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YOU APPEARED SO QUICKLY, IN MY DARKEST STORM, LIKE A DREAM COME TRUE, SHINING SUNLIGHT THAT WARM ED. YOU TOUCHED ME SOFTLY, MY BLOOD RUSHING WILD, SWEET FLESH LIKE HONEY, EYES BURNING FOR MILES.

*He stands on the shore. He remembers Jeni swimming. Jeni staring at the moon. Jeni undressing in the water.*

YOU EYES CRASHED INTO ME, BROKE INTO MY M IND, I WAS WHIPLASHED, YOU FILLED EVERYTHING, HOW COULD GOD, HAVE BEEN SO BLIND?

*Jeni diving in. He dips his toes in the water. He starts to go in and bumps into something.*

NARRATOR

Jonathan sees a corpse in the water.

(two bars of music comp)

JONATHAN

BUT THEN I KNEW, I CAN'T REALLY HAVE YOU, YOU WERE SAVING IT ALL FOR HIM.

*He slowly turns to see... a corpse in the water.*

IT POISONED MY MIND, I'M TORTURED AT NIGHT, YOU CUT THROUGH MY HEART, I CAN'T WIN THIS FIGHT... TONIGHT!!

*He takes out his phone to call in the police, but then quickly decides not to on the word "tonite", instead turning around and seeing Jeni across the stage taking out the trash. He turns to her.*

BUT THEN I KNEW, I CAN'T REALLY HAVE YOU, YOU WERE SAVING IT ALL FOR HIM.

*He grabs Jeni's hand from behind. She is startled but is into his passion.*

IT POISONED MY MIND, I'M TORTURED AT NIGHT, YOU CUT THROUGH MY HEART, I CAN'T WIN THIS FIGHT... TONIGHT!!

*He holds her at the climax, then she pulls away.*

DEAD END, DEAD END

*He grabs her hand.*

DEAD END, DEAD END.

*She pulls away again.*

NOWHERE GOOD TO GO FROM HERE.

*He watches her walk away.*

ACT 2, SCENE 5

NARRATOR

Act 2, Scene 5. We are at Jeni's Apartment at night. Remnants of her celebration with Matt a visible, a half-empty champagne bottle and ice cream carton. Matt sits on the couch and couldn't be happier. Jeni climbs on top of him.

JENI

Say it again.

MATT

I love you.

JENI

Not that. Say, "I love my life."

MATT

I do. Because of you and your love. You've changed everything.

JENI

Say it.

MATT

I love my life.

NARRATOR

Jeni breathes in deeply, she's been longing to hear that. She looks at the champagne bottle.

JENI

One more glass?

MATT

Sure.

NARRATOR

Jeni turns her back to Matt and slips a fine powder into his drink. Uh oh.

JENI

Cheers to us.

MATT

Cheers.

*He takes a big drink.*

NARRATOR

Jeni's phone rings. "Mother calling" again! It shows 8 missed calls. Jeni declines the call. She grabs a large suitcase with wheels out of her closet. Matt starts laughing and slurring heavily, he's affected by the drink already.

MATT

You going on a trip?

JENI

We're going together.

*He smiles before passing out.*

*Cue background music. Matt is drugged out and being driven up to the lake. It has a subdued vibe to start until Matt realizes she is about to kill him.*

**PRODUCTION NOTE: FOLLOW SCORE CALLED "JENI DRIVES MATT TO THE LAKE AND A GIRL I KNOW REPRISE"**

ACT 2, SCENE 6

NARRATOR

Act 2, Scene 6. Jeni has driven Matt up to the lake and tied him to her massage table. Matt begins to wake up.

MATT

What's happening?? Let me go!!!

JENI

No thank you.

NARRATOR

She walks around him, teasing him with her fingers as she goes in and out of his sight.

MATT

Are you... are you going to kill me?

JENI

Yes, is that what you want?

MATT

What? Fuck. No!!! Please don't kill me.

*Matt tries to get loose. Not a chance.*

*(shouting)*

Help!!!! Help me!!!

*Music to Jeni's ears.*

JENI

Mmmmm, yummy. That's it, beg for your life.

MATT

What happened? What changed?

JENI

Nothing changed, Matt. I am who I am.

MATT

What?

JENI

I'm a serial killer. And the fact that you think I could just develop feelings and live a normal life is deeply offensive, not to mention disgustingly misogynistic.

MATT

This whole time, it was an act. You only made me feel something because you get off on torture!!

*She nods and giggles as she pushes on a pressure point. He screams in pain.*

MATT

Let me go you crazy bitch!!

*She climbs on top of him and grinds on him.*

JENI

Say it again.

MATT

Please!!! I love you!!! I don't wanna die.

*Jeni moans in excitement as she starts to push his eyeballs in.*

JONATHAN (O.S.)

Freeze!!!

*Jonathan has entered the unit, his gun drawn on Jeni.*

MATT

Oh, thank God.

JENI

Jonathan, I, I--

*-- Jeni looks around, there's no  
way out of this...*

JONATHAN

(to Jeni) Put your hands up!!

NARRATOR

Jonathan and Jeni look at each other. Jonathan remembers watching Jeni swimming at the lake. Visual images of these memories will appear on the stage. Jonathan finally accepts the fact that Jeni is the serial killer he has been chasing.



**A GIRL I KNOW (REPRISE)**

JONATHAN

*(Piano plays opening melody of lyric: "She runs from me, but I stand strong, I'll make her see before long.)*

*Jonathan walks over to Jeni. Jonathan points his gun at her.*

LET ME SHOW YOU, IT'S ME WHO KNOWS YOU, WANTS TO HOLD YOU, NOT CONTROL YOU.

*Jeni looks distraught. Matt looks relieved.*

YOU THINK YOU HAVE TO RUN AWAY TO BE FREE,

*Jonathan looks intensely at Jeni and grabs her hand.*

DON'T YOU SEE THAT YOU CAN HAVE IT

*He puts the gun in Jeni's hand. Matt is confused. Jeni looks deeply into Jonathan's eyes.*

LYING NEXT TO ME.

*He wraps his hand around her hand and puts the gun to Matt's head.*

A GIRL I KNOW,

*BANG! (on the word "know"). She shoots Matt in the temple and he drops to the ground.*

I CALL HER MINE

*Jeni looks up at Jonathan. She is shocked.*

SHE CAME AROUND, IT JUST TOOK TIME.

*She smiles at him, breathing heavily covered in blood. Jonathan flashes her a wicked smile. He's into it.*

SHE RIDES THE TIDES AND LEARNED TO FLY, RIGHT BY MY SIDE, ALL SHE NEEDED WAS IN ME.

*She falls into his arms and have a passionate moment. She finally gets her release as they fall to the ground.*

NARRATOR

The sun slowly rises in the background indicating a passage of time.

JONATHAN

A GIRL I KNOW, SHE CAN HARDLY BELIEVE,

*Jeni lays back satisfied. She starts to get up to leave, but...*

SHE IS SO HAPPY LYING STILL WITH ME.

*she lies back down.*

A GIRL I KNOW, SHE'S NEVER BEEN MORE FREE,

*She stares at Jonathan.*

EXPLORING LOVE AND ALL OF ME.

*Jonathan holds her gently as they watch the sunrise together.*

*End music.*

JENI

Ummm, what is happening?

JONATHAN

I know you're probably mad at me because I took your kill but these...

*He opens up a folder of open cases on his phone.*

Are to make up for that.

JENI

Who are they?

*She looks at his phone.*

JONATHAN

These are all of the open criminal cases we have at the station, and here are their rap sheets - pedophiles, sex traffickers, murderers of the innocent, etc...

*Jeni scrolls through them.  
She's not impressed.*

JONATHAN

Don't worry, they're all cheaters too.

JENI

How did you know that's what I'm into?

JONATHAN

Wasn't hard to piece it together from the victims. The hard part was convincing anyone at the station to listen to me. But no one can argue against dead criminals.

JENI

So what's the plan?

JONATHAN

You kill 'em and give me the proof I need. I climb the ranks, and we build a life together.

*Jeni smiles. Thinking about it.*

JONATHAN

We're going to need to change your MO though, which I know you're not going to be happy about but... Mush Man?

JENI

It's the worst, right?

JONATHAN

You deserve better. I'm about to solve the terrible Mush Man case and make detective then.

*Jonathan plants a gun and other evidence next to Matt's body.*

JENI

You're going to frame him?

JONATHAN

YUP, and you're going to take me out to celebrate. So, get out here...

*Jeni is about to leave, but turns back...*

JENI

Hey... how are you with overbearing mothers?

JONATHAN

I'm a beat cop, I can handle anything.

ACT 2, SCENE 7

NARRATOR

Act 2, Scene 7. Jeni is back at her apartment watching the news. A reporter is interviewing Jonathan at the lake about the discovery of Matt's body.

*J = 90*

8.....

NEWSCASTER

You heard it here first. The sinister serial killer Mush Man has been found dead after a long and vicious killing spree that has haunted city residents.

NARRATOR

The program cuts to a screen showing Matt's picture.

NEWSCASTER

Matthew Hamilton, otherwise known as Mush Man, was discovered by Officer Jonathan Cooks this morning which led to a shootout, ending with a self-inflicted gunshot to Hamilton's head.

I'm here with Jonathan Cooks who has been working the case tirelessly. Jonathan, we all want to know... how did you do it?

JONATHAN

Thank you, Jessica. It really was a combination of following the clues, trusting my gut, and persistence. The killer has been using several dump sites and we all assumed he would return to one eventually.

NEWSCASTER

And when you returned to this one, you didn't find another victim but... you found the killer himself.

NARRATOR

Jeni watches with a smile on her face.

JONATHAN

That's right. He's been quiet lately but I knew his pride would eventually lead him back here. When I confronted him, he took his own life.

NEWSCASTER

Thank you for your service. The whole city thanks you.

NARRATOR

There is a loud KNOCK on Jeni's door.

BRENDA (O.S.)

My baby!!! No.... My baby.

*Jeni opens the door to reveal Brenda who barges in immediately. Brenda is out of breath as if she just raced over.*

JENI

Mom?

*Brenda hugs Jeni tightly, way too tightly.*

BRENDA

Jeni?? You're alive!!

JENI

Of course, I'm alive.

BRENDA

You didn't answer my calls and I saw Matt's picture on the news!!

I thought that monster got you before he killed himself.

*Brenda lets Jeni hold and comfort her.*

JENI

It's okay. You're okay. You'll be fine. I love you, Mom.

BRENDA

I love you too, sweetheart. We'll be fine.

***I'LL BE FINE***

JENI

SEEING YOU, BY MY SIDE, EVERY TIME.  
NEEDING YOU, LATE AT NIGHT, I'LL BE FINE.

*Jeni and Brenda comfort each other.*

BRENDA

SEEING YOU, BY MY SIDE, EVERY TIME.  
NEEDING YOU, LATE AT NIGHT, I'LL BE FINE.

JENI

LOOKING UP TO SOMEONE LIKE YOU, MAKES THE SKY SEEM NOT SO HIGH.

BRENDA

LOOKING INTO SOMEONE SO TRUE, MAKES THE STARS SEEM NOT SO FAR.

*A playful, weird dance ensues.*

JENI

I GLIDE THROUGH LIFE - LIKE THE WIND, DREAMS OF MINE NEVER END,  
I STEP, I LEAP, I DON'T LOOK DOWN, FEET OFF THE GROUND.  
I TAKE RISKS, I BET ON ME, IF I LOSE, LOVE COMES FREE.  
I GO UP, AND I CRASH DOWN, ALL OVER NOW.

*Jonathan enters. They look at each other and smile.*

JENI

YOU PICK ME UP, YOU DUST ME OFF, WHEN LIFE IS HARD, YOU COME IN  
SOFT. LAUGHING, DANCING, LIVING, AND LOVING, I'LL BE FINE.

JONATHAN

SEEING YOU, BY MY SIDE, EVERY TIME.

BRENDA

NEEDING YOU, LATE AT NIGHT, I'LL BE FINE.

JENI

I SEE YOU, BY MY SIDE, EVERY TIME, I'LL BE FINE.

JENI & JONATHAN & BRENDA



I NEED YOU, HOLD ME TIGHT, I'LL BE FINE.  
I NEED YOU, LATE AT NIGHT, EVERY TIME.  
I NEED YOU LATE AT NIGHT, EVERY TIME.  
WILL YOU STAY? SAY YOU'LL STAY, LIFE IS OURS ALWAYS.

EVERYONE NEEDS SOMEONE, AND I RECEIVED YOU, WHAT A GIFT, WHAT A  
LIFE. EVERYONE NEEDS SOMEONE, AND I RECEIVED YOU, WHAT A GIFT,  
WHAT A LIFE.

I'LL BE FINE, BY YOUR SIDE, FOR THIS DAY, I'LL CALL YOU MINE.  
I'VE GOT YOU, LIFE IS CRAZY, BUT YOU SAVED ME.

EVERYONE NEEDS SOMEONE, AND I RECEIVED YOU, WHAT A GIFT, WHAT A  
LIFE. OUR LIFE, OUR LIFE, OUR LIFE, OUR LIFE.

THE END.