

*Jenny Krieger*

Some paint and a little loving care are all that is needed. A group of MOVERS are finishing loading the last few boxes from a MOVING VAN into the house. Lonnie, Caroline, Travis and June climb out of the car and take a beat to admire their new home.

*sc. 1*

CAROLINE

(quietly, to Lonnie)

Thank you for takin' one for the team.

Like most kids, Travis catches every whispered word. He takes off the overly-large ATF hat.

TRAVIS

If you're homesick, Daddy, you can wear your old cap.

LONNIE

(touched)

I won't miss home if you two promise me one thing -- there's lots of Wisconsin Badger fans lurking around here. Someone asks who you root for -- what do we say?

JUNE

GO BAMA!

TRAVIS

ROLL TIDE!

LONNIE

(to Caroline)

I insist we keep these children.

Lonnie scoops Travis and June up in his arms, kisses them. A female VOICE interrupts the moment.

FEMALE VOICE

Welcome, Garrisons!

*← Start*

Lonnie, Caroline, Travis and June turn to find Jenny Krieger breezing toward them from the house next door. Jenny is always perfectly put together, her house is immaculate, her kids polite. Everyone who spends time with her wonders what they are doing wrong in their own lives. She's holding a big basket of homemade muffins and cookies.

JENNY

(to the kids)

You must be Travis and June. Which one of you doesn't like nuts in their cookies?

*p. 1 of 6*

*File Pilot / FMW  
Casting*

*THE WATCH*

Jenny

JUNE

(shyly)

Me.

JENNY

Well, I made a whole batch of chocolate chip with no nuts, just for you.

Travis and June start unwrapping the cellophane, eager to get to the sweets.

JENNY (cont'd)

(off Lonnie and Caroline's stunned looks)

Who's the strange lady with the muffins?  
I'm Jenny Krieger.

CAROLINE

(extends her hand)

I'm--

JENNY

Caroline.

Instead of shaking hands, Jenny gives Caroline a warm hug.

JENNY (cont'd)

Your realtor Karen Jepson, is one of my best, best friends so I forced a lot of information out of her, I can't help myself, I like to know who's living next door!

(releases Caroline)

My husband Brian and I wanted to welcome you and Lonnie to the neighborhood! Now I know you must have a million questions...

(hands Caroline a sheet of paper)

I made up a little list for you, dry cleaners, outlet mall, restaurants, auto mechanic, just the basics till you get yourselves set up. Lonnie, we're all so *thrilled* we have a detective living here and we want you to come speak at our neighborhood watch party next week...

Jenny gestures to the WATCH sign in her yard.

p. 2 of 6

Jenny

JENNY (cont'd)

You can talk about self-defense, teenage drug use, anything at all just don't think of saying no because it's a barbecue and it'll be a great chance for you Caroline and the kids to meet all your neighbors!

Before Lonnie can get a word in, his cell phone RINGS.

~~LONNIE~~~~Will you ladies please excuse me?~~

Lonnie steps away.

~~LONNIE (cont'd)~~~~(into phone)~~~~Harrison Co.~~

Being the wife of a law enforcement officer, Caroline is very used to these type of abrupt interruptions. Caroline has decided to give herself into Hurricane Jenny.

CAROLINE

(to Jenny)

I will personally guarantee my husband's participation.

JENNY

Now I don't want you to panic, Caroline, but you may have a little problem with school. You want *Liberty* Elementary, not *Maywood*, but *Liberty* may be fully enrolled. I'm on the PTA, so I'll do what I can on my side, but you have to get on the waiting list at *Liberty* -- today. Any questions, anything you need, all my numbers on that sheet.

CAROLINE

(overwhelmed)

I don't know how I can ever thank you.

JENNY

Don't be silly. We're neighbors. We all look out for each other.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

Stop

p.3 of 6

Jenny Krieger

sc.2

INT. LIBERTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - MARISOL COOMBS OFFICE

It's early in the school day, and Marisol is already at her computer. There is a knock at her open door and Marisol looks up to see Jenny, in yet another pastel jogging outfit.

JENNY  
(brightly)  
Got a minute, Mari?

← Start

MARISOL  
(with a smile)  
Aren't you just the spokesmodel for Juicy Couture.

Undaunted, Jenny breezes in and sets a small tin down on Marisol's desk.

JENNY  
I made shortbread cookies. I'm not bragging, but it's a good batch.

MARISOL  
Let's cut to it -- you here about the Garrison family?

JENNY  
They're wonderful people, and would make a great addition to the school.

MARISOL  
Just like I told the peach blossom, there's no room.

JENNY  
But Mari, you have so much latitude. You opened the enrollment to those special ed kids.

MARISOL  
That's because we have all the supplemental teachers here at Liberty.

JENNY  
(anger peaks through)  
Because our neighborhood watch raised all that money for you to hire them.  
(deep breath)

p.4 of 6

Jenny

JENNY (cont'd)

I'm just saying -- you can make exceptions. That's what I'd like you to do for the Garrisons.

MARISOL

There's not enough shortbread in the world for that to happen.

Jenny gently shuts Marisol's door.

JENNY

You want to "cut to it", Mari -- little Travis and June had nothing to do with your husband not getting a promotion -- so let's not punish the innocent.

(lowers her voice)

It's not like these kids stole credit card receipts and committed fraud.

This hangs in the air for a moment. Marisol seems stunned. Jenny pulls out a copy of an arrest report from her purse.

MARISOL

(indignantly)

I was in college and my scummy boyfriend stole credit info from a pharmacy I was working at! The charges against me were dropped!

JENNY

Which is why I have no intention of showing this arrest report to the school board -- it would be punishing the innocent.

Jenny puts the police report back in her purse and leaves a small sheet of note paper in its place.

JENNY (cont'd)

Those are Caroline Garrison's home and cell numbers, in case you need to reach her. Don't forget to taste that shortbread, I finally got the recipe just right! They'll melt in your mouth!

Jenny opens the door and exits; leaving a shell-shocked Marisol staring at her computer screen.

Stop

p. 5 of 6

Jenny Krieger sc.3

Vijay remembers this moment.

OTIS

(calmly to Vijay)

After those street racers paralyzed Eileen, you were one of the first people to express disgust that those young men would only spend a year behind bars. ~~That's when Eileen and I decided to form the Trust to insure that their one-year imprisonment would feel like a lifetime without legs.~~ You were there at the beginning Vijay. So don't pretend that the scales of justice have suddenly changed.

← Start

VIJAY

(his resolve weakening)

Justice above the law?

JENNY

What would you have us do, Vijay, sit around waiting and hoping for the system to work? Because, I'm here to tell you that the system does not work. It does not stop some monster from trapping you in a dorm stairwell and taking away your innocence and your dignity. That monster still roams the earth, all because the system didn't work then and it doesn't work now.

VIJAY

(looks down)

I'm sorry for what happened to you.

JENNY

This isn't about me. This is about Ramon Alvarez.

VIJAY

Is it? How does what you did... what we all did... help Ramon Alvarez?

JENNY

Now that little boy knows he's safe.

VIJAY

I wish that was true.

Vijay stands, a man pushed to the brink.

stop

p. 6 of 6