

**VISIT**

Written by  
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INT. LAB - AFTERNOON

GWEN, a young person in comfortable clothes, is in the middle of a lengthy conversation with LENORE, still wearing their coat. Their conversation is lighthearted in tone, but not necessarily in topic. Gwen's the one who's committed.

GWEN

(laughing with LENORE)

So wait. You actually consider yourself responsible for your grandmother's death?

LENORE

Well, I startled her so much. I mean, I am the reason she had the heart attack. So yeah.

GWEN

Wow. Can't imagine the funeral. How have you never told me this?

LENORE

Guess it just never came up.

GWEN

Do you find it odd going to funerals now because of it?

LENORE

No. To be honest, it almost prepared me for every funeral after.

GWEN

How so?

LENORE

Well, it put me in the mindset that everyone is responsible for someone's death.

GWEN

Equally?

LENORE

No, just some more than others. Even if you didn't know them well but still knew of them, you have that weight on your shoulders. "Maybe I could've helped them or saved them or held them a little tighter or been a little softer." I don't know. Sure is a weight on your conscience though.

GWEN

I believe it.

LENORE

D'you understand where I'm coming from?

GWEN

Yeah, I do. I just try to remember that death is a process of life. It's as easy as breathing. I guess in a way it's as beautiful as birth. No one controls death. Sure, people can do things that cause death to come quicker or stall it, but no one can stop death. Only murderers should feel the guilt of death, because they are the ones responsible.

LENORE

Would you call me a murderer, Gwen?

GWEN

No! No, that isn't what I meant. I know you more than that. You took on that blame, but you didn't intentionally kill her.

LENORE

I suppose you're right.

(contemplating)

I didn't kill my grandmother.

GWEN

(jokingly)

Are you insinuating that you've killed other people?

LENORE

Well shit. Coming from the person who just defended my noble honor-

GWEN

I'm kidding. You know I am.

Silence falls upon them. Tension on Gwen's end, a sense of comfort on Lenore's end.

GWEN

You'd tell me if you killed someone, yeah?

LENORE

Come on, Gwen. We've been friends for years. I think I trust you well enough.

GWEN

Good. I trust you.

LENORE

Good. I've killed someone before.

GWEN

On purpose this time?

LENORE

Yeah.

GWEN

Was it scary?

LENORE

What?

GWEN

Killing. Killing someone.

LENORE

It's a process.

GWEN

Murder?

LENORE

Yeah. Planning, timing, executing. Literally.

Gwen is silent.

LENORE

Any more questions? Bonafide murderer right here.

GWEN

How'd you do it?

LENORE

You gonna turn me in to the police if I tell you?

GWEN

No, I swear.

LENORE

Knife. One fell swoop. Not so scary. It needed to be done.

GWEN

Why?

LENORE

Not really any of your business, don't you think?

GWEN

I'm sorry. I didn't mean to pry-

LENORE

It's fine. Guy just needed to die, so I killed 'em.

GWEN

Do you feel the weight on your shoulders? Like you were talking about?

LENORE

I did. When he was alive. When I killed him, it was gone. It was a sacrifice, but a great relief. Isn't everything we do for our comfort? Humans seek comfort in different ways; I sought mine out in my own way.

GWEN

You gonna kill again?

LENORE

Maybe. Who knows? If need be, I might. I'm not one of those sickos who finds it fun. It's only a necessity.

GWEN

Well, if you ever need a hide out, let me know.

LENORE

Will do. You're solid, Gwen.

GWEN

Funny that you are a murderer and I'm sitting here like a caged bird.

LENORE

It's only because you don't kill that you are here. You're the epitome of goodness. They wanna scan your brain and see if they can see where it comes from.

GWEN

I'm not that good.

LENORE

No, you are. Believe me. You were able to forgive me for the most heinous of crimes.

GWEN

You had your reasons. I know you, Lenny. I trust you.

LENORE

Can I be honest? That's dangerous. You trust so blindly, Gwenny.

GWEN

I don't.

LENORE

You do! You do, and it's scary.

GWEN

Give me one example of a time I have been too trusting.

LENORE

Why are you here?

Gwen is silent

LENORE

Why are you here, Gwen?

GWEN

Because I wanted to be.

LENORE

Really? Is that it? Because just a few seconds ago, you resented the idea of being trapped here.

LENORE  
"Bird in a cage" is what you called it.  
Lenny. Stop it!  
Sound familiar?

GWEN  
Stop it,

GWEN  
Just stop! I hate when you do this.

LENORE  
Do what, tell the truth?

GWEN  
No! When you treat me like I'm so innocent. Like I'm not capable of being an adult.

LENORE  
I don't do that.

GWEN  
You do! You do, and it hurts.

LENORE  
(not genuine) Well, I'm sorry.

GWEN  
Just go.

LENORE  
Gwen, wait. You don't mean that.

GWEN  
Go, or I'll call the guard to drag you out. See, Lenny? I can make big girl decisions too.

Lenore leaves on her own accord. Gwen sits alone and cries.



END