

**BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER**

"Sticks And Stones"

by  
Darren J. Eldred

TEASER

FADE IN:

1

INT. SUMMERS RESIDENCE - LOUNGE - DAY

1

BUFFY sits on the sofa, watching the TV, flicking the remote control. She sighs.

BUFFY  
Over nine hundred channels and  
still nothing good to watch.

VOICE (O.S)  
Ain't that the truth.

Buffy turns to see DAWN. But she's not disturbed this, it seems normal to her.

BUFFY  
Wondered when you'd be showing up.

DAWN  
I'm earlier than expected.

BUFFY  
I guess.  
(beat)  
How's Mom?

DAWN  
She's great. She has these tennis  
matches with Marilyn, it's good to  
see her so happy.

BUFFY  
Yeah. Wish I could see it too.

DAWN  
One day.  
(beat)  
Aren't you late for something?

BUFFY  
I think so... I'm not sure. I'm all  
over the place lately.

DAWN  
Well, if there's any better time to  
get it together, now's it. Things  
are coming, Buffy, and it's gonna  
take everything you've got to beat  
them back.

BUFFY  
The darkness.  
(off her look)  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BUFFY(cont'd)

Willow's been... places. She said something was coming. Something bad.

DAWN

She wasn't lying. In the end, things are always going to be coming, but this is different.

(beat)

Work it right and you'll be happy.

(beat)

Buffy?

BUFFY

Yeah?

She turns to look at Dawn but she's gone. She looks to the doorway and sees XANDER.

XANDER

You okay?

BUFFY

Yeah. Must have spaced out or something.

XANDER

You're, um, gonna be late for that meeting. You know, with Charleston and Smithe.

BUFFY

Right. Yeah. I... knew that. I am so... not ready!

She rushes around, trying to get everything together. Xander stops her, both hands on her shoulders.

XANDER

Buffy, you've gotta calm down. All you've gotta do is go back in there and prove you've still got what it takes to be a counselor.

(beat)

It's child's play.

2

INT. SEWERS

2

Chanting is all we hear as the camera pans to see three DEMON CHILDREN. They're surrounding a fire, burning a bright red. The bigger child, RAVIS, slams his fist down.

RAVIS

More fire!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEELA, the youngest of the three, reaches for something. She pulls it out of frame as her brother, DAE0, burns a stick in the flames.

Finally we look below the fire... ... and see an assortment of limbs.

AN ARM.

A FOOT.

AN EYEBALL.

AN EAR.

On the burning flesh we...

**BLACK OUT.**

**END OF TEASER**

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

3 INT. CHARLESTON &amp; SMITHE - LOBBY - DAY 3

Buffy walks through the large doors, briefcase in one hand. She's dressed in one of her now famous suits, more Ally McBeal than serious counselor, but it works.

She heads to the front desk, where the SECRETARY is answering calls.

BUFFY

Hi. I'm supposed to be having a meeting with --

The secretary holds up a hand, stopping Buffy.

SECRETARY

(into phone)

Hold one moment please, I'll put you straight through.

(listens)

Of course. A happy patient is a... um, a happy patient!

(to Buffy)

Meeting with Mr. Kane?

BUFFY

Mr. Kane?

SECRETARY

I've got it on the screen. Third floor, fifth door to your left.

BUFFY

Um...

But before she can ask anything, the secretary is back talking on the phone. Buffy takes a breather before continuing through the lobby area of the building, passing several of her colleagues... but she still looks completely lost.

4 INT. CHARLESTON &amp; SMITHE - KANE'S OFFICE 4

IRWIN KANE, an older distinguishable man, sits at his desk, looking over some papers. There's a couple of knocks at the door.

KANE

Come in.

It opens and Buffy walks in, closing it behind her. She hesitantly approaches.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KANE (cont'd)

Buffy Summers? My, you're a vision, aren't you?

BUFFY

Um... thanks. Are you filling in for Mr. Hanson?

KANE

No, Ms. Summers. I'm the new boss here.

BUFFY

Oh... you are?

KANE

Yes. Please, do take a seat. She does.

KANE (cont'd)

Unfortunately Mr. Hanson had a problem that he couldn't come to terms with and had to leave the company. We'll miss his efforts. But now I'm in charge.

BUFFY

Oh, right. Okay. I didn't know that cos --

KANE

You've been abroad, getting over a death in the family. I know everything, Ms. Summers. Don't ever forget that.

BUFFY

Okay --?

KANE

As for your job, I've been looking over how you performed last year, and I must say, there were a lot of sick days.

BUFFY

Yeah, there was this whole thing where... well, my sister was sick.

KANE

No need to explain yourself. I understand. I was unsure of whether you would be able to work your way back into the company but you do have quite a following.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BUFFY

Following?

KANE

Yes. A Mrs. Gladys Combs. She was practically protesting outside my office, refused to leave until you returned to work.

BUFFY

She did that? I didn't even think she noticed me in our sessions.

KANE

You've made quite an impact on a lot of lives, Ms. Summers. All I've heard is good reports.

(smiles)

So welcome back.

BUFFY

Welcome back? I get the job... again?

KANE

I wouldn't have it any other way.

She quickly shakes his hand.

BUFFY

Thank you. Thank you so much.

KANE

There is one thing though.

BUFFY

What is it?

KANE

Your receptionist, Anya Jenkins. I'm afraid a few of the staff have complained about her brashness. And she instigated a fight between the janitor and Bob on level six. She even went so far as to make tickets.

BUFFY

Yeah, that sounds like Anya. If it makes you feel any better, she'll be going on maternity leave soon.

KANE

(smiles)

A whole lot better.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Buffy can't help but smile along with him.

5

EXT. PEACHY'S CAFE/STREETS

5

People go about their daily business as ANDREW steps out of the cafe, slipping on his jacket. He turns -- BUMPING INTO ANYA. She drops a bag of groceries on the sidewalk.

ANYA

Andrew!

ANDREW

Anya... sorry, I didn't see you there.

They begin to pick up the shopping.

ANDREW (cont'd)

What are you doing here anyway?  
Shouldn't you be taking it easy?

ANYA

I would be but whenever someone says that to me I tend to want to do the opposite.

(beat)

I might go bungee jumping now.  
Wanna come?

ANDREW

I don't know if --  
(then)  
Sure, why not?

And with that, they rise and continue down the street, only stopping as they see JACKSON and DAN coming their way. Andrew and Anya exchange glances, unsure of what to say or how to act around him.

ANDREW (cont'd)

Jackson. It's you.

JACKSON

Yeah. Hey.

ANYA

Going to catch some killers?

JACKSON

We, um... there's some disappearances...

ANDREW

Right...  
(beat)  
... must be fun being a cop.  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANDREW(cont'd)

You get to shoot people. He stops, suddenly realizing what he's just said.

JACKSON

It's not as fun as you'd think.

ANYA

Yes. Well, we must go and cheat death now.

She loops her arm through Andrews and pulls him along. Jackson turns to Dan as they head on.

DAN

You know them guys?

JACKSON

I did... old friends.

(beat)

So, this case --?

DAN

Five disappearances. Two girls, three guys. Pretty random selections, doesn't seem connected. We're kinda clutching at straws here.

JACKSON

In the dark, huh?

DAN

As per usual, buddy. That's why we're playing detectives.

JACKSON

Yeah, well, it's time to get serious cos we could be dealing with a serial killer here.

DAN

No bodies, Jacks. At the moment it's a serial kidnapper.

JACKSON

So let's go get the bad guys.

As they head on...

6

INT. SUMMERS RESIDENCE - KITCHEN

6

WILLOW is leaning on the breakfast bar, staring into space as if she wasn't even there. Xander ENTERS.

XANDER

Hey, Will --

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WILLOW  
(distorted)  
I have to go.

XANDER  
Huh?

WILLOW  
(distorted)  
Tattles, get off my leg!

Suddenly she JERKS, looking a little disorientated. She turns to Xander.

WILLOW (cont'd)  
Hey. Sorry about that.

XANDER  
Um... Tattles?

WILLOW  
She's one of the Circle players...  
it's complicated.  
(beat)  
You looking for Buffy?

XANDER  
Actually I was looking for Andrew.  
We were supposed to be... um, doing  
something.

WILLOW  
(curious)  
Something?

XANDER  
He was gonna help me set up  
something on the internet.

WILLOW  
Oh. Oh, Xander! I can do it. I'm  
good at the computer. You know me,  
computer nerd to the core.

XANDER  
Yeah, it's just, you've been a  
little busy with the... magic and  
stuff.

WILLOW  
Xander... you can still ask me  
about this stuff. I'm never too  
busy for you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

XANDER

I know, I know. But to tell you the truth, it's kinda weird.

(beat)

I just mean... like then when I walked in. Your voice was verging on scary.

WILLOW

It's only because I was on a different plane. The frequencies can mess that kinda stuff up a little.

(then)

Wait, does this scare you?

XANDER

What? No, of course --

(beat)

Actually, I guess it does.

WILLOW

I scare you?

XANDER

No. It's just... I'm not sure I like the fact that you're getting involved with this Circle thing. You don't know anything about it, or --

WILLOW

Xander, they're higher beings. It's what I've been working for since I got into magic. I see that now.

XANDER

I know. I just don't want to...

(beat)

I don't wanna stand by and watch you go. You said it yourself, one of these days you're going to be called to a higher plane and leave us... me.

WILLOW

Oh... I didn't know you... it's not that I want to leave, Xander, it's just... this is a chance to be more than I am. To be better.

XANDER

You don't need to be any better. You're perfect just the way you are.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

WILLOW

(smiles)

You say that but... I don't feel it. I've had two loves taken away from me so I think I must be... there's something in me, a darkness, and to ascend would make me feel like it's over. The constant battle I fight within myself would just disappear. It'd all just be over.

Xander edges closer, wrapping an arm around her shoulder.

XANDER

Just promise me, when you finally do go up to the pearly white gates, you'll watch over us.

WILLOW

Always.

7

EXT. CLEVELAND FAIR

7

We're looking down from the skies, to put the whole scene on view. The fair spans a long distance, with adults and kids alike rushing around, laughing, playing. There's a Ferris-Wheel, some kind of spinning wheel, even a 'Vertical Drop' ride that goes straight up for ages, as well as loads of other rides.

Anya and Andrew walk through the crowds, both munching on some candy floss.

ANYA

See, the trick is, you have to have the right amount of bouncy rope... otherwise your head will explode on impact.

ANDREW

I see...

ANYA

There it is!

She GRABS his hand, dragging him into the queue for the bungee jump ride.

ANDREW

Anya, I really don't think this is really safe for women who are --

Anya shoots him a look.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANDREW (cont'd)  
... with child.

ANYA  
Don't be silly, Andrew. Everyone  
can go on this ride. They can't  
just exclude pregnant women!

One of the ATTENDANTS approaches.

ATTENDANT  
Sorry, ma'am, did you say you were  
pregnant?

ANYA  
Yes.

ATTENDANT  
I'm afraid you won't be able to go  
on this ride, or mostly any of  
them.

ANYA  
Excuse me?

ATTENDANT  
It's the fair policy, ma'am. It's  
all right on the sign outside the  
gates.

ANYA  
Well that's penalization. Or...  
something-ism. I'm not standing for  
this.

ANDREW  
Anya, c'mon let's just --

ANYA  
No! I want to cheat death by  
falling to my doom, only to be  
sprung back up into the air by a  
bouncy rope!

ATTENDANT  
Sorry. It's not gonna happen.

Anya looks as if she's about to explode with rage. Andrew  
hastily pulls her away before she does any damage.

ANYA  
This isn't fair! They should ban  
people like Xander from the fair!  
After all, it was his guys in white  
hats that did this to me!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ANDREW

Um... okay.

As they walk further up we stay on a coconut stand, where Ravis watches them, like a hunter to its prey.

8

INT. SUMMERS RESIDENCE - LOUNGE

8

Buffy ENTERS, closing the door behind her. She continues through to the lounge, taking a look around... nobody there. She sighs, falling on the sofa.

WILLOW (O.S)

Hey!

Buffy snaps her head around to see Willow and Xander coming through the kitchen.

BUFFY

Hey, guys. Didn't think anyone was home.

XANDER

We were just... talking. You seen Andrew?

BUFFY

Not today. I think he finished work about an hour ago.

XANDER

Yeah, he was supposed to be helping me... and I haven't seen Anya all day either.

WILLOW

(teasing)

Isn't that a good thing?

BUFFY

Will, that's kinda --

(beat)

Really, true.

XANDER

I'm serious. Last time I saw her was this morning when we woke up. I've heard nothing since.

WILLOW

She's probably just out living it up. Soon she's gonna be bigger than she is now and maybe she just wants to enjoy the freedom while it lasts.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

XANDER  
But we had plans.

BUFFY  
Uh oh, Xander's been stood up by  
his own fiancée. Not a good sign for  
marriage.

XANDER  
I'll call her.

He pulls out his CELL PHONE and dials a number, turning away  
from them. Willow sinks into the seat next to Buffy.

WILLOW  
How'd the meeting go?

BUFFY  
I'm officially back at work. I  
might have to sack Anya but...  
that's possibly a good thing.

WILLOW  
That's great, Buffy.

BUFFY  
And the best thing? My new boss is  
great.

XANDER  
(into phone)  
Anya? It's Xander. Where the heck  
are you?

9 EXT. CLEVELAND FAIR

9

Anya and Andrew are walking away from the crowds. Anya's on  
her CELL.

ANYA  
Xander? Me and Andrew are at the  
fair.  
(listening)  
We're on our way back now. We've  
just go to --

She SCREAMS as their legs are HOOKED BY ROPES. They DROP to  
the ground, the cell phone sent flying.

A moment as they share panicked expressions, before being  
dragged along the grass and into a manhole by things we don't  
see.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Then, the manhole cover is put back in place, as if the whole thing didn't happen.

**BLACK OUT.**

**END OF ACT ONE**

( CONTINUED )

CONTINUED: (2)

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

10

INT. SUMMERS RESIDENCE - LOUNGE - DAY

10

Buffy and Xander are pulling weapons out of the chest while Willow does a spell on the table.

WILLOW

I can't locate them. There's some kind of barrier.

BUFFY

Anya said they were at the fair, right? We'll start there.

WILLOW

Let me just get some things that could help us.

BUFFY

Will --

WILLOW

Buffy, I'm going too.

BUFFY

I know. I was just gonna ask if you could carry the crossbow.

WILLOW

Oh. Okay.

Xander tucks a stake in his inside pocket.

XANDER

We all set? We've gotta hurry, I haven't heard Anya scream like that since... ever.

BUFFY

Don't worry, nothing's gonna happen to them.

XANDER

I know, cos we're gonna stop it.

They all check themselves over. Buffy takes her suit jacket off.

BUFFY

I really can't get that dirty... it costs loads to get cleaned.

XANDER

Let's go.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The three of them prepare themselves then EXIT the house, one by one. First Buffy, then Xander, and finally Willow.

11

INT. SEWERS

11

We hear a GROAN before anything else. Then we see Anya and Andrew, struggling to break free from their chains, which are bolted to the walls, and to their wrists. They are alone in these murky, damp sewers.

ANDREW

This is your fault!

ANYA

What?

ANDREW

(imitates Anya)

'Let's go cheat death at the fair.  
Let's go be the people who are  
exciting!'

(beat)

We're not exciting! We're a geek  
and big fat pregnant woman!

ANYA

I'm not fat yet, mister!

ANDREW

Makes no difference. You wanted to  
cheat death? Well, tough... I don't  
think we're gonna cheat it.

ANYA

We're not going to die, Andrew. Not  
here. Not now.

(beat)

I'm not dressed for it.

A moment before Andrew checks out her attire.

ANDREW

I think you look good.

ANYA

Oh, you're so sweet. You too.

ANDREW

Thanks. I picked the shirt out at  
that new store in the --

KEELA (O.S)

Quiet!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They turn to see the demon girl walked in, complete with machete, which glimmers in the light just above them. She comes around, eyeing them in a... demon-y way.

ANDREW

Um... you're just a kid.

She GROWLS.

ANDREW (cont'd)

And surprisingly still scary.

ANYA

Hey. Girlie... how about you set us free?

KEELA

Keela doesn't like you. Keela wants to kill you.

ANYA

(solemnly)

Look you wretched little brat, let us go or I'll... I'll... I'll tell your mother!

This has absolutely no effect on Keela, who just GRINS in a sinister fashion.

ANDREW

Nice one, Anya, anger the demon that's gonna kill us!

ANYA

Well, if she's gonna kill us, might as well try and make her feel guilty about it!

ANDREW

But now she's probably gonna do it really slow... with a chainsaw, and a... flamethrower and...

ANYA

(gulps)

Bunnies?

KEELA

(giggles)

Keela like bunnies! They taste like chicken.

ANYA

(forces a smile)

Ya hear that? She likes bunnies... must be evil.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ANDREW  
(whispers)  
We have to get out of here.

ANYA  
(sarcastically)  
Really? Cos I was kinda hoping we  
could all have a tea party!

ANDREW  
You want to have a tea party at a  
time like --  
(beat)  
Oh, I see what you did there...  
sarcasm.

ANYA  
You know what we need at a time  
like this?

ANDREW  
Superpowers?

ANYA  
No. A fairy godmother, like  
Cinderella.

KEELA  
Cinderella?

Anya turns to the demon girl, who is wide eyed at the mention  
of that name.

KEELA (cont'd)  
You know about Cinderella?

ANYA  
Yes. The shabby looking girl who  
was mean to her nice step-mother  
who kept her even though she was  
only taking up the air they were  
breathing. Not to mention the food  
she was eating. The same food the  
beautiful stepmother and  
indifferent step-sisters probably  
worked hard to earn.

KEELA  
Keela likes Cinderella.

With that, Daeo ENTERS, dragging a bone on the ground. This  
looks like a human bone, probably an arm.

KEELA (cont'd)  
Daeo! They know of Cinderella.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

DAEO  
(smiles)  
Daeo likes Cinderella.

ANYA  
Okay... Andrew, I think there's one  
way of getting out of this alive --

12 INT. SEWERS - LATER

12

Keela and Daeo are sat in front of Anya, their legs crossed, looking just like normal children, hanging on every word she says.

ANYA  
And Cinderella was very selfish, so  
she sacrificed six children... um,  
six demon children to conjure the  
fairy godmother.

The children GASP! Andrew rolls his eyes.

ANDREW  
This your big plan?

ANYA  
Better than being beaten to death  
with a bone!  
(to children)  
The fairy godmother was a nice  
little old lady, who never did any  
harm to anyone in her immortal  
life. But Cinderella put a dagger  
to her throat, threatening to slice  
her unless she granted her three  
wishes.  
(beat)  
Like she did Aladdin.

ANDREW  
Aladdin? I think you're on the  
wrong page!

ANYA  
Am not. Everybody knows Aladdin  
made the fairy godmother eat the  
nice little monkey so he could have  
his wishes.

ANDREW  
Nu uh, sister. The genie gave  
Aladdin his wishes and Abu was so  
not eaten. He --

Suddenly Keela and Daeo threaten him with their weapons. He  
GULPS, turning to see Anya's smug face.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANYA

As I was saying... so after the nice little old lady had given Cinderella everything she needed, she stuffed her in a box and locked it up, knowing she could come to some use later on in life.

13 EXT. CLEVELAND FAIR - NIGHT

13

We're looking straight at the manhole Anya and Andrew were dragged through. There's silence.

Until Buffy, Willow, and Xander meet up, coming from different directions. Each with their own weapons.

BUFFY

Anything?

Willow and Xander both shake their heads.

BUFFY (cont'd)

We've been looking for hours.

XANDER

So what, we give up?

WILLOW

Buffy didn't mean that, Xander. It's just... it's dark and... I don't think they're here anymore.

XANDER

(deflated)

I know... it's just, if I go home now and find out something's happened to her, I wouldn't be able to live with myself.

BUFFY

We're not giving up. Maybe we just need to cover some more ground.

WILLOW

You mean, split up again?

BUFFY

(nods)

Weapons check.

They each hold up their weapons.

BUFFY (cont'd)

Meet back in an hour.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

With a nod and sigh, they head off in separate directions again. We follow Buffy as she grips the Scythe, holding it as if it were the most precious thing in her life.

Suddenly a BEAM OF LIGHT attaches itself to her. She covers her eyes, seeing a FIGURE coming towards her. Then she sees --

BUFFY (cont'd)  
Jackson?

He lowers the flashlight, with his gun pointing at her. He quickly lowers it upon seeing it's her.

JACKSON  
Buffy.

BUFFY  
What are you doing here?

JACKSON  
I'm the cop. That's kinda my question.  
(beat)  
What are you doing here?

BUFFY  
Looking for Andrew and Anya.

JACKSON  
Are they in trouble?

BUFFY  
(nods)  
It is a Tuesday.

JACKSON  
I saw them earlier, they seemed fine.

BUFFY  
A lot can happen in a short space of time.

Her eyes look down to see the gun at his side and instantly brings back memories. There's a BRIGHT WHITE...

DISSOLVE TO:

14 INT. POLICE STATION - BASEMENT

14

... which disappears. Jackson LAUNCHES himself into the air as he pulls the triggers. Screaming, he whirls, guns filling his hands with thought-speed.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Fingers pumping, shells ejecting, dancing up and away, we look THROUGH the sights and gun smoke at Jackson blurred with motion.

Dawn is KNOCKED back, the bullets pumping through her body, blood splattering from the ripped skin.

The sword is thrown from her hand as she FALLS, rippling the air, until she CRASHES to the ground.

The BRIGHT WHITE fills the screen again.

DISSOLVE TO:

15

EXT. CLEVELAND FAIR

15

Buffy shakes her head, trying to rid herself of the memories, keeping her attention focused.

JACKSON

(mid-conversation)

... and I didn't know what to say,  
I guess I just kinda froze, you  
know?

BUFFY

Huh? What? Huh?

JACKSON

Last week, when you said what you  
said.

BUFFY

Oh, that... when I basically said I  
didn't want to see you again. And  
now this. You and me, talking,  
here.

(beat)

This isn't good.

JACKSON

What, you think I'm just gonna go  
away? That it's gonna be that easy  
for you?

BUFFY

None of this is easy for me,  
Jackson.

JACKSON

You know what? I'm not doing this.  
I told myself I was going to. I  
guess I'll just take it on the chin  
like a man.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACKSON(cont'd)

Screw that! You know the reason I think you broke this off is?

BUFFY

I'm sure you're gonna tell me.

JACKSON

You're scared of what we could be. You're afraid that me and you might actually make it as a relationship and you've never had that before.

BUFFY

That is not the reason --

JACKSON

Yes it is. I can see it in your eyes.

BUFFY

Stop it, Jackson. We're over.

JACKSON

Yeah, we are. I can't believe I thought I could be with someone who's so self absorbed.

BUFFY

(shouts)

You killed my sister!

Jackson is taken back by her outburst, and to a certain extent, so is she. He nods, somberly.

JACKSON

I saved you. Willow, Xander, Anya... I saved you all. And this is what I get? Everything I cared about taken away.

BUFFY

(beat)

Welcome to the club.

JACKSON

You know? Really not wanting to be in your club right now.

He looks her over before walking away. Buffy watches him leave, a look of disappointment crossing her face.

16

INT. SEWERS

16

As before, with the demon children sitting in front of Anya as she tells them a story. Andrew watches on, rolling his eyes every now and then.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEELA

What happened to Cinderella, Anya lady?

ANYA

Well, when the Prince realized he'd made a mistake, he smashed the glass slipper and used one very sharp piece to gut her like a fish.

(beat)

Then he married the stepmother and they lived happily ever after, with no financial worries because they had no children. The end.

Keela and Daeo CLAP.

RAVIS (O.S)

What is going on?

All of them turn to see Ravis looking at them, obviously not impressed.

KEELA

Ravis, the Anya lady tells us stories.

DAEO

Can we keep it?

RAVIS

What stories?

KEELA

Cinderella.

ANYA

I know about the spawn of Satan too... Peter Pan.

RAVIS

What is this Peter Pan?

ANYA

I could tell you. But you have to promise me you won't kill us.

All three of the children SHOVE their weapons under Anya's chin, grazing her neck.

ANYA (cont'd)

Or I could not try and negotiate with children!

RAVIS

Tell the Pan.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ANYA

Once upon a time in the land of  
Never, there was a dark, evil boy  
called Peter Pan. He would make fun  
of the nice man with the hook for a  
hand.

ANDREW

(mutters)

Oh God...

On his dispirited expression...

17

INT. POLICE STATION - JACKSON'S OFFICE

17

There's a knock at the door. It opens and Dan ENTERS. Seeing  
Jackson isn't there, he flicks the light on, and closes the  
door behind him.

DAN

Time to check a few things out.

He heads to the desk and looks around. Finally he sees what  
he's looking for. He goes to open the drawer but --

-- it's locked. He sighs, searching for a key, but there's  
nothing. He tugs at the other drawers, none of them are  
locked.

DAN (cont'd)

So what's so special about this  
drawer? Why lock just this one?

(beat)

Something's going on with you  
Jackson... and I'm gonna find out  
what.

He quickly heads back through the door, turning the light  
off, as if he was never there in the first place.

18

EXT. CLEVELAND FAIR

18

Buffy stands above the manhole as Willow approaches, carrying  
the crossbow.

BUFFY

Still nothing?

WILLOW

No. And it's getting late.

BUFFY

Could be an all nighter.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WILLOW

(glum)

And I didn't even bring any snacks.

Xander comes towards them.

BUFFY

We need a better plan than this.

WILLOW

I wish I could use magic but I just can't locate them... maybe the Circle could help.

XANDER

Try them.

WILLOW

Okay. I'll need to do it at home though.

BUFFY

I thought you could go there from anywhere?

WILLOW

Yeah but I need to be in a meditation state and the dark kinda gives me the creeps.

XANDER

Will, just hurry, okay?

WILLOW

I will. Don't worry.

She heads off.

XANDER

I can't lose her, Buffy.

BUFFY

We won't.

XANDER

It's just... seems like my turn, you know? First Kennedy, then Dawn... maybe it's Anya's turn to die.

BUFFY

Don't think like that! We're gonna get her back, I promise.

He nods, as they begin to walk away, but there is a BEEPING sound. Both of them turn. Xander looks down and sees --

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ANYA'S CELL PHONE.

He picks it up.

XANDER  
It's her cell.

BUFFY  
And look.

She points towards the unsettled grass leading to the manhole cover.

BUFFY (cont'd)  
They were dragged.

XANDER  
So let's follow.

BUFFY  
Right there with ya.

She lifts off the cover and begins to climb down the ladder, with Xander quickly following. As they disappear into the darkness, we hear footsteps. Then --

A PAIR OF BOOTS

That's all we see as this FIGURE stands next to the manhole. Something or someone is watching them.

**BLACK OUT.**

**END OF ACT TWO**

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ACT THREE

---

FADE IN:

CLOSE ON: CLOCK

The hands tick away, backwards! The clock face has many farmyard animal pictures scattered around it. But among them is a LION, mouth open, teeth bared.

WILLOW (O.S)

What do you mean you can't?

Pull back to reveal...

19

INT. CLOCK WORKSHOP - DAY

19

Willow is standing in front of TATTLES, TALEDRAW, and TRINKETS, who are all sitting on their stools, coloring in random pictures.

WILLOW

You're supposed to be all powerful beings. Surely you can locate two mortals?

TATTLES

We could...

TALEDRAW

But we can't...

WILLOW

Or won't!

TRINKETS

Teach, this kind of thing doesn't involve us.

TATTLES

We can't be so accommodating to mortal needs. If it is their time to die, they will die. If not, they'll live.

WILLOW

What? Look, I need to find my friends. If not, Anya's gonna be really pissed about dying again and she'll probably come back for your heads!

TALEDRAW

She could try.

TATTLES

They're not real anyway.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

She hits her head.

TATTLES (cont'd)  
Just for show.

TRINKETS  
Teach, we're sorry. But this is not  
our concern.  
(beat)  
Maybe you could find what you're  
looking for in the Grand Library?

WILLOW  
Grand --?

She stops, seeing the doors, nodding.

WILLOW (cont'd)  
Thanks!

TATTLES  
Are you sure you won't play with  
us, Teach? We have another page,  
just for you.

WILLOW  
No. Not today.

She heads off into the Grand Library as the kids continue  
coloring. We get closer to Taledraw, looking over his  
shoulder to put his page on screen.

It is a fantastic drawing, better than any still life  
painting we've ever seen. It's of Anya and Andrew, chained  
up...

20 INT. SEWERS - NIGHT

20

... which we see now. Andrew has fallen asleep. The three  
demon children are gathered in a huddle farther away,  
whispering amongst each other. Anya nudges Andrew.

ANDREW  
I am not a hippo!

He opens his eyes, looking around, wiping away a little  
drool. He turns to Anya.

ANDREW (cont'd)  
What?

ANYA  
They're planning something. Their  
eyes are shifty.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANDREW

God. We're gonna die down here.

ANYA

No. You might die. But I won't.

ANDREW

I knew it. I knew, ever since I saw him with that other guy, that death was taunting me. It wanted my heart to be wrenched out before being offed!

ANYA

What guy?

ANDREW

(solemnly)

I saw Jody last week, first time in a while... he was with another guy.

ANYA

Were they --?

ANDREW

Yeah.

ANYA

Oh my God. They were having gay sex and you watched?

(beat)

That's kinda kinky.

ANDREW

No, Anya! They were holding hands...

ANYA

Oh... and the big deal is? Andrew, you broke it off with Jody.

ANDREW

I know but... I didn't think I felt that much for him when I did that.

(beat)

I think I was wrong.

ANYA

Well, it's a bit late now.

ANDREW

Why, cos he's with someone else?

ANYA

Nope. Cos we're about to be hacked into teeny weeny little pieces.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

She points. Andrew looks to see Ravis leading the other two, holding an ax, menacingly eyeing them.

RAVIS

We talk.

ANYA

Uh... yeah you do.

RAVIS

We decide.

KEELA

We decide you live! You not get killed.

Anya and Andrew SMILE!

ANYA

My plan worked!

ANDREW

You didn't have a plan.

ANYA

Oh, I know, but it sounds so good when I say it!

Daeo unlocks Anya's chains. She quickly gets to her feet, feeling the freedom.

ANDREW

Come on, set me free.

RAVIS

No. Only Anya lady. She tell stories.

ANDREW

You mean --?

KEELA

Useless man dies!

ANDREW

(nervously)

Anya...

ANYA

Well it is fair, I did read them stories.

ANDREW

What? You can't just let them kill me!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ANYA

It's not as if I'm gonna be  
cheering them on of anything but...

(beat)

I have a baby to think about now.  
Can't be the white knight when the  
armor don't fit, know what I'm  
saying?

ANDREW

(beat)

Anya!

RAVIS

Quiet!

He brings the ax up above Andrew's head.

RAVIS (cont'd)

The ritual will begin!

21 INT. SEWER TUNNELS

21

Buffy and Xander make their way through the dark tunnels,  
which has turnings every which way.

BUFFY

This place is like a labyrinth.

XANDER

We need to hurry, Buffy.

BUFFY

I know. It'd be easier if we had a  
sniffer dog... maybe we should go  
get Doodles, he could sniff 'em  
out. I mean, Anya's stench of  
pickled choc chip cookies must be  
an easy one for him to pick up.

XANDER

(beat)

She's onto the mustard now.

BUFFY

Disturbing.

(beat)

You wanna know the weirder thing?  
When I was living in my whacky  
normal reality, she had the weird  
cravings. And you guys had your own  
house, and Andrew was about to  
become some kind of scientist... I  
don't know how the hell that got in  
there.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

XANDER  
Sounds like the life to live.

BUFFY  
Yeah... but then everyone turned  
all Truman Show on me, you know?  
Started hunting me down... even  
Matilda.

XANDER  
The sweet little telekinetic girl?

BUFFY  
No, my secretary.

XANDER  
Oh.  
(beat)  
Sometimes your mind scares me.

BUFFY  
Try living with it!  
(beat)  
Okay, I think it's time to do a  
Scooby routine.

XANDER  
Split up again?

BUFFY  
Yeah.

XANDER  
Okay. But if I get caught, would  
you mind saving me?

BUFFY  
It's what I do.

XANDER  
Good to know.

They go their different ways, but as they do, a SHADOW creeps  
up in the place they were just standing. We can't see this  
figure's face, but it's lurking, watching, waiting. It then  
proceeds... following Buffy.

22 INT. SEWERS

22

Keela and Daео pull a large cauldron into the area. So  
cliche. There's boiling hot water inside, or something that  
looks like water anyway. Anya is standing by a tunnel  
entrance. Ravis turns to Andrew.

RAVIS  
Your time is up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANDREW

No it's not. It's early. Not my time yet.

RAVIS

You babble like sheep.

ANYA

He does that a lot. It's quite annoying.

ANDREW

Anya! Do something!

ANYA

Sorry. My hands are tied.

ANDREW

No they're not!

Anya looks down at her hands, as if realizing for the first time that her hands aren't actually tied.

ANYA

No, they're not. But yet I'm standing here, doing nothing...

ANDREW

That's right. Save me!

ANYA

Stuff that! I'm getting the hell out of here!

She quickly turns to the tunnel and rushes down it. The demon children watch her go, shrugging it off.

They all turn to Andrew with devilish grins.

RAVIS

It is time.

KEELA

We cook annoying man.

DAEO

We become big.

KEELA

And strong.

DAEO

Older.

RAVIS

And mean.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ANDREW

(sullen)

I think you've already got that one  
down.

The three demons GRAB Andrew, releasing him from the chains,  
and dragging him to the cauldron, where steam begins to float  
up to the ceiling.

23

INT. POLICE STATION - JACKSON'S OFFICE

23

The door opens and once again, Dan enters. He keeps the light  
off, heading to the desk. As the moonlight shines through the  
window, we catch it bounce off a blade in his hand.

DAN

This had better work.

He sticks the knife into the lock and twiddles about with it,  
trying to pick the lock, which he finally does.

DAN (cont'd)

Oh yeah. If Dan can't do it, no one  
can.

(beat)

Now to see what's in the drawer...

He pulls it open but it's too dark, he can't see what's in  
it. He reaches for the lamp, to get some light...

JACKSON (O.S)

What are you doing?

Dan shoots up as Jackson turns the light on, standing in the  
doorway, watching him. Dan looks completely shocked.

He lowers his eyes and sees what's in the drawer... a stake,  
holy water, a cross, a small bible.

DAN

What is this?

Jackson searches for his words carefully...

24

INT. SEWER TUNNELS

24

Buffy walks through, still clutching her Scythe, looking a  
little on edge. Her eyes switch from the shadows, to the  
blinking light not far from her, which makes the scene just  
that little bit more creepier.

Then she STOPS, almost as if she senses something. She's on  
RED ALERT, turning around...

Where she is confronted by the FIGURE. She SWINGS the Scythe  
but the figure blocks her attack, holding her arm.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VOICE (O.S)

Buffy!

BUFFY

What --?

Then she sees. It's ANGEL. He drops her arm. She stares in awe of him, so not who she expected to run into.

BUFFY (cont'd)

Angel?

ANGEL

Nice reflexes. Haven't changed a bit.

BUFFY

Angel?

ANGEL

You gonna say something besides my name?

BUFFY

Ang --?

(then)

What are you doing here?

ANGEL

I was passing through and thought it'd be rude not to show my face.

BUFFY

(smiles)

You thought right.

ANGEL

And, sorry to say, but it's a brief visit.

BUFFY

Seeing you for just a moment can last me the year.

ANGEL

(beat)

I heard about Dawn. I'm sorry.

BUFFY

Not your fault. And likewise about that Fred guy --

ANGEL

Girl.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BUFFY

Fred girl... seems the Old Ones got  
a little crazy last year.

ANGEL

Dragons too.

BUFFY

You heard about that, huh?

ANGEL

Heard nothing but.

A beat. Buffy notices something in his pants, some papers.

BUFFY

So, is that a scroll in your pocket  
or are you just happy to see me?

ANGEL

(smirks)

Both.

He pulls the scroll out and hands it to her.

ANGEL (cont'd)

But this is the reason I came.

BUFFY

What is it?

ANGEL

The Scroll of Sych'Rya, an ancient  
race of demons. They were heavy on  
the prophecies and it turns out,  
everything they predicted has more  
or less come true.

BUFFY

So --?

ANGEL

There's a prophecy about the  
Slayer.

BUFFY

Could mean countless Slayers, more  
than one now.

ANGEL

No. There's references to deaths...  
as in yours. We've been trying to  
translate it but we haven't got  
much. I thought maybe Giles could  
take a look, he has the whole  
Council on his side now.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Buffy nods. We see she's still a little in awe of his return.

ANGEL (cont'd)  
It's good seeing you, Buffy.

BUFFY  
I'm good to see.  
(quickly)  
I mean... yeah, you too.

She smiles at him but distant SCREAMS echo through the tunnels. Angel cocks his head.

ANGEL  
Is that --?

BUFFY  
The reason why I'm down in the  
sewers? Yeah. Anya and Andrew have  
been kidnapped.

ANGEL  
Oh. Okay.  
(beat)  
Wait a minute. That's something  
else... what the hell was last  
year? I go to Rome and find you and  
the Immortal together and Andrew  
living with you...

BUFFY  
Yeah, um, it was a spell... to make  
you believe we were really there  
and not here but you see, you were  
head of an evil law firm... or an  
evil-er law firm and we didn't --

ANGEL  
Trust me?

BUFFY  
Power corrupts.

ANGEL  
Right. I'm over it.

BUFFY  
Good. And, sorry.  
(beat)  
You wanna come save some people?

ANGEL  
(thinks)  
Sure, why not?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

They head off down the tunnel, into the darkness, just like old times.

25

INT. SEWERS

25

The demon children are lifting Andrew into the cauldron but he uses his arms and legs, frantically trying to prevent himself being thrown into the boiling fluid.

ANDREW

(shouts)

Someone help me!

He struggles with the demons. Suddenly Ravis is hit over the head with a bone. The camera turns to see ANYA!

ANYA

Mommy's home!

As she brings the bone down on Daeo, we...

**BLACK OUT.****END OF ACT THREE**

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

26 INT. SEWERS - NIGHT

26

Anya CRACKS the bone over Daeo's head, knocking him down. Keela DROPS Andrew, who quickly backs away from the extremely hot cauldron. Keela backs Anya up against the wall with her machete, waving it ferociously in the air between them.

KEELA

Anya lady ruins ritual!

ANYA

Yeah, well it's time you little rugrats had some discipline!

Anya looks around, seeing there's nowhere to run.

ANYA (cont'd)

Of course, this isn't exactly how my plan was going to go. There was supposed to be a lot more demon flesh flying.

KEELA

Anya lady must die!

Keela SWINGS the machete at her but Andrew GRABS her arm. He shakes his head in a disapproving way.

ANDREW

Didn't your mother teach you any manners?

KEELA

Mommy teach me to eat. I eat you both!

She breaks free and takes a swipe at him. He backs off, stumbling over Daeo behind him. Keela turns back to Anya.

KEELA (cont'd)

Bad Anya lady!

BUFFY (O.S)

Hey!

Keela turns to see Buffy and Angel.

BUFFY (cont'd)

Okay... wasn't expecting the muppet babies.

ANYA

Buffy, they're strong!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BUFFY

Well that makes it fair then.

Buffy advances, grabbing Keela, and THROWING her against the wall. But this doesn't stop the little demon.

She comes at Buffy, slashing with her machete. Buffy blocks the blow with the Scythe, pressing against the weapon. They come close.

KEELA

The ritual must happen. We want to be big and strong and older and mean!

BUFFY

Not gonna happen, kiddy bitch!

Buffy sweeps her leg but Keela jumps, dodging the attack, then rushes the Slayer. Both of them go down.

Angel steps in but is suddenly jumped on by Ravis, who clings to his neck. Angel struggles to get him off, but Ravis grip is strong, trying to cut the air supply off.

ANGEL

Strangling ain't gonna work...

He finally THROWS him off, sending him flying through the air. Angel picks up a fallen ax, brandishing it as if it were his own.

ANGEL (cont'd)

I'm already dead.

Angel charges him but Ravis dodges his attack, pushing him into the wall. He grabs the ax and plunges it into Angel's leg. Angel grabs the demon by his hair and pulls him up.

ANGEL (cont'd)

You little --

Angel THROWS him into the wall, knocking him out. He looks around to see -- Daeo and Anya struggling with each other. The little brat has her cornered, ready to claw her with his huge nails, but --

Xander GRABS him from behind and drags him back. Anya beams a smile, breathing hard. Xander TOSSES Daeo into the air and rushes to his girl.

ANYA

You saved me.

XANDER

I'll always save you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ANYA  
It's very romantic.  
(beat)  
I'm having sexy thoughts right now.

BUFFY (O.S)  
You little brat!

The camera turns to see Buffy holding Keela back by her head as the demon child pummels away with her fists, not actually making any impact.

BUFFY (cont'd)  
Hey!

Keela looks up.

BUFFY (cont'd)  
It's time for bed!

Buffy SMACKS her one with her fist. Keela falls to the ground as Angel drags her to where the other two are, struggling as Andrew chains them all up to the wall. Our heroes gather to look at them.

ANGEL  
Demon kids?

ANDREW  
They're scarier than I'd have  
thought.

XANDER  
Oh, I dunno... they're kinda cute.

Ravis spits some blood at them.

RAVIS  
I will eat you starting with your  
genitalia!

A beat.

BUFFY  
Sticks and stones.  
(beat)  
So what do we do with them?

ANGEL  
Send them to school?

ANYA  
A boarding school.

ANDREW  
With Slayers. Lots and lots of --

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Suddenly there is a FLASH OF GREEN LIGHT. Everyone covers their eyes until it disappears, and all that is left is an older version of these demons. She is AGUSLOS.

AGUSLOS

Oh my word! What have you kids been up to?

She comes to them, releasing them from the chains, and turning to the gang.

AGUSLOS (cont'd)

Did they cause you trouble? I'm so sorry. They're not normally like this. Except for that time they kidnapped the postman and tortured him for thirteen months but they had issues.

(beat)

Ever since their father walked out they've been nothing but tearaways. Thinks he can just leave me for a younger model! Can you believe the arrogance of some men these days?

(to Ravis)

Ravis, you should know better! Apologize to these nice mortals immediately!

RAVIS

(forced)

Sorry.

AGUSLOS

I've told you a million times before. No eating people! We're vegetarians now. The social club will look down on us if they know you've done this. I swear, one of these days you'll have us all slain.

(to the gang)

Once again, so sorry for the trouble. If you'd like, I could send you some stuffed Hoighlog?

They all shake their heads, grossed out by even the sound of it. Aguslos marches the children to an empty space as she opens up a GREEN PORTAL.

AGUSLOS (cont'd)

Come on, kids. Time to go home!

One by one, the three demon kids jump into the portal. Keela sticks her tongue out at them before disappearing. Aguslos turns back to the gang.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

AGUSLOS (cont'd)  
Please forgive them. They have no  
father figure in their lives.

And with that justification, she jumps into the portal. It  
collapses behind her. The gang exchange looks.

BUFFY  
Anyone else a little...

ANGEL  
... disappointed?

BUFFY  
I was really jonesing for a battle.

ANYA  
Look on the bright side. We coulda  
been soup.

They look on where the portal disappeared, staring for a  
moment, then start to exit through the tunnels, one by one.

ANYA (cont'd)  
I could really go for some soup  
right now.

BUFFY  
(to Angel)  
Pregnant.

ANGEL  
Right.

And, they're gone.

XANDER (O.S)  
Angel? When did you get here?

27 INT. POLICE STATION - JACKSON'S OFFICE

27

Jackson and Dan are now reversed. Jackson is at his desk,  
with the drawer closed, and Dan is by the door.

DAN  
That's it?

JACKSON  
I told you, Dan, I'm just taking  
Christianity a little more serious  
these days.

DAN  
What about the wooden thing?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACKSON  
(thinks)  
It's a door stopper.

Dan shakes his head, unconvinced.

DAN  
Something's going on with you. What happened to the old Jackson? You know, I bet this Buffy chick has something to do with this.

JACKSON  
Leave her out of this.

DAN  
How can I? She's changed you. You've got holy water and a cross in your drawer... something that looks like a stake!  
(beat)  
I'll find out what's going on. And I won't keep quiet about it.

JACKSON  
You don't know what you're saying, Dan.

DAN  
I hope for your sake, you're clean.

He looks him over before closing the door. Jackson breathes a sigh of relief before slumping into his chair.

28 EXT. SUMMERS RESIDENCE - PORCH - NIGHT

28

Angel and Buffy are standing on the porch, looking out into the streets.

BUFFY  
(laughing)  
A puppet? I can see it now!

ANGEL  
It really wasn't that funny.

BUFFY  
Uh huh.  
(beat)  
Thanks for coming, Angel. It's been a while since... just one night of feeling like my old self is good enough for me.

ANGEL  
You've had it rough.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BUFFY

Yeah but I've come to realize something. We all do. Willow, Xander... you. I know that what I feel is the way everybody else feels. And I know it's kinda twisted but that comforts me. To know I'm not alone.

Angel takes her hand.

ANGEL

You'll never be alone.

BUFFY

(smiles)

Thank you. For everything.

ANGEL

Any time you need me, I'm yours.

BUFFY

(beat)

So you're off now?

ANGEL

No rest for the wicked, especially not in LA.

BUFFY

Well, don't be a stranger.

ANGEL

Buffy, I don't think we could ever be strangers.

She smiles as he begins to walk away.

BUFFY

Hey, when I said I didn't trust you, I didn't mean --

ANGEL

I know.

BUFFY

Good.

They exchange a long look before Angel walks down the sidewalk, out of her life once again. She turns and...

29

INT. SUMMERS RESIDENCE - LOUNGE

29

... ENTERS the lounge, where Xander, Anya, and Andrew are sitting around.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

XANDER

I think we can say we successfully  
saved society from some very  
troublesome kids.

ANYA

You think ours will turn out like  
that?

XANDER

If it does, I'll know you've been  
cheating on me.

ANYA

Not like a demon! Like a horrible  
little kid nobody likes and just  
wants to kick a lot.

XANDER

How could it? We're the parents!

Anya smiles, reassured.

ANDREW

Well, I can seriously say I've seen  
it all now. Demon kids? Horrible.

BUFFY

Hey...

She turns to see Willow sitting at the table, in a meditative  
trance.

BUFFY (cont'd)

Shouldn't someone tell her it's  
over?

30

INT. GRAND LIBRARY - DAY

30

Willow is sitting on the upper level by a bookcase, with  
countless books surrounding her. She's flicking through the  
pages, desperately searching but to no avail.

She sighs, putting the book down, and reaching for another.

WILLOW

This is going to take forever.

The camera pulls back to reveal the dozens of bookcases,  
spanning from floor to ceiling, with possibly thousands of  
the biggest books you've ever seen in your life.

And then there's Willow, who's nothing but a needle, lost in  
a haystack.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

On this, we...

**BLACK OUT.**

**END OF SHOW**