

STOLEN

Written by

Jennifer Mulligan

Ottawa, Ontario
613 266 9511

EXT. DREAM HOUSE - NIGHT

An affluent neighbourhood, with tree lined streets and manicured lawns. The season is changing to fall, but no leaves on the ground, yet.

A COUPLE walk by pushing a BABY CARRIAGE.

A few CHILDREN drive by on their bicycles.

We see into --

INT. DREAM HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

A beautiful and opulent place of rest. Oversized king-sized bed, silk draperies, expensive statues. This place drips taste, without being garish.

At a dressing table, DEMETER, a radiant, silver-streaked, older woman. She combs through her hair in long strokes and admires herself in the mirror.

ZEUS enters the room from the ensuite bathroom. He's got a towel around his mid-section and his white hair is a bit tousled. Still with a god-like body.

DEMETER

When does his flight get in?

ZEUS

Seven. He's taking a cab here.

DEMETER

Where was he again? I can never remember.

ZEUS

South.

DEMETER

He'd better behave tomorrow.

ZEUS

I talked to him already.

DEMETER

He ran around naked in the neighbour's lawn. It took me weeks to show my face at the stitch and bitch.

ZEUS

I said...

DEMETER
He's like a man-baby. All grabby,
grabby.

Demeter gets up, goes to the bed and throws back the blanket.

DEMETER (CONT'D)
My daughter is also off limits.

INT. DREAM HOUSE - DININGROOM - NIGHT

Six gods and goddesses sit at the dinner table. We see Zeus at the head of the table, with Demeter to his left. Around the table are:

PERSEPHONE, pure skin with flowing dark hair, still a child among the adults, sits beside her mother.

HERA, who sits to Zeus' right, shapely and pregnant.

HADES, dark with a dash of broodiness.

HESTIA, demure and virginal.

POSEIDON, with deep blue eyes set against pale skin.

Zeus pushes his chair back and stands up from the table.

ZEUS
A toast for our dear brother.
(holds up his glass)
Glad you could be here tonight.

HADES
Thank you.

Everyone clinks glasses.

Hades catches Persephone's eyes from across the table, He stares into her. She turns her eyes down, bashful.

Demeter sees the exchange. She's pissed. She picks up a tray of food.

DEMETER
More cheese anyone?

INT. DREAM HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT.

Hades, storms through a swing door.

Zeus comes in behind much more slowly. He puts dishes in the sink.

Hades goes to the patio door, puts his forehead on it, and stares out the window into the deep night.

HADES
I must have her.

Zeus goes to the fridge and pulls out two beer bottles. He twists the caps and hands one to Zeus.

HADES (CONT'D)
She's beautiful.

Hades takes a swig from his beer. He thinks about her.

ZEUS
Yes she is.

Zeus watches Hades.

ZEUS (CONT'D)
Her mother won't let you get at her. She'll say she's far too young.

HADES
Too young? But...
(beat)
I already love her.

Zeus doesn't know what to say. He takes another drink of beer.

ZEUS
We better get back in there.

HADES
She won't come with me willingly, you don't think?

Zeus laughs, a deep belly laugh.

ZEUS
Try again.

HADES
But I must have her.

ZEUS
Perhaps you should find someone your own age...

HADES
I'm good at convincing people of
things they want.

ZEUS
She's not like the rest of us.

HADES
We'll see.

Hades pushes the door back into the dining room, and Zeus
follows him out.

EXT. DREAM HOUSE - GARDEN - NIGHT

Persephone, walks beside Hades.

HADES
So, what will you be taking at
college?

PERSEPHONE
Horticulture.

HADES
Fascinating.

Persephone turns to him, hesitates to say anything.

Hades notices.

HADES (CONT'D)
You have something you want to ask?

PERSEPHONE
Why does mother hate you so much?

HADES
She hates me?

PERSEPHONE
So she mumbles.

HADES
She has painted a picture for you.
(beat)
And what do you think of me, so
far?

PERSEPHONE
I think you're alright. Maybe a
bit...erratic.

HADES
(ignores the last comment)
I'd like you to come and visit me.

Persephone stops. She backs up a little, very subtle.

INT. DREAM HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Demeter watches Hades and Persephone in the garden. She absentmindedly drops a dish into the sink. It breaks a water glass.

Zeus walks in.

ZEUS
What happened?

Demeter collects the pieces of broken glass from the bottom of the sink. She tosses them in the garbage.

DEMETER
Nothing.

ZEUS
Did you cut yourself?

Demeter looks at the water turning red.

DEMETER
I must have.

ZEUS
Wait.

Zeus grabs some bandages from a stash in a cupboard.

He opens one, takes Demeter's hand and gently puts the bandage on.

ZEUS (CONT'D)
She's growing up, you know. You
can't hold onto her forever.

DEMETER
What's wrong with you?

Zeus tosses the bandage bits into the trash.

ZEUS
You know what I'm saying is true.

EXT. DREAM HOUSE - GARDEN - NIGHT

HADES

Why not?

PERSEPHONE

Mom wouldn't like it, for starters...

HADES

What do I have to do to convince her?

PERSEPHONE

Yeah, that's not going to happen.

HADES

Well, we'll just have to figure something else out.

INT. DREAM HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Persephone sits at her mother's dressing table.

PERSEPHONE

He asked me to come and visit him.

DEMETER

And you said?

PERSEPHONE

That you wouldn't approve.

DEMETER

I thought he would back off. I spoke to your father --

PERSEPHONE

Thanks. He's nice and all, but he creeps me out.

DEMETER

Yes, he's always been that way. Unfortunately.

Persephone leaves the room. Demeter shuts the door behind her.

INT. DREAM HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Demeter hums while she whips up some scrambled eggs in a pan. She sets those down and continues to mix the ingredients for pancakes.

Zeus walks in.

DEMETER
Morning, love.

ZEUS
Morning.

DEMETER
Better get the gang up. Breakfast
will be ready in about ten minutes.

Zeus pours himself a coffee.

ZEUS
About that...

DEMETER
He asked her to come visit him last
night. Can you believe him? She
said no...

ZEUS
About that... They left. This
morning.

Demeter drops the spatula into the frying pan.

DEMETER
(angry, frustrated)
Are you mad? You just let him walk
away with her?

ZEUS
She wanted to go.

DEMETER
No she didn't.

ZEUS
Well, what's done is done.

Demeter begins to rage.

DEMETER
It's not done!

She picks up the pan and throws it into the sink full of water. The water STEAMS.

ZEUS
They're already gone.

DEMETER
You...you...

ZEUS
What are you going to do?

DEMETER
Find her. What else?

ZEUS
He said he would bring her back in the spring. He told me that they have an excellent university where he lives.

DEMETER
I can't believe you let this happen. You probably even drove them to the airport.

Zeus puts his head down.

DEMETER (CONT'D)
Thought so.

ZEUS
You weren't cutting the strings.
She'll be fine.

Demeter glares at Zeus. She removes her apron, tosses it in his face, and leaves.

Zeus picks up his cellphone from the counter.

He dials: HADES.

RING, RING, PICKUP.

HADES (O.S.)
Hello?

ZEUS
She's on her way to find her.
You've been warned.