

GENESIS

Written by: A Few Progenitors of [Legal Fiction](#)

INT. LAW SCHOOL BUILDING - ATRIUM - DAY

The building is buzzing with mid-day traffic, overworked brains tumble out of lecture halls bug-eyed, professors sidewind through detritus and dicta. JEFF runs into MICAELA on the stairs.

MICAELA

You done for the day?

JEFF

Yeah, getting out of here. We should catch up, though.

MICAELA

For sure!

JEFF

Do you know what you're doing this summer?

MICAELA

Yeah, New York.

JEFF

Nice, where at?

MICAELA

I'm gonna be at a firm...

JEFF

Nice! Big law summer. You excited?

MICAELA

Of course. I'll be back in the city and I think this summer is going to open a lot of doors. I've always been interested in the associate experience because you get to sample a lot of different practice areas in the summer program and I know I like corporate work so I'm looking forward to experiencing corporate *legal* work.

JEFF

Nice what'd you do before?

MICAELA

I worked for my dad's private equity company called Grief Cap Global. My role was basically doing the first draft for corporate property insurance contracts. So I know I like grief.

JEFF

Nice.

MICAELA

I won't do big law forever, but like I wouldn't mind doing it for a few years. I've got to pay off these loans somehow. (*Winks.*) I also like that the setting is fast paced. Contracts was probably my favorite 1L class. I like the idea of putting the puzzle pieces together. Plus you know, the money doesn't hurt. I like the international setting especially. Getting to see how things work in other countries and then piecing together the master contracts. Maybe I can work in the London office. Or maybe I'll do litigation. I honestly don't even know what litigation is still. What about you? Where are you going to be this summer?

JEFF

I'm going to be working at the Arkansas Public Defender.

MICAELA

Oh shit, that's going to be so crazy... Wait, why?

JEFF

Well there really is a neat narrative right now about 2020 and why we need to decarcerate and defund and all of that but that's not really why I want to do it – I want to be around people who are experiencing a lot of pain because I have a lot of pain and trauma and I'm trying to deal with that myself and I think if I see other people suffering and I help them maybe I feel like I can help myself–

MICAELA

Wow.

JEFF

–Yeah it'll be really neat and I've really wanted to do this ever since I read about Atticus Finch but now there's the argument that Atticus wasn't really a great guy you know and I hear it but at least he was fighting, you know? Plus I get a little stipend. It'll be chill 'cause my parents are paying for rent.

EXT. LAW SCHOOL BUILDING - PICNIC TABLES - LATER

JEFF, KEISHA, REGGIE, and MARISSA lounge at a sunny picnic table outside a big, Soviet-style, functionalist building. Law books, tupperware, Juul. Woman walks by with a roller bag.

REGGIE

I want one of those roller bags. Are people with those on another level?

KEISHA

Yeah, I think so. It's giving night school crowd. Somehow older, cooler.

MARISSA

Very law cool.

KEISHA

What are you doing after class, by the way?

MARISSA

Studying.

KEISHA

No you're not!

MARISSA

You right.

JEFF

What about these professors rolling into class, bald heads and lots of paper, it seems like the less hair you have the more paper you have to have, so that it offsets.

Reggie

Yeah, it definitely offsets.

MARISSA

I just don't want pizza anymore after class. It's too much. Even if it's made by that Wisemen pizza or whatever, it's too much cheese.

KEISHA

I don't like taking notes anymore. I just like listening, eyes closed sometimes.

JEFF

All of the buildings here are stone. Hard wall. (*Everyone looking at him inquisitively.*) And then there are turns and there is grass. You can get inside from the grass, if you turn off the way. But then everything is changed inside the walls. They *are* the same walls. Hard walls. But there is a difference.

REGGIE

Dude, what?

KEISHA

(Long exhale) Man this campus is another type of energy. Everybody walking around, going places. I can't imagine ever, like, meeting someone here.

REGGIE

But hold up people are actually interesting underneath, like hella creative and diverse interests.

JEFF

You think?

REGGIE

How do we tap into that shit?

MARISSA

But oh. my. god. I have so much reading for classsss !!

KEISHA

We're being socialized, straight up.

REGGIE

Warriors of process, defenders of the status quo!

JEFF

Arbiters of objectivity and reasonableness.

MARISSA

Condoners of property and pogroms.

KEISHA

Conceptualizers of suit and square.

REGGIE

Jesus.

(A beat.)

MARISSA

We should start a zine!

TODAY. TODAY AND NO LATER. WHAT WAS OURS IS OURS FOREVER.