

BLACKBIRD

UNA ↓

Una I wrote you letters.

Ray Letters?

Una They

Ray I never got any letters.

Una They were

Ray When?

Una never sent.

Pause.

Ray What did they say?

When was this?

Una I wasn't *meant* to send them. They told me, the people who helped me.

The

who

afterwards

to write you a letter

letters

telling you what I thought of you.

What I felt.

Wanted to say to you.

To not let it

let you have

win.

Authority.

And it was

Ray Authority?

What's

Una I wrote

hundreds.

Pull out your eyes.

I wrote that I wanted to pull out your eyes, wrote

poke them out, stamp on them.

The eyes that'd looked at me. The hands.

To

All kinds of things.

I've still got them.

Ray You kept them?

Una The best ones. I still read them sometimes.

The fury in them.

Then I had to write about hope. They got me to write about hope.

What I was able to do. What I was free to do now.

What the future would be

the promising future

the promise the future held

in spite of you

despite you

regardless of you.

BLACKBIRD

UNA 2

Una How many other twelve-year-old girls have you had sex with?

Pause

Ray None.

Una Do you want to see the birthmark?

You kissed it,

Or what you said to me on the beach.

Pointing across the sea to Holland.

Or on the bed in that room in

None?

We change, twelve-year-olds.

We grow up to be older.

So think.

Ray None.

Una Just me.

In that room.

I though it'd be harder to look at you.

To talk.

I nearly turned back.

But it's not.

It's easy.

And I would've recognized you anywhere

With my back to you.

I saw your eyes before I even said my name.

I saw you.

You have someone?

You live with someone?

You don't want to tell me.

I know you're with a woman.

The way I was looked at outside.

The way *you* were looked at when you walked towards me.

A good woman?

Does she

Ray I'm not talking about her with

Una Is she expecting you home?

Pause

Ray D'you want me to say something?

Is there anything you want me to say now?

Una Does she know about me?

Ray I will not say anything about my life.

Who is in my life.

If that's what you wanted to find out and I don't know why you

You would want that

But you're getting nothing.

Do you understand?

Do you understand?

Pause

Una My dad died.

You didn't know?
It didn't reach you?

He shakes his head

Six years ago.
Maybe you weren't here.
Maybe you were somewhere else.

Ray I was here.

How?

Una He fell down.

He tripped.

Steps.

And

Deteriorated.

He never got over it.

He

You were a guest in our home.

I was his baby.

He invites you as a guest into his home.

He tried to find you.

Ray He knew where I was the first four years.

Una He wanted to kill you.

Not a second thought.

He said it all the time.

It was

He would've killed you.

Ray is startled, unnerved by her loudness and tone.

Near tears, Una searches through her bag.

Ray watches he, unsettled.

Ray What's in there?

What's in your bag?

What's in it?

Una I need a...

Ray Give it to me.

Una No.

Why?

Ray What're you doing?

Are you

Una What?

Ray Don't.

He grabs the bag from her.

Una You're

Ray Do you want to kill me?

Pause.

He goes through the bag.

He takes out a packet of tissues.

Una I was going to Kleenex you to death.

BLACKBIRD

UNA 3

They wanted to do tests.
Take samples out of me.
Doctors, police.
I refused.
No one was going to touch me.
I shouted, screamed
You'd done nothing.
You'd
I wanted you to
I wanted you back.
I
They drugged me.
Held me down and and injected me.
Opened my legs and took
Took out your come.
Evidence.
They asked me what you'd done to me.
Then told me what you'd done to me when I wouldn't
You were only after one thing.
That's why you'd disappeared.
You'd got what you wanted.
My my mother screaming at me.
She
The police, the
a woman psychiatrist who spoke
always spoke so quietly.
Adults lie.
They want things from people and they lie to get them and, and don't
They don't even know why they're lying.
They do not know themselves.
I couldn't hear her sometimes.
Had to ask
Repeat
Repeat what she'd said.
Did I know what I'd done?
Did I know that I'd hurt people?
People who loved me.
Did did I want to hurt them?
And
For days.
What had you said?
What did you promise me?
What words
What words did you use?

And in the courtroom I sat behind that screen and I spoke.
I cried.
You heard me.

I cried more than I spoke.
And then I said too much, I
The lawyers were furious with me.
It wasn't what they wanted.
I couldn't help it.
It was you.
You were there and I couldn't see you so I had to shout.
I had to let you know.
You left me alone.
Bleeding.
You left me.
You left me in love.