

The Path Not Taken

1.05 - Burns

by
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TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. NEW HAVEN ANIMAL SHELTER - FRONT - DAY

We fade in on Jenny standing in the store looking at her phone. She looks up to the window and sees people walking by. Everyone happy and enjoying life. She takes a deep breath and looks down once more.

JENNY (V.O.)

There are somethings in life you
can't change....

Then a loud explosion comes from a distance. People out of the street cover their heads and fall to the ground. The windows crack, pet supplies begin to fall off the shelves and crashing onto the hard floor. The dogs begin to bark. Car Alarms go off. Jenny's eyes grow wide as a tear begins to fall from her eyes. She grabs her phone and her jacket and heads for the door and slams it behind her.

FLASH TO:

INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

6 HOURS EARLIER

Jenny walks into the kitchen still in her pajamas and her hair a mess. She looks around with her eyes still half open and looks at the fridge to see a note from Harlen. She reads it and crumbles it up and throws it behind her. She opens the fridge and pulls out a carton of orange juice. She turns to the cabinet and takes out a glass and begins to pour it.

JENNY (V.O.)

Dear Diary. Well today is a little boring. Nothing exciting happening. Well except for last week when we found out that Brad used a woman to drug me and then he killed her. Police are still looking for him. But knowing Brad and his ways. They won't find him. Its just a matter of time before he makes his move on me again. But until then. I just have to fix my life.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - FRONT LOBBY - DAY

Jenny runs down the stairs. Her hair up now and wearing a leather jacket and jeans. She goes to the mail box to see the mailman.

JENNY
Morning Bob.

BOB
Well hello Miss Hart.

JENNY
Bob. You can call me Jenny.

BOB
Alright then. Jenny. Here's your
mail for the day.

He reaches into his bag and pulls out a stack of mail and hands it to her.

JENNY
Please tell me those are not bills?

BOB
I'm just the messenger you can
blame the companies for that one.

Jenny laughs and starts to go through the mail. She flips through it til she comes to a white envelope with her name on it and no forwarding address.

JENNY
That's weird.

Jenny puts all the other mail into her bag and opens the letter. She pulls out a note card with a number on it and in big red letters 'CALL ME'. She looks at it strangely and pulls out her phone.

BOB
I don't think thats a smart idea.

JENNY
Well maybe its a relative. Maybe an
old friend? As long as its not one
of those deals where you can get a
free car and they steal all your
credit card and bank accounts.

BOB
Now that would be bad.

Jenny dials the number and puts the phone to her ear. The phone begins to ring faintly in the background. Then we hear a click but no answer.

JENNY
Hello?

MAN (ON PHONE)
He won't stop until he kills
someone you love and has you back
in his arms.

The phone clicks off and a beep goes on. Jenny hangs up the phone and looks at Bob.

BOB
Is everything alright?

Jenny shakes her head.

JENNY
Yeah...Yeah everything's fine. Just
one of those deal things.

Bob laughs and goes back to sorting the mail for the other tennets. Jenny walks by him and out the door.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Jenny walks out of the apartment building and begins to walk.

JENNY (V.O.)
He won't stop until he kills
someone I love. Those words were
the most haunting thing. And now
Brad is taking the next step into
getting me back. He'll kill for me.

Jenny walks away and on that we...

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. CELEBRATION - TOWN SQUARE - DAY

Jenny walks through the town square. All around her kids begin to play on the playground. She walks around them and goes towards a store.

INT. HOME SWEET HOME: REAL ESTATE - DAY

Jenny walks into the front and walks up to the front desk.

JENNY

Alyson?

Alyson comes out from a big pile of boxes behind the desk

ALYSON

Jenny? What are you doing here?

JENNY

Oh you know. Rainy days. Boring stuff on TV. Death threats from Brad.

Alyson looks up at Jenny and her eyes grow wide.

ALYSON

Jenny? Really? Again?

JENNY

I'm serious.

ALYSON

Why would he even do something! I mean he's on the run for the cops. He's not that stupid.

JENNY

Well we all know he's stupid.

ALYSON

And so aren't you.

Jenny smirks at her.

JENNY

How am I stupid?!

ALYSON

You dated him!

JENNY

Oh right.

Alyson laughs.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Just please be careful. Tell Brett to take Rose away from here for the day until its over.

ALYSON

I will.

JENNY

And you go with them.

ALYSON

I'm not leaving you.

JENNY

You have to. He's trying to get me by hurting the people that I love. And I can't risk you. Or anyone else.

Jenny smiles at her and starts to walk away. She stops and turns back to Alyson. She runs over to her and gives her a big hug.

ALYSON

Whats this for?

JENNY

For being a friend...

Jenny breaks the hug and walks back to the door

ALYSON

Jenny Wait!?

Jenny stops in her tracks and looks back at Alyson.

ALYSON (CONT'D)

What are you going to do? I mean you can't exactly go and get him can you?

JENNY

I'll do anything to stop him.

ALYSON

You can't! Jenny he wants this! Its the one way you'll go back to him!

JENNY

Well then Maybe I should!?

Alyson looks on at Jenny.

ALYSON

What makes you even say that!? Or
Think that!?

JENNY

Everything. All of this could end!
My friends could live on in peace.
Not having to worry if Brad is
going to be following in every step
they take! I can't have that! Its
already happening to me and I can't
have that for any of you!

ALYSON

Jenny! This happens! Its called
life! Maybe you should live it!

JENNY

I am living it!

ALYSON

No your not!

Jenny looks at Alyson. Scared by her tone.

ALYSON (CONT'D)

You fear that at any moment Brad
will come and get you! You shut
everyone out and you don't even
think about what your doing! Its
just all of these actions your
doing are not going to help you in
the future! The most important
thing you need now other than a
reality check. Is Family! You need
Love! Everyone needs it! Just
because you think you can do things
alone doesn't mean you have to walk
alone! You need us. And We need
you!

Jenny takes a deep breath.

JENNY

You really think that?

ALYSON

I don't have to Jenny. I'm a friend. Who loves you. And would hate to see anything happen to you.

Alyson goes over to Jenny and hugs her. Jenny begins to cry into her shoulder.

ALYSON (CONT'D)

Maybe you were given this second chance to do something else.

JENNY

(Crying)

And what would that be?

ALYSON

To realize your not alone in this world.

Jenny breaks the hug from Alyson. She wipes some of the tears away from her face.

JENNY

I don't know about that. But all I know is that I need to go warn everyone else. Just in case.

Alyson nods at her and lets her go. Jenny walks out. Alyson looks on at her friend.

EXT. CELEBRATION - TOWN SQUARE - DAY

Jenny walks out of the store. She wipes her face again. Jenny looks over to a young couple who are holding hands and walking together.

FLASH TO:

INT. JENNY'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

2002

Jenny lays on top of the bed with Brad on top of her and them making out.

JENNY

I shouldn't be drinking. I mean I swore to my Mom I wouldn't until I was 21.

BRAD

Like your mom will find out.

JENNY

She found out I was stealing the cookies from the cookie jar. She'll find out about this.

BRAD

Trust me she won't.

JENNY

How can I trust you?

BRAD

Because I love you. More than anything.

Brad leans in and continues to make out with her.

FLASH TO:

EXT. CELEBRATION - TOWN SQUARE - DAY

Jenny stands in the same spot she was and shakes away the memory she just had.

JENNY (V.O.)

He's coming to me in my head. There truly is no escape from him is there?

Jenny walks away and heads over to...

INT. NEW HAVEN ANIMAL SHELTER - FRONT - DAY

Jenny walks over and goes into the store to find Mellie with a costumer. Jenny watches.

MELLIE

Trust me. Just come back tomorrow.

The costumer nods and walks past Jenny and out the door.

MELLIE (CONT'D)

Hey Sister! Whats cracking?

JENNY

Nothing really.

Mellie looks at Jenny.

MELLIE

Something's wrong...Spill.

JENNY

If I tell you, you won't think I'm
crazy?

MELLIE

Well I do think your crazy but not
crazy crazy.

JENNY

Its Brad.

MELLIE

Excuse me?

JENNY

He sent me a death threat.

MELLIE

What?! Jenny you have to go to the
police about this.

JENNY

Not about me. But about you guys.

MELLIE

What do you mean?

JENNY

He said he won't stop until he
kills someone I love.

MELLIE

Are you serious? Why would he do
that?

JENNY

I don't know. Maybe just to get me
back.

MELLIE

Well thats a lame attempt to get
you back. I mean killing someone?
How would that make you love him?

JENNY

I think in his twisted delusional
way he think it does.

Mellie takes a deep breath.

MELLIE

So What should I do?

JENNY

I want you to be careful. Lay low.
Go be with Chris and just be
careful. But you already knew that.

MELLIE

I'll be careful.

JENNY

At Least you listened.

MELLIE

What do you mean?

JENNY

Alyson thought I was crazy. But she
knows Brad. Maybe he won't do
anything.

MELLIE

Well I don't know Brad so He may do
something. And I don't want to die.
I'm to young.

JENNY

It won't matter to him. As long as
he doesnt get you. Or anyone else
I'll be happy.

Mellie looks at Jenny.

MELLIE

What made him do all this.

JENNY

Its my fault I guess.

MELLIE

Well something tells me he was
crazy before this.

JENNY

No...he wasn't. When I first met
him he was nice. He cared about me
at least.

MELLIE

Then what happened?

JENNY

He made me drink. I changed and he
changed with me. It was simple
math. I just really don't want to
talk about him right now.

(MORE)

JENNY (CONT'D)

I can't even think about him. I'm just going to go out for a walk alright?

MELLIE

Okay. I'll be here if you need me.

Jenny turns away from Mellie and walks out the door.

MELLIE (CONT'D)

Man. If I never met her my life would be just as boring as it was before I met her.

The phone rings. Mellie walks over to it and picks it up.

MELLIE (CONT'D)

Hello? Hey Chris! What! No way! Your lying! Thats great! I'll meet you in a sec.

Mellie hangs up the phone and runs out the door.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HENRY'S CONDO - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Henry lies asleep on his couch. A loud knocking at his door wakes him up. He gets up sluggish and walks over to the door and opens it.

HENRY

Holly? What are you doing here?

We look at Holly her eyes red from tears.

HOLLY

My mom kicked me out.

Henry looks at Holly. He goes over to her and hugs her.

CUT TO:

Holly sits on the couch with a blanket wrapped around her. Henry walks in with a cup.

HENRY

Its hot Chocolate. I always thought that chocolate makes things better.

HOLLY

Thanks.

She takes the cup and takes a sip. Henry takes a deep breath.

HENRY

Why did your mom kick you out?

Holly looks at Henry trying not to cry and more.

HOLLY

I can't tell you.

HENRY

Come on. Just tell me. You can trust me.

Holly takes a deep breath as tears begin to flow out of her.

HOLLY

I'm Pregnant.

Henry's eyes grow wide and look at Holly.

HENRY

Are you serious?

HOLLY

I went to the doctor two days ago because I missed my period. I was so scared. But when I heard that little heartbeat...I was scared but happy. This baby is mine. Its apart of me now.

HENRY

So your not getting...?

HOLLY

No...Its wrong to do that. I can never kill anyone before they have the chance to live.

Henry sits down next to her and puts his arm around her.

HENRY

Are you going to tell Bennett?

More tears begin to come out of Holly.

HENRY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry I didn't mean to upset you. I just think he should know because he's the dad.

HOLLY

(Crying)

But thats the thing.

Henry looks at Holly confused.

HENRY
Whats the thing?

HOLLY
I don't know if he's the dad!

Holly begins to cry harder.

HENRY
What?

HOLLY
Remember when you guys met me? And I had that wild night? I slept with this guy and thats right around the same time I slept with Bennett for the first time. So I can't tell.

HENRY
Holly. Look at me right here.

Holly looks at Henry directly in his eyes.

HENRY (CONT'D)
Were going to figure this out. But we have to tell Jenny.

HOLLY
No!

Holly snaps at Henry.

HOLLY (CONT'D)
Jenny has to much to deal with right now. I can't have her worrying about this too. Just please. Not until I'm ready.

HENRY
Alright. But she's gonna have to know at one point.

HOLLY
I know.

Henry pulls Holly in for a hug.

HENRY
I'm going to protect you. No matter what happens.

We pull away from the both of them and down onto Henry's cell phone that lies on the table. It lights up with Jenny's name he doesnt even look at it. It clicks off. And on that we...

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. NEW HAVEN ANIMAL SHELTER - FRONT - DAY

We come upon Jenny standing at the counter with her phone in her hand. She begins to scroll the pictures on it of her and her friends. Some of her and Holly. Her and Mellie. Mellie and Chris. Her and Henry and some of Alyson. She looks up and takes a deep breath.

FLASH TO:

INT. JENNY'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

2003

Jenny sits on her bed reading a magazine with a empty beer bottle next to her, dripping onto the sheets.

Brad comes in from the window. Jenny looks.

JENNY

Brad what are you doing here!?

BRAD

I came to see you!

Brad runs to hug her. He then begins to kiss her neck.

JENNY

Br..Brad please. Not tonight.

BRAD

Oh come on baby. Please!?

JENNY

I said no!

Jenny pushes Brad away from her. He looks at her.

BRAD

Oh please. Its my birthday.

He runs back to her and tries to undo her night gown.

JENNY

Brad I said no!

BRAD

You know you want me! You want to feel me in you!

JENNY

No I don't! Not tonight! Please!
Just leave.

Brad looks at Jenny. He rises his hand and looks at her. His hand comes down fast and slaps Jenny right across the face. She falls down the floor.

BRAD

Oh god I shouldn't have done that!

Jenny touches her face. Tears roll down her face.

JENNY

What happened to you!

BRAD

I'm me baby. You just want me.

JENNY

No I don't! You hit me you bastard!

BRAD

And that was wrong of me. Please
give me a second chance.

Jenny gets up. She looks at Brad and puts her hand to his head.

JENNY

Your right.

Jenny smiles. All of a sudden her knee rises up to his groin and kicks him. Brad bends down and cups it and groans.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Looks like you won't be using that
tonight.

Brad looks up at Jenny in anger

BRAD

I thought what we had was special.
I love you!

JENNY

Theres nothing between us.

Brad stands up and takes Jenny by the shoulder and throws her to the ground. She lands on her back. Brad goes on top of her and begins to try and rip off her nightgown once more.

BRAD

I'm gonna make you feel our love. I love you so much!

JENNY

Please stop! Stop! No!

Jenny pushes him off her. She pulls her nightgown up trying to cover herself up.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Ask me again why I would love you!

Brad stands back looking confused.

BRAD

You think I'm done with you Jenny Hart!? I'm not even close to being done! Cause Bitch...your gonna see a change.

Brad backs away and heads for the window. Jenny's eyes fill up with more tears. She falls down to the ground her eyes growing with tears she sobs louder and louder.

FLASH TO:

INT. NEW HAVEN ANIMAL SHELTER - FRONT - DAY

We come back to Jenny as she tries once again to shake away the bad memory. The bell rings and Henry and Holly walk in.

JENNY

Hey what are you guys doing here?

HENRY

Just thought I would bring Holly down. Holly go get your homework done.

HOLLY

Fine.

Holly slumps her way to the back of the store. Henry looks at Jenny.

JENNY

Hey did you get my call?

HENRY

No. My phone is on the fritz.

JENNY

Oh well that explains some things.

Jenny takes a deep breath.

HENRY

Let me guess. Somethings wrong?

JENNY

How did you know?

HENRY

I just do.

JENNY

Okay? and Yes something is wrong.
Its about Brad.

HENRY

Jenny? Has he hurt you?

JENNY

No not yet. But I have the feeling
he will.

Henry walks over to Jenny.

HENRY

What did he do?

JENNY

Got someone to call me and threaten
that he's going to kill someone I
love.

HENRY

Why would he do that?

JENNY

I don't know. He's gone Physco.

HENRY

Do you have any idea on why he
would do that?

Jenny looks over her shoulder to make sure Holly isn't
listening.

JENNY

If I tell you. Promise me that it
stays between You Me and Mellie.

HENRY

I promise.

JENNY

Cross your heart.

HENRY

Cross my heart.

Jenny takes a deep breath.

JENNY

About 7 years. Me and Brad started dating. It was our first year anniversary and I started drinking. He came through my window. He was drunk and he wanted to have sex with me.

HENRY

What happened.

JENNY

Lets just say I said no but he thought it was a yes.

HENRY

He raped you?

JENNY

Almost. I fought him off. But he hit me. I kicked him and he threw me to the ground.

Jenny peels back her shirt by her shoulder to show a scar from that night to Henry.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Ever since then he never stopped. He stalked me. Like I was a lost puppy and he was trying to bring me home and stuff me so I could be with him forever.

HENRY

I will never let that happen to you. I promise.

JENNY

I know you will. I trust you.

Henry puts his hand on Jenny's shoulder.

HENRY

What do you want me to do?

JENNY

Get out of town. Just for the day until I solve this and make sure Brad is done. I can't let anything else happen to someone I love.

HENRY

Are you implying something else happened?

JENNY

Yeah. I had a pretty messed up life.

HENRY

Tell me all about it. I got a boring one.

Jenny giggles.

JENNY

When I was five. My Dad left. I never saw him again.

HENRY

Wow. That sucks.

JENNY

It did. I was raised by my Mom and my Uncle Roger. When they found out I was drinking he wanted to kick me out. But my mom stood my ground.

HENRY

Your Uncle Roger?

JENNY

He moved in after his wife died. He's my mom's brother.

HENRY

Oh.

JENNY

But my life is just a book. You open it and get bored.

HENRY

I don't find it boring.

Jenny looks at him and smiles.

JENNY
How can I not laugh at the cute
dimple smile?

HENRY
Its the lady killer.

Jenny giggles.

HENRY (CONT'D)
I want you to call Quinn and tell
her about Brad.

JENNY
Why Quinn?

HENRY
She's on his case so I think this
may help her.

JENNY
Really?

Henry nods.

JENNY (CONT'D)
Alright. Take Holly and bring her
somewhere okay? I can't lose any
one.

HENRY
You won't. They'll get him. I
promise that.

Henry walks into the back. Jenny picks up her phone and dials
it.

JENNY
Hey Quinn. Its me Jenny Hart? I
think I may have something that may
help you with your case.

CUT TO:

INT. HARLAN'S OFFICE - DAY

Harlan sits at his desk typing away on his computer. He looks
down at a piece of paper and is distracted by a picture of
Him Jenny and Riley. He stops typing and picks up the picture
and looks at it. He smiles. The door opens and he drops the
picture onto his desk. He looks up to see his boss.

JOHN
Hey Harlan. Mind if I talk to you
for a minute?

Harlan looks at his boss.

HARLAN
Uh...Sure.

His boss sits down in the chair in front of Harlan's desk.

JOHN
It has come to my attention, that
in this econmy I may need to lay
off some people. And I have come to
tell you. Your not one of those
people.

Harlan takes a deep breath.

HARLAN
I thought you were going to fire me
for a second there sir.

JOHN
Please you know me I'm not that
mean. I'm the one that the big loud
of chocolate chip cookies that my
wife and granddaughter made.

HARLAN
They were very good sir.

JOHN
Please call me John.

HARLAN
Um..Yes Sir...I mean John.

John laughs.

HARLAN (CONT'D)
So why did you need to talk to me?

JOHN
Well I'm thinking about promoting
people and I've been looking over
things and you seem to be bringing
in a lot of clients for this
company.

HARLAN
So what does that mean?

JOHN

That means I'm promoting you to
Head Sales Director of Stargate.

Harlan looks at John.

HARLAN

Are you serious!? This is an honor!

JOHN

I knew you would be happy.

HARLAN

So thats it?

JOHN

Not quite. You need to meet with
the heads of the other departments
and they have to agree if your
ready for the job.

HARLAN

I can do this.

JOHN

Perfect just meet us for Lunch
today at the Clam's Cafe' at 1.

HARLAN

I'll be there.

John stands up and walks out. As soon as he's gone Harlan
starts to dance.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEW HAVEN ANIMAL SHELTER - DAY

Jenny walks out of the shelter with a couple of dogs as they
go to do their buisness. Her phone begins to ring. She looks
at it and opens it up. Theres a text from an unknown number.
Jenny reads it. On it, it says "Someone's going out with a
Bang"

JENNY (V.O.)

And at that moment...I knew Brad is
not done with me yet.

And on that we....

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. NEW HAVEN ANIMAL SHELTER - FRONT - DAY

Jenny paces back and forth in the store trying to even look at her phone. She tries to not even think about it.

INT. JENNY'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

Jenny sits on her bed with a beer bottle in her hand. She takes sips of it more and more. There's a knock on the door. And In walks Harlan.

HARLAN

Jenny what the hell are you doing!?

Harlan walks over to Jenny and grabs the beer bottle out of her hand.

JENNY

What does it look like to you!?

Harlan gives Jenny a look.

JENNY (CONT'D)

So what the big problem now?

HARLAN

Lets think. Brad has driven you to drinking and you won't stop...

JENNY

(Yelling)

Don't you dare mention Brad to me!

HARLAN

Oh I will mention him all I want too!

JENNY

Like it will help! I'll still drink no matter what!

HARLAN

No you won't.

Harlan goes and takes all the beer bottles from the room.

JENNY

I hate you...

HARLAN

Hate me all you want...But I will
not stop helping you...

JENNY

Get out! Get out of my room!

Harlan turns away from Jenny and walks out of the room.

FLASH TO:

INT. NEW HAVEN ANIMAL SHELTER - FRONT - DAY

Jenny stands back in the store trying not to cry from the
memory. All of sudden the bell rings and Harlan walks into
the store.

HARLAN

Jenny you'll never believe what
happened to me!

JENNY

Well I think I got something
bigger. But you go first.

HARLAN

I got promoted!

Jenny starts to excited

JENNY

Oh my god! Bro thats great!

HARLAN

So...what is it you wanted to tell
me?

JENNY

I really don't think mine is as
good as yours.

HARLAN

Well how bad can it be?

JENNY

Its about Brad.

HARLAN

Well that really killed the mood.

JENNY

Harlan! This is serious!

HARLAN

Oh please what did he do threaten
to kill someone?

JENNY

Well actually he did! Did that just
made you feel ten times worse?

Harlan looks at Jenny.

HARLAN

You think that makes me feel any
better?

JENNY

Were you not listening?! I said
feel worse!

HARLAN

So what did he do?

JENNY

Like you said. Threatened to kill
someone.

HARLAN

Okay. So now what?

JENNY

You stay put don't go any where.

HARLAN

I can't do that!

JENNY

And why is that?

HARLAN

I have a lunch so I can get a
promotion!

JENNY

Then tell them to post pone it! I
don't want you to die!

HARLAN

So what?! I'm trying to make our
lives better!

JENNY

And I'm trying to make sure we have
a life after this!

HARLAN

For all we know he's just testing you!

Jenny takes a deep sigh.

JENNY

Well I don't believe it! I think Brad is going to finally do something.

HARLAN

Jenny its been 7 years!

JENNY

Oh well did you know he's here! In Celebration? You thought he left! But he stayed and is trying to make my life a living hell!

HARLAN

Your life!? This isn't all about you Jenny!

JENNY

Well its my god damn fault this is happening! So its screwing with my life!

HARLAN

Its screwing with all of ours! The world doesn't revolve around you Jenny! It revoles around all of us! So where's our love?

JENNY

You don't think that I love you guys!? I love you guys more then anything! I'm willing to put my life on the line to save you guys! No matter what!

HARLAN

Prove it! Prove that you love me Jenny!

JENNY

And how do I do that?

HARLAN

You let this go...We live life.

JENNY

No I won't do that. I will never let this go!

HARLAN

Fine. Then I'll move out. Nice knowing you sis.

Harlan turns around and heads for the door. He slams it behind him. Jenny begins to have tears fall out of her eyes. Anger grows in her face. She walks over to the counter. She swoops her arm over it and throws everything off of it as it lands on the floor. Jenny puts her hands through her hair and screams!

JENNY (V.O.)

Everything I knew. Has been taken from me. I never even thought about it. But when everything's gone. You can't help but think to fill the hole.

Jenny slides down the counter and begins to cry more.

INT. CHRIS'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Mellie and Chris sit on the couch. Making out. Mellie lies down and Chris goes on top of her.

CHRIS

We shouldn't be doing this. I mean I think you should be with Jenny at the store.

MELLIE

Hey its my day off and I want it.

CHRIS

But what about the death threat?

MELLIE

I know I'm safe.

CHRIS

How do you know that?

MELLIE

Because I'm with you...I know I'm safe in your arms.

Chris leans in and begins to kiss her more.

CHRIS

I love you...

MELLIE
I love you too...

DISSOLVE TO:

Jenny stands in the store looking at her phone. She looks up to the window and sees people walking by. Everyone happy and enjoying life. She takes a deep breath and looks down once more.

JENNY (V.O.)
There are somethings in life you
can't change....

Then a loud explosion comes from a distance. People out of the street cover their heads and fall to the ground. The windows crack, pet supplies begin to fall off the shelves and crashing onto the hard floor. The dogs begin to bark. Car Alarms go off. Jenny's eyes grow wide as a tear begins to fall from her eyes. She grabs her phone and her jacket and heads for the door and slams it behind her.

EXT. CELEBRATION - TOWN SQUARE - DAY

Jenny runs out of the store and into the chaos of the streets. She looks at smoke that rises from behind the buildings. She begins to run

EXT. CELEBRATION - LAKE - DAY

Jenny runs to see a building completely destroyed. People gather around it. Jenny runs into it. A man comes over to Jenny.

MAN
Do you know what happened?

JENNY
No...I Don't.

Sirens begin fill the air. Fire trucks come to the scene. Firefighters get out and go into the scene. A car comes over to Jenny. Mellie and Chris get out.

JENNY (CONT'D)
Oh thank god!

Jenny runs over to Mellie and hugs her.

MELLIE

I did what you asked. Me and Chris were at his house and we heard the explosion. I thought we would come and see.

JENNY

Its a restaurant.

MELLIE

Did anyone go there?

JENNY

No Harlan was going to the Clam Cafe'.

Chris and Mellie look at each other.

CHRIS

Jenny...this is the Clam Cafe'

Jenny's eyes begin to tear up.

JENNY

No...Your lying. Please tell me your lying.

Mellie nods her head no. Jenny turns to the destruction.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Harlen!?

Jenny runs into the destruction.

MELLIE

Jenny! Don't!

Mellie chases after her. Jenny begins to dig through the debris trying to Harlan.

MELLIE (CONT'D)

Jenny come back here!

JENNY

He has to be here!

MELLIE

We have to let the firemen do this!

Jenny looks down to see a hand. She looks at the hand. On the wrist is a watch.

JENNY
(Quietly)
Harlan?....Harlan!

Jenny bends down to the body and begins to remove all the boards. Jenny looks down to see Harlan covered in blackness. Cuts all over him.

JENNY (CONT'D)
Harlan?

Jenny puts her hand on Harlan's side to help him up. She removes her hand and looks at it to see blood on it. She looks down to where her hand was to see a gash bleeding out fastly.

MELLIE
We need help here!

A paramedic comes over to Harlan.

PARAMEDIC
Ma'am you need to leave.

JENNY
No! I won't leave him!

Mellie grabs Jenny and begins to pull him away. She tries to break free from the clutch Mellie has on her. Mellie pulls her away and towards Chris who takes her and holds her close. She screams loudly as she passes through the sky as we...

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. CELEBRATION - LAKE - NIGHT

We come to see Harlan being pulled into the ambulance. Jenny stands close by holding Harlan's hand. They put him in and close the doors. Jenny stands looking in the window as they pull him away.

JENNY (V.O.)

If life was meant to be so
easy...then why is it so hard to
live?

Mellie comes over to Jenny.

MELLIE

Hey. Lets head to the hospital
okay?

Mellie leads Jenny to the car. They get in it and follow the ambulance.

INT. CELEBRATION HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

We pan across to see Mellie sitting next to Jenny and Henry on Jenny's other side. Holly sits on Henry's side with Rose sitting with her as Alyson sits on the other side of the room sleeping. Brett walks into the room with coffee. Alyson wakes up.

BRETT

I brought coffee if any one wants
any. I didn't know what everyone
wanted so I just improvised.

Rose gets up and goes over to Alyson.

ALYSON

Has the doctor come in yet?

JENNY

No...nothing yet.

HENRY

They should be out soon. Its been
what? Four hours now?

JENNY

Its feels like eternity...

Alyson looks up at Jenny.

ALYSON
I bet it does.

JENNY
How would you know...You've been
sleeping.

Alyson looks back at Rose and back at Jenny. She just stays
quiet. The doctor walks into the room. Everyone looks up.
Jenny stands up

DOCTOR
He'll be fine.

Jenny takes a big sigh of relief.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)
He does have some internal
bleeding. and he will have a scar
from the wound but that should
clear up in about a month or two.

JENNY
When can we take him home?

DOCTOR
I know you are anxious to take him
home but we should keep him here
for the night just to make sure
he's okay.

JENNY
Can I at least see him?

DOCTOR
Yes. But he's still asleep. But you
may sit with him.

JENNY
Are you sure?

DOCTOR
You'll be fine. Trust me.

Jenny run past the doctor and goes into the hall.

INT. CELEBRATION HOSPITAL - HARLAN'S ROOM - NIGHT

Jenny looks in through the window on the door. She opens it
slowly and walks into the room.

JENNY
Hey bro...Um...I just came to say
Hi.

Harlan does not move. Jenny looks at him with sad eyes. Jenny walks over to him and sits down.

JENNY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry...If I never have dated Brad this never would have happened. I wish I could just take back the days. Never even give into him...

Jenny looks over at the monitor to see Harlan's heart beat at a steady rate.

JENNY (CONT'D)

About that fight? Can we just forget it. I love you. And you almost died. I got a task of life without you and I didn't like it. I promise not to give into temptation anymore. I will be the best sister you ever had. Just please...come back to me.

Jenny grabs his hand. She holds his hand tight and begins to cry. She looks over at Harlan's face.

JENNY (CONT'D)

And I just want to let you know that. I'm glad your my brother. And I just want to hank you...for being there for me.

Harlan's eyes begin to move. His hand jolts. Jenny looks up and her eyes grow wide.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Harlan?...

Harlan's eyes slowly open up. She looks at him and smiles.

HARLAN

(Weak)

Jenny? Wh..what the hell happened?

JENNY

(Happy)

It doesn't matter what happened. All that matters is that your okay.

Jenny leans in and kisses his forehead.

JENNY (CONT'D)

I'll go get the doctor.

Jenny stands up and heads out the door.

INT. CELEBRATION HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Jenny walks back into the waiting to see Henry talking with the doctor.

JENNY
Hey Doc. Harlan's awake.

Everyone looks up at Jenny and the good news.

MELLIE
Is he okay?

JENNY
He seems fine.

The doctor turns away from them and heads out the door to Harlan's room. Jenny walks over to Henry.

JENNY (CONT'D)
What were you two talking about?

HENRY
He was just informing me on all the pain medicine Harlan's going to need.

Jenny leans in and hugs him.

HENRY (CONT'D)
What was that for?

JENNY
Just for helping.

Henry smiles at Jenny.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jenny sits in her living room with her diary. Next to her Maggie and Charlie sleep.

JENNY (V.O.)
Dear Diary. Its been a rough week. Brad is still on the run. Harlan is doing better and better by the day. But as I think about all these bad things. I can't help but want to go and drink.

Jenny looks down the hall and into Harlan's room .

JENNY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

But I know I would be betraying my trust. To both Harlan and myself. I feel as if all the bad things in the world has been taken away and replaced by hope. As Harlan said... We all need hope. And Sometimes Hope is Needed.

Jenny looks down at what she wrote and shuts the diary. Henry walks out of the kitchen with a big plate of nachos. Chris and Mellie follow carrying drinks.

MELLIE

Let movie night begin!

Jenny smiles.

HENRY

I think this is a good idea.

Holly comes out from the bathroom. Jenny looks.

JENNY

Hey sweetie you okay?

HOLLY

Yeah just a bad burger at school.

Holly walks over and sits down in the chair. Henry looks at her and then at his friends. Not know what to say to them.

JENNY

What movie we got?

Mellie looks at the DVD case.

MELLIE

Um. When in Rome.

CHRIS

The one with Kristen Bell.

HENRY

I love her! She's such a good actress.

JENNY

I agree with that.

Chris takes the DVD and opens it pulling out the DVD. He walks over to the TV and places the movie into the DVD player. Jenny looks over at Holly.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Hey are you sure your okay? Its been a tough week for you. With your mom kicking you out.

Holly looks at Henry then back at Jenny.

HOLLY

Yeah. I'm fine. Just haven't been feeling well lately.

Jenny leans over and puts her hand on Holly.

JENNY

You know I'm here for you right?

Holly nods. Holly leans over to the table and grabs her ginger ale. The phone begins to ring. Jenny looks at it.

JENNY (CONT'D)

I'll be right back.

Jenny picks up the phone and walks into...

INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jenny walks into the kitchen.

JENNY

Hello?...Hey Doc. Yeah he's doing fine. He's sleeping right now. Yes he did take his pain medication before he went to sleep. The wound is fine. I changed the bandage this morning. It didn't look infected but you'll see it tommorow at the appointment. Okay, I'll talk to you later doc. Have a good night.

Jenny hangs up the phone and looks around the kitchen to see the mess. She sighs. But smiles.

JENNY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Even though your life is a mess. Even though things may be bad. All you need to make it through...is a family.

Jenny looks into the living room to see her friends laughing and having fun. Jenny turns away from the kitchen and goes into the...

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

Jenny looks in to see her brother fast asleep. She shuts the door.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Chris holds up Holly in his arms as she begins to drift off to sleep. Henry and Jenny looking on. Mellie waits outside the door.

HENRY

Thanks for taking her for the night. I think I should just stay another night and make sure Harlan's okay.

CHRIS

Hey no problem. She's always welcome at my house.

Chris looks at Mellie.

MELLIE

We should get going. See you guys tomorrow.

Jenny waves good by and shuts the door behind her.

JENNY

Thanks for staying. Its really been a lot of help.

HENRY

No problem. I don't mind really.

Jenny smiles.

JENNY

Well do you mind helping me clean?

HENRY

Do I have to?

JENNY

Do you wanna sleep outside?

Henry smiles.

HENRY

Lets go.

INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jenny and Henry stand at the sink cleaning the dishes.

JENNY

Sorry that the dishwasher is broken.

HENRY

Oh I don't mind. Me and my sister always used to clean the dishes like this. It was fun.

JENNY

Yeah me and Harlan fought over who would do it.

Jenny laughs. Henry looks down at the soapy water. He picks some up and puts it on Jenny's nose. Jenny jumps.

JENNY (CONT'D)

(Laughing)

What was that for!?

HENRY

Lets have a little fun. Loosen up a bit.

Jenny looks at him.

JENNY

Okay. I'll loosen up.

Jenny reaches into the bubbles. She throws it on Henry's head.

HENRY

What a nice toupee.

Jenny laughs.

JENNY

I look like Rudolf minus the red nose.

They both continue to laugh.

HENRY

Now you see what fun is.

JENNY

I can't believe I was missing out.

Jenny and Henry smile at each other.

HENRY

So how are you doing? About Brad?

JENNY

I've been feeling a little better then before.

HENRY

You did revel a lot of stuff about him a couple of days ago.

JENNY

Yeah. I know I did. But I felt like I needed to.

HENRY

And thats good.

JENNY

How is that good.

Henry looks at Jenny. He takes his hand and takes the soap of out his hair.

HENRY

Its apart of the steps. Your realizing the drive that made you want to go to drink.

JENNY

But I still have the urge.

HENRY

You'll have that for a long time. But your getting closer to the root of what made you drink.

(Beat)

Jenny. I've helped people before. But none have them have been like you. Your special.

Henry takes his hand and wipes the soap off her face. He puts his hand on her face. Jenny looks right into his eyes.

JENNY

I'm nothing special.

HENRY

Yes you are. You a powerful woman.
In control of her own destiny and
future. And I have a feeling your
half way there.

Jenny smiles at him. Henry takes his hand away from Jenny's face. He wipes his hands on a dish towel.

JENNY

We should get some sleep.

HENRY

Yeah we should. I'll see you in the
morning.

Jenny takes the dish towel from Henry and wipes her hands off. She puts the towel back onto the counter and heads out the kitchen.

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

Jenny walks into her bedroom and lies down on the bed. She pulls the blankets over her and falls asleep.

DISSOLVE TO:

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

Jenny begins to stir awake. She sits up and puts her fingers through her hair. She takes the blanket off and gets up. She heads for the door.

INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - HARLAN'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jenny opens to door to the room. Jenny walks in and looks over at Harlan. She walks over to him. She sits down on the bed and looks at him.

JENNY

Harlan? Hey you need anything?

Harlan does not respond. Jenny brings her hands up to his face. She rubs his cheeks. She feels the stubble from his beard. She looks down at him. His chest not moving. She reaches over and turns the light on. She looks back over at Harlan. His face flushed pale. His body not moving from Jenny's touch.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Harlan?...Harlan?....Harlan?

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT FOUR | END OF EPISODE

NEXT WEEK ON THE PATH...

We fade in on Jenny looking at Harlan's lifeless body as Henry admisters CPR.

SOMETIMES EPISODES OF TELEVISION
DEMAND YOUR ATTENTION

We come upon Mellie cry and Chris Hugging her.

THIS IS ONE OF THE THOSE TIMES

Jenny looks out the store window as the sunsets below the buildings

JENNY (V.O.)
How come life is like this...

We cut to Henry and Jenny sitting at the store.

HENRY
Life is like what?

JENNY
Not fair.

We cut to a montage of Jenny and Harlan and their good times through the series

JENNY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
He was taken from me. He was taken to early. I never even get the chance to say goodbye...

THE ONE EPISODE YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS.

JENNY (V.O.)
If this is the way life is supposed to be....I Don't want to live it anymore....

THE PATH NOT TAKEN
The Funeral. All New Special Event
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