

Gloria (Branden Jacobs-Jenkins)

Kendra:

If you had half a brain, you'd look around and see everyone in charge is pushing sixty, or just past it, and they aren't going anywhere and they are certainly not thinking about you. This bunch of postwar glutton-babies all got spoiled on the riches of being an American when being an American was basically the Best and, by freak chance, just happened to discover New York when it was also the Best and apartments were like a dollar. And now, all these decades later, here we are. Now that the publishing world's collapsed and contracting all around us, mostly because these morons were too busy bluffing and boozing their way through the eighties/nineties, as opposed to, I don't know, anticipating the internet -- Now that all these martini lunches have all dried up, suddenly these boomers in charge are like, "Wait, being a good editor and maintaining a sustainable media industry is actually a skill that requires work? What is this work? How do you do it? Can I do it now?" And, in the meantime, who has historically been doing all the work? The poor suckers born a generation later. Their assistants who are now stuck as their middle-management with assistants of their own -- i.e., us -- some of whom think they're going to rise through the rank like their bosses did [without realizing that these editors were all assistants, again, by freak chance, at the exact historical window when this city actually accidentally had opportunity in it and not just the illusion of it.] And now everything's all constipated. And do you know why? Because people actually died back then. There was something called *turnover*. Now these boomers aren't dying and neither is the middle management. And they know it. And, if we're not careful, they're going to starve us out.