

# FAITH

"Invasion"

by  
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## TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. NEW YORK CITY - DUSK 1

It's just to ESTABLISH, but we SWEEP THROUGH the grand Big Apple. The skies are gray, dark clouds overhead, before we CUT TO:

2 INT. ASYLUM - PRYOR'S OFFICE - SAME TIME 2

RUTH is working at the computer at Pryor's official desk, although the man himself is nowhere to be seen.

She taps a little more and consults a FOLDER of PAPERS at her side before continuing to type something.

Behind her, through the window, RAIN splatters against the glass as Ruth continues to work.

NOA (O.S.)

Hey.

Ruth turns around, her tinted GLASSES in place, and spots NOA in the doorway, dressed smartly in her WHEELCHAIR.

RUTH

(smiles)

Hello, Noa.

Noa indicates the cup of COFFEE in her hand.

NOA

Brought you some of the elixir of  
life otherwise known as espresso.

(beat)

Hey, not getting second degree burns over here for nothing, am I?

Ruth takes the mug gratefully as Noa wheels herself fully into the room.

NOA (cont'd)

So, where is the big man? I needed to talk to him about some reports of a elemental water demon down in Midtown. Probably some kid who got high and saw 'Cloverfield' too many times.

RUTH

(beat)

He... Pryor hasn't been here for a week. Or if he has, I haven't seen him.

(CONTINUED)

NOA

(eyebrows raised)

He's not been here for a week? I just thought he'd loosened up a bit around the place, not actually done a Houdini.

RUTH

I've spoken to Jerry and to Rachel and Faith... no one's seen him for a week. It's like he just disappeared.

NOA

(concerned)

Hasn't he been in his lab for something?

RUTH

(shakes head)

No, nothing. He hasn't left a message or anything...

NOA

(comforting)

He'll be fine. This is Pryor - if anyone tries to hurt him, he'll bore them to death.

Ruth manages a chuckle as Noa leaves, wheeling herself out of the room and along the corridor.

Ruth looks down at the mountain of papers beside her and sighs. She looks down and on the desk we can see a framed PHOTOGRAPH. It's of Ruth and the man himself in happier times.

Ruth looks worried herself now, forcing us to CUT TO:

INT. ASYLUM - GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - SAME TIME

PAN ALONG the bright colours of the Control Room and land on a pair of figures standing in front of the GATEWAY.

FAITH is talking to DAWN and judging by their conversation, it's something shared in its excitement. Faith is tossing a BASEBALL around whilst sat on the floor of the Control Room.

DAWN

... so I reckon I've found a way to set up, like, warning signs on all the damaged worlds. Soon as one of the parameters goes too far off the scale, it tells me, and I can whip up a portal and have you guys out on a mission like snap!

(CONTINUED)

FAITH

'Missions'? We're not IMF, y'know.  
We'd have to be like... MWSMF or  
something.

DAWN

'MWSMF'?

FAITH

You know, 'Multiple Worlds Saving  
Mission... Force.'

DAWN

Okay, you don't get to make the  
abbreviations. Ever. Mind you, I  
only learned what a MILF was a few  
months ago...

FAITH

("moving on...")

If you're using up so much of yours  
and the gateway's power to do all  
this, though, won't that stretch  
you kinda thin?

DAWN

Well, I kinda accidentally cracked  
the worlds in the first place,  
right? So, in theory, if I use the  
same...

Suddenly Dawn GRIMACES, holding her stomach. Faith steps up,  
looking concerned.

FAITH

What's up?

DAWN

It's fine, it's probably just an  
energy... reflux or something. Like  
indigestion, but with magic.

(beat)

Anyway, if I use the same energy, I  
can restore them and stop their  
world falling into the sea or  
whatever. I just need you guys to  
tell me where and when...

Dawn grimaces again, her face contorted with pain - and then  
LIGHTS start to GLOW in the Control Room.

Too bright colours start to FLASH and then the walls and  
ground begin to TREMOR slightly. Faith manages to keep her  
footing as she and Dawn look around, trying to find the  
source of whatever it is...

(CONTINUED)

... and the Gateway LIGHTS UP, glowing a darker blue than normal. GROANING can be heard, as if metal were giving away beneath their feet.

Faith turns to Dawn who's doubled over with the pain she's feeling.

FAITH  
What did you do?

DAWN  
I didn't do anything! It's not -

Just then, ENERGY SWIRLS behind Dawn - and a PORTAL MATERIALISES into view!

Faith's baseball gets sucked straight in and VANISHES with a flash.

FAITH  
What the -

Immediately it begins to suck Dawn in towards it - and despite her attempts, Dawn's suddenly thrown back into the portal and DISAPPEARS with a FLASH!

The green energy of the portal BLAZES and Dawn's unceremoniously ejected from it with a CRY, landing in a tangled heap.

She looks up after a beat and meets the unblinking gaze of several MYSTICS.

She's laid in the cold stone COURTYARD of a palace's GARDENS.

Fields of golden grass spread out, marred only by the pink and green FLOWERS which grow there. A singular TREE, gnarled, withered with age and a dark purple colour stands out prominently.

A single, black stone ARCH appears before Dawn as she stands up, looking up.

She continues to look up and sees the blue-purple bruised sky of the world of...

VOICE  
(in English)  
It is about time you arrived, young lady.

Dawn stands, swivelling around and sees AKU. Dressed in a more formal armour than normal, he moves towards Dawn, pulling his GAIHUR from the sheath on his back.

He's wearing the national red and black silk robes, but it now wearing a silver and black METAL BREASTPLATE, adorned with dark red jewels and with several SPIKES.

To her credit, Dawn doesn't look scared. At least, not on the outside.

DAWN

All right, all right. I get it. Yay you, big evil samurai dude. You got me. How ever will I get out of this one?

Dawn moves to step out of the CIRCLE of MYSTICS but hits a MYSTICAL WALL. She steps back, shaking her head a little.

DAWN (cont'd)

Okay, the escaping part's going to be trickier than usual, I see.

AKU

You will not be going anywhere, young lady. Right now, you are our greatest asset and our key.

DAWN

Again with the 'key'!

(beat)

Okay, I'll bite, key to what?

AKU

To ending your world and making it mine.

The mystics are now clearly CHANTING, keeping Dawn trapped inside.

DAWN

Ah, Evil Speech number... fifty-nine, is that? I swear I should start writing these things down.

(to Aku)

Look, Last Samurai, let me go or I'll...

AKU

(interrupting)

You will what? You have no corporeal form here, witch.

DAWN

(smirks)

Wrong Sunnydale girl, ass. And you didn't let me finish. I was going to say...

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DAWN (cont'd)  
'Let me go or I'll call my friends  
who'll kick your ass again.'

Aku steps closer to Dawn, going as far as the circle will let him.

AKU  
(beat)  
Sometimes, beings die with  
greatness. Sometimes they die with  
pity.  
(beat; smiles)  
And with you, my dear, we are going  
to rule. With strength.

Aku NODS to his mystics and with a CRACKLE of energy, Dawn SCREAMS, forced to her knees.

Off the sight of Dawn, grimacing in vicious pain, we're forced to:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF TEASER**

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

5 INT. ASYLUM - CORRIDOR

5

The corridors are surprisingly quiet for once, ORDERLIES wandering around in their own duties as we head around a corner and land on a STAFF ROOM.

RACHEL emerges from the Staff Room, chewing on the remnants of a SANDWICH and savouring it just as...

BEEP!

Her hand instantly goes to her PAGER and as she reads it, a look of dread crosses her face as she sprints across the corridor, side-stepping orderlies who watch in her wake.

6 INT. OLD ASYLUM - GATEWAY CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER

6

Rachel BURSTS through the door and finds the others waiting for her. Noa and KINCAID are talking softly while JERRY, Ruth and VI are discussing something.

RACHEL

Sorry, sorry, really important...  
meeting...

NOA

(indicating; chuckling)  
Looks like it.

Noa indicates a spot of something from her sandwich on Rachel's face and she wipes it, embarrassed.

Faith is looking towards the Gateway, but when she spots everyone, she spins around.

FAITH

Alright. Now we're all here, let's  
go.

JERRY

You said something was wrong with -

FAITH

I said let's go!

And with that, Faith's off, activating the Gateway and opening an entrance portal, forcing us to CUT TO:

7 INT. GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - NEXT

7

The team are now in the Control Room, which looks in disarray. The colours are a little off and there's a distinctive void where Dawn normally stands.

(CONTINUED)

VI

So? What's the sitch?

FAITH

It's Dawn. She disappeared.

RACHEL

What do you mean, 'disappeared'?

FAITH

I mean, did an alakzam into some portal that popped up outta nowhere.

RUTH

She went in voluntarily?

FAITH

Nuh-uh. She was sucked in yelling her tiny brunette head off...

(beat)

And where the hell's Pryor?

NOA

(beat)

No idea, we haven't seen him for about a week. He's gone completely AWOL.

RUTH

I haven't seen him in his lab or in the Asylum...

JERRY

I haven't either.

FAITH

Damn. He's our head research... guy, person. Whatever. And whatever the hell's taken the Ghost Formerly Known As Dawn, it can't be good.

JERRY

That's a bit fatalist, ain't it?

NOA

No, that's experience talking. We've got a pretty good track record, considering.

RACHEL

Maybe we should just... try and reactivate the Gateway. Find out if Dawn's left a trail or something.

KINCAID

That will probably help.

(off looks)

And I know I understand very little  
of this device, but... well, it's  
the logical option.

Faith rolls her tee shirt sleeve up, revealing the WARDEN  
TATTOO imprinted across her arm.

She stretches her arm out and PRESSES it against the Gateway,  
flexing her arm a little, preparing herself for...

Nothing.

There's no flicker of life anywhere, no colour or light on  
the Gateway. The team look up, confused at the silent  
Gateway.

NOA

(beat)

Are you sure it's plugged in?

FAITH

Noa, the time for smartass  
comments...

NOA

(finishing)

... belongs with you. You have the  
most experience.

Faith presses her hand firmer against the Gateway - but it  
still won't do anything!

Slamming her hand against the Gateway in frustration, Faith  
looks up at it and sighs, as the shutdown Gateway LOOMS above  
us, forcing us to SMASH CUT TO:

It's night now, judging by the dark sky overhead and the  
blood red MOON in the sky.

Bright red CANDLES are FLOATING above the ground, FLICKERING  
with golden-black FLAMES. The mystics are still CHANTING but  
Aku is now next to Dawn.

AKU

By the time that the *mosola* rises,  
we will have gathered the most  
formidable army to ever enter your  
world...

DAWN  
(to herself; ignoring)  
God, I wish I had my iPod with me.

AKU  
Do not seek to annoy me, girl.

DAWN  
I don't seek to annoy you. It's just so damn easy. So what, you're going to invade our little planet with a bunch of 'Doom' rejects?  
(scoffs)  
You won't even make it outta Queens with that.

AKU  
I do not pretend to understand you, but I promise you this... you will see your world fall.  
(smiles)  
And you will help.

DAWN  
Okay, someone woke up on the wrong side of geisha this morning if you think I'm gonna help a loser like you!

AKU  
(smirks)  
Oh, I think you will. I brought you here, dragged you here against your will. What makes you think I cannot make you do what I want?

DAWN  
(folds arms)  
I'm a Summers girl. We're stubborn.

Aku just smirks, and Dawn starts to lose her facade a little.

DAWN (cont'd)  
You wouldn't dare. There's no way in the many circles of Hell that Faith and my friends will let you do this.  
(beat; less sure)  
There's no way you're getting away with this.

Aku just CHUCKLES and with an imperious hand movement, summons a MYSTIC.

(CONTINUED)

Aku nods at the Mystic and then the Mystic MUTTERS a single word and then a golden-black ORB of LIGHT MATERIALISES behind them... revealing ONI!

They're heavily armoured, in the style of Aku's armour, but their own features are heavily shadowed, despite the light from the magickal orb in the mystic's grasp.

Dawn takes a step back, shocked at them - and BOUNCES off the edge of the mystical circle.

AKU

This is just a small example of my glorious army.

Aku steps aside - and now reveals the real army.

There are hundreds and hundreds of the heavily armoured, armed to the teeth, Oni. Beyond the crest of the large Temple of Aku are the snarling, malformed but shadowed features of the Oni.

AKU (cont'd)

And we will rise and defeat your tiny resistance with nothing more than the whispers of the last breath of your world.

Dawn doesn't even respond as she gazes out across the impossibly large army, as a BATTLE CRY ROARS OUT, forcing us to SMASH CUT TO:

BANG!

SPARKS EXPLODE from a console as Faith's head pops out from behind the console and shares a look with a watching Noa.

FAITH

So how big was the explosion this time?

NOA

Smaller. Although the screen's on fire this time.

Noa wheels forward, a FIRE EXTINGUISHER in her hands as she douses the fire in the foam, extinguishing the flames.

TRACK OVER to Vi and Kincaid who are searching through what appears to be enough cables to light up Tokyo. Vi scrambles back, pulling back a HUGE CABLE.

KINCAID

Where does that one lead?

(CONTINUED)

VI

No idea. Either the kitchen, or the  
Gateway...

Pushing back a bank of PRINTERS, Vi finds the switch for the enormous cable and FLICKS IT OFF. We CUT TO:

10 INT. ASYLUM - KITCHEN - SAME TIME

10

The kitchen is bustling with life and orderlies as they sip coffee and stuff their bodies full of well-needed calories.

Suddenly the lights GO OUT, leaving the whole kitchen in darkness!

SHOUTS of alarm echo out from the kitchen, forcing us to MATCH CUT TO:

11 INT. GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - SAME TIME

11

Vi's head snaps up at the screams and she shares a guilty look with Kincaid - oh, crap! - before she flicks the switch back on.

Rachel, Ruth and Jerry are now dragging a small, portable GENERATOR into the Control Room.

Faith and Rachel connect the generator to the Gateway and share a look before grouping back with the other members of the team.

JERRY

Anyone got a better idea?

RACHEL

Without Pryor here, we're gonna have to DIY this.

NOA

(dry)

If anything blows up, I'm blaming Pryor and he's paying.

FAITH

Agreed. Let's try and open this damn thing and get Dawn back already. We all know how much she's gonna bitch about it.

Faith turns the generator, making it whirr and HUM with the energy - but nothing happens. No whisper of energy anywhere, and the dejected team look annoyed.

FAITH (cont'd)

(sighs)

Okay, there's only one option left.

(CONTINUED)

She turns to Rachel, Kincaid and Vi.

FAITH (cont'd)  
 You three, see if you can hunt down  
 Pryor. He might be here, he might  
 not, but he's our best chance for  
 finding out what happened to Dawn.

The three nod and head off. Faith turns towards Noa, Jerry  
 and Ruth.

JERRY  
 And the rest of us try and get this  
 bad boy moving?

FAITH  
 And the winner is...

Noa wheels her way over to a power point and starts to type  
 onto a computer, while Faith and Jerry scan the remaining  
 power supplies, forcing us to CUT TO:

Vi heads around a corner, a SWORD in her hand. Rachel and  
 Kincaid follow, each carrying a weapon of their choice; an AX  
 for Kincaid and a TASER for Rachel.

KINCAID  
 (to Rachel)  
 I am still getting used to this  
 life you people lead. Does this  
 happen often?

RACHEL  
 You'd be surprised. Once we had -

But before Rachel can finish her sentence, they spot Vi in  
 front of Pryor's office.

RACHEL (cont'd)  
 Is the door locked?

VI  
 (sarcastic)  
 No, I just thought I'd admire the  
 paint job.

Vi RATTLES the doorknob furiously.

VI (cont'd)  
 Hello? Pryor?  
 (beat)  
 If you can hear me, I taped over  
 'The Apprentice.'  
 (beat;  
 (MORE)

VI (cont'd)  
to Rachel and Kincaid)  
Yeah, he's definitely not in.

Vi takes a few steps back and then FLYING ROUNDHOUSE KICKS the door. It rocks with the force of it, but stays closed.

Kincaid SMASHES his ax into the door, weakening it and CRACKING the painted wood.

Another powerful kick from Vi sends the door SPLINTERING, and she reaches inside the vertical gap and opens the door.

VI (cont'd)  
He'll have to pay for that, too.

Vi turns to Rachel and Kincaid.

VI (cont'd)  
I'll take here. You two do a quick sweep of the Asylum.

RACHEL  
(nods)  
Will do. C'mon, beefcake.

Kincaid and Rachel head off down the corridor and Vi enters:

In the low light, Vi heads straight over to Pryor's desk and searches through the stacks of PAPERS and BOOKS which litter the desk's surface.

Seeing nothing to get started on, Vi spots a DEVICE on a low level table adjacent to the desk.

Walking over, she picks up a flipped open NOTEPAD, reading Pryor's scrawled, barely legible notes.

VI  
(reading)  
'Have so far not made any progress with the...'

At that moment, the PC blinks into life and Vi heads over, tapping at the keys.

ANGLE: PC

The typical blue screen pops up, followed by username and password details.

ON SCENE:

Vi sighs at the dead-end, as we CUT TO:

14 INT. ASYLUM - CORRIDOR - SAME TIME 14

Rachel and Kincaid are speeding their way through the Asylum, a pair of ORDERLIES following them.

RACHEL  
Sarah, you check the east wing with  
Danny. Me and Kincaid'll take the  
west. Meet us back here ASAP.

DANNY and SARAH nod, heading off to the east wing of the Asylum while Rachel and Kincaid head down to the west.

15 INT. ASYLUM - PRYOR'S LAB - SAME TIME 15

Vi is now fumbling around the lab, searching through books and materials, trying to find something.

She picks up a book, entitled 'The Dark Transfer: The Truths to the Cases of Vampirism by J. Rooney'.

Frowning a little, she flips through the book and finds a dog-eared chapter with the title, 'The Human State in Vampirism.'

She's just starting to read it when:

The door OPENS and Rachel and Kincaid pop their heads in.

KINCAID  
We could not find him.

RACHEL  
I had a few of the spare orderlies  
check the area. Nothing.

VI  
(sighs)  
'kay. Let's head back to the  
others. Nothing in here but a load  
of books about vampires. Same as  
always.

Abandoning the book, Vi joins the other two as they head back to:

16 INT. GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - SAME TIME 16

Noa and Faith are busy tackling the generator while Ruth and Jerry are talking whilst sorting through various wires.

JERRY  
You know, you still never gave me  
an answer.  
(off her look)  
To whether you'd have dinner with  
me or not.

(CONTINUED)

RUTH

You can't seriously be trying to get me out on a date when Dawn could be lost anywhere in a million different dimensions?

JERRY

Hey, I'm still working, aren't I? I'm just multi-tasking.

Ruth looks away for a beat with a SIGH.

RUTH

Jerry, look...

JERRY

And this isn't about you and Pryor. This is just me trying to spend an evening getting to know you better. We'll be back here by eleven.

Ruth chews her lip, looking back to be met with one of Jerry's famously endearing grins, when:

NOA (O.S.)

Aha!

Noa has found a pair of wires, one red and one blue.

FAITH

So, it's one of these two?

NOA

Yep, I'm positive.

FAITH

(dramatic)

But which one will it be?

NOA

Red wire. It's always the red wire.

(beat)

Or blue. Red. No, blue. Yeah. Blue.

And with that Noa follows the blue wire and flicks a switch or two - and the generator WHIRRS into life!

Faith and Noa share a high-ten and Noa wheels her way over to the power point where Ruth and Jerry are now standing.

The door OPENS and Vi, Rachel and Kincaid hurry through...

VI

Hey, guys! We couldn't find Pry -

... just as Noa flicks the switch on the generator!

(CONTINUED)

Instantly, the lights FLICKER and the generator starts to WHIRR with more intensity - but then it EXPLODES!

Jerry just pulls Ruth down, shielding Noa at the same time and Faith DIVES to the side as the parts of the generator SHATTER around them.

A piece of METAL flies across the room and embeds itself in the wall - a few centimetres from Noa's head!

Noa looks at it and then checks her head. All good. Kincaid is at her side in a heartbeat.

KINCAID

Are you alright? Are you hurt?

NOA

I'm fine, I'm fine.

(beat)

That's one way of getting a cheap haircut...

VI

Damn it! Now our only source of power's gone, how the hell are we gonna open the Gateway?

The team has no answers as they look upon the still silent Gateway.

It's now sunrise and the mystics, Dawn and Aku have moved to the enormous court.

More of the ceremonial BANNERS are hanging from the walls, flying next to the large, picturesque windows. These banners are blood red with a single MARK upon them in black and gold.

Dawn, looking down at her nails in boredom, inspects one of the banners.

DAWN

What does the weird symbol mean?

AKU

In our language, it means 'victory.'

DAWN

Really? Cos I thought it read 'am gonna get ass kicked once again.'

(beat)

Did you guys ever see '300'? Cos I'm getting a total vibe from this.

AKU

Our army is more than three thousand in total. What can you and your 'friends' do to stop us?

DAWN

(beat)

Admittedly, the odds are against us. But...

(smirks)

... we've beaten you before.

Aku looks ready to hit Dawn, but maintains his composure - and then CLICKS his fingers.

And then we see behind Dawn - the first wave of Aku's enormous oni army!

They're all clad in the same black and bronze armour, looking like creatures from some warped video game. They're all grasping dangerously looking WEAPONS in their gnarled fists and their red skin is mottled with dried blood from their own private fights. Their horns have the stain of dried blood on them as well and judging by their hungry faces and HOWLING, they can't wait for something to eat.

Dawn takes another unconscious step back - and one of Aku's mystics MUTTERS something at Dawn and she DROPS to her knees in agony!

All of the mystics are now CHANTING as Dawn is forced to her feet, her head bowed in pain as Aku and two mystics move to the front of the court.

There's an enormous, Shiva-like STATUE, glistening and shining despite looking like it's made out of ebony and alabaster.

There's a large CIRCLE on the floor, created out of silvery-red SAND and the mystics force Dawn into the circle.

A single MYSTIC holds a mystical CHARM in his hand, keeping Dawn trapped and powerless.

Each of the mystics start to CHANT at a different time, creating a crescendo as one of them SWEEPS his arm over Dawn's head. Dawn's head SNAPS UP and her eyes are a GLOWING BRIGHT GREEN!

AKU

Let it begin!

Almost instantly, the same green light FRACTURES its way into the space before Dawn. CRACKS of the same energy start to BURST THROUGH the floor and eventually form a large PORTAL!

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED: (2)

17

AKU (cont'd)  
 <Advance on the world!>

And with that, the first wave of the army march towards the glistening, painfully bright portal...

SMASH CUT TO:

18 INT. GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - SAME TIME

18

Faith and the others SPIN AROUND - just as the Gateway LIGHTS UP! Lights begin to PULSE all over the surface of the Gateway, sounds begin to echo throughout the whole chamber.

Faith turns to the others with a victorious smile.

FAITH  
 We did it!

RACHEL  
 Let's go find Dawn!

But Faith's faster, heading straight for the portal:

But she stops dead when she sees the portal OPEN WIDE - and the oni MARCH through!

FAITH  
 (eyes bulge)  
 Back up! Everybody back up!

The oni see her and ROAR a bloodhirsty BATTLE CRY. There's an impossibly large number and they lumber forward like two-legged elephants...

... until they charge straight to our Slayer!

Faith takes a deep breath - and then SPIN KICKS one oni away as it rushes forward, tripping it and allowing her to BACKFLIP over another.

She uses her momentum to SLAM another's weapon into another oni and WRENCHES it free, only to SLAM it into another.

But the numbers are large as they swarm Faith, and as the fight really begins, we're forced to:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT ONE**

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

19 INT. GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

19

Faith's right back into the fight. She DODGES a nasty blow but leaves herself open to a FLIP KICK from an oni into the gut.

She rolls over the corpse of one oni, SNATCHING his curved weapon and SLASHING the oni's throat!

Azure BLOOD SPRAYS across the others as Vi SWEEP KICKS a pair of oni, flipping over a charging oni and GUTTING him with a STAB.

Using the body as a weight, she SIDE-FLIPS and BEHEADS the oni with a singular fluid movement!

FAITH

Get your asses and wheels moving!  
We got oni at twelve o'clock!

JERRY

Oni?

RUTH

Demons from Aku's world. He must be  
behind this!

NOA

Yeah, we can look up oni on  
Wikipedia later, okay, let's just  
get out of here first!

VI

Aku must've found a way to get  
Dawn!

But Faith gets a BLOW to the head which sends her sprawling - before she DODGES an ax kick. She grabs the foot and YANKS it, flooring the oni.

Leaping to her feet, she BOUNCES off the chest of the stunned oni and KARATE KICKS another oni and then REVERSE KICKING another in the head with such force, she BREAKS his neck!

FAITH

Yeah, made that connection already.  
(to others)  
Hold the line! Don't let 'em get  
out into the Asylum!

(CONTINUED)

She DUCKS, just as a pair of twin BLADES slash at her. One nicks her arm and she winces, giving a pair of oni just enough time to knock her back with a DOUBLE PUNCH and another to SWEEP KICK her.

She crumples, but snatches a dead oni's AX and SLAMS it right into the horns of one of the oni - SHATTERING the horns and leaving stumps that Hellboy would be proud of.

The oni ROARS but then it stops, EYES BULGING. It looks down and sees a BLADE embedded in its chest.

It sinks to the ground and Faith looks up to see Kincaid. They share a quick, brief smile as he SLASHES at another oni.

Faith turns and sees Vi on top of an oni which is furiously trying to shake her off of him.

Its attempts to get rid of her are resulting in injuring its comrades - and Vi wraps her legs around the oni's neck and breaks it with a SNAP.

She FLIPS off the dead oni and stabs another with her own sword, much like she would a vampire, before moving onto the next.

Noa grabs a thick length of cable, SWINGING it as best she can from her chair, TRIPPING several of the oni.

Jerry pushes Ruth back behind him as he tries a PUNCH on one of the demons - but his fist just cracks painfully off its thick armour!

RACHEL

Incoming!

Jerry ducks back - and Rachel SMASHES one of the heavy printers across the demon's face!

It slumps, stunned - but more and more of the oni are pouring in, and the team cannot hold them back for much longer.

Faith grabs Vi's arm and has to dodge a blow from the distracted Slayer.

FAITH

Whoa! It's me!

VI

(blinks)

Sorry. We should get out of here.

The two Slayers make their way through the corpses of the oni, STABBING and SLASHING at those who are close.

(CONTINUED)

Kincaid joins them and soon they're sprinting away from the advancing, yelling oni.

They're halfway up the stairs, Faith and Vi at the rear holding the oni back, when:

RACHEL

Wait, wait! We have to shut that portal down, or they'll just keep coming through!

JERRY

She's right.

Faith, now spattered with thick demon blood, HACKS DOWN another attacker and yells back:

FAITH

We'll do it outside! Move!

She KICKS another back, knocking several oni over like skittles as the team race up the stairs:

Emerging from the entrance portal, the team take stock - Faith, Kincaid, Vi and Rachel ready with weapons as Jerry, Ruth and Noa head for the doors.

VI

Alright, Faith, do it!

FAITH

(snaps)

This thing doesn't have an 'off' switch, Vi! I gotta just chill, clear my head, and then -

But then the oni come marching through! Faith and Vi share a look - then lead the CHARGE against them.

One oni THROWS his weapon at Rachel and she just side-steps, SCOOPING the weapon up and carrying it back with her.

FAITH (cont'd)

(between blows)

Noa! Get outside and fire up the defence grid!

Noa nods, hurriedly wheeling outside as Faith and the others keep the defence up:

Back in the main Asylum, Noa finds the CONTROL BOX and opens it, searching the switches and then pulling several down.

(CONTINUED)

Immediately RED LIGHTS begin to flash and METAL GATES begin to divide the Asylum.

RUTH

Noa, we might need the controls later on. Can you access them through your laptop?

NOA

(nods)

Don't worry. I'll keep them away from us as much as possible.

The gates are SLAMMING DOWN on all sides of them now - and there's a single, huge GATE that's rapidly descending and is their only means of escape.

JERRY

Wait a second, won't that -

NOA

If they don't get out in time, yeah. It will.

They hear the sounds of combat echoing up from the sloping corridor that leads down to the Old Asylum...

... before Faith and the others round a corner, sprinting towards the gate as it continues to descend!

NOA (cont'd)

Faith! Come on!

She pushes away from Jerry and wheels forward, yelling for Faith's team to hurry up.

RUTH

Noa, get back! The gate!

NOA

(fuming)

Faith Lehane, god damn it, you get your Southie ass back up here now!

Faith's group whip past - the oni hot on their tail, and Noa starts to reverse:

But the gate's too low down, her chair CAUGHT against its edge and trapping her!

NOA (cont'd)

Oh... help!

Kincaid hauls her out of her chair, pulling back and ROLLING underneath, scant millimetres from the large, unstoppable gate as it SLAMS down.

(CONTINUED)

They land on the right side, a decent length from the gate and with Kincaid on top of Noa.

NOA (cont'd)  
(beat; sly)  
Don't get any ideas.

KINCAID  
(mock innocent)  
I wouldn't dream of it.

The reunited group back away from the gate - as the oni on the other side SLAM into it, HAMMERING at its panels.

FAITH  
(panting)  
Alright. Let's get -

VI  
Let's assume that won't hold them for long, and make sure we have plans 'b' through 'z' ready.

FAITH  
(beat, nods)  
Works for me.

The team hurry back down the corridor, Noa carried by Kincaid as we CUT TO:

Dressed in his formal battle robes, Aku strides out and surveys the dank basement chamber with a smirk.

Several ACOLYTES surround Aku but he makes his way past them and stands in front of several BATTLE-ONI. These oni are much larger and more muscular than the average oni.

Two more oni hurry back down to meet him, bowing and scraping the floor.

ONI  
<My Lord, they have sealed this pathway with a gate of thickest steel.>

AKU  
(to Battle Oni)  
<Break down the doors. Do all you have to. We will not let a paltry gate stand between us and our new dominion.>

BATTLE ONI  
(as one)  
<Yes, Your Majesty.>

The oni make their way towards the gate and Aku takes a deep breath, savouring this new world.

INT. ASYLUM - STAFF ROOM - SAME TIME

It's chaos within the Asylum. Orderlies of all shapes and sizes are talking to the main team but we can see more than talk going on.

Vi and Kincaid hurry in, carrying several thick BOOKS and at least three leather SATCHELS.

They dump the satchels on the counter and WEAPONS of all kinds - all looking extremely sharp - spill out onto the worktop.

Rachel is speaking fervently to her orderlies, all who look a mixture of fear and confusion. Ruth has several BAGS in front of her and is creating makeshift FIRST AID KITS.

Noa is in a replacement wheelchair and is working on her LAPTOP, sipping occasionally from a mug of coffee. She taps and looks over her shoulder at Rachel.

NOA  
I've hacked into the Asylum's grid.  
I can work the whole place from  
here, as long as nothing blows up  
my baby.

She cradles her computer protectively and Rachel nods before heading over to Faith. The brunette Slayer has several CUTS and abrasions on her face and arms, but the cuts are mostly stitched up.

She whispers Noa's news to Faith and the Slayer nods before pulling out a chair and standing on it.

FAITH  
Hey, listen up!  
(whistles)  
Hey!

Now she has their attention.

FAITH (cont'd)  
(a little uncomfortable)  
Right. I know this ain't the first  
time we've dealt with some kind of  
invasion or whatever the hell it is  
here, and it probably won't be the  
last.  
(MORE)

FAITH (cont'd)

But if we're not strong and we're not ready, it's not us that'll die. Everything will die. This crazy warlord will walk right on out of here and into downtown New York with an army of demons, and treat it like his goddamn given right.

(beat)

And I won't let that happen.

Her rallying speech hasn't done much, however, judging by the looks on some of the orderlies' faces.

FAITH (cont'd)

Okay! Ruth, Noa, Jerry and Rachel: lock down everything, make sure the residents are secure. Noa, the defence system up yet?

NOA

Yeah, powering up all over the building. We'll have a hundred per cent in a coupla minutes.

FAITH

Vi, Kincaid, take all of the orderlies with you...

(to Vi)

Are those all of the weapons?

VI

(shakes head)

We've got about half right here.

FAITH

'kay. Head to the armoury, gather the rest and then head down to the Old Asylum with the orderlies. You guys have to make a second barricade in case those oni manage to break the doors down.

JERRY

And you? What are you going to be doing?

FAITH

I'm gonna head to Pryor's office. Search for something that'll help us.

VI

I already looked...

FAITH

But you don't know Pryor like I do.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED: (2)

23

FAITH (cont'd)  
 We need to see if he has anything  
 on how to shut the Gateway down.  
 Permanently, if we have to.  
 (beat)  
 What are you waiting for? A  
 whistle? Go, go, go!

That gets them going, spreading and fanning out in all  
 directions, forcing us to SMASH CUT TO:

24 INT. ASYLUM - CORRIDOR - SAME TIME

24

SMASH!

A large STONE, the size, length and no doubt strength of a  
 BATTERING RAM, SLAMS straight into the metal gate.

The metal SHAKES violently but doesn't give in. But it won't  
 be long soon as the battle-oni aim again and SWING....

MATCH CUT TO:

25 INT. ASYLUM - CORRIDORS - SAME TIME

25

The doors BURST OPEN and Ruth, Noa, Jerry and Rachel make  
 their way through. Rachel and Ruth go by each patient's room,  
 sealing it with a code while Jerry checks the doors behind  
 them.

Noa wheels by, juggling her movement with her access of the  
 Asylum's defence grid.

NOA  
 C'mon, baby... momma got a manicure  
 and it's not going to be wasted...

RACHEL  
 Okay, that's all of them.

NOA  
 Okay...

And then, as one, all of the doors RESEAL themselves, more  
 secure than ever.

Jerry nods at Noa and she taps the 'Enter' key. And with  
 that, the defences come online.

LASERS spread out from one wall to another while the four of  
 them make a defence of their own. Jerry, Ruth and Rachel have  
 SWORDS while Noa has something in a sheath strapped across  
 her chair's back.

EXPLOSIVES line the walls and several prominent symbols are  
 etched on the walls, all of them of two red circles connected  
 by a thin, perfectly straight red line.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

The four of them share a look as the faint ROAR of the oni can be heard.

26 INT. ASYLUM - SAME TIME

26

Vi, Kincaid and all of the ORDERLIES are waiting. They're armed to the teeth and are listening to Kincaid.

KINCAID

Oni are essentially like the regular demons you have here in New York. They're strong, powerful, so try and tackle them in groups unless you have to take one solo.

(beat)

Anything sharp seems to work. They're not like vampires...

A timid looking ORDERLY with long brown hair steps forward.

KINCAID (cont'd)

Yes?

FEMALE ORDERLY

We... Rachel only told us how to defend against vampires.

KINCAID

Then this'll be a new experience for you.

The orderly, ALICE, settles back into the group, where we can see some familiar faces such as Danny, Sarah, ROB and LEWIS.

They're all looking scared beyond belief as the BATTLE CRY of the oni reaches a crescendo...

27 INT. ASYLUM - PRYOR'S LAB - SAME TIME

27

Faith is throwing pieces of furniture and equipment around and is flicking through every book Pryor owns it seems.

She cringes at the sound of the oni's cries but keeps on searching...

28 INT. ASYLUM - SAME TIME

28

But the gate finally gives way and SPLITS with a loud CRACK allowing the oni to escape through like a burst dam - and pounce on our team!

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT TWO**

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

29

INT. ASYLUM - CORRIDOR - NIGHT

29

The carnage is instant. Vi immediately SWINGS her sword into the face of one oni, DROP KICKING another and POWERHOUSE KICKING another in the chest.

Kincaid FLIPS over one, STABS him from behind and flings the corpse in the way of others, dropping them like bowling targets.

The orderlies are faring less well. Rob uses his ax to SLASH one oni and uses the speed to duck another's attack and swing right into the path of another, BEHEADING it instantly.

He then aims for a battle-oni which ROARS at him, SWINGING at him with his BATTLE-AX.

ROB

Oh, holy, shi -

Rob DUCKS a blow from the battle oni and FLINGS his sword which BOUNCES off the creature's breastplate.

Danny and Lewis are tag-teaming on several of them, striking small blows onto the oni - but then Lewis gets STABBED by one of them. It's not a fatal blow, but it's enough to drop him.

Alice, the timid orderly, is surrounded by four jeering oni. She takes a deep breath - and then SNAP KICKS one in the chest.

She follows it by ducking a blow and planting a KNEE to the chest of one oni before STABBING it in the chest with her katana.

She LEAPS, avoiding a low SWEEP at her legs and SLASHES another oni's throat open.

His weapon nicks her arm and she GASPS, allowing another oni to SWEEP KICK to the floor. She struggles, desperately trying to get rid of him...

... just as Rob leaps in and PLUNGES his sword through the oni's head. Alice pushes the body from her and is helped by an impressed Rob.

ROB (cont'd)

Where the hell'd you learn that stuff?

ALICE

I take tae kwon do. Have done...

(CONTINUED)

She ROUNDHOUSE KICKS an advancing oni and they both STAB him in the neck. Bright blue blood GUSHES from its throat.

ALICE (cont'd)  
... for four years.

Vi FLIPS AROUND three oni, STABBING them with Slayer speed. She BACKFLIPS over Kincaid and grabs a DAGGER from his belt in mid-leap.

Landing, she THROWS the knife straight into the eye of one oni, plunging straight into its brain.

But the tide of oni is too strong. The white coats of the orderlies are swamped by the oni and several oni escape, heading straight for the main part of the Asylum.

Another orderly goes down with a YELL but are still alive, same as the heavily breathing Lewis whose on his feet, one hand pressed to the wound in his abdomen.

Vi turns to Kincaid.

VI  
We're getting slaughtered out here!

KINCAID  
I agree.  
(to orderlies)  
Fall back!

The orderlies do so. Rob and Danny pick the fallen, but still breathing female orderly and Alice and Kincaid help Lewis as they run through the defences.

KINCAID (cont'd)  
Vi! Take some of the orderlies and split up. The smaller the groups are, the better we can handle them.

VI  
Got it!

She signals for several orderlies to go one way, several another way. Lewis is carried by Kincaid now as three oni chase after Alice.

LEWIS  
(yelling)  
Alice!

ALICE  
I'll take care of them!

The young orderly speeds away, BURSTING OPEN a set of doors out into:

30 EXT. ASYLUM - COURTYARD - NEXT

30

The rain is POURING DOWN and Alice slips on the wet ground but manages to regain her footing. Hanging above the courtyard are several POWER CABLES, strung around next to the parasols of the courtyard where the patients relax.

The oni are snarling and licking their lips as if Alice is their meal ticket.

Alice looks around frantically as one of them advances and then swings her sword into the oni's face, DROP KICKING the body away into the path of one of the other two oni.

She looks up and spots one of the power cables and flexes her feet in her rubber-soled sneakers - and then LEAPS above the oni and SLICES the cable in two.

Alice's momentum keeps her going but the cable SLAMS DOWN onto the wet ground - and it ELECTROCUTES the oni!

Their screams are pained and howling but soon they're dead and Alice hops over their corpses, heading back into the Asylum.

31 INT. ASYLUM - CORRIDOR - SAME TIME

31

Vi and three other orderlies are tackling a group of oni, stabbing and slashing, SPRAYS of BLOOD all over the formerly pristine walls.

The last one's down and Kincaid's group joins them. Vi pulls one of Ruth's bags and SPRINKLES a POWDER onto Lewis' wound. He grits his teeth but the wound rapidly HEALS!

VI

Ruth said that should keep it  
together until this is all over.

Alice heads around the corner, to be met with amazed smiles.

KINCAID

Where are the oni?

ALICE

(smirks)

Let's just say I didn't wanna  
become fast food.

ROB

You took three on your own? That's  
amazing!

VI

(to Kincaid)

What do we do now?

(CONTINUED)

KINCAID

We should find another way to get to the Gateway. Perhaps we can head back the same way the oni came in, find Dawn and free her. She should be able to seal the Gateway to stop any more coming through, as I understand it.

VI

But then we have the demons.

KINCAID

Yes.

VI

Hundreds of demons.

KINCAID

Yes.

VI

(sighs)

Right. Just checking.

She pulls a stick of GUM from her pocket and pops it in her mouth.

VI (cont'd)

I know a shortcut.

(to orderlies)

Meet up with the others, stay together and please don't die.

Vi and Kincaid and the orderlies head off.

ROB

You really did that?

ALICE

(bright)

I know!

CUT TO:

Higher up, oni rush through the building - but the first line cross the RED LASERS and they're DETONATED in a spray of wet chunks of flesh and blood.

Three oni are left in this group, edging cautiously forward. They duck their heads, SNIFFING the ground - but avoiding the head-height traps.

(CONTINUED)

Around a corner, Noa, Rachel, Ruth and Jerry wait and Rachel pops her head around.

RACHEL

Damnit...

(checks pockets)

Wait, wait, wait...

She pulls a DEVICE from her pocket and smiles - before stepping right out into the line of fire!

The oni look up instantly and snarl, but Rachel doesn't even look fazed.

RACHEL (cont'd)

Hey, boys.

She aims the device - it's a LASER POINTER! She takes aim and a LASER hits the red circle symbol.

Instantly in a FLASH of green light, a makeshift device, a piano wire NUNCHUCK, SHOOTS out at high velocity and DECAPITATES all three of the oni in one shot!

Jerry, Noa and Ruth head out and look at the headless corpses.

NOA

Whoa. Things have definitely improved since our last raid.

And with that, they hurry off - but find a group of oni waiting for them.

JERRY

Ruth, Rachel head east. Me and Noa'll take west.

Jerry grabs Noa's wheelchair arms before she can respond and wheels her off down the adjacent corridor.

Ruth and Rachel speed down the opposite corridor, being chased rapidly - but one battle-oni LEAPS and TACKLES Rachel with a grunt.

She screams and tries to reach her sword, but it's too far away. Then Ruth rushes in with her own SWORD and SPEARS the oni through its gaping mouth.

Ruth helps Rachel up - but despite the active defences there are too many!

RUTH

Rachel...

Rachel turns and sees Ruth has her hands on her glasses.

(CONTINUED)

RUTH (cont'd)  
Get behind me and don't look until  
I say.

Rachel DIVES behind Ruth as she pulls her glasses off - and GLARES at the oni! Instantly they clutch their chests, GREEN ENERGY washing over them - before they turn to STONE!

A beat afterwards, Ruth pulls her glasses back on and turns to Rachel.

RUTH (cont'd)  
I'm done.

RACHEL  
(looking)  
Wow.

Ruth turns away, but realises Rachel is still looking at the statues.

RUTH  
What is it?

RACHEL  
I was just thinking... after this,  
would it be morally wrong of us to  
put some of them out as garden  
ornaments?

This gets Rachel a smile from Ruth and then they're off.

Jerry has barricaded them in the staff room whilst Noa has hoisted herself up onto the counter. Her SHEATH is across her lap whilst she accesses the Asylum mainframe.

NOA  
Jerry, get away from the door.

JERRY  
Like hell.

NOA  
Jerry, trust me.

Jerry does after a beat and the oni BURST the door OPEN! Noa SWINGS the laptop around and in a single fluid motion PULLS the sheathed OBJECT from its pouch, swinging it around to face the oni.

It's Noa's SHOTGUN.

NOA (cont'd)  
(to shotgun)  
Britney, meet your new notches.

Noa aims Britney the shotgun, and FIRES, BLOWING the oni backwards and killing them instantly!

She reloads, but one oni is too fast and she SPINS the shotgun, using it as a bat, flooring the oni where Jerry STABS it.

She aims her shotgun once more and takes out the remaining two oni.

Jerry looks up at Noa and she smirks, then PUFFS at the barrel of her empty gun.

JERRY  
(smirking)  
There's a euphemism for ya.

NOA  
What can I say? I blew 'em away.

Noa hops down into her wheelchair as we CUT BACK TO:

There are a handful of GUARDS waiting outside the Gateway, waiting in case of any invaders.

PAN UP and see Vi and Kincaid dangling from the roof.

KINCAID  
This is a shortcut?

VI  
I know, I know, more of a short  
drop, but it got us here.

Vi swings her legs, gaining momentum - right before she lets go and SWINGS right into the guards, SCATTERING them as Kincaid follows suit.

As soon as they're up, Vi PLUNGES her sword right into the throat of one oni, KNOCKING him back into the path of two more.

Kincaid REVERSE KICKS another and aims a double-legged SWEEP KICK at a third oni and GUTS him with his katana blade.

Vi and Kincaid HOP OVER the oni and JUMP STRAIGHT INTO:

35 INT. GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - NEXT

35

The two of them STAB an unsuspecting oni and spot the glowing, bright green portal.

KINCAID

Vi, I... I promised to do something back in Aku's world.

VI

We save Dawn, then we do your promise.

Kincaid smiles and then nods as they LEAP THROUGH the portal...

36 INT. ASYLUM - PRYOR'S LAB - SAME TIME

36

Faith is rummaging around - but the CRIES of battle are drawing her towards them. With a sigh, she throws the book away from her and heads for the door.

She opens it - and there's PRYOR!

He looks tired and disheveled, with several days' stubble on his face but Faith doesn't give a hell about that right now.

She SMACKS him in the arm with every ounce of her pissed-off Slayer strength.

FAITH

Where the hell have you been? We've been up the proverbial creek here and you've been...?

PRYOR

I'm sorry. I should have -

FAITH

Yeah, yeah, save the excuses for someone who's not being attacked by a crazy ninja warlord. Which is everyone right now.

(off look)

Yeah, Aku's trying to get in and we need you.

She hands Pryor a SWORD, but still looks pissed off at him.

FAITH (cont'd)

(cold)

Let's go.

Faith leaves Pryor, who definitely looks worse for wear, but follows Faith nonetheless.

37 INT. ASYLUM - CORRIDOR - NEXT

37

Noa, Jerry, Ruth and Rachel have met up with the orderlies, who all seem to be fine surprisingly.

Faith and Pryor head around a corner and spot the others.

Immediately the team heads over to Pryor, looking several flavours of angry at him.

Ruth moves forward, touching Pryor's bearded cheek in concern.

RUTH

Pryor, what -

NOA

(interrupting)

Where the frack have you been?

PRYOR

Noa, it's been...

NOA

Oh, no, you do not get to pull some lame excuse out of your ass for this, or I'll be turning the frackage up to eleven.

FAITH

Look, he's here. That's all that matters. Let's head down to the Gateway. Get to the source of the problem.

JERRY

Agreed.

The entire force starts to head back towards the Gateway Chamber - but see a team of oni heading straight for them.

FAITH

Damn it! Right, you guys head up, I'll take these bozos head on.

RACHEL

Are you sure you'll be alright?

FAITH

If I'm not, I'll give you a signal.

The team nods and moves on. Faith heads straight for them and pulls a pair of NIGHTSTICKS from her pockets. They're not Pryor's old ones, however. Modified to be stronger and longer than the old ones, with a small tipped, retractable BLADE at the end of each nightstick.

(CONTINUED)

And with a FLICK of Faith's wrists, she FLIES FORWARD, SWINGING the blades around and SLICING across an oni's neck and forcing him to stumble back.

FAITH (cont'd)  
C'mon, suckers, show me what you got!

She SAILS OVER the oni and starts sprinting, heading around a corner and BURSTING THROUGH INTO:

Faith SLIDES down the stairs into the room and sees AKU waiting for her!

His guards head for Faith, their weapons drawn but Aku BARKS a single command at them.

AKU  
(in English)  
You have fought bravely, warrior.  
But I am afraid you cannot win this.

FAITH  
How about you and me, one-on-one?  
No little slaves, just you, me and our blades.

AKU  
(beat; smiles)  
I accept.

He pulls his SHEATH from his back.

AKU (cont'd)  
But I am afraid you have chosen a poor match for your final battle.

The sheath FALLS AWAY - and it's Aku's GAIHUR! His Scythe-like weapon GLINTS in the strange coloured light from the Gateway.

But it's been modified once more since we last saw it in action. The bronze has been darkened and the grasp has a large metal breadth which Aku holds. The very tip of the gaihur has been extended and is blood red, shining the same colour as the Scythe of the Slayers.

Faith looks impressed but tries not to show it.

She grasps her pair of nightsticks and keeps an eye on the glinting weapons of the guards who look several parts amused and several parts ready to kill.

She FLICKS her nightsticks back into safety mode and SCOOPS a curved KATANA from the corpse of a oni. Placing the nightsticks in her pocket, she TWIRLS the katana experimentally, testing the weapon.

FAITH

Not as good as I'm used to, but  
it'll be fine for killing you.

AKU

I pity you for believing that.

Faith and Aku face each other, weapons drawn and raised, not breaking eye contact.

FAITH

(serious)

Let's finish this.

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT THREE**

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

39

INT. ASYLUM - GATEWAY CHAMBER - NIGHT

39

Faith SPEEDS INTO Aku and SMACKS her katana into Aku's gaihur, but he BOUNCES BACKWARDS and LEAP KICKS Faith, knocking her off balance.

Faith staggers back and receives a KICK to the chin for her trouble. She puts a hand to her now split lip.

FAITH

Alright...

Faith SMACKS Aku in the face and follows it up with a SIDE-FLIP, that sends her legs connecting heavily with Aku's head.

However, Aku KARATE KICKS her in the chest and then LASHES out with his gaihur. Faith just manages to side step but gets a deep SLASH across her chest for her trouble.

She clutches the wound - and BLOOD bubbles between her fingers. It's barely a scratch, but it stains her shirt. She shimmies out of it, leaving her in a tank top and leaving her arms unprotected.

Aku SPIN KICKS her but Faith SLIDES beneath him and BODY SLAMS him to the ground! However, Aku uses both of his feet to KICK Faith's katana away from her and SLAMS the gaihur at her.

She just dodges and Faith slides on of her nightsticks out and SMACKS him across the face with it.

However, her next strike is met by Aku's gaihur and it SLICES STRAIGHT THROUGH the nightstick!

Faith HOPS back to avoid the gaihur and just avoids the CORPSE of an oni by BACKFLIPPING over it. Aku JUMP KICKS off the corpse to SMASH his foot into Faith's jaw.

Then the door OPENS and the team rush in, weapons raised.

FAITH (cont'd)

Keep going! You have to make sure that none of those things reach the surface.

PRYOR

Rachel, Noa, take the orderlies to the exit.

(beat)

We'll help clean up.

(CONTINUED)

Pryor, Ruth and Jerry SAIL DOWN the stairs and TACKLE the oni while Faith uses this distraction to SMACK into Aku.

Pryor BACKHANDS one oni and STABS him. He dodges another blow and Ruth CUTS its throat.

Jerry sees an oni aiming for Ruth and FLINGS his sword at it, catching the oni right in its THROAT!

Ruth smiles at Jerry and we TRACK OVER TO:

Faith stumbles back from another blow and raises her remaining nightstick - but it's SHATTERED almost instantly. Faith DUCKS a blow and GRAPS Aku's gaihur with both hands.

FAITH

Share and share alike.

She rolls back, forcing Aku to SLAM into the ground - minus his weapon. Faith twirls his gaihur in pleasure.

FAITH (cont'd)

I so need one of these...

Enraged, Aku FLIES INTO Faith, sending both sprawling as we SMASH CUT TO:

The mystics are still surrounding a more relaxed Dawn. She's still in some degree of pain but is doing well.

Dawn's clearly bored now, glancing at her nails.

DAWN

Look, do I have to just stand here while you guys do whatever out there?

MYSTIC

Soon, your world will fall to the -

DAWN

(interrupting)

Again with the evil speech! Don't you people ever stop?

Behind the mystic's turned backs, there's a FLASH of green light and Vi and Kincaid POP into view, a few metres away from the original portal.

They quickly spot Dawn, trapped in the circle of mystics. But in front of Dawn are the next wave of Aku's army, fresh and waiting to attack.

VI

(whispering)

If we can get straight over to  
Dawn, she can deal with the armies.

KINCAID

We'll have to be quick.

Vi and Kincaid wait a beat - and then CHARGE!

They BARREL OVER to the mystics who spot them instantly.  
Kincaid THROWS his sword and it lands with a SHKINT into the  
throat of one mystic.

Three mystics MUTTER an incantation and FLAMES SOAR from  
their hands! Vi DIVES to the ground to avoid the flames - but  
several oni BURST INTO FLAMES!

Kincaid rushes forward and removes his sword, SPRAYING BLOOD  
everywhere before he leaps and DECAPITATES several of the  
mystics. Vi KARATE KICKS one in the neck and it BREAKS  
violently.

DAWN

Oh, thank Buddha you guys are here!

VI

Dawn, we're gonna need your help -  
we've got an army of those things  
trying to take over the Asylum!

DAWN

Get me out of here first!

Vi spots the metallic CHARM lying in the palm of a beheaded  
mystic and after a look from Dawn SNAPS IT.

WIND RUSHES OVER Dawn as power floods her. She smiles and her  
hands start to GLOW - and the circle around her GLOWS too!

With a FLARE of light, it dissipates to nothing. Released,  
Dawn CRACKS her fingers and turns to face the portal.

VI

(to Kincaid)

What was your promise?

KINCAID

When I was last here, I left a  
group of prisoners here.

(beat)

Let's save them.

Vi nods and she and Kincaid SPEED AWAY, leaving Dawn alone.  
She moves towards the glowing portal and smiles as a RIPPLE  
of ENERGY hits the oni!

(CONTINUED)

40 CONTINUED: (2)

40

DAWN  
Guess who?

CUT TO:

41 INT. TEMPLE - CORRIDOR - MOMENTS LATER 41

Vi and Kincaid hurry through. They spot a GUARD at the entrance to the PRISON CELLS but Vi unsheathes a THROWING DAGGER and THROWS it.

The guard drops with a CRY but Kincaid LEAPS OVER the guard's body and SMASHES his sword against the lock of the prison cell, SMASHING IT OPEN:

42 INT. TEMPLE - PRISON CELLS - NEXT 42

There are about a dozen tattered PEOPLE within the cells. The light spilling into the dark cell initially sends them scurrying.

VI  
No, no, we're here to help.

The PRISONERS rise as one, mostly women and children but with a few males in their group.

KINCAID  
<Run! Go now!>

And that's all the encouragement they need as they run for their lives, escaping into freedom.

Kincaid watches them go, a look of happiness on his features, before Vi tugs at him and they head back to:

43 INT. TEMPLE - NEXT 43

Dawn is GLOWING now, energy washing over her, the force of it causing the oni to run from the portal and shaking the entire temple to its foundations!

DAWN  
That's right! This is what happens  
when you screw with a Summers girl!

SMASH CUT TO:

44 INT. ASYLUM - GATEWAY CHAMBER - SAME TIME 44

Faith SLAMS into the wall and shakes the RUBBLE and PLASTER from her.

(CONTINUED)

FAITH  
(through gritted teeth)  
Aw, come on, Aku, don't say you're  
getting antsy now!

She dodges over a clumsy blow from Aku and HIGH KICKS him, knocking him back but he SMACKS her aside and aims for the kill with his reclaimed gaihur...

Rachel, Noa and Ruth along with the orderlies are defending themselves from the oni.

Noa pops a couple of rounds off but is thrown from her chair by an oni.

BLAM!

The head of the oni EXPLODES in gruesome fashion as Noa lowers the smoking shotgun.

Over with the orderlies, Alice, Lewis, Rob and Sarah have all sustained wounds. Danny is the fray, stabbing and kicking simultaneously.

ROB  
(to Alice)  
Listen... if we survive... d'you  
wanna maybe... grab a coffee?

ALICE  
(shocked)  
Me?

ROB  
Yeah.

ALICE  
(smiling; through stabs)  
I'd... love... to!

Alice REVERSE HOOK KICKS one oni gunning for Sarah in the face and he's knocked back, taking more of his oni brothers.

But they can't hold them off for much longer.

But then LIGHTS start to GLOW, much brighter than before. The oni look up, confused...

... right before the SURGE of energy SUCKS them back towards the portal!!

47 INT. TEMPLE - SAME TIME 47

Dawn is smiling triumphantly as the oni rush back towards her, except they BOUNCE right off her energy forcefield, SMASHING into the pillars of the temple!

DAWN  
Come on home, boys.

48 INT. ASYLUM - ENTRANCE - SAME TIME 48

The oni are flung back, screaming, flailing - and one grabs hold of Noa! She YELLS for her life but Rachel and Ruth pull back along with a handful of the less-stunned orderlies - and she's free!

Noa lands in a crumpled heap with the others and watch as the battered oni are dragged backwards, along with the corpses of their fallen brethren.

49 INT. ASYLUM - GATEWAY CHAMBER - SAME TIME 49

Aku suddenly DOUBLES OVER in pain, the energy pulling at him causing him unbelievable agony.

Faith SCOOPS the gaihur up and LEAPS, bringing it down with every pound of her strength onto Aku's head.

His body is SPLIT INTO TWO. Well, almost two, but the enormous bloody wound RIPS FULLY OPEN and SPLITS INTO TWO as it's sucked back to the late Aku's homeworld.

Noa, Rachel and Ruth hurry through the open door and all seven of the team head into:

50 INT. GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - NEXT 50

The oni are now all but gone and the team watch from the other side at the formerly dictator's body, lying in a tangled heap in:

51 INT. TEMPLE - SAME TIME 51

Vi, Kincaid and Dawn wait until the oni have landed - then they LEAP THROUGH the portal!

52 INT. GATEWAY - CONTROL ROOM - NEXT 52

Vi and Kincaid land in a tangled heap but in our world. Faith and Rachel hug Vi as Noa does with Kincaid.

FAITH  
(to Dawn)  
Hey, half-pint.

(CONTINUED)

DAWN  
(smiles)  
Hey, Buffy 2.0.

FAITH  
Huh?

DAWN  
I take it the two halves of Mr.  
Dictator were your work?

Faith shrugs nonchalantly, twirling the gaihur which has remained.

FAITH  
Maybe...

DAWN  
Buff did the same thing with that  
priest guy once. Put me off  
spaghetti for life!

FAITH  
(re: portal)  
Uh... Dawn?

DAWN  
Hmm?  
(realises)  
Oh! Right. Sorry.

Dawn moves towards the portal, hands outstretched and ready to seal it...

KINCAID (O.S.)  
Stop.

They all turn to face Kincaid.

KINCAID (cont'd)  
I'm going back.

NOA  
What? We just got rid of those  
things and now you want to go after  
them?

KINCAID  
I can help these people, Noa. The  
oni will just be in disarray right  
now with Aku gone, and if I can  
help rally the people there... we  
can save that world and restore it.

NOA  
(teary)  
But...

KINCAID  
I'm sorry. I... I have to do this.

NOA  
No! No, no... you can't! You can't  
go!

The others aren't sure what to say as Kincaid bends down to Noa and strokes her cheek, wiping away her TEARS.

NOA (cont'd)  
Please... please don't leave me  
again...

KINCAID  
I'll be back. I promise.  
(beat; smiling)  
I've still got recipes to teach  
you, after all.

Noa manages a sad laugh, wiping away her tears - and then she leans forward and KISSES him. It's tender and sweet and heartbreaking all at once, but Kincaid eventually breaks the kiss, pressing his forehead against Noa's tenderly before standing.

Kincaid smiles and shakes hands with the team. Faith and Vi look upset in particular as does Rachel.

Then he steps back and steps through the portal. We can still see him on the other side as he WAVES.

Then Dawn's hands start to GLOW and slowly... he DISAPPEARS.

DAWN  
I'm sorry, Noa. I'm so sorry.

NOA  
It's fine...  
(beat; wiping tears)  
He... he's doing great things.

Faith and Jerry help Noa into her wheelchair and then their attention turns to Pryor.

PRYOR  
Listen, about earlier... I'm sorry  
I didn't help when -

NOA

(angry)

Don't you dare, Pryor. Don't you dare.

RACHEL

Let's try and clean up.

(to Pryor; pissed)

All of the orderlies are fine, by the way.

PRYOR

I was going to ask...

But the team are just past caring as they trudge upstairs: victorious but tired and broken.

Pryor's left alone in the Control Room, contemplating something...

... until he LASHES OUT and SMASHES his fist into the Control Room wall!

It doesn't even seem to bother him as he CLENCHES his fist, a look of pure feral ANGER crossing his features.

Then he ROARS, a primal CRY of anger as he picks an object up and THROWS it heavily at us, forcing us to:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF SHOW**