

# JENNY KLEIMAN

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Jenny Kleiman is a NY-based screenwriter, director, and producer. She was recently featured by Austin Film Festival and No Film School as #5 on the “25 Screenwriters to Watch in 2021” list.

Jenny’s narrative work “finds the fun and funny in trauma,” united in thematic explorations of changing families, sex, and the taboo. She puts the Queer Jew in LGBTQ, and her expertise lies at the weird, genre-bending intersection of dark comedy, thriller, and horror. When she’s not writing and directing, Jenny is a ‘Script to Screen’ Counselor and Coach helping writers and filmmakers of all identities to develop complex women, BIPOC, and LGBTQ+ protagonists.

## RECENT RELEASE

### ***Sofa Queen by Jenny Kleiman*** – Dark Comedy, Short Film

Writer, Director. Released 2020. When a power outage threatens Landry Family Furniture’s final “Going Out of Business” sale, Martha, the matriarch, attempts to reconnect the power and her fractured family.

- Received over twenty international festival selections including Austin Film Festival and HollyShorts. Winner of thirteen awards including the Grand Jury Prize at Film Invasion LA.

WATCH: [sofaqueenfilm.com](http://sofaqueenfilm.com)

## IN PRE-PRODUCTION

### ***The Goods by Dorothy Nguyen*** – Dramedy, Proof of Concept Short for award-winning TV pilot, *Nice Restaurant*

Attached as Director. Shoots April 2022. When smuggled immigrant, Liu Fang, realizes she’s being delivered to the Chinese mafia, she runs from her coyote and into Sadie, a Jewish baker, who must decide to save Liu Fang or use the runaway as a bargaining chip with her own neighborhood gangsters, the Italian mob. Loosely based on a combination of both the writer (Nguyen) and the director’s (Kleiman) whacky family stories of New York’s sordid history of rivaling mobs, neighborhoods, and nationalities.

- *Nice Restaurant*: 2021 TV Winner in ScreenCraft’s Drama Competition.

## IN POST-PRODUCTION

**Good Girl by Haley Dercher** – *Dark Comedy, Proof of Concept Short for award-winning TV pilot, The Ties That Bind*

Director. Picture lock expected April 2022. An overachieving Jewish OB/GYN meets an out and proud Dominatrix at work and decides to explore the world of BDSM in an effort to empower herself and “think less and feel more.”

- *Good Girl*: #3 Comedy Short on The Red List, January 2022.

**Kept by Alexandra Geschwind** – *Horror, Proof of Concept Short for Feature Script, The Hacienda*

Director. Picture lock expected March 2022. When best friends, Natalia and Charlotte, head to a ranch to relax after their graduation, strange events around the land challenge their already deteriorating friendship and sanity, leaving them in a fight for their lives against the ranch owner and his extremely late wife.

## IN FINANCING

**Held by Water by Jenny Kleiman** – *Cult Thriller, Feature*

Writer & Pitching as Director- currently working on a new draft. When a waterborne illness shuts down New York City, a recently traumatized woman absconds to a closed hotel in the idyllic Catskills to work with a renowned healer, but when she discovers she’s pregnant, she must fight the hotel staff for her sanity, life, and child as increasingly dark cult-mentality takes over.

- Top 3% of projects on Coverfly. Featured on The Red List as Top 10 Thriller Features & Top 20 Thrillers in December 2021.
- Nominated for Best Unproduced Feature and Best Horror Script at the 2021 Lonely Wolf International Film Festival.

**Mother Road by C.J. Baer** – *Dramedy, Feature*

Attached as Director. A scorned New York social climber sets out alone on a road trip across the heart of America. Stripped of all her possessions, she’s forced to face her past and find life’s true riches in her dusty desert hometown.

- Semi-Finalist, ScreenCraft’s Feature Drama Competition 2022. Awaiting winner announcement.

**Fleurs by Eve Gwyneth Morrissey** – *Psychological Thriller, Feature*

Attached as Co-Producer & Director. Two wild co-eds embark on an outrageous, bloodsoaked journey through the South of France.

- Optioned by Alexis Varouxakis, Adrenaline Entertainment.

## PITCHES, SCRIPTS, & WORKS IN PROGRESS

### **Pitch for Topic Studios by Jenny Kleiman** – *feature*

Writer. Pitch set for February 2022. Adaptation of Topic Magazine's 2019 article "The Mortician & the Murderer."

### **Pitch for Radar Pictures (in association with 20th Century Studios) by Jenny Kleiman** – *thriller/ horror, feature*

Writer. When the joy of her first child's birth abruptly pivots into obsession with her newborn's safety, a mother struggles to trust her own judgement and family as hidden motivations and long-buried secrets threaten her baby and picture perfect life.

- Requested by producers (Maria Frisk, Michael Napoliello, Ted Field) to reimagine a classic 1990's psychological thriller for a 2020's audience.
- Pitched four times over the course of Summer 2021. Soft pass for now- though they've mentioned pursuing an anthology and revisiting my work. In good standing with Ted Field and has left the door open for continued pitches (seeking under \$10m horror and psychological thriller).
- On the other hand, no paperwork was signed, and the concept evolved far from original per their request. Pitch could technically be presented to other companies.

### **Committed by Jenny Kleiman** – *Dark Comedy, Half-Hour Pilot*

Writer. Currently rewriting the second draft (but toying with possibility to pivot into a feature). An actress struggling with her mental health post-divorce agrees to check herself into an asylum per request of her manager. But when her car breaks down in a one-stop-light town, she obsesses over a local mystery, the disappearance of 3 women, and so she poses as an "undercover detective" to solve the case.

### **Double Vision by Jenny Kleiman** – *Sci-Fi Thriller, One-Hour Pilot*

Writer. Zuzu, a smart but spiraling young woman, is thrust into the center of a heated Border War between the first conglomerate-run independent nation and the cartel-run border town on its outskirts.

### **American Princess by Jenny Kleiman** – *Coming-of-Age Drama, Feature*

Writer. Unable to connect with her peers, Ellie, a wealthy, unchallenged teen finds deep friendship with her mentally-unstable father, but when he is institutionalized, she must navigate her own escape and plot his rescue from her new home, her babysitter's trailer park.

- The project was the #1 trending script on The Black List for two weeks in March and #16 overall for the first quarter of 2019. It was a finalist for the 2019 The Black List x WIF Feature Residency.