

# FAITH

"High Voltage"

by  
Chris Haigh

Based on characters created by Joss Whedon  
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TEASER

FADE IN:

1

INT. ASYLUM - CORRIDOR - MORNING

1

SWEEP PAST various Asylum orderlies as we open into this fairly nice day in the grand city of New York. Several orderlies dealing with the patients until we land on a particular figure:

DAWN is stood with RACHEL, who in turn is looking over at a male patient who looks... unwell, to say the least. He's hazy, incoherent.

Rachel is indicating with her CLIPBOARD, obviously a perk of being Chief Orderly.

RACHEL  
(in mid speech)  
... so needless to say he's -

DAWN  
(interrupts)  
Cuckoo for Coco Pops?

RACHEL  
(beat)  
You know, we should probably sit down and have a talk about the kind of lingo we can and can't use.  
(grins)  
Basically, keep anything you value and wish to keep sacred away from him.

DAWN  
Huh?

Rachel just nods towards the patient's hands - which are clenching and unclenching tightly.

DAWN (cont'd)  
(wrinkles nose)  
Ew.

Rachel playfully rolls her eyes - then heads over to a laundry cart and tosses Dawn a LAB COAT.

RACHEL  
And this completes your induction.  
Once you don the fabled white coat,  
you are officially one of us.

(CONTINUED)

DAWN

Okay, if you think I'm wearing  
that, you're as crazy as Mr Groper  
there.

RACHEL

Fine, just don't blame me when -

However, Rachel never finishes her sentence when the Male  
Patient suddenly BURSTS from his bed!

A pair of orderlies DIVE as the Male Patient SMACKS one  
female orderly aside and RUSHES towards Dawn and Rachel.

Rachel turns and tries to spot some help but Dawn takes a  
deep breath, in fear, and the LIGHTS FLICKER, right before  
the Male Patient SLAMS right into Dawn - and he BOUNCES off  
as energy BLAZES around her!

He drops away, stunned, and the surprise is enough for Rachel  
to grab a SYRINGE and INJECT it straight into the man's arm,  
while two burly ORDERLIES hold him down.

Dawn's wide-eyed, shocked by what happened, but quickly snaps  
back to work as she helps keep the thrashing patient pinned.

Dawn and Rachel share a glance before the Patient SPITS a  
mouthful of BLOOD at Dawn. The blood SPLATTERS onto her tee  
shirt and Dawn recoils as the man finally subsides.

The two orderlies, LEWIS and ROB, look at Rachel, who nods,  
and they haul the now unconscious man away. Rachel turns to  
Dawn, who is surveying the stain on her shirt.

DAWN

(off Rachel's look)

Shut up.

RACHEL

(mock innocent)

Did I say anything?

DAWN

Not technically, but Buffy was the  
expert at the whole 'ha, I told you  
so, Dawn' with the eyes and the  
face...

RACHEL

Well, I did -

DAWN

Shush. At least I'm...

(thinks)

... taller than you.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: (2)

1

Rachel and Dawn nudge each other in a friendly way before Dawn heads off to get changed, forcing a CUT TO:

2 INT. ASYLUM - STAFF ROOM - NEXT

2

Dawn rolls down a new shirt, retrieved from her open locker and pulls on the offered lab coat, buttoning way more than necessarily to her chin.

DAWN  
(to herself)  
No more of my ultra fabulous  
Phunkyfish shirts shall be lost to  
this noble cause.

She checks around and pulls her CELL PHONE from her pocket - and the lights around her FLICKER again.

Dawn looks up, frowning, but shrugs it off, taking a seat on the bench running down the centre of the room.

Dawn DIALS a number on her cell and holds it to her ear.

VOICE (O.S.)  
(filtered through phone)  
Hello?

DAWN  
(smiling)  
Hey, Buff.

INTERCUT WITH:

3 INT. APARTMENT - AFTERNOON - SAME TIME

3

The light is a lot brighter as we see a blonde, none other than our very own BUFFY SUMMERS who has her own, slightly more modern phone in her hand.

BUFFY  
Hey. You okay?

DAWN  
Yep, I'm as shiny as ever.

Her apartment is sunny, with some greenery and general warm furniture. In the background, through the open windows, we can Eastern European architecture in the form of Gothic buildings and even a CATHEDRAL nearby.

BUFFY  
(shakes head)  
You watch way too much TV.

(CONTINUED)

DAWN

Shut up, Miss 'I can't watch 'The Hills Have Eyes' because I get scared of the scary mutants.'

Buffy smiles warmly and sits down on the oversized couch, sipping from a MUG of coffee.

BUFFY

I knew New York would be a bad influence on you. It's just a matter of time before you start putting on an accent.

DAWN

(snorts)

Come on, at least New York's somewhere I haven't died yet.

Beat. Dawn winces.

BUFFY

How's Faith?

DAWN

She's, y'know... Faith. Since she got her powers back she's been a lot more... Faith.

BUFFY

She's the only girl I know who's become her own adjective. What about everyone else? How's that blonde girl, uh... Neve, was it?

DAWN

Oh, Noa? She's... she's gone.

BUFFY

(genuine)

Oh. I'm... I'm sorry.

DAWN

Oh! No, she's not, like, dead 'gone.' She's just... lost. Like 815. For the moment.

(beat)

I think. But it's not all bad news, 'cause we totally have a great plan in place to find her again.

BUFFY

Oh? And whose 'great plan' might that be?

(CONTINUED)

DAWN  
(proud)  
Mine.

BUFFY  
(beat)  
Mm-hmm.

DAWN  
What? Hey! Listen, I can come up  
with plans just as good as anybody!

BUFFY  
Of course you can.

DAWN  
You - just - don't use the Big  
Sister voice on me!

BUFFY  
As if I'd do such a thing.

Buffy CHUCKLES, Dawn seething on the other end of the line.

DAWN  
Actually... that's what I'm calling  
you about. This plan... it's going  
to be kind of dangerous.

Buffy shuts up, waiting for Dawn to continue.

BUFFY  
This is what you're calling about,  
isn't it? You're gonna try and get  
Noa back?

DAWN  
Yep.

BUFFY  
What are you going to do?

DAWN  
Remember that Gateway thing? Well,  
I kind of got myself this tattoo -

BUFFY  
A what?

DAWN  
Oh, don't freak out! It's not like  
a real one. It's... mystical.

BUFFY  
Because that is so much better.

DAWN

Would you listen to me?

(beat)

So. This tattoo thing helps me work the Gateway. Faith has one too - although Vi has it right now. Long story. Anyway. What I've been trying to do is search through all the places the Gateway can access and find where Noa's stuck, then bring her home. I've almost found her twice now, but... things go a little screwy when I try too hard.

BUFFY

That's a common problem among Summers women.

DAWN

But I can do this. This time, I know exactly what I'm doing.

BUFFY

Sounds like it.

(beat; sighs)

Alright. I guess I should thank you for at least warning me that this could be dangerous. That's more than I usually get.

DAWN

Hey, I'm all about the lines of communication. You're the one living in a different time zone in a city with only one working phone.

BUFFY

(beat; dry)

Love you too, sis. Call me when you're done, alright? Whether it worked or not.

DAWN

Will do. See ya.

They both hang up, and we're left with Buffy's concerned expression before we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF TEASER**

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

4

INT. OLD ASYLUM - GATEWAY CHAMBER - DAY

4

The GATEWAY stands front and centre, the glyphs on its surface GLOWING with soft, pulsing turquoise light.

FAITH steps into frame, squinting as she studies the markings.

VI (O.S.)

You ready to try again?

FAITH

Yeah, 'kay.

Faith turns around and we see VI, wearing a sleeveless vest which displays her WARDEN TATTOO to great effect.

VI

Can we make this the last time for today?

FAITH

You got somewhere more important to be?

VI

Well, no, but - actually, yeah. New season of 'Lost.' Very important that you watch every episode, or, you know, you're basically...

Vi mimes her head EXPLODING. Faith smiles a little before rolling her own shirt sleeve up.

FAITH

Alright, last try. Ready?

VI

As I'll ever be.

FAITH

C'mon, you're a Southern girl. You're tough. You're strong.

VI

We're also non-stereotyped. I can be a wuss if I want to be.

FAITH

Just shut up and lay your hands on me, preacher.

(CONTINUED)

Faith and Vi face each other. Vi lays a hand on Faith's arm. After a long beat, Vi and Faith GRIMACE as strange LIGHT starts to emanate from the touch.

The light builds in intensity - and behind them, the Gateway joins in, its glyphs PULSING with energy.

VI

Go!

The girls LET GO as a loud SNAP echoes round the room, the light FLARING brightly...

... and as the light fades, the girls quickly check their forearms.

VI (cont'd)

Aw, damn it!

The tattoo is still there. Faith SIGHS.

FAITH

Go. We'll try this again tomorrow.

VI

(tetchy)

Fine.

At that moment, Rachel pops her head through the door and smiles at the two Slayers.

RACHEL

Hey, Pryor says there's some staff meeting in ten, so he sent me to get you.

VI

But -

FAITH

Learn how to use the TiVo already.

(to Vi)

What's it about?

RACHEL

It's about Noa.

And off Vi and Faith's questioning looks, we CUT TO:

PAN AROUND the makeshift room, with a large wooden table and the chief figures in the Asylum sat around it: Faith, PRYOR, Dawn, Rachel, Vi, JERRY and RUTH. Pryor, Ruth and dawn are stood at the front of the room.

(CONTINUED)

Pryor has a state-of-the-art PROJECTOR up and working, and displayed on the screen is a DRAWING of one of the glyphs on the Gateway.

PRYOR

As I'm sure you all know, I've been against the idea of trying Dawn's plan to rescue Noa a third time, for reasons I've made pretty clear. However...

He indicates the GLYPH in question - a pair of co-joined circles, a line bisecting the space where they cross over.

Dawn traces it with a finger and highlights the strange image, turning to the team.

PRYOR (cont'd)

Ruth and Dawn recently made an interesting discovery whilst examining the markings on the Gateway, that might give us a way to safely try again.

RUTH

We've been trying to translate as many of the glyphs as we can, to see if they fit in with Pryor's theory that they're essentially an instruction manual for the Gateway itself. However, the glyphs aren't all in the same language, which doesn't help.

DAWN

You know how when you have the instructions for, like, a TV or a toaster, and they're in about a dozen different languages? We think that's what the glyphs are for.

JERRY

So what does this new one mean?

DAWN

(taps glyph diagram)

This thing pointed us to a Meso-Sumerian text that helped us figure out a way around blowing the Gateway's fuses next time I try. I'm going to use the whole 'former glowing ball of energy' thing to my advantage instead of going thermonuclear and nearly destroying the universe.

(CONTINUED)

RUTH

The Gateway uses energy to fuel transportation to and from different worlds, but it's very specific. Too little and you could end up disintegrating mid-journey, too much and you could implode the Sun.

(beat)

This is where Dawn comes in.

PRYOR

Dawn is essentially a conduit for energy in all forms. Kinetic, heat, light, everything. Her original powers have developed along with becoming the Gateway's own conduit, or 'Key' to use the correct terminology.

DAWN

Basically, I'm like a fuse. Only for the equivalent of a nuke.

PRYOR

So instead of overloading the Gateway to power her search, Dawn can contain a phenomenally large amount of energy inside of her and use that instead, hopefully preventing another catastrophic power overload. As the Key -

DAWN

Can we change that name?

(off looks)

Sorry, it's just... I've been the Key for all my life and it'd be nice to be something else now.

She looks round the room. Raised eyebrows all over.

DAWN (cont'd)

(huffs slightly)

Fine, I'll be the damn Key.

PRYOR

The overall effect of this should be that when Dawn locates Noa and tries to bring her back here, she won't be causing damage to other dimensions and realities in the process.

(meaningful)

Which is what happened during the first two attempts.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL

So when Dawn uses her own energy,  
will that be enough?

PRYOR

(shakes head)

No, it won't, unfortunately.

VI

(confused; frowning  
slightly)

But there was enough to get me into  
Rome and stop Ambitch from killing  
Dawn in the first place.

PRYOR

(sighs)

Yes, but this isn't one trip back  
and forth at a specific point.  
We're talking about opening up  
hundreds, maybe even thousands of  
portals in the boundaries of time  
and space. And then we're searching  
for one life in the possible  
billions of billions of options and  
realities and lives out there.  
We're ripping them open like bloody  
tissue paper, and even then all of  
the universes and dimensions are  
stacked up on top of each other so  
we don't know which one we'll get.

FAITH

Like Jenga?

PRYOR

(beat)

Yes, Faith, like Jenga.

(beat)

So to open all of these portals at  
the same time, it's going to  
require a hell of a lot of energy.  
Dawn's own Key -

Dawn shoots him a look and Pryor improvises.

PRYOR (cont'd)

Dawn's own 'abilities'...

DAWN

(mutters)

I'm energy, I'm not the kid at the  
back of the class with safety  
scissors and the special glitter...

(CONTINUED)

PRYOR

(continuing)

... already gives her access to a large amount of energy, but in order to get enough she'd need to start channeling some of the gateway's resources again, and we're right back to where we started.

DAWN

So, in other words, I need a boost or I can't do this.

RUTH

We do, however, have a plan 'b.'

Ruth picks up the wireless KEYBOARD next to him and CLICKS a couple of keys.

RACHEL

So as long as Dawn's running the power back through herself, she won't break any more worlds?

PRYOR

Not necessarily. There may still be some minimal damage, but hopefully nothing more severe than, say, some mild temperature shift.

FAITH

Does that mean there's an alternate universe where they keep popping back to here?

VI

(clicks fingers)

Global warming.

PRYOR

(partly exasperated)

Could we get back to the matter at hand? Saving Noa?

This quietyens the team, as image from the computer terminal next to the screen shows an image of the world with RED DOTS in various places, particularly in North America, Asia and Europe.

PRYOR (cont'd)

Thank you. Now, I've tried to get access to some additional mystical power cells through the contacts we have.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

PRYOR (cont'd)

The Academy in England managed to forward us Willow's new number and position in Istanbul, but she was unavailable.

RUTH

Turns out my native language is only three letters away from Mandarin. At least I won't be able to accidentally insult the people at Wong's Oriental Express Palace.

DAWN

But we found nothing. There's no magickal power packs anywhere.  
(beat)  
Except right here in New York.

PRYOR

In uptown New York, there are a group of warlocks known as the Domovoian. In ancient Slavic culture, Domovoi was a guardian spirit, and these warlocks moved over to New York as immigrants and have guarded their source of energy for over a hundred years.

CUT TO:

In the half-light of a dying fire, the DOMOVOIAN WARLOCKS, cloaked in heavy, dark cloaks, are CHANTING.

The chanting accompanies a deep, WHITE GLOW which comes from the door, built into one of the walls of the Haven's main hub.

Mounted around the wall are WEAPONS of all kinds, looking as though the warlocks are prepared for any unwelcome visitors.

PRYOR (V.O.)

The warlocks have maintained that they were 'called' to the well of mystical energy by their gods.

(beat)

They still exist today, and have a facility known as the Haven. It's guarded by the Warlocks, should any malevolent forces try to gain entrance.

The doors to the Haven burst open and a young MAGE races in, soaked in blood:

(CONTINUED)

He's carrying a YOUNG WOMAN, in his arms who is BLEEDING profusely from a gaping CHEST WOUND.

PRYOR (V.O.) (cont'd)  
Whenever a mage or someone in need comes to the Haven, the Warlocks can loan the rechargeable cells to the person in need. Sometimes they're for defence or for personal use or for healing...

The warlocks move over to the Mage, while he tries to keep the near-dead woman alive as she breathes heavily, BLOOD bubbling from her cold lips.

A single warlock heads straight to the SOURCE ROOM, and within seconds has retrieved a small CRYSTAL that glows with the same white energy.

As the chanting INCREASES, ENERGY flows from the crystal into the dying girl with a WHOOSH of POWER.

Nothing. No sign of life.

Then after a long beat on her dead, lifeless face...

PRYOR (V.O.) (cont'd)  
Sometimes it doesn't work...

The Girl BURSTS INTO LIFE, GASPING for breath and scrabbling frantically for a few moments.

She looks around, disorientated, and the handsome Mage smiles joyfully as he cradles the recovering woman, her wound HEALING UP before their eyes.

PRYOR (V.O.) (cont'd)  
... but sometimes it does.

The Domovoian Warlocks share NODS with each other as we CUT BACK TO:

Resume.

JERRY  
So the cell's energy is like a battery?

PRYOR  
(nods)  
Essentially. They can allow you to take so much before the power just becomes too little, and the damage due to removal is irreversible.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL

So basically, take too much and they're screwed.

PRYOR

Yes.

FAITH

So we head to this... sanctuary and what? We storm the place?

VI

And get more enemies?

PRYOR

The Warlocks are peaceful, neutral. If we plead our case right, we should be able to take the energy we need for Dawn's plan with their blessing.

FAITH

(nods)

Then we got a plan, chief.

Faith and Vi stand - and head straight for the WEAPONS CABINET at the rear of the room.

PRYOR

What are you doing?

VI

Getting weapons.

RUTH

But we just told you the Domovoians were peaceful.

FAITH

Oh, we know.

JERRY

But?

FAITH

But nothing. I've just got a new ax I want to test. And you can never be too sure.

VI

Yeah, and I wouldn't want to be a dumbax.

Vi SNORTS with laughter at her own joke as she leaves, but the humour isn't shared by the others as we CUT TO:

8 INT. ASYLUM - GARAGE - NEXT

8

The team, consisting of Faith, Vi, Dawn, Rachel, Pryor and Jerry pile into Jerry's large SUVs. Ruth waits nearby.

PRYOR  
You know what to do?

RUTH  
(chuckles)  
I'll be fine, Pryor.

Pryor still looks a little worried but Ruth lays her hand on his arm and gives it a squeeze.

DAWN (O.S.)  
Save it for the bedroom!

Everyone smiles but we HOLD ON the tender moment before Jerry starts the SUV with a BANG, forcing a CUT TO:

9 EXT. NEW YORK CITY - STREETS - NEXT

9

The SUV weaves its way in and out of traffic, while inside the van:

10 INT. SUV - NEXT

10

The team are clinging on while Jerry drives. Rachel, in particular, is looking green around the gills.

DAWN  
(to Rachel)  
You okay?

RACHEL  
Fine... just a little -

At that moment, Jerry SWERVES to avoid an OIL TANKER, the tanker's AIR HORN BLARING OUT and blocking the list of profanities that comes out of Jerry's mouth.

JERRY  
(yelling)  
.... up your ass and go back to New Jersey!

RACHEL  
(beat)  
Yeah, I'm going to close my eyes now. Tell me when we're there.

Jerry speeds on, oblivious to his passenger's concern as we CUT TO:

11 EXT. DOMOVOIAN HAVEN - DAY 11

The SUV comes to a stop and the team pile out, each carrying a weapon of some kind. Jerry stays in the car.

JERRY  
Give me a call when you're on your  
way back, right?

Faith nods as they stride towards the HAVEN, an old building which looks like a Masonic brotherhood lodge.

Pryor checks a map and nods at Faith, Jerry and Vi who lead towards the Haven, opening the doors out into:

12 INT. DOMOVOIAN HAVEN - HALL - NEXT 12

There is nothing except the hall of what appears to be an abandoned derelict house.

Pryor leans forward with a small CHARM in his hand and looks in front of them.

FAITH  
(calls out)  
We come in peace?

PRYOR  
(admonishing)  
Faith!

FAITH  
What? They're monks. They can take  
a joke, right?  
(beat; suspicious)  
What's wrong?

PRYOR  
(off charm)  
This should be giving off bright  
glow if any of the monks were here.

VI  
Maybe it's broken?

PRYOR  
No, there's something -

RACHEL (O.S.)  
Guys?

Rachel pushes open a DOOR hidden in a CRACK in the decrepit wall, and as the others peer inside we CUT TO:

13 INT. DOMOVOIAN HAVEN - MAIN HALL - NEXT

13

A fire is still burning in the fireplace - but that's the only sign of life as the BODIES of the Domovoian Warlocks are strewn across the floor!

With their hoods thrown back, they look human, but with heavy TRIBAL MARKINGS and small TEETH near the corner of their mouths.

DAWN

Oh, God...

Dawn and Rachel kneel towards the bodies but Pryor and Faith spot the open door towards the Source Room.

FAITH

(nods towards door)

Let's check it out.

There's still a FAINT GLOW as they head down, Vi following:

14 INT. DOMOVOIAN HAVEN - SOURCE ROOM - NEXT

14

The ROWS of POWER CELLS are DRAINED. Like large oil drums, they line shelves cut into the walls.

VI

Looks like we weren't the only ones who wanted these things.

PRYOR

If these are all empty, then where's that light coming from?

VOICE (O.S.)

Perhaps I can help...

They spin round - and a GLOWING FIGURE steps from the shadows - the source of the light.

Long, curly blonde hair, Petite figure. Murderous BLOOD RED eyes.

It's DARK AMBROSIA!

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT ONE**

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

15 INT. DOMOVOIAN HAVEN - SOURCE ROOM - DAY

15

Still GLOWING, Dark Ambrosia SNARLS as she sends Faith FLYING BACKWARDS into the drained power cells.

Faith CRASHES against them, sending wooden shelving shattering onto the floor as Dark Ambrosia SMACKS Pryor with a vicious right hook, knocking him into the wall and sending small pieces of rubble and plaster everywhere.

Dark Ambrosia turns but is RAMMED into a wall by Vi! She ELBOWS her old nemesis in the face but receives a CHOP to the knees, knocking her down.

FAITH

What the hell are you doing here?  
Fancied a snack and Wendy's was  
closed?

Faith SLUGS Dark Ambrosia right in the face, forcing her to stagger backwards. Faith follows this up with a STAMP KICK to her calf and a LEFT HOOK that knocks Dark Ambrosia back.

FAITH (cont'd)

(smirking)  
How about a knuckle sandwich?  
(frowns)  
God, I've got to get some new  
material.

DARK AMBROSIA

Along with some new teeth.

CRUNCH! DA lands a punch right in Faith's kisser, before she FLIPS neatly over the prone form of Pryor, quickly heading back into:

16 INT. DOMOVOIAN HAVEN - MAIN HALL - NEXT

16

Dawn and Rachel spot Dark Ambrosia in time, DIVING and DUCKING as Dark Ambrosia SLAMS her fist into the hard stone, right where Dawn's head was a moment ago.

DARK AMBROSIA

This power was not meant for you,  
little one!

Dawn and Rachel scoot back, raising their weapons.

DARK AMBROSIA (cont'd)

(chuckles)  
You think you could defeat me?  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DARK AMBROSIA (cont'd)  
I have more power now than you  
could ever imagine.

DAWN  
I have a sister who's the Slayer.  
And friends. And great hair.  
(beat; smirks)  
I win.

Dark Ambrosia SMACKS Dawn across the face, but receives an unexpected blow to the chest from Rachel.

Dawn stumbles and sees the GLOW that surrounds Dark Ambrosia - and Dawn herself also starts to GLOW!

DAWN (cont'd)  
Aww, crap! Not now!

She clamps her eyes shut in an attempt to focus her energies, but DA looms over her, ready to strike:

And Vi's fist DRIVES into Ambrosia's face, cartwheeling her to the floor!

VI  
That's right! How'd you like th -

Dark Ambrosia SPINS, ROUNDHOUSE KICKING our redhead Slayer into the floor.

Faith charges in and HEADBUTTS Dark Ambrosia, before snatching up her AX and SLICING it across Dark Ambrosia's chest.

Dark Ambrosia ducks back, SNATCHES the ax and sends it FLYING across the room.

She hits Faith with a one-two before DROP KICKING her back into the wall.

Sharp WEAPONS rain down from their place on the wall, forcing our Slayer to roll to avoid being skewered.

PRYOR  
(yelling)  
Dawn! Watch out!

Dark Ambrosia SPOTS the glowing Dawn and snatches a weapon from one of the corpses, THROWING it at her!

At that moment, Dawn opens her terrified eyes and they're GLOWING a BRIGHT BLUE. As the weapon somersaults towards her, she DISAPPEARS, quickly REAPPEARING a few metres away.

Dawn DIVES out of the way just as Pryor MUTTERS an incantation and the FLAMES from the fireplace SOAR OUTWARDS, SLAMMING INTO Dark Ambrosia!

Dark Ambrosia SCREAMS but the flames are already EVAPORATING into nothing while Rachel grabs Dawn, moving her away from the volatile Slayer.

Faith HIGH KICKS Dark Ambrosia while Vi goes in low, sweeping her legs from under her.

However, Dark Ambrosia HOPS over Vi's attack and CATCHES Faith's leg in mid-air, SMACKING her into a wall.

Faith crumples for a moment and then recovers, looking down at her shirt - now streaked with DIRT.

FAITH  
Oh, this is on, bitch.  
(re: shirt)  
This was my favourite.

Pryor and Rachel throw punches which Dark Ambrosia DUCKS easily, reversing the blows onto them before SPIN KICKING Rachel away onto one of the BODIES.

She pulls away from the bloody mess of a warlock and finds a CURVED SWORD hidden under layers of clothing.

Faith SIDESTEPS one blow and JABS several small but powerful RABBIT PUNCHES into Ambrosia's chest, knocking her off stride for a few seconds.

RACHEL  
Dawn!

Dawn manages to block a SWING and CATCHES the sword before SLICING it towards Dark Ambrosia's chest.

Dark Ambrosia BACK-FLIPS over the blow and over a pissed Vi. Dark Ambrosia SWEEP KICKS Vi in the chest, and then before she can respond at her ankles, which force her to the floor.

Pryor SPRINTS OVER, helping Vi who's catching her breath while Dark Ambrosia takes on a reluctant Rachel and furious Faith.

DARK AMBROSIA  
Enough!

A sudden STREAK of the energy EXPLODES OUTWARDS from Dark Ambrosia and SLAMS into the CEILING, sending everyone FLYING!

CUT TO:

We're above New York as the same PULSE of energy blasts high above the city.

(CONTINUED)

POLICE RADIO (V.O.)  
Three units proceed to Uptown. We  
have an unidentified explosion...

CUT TO:

INT. DOMOVOIAN HAVEN - MAIN HALL - SAME TIME

Dark Ambrosia SLAMS into Faith, PUMMELING her but two well-aimed KICKS from Vi and Rachel knock her down.

Faith STABS down with the ax but Dark Ambrosia's up in a flash, PIROUETTING on one hand and SLAMMING then all down with a capoeira like movement.

DARK AMBROSIA  
(to Dawn)  
This power is not yours.

DAWN  
Yeah, well... that hair colour's  
not yours either! Ha!

A beat. Dark Ambrosia blinks, puzzled - allowing Vi to SPEAR her to the floor!

DAWN (cont'd)  
Was that as a lame comeback as I  
thought it was?

FAITH  
(breathless)  
Unfortunately... yeah.

PRYOR  
Move!

Pryor waves for the girls to give him room as he aims a bulky TASER device at Dark Ambrosia:

But she's too fast, KICKING him sharply in the side before turning back to the others.

She ducks just as Vi rams home with a KATANA. Dark Ambrosia BENDS back impossibly but Vi knocks her legs from her with a BATTLE CRY and STOMP KICKS her in the stomach.

Faith FLIPS to her feet and then KNOCKS Vi aside, forcing them to duck a BLOW from Dark Ambrosia who's fist SLAMS into the wall nearby.

VI  
Hey! Watch it!

Faith takes this opportunity to rain BLOWS and KICKS to her unguarded side.

(CONTINUED)

FAITH  
Get out of here, Vi!

VI  
What? Faith, you need me to -

FAITH  
(yelling)  
I said get the hell out of here!

Dark Ambrosia RIPS her hand free and SMACKS into Faith, sending chunks of plasterboard and RUBBLE all over the brunette.

Vi SMACKS into her with a vicious HEEL to the face which BREAKS Dark Ambrosia's NOSE.

This only seems to faze Dark Ambrosia slightly, as she grabs Vi's arm and TWISTS it painfully while CRACKING her nose back into place.

Dawn SLUGS Dark Ambrosia in the face, releasing Vi for a moment. But a moment's all Vi needs as she FLIPS OVER, smacking into Dark Ambrosia as she flies over.

Dark Ambrosia SAILS THROUGH the air and SMASHES into a wall but SNATCHES one of the ceremonial weapons from the wall and heads straight for the rapidly recovering team.

Dark Ambrosia LAUNCHES herself into the air, SLAMMING into Dawn, Vi and Faith all at once, the shockwave PULSING OUTWARDS as the WHITE GLOW around her INCREASES.

Pryor and Rachel SLAM their weapons down onto her but Dark Ambrosia CATCHES them, throwing them so fast into the walls that they SNAP ON IMPACT.

Rachel bravely tries a blow but is SLAMMED to the ground painfully by Dark Ambrosia who in turn SMACKS Pryor and a still armed Faith.

However, the sounds of SIRENS suddenly break the fighting as the team gather together.

PRYOR  
We have to go! Now!

As the battered team speed away, Dark Ambrosia gathers her composure, trying to think of whether to go after them.

She's emotionless for a moment - before SMASHING STRAIGHT through one of the solid walls!

19 EXT. DOMOVOIAN HAVEN - NEXT

19

POLICE SQUAD CARS can be heard racing to the scene as our team piles into the SUV.

JERRY  
What the hell's going -

FAITH  
Drive!

Dark Ambrosia EXPLODES out into the scene before JUMPING ONTO the roof and SPRINGING away onto the next.

Jerry gets the message - he stamps on the gas and the SUV screeches away from the kerb.

A squad CAR screeches into view as the team's leaves - and the first person to leap out is none other than SCOTT!

He looks out after the rapidly departing SUV and the half-demolished haven, and we DISSOLVE TO:

20 INT. ASYLUM - STAFF ROOM - DAY

20

Dawn and Rachel have BLANKETS wrapped around them, and Pryor is busy with the patching up of wounds while Ruth helps with the coffee.

While Pryor speaks, Faith slips a little something from a HIP FLASK into everyone's coffee.

PRYOR  
I'm afraid it's as we feared. For whatever reason, Ambrosia drained every power cell dry, which also makes them unable to regenerate.

VI  
(sighs)  
So now what do we do?

DAWN  
(beat)  
I can still do it.

RACHEL  
What?

DAWN  
I've got enough energy inside me. I can tap into it and... I'll be fine. I can do it.

(CONTINUED)

PRYOR

No, Dawn. We've been over this. The risk is too great to both yourself and the other realities you'll be searching.

FAITH

But if we don't try, we'll probably never get Noa back.

(beat)

We took a vote, Pryor. We all had our say. We're doing this.

PRYOR

(serious)

We can't afford another mistake of judgment like the last time we attempted this. Who's to say our own reality won't be affected this time around?

FAITH

How many more times are we gonna go over this?

PRYOR

As many times as it takes for you to get the message!

Tempers are flaring. Faith and Pryor are on their feet.

FAITH

We've lost a lot of people, Pryor. We still have a chance to get one of them back, so I say we take it.

PRYOR

Even if it goes wrong again?

FAITH

If it does, then we'll handle it! That's what we do!

PRYOR

You can't possibly appreciate the consequences of -

DAWN

Shut up!

Silence. All eyes turn to Dawn.

DAWN (cont'd)

Look, I know I'm the cause of all this mess.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DAWN (cont'd)  
If you guys hadn't had to come  
rescue me, then Noa wouldn't have  
gotten sucked off to heck knows  
where in the first place.  
(looks up)  
So you have to let me do this. I  
have to clean up my own mess.

Faith looks to Pryor. He seems genuinely moved by Dawn's  
sentiment. He looks around, seeing everyone look to him for  
the final approval.

PRYOR  
(exhales)  
Alright.

Rachel smiles, rubbing Dawn's shoulders, but Dawn keeps  
Pryor's gaze as we CUT TO:

The team are assembled down in the Gateway's chamber.

VI  
Look, I'm still a little sketchy on  
the whole... thing. So what is it  
we're doing again?

PRYOR  
Dawn thinks that she can hold  
enough energy in her body to  
sustain the opening of as many  
portals as possible without causing  
a power feedback loop that could  
create spatial, temporal and even  
dimensional paradoxes in countless  
other realities.

VI  
(blinks; to Dawn)  
So what is it we're doing again?

DAWN  
Me and the Gateway. We've got like  
a... bond. A link. I'm the Doctor  
to its TARDIS.  
(off looks)  
I do watch too much TV...

FAITH  
So you think that you and the  
Gateway'll work in sync or  
something?

DAWN

(shrugs)

Yeah. We can do a Jack and Chloe  
and just... make it work.

FAITH

That's a hell of a gamble there,  
Mini Me.

VI

What if you become... overloaded?  
You get too much energy in and...

DAWN

And I'll... disperse it. Or send it  
back in. I don't know. Kinda  
winging this a little.

PRYOR

That's the thing though, Dawn. We  
don't know.

DAWN

I can't explain it, I just... I can  
feel it. Like warmth in my head or  
something.

FAITH

Sounds more like a bad hash brownie  
than a psychic link.

DAWN

(to Faith and Vi)

You two know what it's like.  
That... feeling of belonging to  
something bigger than you are.

Faith and Vi pause, exchanging a glance. The moment breaks as  
the doors to the chamber open, and Rachel and Ruth enter.

PRYOR

All the patients secure?

RACHEL

(nods)

They're all locked up for their own  
safety. Plenty of supplies and Ruth  
checked the backup power in case we  
black out.

DAWN

(sarcastic)

Confident, much?

Rachel nudges Dawn playfully and Pryor leads Dawn after a  
beat to a quiet corner while the others talk.

(CONTINUED)

PRYOR

Dawn... in case anything happens...

DAWN

I'll be fine. I'm not going to let myself get carried away this time. If I feel it going wrong, then I stop. I swear.

PRYOR

(nods)

I hope so.

(beat; more confident)

I know so.

(beat)

But the extra power that you'll have, it's like a buffer in case -

DAWN

(joking)

What? I blow a fuse?

PRYOR

(serious)

Yes.

DAWN

(beat)

Oh.

PRYOR

I just want you to be careful. We've lost too many good people recently.

(beat)

I don't want to lose another.

DAWN

Thanks.

(beat; cheerful)

And anyway, I'm starting to realise death doesn't stick to people like us as much as you'd think.

Dawn's attempts at humour fall on deaf ears as Pryor, genuinely worried, walks away as the team prepare to get ready.

Scott is sat at his desk, chewing on the end of a PENCIL, apparently contemplating something deep in his mind.

HOLD ON his focused image for a long beat before:

**SLAM!**

(CONTINUED)

A STACK of FILES DROP HEAVILY onto the desk, jolting Scott out of his concentration. He looks up and sees a perky looking OFFICE CLERK with long blonde hair and a big smile.

OFFICE CLERK

Here are the files you ordered. And here...

(produces coffee)

... is your black, two sugars, sir.

SCOTT

(smiles)

Thanks, Decadway.

DECADWAY smiles at Scott as she walks away, practically floating on air as Scott pulls the top of the case files towards him.

ANGLE ON FILES: They're all standard issue files by the look of them, but a name catches our eye and forces us to PUSH IN on it.

It reads: 'Investigating Officer: Quinn, J'.

LATER:

Scott is several folders in now. Decadway tops up his coffee before leaving. Scott rubs his eyes, clearly shattered by his long day.

DECADWAY

(still cheerful)

Burning the midnight oil?

SCOTT

(distracted)

Yeah, yeah...

DECADWAY

It was such a shame about Jon, wasn't it?

SCOTT

I never really knew the guy. Different shifts, you know. I heard he was kind of a -

VOICE (O.S.)

Excuse me?

Scott looks up, expecting Decadway but sees a young man with swallowy looks and a nervous disposition. His name's WALTER and his smart suit suggests a job way above Scott's station.

SCOTT

Can I help?

(CONTINUED)

WALTER

My... employer would like to speak  
to you, Mr. Jacobs.

Scott glances at Decadway, who heads off and leaves them to  
it. Scott rises, looking Walter up and down.

SCOTT

Well, in a suit like that you  
either work for the press, Internal  
Affairs or a law firm, and if I  
just check my schedule...

He holds up a desk diary - keeping it closed - peers at it,  
then puts it back down.

SCOTT (cont'd)

... then it looks like I'm all  
booked out. Sorry. Come back later.

WALTER

(beat)

I work for Mayor Wilkins, Detective  
Jacobs, and he would like to speak  
with you. I suggest you don't keep  
him waiting.

And with that, Walter walks away. Scott hesitates, puzzled,  
then quickly downs his coffee and hurries after him.

Decadway watches the two men leave, curious, as we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT TWO**

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

23

EXT. DESERT - DAY

23

Back in Noa's world, with the purple, shifting sands, high twin suns and gentle breeze flowing across the desert.

Down by the crushed, buckled remains of a PT Cruiser, a small camp has been set up - canopies against the wind and heat.

Down inside the shelter sit NOA and KINCAID, wrapped up tight against the elements as Kincaid checks a small CAMPFIRE.

He pours something into a bowl from a little cooking pot held over the fire, passing the bowl to Noa.

NOA

(sniffs bowl)

Mmm. I tell ya, I can't even spell half of the things I've eaten since I came here, but boy am I ever gonna miss them.

He sits down beside her, holding a bowl of his own.

NOA (cont'd)

I mean, yeah, we've been out here a while now so sooner or later we're gonna have to go stock up on more food and water, but still...

She SIPS from her bowl, smiling happily.

NOA (cont'd)

I don't know what it is and I don't care. I just want it.

She takes another gulp. Kincaid chuckles.

KINCAID

Food and water won't be a problem. There's an oasis just past that next dune, and I've seen plenty of kumo rats scampering around. They're pretty docile so they're easy to catch, and they taste great.

NOA

Now, see, when you start making me visualise the actual act of hunting and killing something, suddenly my dinner doesn't seem quite as appetising.

(CONTINUED)

KINCAID

If you're not hungry, there's  
plenty of other ways we can pass  
the time...

He raises an eyebrow. She pretends to be offended, SWATTING  
his arm.

NOA

Glenn Kincaid, you know very well  
we don't do that before I've eaten!

KINCAID

No, no, of course. Sorry.  
(beat)  
How about afterwards?

NOA

Then all bets are off.

He grins, leaning over for a quick KISS. She takes another  
gulp from her bowl, Kincaid watching her.

KINCAID

You really like that stuff, don't  
you?

NOA

Like it? If I could figure out how  
to make it, I'd sell the recipe and  
make a million off it. I can't wait  
to tell Faith and the others about  
it at last. I mean, we'll have to  
kind of guess a lot of the  
ingredients seeing as we don't have  
joujouka beetles or yonia root  
where I come from...

KINCAID

Maybe I can help your friends find  
the nearest alternative.

He SIPS from his bowl, then notices Noa staring at him.

KINCAID (cont'd)

What?

NOA

You said... do you mean what I  
think you mean?

KINCAID

I mean, I told you before - I'm not  
leaving you.

(CONTINUED)

NOA

You want to come home? With me?

KINCAID

Why not?

NOA

But... I mean...

He coolly takes another sip, but Noa puts her bowl down.

KINCAID

(beat)

Something wrong with the soup?

NOA

(awkward)

I don't... I mean, I do, but I  
can't... you...

KINCAID

I've made up my mind. I've spent my  
whole life in the village. I'm  
ready to see what else is out  
there. You've told me about the  
Gateway, about how you and your  
friends travel to other worlds,  
other dimensions... and I want to  
see it too. With you.

NOA

Glenn... there's something I need  
to tell you.

He watches her, waiting. She takes a long time to gather her  
thought.

NOA (cont'd)

Back home, before I came here, I...  
I couldn't walk.

KINCAID

(frowns)

Why not?

NOA

I was attacked. By one of the bad  
guys. Actually, by an evil version  
of one of my friends, but...

(off his look)

Never mind. Point is, I was hurt.  
Bad. And I couldn't walk after  
that. I had to go everywhere in...

(bitter laugh)

In a little chair with wheels.

(CONTINUED)

KINCAID

What do you call that?

NOA

(beat)

A wheelchair.

KINCAID

Oh.

NOA

The point is... something about this world made me walk again. I mean, yeah, at first I thought I'd fallen into an episode of 'Lost,' and some big ass black smoke monster was gonna come get me, and... and you have no idea what any of this means, but anyway. The point is...

KINCAID

You're afraid to go back, in case it happens again.

She stays quiet. He reaches round, turning her face towards him.

KINCAID (cont'd)

It doesn't matter.

NOA

It matters to me!

KINCAID

Then we'll face it together. Noa, I fell in love with you the moment I first laid eyes on you.

NOA

('yeah, right')

I was passed out in the middle of the desert. I looked like an extra from a zombie movie.

KINCAID

(grins)

After that. When we brought you home, and I waited by your bed for you to wake up.

NOA

But... I was asleep for three days, you told me...

It sinks in. Her heart melts.

(CONTINUED)

KINCAID

So if you think I'm going to let  
something like this...

He lays a hand on her leg.

KINCAID (cont'd)

... take away what I feel in  
here...

He takes her hand, placing it against his chest.

KINCAID (cont'd)

... then you can think again.

She holds his gaze for a long beat.

KINCAID (cont'd)

Say something.

NOA

Shut up and kiss the hell out of me  
right now.

He grins as she tosses her soup away, GRABS him and pulls him  
close, their kissing rapidly heating up as we CUT TO:

Starting in darkness, the Control Room starts to LIGHT UP - a  
line of PANELS along the floor first, before overhead lights  
flare up.

Dawn is the first to descend the steps as the Control Room  
finishes warming up, various panels, markings and elements  
GLOWING softly.

Behind her follows Faith, Vi and Pryor. Dawn heads straight  
for the control pedestal, while Faith nudges Vi to get her to  
hang back.

FAITH

Look, uh... if you wanna have one  
last shot at trying to pass the  
tattoo over, then we can -

VI

Thanks, I think I got it.

FAITH

(blinks)

You sure? I mean... we don't know  
what kind of crazy stuff could  
happen this time, so I just figured  
you -

VI

Might want to back out of it?  
Relax, Faith. I think I'm getting  
the hang of how this thing works  
now.

She pats the WARDEN TATTOO on her forearm.

VI (cont'd)

I'll be okay for tonight.

With that, she walks on. Faith isn't sure what to make of that, finally resuming her descent.

VI (cont'd)

Oh, and by the way?

Vi stops, turning back to Faith.

VI (cont'd)

You shove me out of your way in the  
middle of a fight ever again, and  
we will have a problem.

Vi walks on, leaving a speechless Faith behind.

Pryor leaves his monitoring equipment and joins Dawn, who is CRACKING her knuckles and rolling her neck, loosening her muscles.

PRYOR

Does any of that help?

DAWN

Ask me after we've done this.

Dawn shuts her eyes, breathing slow and deep. Pryor glances back over at his racks of PCs, monitors and equipment - much of it still bearing the scars of their last rescue attempt.

PRYOR

I've just finished running the  
diagnostics for...

(beat)

Well, everything, actually. We're  
as safe and secure as we can be.

DAWN

Good. Go tell Vi. Let's get this  
thing booted up so I can go kick  
some ass.

Pryor checks one of his printed schematics and nods at Vi, who steps up to the pedestal.

(CONTINUED)

She does a similar warm-up to dawn, before finally extending her hands over the glass tubes, closing her eyes.

Slowly, she starts to move her hands over the tubes, each one emitting a short HUM at different pitches as she does so.

A thin sliver of LIGHT suddenly appears in the air before the pedestal. Dawn looks up, keeping her eyes glued to it.

As the others watch, the sliver expands, becoming a thick rectangle of shimmering light, until with a final, brief BLAZE of light, the light fades away...

... to reveal a DOORWAY suspended in the air, shifting and flowing between many different styles.

DAWN (cont'd)

Thanks, Vi.

She walks up to the doorway, holding her hand in the air just before it.

CLOSE ON Dawn as she takes a breath. She's scared but trying not to show it.

DAWN (cont'd)

Okay, Summers, time to clean up what you started...

(closes eyes)

Powers, don't fail me now.

REVERSE ANGLE to see the gang watching Dawn, looking far from a 'power source' in her tank top and jeans.

VI

How will we know when she's, you know... channelling?

PRYOR

I imagine there'll be something suitably dramatic to -

Dawn GASPS as a wave of LIGHT flows over her, her hair billowing out in a non-existent breeze and her eyes GLOWING!

FAITH

Like that?

Dawn turns back to the others, a wicked smile on her face. WHITE, PULSING LIGHT starts to thicken all around her.

DAWN

We've got power!

(CONTINUED)

As more and more energy surrounds Dawn, the control room lights FLICKER as the energy flows towards Dawn, who stretches her arms out.

Dawn's body itself begins to SHIMMER like a mirage, with flickers of bright GREEN LIGHT shining through her.

PUSH IN on the doorway as Dawn's hand hovers just in front of it, the rapidly shifting doors swirling faster and faster...

... and as Dawn's hand finally SLAMS against the doorways, we SMASH CUT TO:

SWEEP ACROSS the desert as a distant RUMBLE of thunder sounds, before Noa and Kincaid's campsite comes into view.

Noa and Kincaid are huddled up together in the warmth of the dying fire, wrapped in each other's arms.

Two of the three MOONS are visible, casting both silvery and blue shadows all over the barren wasteland of the realm.

Noa STIRS in her sleep and then blinks several times as she awakens.

NOA

What time is it?

Kincaid starts, coming round to find Noa staring at him.

KINCAID

I'd say...

(beat)

... too early.

NOA

(chuckling)

Amen to that.

(yawns)

What I wouldn't give for a latte right about now...

KINCAID

A what?

NOA

A 'latte' is just one of the many amazing things you're going to come to love about my world.

Kincaid smiles, the couple sharing a KISS.

KINCAID

As long as you're in it, all the...  
'latte' in the world doesn't matter  
to me.

NOA

Now, see, you're only saying that  
because you've never tried a  
caramel macchiato. Trust me.

Noa smiles and kisses him once more before standing, moving  
towards the dying fire and tending to it.

Kincaid wraps his arms around her waist and as they lean  
towards each other for another sweet embrace - and a TREMOR  
shakes the earth, enough to knock them apart!

NOA (cont'd)

What the...

Kincaid and Noa struggle to their feet and see PULSES  
APPEARING in the night sky. BOLTS of blue ELECTRICITY are  
materialising right before their eyes!

NOA (cont'd)

It's them! They're back!

The electricity's several hundred feet above them as it  
starts to CRACKLE and spread from the 'eye' of the storm.

NOA (cont'd)

(smiles fades)

Uh-oh. This better not be like the  
last time...

KINCAID

It's alright. We're the only people  
for miles. The village will be  
safe.

KRA-KOW! A bolt of LIGHTNING slams into the desert nearby.

NOA

It's not the village I'm worried  
about!

Another TREMOR knocks him aside, and Noa rushes to help him.

NOA (cont'd)

Are you alright?

KINCAID

I'm fine, I'm fine.

They both look to the turbulent skies as we CUT TO:

26 INT. GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

26

Dawn is frowning, SWEAT dripping from her. Her body still PULSES with bright light.

Further back, the others are watching with growing concern. The control room lights keep FLICKERING.

FAITH

Man, I hope we were right about this...

PRYOR

Faith, now really isn't the time to have an attack of conscience!

VI

Guys! Will you knock it off? Dawn needs us!

A TREMOR rattles the room, dislodging several of Pryor's PCs. They SMASH against the floor.

VI (cont'd)

Actually... yeah, maybe we should give her some room.

They start to back away, a loud HUM starting to fill the room.

Over by Dawn, LINES of energy start snaking out from her feet, little SPARKS snapping off her as we CUT TO:

27 EXT. DESERT - NIGHT

27

Noa and Kincaid are huddled down, their shelter buffeted by heavy winds as they watch the electrical storm above them.

NOA

You're sure there's nobody else out here?

KINCAID

I'm sure!

NOA

Good! Because things look like they're getting kinda -

However, at that moment, GREEN ENERGY starts to SPIKE through the world. The icicle-like shards of energy APPEAR rapidly and begin to destroy anything in sight.

A large SPIKE of the energy PUNCHES its way through a distant MOUNTAIN, SMASHING it into two!

(CONTINUED)

NOA (cont'd)

Woah!

The rubble drops, causing painful rumbles as Noa and Kincaid DODGE another bit of the energy which CONNECTS to another - and a PORTAL starts to appear!

All around them now, smaller energies are connecting to each other and MORPHING into portals. One by one they open and begin to SUCK everything towards them.

Noa clutches Kincaid as they grab for their stuff. They try to grab their backpacks - but everything is SUCKED STRAIGHT INTO a nearby portal!

NOA (cont'd)

No! Damn it, everything I had was in there!

KINCAID

Our supplies don't matter right now!

NOA

Says you! What if this doesn't work, and we're stranded in the middle of the desert like this?

Kincaid is staring at something before her, and she follows his gaze:

The PORTAL that appeared before them is FLICKERING and SHIMMERING like liquid - and a vision of Dawn and the others back in the Gateway starts to appear!

NOA (cont'd)

(wide-eyed; yells)

Dawn! Guys! I'm here!

She GRABS Kincaid's hand and starts to SPRINT towards the portal, even as more bolts of energy BLAST into the sands!

They're almost there - when another BLAST of wayward energy strikes just inches away, knocking them apart:

And Noa falls straight through another PORTAL which opens up behind her!

KINCAID

(screams)

Noa!

Kincaid hauls himself up, racing for the new entrance and DIVES through it as we SMASH CUT TO:

28 INT. GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

28

Dawn suddenly SNAPS back from the doorways, energy still flowing off her in waves.

FAITH

What is it? What's wrong?

DAWN

I had her! Damn it... I found her!  
She was right there in front of me,  
and then... I lost her again.

The others exchange concerned looks - but Dawn just grits her teeth and steps forward.

DAWN (cont'd)

To hell with this. I'm not losing  
her twice in one night.

And before anyone can speak she's CLAMPED her hands firmly against the doorway again, and we CUT TO:

29 EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

29

CLOSE ON Noa's face as she BLINKS into awareness. She struggles to her feet - and then GAPES at the world in front of her as we PAN AROUND for it.

The sky is a bruised colour of blue and purple with a singular moon that looks red in the sky. Noa's stood in a COURTYARD of some description, cold and hard stone beneath her now bare feet.

In front of her is a building that's a unique blend of a cathedral, a Buddhist temple and a palace. The entire outside is jagged, as if it was hewn straight from the stone and the building is a dark grey colour, with splashes of crimson and oil black.

Ceremonial BANNERS of blood red silk hang from jutting parapets, with silver MARKINGS on them and STATUES of warriors, wearing Samurai-like armour that looks Satanic at best stand guard around the large courtyard.

Traditional BOWLS burn with offered fire and Noa turns as a WAR CRY sounds out throughout the entire courtyard!

GUARDS are speeding towards her, about two metres tall each, they're wearing a looser form of the traditional, Japanese-esque armour that the statues are wearing.

With no helmets protecting their faces, she sees they have narrowed eyes and have small SPIKES protruding from their mouths and ears, with more liberally spread across the rest of their faces.

(CONTINUED)

Noa watches in fear as the guards crowd around her, surrounding her in a circle of armour and steel.

NOA

Who... Who are you? Where am I?

The guards all DRAW KATANAS as one, a forest of razor-sharp metal encircling her.

As the guards raise their katanas and prepare to cut her down, Noa sees no defence and closes her eyes...

... just as Kincaid DROPS into view, a green CRACKLE and a loud SNAP accompanying him as he CRASHES into the guards!

They fall like skittles, the circle quickly crumbling as he rolls gracefully to Noa's side.

KINCAID

Are you alright?

NOA

What the hell happened?

KINCAID

You fell through another hole in the world. I came after you.

He quickly grabs two of the KATANAS, tossing one to Noa and gripping the other for himself.

NOA

(beat)

Right. This isn't going to be a good day any more, is it?

The duo get to their feet, back-to-back as the huge guards slowly start to climb to their feet, and we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT THREE**

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

30

EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

30

Kincaid blocks a blow from one guard before SLASHING another across the neck. He ROUNDHOUSE KICKS another and GUTS him sharply before RIPPING his sword out and JABBING it straight into another!

Noa DUCKS a SLASH and then RAMS her sword home through the guard's CHEST before tentatively pushing the dead man from her blade and then SLASHING clumsily at another, knocking him back but not injuring him.

She manages to sidestep a blow and then sprints towards a statue, a GUARD following her.

She turns and ducks at the last second, avoiding the sword which the Guard had just swung at her, forcing to SLAM into the statue where it remains STUCK. Noa GRINS and then PUNCHES the Guard in the face before DROP KICKING him.

TRACK OVER to see Kincaid whirling his sword about, cutting down guards left, right and centre.

He's GRABBED by a pair of guards but manages to kick one down, allowing him to SLIT the throat of another. However he's SNAP KICKED and PUNCHED by another, SLASHING desperately as he becomes rapidly outnumbered.

Noa SPOTS him and SPRINTS over to her lover. She LEAPS over a ceremonial bowl and turns, shoving her sword into the fire until it GLOWS with the painful heat.

Speeding over to the rapidly weakening Kincaid, she SMASHES the red-hot sword against the unprotected faces of the guards, eliciting SCREAMS of pain.

Kincaid NODS his thanks and soon they're defending themselves once more, ducking and weaving and slashing and stabbing like professionals.

ECHOES of the same, guttural language bounce throughout the scene as the battle continues until:

VOICE (O.S.)

&lt;STOP!!&gt;

The Guards manhandle Kincaid and Noa and step aside, the sea of warriors parting as a FIGURE makes his way through.

He's flanked by several of the men who are in flowing red ROBES. The Figure is wearing a blend of the soldiers' armour and the robes. With a deformed but OTT crown on his head, he is obviously in charge of the world they're in now.

(CONTINUED)

There are GNARLED BONES over his body and his hands look like they belong to Death himself, with red and purple veins and arteries criss-crossing all over.

He looks down at the bewildered Kincaid and Noa with a mixture of intrigue and distaste.

ROBED FIGURE

<Where have they come from?>

A warrior steps forward, a GENERAL, and bows to him before speaking:

GENERAL

<They... arrived here but we do not know how, o great lord Aku.>

AKU turns back to our duo as another of the robed men, a MYSTIC, steps forward.

MYSTIC

<We sensed a disturbance, a surge of unnatural power, as they arrived. They may be travellers who used the zwara to journey here, my lord.>

AKU

<Then they may be of use...>

Aku leans forward, LEERING at Noa, who looks repulsed.

AKU (cont'd)

<... especially this little one.>

(beat)

<Take the warrior away. We will deal with the woman first. Bring her to my quarters.>

Almost immediately, the guards begin dragging Noa and Kincaid apart as Aku heads back towards his PALACE.

Kincaid is dragged across the courtyard while Noa is hoisted over the shoulder of one guard, kicking and screaming for all she's worth, her eyes fixed on Kincaid.

NOA

(frantic)

No! No! Put me down! Put me down!  
Glenn! Glenn!

KINCAID

Noa! Noa!

Off Noa's screaming image, this forces a SMASH CUT TO:

31 INT. GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

31

The lights are PULSING rapidly on and off now as the team crowd together behind Dawn.

The girl herself is in the same position she was, but the halo effect of energy is increasing around her and her eyes are now the same bright shade of green as the energy spikes.

However, as a low HUM sounds, the lights in the Chamber Room go out and within seconds, the EMERGENCY LIGHTS flick on, bathing the room in pale red light.

FAITH

Pryor! She's using too much power!

DAWN

I can do this! I just need to focus... give me another -

She JOLTS back into her position as ENERGY washes over her. However, at that moment in time, an ALARM sounds and Pryor's walkie talkie CRACKLES to life:

RACHEL

(filtered; over radio)

Pryor? Pryor, come in!

PRYOR

(into radio)

We hear you, Rachel. Is everything alright upstairs?

RACHEL

No! Everything is absolutely not alright! It's the patients!

Pryor and Faith exchange a worried look as we CUT TO:

32 INT. ASYLUM - WEST WING - NEXT

32

Rachel looks up as several ORDERLIES hurry down a hallway past her. She follows - and as she enters the next corridor, we see that the previously-sealed doors to the various patient's rooms are all wide open!

33 INT. ASYLUM - PATIENT CORRIDOR - NEXT

33

SMASH! A window SHATTERS as a female patient, wild-eyed and looking like someone swapped her meds dodges past an orderly and THROWS a chair through the window.

Rob and another orderly grab her and drag her back into her room whilst two others grab a patient who nearly pounces onto the unprepared Ruth.

(CONTINUED)

Rachel grabs a vial of a drug and loads the syringe with it while Ruth helps keep a thrashing patient down.

As soon as Rachel injects the patient with the drug, she subsides and the orderlies rush her back into her room, sealing the door as soon as she's trapped back down.

RACHEL

I just hope this is all worth it.

RUTH

(nods; re: patients)

Let's get this sorted out. They've got their own troubles to deal with down there.

Rachel nods as the two head back into the fray, causing us to CUT TO:

Dawn is GLOWING now, brighter than ever before as she takes in deep, albeit shaky breaths. Her long dark hair is FLOWING behind her.

Faith and Vi watch her with a mixture of awe and horror, while Pryor works on a laptop, running tests.

ON LATOP: The outline of the Gateway is on the screen but bright red and orange fills the shape. The bright red starts to shift to WHITE as the energy levels continue to climb.

ON SCENE as Pryor pushes away from the laptop and hurries to Dawn's side and he sees her fully.

She's glowing a transcendent golden colour, and her face is a picture of concentration as the energy increases - despite the BLOOD running from her nose.

PRYOR

Dawn, you have to stop this! You're pushing too much power through yourself, the Gateway can't cope! You're going to overload it just like you did before!

DAWN

(calm)

It'll be fine, Pryor.

Her voice cuts through the noise crystal clear, and a surprised Pryor steps back.

Energy SWIRLS around Dawn, becoming higher and higher with each passing moment as we CUT TO:

35

INT. TEMPLE - DAY

35

Inside an open plan ceremonial temple, black and red banners FLUTTERING in a breeze as Aku, wearing the traditional robes but with a curved and vicious looking SCIMITAR in his hands, walks towards a THRONE. He also has a WEAPON in a black silk SHEATH strapped to his back.

The light coming down is pale, vaguely illuminating the huge court and the floors are cold and are made of some black stone, veined with red and silver.

As several large CEREMONIAL DRUMS come into view and their DRUMMERS begin a slow, dark beat, Noa is manhandled into frame by the guards - now wearing a blood red kimono-style ROBE over her dirty clothing.

The guards holding Noa release her and she stumbles, landing before the imposing Aku.

AKU  
<Who are you?>

NOA  
(beat)  
What?

AKU  
(louder)  
<Where did you come from? How did you arrive here?>

NOA  
(sighs)  
In case you haven't noticed, I don't understand your language, you two-storey dumbass.

Aku pauses, glancing at one of his mystics. The robed man scurries up to Noa, quickly painting a SYMBOL on her cheek with black ink.

NOA (cont'd)  
Hey! The hell are you doing?

AKU  
(English)  
Who are you?

NOA  
(beat; back to sass)  
Why? Who wants to know?

AKU  
Right now, it is not your place to ask questions.

(CONTINUED)

NOA

(shrugs)

I'm a New Yorker. Comes with the territory.

(beat)

Where am I?

AKU

This is my world. The Kingdom of the Lost Blades, it was called in the old tongues.

NOA

Right. Well, thanks for the new outfit and all, but if you just want to let me and my man go right now, that'd be great.

Aku and the others look blank. Noa sighs.

NOA (cont'd)

Never mind.

(beat)

Where's Kincaid?

AKU

Your... lover?

NOA

Yes.

AKU

He is... indisposed at the moment.

NOA

(deadly)

If you've laid one finger on him...

Aku leans toward her, touching her neck with the edge of his scimitar's viciously sharp blade.

AKU

Then you will do what?

NOA

(bravely)

If you've laid one finger on him, then I can promise you my friends will lodge that sword somewhere you'll never see it again. But you'll feel it. Every time you sit down.

AKU

(chuckles)

So brave for someone so alone.

(CONTINUED)

NOA

Says you with your guards and sharp  
knife and big freaky temple of  
doom...

(beat; smirks)

Big weapon. Compensating, much?

Aku SNARLS and CRACKS Noa across her face. She makes a FIST  
but doesn't retaliate.

AKU

Actually, it is your 'friends' I  
need you for.

(beat)

Open the portal you came in from.  
Take me to your world.

NOA

(snorts)

Like that's going to happen!  
Anyway, I didn't open the portal.

AKU

But you carry the essence of  
someone who has travelled through  
them.

NOA

So?

AKU

(smile)

So I'm going to harness that  
essence and make sure your friends  
come to find you.

Noa doesn't know quite what he means but from the look on his  
face, it's far from good, forcing us to CUT TO:

In the dim light, Dawn BURNS with fierce, bright light, her  
body hidden inside the blazing incandescence.

The floor has CRACKED in several places beneath her, SPARKS  
of power leaking out. The HUM has reached a deafening,  
constant volume now.

Faith, Vi and Pryor are pressed up against the back wall,  
hands clamped over their ears against the noise.

CLOSE ON DAWN, ethereal within the haze of power. BLOOD still  
drips from her, the red stark against the pure white - but  
the droplet of blood DISPERSES, the very atoms of it turning  
to DUST before they hit the ground.

(CONTINUED)

DAWN  
(gritted)  
I'm... almost...

She grimaces, pushing harder and harder as we CUT TO:

Aku moves to STRIKE Noa once more but a sudden EARTHQUAKE sends everyone FLYING!

One of the drummers slips and the drum SLAMS into a PILLAR, which in turn CRUSHES several of the guards as they rush forward!

However, the same GREEN ENERGY is forming and Noa looks up to see a familiar sight - a PORTAL is forming with the ASYLUM on the other side!

NOA  
Yes! Hang on! I'm coming!

Noa looks overjoyed but DIVES sideways when a secondary pillar COLLAPSES and SMASHES an enormous hole in the side of the temple.

The silk banners are TORN and lay in tattered heaps and Noa GRABS one of them, TOSSING it over an approaching GUARD.

A third pillar collapses, SLAMMING into a DRUMMER and sending BLOOD and BONE SPRAYING onto the scene, causing Noa to duck.

He swerves and SKEWERS another guard in the chest with his blade. Noa jumps and PUNCHES the other guard unconscious.

Aku stands and looks down at his scimitar, which has SNAPPED in two with the force of the destruction. He SNARLS and tosses it aside before pulling his SHEATHED WEAPON and UNFOLDING it.

It's a beauty. A weapon shaped a lot like a certain Scythe but with a steel and bronze curved blade that juts out as a handle. There's a grip built into the steel and Aku clutches it with one hand, SMIRKING at the look of fear that's Noa's expression right now as Aku handles his SCYTHE, or in his native tongue, a GAIHUR.

Noa BOLTS, rushing forward and SCOOPING UP one of the dead guards' weapons and then turning just in time to meet a vicious SNAP from Aku.

With all her strength, she PUSHES the sword away and looks to the portal to the Asylum, still holding but rapidly weakening like before.

Aku SLASHES sideways with his *gaihur* and Noa DUCKS, slamming the *gaihur* into a quickly crumbling pillar. He struggles to break free and WRENCHES it just in time to BLOCK a clumsy STAB from Noa.

A surviving guard LAUNCHES himself at Noa but she DUCKS a double-handed SLASH from Aku and the guard is BEHEADED!

His limp body falls to the ground and Noa takes the chance to KICK Aku. It's not a strong kick, but it's enough in the trembling ground to knock him off balance.

CUT TO:

Dawn is straining with every fibre of her being as her very body starts to give into the pressure that both the Gateway and her own mind is putting on it.

CRACKS start to form across her skin, her flowing hair BURNING and falling away from her.

Faith and Vi are forced back by a SHOCKWAVE of energy that pushes out from Dawn and Pryor LEAPS BACK from his laptop which SPARKS and then EXPLODES, the electrical energy being sucked into the maelstrom that is Dawn.

FAITH  
(yells)  
Dawn! Turn it off!

VI  
(also yelling)  
Dawn!

DAWN  
Almost... there... there!

CUT TO:

Noa rushes forward, pushing and dodging past rubble as she edges further to the portal.

Aku picks up his *gaihur* and THROWS it with a practised aim. It SLAMS into the wall, PIERCING the edge of Noa's thick, ceremonial robe.

NOA  
Ah!

She starts to freak out, tearing desperately at the material but KICKS out at a MYSTIC who attempts to hold onto her.

(CONTINUED)

NOA (cont'd)  
(yelling)  
Get offa me, you Ang Lee reject!

Aku SMIRKS as he heads towards Noa, even as she starts RIPPING the fabric away.

He SNATCHES a SWORD and PLOUGHS it straight towards Noa. She CLOSES her EYES - and then SWINGS away from the wall.

The blade SLICES straight through the fabric, freeing Noa!

She lands in a heap, but looks up to see that she's free. She takes a second to SMIRK at Aku - and then she's off!

The portal has started to SHRINK once more and Noa SCREAMS as she runs past the destruction, a furious yell of pent-up emotions BURSTING OUT as she DIVES STRAIGHT THROUGH the portal!

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

Dawn throws her head back and lets out a SCREAM, the sound quickly lost as the rising ROAR of sound around her keeps building...

... the light surrounding her WHITES OUT before there's a BLAZE of green energy from within it...

... and NOA hurtles out of the light, landing in a heap on the floor and skidding across towards the others!

The light is GONE. The emergency lights cut out, the control room lights clicking back on.

The others gingerly look up from behind their shelter - Noa's rapid BREATHING is the only sound.

Faith is the first to spot her, bursting from behind the pedestal and racing over.

FAITH  
Noa!

She GRABS Noa as she slides across the floor to her, wrapping her arms around her and LAUGHING with relief.

Vi and Pryor quickly follow, also joining the group hug as they throw their arms around Noa and Faith.

FAITH (cont'd)  
You made it! You made it!

Breathless, Noa manages a smile at last.

(CONTINUED)

NOA  
(beat)  
Tada?

Faith releases her, the others pulling back to allow themselves this moment.

FAITH  
Are you okay? Are you hurt?

VI  
Why are you dressed like a geisha girl?

PRYOR  
(into radio)  
Ruth, get the infirmary ready -  
Noa's back! Dawn did it!

Noa smiles - then reaches out for Faith to take her hands.

FAITH  
(confused)  
What?

NOA  
Trust me. Just do it.

Faith reaches out and takes her hands - and the others watch in amazement as Noa pulls herself to her feet!

VI  
Oh, my God!

PRYOR  
It's... it's impossible!

NOA  
Oh, it's possible, Pryor. Guys, I have got one hell of a story to tell you, but first we have to go back so we can rescue -

She suddenly falters, her smile dropping as she jerks to one side.

NOA (cont'd)  
No...

And she CRASHES back to the floor as her legs fail her. Yelling in pain, she COLLAPSES, falling onto her back, still screeching absolute agony.

FAITH  
Noa!

(CONTINUED)

The others crowd round her as Noa pushes herself upright, looking down at her legs.

She tries to move her leg, but it doesn't move an inch. She tries her toes, tears springing to her eyes - but there's no movement whatsoever.

NOA  
(desperate)  
No... no... no! No! Please, God,  
no! No!

She furiously tries to regain any movement - but there's nothing. The team look down at her with wonder, pity and grief for a long beat, before:

VI  
Dawnie?

The team look round, over to where the doorway stood.

There's nothing there. The CRACKS in the floor are still open, and there's a huge SCORCH MARK on the ground from the energy unleashed...

... but no Dawn.

Faith rises, Pryor staying on his knees with Noa as Vi runs past the pedestal, stopping at the marks burned into the floor.

VI (cont'd)  
Dawn? Dawn! Where are you? Dawn!

PUSH IN on Faith, as a look of sheer, chilling horror sweeps over her.

VI (cont'd)  
(screams)  
Dawn!!

**BLACK OUT:**