

FAITH

"Warden"

by

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TEASER

FADE IN:

1

INT. OLD ASYLUM - GATEWAY ROOM - NIGHT

1

PRYOR stands before the fully illuminated Gateway, the stone archway covered by hundreds of small glyphs, markings and inscriptions, all blazing with bright white light.

Lines of power stretch out from the Gateway across the floor, walls and ceiling, and the Gateway itself HUMS with a loud, pulsing sound.

Pryor is checking energy readings off the small electronic devices he has with him, looking up as three figures enter the room - VI and ALEX, with the badly beaten FAITH supported between them.

The girls freeze as they see the highlighted Gateway, the alarm clear on their faces as they head over to Pryor. He checks over Faith with concern as they ease her to the ground.

PRYOR

Why did you bring her down here?
She needs to be in the infirmary!

ALEX

She insisted, I wasn't about to-

FAITH

Pryor, I'm...
(coughs)
... I'm alright.

She continues to COUGH, and Pryor passes her a tissue - but as she coughs into it, Vi's eyes bulge as she sees BLOOD on the tissue.

VI

(worried)
Pryor...

ALEX

(not listening)
What happened? Did it just switch
itself on or something?

PRYOR

Apparently so. My best guess is
that the energy Dennis' body was
starting to fill up with has been
used to power the Gateway somehow.

ALEX

So how do we switch it off?

(CONTINUED)

A beat. Alex's face falls - Pryor has no idea.

VI
(insistent)
Pryor!

PRYOR
Perhaps there's something in the
markings on it, some kind of
guideline on how the whole thing
operates... if I can just find a
way to-

VI
(shouts)
Pryor!

Pryor and Alex look round at last - just as Faith FAINTS and
slides to the floor, hitting the deck before Vi can catch
her. Pryor and Alex rush over, lifting her back up, and Pryor
sees blood round Faith's lips.

PRYOR
We have to get her medical
attention, right away!

VI
You think?

PRYOR
Vi, help me carry her.

They start to manhandle Faith to her feet, as Alex looks back
to the Gateway.

ALEX
Wait, what are we going to do about
this?

PRYOR
There's nothing we can do for now,
we have to help Faith!

Pryor and Vi head for the exit, and with a final glance
towards the Gateway Alex follows them, as we cut to:

A large crowd of VAMPIRES and DEMONS stand restlessly round
the lair, the cramped quarters seething with bodies.

There's a RAPPING sound as somebody bangs their fist against
a steel door to get their attention - and we pull back to
reveal EVIL FAITH, looking proudly out across her army.
DOUGLAS, the man from the Church, is at her side.

EVIL FAITH

Okay, troops, time for the rousing speech in true Summers style. You all know why you're here tonight, right?

A murmur of agreement passes through the crowd.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)

We've got a job to do, on behalf of the people this man to my right here works for.

Douglas nods to the crowd, ignoring a few cackles and comments that ripple through the vampires.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)

We're gonna hit the Asylum, because they've got something we need to get control of hidden down in their basement. I'm hoping they'll put up a fight, 'cause, let's face it, this wouldn't be much fun without one.

VAMPIRE

What about the Slayer?

VAMPIRE #2

I thought she was the Slayer or something?

The first vamp SMACKS his dense colleague.

EVIL FAITH

Didn't you hear? Little Miss 'some day I'll make amends for my dark past' ain't the girl she used to be. I am. Anyone got a problem with that?

Silence. Evil Faith grins.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)

Okay. The plan's pretty simple, 'cause I know some of you guys have trouble following directions. We go in, you kill anything that moves or has less teeth than you, and I'll take care of the important stuff. We clear?

Another murmur of agreement.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)

I said 'are we clear'?

(CONTINUED)

A louder CHEER rings out from the assorted vamps and demons, and Evil Faith turns to Douglas.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)
See that? Putty in my hands.

DOUGLAS
They'd better be. A lot's riding on
the outcome of tonight's mission,
Fai... actually, what do I call
you?

EVIL FAITH
(thinks; shrugs)
I don't care.

She turns back to the vampires, raising her fist in the air.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)
Alright, lemme see 'em!

The creatures before her PUNCH the air, their cheers and hoots of anticipation building to a frenzy, and as Evil Faith CACKLES to herself, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

3

INT. ASYLUM - INFIRMARY - NIGHT

3

Faith is carefully laid down on one of the medical room's tables as Pryor starts fussing through the supply cabinets in the background. Vi stands over Faith, holding her hand.

FAITH

What... what're you doin'?

VI

Uh, trying to... help?

FAITH

You don't need to hold my hand,
Vi... I'm good.

VI

No, you're not, Faith. But Pryor's
gonna fix you up. Then you'll be
fine. Five by five, right?

FAITH

(weak smile)

Five by five...

Pryor steps over, bandages, antiseptic and other surgical tools in his hands.

VI

What can I do to help?

PRYOR

Ideally? Go out and scout around
the area.

VI

(deflated)

Oh. I mean, shouldn't I stay here
and-

PRYOR

Vi, look at tonight's events so
far. Faith's doppelganger breaks
into the Asylum, steals an inmate
with an identical energy source
forming inside his head to the one
now pouring off the Gateway, and
then the Gateway itself activates.
It's a safe bet to say she'll be
coming back to finish what she
started.

(CONTINUED)

ALEX (O.S.)
I'll help out in here.

Vi turns as Alex walks over, rolling back her sleeves.

ALEX (cont'd)
(to Vi)
Go. We've got this.

With a last look down at Faith, who nods, Vi heads for the exit, pausing as Pryor calls out:

PRYOR
And make sure Quinn and Noa know
what's going on. We're going to
need all the help we can get for
this.

Vi nods and makes her exit. Alex lays a hand on Faith's brow as Pryor prepares a sedative - but Faith pushes his hand away.

FAITH
(shakes head)
No.

PRYOR
Faith, you've suffered a severe
beating and I'm pretty sure you've
got a cracked rib or two. You need
something for the pain.

FAITH
Said it yourself, Pryor... Evil
Me's on her way back. I can't be
out of the game when she gets here.

Pryor looks to Alex for support, but she nods.

ALEX
I'm afraid she's right. We don't
know when the double's going to
show up, and we can't afford to not
have a fighter like Faith on her
feet if that happens.

Pryor frowns, clearly not happy, but with a resigned sigh starts to clean the blood from around Faith's mouth.

PRYOR
I'll do the best I can.

FAITH
That's all I need, Pryor.

She manages a helpful smile as we cut to:

4 INT. NOA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT 4

Across town at Noa's place, QUINN and NOA are snuggled up asleep in her bed. Looks like they had plenty of steam to blow off!

Quinn's cell phone RINGS, and it takes him a few moments to come to and reach over to answer it.

QUINN
(bleary)
Hello?

Intercut with:

5 EXT. NY - STREET - NEXT 5

Vi is hurrying down the rainy city street, jacket zipped up tight against the cold.

VI
(into phone)
Jon? It's Vi. We need you and Noa
back at the Asylum.

QUINN
What's happened?

VI
Faith's been hurt, this thing
called the Gateway down in the
basement's switched itself on, and-

QUINN
(sits up)
Wait a second - what did you say?

VI
It's a really long story. Can't you
two just get over here and I'll get
Pryor to explain it all then?

Noa stirs, looking up to see Quinn on the phone.

NOA
(yawns)
Who is it?

QUINN
(into phone)
We'll be right over.

He hangs up, and Noa registers the concerned look on Quinn's face as he leaps out of bed, grabbing his trousers and pulling them on.

(CONTINUED)

NOA

Jon?

QUINN

Trouble at the mill. Faith's hurt,
and something's going on at the
Asylum. I need to get over there.

NOA

You mean 'we.' We need to get over
there.

He pauses, looking over to her, but her face wrinkles up in
indignation as she pushes herself up in bed.

NOA (cont'd)

Jon Quinn, I swear to God, if you
ever look at me and only see a
cripple again even once in your
entire life, I will spend the next
fifty years doing unspeakable
things to your body!

QUINN

I just-

NOA

Oh, this had better be good.

QUINN

(sighs)

This could be dangerous, Noa.

NOA

So?

QUINN

So, I don't want you getting hurt!

NOA

Oh, but it's alright for you to go
out and get hurt? What happened to
'we've still got each other'?

He lowers his head, and she shuffles closer to him.

NOA (cont'd)

Look, we both know that I'm not
going to be able to help the way I
used to. That doesn't mean I can't
find other, better ways to help
out! Faith's my friend. If she's
hurt, then that's where I need to
be. And, more to the point, she was
my friend first, so I get dibs in
any crisis situation with her.

(CONTINUED)

Quinn pauses - then can't help but SMILE.

NOA (cont'd)

So are you gonna help me get
dressed and get us both over there,
or am I gonna have to find a new
way to kick your ass?

QUINN

I'll get your clothes.

NOA

(nods)

Damn straight, you will.

Quinn heads for the wardrobe as we cut to:

Faith is sitting up on one of the beds, heavily bandaged and
pressing a hand to her sore head. Pryor stands before her, a
pill bottle in his hands.

FAITH

(looks up)

Should I ask what these are?

PRYOR

Something to give you a little
boost.

FAITH

See, I know I always get asked for
tabs when I'm in clubs, Pryor, but
I always figured it was because of
my jacket. You tryin' to say I look
like a junkie now?

Pryor presses the bottle into her hand.

PRYOR

It's a home made recipe. I've been
thinking of ways to help give you
some kind of an advantage over your
double, and these should help.

He heads back over to gather up his things as Faith pops open
the bottle, examining the small blue pills inside.

FAITH

What's in them?

PRYOR

A few synthetic compounds and a
dash of bogen demon saliva.

(CONTINUED)

FAITH
(grimaces)
Your sales pitch needs some work.

PRYOR
Just think of them as high strength
caffeine tablets. Pop a couple of
those just before heading into any
trouble and it'll give your whole
body a burst of speed. Could help
you take on the bad you on a more
level playing field.

FAITH
Something tells me it's gonna need
more than a few pills, but thanks.

She tucks them into her jeans pocket, and carefully swings
her legs off the bed.

PRYOR
Where are you going?

FAITH
To find something to do.

PRYOR
Faith, you don't have Slayer
healing any more. Your injuries
were pretty bad, and without you
letting me sedate you I haven't
been able to do much about them.

FAITH
I'm fine.

PRYOR
But you don't-

FAITH
(sharp)
I'm fine. Where's Alex?

Pryor stares at her, but she's not backing down. He sighs,
scratching the back of his head.

PRYOR
Main common room. She was trying to
brief the staff on what's going on.

Faith heads for the door, and calls out:

FAITH
I'm guessin' she'll need some help.

As Faith exits, we cut to:

7

INT. ASYLUM - COMMON ROOM - NEXT

7

Alex is standing before a small group of staff members, including GRAHAM and TODD, but everyone's voices are raised and Alex is having trouble getting herself heard.

ALEX

No, you're not listening to me! I'm just saying that something might be about to-

TODD

What the hell does that even mean?

GRAHAM

Dr. Salus, why did you call us all out here in the middle of the night if nothing's actually going on?

More calls for an explanation, and Alex is fighting a losing battle as she pleads for quiet.

ALEX

I'll explain everything when I can, but please listen to me, we have to-

CLANG! A loud metallic noise rings out from behind Alex, and she turns with the staff to see:

Faith, holding a fire extinguisher in one hand and a flashlight in the other, using it as a makeshift gong.

With the room's attention on her, she climbs up (with a little wince) onto one of the common room tables, looking down over the thankfully silent asylum staff.

FAITH

You're looking for an explanation? We don't have one yet. You need a reason to be out here at God-knows-o' clock? People are gonna need our help. That's why you all signed up to work here, right?

She glances over the crowd, her eyes falling on one worker.

FAITH (cont'd)

Well, maybe not you, Bill.

A nervous LAUGH passes through the crowd as she continues.

FAITH (cont'd)

I think you guys deserve a little truth, so I'm gonna break it down for you into pieces even I can understand.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FAITH (cont'd)

It's no secret that weird stuff happens here all the time - most of you have seen or heard something freaky while you've been here, and I'm pretty sure you're all open-minded enough to know that there are plenty of things out in this world that we can't explain. They're pretty, uh... unexplainable.

She pauses, losing the flow of thought a little.

FAITH (cont'd)

(mutters)

Man, this looked so easy whenever Buffy was doin' it...

GRAHAM

Faith, Alex - what's going on?

ALEX

We have reason to believe somebody's going to attack the Asylum tonight.

TODD

What? Why?

FAITH

Because there's something down in the basement, deep down in the old asylum that this place is built on.

A murmur runs through the staff - they didn't know that!

FAITH (cont'd)

These people, they're comin' here to try and take control of it from us, and I'm pretty sure that's gonna mean killing everybody in here along the way.

The staff throw alarmed glances at each other.

FAITH (cont'd)

So here's where you all get to make a choice. Trouble's coming, I won't lie about that. But it's trouble you can fight. Trouble you can kill. If any of you wants to stay and help me, Alex and my guys fight it, and protect each one of the residents in here, then step up.

(MORE)

FAITH (cont'd)

If you want to go back home and pretend none of this is real, that monsters and vampires and demons don't exist and that I'm just some crazy new girl mouthing off until she gets her meds, then turn around and walk out that door.

(beat)

Just don't be surprised if this place isn't here when you come back.

Faith falls silent, her eyes scanning the crowd. The employees glance around, each one running their own inner monologue as they try to decide what to do.

Two at the back of the group turn and walk away, heading for the exit without looking back - but Graham steps forward.

ALEX

(smiles)

Thank you, Graham.

GRAHAM

Hey, what Faith said just made more sense to me than six years at this place has done in trying to figure out what's going on. I'm in.

Faith looks back to the crowd - a few more staff step forward, but a few more leave. Todd steps up.

TODD

Something tells me you know how to help us fight these people off.

FAITH

I got a few ideas.

TODD

Are you gonna watch my back?

FAITH

(grins)

When it needs watchin,' yeah.

A few more staff follow Todd's lead - and the last few deserters turn and head for the doors. Alex surveys the volunteers as Faith hops down from the table.

ALEX

(quiet; to Faith)

Thanks for the assist. Nice speech.

FAITH

Only my second time, too. The first one didn't end well.

(CONTINUED)

ALEX

Alright, everyone, let me make this clear now so there are no questions later. The people who are coming here will have absolutely no reservations whatsoever in killing you if you get in their way.

FAITH

Which is exactly what we'll be doing.

ALEX

I don't know if any of you know how to fight already...

A few raised hands - Graham's is among them.

GRAHAM

Few years of tae kwon do at university. Nothing major.

FAITH

It's a start. I'll fill you guys in on some basics.

(to Alex)

We're gonna need weapons.

TODD

Woah, like, guns and stuff?

ALEX

A little more old school than that, I'm afraid.

(to Faith)

I'll take care of that.

Alex turns and walks off, leaving Faith with her crew of around twelve volunteers.

FAITH

Okay, let's get started. The Art Of Slaying 101.

We leave Faith and cut to:

Vi crests a fire escape ladder and jogs out across the rooftop, heading for the nearest edge and looking out over the city streets below.

The wind and rain are still kicking up a fuss, and the drenched Slayer shivers in the cold - before she sees something that gives her a whole new chill.

(CONTINUED)

Advancing slowly through an alley are a large crowd of vampires, jostling each other and laughing with expectant glee at the night ahead of them.

Vi backs away from the rooftop - then hears something over to the right. She goes to the next side of the roof to investigate.

Also heading her way is a pack of demons, at least thirty, all shapes, sizes and species but all looking as mean as the next.

Vi steps back, biting her lip, before going for her cell phone, hiding behind a maintenance hut for shelter.

VI

(into phone)

It's me. You were right - they're on their way. Well, either that or I'm about to see the most messed up version of 'West Side Story' since...

(listens)

I didn't see her, but that doesn't mean she isn't out here. I'll head back.

She snaps her phone shut and steps back out into the rain - and straight into Evil Faith!

Vi doesn't have time to react before Evil Faith PUNCHES her, knocking her to the asphalt roof.

EVIL FAITH

I spy with my little eye, something beginning with...

(kicks Vi)

'D'!

Vi COUGHS, trying to push herself up, but Evil Faith lands another KICK to her torso and knocks the wind out of her.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)

Can you guess what it is?

She reaches down and grabs Vi by the throat, lifting her to eye level and sneering at her.

VI

D-d-don't c-care...

Evil Faith rolls her eyes - and HEADBUTTS Vi, knocking her cold.

EVIL FAITH

Bzzt! Wrong! It was 'dead meat.'

(CONTINUED)

She drops the unconscious Vi and steps back, then STAMPS on her chest.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)
Oh, and your answer must be in the
form of a question.

Evil Faith scoops Vi up, slinging her over her shoulder and heading for the fire escape, as we cut to:

Pryor hurries down the corridor, head down as he roots through his bag. He almost runs straight into Alex.

PRYOR
Oh! Sorry.

ALEX
That's okay. We're done moving the
residents. How goes... whatever it
is you're doing?

PRYOR
Oh, I'm, ah, making a few
preparations. Vi just called, she
spotted a force on its way over
here.

ALEX
Care to share the details?

PRYOR
Well, logically, Faith's double is
going to need to have recruited
some manpower to storm this place,
so we can expect a sizeable group
of either vampires or demons to
attack with her. Possibly both.

They start to head back towards the common rooms.

PRYOR (cont'd)
With that in mind, I've taken the
liberty of setting up a few
diversions between here and the
Gateway chamber.

ALEX
Like what?

PRYOR
I've started to set up some
barricades and rudimentary traps,
but I could use a hand finishing
things off.

Alex lifts her hands with a smile.

ALEX
Here's two. Good enough?

PRYOR
(smiles back)
Perfect.

They hold that smile for a beat - and are distracted by:

QUINN (O.S.)
Pryor!

They turn, broken out of their moment, to see Quinn and Noa heading towards them. Pryor can't help but stare at Noa in her wheelchair - it's the first time he's seen her in it.

QUINN (cont'd)
We came over soon as we got the
call from Vi.

NOA
Where's Faith?

A beat - Noa scowls as she realises Pryor is still processing the sight of her in the chair. She SWATS his leg.

NOA (cont'd)
Pryor! Focus, and stop staring!

PRYOR
Sorry. I was-

NOA
Well, don't.

They head back towards the common room, but freeze as they hear the sound of a window SMASHING - followed by another, and then another.

10 INT. ASYLUM - COMMON ROOM - NEXT

10

Faith spins round at the sound, the group of employees before her paused halfway through some basic combat moves.

FAITH
(narrows eyes)
Game time.

She grits her teeth and turns back to the staff, as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

11 INT. ASYLUM - RECEPTION - NIGHT

11

The reception stands empty and silent for a few beats - until the main doors are SMASHED as a rain of bricks hit them.

Several burly vampires crash their way through, wrenching the doors out of the way and letting their comrades pour in after them.

As the vampires spread out, covering every way into the reception for any signs of life, Evil Faith strolls in through what's left of the doors.

She scans the asylum - the main lights are all off, and there isn't a soul in sight.

EVIL FAITH

(tuts)

How do you like that. We come all
this way for a party, and
everybody's gone home early!

She turns to a beefy LAMINGO DEMON that thuds into frame next to her - ninety per cent muscle and teeth.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)

Be a good boy and find us all
something to kill, will ya?

The demon GRUNTS and lumbers off down one of the corridors. Evil Faith looks around with a frown as more vampires and demons scamper off down other corridors.

She points to three vamps standing nearby and gestures for them to come over.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)

You guys are with me.

VAMP #1

What are we going after?

EVIL FAITH

She's here... somewhere. I just
don't know where yet.

VAMP #2

Uh... who?

EVIL FAITH

(scowls)

Me, you dumbass! The other me!

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

The vamps swap glances, still a long way behind the learning curve, and with a dark look Evil Faith marches on, into:

12 INT. ASYLUM - COMMON ROOM - NEXT

12

Evil Faith enters the common room to find it just as deserted as everywhere else - but all the tables and chairs pushed noticeably to either side of the room.

As the sounds of more SMASHING echoes round the asylum, Evil Faith takes another step forward before freezing.

VAMP #2

What is it?

Evil Faith holds up a hand for the vamp to be quiet, frowning. We push in and an odd sound can be heard - a kind of HISSING...

EVIL FAITH

(eyes bulge)

Get down!

She SHOVES one of the vamps down as a huge gout of FLAME blasts across the room, catching the other two vamps and sending them up in flames.

They HOWL in agony for a few beats before DUSTING in unison, and as the flames disappear, they reveal the source:

Faith. A hastily jury rigged flamethrower is in her hands - a gas canister with a small flame mounted before the nozzle.

FAITH

Asking 'is it hot in here?' just feels kinda lame right now...

Evil Faith SNARLS, leaping to her feet and advancing on Faith. She THROWS the canister towards her, but Evil Faith dodges it - and it SLAMS into the final vamp.

EVIL FAITH

Nice trick, hiding everybody, making me split my boys up. Pity it's only bought you an extra thirty seconds.

FAITH

You think I need that much to kick your ass?

EVIL FAITH

Thirty does seem kinda generous. How does ten sound?

Faith just GRINS - and with a YELL, Evil Faith ATTACKS!

(CONTINUED)

Faith gets her defences up, blocking the flailing punches and kicks Evil Faith throws at her, but gets driven back to the wall by the sheer force of the onslaught.

She DUCKS as Evil Faith PUNCHES and hits the wall - cracking the plaster! Faith ducks back up and KICKS her double in the chest, taking the advantage back.

Faith keeps the pressure up, grabbing a chair and SMASHING it across Evil Faith, before smoothly grabbing one of the splintered chair legs and STAKING the vampire as it rushes her. Faith grins as the vamp DUSTS.

FAITH

Not bad for a normal, huh? Guess
Pryor's pills are workin' after
all...

Her smugness is short-lived - Evil Faith SWEEPS her to the ground, landing a few good PUNCHES before Faith can throw her off. Faith gets to her feet, and Evil Faith ROARS as she TACKLES her, driving the two backwards...

... and with a CRASH, the duo blast through one of the glass panels sectioning off the common room, landing in a sprawling heap in the corridor, showered by broken glass.

Faith is slow to recover, and Evil Faith takes over, KICKING her in the chest and grabbing her arm, WRENCHING it back - and then SLAMMING Faith face first into the floor!

Evil Faith grabs a handful of Faith's hair and pulls her head back, turning her to see another pack of demons advancing down the corridor towards them.

EVIL FAITH

See that, little sister? That's the
end of your world.

FAITH

You know what it looks like to me?
A load of sh-

WHAM! Evil Faith clocks our girl again and tosses her to the floor, standing victoriously over her.

EVIL FAITH

What, you thought you could hold us
off all by yourself? Nothing's
gonna stop me getting to that
Gateway, and when I do, you're
gonna wish you'd stayed in that
Arena when you had the chance!

Faith stares back up at her - but then starts to GRIN. Evil Faith's own smile drops as Faith begins LAUGHING.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)
The hell's so funny?

Faith just continues to LAUGH, and as a large, jet black demon reaches Evil Faith, they peer down in confusion at her.

DEMON #1
What's the matter with her?

EVIL FAITH
Beats me. Guess I must've hit her
too hard, I think she's lost-

QUINN (O.S.)
Now!!

Evil Faith's head snaps up - and with a CHEER, Quinn leads the staff who stayed to fight in a charge against the demons, the white-uniformed men and women crashing into the pack.

The staff are all armed - swords, knives, axes and daggers - and throw themselves at the intruders as best they can.

Evil Faith hesitates for a beat - and that's all the time Faith needs to spring back to her feet and KICK her in the chest.

Evil Faith stumbles backwards, landing on her ass as Faith grabs an axe from Quinn and BEHEADS the demon before her.

FAITH
(to Quinn)
Nice timing.

QUINN
No problem.

They turn to Evil Faith as she picks herself back up. Around them, the demons are holding off the staff, but clearly weren't ready for a fight as the staff get several lucky hits in on the fearsome demons.

EVIL FAITH
You think this makes a difference?
A few geeks in white shirts playing
hero?

FAITH
It's a start, yeah. But like a
wiser man than me once said, always
have a plan 'b.'

She puts her fingers in her mouth and WHISTLES - and with a second cheer, several doors in the corridor behind her fly open, and a surge of RESIDENTS storm out and rush towards the attacking demons!

Evil Faith is wide-eyed in shock as the fully armed residents join the melee, pushing the surprised demons back.

EVIL FAITH

What the...

FAITH

Turns out I'm actually pretty good
at pep talks. Who knew?

Evil Faith SNARLS, then spins on her heel and runs back down the corridor. Quinn starts to follow her, but Faith stops him, passing the axe back to him.

FAITH (cont'd)

I got her.

QUINN

You sure?

FAITH

(nods)

You're needed up here.

She turns and runs, following her doppelganger, as Quinn selects a target and launches himself into the fray.

Alex is down by the entrance to a large room - and inside are rows and rows of shelves, the remnants of an armoury on display, with swords, axes and other weapons.

Alex is handing a sword to an eager RESIDENT, whose eyes light up as he gets it.

ALEX

Alright, now, you know what to do,
right?

RESIDENT

Go upstairs, find Mr. Quinn, kill
the scary monsters.

ALEX

(beat)

That's right.

He rushes off, and Alex watches him go with a concerned look before heading off to:

15

INT. OLD ASYLUM - BARRICADE - NEXT

15

Pryor, Graham and Noa are behind a set of barricades - large storage crates, chunks of plaster and brick, and anything else to hand - fencing off this part of the complex.

The barricade walls are about six feet high, with gaps in between the pieces for firing back. A small adaptor runs from a wall socket, and Pryor is using it to power what looks like an oversized bug zapper.

Pryor looks up as Alex heads over, tossing her a flashlight as he sets down a row of small, grenade-like devices.

ALEX

Please reassure me that I didn't just break every single ethical code known to man by letting Faith talk me into arming my residents and sending them into a fight?

A beat as Pryor and Noa glance at each other, and Alex GROANS.

PRYOR

They wanted to help, Alex. We should be lucky that it was the more lucid residents here that offered their services.

ALEX

What if any of them get killed?

NOA

Then we'd better hope we win.

GRAHAM

Besides, I'd have thought a crazy person stands a better chance in a fight against one of those things. Less chance of getting scared.

Alex steps up, picking up one of the small objects.

ALEX

What are these?

PRYOR

Smoke grenades. Our best chance of keeping them from finding the Gateway is to get them lost in the old asylum complex, so the more we can distract and divert them, the better.

(CONTINUED)

NOA

Plus, isolated vamps and demons
are, like, a lot easier to pick
off. Even for a girl like me.

Alex looks down and sees a CROSSBOW across Noa's lap, with
plenty of spare bolts stuffed into the pockets of her chair.

NOA (cont'd)

(pats chair)

Figures I'd get to road test this
thing while fighting for my life at
the same time, huh?

PRYOR

Noa, you don't-

She holds up a finger to cut him off.

NOA

Yes, I do, and don't make have to
say that again.

Alex looks up as she hears something THUD into the ground
above them.

GRAHAM

(edgy)

They're coming this way...

PRYOR

We'll be alright for a while yet.
They may not even know the way down
here, so we should-

With a loud THUNK, the lights all suddenly go out.

PRYOR (cont'd)

... be safe.

NOA

(worried)

Pryor...

The group switch on their flashlights, sweeping their beams
through the gloom.

PRYOR

They cut the power.

ALEX

Or she did. Faith's double. She's
the only one I know for certain who
knows how to get down here.

(CONTINUED)

NOA

Then let's all hope Faith and Jon's
diversion upstairs is working, huh?

Pryor and Alex exchange a troubled look as we cut to:

INT. ASYLUM - COMMON ROOM - NEXT

Quinn CHOPS down a demon, hacking into it a second time to
finish it off. He's plashed with blood - some of it green and
demonic, some of it red and human.

He looks around - some of the staff and residents have
fallen, but their surprise attack seems to have worked, if
the dead demon carcasses littering the corridor are anything
to go by!

QUINN

Alright, everybody who can still
fight, follow me. Everyone who
can't, take cover down in the old
asylum and wait for us.

Quinn hurries forward, catching up to Todd as he passes him.

QUINN (cont'd)

Hey, have you seen Vi?

TODD

The little redhead girl? No, man, I
don't think she showed up.

Quinn frowns, then gathers the surviving fighters into two
groups as several people limp off down the corridor.

QUINN

Okay, here's the plan. Two groups,
one to each wing. You find anything
that doesn't look human, you take
it out. You run into too many
things at once, fall back and get
to the basement.

TODD

Got it.

QUINN

Todd, you take the second team.

TODD

(shocked)
W-what?

QUINN

No offence, but I can't remember
anyone else's name.

(CONTINUED)

SCOTT

I'm Scott.

DEAN

Uh, I'm Dean.

RACHEL

My name's Rachel.

STEVE

And I'm Steve.

QUINN

(beat)

Let's go!

The two teams split up, roughly eight people each, and as they race off to find the rest of Evil Faith's crew, we cut back down to:

INT. OLD ASYLUM - BARRICADE - NEXT

Pryor is trying and failing to get the bug zapper working from a small generator, as Alex moves forward, hearing the sound of FOOTSTEPS echoing round the corridors. Her walkie-talkie CRACKLES, and she answers it.

ALEX

This is Dr. Salus.

TODD

(filtered; through radio)

It's Todd. We could use some light up here, Doc, things are getting kinda crazy!

ALEX

We're in an insane asylum, Todd, could you be a little more specific?

QUINN

(filtered; through radio)

What he's trying to say is that we're trying to fight a large number of nocturnal creatures, who have excellent night vision... in the dark. Light would be a Good Thing right about now.

ALEX

Understood.

(to Pryor)

We need to get the power back on.

(CONTINUED)

PRYOR

No, it's too risky. She'll expect someone to try and will most likely have it guarded.

GRAHAM

How do you know?

PRYOR

That's what I'd do.

ALEX

What about my office?

NOA

What about it?

ALEX

I can get to the backup circuit breakers in there, maybe I can get some of the systems back up. And besides, there's more supplies in there I didn't get chance to prepare, a few spell components and vials of holy water, and...

She trails off as she realises Graham is staring at her.

ALEX (cont'd)

What?

GRAHAM

Huh? Oh, nothing. I'm just... I'm just seeing a whole new side to you tonight, that's all.

ALEX

Get used to it.

She starts to head back down the corridor, but stops as Pryor calls after her:

PRYOR

Wait! You can't go alone!

He starts to climb over the barricade to follow her, but Graham grabs his arm to stop him.

GRAHAM

I'll go. You stay here and finish what you can.

ALEX

Besides, I know this place better than anyone.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

17

CONTINUED: (2)

17

ALEX (cont'd)
I can get us there and back without
anybody seeing us in no time.

Pryor hesitates and looks to Alex. She nods, and he
reluctantly climbs back to find Noa glaring at him.

PRYOR
What did I do now?

NOA
You were just gonna leave me here!
You were all ready to run off and
follow your new girlfriend, and
leave me down here with that Graham
guy!
(beat)
The one with the B.O.!

PRYOR
No, I was--
(beat; closes eyes)
I'm sorry. I didn't think.

Noa SIGHS loudly and picks up her crossbow.

NOA
(bitterly)
Great. We're all dead...

Pryor watches Alex and Graham head off, as we cut to:

18

INT. ASYLUM - CORRIDOR - NEXT

18

A fire door opens to reveal Alex and Graham, who creep out
into the corridor, keeping their torches off.

Alex stops as she sees a BODY at the end of the corridor -
it's one of the staff members. She allows herself a moment
before moving on, with Graham nervously following.

19

INT. ASYLUM - 'D' WING WALKWAY - NEXT

19

Faith runs into frame, out of breath, over in another part of
the asylum - a steel mesh covers the walkway she's on, like a
prison layout, with a row of cells on her level and another
below.

She doubles over, heaving for air - she's clearly been
running for some time, but as she stands and looks round,
it's also clear that she's lost Evil Faith.

FAITH
Damn it!

She KICKS the walkway, takes a moment and hurries on, as we
cut back to:

20

INT. ASYLUM - CANTEEN - NEXT

20

Alex and Graham creep across the canteen, weaving between the tables and chairs - until a FLASH of lightning startles Graham, and he bumps into one of the chairs with a loud SCRAPE.

ALEX

(hisses)

Graham! Be careful!

GRAHAM

I'm sorry! It's not like I can see where I'm going, is it?

They head on as the storm raging outside hammers rain at the windows, and more LIGHTNING illuminates the canteen.

Alex hears a distant SCREAM and freezes, closing her eyes and taking a deep breath before carrying on.

GRAHAM (cont'd)

So, uh, Dr. Salus?

ALEX

Yes?

GRAHAM

Just to satisfy my own curiosity, are you...

ALEX

Am I what?

GRAHAM

A witch?

ALEX

(smirks)

No.

GRAHAM

Oh. So are you, maybe, part of some kind of... cult?

ALEX

Not exactly.

GRAHAM

Right.

(beat)

So what's the deal with seeming to know about what's going on?

Alex sighs and turns to him.

(CONTINUED)

ALEX

Graham, if we survive tonight, I promise to tell you absolutely everything. Hell, I'll make you a supervisor if you promise not to ask me any more questions!

GRAHAM

Okay. I suppose that's a fair deal.

She turns and moves on, not noticing Graham pause and turn round.

She's taken a few more steps when she turns back to address him again - and Graham is gone! Startled, Alex looks round the empty canteen.

ALEX

(whispers)

Graham? Graham! Where are you?

She hears another SCREAM followed by a deeper ROAR from somewhere close by, so with an anxious expression she carries on her way.

She reaches the door, pausing to take one last look around the canteen - and as she turns her back to the door, a FLASH of lighting illuminates Evil Faith, waiting for her in the doorway with a sickening grin....

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

21 INT. OLD ASYLUM - BARRICADE - NIGHT

21

Still behind their barricade, Pryor and Noa wait for a signal that things have gone to plan above them. Noa's crossbow rests on a gap in the barricade, giving her a wide field of fire as Pryor tinkers with more devices behind her.

NOA

Pryor! I think I hear something!

He moves over, squinting as they peer down the darkened corridor - and hear FOOTSTEPS, coming their way.

PRYOR

(whispers)

Get ready.

She draws the crossbow string back, narrowing her eyes as Pryor takes out a flare gun.

Something moves in the shadows up ahead, getting nearer every second - but it's Quinn who steps out of the darkness, with three bloodied and battered staff members behind him and half a dozen residents following them.

NOA

(relieved)

Jon!

QUINN

(breathless)

Hey, honey.

NOA

Are you alright? What happened?

QUINN

We took out as many as we could, but there's still too many of those things up there.

PRYOR

Did you see Alex? I can't get her to answer her radio.

QUINN

No, why? Where is she?

NOA

She went to put the power back on.

QUINN

That'd sure help.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL

Uh, Mr. Quinn?

QUINN

It's just 'Jon,' Rachel.

RACHEL

Jon, right. Uh... what now?

QUINN

Get behind the barricades, grab a moment to recover and get ready for round two.

The disheartened employees clamber over the barricade as Noa waits for Quinn to join her. He flops down next to her, and she leans over to KISS him.

NOA

Hey.

QUINN

Hey yourself.

(off crossbow)

I thought you hated those things?

NOA

I do, but we're kind of in a 'desperate measures' situation here. Plus, it's the only thing Pryor had lots of ammo for.

QUINN

Any sign of Faith?

PRYOR

No, have you seen her?

QUINN

She went after the bad version of her, that's the last I saw of her.

NOA

Well, Twin Bitch hasn't made it this far yet, so maybe Faith took her out?

PRYOR

Unlikely, I'm afraid.

Quinn surveys the corridor - hearing ROARS of approaching demons echoing round the corridors.

QUINN

Looks like they found a way down here...

(CONTINUED)

PRYOR

Everybody, take your positions!

NOA

'Everybody' implies there's more than, like, twelve of us, Pryor.

PRYOR

Just get ready!

Pryor hands out a smoke grenade to each person.

PRYOR (cont'd)

Use these when they start getting close, it'll buy us a little time.

NOA

Oh, yeah, cause we need lots of that.

QUINN

She's got a point, Pryor, in her own little way. We can hold them off down here, but we're outnumbered and out-clawed at the moment. We need a plan 'b.'

Pryor nudges the bug zapper by his foot.

PRYOR

And if Alex gets the power back on, then we've got one.

Quinn and Noa swap a puzzled look as we cut back to:

Faith steps cautiously into the canteen, pausing as she hears something THUD nearby. She draws a stake from her jacket, gripping it tightly as she advances.

She gets half way across the canteen when she hears a loud SCRAPING noise and spins round - but it's a tree outside, blown against the canteen windows by the storm.

She starts again - and TRIPS as her foot connects with something on the floor!

Faith stumbles, crashing into one of the tables with a long SCRAPE, and as she looks back to the floor, she recoils in alarm as LIGHTNING shows her what she hit.

Graham's dead body lies sprawled on the floor, his throat cut. Faith crouches next to him, places two fingers against his neck and closes her eyes.

FAITH
(quietly)
Sorry, man. You deserved better.

She reaches over to close his eyelids, then stands and grips her stake again, full of extra resolve.

She moves slowly forward, sensing that something bad is lurking nearby and still tense from finding Graham, when she spots something on the floor up ahead.

It's Alex, face down, sprawled awkwardly on the tiled canteen floor.

FAITH (cont'd)
Alex!

She hurries over, turning Alex onto her back and checking her over. Alex doesn't appear to have a mark on her, but before Faith can do any more:

CRACK! A boot lashes into frame, catching Faith on the side of the head and knocking her off her feet.

She skids across the floor, her stake skittering away from her, and Faith looks up to see Evil Faith looming over her.

EVIL FAITH
Ah, ah, ah! Hands off the merchandise, toots.

SMACK! Evil Faith hits her again, and the stunned Faith can only watch as Evil Faith walks calmly over to Alex, scooping her up and slinging her over one shoulder.

Evil Faith pauses in the canteen doorway as the dizzy Faith tries to get back to her feet.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)
See you downstairs, little sister.

Evil Faith is gone in a flash, and Faith stumbles over to the doorway, shaking her head to clear the cobwebs. As she hurries out of the canteen, we cut to:

The sounds of an approaching pack of vampires and demons reverberates down the gloomy asylum corridor towards Pryor and the others, holed up behind their barricade and grimly clutching what weapons they have.

Torches mounted on the barricade can't cut far into the gloom, but indistinct SHAPES can be seen moving slowly towards them.

NOA

(gulps)

Okay Pryor, now would be a great time to have one of those last minute brainwaves we all love you so much for...

PRYOR

Like I said, once Alex gets the power back on, we'll be-

QUINN

Let's assume for a second she doesn't. What happens then? Is there a plan 'c' at least?

PRYOR

(beat)

Hopefully, it won't come to that.

NOA

(scared)

Oh, God...

She grabs Quinn and pulls him down to her level.

NOA (cont'd)

You remember all that stuff I was saying earlier about how I wanted to stay in the fight and not get left out? Well...

QUINN

Don't worry. We're going to get through this. All of us.

NOA

Okay, usually your optimism is really cute and endearing, but right now it's turning sharply towards 'boneheaded.'

QUINN

Faith and Vi are still out there, remember? We've got backup on the way.

Noa looks up - and sees the first wave of snarling DEMONS start to advance out of the darkness and into the light.

NOA

Come on, Faith... save our asses!

As she lifts her crossbow, we cut to:

24 INT. OLD ASYLUM - CORRIDOR - NEXT

24

Faith clatters down a staircase leading down from the main asylum, looking left and right as she steps into the darkened corridor.

She hears the sound of the horde of vampires and demons as they head towards the barricade and the Gateway room that lies beyond it, and heads towards the noise - but then she pauses.

She turns round, narrowing her eyes as a thought hits her, before she takes off down the other path.

25 INT. OLD ASYLUM - BARRICADE - NEXT

25

Quinn has his handgun ready, Pryor levels his flare gun and Noa aims her crossbow, as Todd and another staff member prepare to hurl their grenades.

A solid wall of demonic flesh advances on them, with the vampires behind eagerly HISSING at the fresh meat ahead.

PRYOR

Wait...

NOA

Pryor, this isn't 'Zulu'! Start shooting already!

PRYOR

Closer...

QUINN

Pryor, you'd better have a damn good reason for this!

PRYOR

Just a little more...

The first batch of demons are ready to pounce, and the residents are backing up, terrified...

PRYOR (cont'd)

Now!

He SHOOTS his flare gun - and it sails over the heads of the demons.

NOA

Pryor!! You missed them! All of them!

There's an EXPLOSION as the flare goes off - and a rapid series of more smaller EXPLOSIONS suddenly rip down the corridor - triggered by Pryor's flare.

(CONTINUED)

Quinn and Noa watch, shocked, as the demons and vamps are torn apart by the cascade of fire that washes over them, and in moments over two dozen of the creatures are dead or dusted. Most likely both.

NOA (cont'd)
(stunned)
How did-

PRYOR
(grins)
I set that up while you were
fiddling with those crossbow bolts
earlier.

NOA
Okay, I take back every bad thing I
ever said about-

QUINN
Second wave, coming in!

The group quickly snap back to attention as the next wall of vampires charges forward, some LEAPING through the air towards the barricade!

Pryor grabs a smoke grenade as two more are THROWN out into the corridor, with Quinn and Noa SHOOTING anything that gets too close.

A vampire makes it to the top of the barricade, reaching forward and grabbing Todd!

TODD
Aah! Help!

Quinn tries to pry the vampire's hands away, but it's too strong, and the snarling vamp draws the terrified Todd closer to his fangs...

... until it DUSTS with a sudden gulp - and a crossbow bolt falls from the air. Quinn catches Todd as he falls, turning to Noa as she quickly reloads.

NOA
What? I said I didn't like it, I
never said I didn't know how to use
it!

Quinn grins, quickly pushing Todd to one side as another vamp tries to jump over the barricade. He TACKLES the vamp, and the two crash to the ground.

NOA (cont'd)
Jon!!

(CONTINUED)

The huge lamingo demon reaches over the barricade as Pryor tries to beat it back, grabbing one of the screaming residents and drawing him closer.

Pryor quickly tries to reload his flare gun, but he's too late to stop the demon taking a BITE out of the resident.

As the demon throws back its head and ROARS, Pryor takes the chance to jam the flare gun into its mouth.

PRYOR

Fire in the hole!

BLAM! He fires - and the demon's head EXPLODES, showering the team with blood and meat. As the demon falls, two more take its place, snapping and roaring at the defenders.

Quinn PUNCHES the vamp he's attacking, trying to get to a nearby stake, but the vamp grabs his hand and YANKS his arm back - and Quinn HOWLS in pain as his recently dislocated shoulder is hurt again!

Noa tries to get to him but a vampire gets a hand through the barricade and grabs her crossbow, and she can't pry it free.

She calls out to Quinn again, as the smirking vampire bares its fangs with a HISS - and the lights SWITCH ON!

The vampire YELPS, throwing up its hands to shield its eyes, and Quinn quickly grabs the stake and DUSTS the vamp.

NOA

Help!

Quinn runs to Noa, takes the crossbow from her hands and TWISTS it round, and the vampire's wrist SNAPS.

PRYOR

(looks to lights)

There you go! Told you she'd do it!

He looks down to the device by his feet - and it starts to GLOW with a neon blue light.

TODD

What is that thing?

PRYOR

Plan 'b.'

Pryor rotates the device so a grille on its front is facing the barricades - then hits a button on its top.

A blue WAVE of energy zaps out from the device, and all the demons rocking the barricade back and forth are knocked off their feet!

(CONTINUED)

Quinn takes advantage of the break to reload his gun - but Noa spots something up ahead and points.

NOA

Look!

The team look up - and Faith is there, racing past the stunned demons as they try to get back up, VAULTING over the top of the barricade before any can take a swing for her.

NOA (cont'd)

Faith! You did it!

Faith grimaces, clutching her side - that display of athletics took a lot out of her.

NOA (cont'd)

Are you alright?

FAITH

I'm good. Five by-

NOA

(finishes; grins)

Five.

FAITH

Didn't expect to see you down here.

NOA

Hey, every Xena needs her Gabrielle, right?

QUINN

I take it we have you to thank for the lights coming back?

FAITH

Remembered there's another power switch down here, figured nobody'd be guarding it.

PRYOR

So... you didn't see Alex either?

Faith turns to him with a dark expression, and Pryor's face falls.

PRYOR (cont'd)

(softly)

Oh, no...

FAITH

Pryor, I'm not sure she was-

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL

They're coming back!

The staff member raises her axe as the surviving demons and vamps start to advance on the barricade again.

QUINN

Pryor, how long till that box of yours can fire again?

PRYOR

Another thirty seconds.

NOA

(loading crossbow)

One... two... three...

FAITH

I gotta go.

QUINN

What? Where?

FAITH

The Gateway room. Evil Me said 'see you downstairs.'

PRYOR

That doesn't mean-

FAITH

It's a diversion, Pryor. This whole thing. She knows another way in and knew we'd be too busy here to stop her.

She takes off, rounding the corner behind them and running out of view. Pryor calls after her:

PRYOR

But what about Alex? Faith!

She's gone. He turns back to the barricade.

NOA

Fourteen... fifteen...

Pryor picks up a sword, his face a mask of grim determination as we cut to:

Faith skids round another corner and into the Gateway chamber - and stumbles to a halt at what she sees!

(CONTINUED)

Evil Faith is standing by the Gateway's left hand arch, reaching a hand up towards a large, diamond-shaped glyph.

On the floor before her are the unconscious forms of Alex - and Vi! Evil Faith turns to see Faith and smirks...

... then presses her hand against the glyph. Faith suddenly GRIMACES and reaches for her sleeve, pulling it back to see that her tattoo is GLOWING!

FAITH

What the...

She looks up as there is a sudden BLAZE of blue-white light, and a swirling PORTAL appears in the centre of the Gateway!

EVIL FAITH

Huh.

FAITH

Alright, don't move!

EVIL FAITH

(sniggers)

'Don't move'? The hell kind of a threat is that, coming from you?

Faith cracks her knuckles and puts up her dukes.

FAITH

Why don't you come find out?

EVIL FAITH

You don't get it, do you?

Evil Faith steps forward, past the two bodies on the floor. Faith keeps her gaze on her double.

FAITH

What's to 'get'? I'm the good twin, you're the evil twin.

EVIL FAITH

I'm so much more than that, little sister.

FAITH

Stop calling me that!

EVIL FAITH

Kind of appropriate, though.
Without you, I wouldn't be here!
I'm everything that's bad, wicked,
evil, dirty, immoral and just plain
wrong with you. And the best part?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)

There was enough of it to make a whole other person. Makes you feel all fuzzy inside, don't it?

FAITH

I'm gonna enjoy ripping your-

EVIL FAITH

(wags finger)

Nu-uh. No can do. That's the Catch-22 in all this. I can't kill you and you can't kill me, not without us both going down. Mutually assured destruction. That's the way these tothric demon spells work, didn't you know that?

Faith frowns, her eyes flicking to Alex and Vi.

FAITH

So what's the plan with them?

EVIL FAITH

The daily sacrifice.

Faith pauses - and Evil Faith jumps back, grabbing both Alex and Vi and dragging them back to the edge of the portal before Faith can take two steps forward.

She grins, taunting Faith as she hovers just at the mouth of the raging vortex.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)

Only got time to save one of them... so who's it gonna be?

Faith looks desperately from Alex to Vi, until Evil Faith rolls her eyes.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)

Too slow!

FAITH

No! Wait!

Evil Faith turns - and hurls Alex into the Gateway! Her body vanishes through the portal, and Faith is knocked off her feet as a WAVE of energy passes through the room.

EVIL FAITH

(giggles)

Woo... brain freeze!

Faith looks up in horror as Evil Faith gives her a little wave - and then JUMPS through the portal!

(CONTINUED)

Faith springs to her feet and races over, but stops as Vi GROANS and stirs.

VI

Faith...

FAITH

Vi! Are you alright?

VI

Nothing... serious...

Faith helps her up, her eyes locked on the portal.

VI (cont'd)

What's going on?

Faith stares at the portal - and knows what she has to do.

FAITH

Vi, I want you to get out of here
and follow the corridor round to
the right. Pryor and the others are
holding off the bad guys and they
need some help.

VI

Pryor... bad guys... right.
(blinks)
Wait, where are you going?

Faith steps away from her, and Vi's eyes go wide as she realises what Faith is planning.

VI (cont'd)

Faith, no! Wait a second! You can't-

But Faith is already running - and with a YELL, she jumps forward, sailing through the portal - and we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

27

INT. GATEWAY - BLUE CORRIDOR - NIGHT

27

Faith stands before us, eyes closed, in a long and plain corridor, the whole scene covered with a deep blue light.

Her eyes open, and she starts to move her head round - her motions are slow and dream-like, with little blurs of movement following her.

The corridor looks like one from inside the Asylum, but seems to stretch off into infinity in both directions as she turns to look.

She takes a step forward, the sound of her footsteps ringing out much louder than usual, echoing down the corridor.

She starts to run, picking up the pace but not making any headway, the end of the corridor still stretching away from her no matter how fast she runs.

She soon comes to a stop, the growing frustration showing on her face as she looks round for some other way to go. There are doors set into the wall and she tries one - it's open!

Faith glances round again, then carefully opens the door - and Evil Faith BURSTS out from beyond, landing a solid PUNCH that knocks Faith on her ass!

Faith bangs her head against the opposite wall and slumps to the ground, as Evil Faith towers over her.

EVIL FAITH

Grass ain't so greener on the other side, is it?

Evil Faith allows herself a chuckle - but she isn't counting on Faith, who suddenly leaps to her feet and TACKLES Evil Faith, sending the two of them flying through the open doorway!

The door SLAMS shut after them, and we stay in the empty, silent blue corridor for a beat before we cut back to:

28

INT. OLD ASYLUM - BARRICADE - NIGHT

28

A heap of dead demon bodies lie at the base of the barricade, but that's giving the rest of Evil Faith's force the leverage they need to start climbing over!

The team are doing their best to fight back - another point blank shot from Pryor's flare gun sends a demon flying backwards in flames - but things don't look good...

(CONTINUED)

... until Vi skids round the corner and into view, quickly assessing the situation and grabbing an axe from a resident cowering on the floor.

NOA
(sees her)
Vi! Where have-

Vi's not listening. She's clicking into Slayer Mode, leaping forwards with a YELL and burying her axe in the skull of the nearest demon!

It doesn't even have time to sag before she's snatched the stake from Quinn's hand and vaulted back over the barricades, charging in to the attack!

The stunned team watch for a beat, before Pryor comes to his senses and yells at the others:

PRYOR
Cover her!

Quinn and Noa quickly OPEN FIRE, and as Vi takes the fight to the vampires Quinn leads a second charge, with the remaining staff and residents following him over and barging into the rest of the demons.

Vi is a blur of movement, her Slayer reflexes kicking in as she darts left and right, DUSTING two vampires in quick succession, ducking a clumsy swing from a demon and burying her foot in its stomach.

She kicks back off the demon, crashing into another vampire and STAKING him before he can recover.

Quinn is right by her side, his axe taking off a demon's arm before he takes a bad GASH from another attacking demon, a hairy, yeti-like creature.

He staggers back, and the demon rears up to attack him again - but a crossbow bolt spears into one of its eyes, and the creature falls back with a HOWL.

Quinn turns to nod a thanks to Noa, who is busy reloading as Pryor prepares to fire his wave device again.

NOA
Won't that hurt Jon and Vi and the others?

PRYOR
It doesn't affect humans.

NOA
Are you sure?

PRYOR

(beat)

Reasonably.

NOA

Pryor! Don't-

With a loud ZAP, the device fires again, sending another wave of BLUE ENERGY down the corridor - and thankfully, Quinn and the others are unaffected.

They make short work of the downed demons and vampires, and as the bloodied but unbowed crew look up, only a handful of vampires are left.

Her breathing fast and a blazing look of Slayer fury in her eyes, Vi takes one step towards the vampires, pointing her stake towards them.

VI

So are you next?

The vamps swap glances - then bug out, deciding anything is better than taking on the crazy Slayer!

As they dash off round the corner, Vi's burst of adrenaline runs dry, and she sags, almost falling as Quinn catches her.

QUINN

Easy, I've got you.

VI

Faith...

QUINN

What?

VI

Faith, she... she went into that thing...

Quinn turns to Noa and Pryor, and his dark look is returned by them as we cut to:

Faith and Evil Faith tumble out through a doorway and into a mirrored version of the asylum's common room, this time bathed in a sickly GREEN glow.

Faith is up first, and this time shows no mercy - POW! She KICKS her clone across the head, quickly grabbing a nearby chair and NAILING Evil Faith with it.

Before she can get up, Faith grabs her and THROWS her across the room, clattering into more tables and chairs.

(CONTINUED)

Faith breaks off a chair leg to use as a stake as the bloodied Evil Faith laughs back at her.

EVIL FAITH
That's the spirit! Always knew you
had that killer instinct in both
sides of you...

Faith hauls her up to her feet, raising the stake.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)
What'cha gonna do, sis? Kill us?

Faith hesitates - then drops the stake.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)
That's more like it. Now, how's
about we-

CRUNCH! Faith drives her knee into her double's gut, letting the winded doppelganger sink to the floor.

FAITH
Alright, so killing you'd out. But
like you said to me...

She grabs Evil Faith by the throat, pinning her back.

FAITH (cont'd)
... it's all about the pain.

With a mean glint in her eyes, Faith SLAMS Evil Faith's head down onto the canteen floor, standing over her as the double spits out a mouthful of BLOOD.

FAITH (cont'd)
What happened to Alex?

EVIL FAITH
She's the Key, man! Didn't you read
the memo?

FAITH
The 'key' to what?

EVIL FAITH
To everything.

Evil Faith's leg lashes out and TRIPS Faith, and before she can react Evil Faith is up and running.

Faith scrambles to her feet and dashes after her, but as she throws open another doorway at the end of the canteen, she steps through into:

30 INT. GATEWAY - DEMON LANDSCAPE - NEXT 30

Faith recoils - she's standing at the edge of a huge CLIFF! The cliff side overlooks a twisted, chaotic demon world - raging volcanos, rivers of fire and acres of black, nightmarish rock.

She staggers back, slamming the door shut, and finds herself back in:

31 INT. GATEWAY - RED CORRIDOR - NEXT 31

She's somewhere else entirely now - a long, oval tunnel with doors in the floor and ceiling, not on the walls, and a fierce RED glow to the area.

Trying to get her bearings, she slowly looks up and down - and sees a pair of doors open further along the corridor.

Evil Faith climbs down from one, WINKS at Faith and then drops down into the next!

Faith runs over but the door closes on her, and when she opens it again there's a sudden WHOOSH as a whirlwind of air tries to suck her inside!

She grabs hold of the door handle, trying not to get sucked into the whirlwind, but the pull of the winds is too strong, and with a final SHOUT she's sucked out of view, the door closing after her with a punctual SLAM.

32 INT. GATEWAY - FAITH'S APARTMENT - DAY 32

Faith is lying on her side, eyes closed. She stirs and starts to sit up - and finds herself back in her old apartment from Sunnydale!

Faith sits bolt upright, looking around the familiar yet alien surroundings in shock. Everything seems warped, distorted - the edges of the room seem fluid, almost liquid, and the walls appear to be flowing like water.

Faith carefully stands - the floor seems solid, at least, and walks over to the window.

All she can see outside is what she'd expect - the parking lot of the cheap motel this room was in.

She steps back and heads for the door, pausing and taking a breath before throwing it open, seeing nothing but darkness beyond. With no other way to go, she steps into:

33 INT. GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - NEXT 33

Faith finds herself in a large, pitch black room. She walks forward, scanning for any other way in or out.

(CONTINUED)

She steps on a panel in the floor and it LIGHTS UP, and as she watches a line of similar panels light up, stretching off into the centre of the room - and suddenly, the room is filled with brilliant LIGHT!

Faith shields her eyes, but the glare soon fades, and she lowers her hands to see something very unexpected...

She's standing in the middle of some kind of huge chamber, but the walls around her are made of stone panels, each one inscribed with the same kinds of glyphs and markings that cover the Gateway itself.

The walls are circular, curving over her head, and in the centre of the room a large pedestal rises up from the floor, with a pool of water in its centre and dozens of small glass tubes running round the outside of it, each a different height and width and each holding a different level of water, in a variety of colours.

FAITH
(puzzled)
O-kay...

She heads over to the pedestal, looking into the pool - but sees only her reflection. She experimentally touches one of the glass tubes - and it starts to HUM.

Faith snatches her hand back, but then tilts her head to one side and moves both hands out, moving almost unconsciously as she rests her palm over two more tubes.

They HUM and the water inside starts to rise - and the image on the pool starts to ripple, changing to show the inside of the Asylum common room!

Faith steps back, alarmed, looking at her hands as if she had no control over what she was doing.

She takes another look round the chamber, but there's no other exit she can take. She looks back at the pool and glass tubes, then slowly reaches her hands out...

Quinn and Vi lead the way, pushing aside a fire door and stepping out into the eerily quiet Asylum. Pryor and Todd are next, with Rachel and another staff member carrying Noa's wheelchair up the stairs.

The team fan out, torches scanning the empty corridors - but nothing is moving.

QUINN
Did we get all of them?

VI

I think so. Those ones that ran away could still be up here, we need to secure the building first.

QUINN

Well volunteered, Vi.

She nods, stepping to Quinn's side as they step away from the others.

QUINN (cont'd)

(to Noa)

Be right back.

He grins at her as he and Vi hurry off down the corridor, and as Noa watches him go we cut back to:

Faith's hands are moving at rapid speed, activating several of the glass tubes as she passes over them.

She's too focused to see twelve long, thin shapes of white LIGHT start to form in a circle around the room.

She suddenly stops what she's doing and steps back, a new scene starting to appear on the pool of water below her.

She turns and sees the twelve rectangles of light at last, and as she stares in utter confusion, they start to form solid shapes - doors! Twelve heavy doors, some wooden, some metal, all in warped, outlandish designs.

Faith doesn't have long to take this in, as she stakes another step back - and bumps right into Evil Faith!

EVIL FAITH

Couldn't have done it without ya, little sis!

Faith spins round but Evil Faith is quicker, KICKING Faith in the gut and flooring her with a powerful HAMMER PUNCH to the back of her neck.

Evil Faith marches towards one of the doorways, a thick iron design with a small grille set into it - and FLAMES can be seen licking out through the grill.

Evil Faith turns to Faith as she picks herself up, looking like the next punch could finish her off.

EVIL FAITH (cont'd)

I'll tell him you said 'hi.'

She throws open the door, and with a HOWL of wind a wave of FIRE spills out and into the room!

Faith takes cover behind the pedestal, but Evil Faith is unaffected, striding into the flames - and the door shuts behind her!

Faith slowly gets up, looking round the room again - and the doors start to fade back into white light!

FAITH

No... no! No!! Stop!

She watches in horror as one by one, the doors fade away, and her panic rises as she faces being trapped - but the final door doesn't disappear.

Faith notices a symbol etched onto it - it's the same as her tattoo! She takes a cautious step up to the door, placing her hand against it - and it OPENS.

The Gateway room of the asylum waits on the other side. The same one she left.

Faith looks over her shoulder at the chamber one last time, then steps through the door:

Faith steps back out through the portal, into the Gateway's chamber - and the portal vanishes with a ZAP.

She spins round - the illuminated symbols on the walls and Gateway itself remain active, but Faith has other things she needs to check first. She turns and runs from the room:

Pryor, Noa and the others head into the scene of the first battle of the night, surveying the damage - several staff and residents lie dead, along with the corpses of many more demons.

NOA

(uncertain)

Well, at least we won... right?

Pryor hasn't spoken since he heard the news about Alex - but as they hear someone coming and turn to see who it is, he's the first one to say:

PRYOR

Faith!

She comes to a stop, smiling with relief and heading over to the others.

FAITH

Hey. Everyone okay?

Noa glances either side of her, and Faith takes in the carnage around them.

FAITH (cont'd)

Relatively speaking, I mean.

NOA

We're good. Jon and Vi are just off checking the building for any stragglers, but... I think we made it.

PRYOR

What... what happened to Alex?

Faith pauses as she turns to him, not sure what to say.

FAITH

I don't know. She wasn't dead, but Evil Me threw her into the Gateway, and she... I didn't see her again, Pryor. I'm sorry.

He lowers his head as Noa wheels towards Faith.

NOA

What about Twin Bitch? Did you get her at least?

FAITH

(shakes head)

She got away. There's a whole world of weird on the other side of that thing, Noa... I'm not even sure how to explain what I saw.

NOA

Let's make a start cleaning this place up, and then we can start worrying about whatever else happened. Deal?

FAITH

(grins)

Deal.

Pryor's radio CRACKLES, and it takes him a moment to snap out of his trance and answer it.

PRYOR

Hello?

(CONTINUED)

QUINN

(filtered; through radio)
It's me. The place is clear. We
went to the security office and
checked every camera - ain't nobody
here but us chickens.

PRYOR

(dazed)
Uh, alright, you'd better... better
come back.

NOA

I'll go meet them.

Noa wheels herself off, exiting the common room, as Faith
walks up to Pryor.

FAITH

We'll find her, Pryor. If she's out
there, I'll bring her back.

He manages to nod, wishing he could share her confidence, as
we cut to:

Vi and Quinn are heading back as Noa turns a corner up ahead
and makes her way towards them.

QUINN

You go catch up with Faith and
Pryor, I'll go-

VI

(smirks)
Yeah, I think I can guess what
you're about to go and do.

Quinn smirks back as Vi breaks off and takes another
corridor, leaving Quinn and Noa alone.

NOA

Hey.

QUINN

Hey, yourself.

He leans down to KISS her, and she wraps her arms around him
with a happy SIGH.

NOA

I think it's safe to breathe out
now, right?

QUINN

That's the rumour.

NOA

Felt like tonight was never going
to end!

QUINN

Well, it did. As far as the
bloodshed and killing goes, anyway.
I think I can see a hot bath and a
whole lot of bed rest in our
future.

She beams up at him, and he leans his head against her,
closing his eyes and allowing himself to relax at last.

And that's when he spots the red dot of LASER SIGHT on his
chest.

It takes him an agonisingly long beat to realise what it is,
but at last his eyes bulge and he SHOVES Noa to the side,
bowling her out of her chair with a CRASH!

QUINN (cont'd)

Look out!

NOA

What the-

BLAM!

Noa GASPS and tries to push herself up.

Quinn looks down at her.

And BLOOD starts to seep from a hole in his chest.

NOA (cont'd)

Jon!!

He COLLAPSES to the floor, and Noa SCREAMS, clawing her way
frantically towards him and cradling his head.

NOA (cont'd)

No... no... no...

She shakes him, trying to rouse him, but he just COUGHS once,
blood spilling from his lips.

NOA (cont'd)

(in tears)

Jon, no! Don't you leave me! Don't
you leave me! Jon!

(CONTINUED)

She looks over her shoulder, following the direction of the bullet - a small hole in the far window marks the point of attack, and in between sobs Noa hears a car door SLAM and the vehicle SCREECH away into the night.

She turns back to Jon, pounding her hands against him and WAILING in frustration.

Vi comes racing back into frame, and as she skids to a halt, her hands going to her mouth in horror, we DISSOLVE to:

With all the previous occupants either dusted or fled, the lair is empty and quiet...

... until a long, thin beam of WHITE LIGHT suddenly appears in the centre of the room, widening into a rectangular shape - and then solidifying, darkening and changing shape.

It's an IRON DOOR.

The door stands for a beat - and is then THROWN OPEN as Evil Faith staggers out, supporting a taller figure wrapped in a thick cloak along with her.

She reaches back with her foot and kicks the door closed with a SLAM, and it BLAZES back into white light and fades away.

Evil Faith flops down on the sofa with a SIGH and leaving the new arrival standing in the centre of the room.

EVIL FAITH

Man! That was one helluva trip. I
just hope you were worth it!

The figure straightens up, drawing itself to its full height as the cloak drops away.

It's a tall man in his fifties, dressed in a tattered but once stylish dark suit, his greying hair swept back and his twinkling eyes full of mischief.

It's MAYOR WILKINS. He beams in surprise at her.

MAYOR WILKINS

Well! Firecracker! Yours is a face
I never thought I'd see again...

He starts to LAUGH, throwing his head back and guffawing with joyful release, and as Evil Faith joins in, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF SHOW