* SCENE 20: RECONCILIATION

JENNY’S bedroom. Enter MOLLY.

JENNY What are you doing here?

MOLLY Your mum let me in.

JENNY Can you go, please?

MOLLY I want to talk.

JENNY Can you go? Mum!

MOLLY Two minutes, and I’ll go.

JENNY There is nothing you could say that I would want to hear.

MOLLY Two minutes. (MOLLY takes a wallet of photos from her bag and

shows them to JENNY.)

MOLLY This was year three at your birthday party, do you remember? We

went to Chessington and I vomited pink candy floss out of my nose?

(Another picture.) End of year six. The whole class signed your shirt

and look at whose signature you’re showing the camera… (Another

picture.) Year nine. Duke of Edinburgh. You fell on your arse in that

stream and couldn’t get up because you were laughing so hard. And

we got disqualified for calling a minicab and hiding in a pub. Year

Ten on the London Eye, we got a tourist to take a picture of us with

Big Ben in the background. Year Ten, I went on a date with Alan

Higginson from Coombe Boys and you let me borrow your dress.

Year Ten, trick or treating and we got pissed on WKD and I had to

beg your mum not to phone my parents. Year Ten, we took our bikes

to Box Hill and I hit a corner too fast and cycled into a hedge. And

you patched me up. Remember that? When you patched me up?

JENNY Are you finished?

MOLLY What happened in Year 10? What happened that put a stop to all

this? (MOLLY takes out her phone and opens up her texts.) Eighty

eight texts in the last three weeks. Eighty eight.

JENNY Don’t know what you’re talking about.

MOLLY (About to read.) You want to hear? (JENNY puts a pillow against her

ears.) No, of course not. And Facebook. You’ve recruited people

against me. You’ve strategized.

JENNY Strategized? You are such a snooty bitch.

MOLLY If you didn’t like me I would be sad. I’d be sad that all these photos

meant so little. But it isn’t that you don’t like me. You hate me.

JENNY I don’t care either way.

MOLLY But that’s a lie, Jen –

JENNY Don’t call me Jen.

MOLLY Because you’ve actively turned people against me. What happened?

What did I do to make the best person I know so hateful? What

happened that turned this (she scatters the photos) to shit?

JENNY Can you pick those up, please? (Beat. MOLLY picks them up and

lays them on the bed, next to JENNY. JENNY gets up.) Can you go,

please?

MOLLY We used to have sleepovers. We grew up together. We were

inseparable. We were best friends.

JENNY That was a mistake.

MOLLY No, this is a mistake. (Beat.) I saw you at Louisa’s funeral.

JENNY It’s a free country.

MOLLY I wanted to speak to you.

JENNY There wasn’t anything stopping you.

MOLLY Louisa said I should.

JENNY Oh, I get it.

MOLLY What?

JENNY This is about Louisa. I expect you were a shitty friend to her, too.

MOLLY No.

JENNY Are you going to cry?

MOLLY Jenny –

JENNY Are you going to cry about your poor, dead friend.

MOLLY Listen to yourself! (Beat.) What if it were me?

JENNY What?

MOLLY Who’d stepped into the road, who’d got hit…

JENNY Fine by me.

MOLLY What if this was the last text on my phone?

JENNY I don’t know –

MOLLY Read it, Jen.

She holds the phone up to JENNY’S face.

JENNY Get it out of my face!

MOLLY Read it!

JENNY takes the phone and throws it across the room. It smashes. JENNY shoves

MOLLY.

JENNY Get out!

MOLLY What if it were you, Jen –

JENNY You call me Jen, again –

MOLLY What if you got hit by a car?

JENNY I swear, I’ll smack you –

MOLLY And I went through the rest of my life carrying your hate. (JENNY

grabs her by the hair and tries to man-handle her to the door.) I won’t

let you hate me, I won’t let you hate me, I won’t let you hate me!

MOLLY pushes her back. A stand-off. JENNY can’t suppress her tears any longer.

JENNY You mocked me.

MOLLY When?

JENNY In a lesson. In an English lesson. In Year 10. You asked what

happened. That’s what happened. You don’t even remember! I made

some stupid comment about that stupid book –

MOLLY To Kill a Mockingbird.

JENNY See? You know what I’m talking about.

MOLLY I’m sorry.

JENNY And you snubbed me.

MOLLY I didn’t mean to.

JENNY And when mum and dad split up –

MOLLY I know.

JENNY When they split up … you weren’t there for me anymore.

MOLLY I should have been.

JENNY My best friend!

MOLLY I should have been.

JENNY (More vulnerable than she’s ever been.) And I hate you. I really hate

you.

MOLLY You were the girl I looked up to. You were the one I wanted to be. If I

thought you didn’t care, I’d walk away.

JENNY But I do. I do. (Beat.) I’m sorry about your phone.

MOLLY It doesn’t matter. I didn’t want it anymore.

JENNY I’m sorry.

MOLLY Me too. Me too.

They embrace, surrounded by photos of their friendship.