

Hicranic?  
Black?

1. Sunday Two people are playing tennis on a university campus. The game is informal, but the high standard of play has attracted a small crowd of spectators. One player, a fit man of about 50, is a former champion. His opponent is a long-legged woman in her twenties. She is strong, graceful and focused. However, she is a daring player, taking risks, and in the end he beats her.

She is Dr Jeannie Ferrari, 26, a research scientist here at (fictional) Jones Falls University in the suburbs of Baltimore. Born into dire poverty in the housing projects of Manhattan, she made tennis her escape, putting herself through college with sports scholarships.

She lives as she plays, competitively, with flair and concentration, taking calculated risks. Coming here to Jones Falls was such a risk. After gaining her doctorate she could have got a higher-paid job at a more prestigious university, but she chose to come here and accept a lower salary because JFU promised her the freedom to follow her own line of research. It was not an easy decision: she has to pay out heavy health care expenses for her mother, who has Alzheimer's, and she is getting deeper into debt. But she is sure her research project will catapult her into a top job within two or three years.

Her opponent, Jack Budgen, is a physics professor and a powerful figure on the Senate, the university's governing body, and its important committees. He is divorced and Jeannie is dating him, but they have not yet slept together and she is not sure she wants to.

What does she want from a man that he isn't giving?

After the game, while Jeannie is showering, fire breaks out in the basement changing room. There is confusion and panic as half-naked people try to escape. Jeannie finds a friend of hers,

Could she be a graduate assistant, someone needed in the lab and work?

What the tape takes over, what is the main thing on her mind: Budgen, work, her mother, debt? Look about to something she must deal with.

Lisa Hoxton, in great distress: in the confusion a man who said he was with security directed her into an empty room and raped her.

Jeannie calls the police and a patrolman arrives. He takes Lisa to a hospital and Jeannie follows in her own car. The patrolman questions Lisa aggressively, challenging her statements and asking her what she may have done to provoke or entice the rapist. When a busy doctor brusquely orders her to spread her legs so that he can take a vaginal swab she bursts into tears and announces that she is withdrawing the rape charge. The patrolman then threatens her with a charge of subverting justice. At this point Jeannie takes over. She orders the patrolman and the doctor out, retrieves Lisa's clothes and takes her home.

2. Monday Jeannie is a psychologist. Her field is aggression and criminality and the extent to which they may be genetically determined. She believes that some children are born fearless, and this trait may be turned, by parenting, either into positive channels--sports, the military, exploration--or negative ones such as crime. Her interest is not unconnected with the fact that her father, whom she hardly knows, is serving his third jail sentence for armed robbery.

Her approach is to study identical twins reared apart, and measure the way different <sup>environmental and familial</sup> circumstances modify the effects of the same genetic material. The study of identical twins--who have the same DNA--is a major sector of psychogenetic research, and Jones Falls University runs one of the largest twins studies in the world. Jeannie's project fits in neatly.

Her subjects are of course volunteers, and therefore

respectable middle-class Americans who believe they have a duty to support scientific research: few hoodlums offer themselves for study. To get a more representative sample, Jeannie has to be proactive and seek subjects out rather than waiting for them to propose themselves. So it is key to her work that she has devised an ingenious system for finding identical twins reared apart.

The day after the tennis match is a big day for her: the first of the subjects recruited by her method is coming into the lab for tests and measurements. *I don't know of any one with more than two. affected*

The other big event of the day is the arrival of Professor Berisford Jones, a famous figure in twins research. He holds professorships in several other universities, so he is not here all the time, but he has just arrived to give his annual lecture series. He is not the titular head of the psychology department, but he is the most powerful faculty member because he is a consultant to Genetico Inc, the health care corporation that funds the twins study. *why?* A widower, he has a grown son to whom he is devoted. He is reputed to be aloof and does not socialise with his colleagues, preferring the company of congressmen and celebrities. A famous talk-show pundit, he uses his studies of genetics and personality to support extreme conservative views on race and welfare.

Jeannie is all set to hate him, but she finds him a pleasant, dapper man of about sixty with silver hair, in a well-cut suit of grey tweeds and a bow tie.

Her subject, Steven Logan, turns out to be something of a star himself. A brilliant law student and college football hero, he is also handsome and engaging. His father is a Pentagon

*term here would be  
lonely hearts columnist*

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colonel, his mother a famous agony aunt He and Jeannie take to one another right off, and he asks her for a date. She is already dating Jack Budgen, and although she likes Steven she refuses.

The day goes well but for one worrying development. Both Steven's parents firmly deny that he is a twin. He is not adopted, and Lorraine Logan is quite sure she gave birth to only one baby. This casts doubt on Jeannie's entire program, but she does not despair: families often lie about adoption.

When Berisford Jones meets Steven Logan, something strange happens: Jones turns pale, looks distressed, mutters an excuse and leaves the room. Jeannie is mystified.

*suspect you switch here  
to a scene from his P.O.V.*

Later Berisford calls her in and questions her about her technique. She explains. Identical twins have similar fingerprints, brainwaves, teeth and electrocardiograms. Information such as this about millions of people is nowadays kept on giant databases by government agencies and insurance companies. Jeannie has devised a computer program that searches such databases and finds pairs (not as easy as it may sound). In any large database there will naturally be many thousands of sets of twins, so to identify the identical twins reared apart she eliminates all pairs with the same surname and all married women (who presumably have their husbands' names), leaving only pairs of twins with no apparent reason for having different surnames.

She has tried out this technique on a national database of dental records held by an insurance company. (Identical twins even get cavities in the same teeth.) This threw up only three sets of reared-apart twins, two of which Jeannie was unable to

*Becker is J and B already know each other.  
He gave her the appointment, expecting she'd do some  
research helpful to his own work (whatever that is)  
and here she's done just the opposite. Because  
they like and admire each other, this is awkward  
and difficult for both.*

contact. That left Steven Logan and his twin Dennis Pinker. Although this is a disappointingly meagre turnout, Dennis is in jail for murder, so they form just the sort of pair she is most keenly interested in. Tests should establish conclusively that they are twins, validating the technique, and Jeannie will then run her program on a larger database. She is hoping to get permission to use the FBI fingerprint file. That should throw up plenty of reared-apart twins with criminal tendencies.

Jones is deeply sceptical about all this, especially the fuzzy logic Jeannie has used to ensure her program picks up pairs who are approximately similar as well as exactly similar. Jeannie tells him rather brusquely that the only way to be sure is to test the technique. He reluctantly accepts this, and she wonders why he is so hostile.

She calls her contact at the FBI, Ghita Serena. If her sweep of their fingerprint file is successful it will end any doubts about her procedure. Jeannie asks Ghita if it can be hurried up. She says she will do her best.

On her way home Jeannie checks on Lisa. While she is there a woman detective calls. She is Sgt. Michelle "Mike" Delaware from the Sex Crimes Unit, a warmhearted redhead who looks like Susan Sarandon. Mike apologises for the patrolman and says she understands and sympathises with Lisa's decision to withdraw the complaint of rape. But, she goes on, most rapists are serial offenders, and this man will probably attack another woman within a week or two if he is not apprehended. Lisa is persuaded to cooperate with the police in tracking him down.

That evening Jeannie has dinner with Jack Budgen. He makes a pass at her and she turns him down. He tries to insist and

*Do we need him? Could this instead be Boris Ford?  
B could be the man and would-be lover.  
Maybe she's slept with him in the past  
but now she's still smearing from the difficult  
time he's been giving her about her project.*

*Better*

*if*

*Ghita*

*is on-stage.*

*Make her*

*more than*

*just a*

*contact.*

*Maybe a second scene here*

*from*

*his P.O.V. in which he negotiates*

*failure. Hasn't succeeded persuading her.*

*her.*

*Keep*

*T.*

*at the center.*

*Let her persuade Lisa.*

there is an unpleasant scene. Jeannie leaves knowing she will not be dating Jack again.

3. Tuesday Jeannie flies to Richmond, Virginia, to see Dennis Pinker. *Would she go alone? Better if she has a friend and confidante. Pinker talks Lisa with her, except Lisa isn't allowed to see Dennis.*

First she meets his parents. To her dismay they, like the Logans, deny that their son is a twin. So she is pessimistic when she arrives at the jail. If her technique proves a failure, as Berisford Jones seems to expect, she does not know how she will find the right subjects for her study. But her technique cannot be wrong--she knows it must work!

The prison ~~governor~~ <sup>warden</sup> warns her that Dennis Pinker is clever and dangerous. He turned off the electric power in a cinema, molested several women, and killed a girl who grappled with him.

Jeannie must have an armed guard with her all the time she is interviewing Dennis. *This is done, you know, through a partition with a small screened opening. She must pull some strings to actually be in a room with him.*

As soon as she sees Dennis, she breathes a sigh of relief: he is so like Steven that they must be twins. The prison nurse takes a blood sample so Jeannie can compare the DNA of the two men but Jeannie is sure it will be identical. *(Lisa?) No.*

Dennis is polite and charming, like Steven, until he suddenly says: "You're going to give me your panties." Jeannie tries to ignore this and carries on. Later he points at the guard and says: "Robertson is afraid of rats." At the end of the afternoon he releases a live rat. Robertson screams and attacks it frenziedly with his nightstick. Meanwhile Dennis draws a homemade knife, holds it at Jeannie's throat and tells her to take off her panties. She can hardly believe this is happening to her but she is really scared. She pulls down her K-mart white

cotton briefs. Dennis pockets them, hides the knife, sits down and looks innocent. Robertson kills the rat. Jeannie realises the guard saw nothing of what Dennis did. She makes a split-second decision to say nothing about it.

A few moments later she walks out of the jail with no panties on.

Her technique has been vindicated, she has been scared, and a mystery remains. Why are the Pinkers and the Logans so adamant that their sons are not twins? Perhaps Lorraine Logan and Charlotte Pinker gave birth in the same hospital and both got someone else's babies. Jeannie checks her notes and finds that

Dennis and Steven appear to have been born in different hospitals five weeks apart. The mystery deepens.

Back in Baltimore she persuades a laboratory assistant to work overnight on the DNA comparison.

When she gets home she finds on her doorstep a dirty, unshaven, somewhat drunk middle-aged man. It is her father, out of jail. She takes him in, cooks him a dinner, makes him bathe and shave, borrows fresh clothes, and gives him a bed.

4. Wednesday The DNA tests show that Dennis and Steven are identical twins. Jeannie is jubilant.

Ghita calls from the FBI with more good news. The sweep can be done tonight. Jeannie uploads the program by modem.

She is summoned to the office of her boss, Professor Ronald Greer. To her surprise she finds both Berisford Jones and the university provost there. They have received aggressive phone calls from a New York Times reporter about Jeannie's methods, insinuating that she violates people's privacy by checking

*Set this up earlier from B's POV.  
How suspense if we know or  
suspect what she will be facing.*

*Why does she think these twins are so different? What makes  
Steven nice and Dennis psychopathic?*

*Could he have been a twin, totally different from his brother,  
her uncle she adores or adored?*

whether they are twins.

The charge is absurd but Berisford says that neither the university nor the sponsor, Genetico, can afford the bad publicity. Jeannie is sure he has an ulterior motive and she feels instinctively it is connected with Steven Logan. The provost, who is a mere fund-raiser, backs Berisford. They show Jeannie a draft press release in which JFU says mistakes have been made but the program is no longer in use.

She refuses to put her name to it and storms out.

She returns to her office and calls the New York Times.

When she gets the reporter on the phone she defends herself vigorously. She also points out that her contract gives her the right to pursue her chosen course of research. *Wouldn't she try to find out how and from whom he got this story? Wouldn't she ask too why he has not contacted her?*

After she hangs up she realises she is in deep trouble. Whatever happens, she has publicly quarrelled with her professor in her first paid academic job. If she loses this fight it may be difficult for her to get a job anywhere else.

When she picks up the newspaper she understands why Berisford is so adamant. Genetico Inc is the subject of a \$100 million takeover bid. Its founder and president, Dr Paul Barck, stands to make \$300 million personally. This is the worst time for Genetico to get bad publicity. *not clear why this is so bad. May need to be made worse*

She wonders how the newspaper got on to the story. She has not published anything about this technique. Someone must have called them. But why? Could it be that Berisford himself has started this? No. Right now he would do anything to avoid bad publicity for Genetico. Jeannie is baffled.

She goes home. Her father has gone. So has her VCR, her CD player and her car.

*Wife now halfway or more through the story. He should be more of a judge and love interest sooner*

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Steve calls. She bursts into tears on the phone and tells him all the rotten things that have happened to her today. An hour later he is on her doorstep with a bottle of wine.

Naturally they talk about the puzzle of whether or not Steven and Dennis are twins. Jeannie realises that both Lorraine Logan and Charlotte Pinker gave birth in their late thirties, and only once. She wonders if they may have had subfertility problems. Steven says his mother certainly did: she has written about it. They call Charlotte Pinker: she too had problems. Her husband was an army officer at the time, and the army health care service sent her for treatment to the Cotswold Clinic in Philadelphia. They call Steven's mother and ask the same question. Bingo: she too went to the Cotswold Clinic.

Jeannie is excited: she can see how all this might have come about. If both women had *in vitro* fertilization--"test-tube" babies--it is possible that they were impregnated with identical-twin embryos, no doubt by mistake.

Lorraine and Charlotte both say they had hormone treatment, not IVF. Could they be wrong? Jeannie decides to investigate further. A phone call establishes that the Cotswold Clinic still exists. She will pay them a visit and find out whether they

*Does J. discover anything about either of the Pinkers which might account for how their son turned out?*

5. Thursday The New York Times appears with a deeply hostile article about Jeannie under the heading PRIVACY QUESTIONS DISCREDIT GENETIC RESEARCH. She is quoting as vowing to continue her work in defiance of the university authorities.

She is summoned to the provost's office and fired. She says they can't just fire her: she has a contract. The provost says

*She is too alone. Needs someone who shares her pain and anger. Liza? Steve?* 11

she talked to the press without first clearing it with the university's public relations office, in breach of her contract. But Jeannie knows that faculty cannot be dismissed without a hearing in front of the disciplinary committee of the Senate, the university's ruling body. The hearing has been arranged for tomorrow, says the provost. Meanwhile she is suspended.. She learns what this means when she finds her office locked and her personal possessions in a black plastic bag outside the door.

She is in despair. Yesterday she had the world at her feet: now she is finished.

She calls the FBI. Ghita is reluctant to talk to her: her bosses have read the *New York Times* and they are afraid the bad publicity will touch the Bureau. But, when Jeannie puts the pressure on, she says the sweep went smoothly and the results have been sent to Jeannie by e-mail. Jeannie explains that she cannot get to her computer to retrieve her mail. Ghita says she did not keep a copy and hangs up.

Jeannie tries to access her University computer by modem but her home computer's codes have been cancelled and she cannot get into the JFU system.

Feeling that the mystery of Steven and Dennis is somehow at the root of all this, she flies to Philadelphia and goes to the Cotswold Clinic. She learns that its records for the period she

is interested in were shredded two days ago. And the clinic is owned by Genetico.

The picture is now clear. Genetico pioneered in vitro fertilization twenty-five years ago. The clinic was then headed by Paul Barck, the founder and president of Genetico and old friend of Berisford Jones. He gave Lorraine and Charlotte test-

*Again better if it is someone close to her.*

*I think this will work better if we see someone. A character to play off.*

*with*

Of what? TEL: 19 Jun 95 12:54 No. 006 P. 03  
 You rlie's been accused only of fomenting  
 publicity - - invading people's privacy.  
 This discovery vindicates her, it seems to me,  
 if she previously came up with this theory  
 and publicized it. Or maybe just hypothesized it  
 to Berisford?

tube babies without their knowledge, using them as human guinea-pigs. This is the only possible way identical twins could be born to separate mothers. And now Berisford is trying to prevent the story coming out.

But it must come out, for Steven and Dennis are the living proof. And the revelation will surely vindicate Jeannie.

While she is eating lunch at a diner near the the campus of the University of Pennsylvania, she sees a man she thinks is Steven. What the hell is he doing here? He lives in Washington, DC. She calls to him. He acts funny and she feels strange. She kisses him but that makes her feel even more strange. He turns nasty and she has to run away.

When she gets back to Baltimore Steven calls. He swears he was not in Philadelphia today. Jeannie calls Mike Delaware and learns that Dennis Pinker escaped from jail yesterday.

She is relieved that Steven is not the man she met in Philadelphia but Dennis's escape means her proof has disappeared.

Nervously she agrees to see Steven that evening. But when he arrives she feels her intuition is right: she is safe with him.

He points out the legal implications of what she has discovered. The two mothers could sue Genetico for millions of dollars. The mere commencement of such a lawsuit would bring down the share price and cause the takeover to be called off. No wonder Berisford is so determined to stop Jeannie.

Over dinner, Steven asks what lawyer Jeannie has hired to represent her at the disciplinary hearing tomorrow. She has not even thought about it. But the university will have a lawyer, he says. He offers to do it himself: he is not qualified, of

What about a venue in which she talks  
 B what rlie's fault, and he pleads  
 with her not to go before the  
 Senate maybe even twice to buy  
 her off?

course, but then the committee is not a court. She accepts and calls the chair of the committee to inform him. Then they spend the rest of the evening rehearsing the arguments and questions.

6. Friday The police get an anonymous tip that Steven is the man who raped Lisa Hoxton and he is arrested just before the hearing.

Jeannie has to defend herself. However, the previous evening's rehearsal has put her in command of the arguments and she does brilliantly, making a fool of the university's lawyer. All the same, the committee is composed of professors, and they are biased against her. Chair of the committee is her former date Jack Budgen, and he is still angry with her for refusing to sleep with him. Her firing is confirmed.

She dashes off to the jail to see Steven. She arrives at the same time as Lisa Hoxton. There is an identification parade that Jeannie is allowed to watch. Lisa looks straight at Steve and says: "That's him. He's the one who raped me."

At first Jeannie thinks her intuition about Steven has been wrong all along. But when she gets over the shock and starts to think straight, she concludes that Lisa was raped by a third twin. If she could find him she would clear Steven's name and also vindicate herself and her research.

She calls Ghita again. Just one question: were there any triplets in the results of the sweep? No, says Ghita. But there was a set of quadruplets!

So Paul Barck experimented on *four* women--if not more.

The only way Jeannie can find the two new clones is by getting at her computer and retrieving the results of the FBI sweep. She tries to break into her office that night, but she

fails and is almost caught by security.

7. Saturday The newspapers carry a report that General Jim Proust, an extreme conservative, will bid for the Republican presidential nomination. His campaign will be financed in part by his longtime friend Paul Barck, multimillionaire president of Genetico.

Jeannie looks up Proust on CompuServe and learns that he began his military career with the US Army's Medical Research and Development Command at Fort Detrick in nearby Fredericksburg, Maryland. Both Paul Barck and Berisford Jones served there with him. Then Barck left to start Genetico and Berisford went into the academic world.

What was Barck doing at the Cotswold Clinic? He apparently had the backing of the Army, which sent innocent officers' wives to the clinic to be experimented upon. Were they merely developing IVF? Both Steven and Dennis have abnormally high aggression scores. Genetico finances research into aggression to this day. Were Steven and Dennis part of some early attempt to breed the perfect soldier? Whatever it was, the three men are now desperately trying to cover it up so that they can sell their company and finance a run at the office of President.

Jeannie goes to see Jack Budgen, talks her way into his house and gets him out of the way long enough to use his computer. His access codes get her into the university system and she retrieves her mail and copies it to a floppy.

Back at home she examines the results. The "quadruplets" are Steven and Dennis plus Clifford Jones and Henry King. Checking them out she discovers, ominously, that King has died

*Too much like the  
episode with Dennis  
need something different.*

15 No.

In the last few days. However, Cliff Jones has an address in Philadelphia.

Jeannie tells Mike Delaware.

The Philadelphia police swoop on the address. There is no one at home, but they find Lisa Hoxton's panties.

Steven is released from jail.

Jeannie takes him home and they go to bed together. She tells him: "I know where Cliff Jones is."

8. Sunday Steven goes out and comes back a few minutes later. Jeannie senses after a minute or two that this is not Steven: it is Cliff. She is terrified--he is a psychopath--but she tries to keep cool. She figures that he watched Steven arrive last night, and must have found matching clothes so he could impersonate his double. His motive may be to find out how much she knows.

Suddenly she decides to level with him. "I know who you are," she says. She has correctly guessed that Clifford has been raised as Berisford's son. He is at university in Philadelphia and comes to see his father at weekends.

They go to Berisford's house. Berisford knows his boy is a psychopath but protects him out of genuine love. Now Jeannie points out that Henry King is dead and Dennis Pinker has vanished. She suggests that both Cliff and Steven are in grave danger. She proposes that Berisford join forces with her to protect Dennis and Cliff. *from whom?*

This is her plan. Steven and Cliff should show up together tomorrow at the press conference where Genetico plans to announce final agreement on the takeover bid. They should threaten to

We can't give so much emphasis at the end to characters who've played almost no role in the action.

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ruin the whole takeover deal unless Proust agrees to certain conditions.

Steven then draws up an agreement for Genetico to sign. Jeannie will get her job back and an apology from JFU. Proust will retire from politics and Paul Barck will undertake not to finance political candidates. Lorraine and Charlotte get a million dollars each in compensation. Cliff must go to jail for the rape of Lisa, but at least he will not be murdered or made to vanish. *Good legal resolution, but it needs dramatic focus.*

Dennis takes the agreement to Genetico's lawyer on Sunday afternoon.

9. Monday Jeannie shows up at the press conference with Steven and Cliff. Proust pretends he is about to sign the agreement. Then the police bust in and try to take Cliff. Cliff loses it and the police shoot him. Berisford kills Proust.

10. A year later The new owners of Genetico ask Jeannie to take charge of their research program. Steve asks her to marry him.

The resolution needs to be, I think, between J and B, and maybe recondantly Steven ought to have a role in it