

If I Brought Lambs

By Holly Lisle

The novel LAST GIRL DANCING was born as IF I BROUGHT LAMBS, on 9/1/96, with the following poem that I wrote. I've included the whole page, because initially each chapter was supposed to be preceded by a poem from the killer, and, finding it this morning, I thought the header was kind of funny. Along with this poem, I just discovered the synopsis for that previous version of the story.

The core idea so horrified my then-agent that he told me the book could never sell, and the core idea is what finally sold, though through a different agent. Which goes to show that different agents have different opinions of the same things.

Here's the page:

*A Collection of Psycho Poetry for
IF I BROUGHT LAMBS*

TITLE POEM

*if i brought lambs, lambs
to slaughter, my fairest Carida,
would you feed me
would you make me
sweet stews from the livers,
rich pies from the kidneys

or would you chastise me
Carida, Carida
for killing the tender young lambs?*

The poetry didn't make it to LAST GIRL DANCING. The killer did. So I thought I'd share the poetry, too, as an odd aside.

I'll note that this is the only Psycho Poem I wrote for the book—the problem with including psycho poetry is that to get it, you have to be your own psycho. Ugh.

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