



? [CONTENTS](#) **The Jenna Set**

? [Art Gallery](#) **By Daniel Kaysen**

- 14 March 2005

? [Articles](#) He told me he'd ring me. He didn't.

? [Columns](#) "This is my surprised voice," said Kelly.

? [Fiction](#) Kelly works in software and spends her life sniffing round the tricky bits in manuals. And sniffing round the tricky bits of my dating life, too. She's my sister. It's her job.

? [Poetry](#) "Maybe my answerphone's broken?"

? [Reviews](#) "Yeah, right," she said.

? [Archives](#) I sighed. "Maybe I should get a telesales script for dating."

? [ABOUT US](#)

When you work in telephone sales they give you a script. You ask each person question 1 and then, depending on whether they say yes or no, you ask question 2a or question 2b, and so on. If they say no, you keep asking questions until they say yes to something. Then you've got them, like a fish on a hook.

? [Contacts](#) "A *dating* script?" said Kelly, sounding dubious.

? [Awards](#) "Yeah, you know. This special date offer includes dinner at my apartment and the potential for oral sex on my couch afterwards. Would that be

? [Banners](#) something you are interested in?' And then if they say no you flip to page two and you ask them if it's the dinner or the oral sex that they have the problem with."

? [SUPPORT US](#)

? [Donate](#) "Yeah, Jenna, that might help," Kelly said, like it wasn't a joke.

? [Bookstore](#) I hung up and went back to making my telesales calls.

? [Merchandise](#) My 34th call was answered by a teenage girl.

? [COMMUNITY](#)

"Could I speak to a parent or guardian?" I said.  
"Why?"

? [Forum](#) "Because if you take up the offer there's a contract to sign, and persons under eighteen—"

? [Reader's Choice](#) "I'm under eighteen but I've signed contracts

[Before Paphos](#)

by Loretta Casteen

8 January 2007

It starts again. The baby begins to cough and choke.

[Locked Doors](#)

by Stephanie Burgis

1 January 2007

*You can never let anyone suspect*, his mother told him. That was the first rule she taught him and the last, before she left him here alone with It.

[Heroic Measures](#)

by Matthew Johnson

18 December 2006

Pale as he was, it was hard to believe he would never rise from this bed. Even in the darkest times, she had never really feared for him; he had always been strong, so strong.

[Love Among the Talus](#)

by Elizabeth Bear

11 December 2006

Nilufer raised her eyes to his. It was not what women did to men, but she was a princess, and he was only a bandit. "I want to be a Witch," she said. "A Witch and not a Queen. I wish to be not loved, but wise. Tell your bandit lord, if he can give me that, I might accept his gift."

[Archived Fiction Dating back to 9/1/00](#)

