANIMAL SHELTER - FRONT - DAY

Mellie stands at the front of the store going through files and bills. She looks up to see a man **CHRIS WELLINGTON** (MATT DAVIS).

MELLIE

Um...Hello. How may I help you?

CHRIS

Well um. Yeah ,I need some dog food for a new puppy.

MELLIE

Okay. Um...I'll help you.

CHRIS

That would be good?

Mellie comes out from behind the counter and walks over to the dog food.

CHRIS

I'm Chris. Chris Wellington.

He holds out his hand to Mellie. She looks at it and then goes to shake it.

MELLIE

Mellie. Mellie Stanford

CHRIS

Nice name.

MELLIE

You can thank my parents for it.

CHRIS

Remind me to send a thank you card then.

Mellie giggles a little ,just how girls do around hot guys.

(CONTINUED)

MELLIE

You new here?

CHRIS

I just moved in a couple of weeks ago. I'm in the apartment building just four doors down.

MELLIE

I live there too.

Mellie takes a second and looks at him.

CHRIS

Wow. And we never bumped into each other? How non-traditional is that.

MELLIE

Very. Well ,If you need anything I'm on the seventh floor. 7B

CHRIS

I'm on the ninth floor. Apartment 9A.

MELLIE

Uh...Cool. I'll see you then neighbor.

CHRIS

You're kicking me out? I thought I was buying dog food?

MELLIE

Oh yeah. Um, I'll ring that up for you then.

Mellie takes the dog food from his hands and brings it over to the counter.

MELLIE

That will be....\$9.00

CHRIS

Best deal I got all day. Other than meeting you.

Mellie looks up and smiles at him. She hands him his change. He takes the bag and heads for the door.

CHRIS

See you later Mellie.

(CONTINUED)

Mellie waves at him as he walks out the door and into the street. Mellie watches him walk away. When he's gone she falls behind the counter and sits there smiling.

MELLIE

Bye Chris....

JENNY (OVERLAP)

No way!

CUT TO. Another time of day in the Shelter where Mellie and Jenny sit on the counter talking.

MELLIE

He was just too perfect! I mean like he has a dog. Lives in the same apartment building as me. He was just an angel.

JENNY

Well come back to earth and ask this guy out!

MELLIE

Do I have to come back down? I like it up here in the clouds.

JENNY

Mel! Come on. It's clear to me that he likes you so ask him out.

MELLIE

Yeah. Me asking out people doesn't work. In 10th grade it was a Sadie Hawkins dance, I went to ask out a guy and I threw up on him.

JENNY

Ew. Thats not good.

MELLIE

I like him. But I just can't ask him out.

JENNY

Well give him the signs. Like 'Ask me out or lose me'

MELLIE

I'm not going to be a whore.

(CONTINUED)

JENNY

I'm not telling you to be! All I'm saying is to Nut up and Shut up! Take a risk.

MELLIE

Fine....Tomorrow.

Jenny gives her a look.

MELLIE

Tonight?

Jenny nods with a yes.

JENNY

You can do this.

MELLIE

I could say the same thing about you and Henry. What are you guys always doing together? I mean You're always with him. You're not...? You guys are dating?!

JENNY

No!...No! It's not like that. We're just walking and talking that's all. Nothing going anywhere.

MELLIE

Do you see it going anywhere?

JENNY

Don't know yet.

MELLIE

Well I do.

Jenny looks up and smiles at her.

JENNY

I much rather stay here and not go home.

MELLIE

And why is that?

JENNY

My grandmother is here.

MELLIE

Your grandmother is here?

JENNY

Yeah. And I'm not too happy about it. But you!? Go home and get ready for your date. I'll cover the store.

Mellie grabs her bag and begins to head out the door.

JENNY

Do you need protection?

Mellie turns back.

MELLIE

Really? On the first date?

JENNY

Hey I just don't want to see you rocking the baby bump anytime soon.

MELLIE

I'll be careful. Goodbye.

Mellie heads out the door.

**INT. MELLIE'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Mellie stands in front of her mirror in a robe holding up dresses to her body, looking to see how she looks. She turns to her bed where her dalmatian sits looking at her.

MELLIE

What do you think? Sparkly Or Black satin dress?

The dog barks at her.

MELLIE

And I'm talking to a dog. Man I have no life.

Mellie walks over to her closet and grabs a white dress and begins to change.

**INT. MELLIE'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

A knock makes Mellie run to the door in her white dress. She opens the door to see Chris standing there in a nice suit looking at Mellie.

CHRIS

Wow. You look beautiful.

MELLIE

Really? I look like hell. The dress is blah.

CHRIS

I wasn't looking at the dress.

Mellie blushes before him and looks into his eyes.

MELLIE

That's sweet....

CHRIS

I made reservations for two at the *Bayside Bistro*.

MELLIE

The Bayside? That's the best place to go. It's all the rave.

CHRIS

Yeah. I know it is.

Chris takes out a rose and hands it to her.

MELLIE

A Rose? Huh? I guess I could give you a shot.

Mellie puts her arm through Chris's arm and they begin to walk out the door and to the Bistro.

**INT. BAYSIDE BISTRO - MAIN HALL - NIGHT**

Mellie and Chris walk into the Bistro and look around the elegant restaurant.

MELLIE

Well...This is interesting. It's nice.

Chris walks over to host.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS  
Reservation for two? Chris  
Wellington?

HOST  
Welcome back Mr. Wellington.

Mellie looks at Chris in shock.

MELLIE  
Welcome back?

CHRIS  
My father is a partner in the  
restaurant. But it's just an  
investment. Don't worry. I'm not a  
rude rich boy.

The host leads them out the doors to a deck...

**EXT. BAYSIDE BISTRO - PRIVATE DECK - NIGHT**

String lights go along the ceiling slowly flashing. On the  
table a nice set up of dishes and a single rose in a vase.  
Mellie looks on in awe.

MELLIE  
This....is....so

CHRIS  
Romantic?

The deck looks over the lake as the sun begins to illuminate  
the sky with an orange tint to it.

MELLIE  
I never believed this would ever  
happen to me....

CHRIS  
I guess you found the right guy  
then.

Mellie heads for her chair. Chris follows behind her and  
pulls it out for her. She sits down and he pushes her in.  
Chris walks over to his chair and sits down.

MELLIE  
Chris....I still cannot believe you  
did all of this. It's just  
perfection.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

I thought I would try and be romantic like.

MELLIE

It's just how I wanted to have this night be. At least you're not giving me paper plates. Your doing this in a romantic way.

CHRIS

I know. I ordered a salad to start.

MELLIE

Wow, You know me already.

Mellie smiles at Chris.

CHRIS

Look Mellie. I just want to get on the right foot. I just don't want to be the guy you put into your black book.

MELLIE

What makes you think I'll do that? You're a great guy.... and a nice date.

We pull away from them as they begin to laugh and talk about their lives.

DISSOLVE TO

Mellie and Chris are now eating dinner and laughing at jokes.

CHRIS

I cannot believe you did that?

MELLIE

It's true, I fell off the bleachers and knocked all of the cheerleaders over.

CHRIS

So what happened?

MELLIE

Let's just say there were no cheerleaders for the rest of the year.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

And I thought you were graceful.

MELLIE

You don't even know half of it yet.

Mellie and Chris begin to laugh at each other.

MELLIE

So come on. You need to tell me something embarrassing about you. I mean you can't be that perfect.

CHRIS

Well there was this one time when I was in high school. I kind of...fell down the stairs.

MELLIE

Oh my god!

CHRIS

Yeah and crushed the biggest guy in school.

MELLIE

This is good. I think I may need popcorn.

CHRIS

Well he cried.

Mellie bursts out in laughter trying not to get the hiccups.

MELLIE

That's more embarrassing for him not you.

CHRIS

Well it's bad when his little sister kicked my ass.

MELLIE

A freshmen kicked your ass?

CHRIS

Well yeah.

MELLIE

You little wimp.

Chris begins to laugh as well. He then looks up at Mellie.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS  
You are the most beautiful girl  
I've ever met.

MELLIE  
Wow. Don't make me blush I'll be as  
red as a tomato.

Chris takes her hand and begins to look at Mellie in the eyes.

CHRIS  
So you want to meet my wife?

Mellie's eyes grow wide.

MELLIE  
You're married?!

CHRIS  
Okay! Before you throw the water  
into my face. I'm just kidding!

Mellie looks at him.

MELLIE  
You jackass!

CHRIS  
I know. But I'm a joker so you  
better get used to it.

MELLIE  
As long as you don't go and kill  
Batman I'm happy.

CHRIS  
Well look who just became Harley  
Quinn.

Mellie laughs and on that we...

DISSOLVE INTO

**EXT. MELLIE'S APARTMENTS - NIGHT**

Mellie stands outside the apartment building with Chris looking into his eyes.

CHRIS  
Well that was some night Mel...

(CONTINUED)

MELLIE

I had fun. And you taking me to the fireworks was the best part of it.

CHRIS

There's just one thing left to do.

Mellie takes no time and leans in and kisses him. She continues to kiss him and in the background we hear faint fireworks going off.

We push in on the two kissing and then.....

**END OF ACT ONE**

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**ACT TWO - HENRY'S STORY**

FADE IN

**INT. HENRY'S CONDO - LIVING ROOM - DAY**

Henry sits on his couch going through various files and such all of them with a picture of Brad on them. A young woman QUINN walks behind him wearing a tank top and jeans and a gun hanging from her belt.

QUINN

So this guy is a crazy stalker?

HENRY

Yeah. All he is a ass that wants her to go back to drinking.

QUINN

Well I'm here to help really. What won't I do for my older bro.

HENRY

And what wouldn't I do without a sister thats a P.I?

QUINN

So? You want me to keep an eye out for this guy? Make sure he doesn't hurt her?

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

If anything happens to her... I don't know what's going to happen to her if he gets her.

QUINN

You love her!?

Henry turns to her.

HENRY

What? No!....She's just a good friend.

QUINN

I know you bro. You love her and you want to get in her...

HENRY

I swear to God if you say "I want to get into her pants" I will kill you with your own gun.

QUINN

I mean you love her.

HENRY

More than anything...

DISSOLVE INTO

**INT. NEW HAVEN ANIMAL SHELTER - FRONT - DAY**

Jenny stands behind the counter going through files for the pets.

HENRY

Mellie got a date?

Jenny looks up

JENNY

Yeah. I was just as shocked as you were. But I'm the one that forced her to go on the date...

HENRY

Why did you force her?

JENNY

Because I don't want her to have what I had...with...

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

Brad huh?

JENNY

Yeah. He was a total ass to me. I just can't trust him anymore. I never will again.

HENRY

That's good.

Jenny looks at Henry trying to make the odds of what he's doing.

JENNY

Yeah. I'm just waiting for Harlen to come back from Orlando Airport.

HENRY

What's he doing there?

JENNY

Picking up dear old grandma. Yippie.

HENRY

Now don't get too excited. Bad memories?

JENNY

She's just a crazy person. Trying to teach me how to be a lady.

HENRY

And you don't like that?

JENNY

It's like she's the frigging' Queen of England and I'm Britney Spears with a shaved head.

HENRY

Nice analogy.

JENNY

Well yeah. I mean, I'm me. I'm going to be who I'm going to be no matter what she tells me.

HENRY

Well listen, I was about to head over to the high school and talk to Holly. You wanna come?

(CONTINUED)

JENNY

I have to stay here and watch the store. But tell her I said Hi okay?

HENRY

I will...

Henry walks out the door.

**INT. CELEBRATION HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY**

Holly sits in the chairs outside the office her bag sitting on the chair next to her. Henry walks through the main doors and over to Holly.

HENRY

Hey. Holly. Ready to go?

HOLLY

Yeah. Just get me out of here.

Holly grabs her bag and follows Henry out the main door.

**EXT. CELEBRATION - TOWN SQUARE - DAY**

Henry and Holly sit on the bench looking over at the little kids playing in the playground.

HOLLY

Its just hard. You know. Breaking away from this...

HENRY

I know it is. That's why I think you need to talk to more people about this.

HOLLY

Like my mother who is on the verge of kicking me out?

HENRY

I mean someone who's like you. Going through the same thing.

HOLLY

Like Jenny?

HENRY

Yeah. I think you two are so much alike that you can relate.

(CONTINUED)

HOLLY  
I have a question.

HENRY  
What is it?

HOLLY  
How come you're helping me? I mean  
you have to have a life right?

HENRY  
Well. This is my life. Helping  
others.

HOLLY  
Really? I can never see myself  
doing this.

HENRY  
What do you see yourself doing?

HOLLY  
Being an artist. Or art teacher.  
Either one is fine with me.

HENRY  
Then pursue that. Go after your  
dream. After all we do live in the  
place where dreams come true.

HOLLY  
I guess you're right.

Holly looks up and smiles at Henry and Henry smiles back.

HENRY  
How about you and me go and get  
some ice cream?

HOLLY  
What am I five?

HENRY  
Well I see that ice cream makes  
everything better. It heals you.

HOLLY  
And gives you major brain freeze.

Henry laughs at her remark.

(CONTINUED)

HOLLY  
I think that's a great idea.

**EXT. CELEBRATION - BOARDWALK - NIGHT**

Henry hands the money to the ice cream vendor as he hands Holly the ice creams.

HOLLY  
Thanks Henry. For doing this.

HENRY  
No problem.

The two begin to walk away from the ice cream stand and walk on the boardwalk that goes along the lake.

HOLLY  
I feel like everyday is going to be worse and worse. I mean like an impending doom is going to hit me. Like a meteor.

HENRY  
You're scared that a meteor might hit you?

HOLLY  
Well it happened to Jenny. She got hit by a car and died. It's like at any moment we could die.

HENRY  
Hey. Look at me. Right in my eyes.

Holly looks at Henry

HENRY  
Nothing is going to happen to you. I promise you that. I will protect you.

Holly begins to smile.

HOLLY  
You're like the Dad I never had...

HENRY  
Hey. I'm not that old.

Holly goes in and hugs him and he hugs her back she smiles more and more.

END OF ACT TWO

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ACT THREE - HARLEN'S STORY

FADE IN

INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

Harlen sits at the kitchen table eating a bowl of cereal while reading the newspaper. Jenny walks into the room.

JENNY  
Morning Bro.

Harlen looks up.

HARLEN  
Hey. You're up a bit early.

JENNY  
Well I gotta be at the store. Help Mellie out.

HARLEN  
It's nice to see you back and working.

JENNY  
Yeah. Working involves money. And well hanging out with Mellie.

HARLEN  
I'm going into Orlando for the day.

JENNY  
Really? Why?

Harlen takes a deep breath.

HARLEN  
To pick up grandma...

Jenny looks at Harlen with wide eyes.

JENNY  
Are you kidding me? I told Mom I don't want to see her!

(CONTINUED)

HARLEN

No I'm not kidding you and neither is Mom. Grandma misses you.

JENNY

Misses me? I mean she just wants to make a proper lady.

HARLEN

You're just over exaggerating.

JENNY

Am I? I mean she put me in a Ye Olden times dress and I just don't rock that look.

Harlen lets out a little snicker.

HARLEN

Grandma would just like to talk to you.

JENNY

Yeah and I bet all she's going to talk about is how our father left us.

Harlen tries to hide within his coffee cup.

JENNY

Look. I love her but I just can't stand her.

Jenny grabs her bag and begins to head for the door. We hear the door slam behind her and Harlen looks out the window and takes a deep breath.

**EXT. ORLANDO AIRPORT - DAY**

Harlen leans against his car. He looks at his watch thinking he's late.

JEWEL

Harlen?!

Harlen looks up to see JEWEL SEVER ,his grandmother.

HARLEN

Grandma! Hey!

Harlen runs over from his car to the front of the airport to where his grandma is standing with her bags next to her.

(CONTINUED)

JEWEL

Well dear it's about time you got here.

HARLEN

I got here three hours ago.

JEWEL

Well darling I just wanted to see if you are more responsible.

He leans in and hugs her and she hugs him back.

JEWEL

How's your sister doing?

HARLEN

She's fine. Still recovering from accident but she's doing better now a days.

JEWEL

That's good. So I believe that you are getting a new job? Where are you working now?

HARLEN

Just at the Stargate Cooperation ,a medical distribution area. It brings me to Miami and lets me help Jenny along the way.

JEWEL

Does she know yet?

HARLEN

About Dad? No...Not yet.

JEWEL

Will we ever tell her?

HARLEN

Not until Mom's ready.

JEWEL

Well I wouldn't be surprised if she didn't try and find him herself.

HARLEN

I'm tracking him down but I don't know where it may lead me too.

Jewel brings her hand to her grandsons face and rubs it.

(CONTINUED)

JEWEL

I already know she hates me.

HARLEN

Then why are you here?

JEWEL

I have my reasons

HARLEN

Care to tell my those reasons?

Jewel smiles back at him.

JEWEL

None of which involve you.

HARLEN

But it involves my sister doesn't  
it?

Jewel continues to look at him. Her eyes staring him down.

JEWEL

Pick up my bags and let's head to  
the house then shall we?

Jewel walks around Harlen. Harlen takes the bag and watches  
as his grandmother walks towards the car.

**INT. STARGATE COOPERATION - HARLEN'S OFFICE - DAY**

Harlen paces back and forth in his office looking back and  
forth as the sun begins to set behind the Orlando Skyline.

HARLEN

Why come to me...I mean why even  
show your face!?

We turn to see Brad standing in the office talking to  
Harlen.

BRAD

I know that you don't even want to  
see me.

HARLEN

You ruined my sister! In what world  
does that not mean I don't want to  
see you?!

(CONTINUED)

BRAD

What me and your sister have is special....

HARLEN

You don't have anything! No love. No anything.

BRAD

I'm the reason she is what she is today.

HARLEN

You are not that reason!

BRAD

Really? One month ago. A car hits your sister. They never found the driver.

HARLEN

What are you saying?

BRAD

I'm the reason your sister changed. I'm the reason she was hit by that car. I hoped that it would bring her back to me but I guess that didn't quite work out now did it?

Harlen's eyes grow wide and look at Brad.

HARLEN

You killed her?

BRAD

I'm not a killer.

HARLEN

*She died!*

BRAD

But yet she stills walks. I'm not a killer. Just not yet I'm not.

We push in on Harlen and the fear that strikes his eyes and on that we....

**BLACK OUT**

END OF ACT THREE

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ACT FOUR - JENNY'S STORY

FADE IN

INT. DOCTORS OFFICE - WAITING ROOM - DAY

*Yesterday*

Jenny sits on the chair in the doctors office waiting. Her mother walks over to her and sits down next to her.

LISA

The doctor will be out in a sec.

JENNY

Let's hope. I need to get back to the shelter to help Mellie.

LISA

I think she can survive this once.

JENNY

I know but I just feel bad leaving here there.

LISA

If she's your friend then she'll understand.

Jenny takes a deep breath.

LISA

Your grandmother is worried about you.

JENNY

So?

LISA

She would just like to know if you're alright. She misses you.

JENNY

Well I don't miss her.

(CONTINUED)

LISA  
Jenny she has her reasons.

JENNY  
Like what? Give me one good reason.

LISA  
She loves you.

JENNY  
And if she loves me she'll leave me  
alone.

The Doctor comes out.

JENNY  
Hey Dr. Williams.

DR. WILLIAMS  
Hello Jenny. I just want to do a  
quick check up after the accident  
and see if there is anything amiss  
you know?

JENNY  
Well I mean my head hasn't fallen  
off so I say that's not a bad  
thing.

DR. WILLIAMS  
(Laughing)  
That's that a good thing. Can you  
please just step into my office?

Jenny stands up and begins to walk with the doctor.

LISA  
Jenny we need to talk about this  
later.

Jenny stops and turns to her mother.

JENNY  
There's nothing to talk about mom.

Jenny resumes walking and heads into the office.

**INT. DOCTORS OFFICE - OFFICE - DAY**

Jenny sits on the bed with a white tank top on as the doctor uses a stethoscope on her back.

DR. WILLIAMS  
Breathe in.

Jenny breathes in.

DR. WILLIAMS  
And Breathe out.

Jenny breathes out.

DR. WILLIAMS  
Well your breathing is fine. Your  
blood pressure is a little high but  
it's not over the top.

JENNY  
So I can go?

DR. WILLIAMS  
I just have to ask a few questions  
before you go.

JENNY  
Alright. Shoot Doc.

DR. WILLIAMS  
Okay. So have you been having any  
pain? Like on your arms? Legs?  
Head?

JENNY  
Just the occasional headache. But I  
think that's just stress.

DR. WILLIAMS  
Well that's usual. I suggest that  
you take a day of rest no stress  
what so ever. I think that may end  
the headaches.

JENNY  
I think I can do that.

Jenny hops off the bed and walks over to her coat and shirt.

DR. WILLIAMS  
And the drinking?

Jenny stops without looking at Dr. Williams.

(CONTINUED)

JENNY  
It's been better.

DR. WILLIAMS  
Still I want to know as your old  
friend how it's going.

JENNY  
Three weeks sober. I just don't  
want to think about it is all.

Jenny begins to pack up her things and she heads for the door.

JENNY  
I'll see you in a week.

She opens the door and walks out slamming the door behind her.

**INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY**

The door to Jenny's apartment opens up and Jenny and Lisa walk through the door and Jenny sets her keys down onto the table next to the door.

JENNY  
Do you need anything to drink Mom?

LISA  
No honey I'm alright. I'm just  
happy you're safe and healthy.

Lisa walks towards the couch and sits down where Maggie sits at the couch.

LISA  
Where's your brother?

JENNY  
At work I guess? He's trying to  
keep us a float.

LISA  
And where are your friends?

JENNY  
Work.

LISA  
Well, they are the busy bees

(CONTINUED)

JENNY

Well I work with Mellie but she gave me the day off for the doctors visit.

LISA

What a good friend.

Jenny sits down on the couch next to Lisa

JENNY

Mom. You're not telling me something...

LISA

Jenny we need to talk about grandma.

JENNY

I told you I don't want to talk about her.

LISA

Honey we need to. She really wants to fix things.

JENNY

Are you kidding me?

Lisa takes a deep breath.

LISA

I'm sorry but you two need to end this.

JENNY

She ruined my life.

Lisa gets up off the couch and begins to walk away and heads for the door.

LISA

You got a second chance...Why can't you give her one?

Lisa opens and walks out the door. She shuts it behind her.

Jenny leans forward and puts her head in her hands and takes a deep breath.

DISSOLVE INTO

**INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY****TODAY**

Jenny sits up in her bed with her arms wrapped around her legs as she looks out to the sky as the sun begins to rise. She smiles. Jenny gets up and throws the sheets over the bed that land on Maggie.

**INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY**

Harlen sits at the kitchen table eating a bowl of cereal while reading the newspaper. Jenny walks into the room.

JENNY

Morning Bro.

Harlen looks up.

HARLEN

Hey. You're up a bit early.

JENNY

Well I gotta be at the store. Help Mellie out.

HARLEN

It's nice to see you back and working.

JENNY

Yeah. Working involves money. And well hanging out with Mellie.

HARLEN

I'm going into Orlando for the day.

JENNY

Really? Why?

Harlen takes a deep breath.

HARLEN

To pick up grandma...

Jenny looks at Harlen with wide eyes.

JENNY

Are you kidding me? I told Mom I don't want to see her!

(CONTINUED)

HARLEN

No I'm not kidding you and neither is Mom. Grandma misses you.

JENNY

Misses me? I mean she just wants to make a proper lady.

HARLEN

You're just over exaggerating.

JENNY

Am I? I mean she put me in a Ye Olden times dress and I just don't rock that look.

Harlen lets out a little snicker.

HARLEN

Grandma would just like to talk to you.

JENNY

Yeah and I bet all she's going to talk about is how our father left us.

Harlen tries to hide within his coffee cup.

JENNY

Look. I love her but I just can't stand her.

Jenny grabs her bag and begins to head for the door. We hear the door slam behind her.

**EXT. CELEBRATION - TOWN SQUARE - DAY**

Jenny walks around the town square with her bag hanging off her arm and her arms crossed across her chest. She looks around and sees the little kids playing on the playground.

JENNY (V.O)

Things are changing. I know they are. But I just don't want them to come. I want things to stay the same. But I know now that my life will never be the same.

**INT. NEW HAVEN ANIMAL SHELTER - FRONT - DAY**

Jenny walks into the store and looks at Mellie dancing around the store with one of the kittens.

JENNY

Alright. Either one of the dogs are gonna have puppies or you met a guy?

MELLIE

I met a guy!

Jenny and Mellie scream in excitement and jump up and down.

JENNY

Tell me all the details!

Jenny and Mellie go and sit down on the counter.

MELLIE

His name is Chris Wellington!

JENNY

Sexy name!

MELLIE

He's hunky!

JENNY

No Way!

MELLIE

He was just too perfect! I mean like he has a dog. Lives in the same apartment building as me. He was just an angel.

JENNY

Well come back to earth and ask this guy out!

MELLIE

Do I have to come back down? I like it up here in the clouds.

JENNY

Mel! Come on. It's clear to me that he likes you so ask him out.

MELLIE

Yeah. Me asking out people doesn't work. In 10th grade it was a Sadie

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MELLIE (cont'd)  
Hawkins dance, I went to ask out a  
guy and I threw up on him.

JENNY  
Ew. Thats not good.

MELLIE  
I like him. But I just can't ask  
him out.

JENNY  
Well give him the signs. Like 'Ask  
me out or lose me'

MELLIE  
I'm not going to be a whore.

JENNY  
I'm not telling you to be! All I'm  
saying is to Nut up and Shut up!  
Take a risk.

MELLIE  
Fine....Tomorrow.

Jenny gives her a look.

MELLIE  
Tonight?

Jenny nods with a yes.

JENNY  
You can do this.

MELLIE  
I could say the same thing about  
you and Henry. What are you guys  
always doing together? I mean  
You're always with him. You're  
not...? You guys are dating?!

JENNY  
No!...No! It's not like that. We're  
just walking and talking that's  
all. Nothing going anywhere.

MELLIE  
Do you see it going anywhere?

JENNY  
Don't know yet.

MELLIE  
Well I do.

Jenny looks up and smiles at her.

JENNY  
I much rather stay here and not go home.

MELLIE  
And why is that?

JENNY  
My grandmother is here.

MELLIE  
Your grandmother is here?

JENNY  
Yeah. And I'm not too happy about it. But you!? Go home and get ready for your date. I'll cover the store.

Mellie grabs her bag and begins to head out the door.

JENNY  
Do you need protection?

Mellie turns back.

MELLIE  
Really? On the first date?

JENNY  
Hey I just don't want to see you rocking the baby bump anytime soon.

MELLIE  
I'll be careful. Goodbye.

Mellie heads out the door.

CUT TO: Jenny stands behind the counter going through files for the pets.

HENRY  
Mellie got a date?

Jenny looks up

JENNY

Yeah. I was just as shocked as you were. But I'm the one that forced her to go on the date...

HENRY

Why did you force her?

JENNY

Because I don't want her to have what I had...with...

HENRY

Brad huh?

JENNY

Yeah. He was a total ass to me. I just can't trust him anymore. I never will again.

HENRY

That's good.

Jenny looks at Henry trying to make the odds of what he's doing.

JENNY

Yeah. I'm just waiting for Harlen to come back from Orlando Airport.

HENRY

What's he doing there?

JENNY

Picking up dear old grandma. Yippie.

HENRY

Now don't get too excited. Bad memories?

JENNY

She's just a crazy person. Trying to teach me how to be a lady.

HENRY

And you don't like that?

JENNY

It's like she's the frigging' Queen of England and I'm Britney Spears with a shaved head.

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

Nice analogy.

JENNY

Well yeah. I mean, I'm me. I'm going to be who I'm going to be no matter what she tells me.

HENRY

Well listen, I was about to head over to the high school and talk to Holly. You wanna come?

JENNY

I have to stay here and watch the store. But tell her I said Hi okay?

HENRY

I will...

JENNY

My dad. Left us when I was 5.  
(Beat) And till this day we still don't know why.

Henry turns back to Jenny.

HENRY

Why are you telling me this?

JENNY

I think I just needed to get that out.

HENRY

How did it make you feel? When he left?

JENNY

Abandoned. Alone. No person there to take me to the park and play. I just never had a Dad growing up. And Holly could really use someone like that. And I think you fit the job. Henry smiles at her.

HENRY

Yeah...I guess you're right.

Henry walks out the door. We push in on Jenny.

(CONTINUED)

JENNY (V.O)

What the hell is wrong with me? I mean I run everyday and just last month I was hit by a car. How stupid am I? And Why am I talking to myself?

Jenny smiles and begins to sort through some of the paper work when the bell rings.

JENNY

Just look around and ask me if you need anything.

JEWEL

I would like to see my Granddaughter.

Jenny looks up and sees here grandmother.

JEWEL

What? No hug for your dear old Grandmother.

Jenny looks at her with a stern face.

JENNY

Not here please...

JEWEL

Fine. I'll see you tonight.

Jewel walks out the door.

**INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Jenny sits on the couch reading a book with a candle lit on the table and Maggie sitting at her feet panting. The doorbell rings. Maggie runs to the door. Jenny sets the book down on the table and walks to the door and opens it to see Jewel.

JENNY

What are you doing here?

JEWEL

We need to talk.

SMASH CUT TO

**INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY**

Jenny pours two cups of coffee into two red mugs.

JEWEL

All of the town is asking about you. They just want an update on how you are and such.

JENNY

Well as you can see I'm fine.

JEWEL

Jenny? Are you sure? The drinking addiction the past few years were...

JENNY

(Angry)

Can we not talk about that!?

Jewel looks at Jenny in shock.

JENNY

Sorry. I've just been on edge for a while is all.

JEWEL

Well I can see that.

Taking a sip of her coffee she looks at Jenny.

JENNY

What does that mean?

JEWEL

Both me and you know that you do have little temper tantrums.

JENNY

Your point being?

JEWEL

My point being is that you need to calm down. This is not a way for a lady to act.

Jenny scoffs towards her grandmother.

JENNY

So thats why you came back? To teach me how to live my life? How to be a proper bitch!?

(CONTINUED)

JEWEL

Excuse me young lady? You will not raise your voice at me like that!

JENNY

I thought you came her to make amends. To change things! But I think I was wrong. You just wanted to control my life more!

JEWEL

You are just so selfish aren't you! Thinking this is about you!?

JENNY

It is about me! When was the last time you were hit by a car and died for a month and then came back to learn that you screwed up your life more and more!? *Get out of my house! Get out!*

Jewel picks up her bag and walks away into the living and out the door.

Jenny takes her cup and places it onto the counter. Jenny slides down the cabinet and lowers herself onto the floor and begins to cry.

**SONG: DEMI LOVATO - WORLD OF CHANCES**

We push away away from Jenny as her tears begin to come harder and harder out of her eyes.

JENNY (V.O)

A Chance. We all get one. But I got two. Maybe five hundred. But we can never know. Each day is a chance to fix things.

**INT. HENRY'S CONDO - LIVING ROOM - DAY**

Henry and Holly sit on the couch watching a movie. Holly is asleep on Henry's chest.

HENRY (V.O)

Every event in our lives leads us to becoming things. But the one thing I never saw my self becoming...A father figure.

**INT. MELLIE'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Mellie sits on her couch with her dog smiling at her life and the way it has changed her.

MELLIE (V.O)

We find love. A True love that we all want to be there forever. And sometimes we find the fireworks.

**INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Jenny stands looking out the window and seeing the moon and stars rising above her.

JENNY (V.O)

But are we going to be able to fix things when we are the person that broke it?

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

BLACKOUT

**END OF ACT FOUR**

**END OF EPISODE**