

SLAYER ACADEMY

"SNAFU"

by
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TEASER

FADE IN:

1

EXT. CAMPUS - FRONT GATES - DUSK

1

The evening sun is retreating behind the Academy, framing it before us as the tall, heavy front gates come into view, followed by the perimeter wall that rounds the campus.

Standing before the gates, staring down towards the Academy beyond, is SKYE. She exhales deeply, and it looks like she's been stood there for some time.

ERIKA (O.S.)

It will be alright, Skye.

Skye turns as ERIKA steps into frame next to her.

ERIKA (cont'd)

I have told them to expect you.
There are no traps, tricks or
deceits between here and the
Academy itself.

SKYE

Yeah, but it's what's waiting
inside that I'm worried about.

Erika reaches out for Skye, taking her hand and giving it a comradely squeeze.

ERIKA

Trust me. I did not spend the past
two days tracking you down again
just to deceive you.

SKYE

Okay, yeah. Got me there. It's
just...
(sighs; shakes head)
No, sorry. I can't do it.

ERIKA

Skye, please!

Skye turns and walks away from the gates, forcing Erika to come after her.

ERIKA (cont'd)

You are no longer under suspicion.

SKYE

(scoffs)
As if!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ERIKA

(frowns)

For Heidi's murder, at least.

Skye spins on her heel to face Erika.

SKYE

Okay, say I buy any of this - which I'm not saying I do - how do I know there isn't another Council ops team waiting for me in there?

ERIKA

There was no such team there when I left.

SKYE

Exactly. The Council are slippery bastards like that. Who's to say they didn't pull a switcheroo on you and bring a team in to get me anyway?

ERIKA

Would you like me to go down there and check for you?

SKYE

Would you?

ERIKA

(beat)

No. You will just have to trust me.

SKYE

(shrugs)

Suit yourself.

Skye starts walking again, but this time Erika grabs her arm to stop her.

ERIKA

Skye, you must listen to me.

Skye doesn't look at her, but pauses for now.

ERIKA (cont'd)

Even if there is something waiting down there, and I do not for one second believe there will be, then you will not be facing it alone.

Skye turns to Erika as she releases her arm and steps back.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ERIKA (cont'd)
I will be at your side.
(beat)
Does that count for anything?

SKYE
I couldn't do that to you.

ERIKA
That is not your choice to make. It
is mine.

SKYE
(raises eyebrow)
You're serious?

ERIKA
Absolutely.

Erika offers Skye her hand.

ERIKA (cont'd)
Now... will you come with me?

Skye stares down at her hand for a long beat, then with a
resigned sigh grabs hold of it.

SKYE
What the hell.

ERIKA
(smiles)
Thank you.

SKYE
Besides, if we get into a fight
you're one of the few people I'd
trust to have my back anyway.

ERIKA
Again, thank you.

Erika leads Skye back over to the gates, pushing the 'call'
button on the small intercom unit.

Skye glances up nervously as a CCTV camera over the intercom
rotates to stare at her, its lens buzzing as it zooms in.

ERIKA (cont'd)
(into intercom)
This is Erika Nemerov. I am here
with Skye. We are ready to return.

BARBARA
(filtered; through
intercom)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

BARBARA (cont'd)

Good to hear from you, Erika. Just
a moment.

There's a loud BUZZ before the gates unlock with a CLICK,
slowly swinging backwards to allow the two Slayers entry.

Erika steps away from the intercom and heads for the start of
the campus driveway, looking back over her shoulder.

ERIKA

Well?

Skye takes another deep breath, then sticks her hands in her
pockets and walks to Erika's side.

Erika allows herself a smile before the two girls head down
the driveway, the heavy gates rolling back into place behind
them.

Skye glances anxiously back round as the gates lock again
with a loud CLANG, and from that, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

2

INT. CAMPUS - RECEPTION - NIGHT

2

There are several people standing round in the reception area, and at the head of the pack stand BARBARA, ELLEN and GREG.

Further back waits SOFIA, ALITA and FRANKIE, with AIDEN close by.

Barbara is pacing, arms round her waist and visibly worked up about Skye's impending arrival. Ellen looks like she hasn't slept for two days - she's pale, with bags under her eyes and her hair up in a messy bun.

ELLEN

It's gonna be fine, Barb. Stop wearing a groove into the carpet.

BARBARA

I wish I could share your confidence!

(sighs)

I'll just be glad when things start approaching normality around here again.

GREG

'Normal' is a very subjective word in our line of work.

ELLEN

You can say that again...

SOFIA

(impatient)

Is she here yet?

ALITA

(peers outside)

I cannot see her yet.

FRANKIE

Per'aps we should 'ave built a shorter driveway?

SOFIA

(rolls eyes; dry)

Yes, thank you, Frankie.

AIDEN

Look, the most important thing right now is to make this easy for her.

(CONTINUED)

ALITA

How?

AIDEN

(beat)

I was just going to play it by ear,
to be honest. I'm open to
suggestions.

GREG

Skye's been through a lot. We all
have.

If Greg can tell everyone's staring at him after that, he
chooses not to notice.

GREG (cont'd)

Let's just concentrate on what
matters. She's back, and she's
safe.

SOFIA

And she's almost here...

Sofia takes a few steps forward as Skye and Erika finally
come into view outside, Alita and Frankie close by.

Skye slows down, but a tug on her arm from Erika gets her
moving again, and Erika reaches the front doors first,
holding them open.

ERIKA

(to Skye)

Go on. This is for you.

Skye glances at Erika, then takes one long step to cross the
threshold and step into reception. There's a long beat as she
surveys the faces before her.

SKYE

So... did I miss much?

Sofia breaks first, racing forward and HUGGING Skye, who's
taken aback by the gesture at first - and then grins and
gives Sofia a quick hug back.

SOFIA

(releases her)

Welcome back. No hard feelings?

SKYE

I wouldn't go that far just yet.

Sofia's face falls, and Skye can't resist a smirk.

(CONTINUED)

SKYE (cont'd)

Man, you are so easy to fool...

Alita is next, smiling as she offers Skye a low, respectful bow. Skye returns the motion as best she can.

ALITA

We are all glad you have returned,
Skye.

SKYE

(looking round)

'All' isn't as many as people as
they'd have you believe, is it?

SOFIA

Things have been...
(glances at Greg)
... difficult.

Barbara steps in at last, a warm smile on her face.

BARBARA

But now we can start getting back
to where we should be.

She extends her hand, and it's obvious this is an official gesture to mark Skye's return.

BARBARA (cont'd)

Welcome home, Skye.

Skye smiles, shaking Barbara's hands as the others crowd round her and descend into excited chatter.

The group from reception stream into Barbara's office, Skye still receiving the warmest of warm welcomes.

SKYE

So how come those Council guys are
gone?

BARBARA

They spent a long time validating
Tyson's visions, but once he passed
all their tests they had no option
but to officially sign off on the
case and clear your name for good.

SKYE

Oh, right. That's better than being
chased by helicopters, I guess.

ALITA

Tyson is the one you should be thanking.

SKYE

Yeah, where is the hero of the day, anyway?

AIDEN

Recovering down in the sick bay. He's exhausted! They ran him through some pretty extensive parapsychokinetic testing.

SKYE

Para-what now?

FRANKIE

Checking that 'is visions were genuine.

SKYE

Ah. Cool.

There's a moment as Barbara takes her seat, and the others fill out across the room.

BARBARA

Skye, I... I just wanted to take this opportunity to say that I never-

SKYE

(raises hand)

It's cool. You did what you had to. You're the kind of girl who plays by the rules, and I can't argue with that.

ELLEN

For what it's worth, we slowed the ops team down as much as we could.

SOFIA

Even if some of us didn't exactly help matters...

Sofia is looking pretty guilty, prompting Skye to give her a friendly nudge.

SKYE

It's okay, Sofes. You can stop being so British now. You did what you thought was right. Even if it was a pretty lame idea.

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA

I just didn't... I never wanted to fight with you, Skye.

SKYE

(glances at Erika)

Good job you didn't get much chance to, huh?

Erika grins, and Sofia manages a chuckle.

BARBARA

Actually, I'm glad you all turned out for this.

FRANKIE

As if we would miss it!

BARBARA

Skye, I think there's one last piece of business we need to discuss.

SKYE

If it's about those magazines, I swear they were in the closet when I got here.

BARBARA

(grins)

It's about the squad leader position.

SKYE

(beat)

Oh.

BARBARA

And how I'd like you to resume your post as 'A' squad team leader.

Everyone lapses into silence, waiting for Skye's response. She looks suitably overwhelmed - but then lowers her head and shakes it.

SKYE

No.

ALITA

What?

SKYE

No. I don't think I should. Not now, anyway.

(CONTINUED)

BARBARA

Skye, you're not-

SKYE

(interrupts)

I want Sofia to take it. Take it back, I mean.

SOFIA

(stunned)

Skye... are you... are you sure?

SKYE

I'm not a leader, Sofes. You are. Besides, after all that's happened it's still gonna take a while for most of the girls here to look at me the way they used to. Maybe some of them never will. Point is, that's not the kind of baggage a leader should be carrying.

SOFIA

I... I don't know what to say...

SKYE

Start with 'yes,' then 'thank you Skye,' and we'll see where we go from there.

SOFIA

(smiles)

Yes. And thank you, Skye.

SKYE

There ya go.

Skye turns back to Barbara, who seems surprised, but one look at Sofia's beaming face confirms the decision.

BARBARA

(nods)

Alright then. It's not what I was expecting to say, but... Sofia? Congratulations.

Sofia is still beaming as a ripple of APPLAUSE passes round the room, and she gets hugs and handshakes off the others.

BARBARA (cont'd)

I think that concludes our business for now. We'd better let you get settled back in.

Sofia grabs Skye's hand and drags her out of the chair.

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA
Leave that to us!

With the other Slayers following, Skye is led out of the room until only the faculty members remain.

BARBARA
Ellen, can I have a quick word?

She hangs back, waiting for everyone else to file out.

BARBARA (cont'd)
And close the door, please.

Looking a little tense, Ellen obliges and takes a seat before Barbara's desk.

ELLEN
What's up?

BARBARA
I thought it was time to start letting people know about your recent... situation with the Initiative, and what it means for us all here.

ELLEN
(bites lip)
Yeah... I figured.

BARBARA
A formal announcement from the Initiative won't be long coming, but I wanted to check with you first before I told Greg or anyone else.

ELLEN
I appreciate that, Barb, but you don't have to do that for me. Soon as I get my marching orders, I'll be out of your hair in no time.

BARBARA
I thought you might feel that way... which is why I've decided to offer a permanent position here at the Academy to both you and Dunstall. If you'll take it.

Ellen's jaw drops, speechless at this offer.

ELLEN
You... huh?

(CONTINUED)

BARBARA

I can't think of one reason why I wouldn't want you here, Ellen. Your initiative experience notwithstanding, you've proven your loyalty to us time and time again, and let's not forget the fact that you're a Slayer, and this just happens to be an Academy for them...

ELLEN

You... you want me to become a student?

BARBARA

(grins)

Not as such. I just want to remain part of my faculty. I think this place needs you.

Ellen sits back in her chair, mulling over the invitation.

ELLEN

Can I think about it?

BARBARA

Of course. Take all the time you need.

ELLEN

Thanks. And, you know... thanks. It means a lot to me.

BARBARA

What are friends for?

She offers her hand, again making it seem like some kind of official gesture, and Ellen grins as she shakes it.

BARBARA (cont'd)

However...

ELLEN

Here it comes...

BARBARA

... we still need to have that conversation about your illness.

ELLEN

Yeah... yeah, we do.

Barbara raises an eyebrow, and Ellen lowers her head. Now's not the time. We cut from these two back over to:

4

INT. CAMPUS - DORMS - NEXT

4

Sofia, Skye and Erika are followed by Alita and Frankie as they head down a dorm room corridor.

SOFIA

So, basically, what Tyson 'saw' coupled with Delaney's statement removes you of any culpability.

ERIKA

We are still no closer to the real killer, but we at least know one person who did not kill Heidi.

SKYE

Which helps.

Skye seems more reassured by Erika's statement than Sofia's, and Sofia just has time to register this and frown a little before:

DARCIE (O.S.)

Well, well, well.

The group stop, turning to see DARCIE standing in the corridor behind them. A handful of Slayers stand behind her, but they're letting her do the talking.

DARCIE (cont'd)

If it isn't everybody's favourite Most Wanted.

Sofia starts forward angrily, but Erika holds her back, shaking her head. Sofia stares at her, then watches as Skye slowly walks up to face Darcie.

DARCIE (cont'd)

Looks like you managed to worm your way back in here, then?

SKYE

That's me. Always with the worming.

DARCIE

(scoffs)

You're not seriously expecting to get back into things here, are you? The whole campus knows you're a killer now!

SKYE

Maybe. But then, we've all done bad things, haven't we?

(CONTINUED)

Skye gets up in Darcie's face, staring her down, but Darcie's insolence starts to waver in the face of Skye's cool, calm grin.

DARCIE

What... what do you...

SKYE

Let's just say you're not the only one who picked a few... 'interesting' bits of intel up out on the road.

DARCIE

(haughty)

You don't know what you're talking about.

SKYE

Don't I? Met a demon who told me a story about a family up in Leeds who might say differently.

Darcie pales - just for a moment - before turning and spinning on her heel, her face like thunder as she stomps away.

DARCIE

(snarls)

This isn't over, Skye. You may have wriggled your way out of what happened to Heidi, but we both know you're the biggest threat to this Academy.

SKYE

Funny, I hear the same about you.

Darcie shoots Skye one last look before she rounds a corner, hastily followed by her pack of Slayerettes.

SOFIA

What was all that about?

SKYE

I'll tell you later.

(to Erika)

You got any beers?

ERIKA

Only some spirits.

SKYE

Let's do it. I don't care how late it is, I got just cause to celebrate.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SKYE (cont'd)
Roof over reception, ten minutes.
And this time, keep an eye on me if
I get drunk, 'kay?

ERIKA
(grins)
I will.

Skye walks off, and as Erika nods to the others and heads her own way, Sofia is noticeably put out at Skye's choice of company.

ALITA
Sofia, you look troubled. Is
something on your mind?

SOFIA
She...
(shakes head)
Never mind. Don't know what I was
expecting, really. I mean, I did
almost get into a fight with her.

FRANKIE
With Skye, that is always a
possibility.

SOFIA
(sighs)
Not just with her, these days.
(beat)
Well! Never mind all that. I think
Skye's not the only one with
something to celebrate tonight, is
she? Who's in?

ALITA
I'm going to see if Tyson's alright
first.

SOFIA
Oh. Okay.

Alita heads off, and Frankie steps forward.

FRANKIE
And I 'ave an appointment with
Sebastian. Something bad 'as
'appened between 'im and Ellen, and
I need to know what it is.

SOFIA
Oh... right. Fine.

Frankie nods and walks away, leaving a rather downcast Sofia by herself.

5 INT. CAMPUS - DORMS - NEXT

5

Sofia's hand KNOCKS on the door, and a moment later BRAEDEN opens it, wearing a scruffy old t-shirt.

BRAEDEN
(blinks)
Sofia?

SOFIA
I'm ready for bed.

BRAEDEN
(beat)
Huh?

She rolls her eyes and pushes past him, into:

6 INT. CAMPUS - DORMS - BRAEDEN'S ROOM - NEXT

6

Sofia marches into Braeden's pretty messy room, past the piles of clothes and straight over to his bed, where she flops down and wraps the covers round herself.

A bemused Braeden shuts the door and heads over to the bed, looking down on her.

He waits a beat, but Sofia isn't moving.

BRAEDEN
So... where do I sleep?

She reaches an arm round and pats the bed next to her, and with a grin Braeden lies back down. She takes one of his arms and wraps it round herself, snuggling up against him.

BRAEDEN (cont'd)
What's brought all this on?

SOFIA
It's been a... funny night.

BRAEDEN
'Funny' how?

SOFIA
I thought I had something to celebrate, but... but it turns out I needed to find somebody to celebrate it with me first.

She turns round to face him, still wrapped up in the bedclothes. She stares up at him for a long beat.

SOFIA (cont'd)
Braeden...

(CONTINUED)

BRAEDEN

Yeah?

SOFIA

Do you... am I... am I a bad person?

BRAEDEN

What? No, no. 'Course not.

He KISSES her on the forehead.

BRAEDEN (cont'd)

Not at all.

She looks up at him, then KISSES him back. They hold each other's gaze for a moment - then start to KISS again.

And now, Sofia climbs out from under the covers, wrapping both arms round Braeden as their kissing intensifies.

With their breathing getting faster, Sofia grabs his t-shirt and starts to lift it up - but Braeden stops her.

BRAEDEN (cont'd)

Sofia...

She presses a finger to his lips, shaking her head.

SOFIA

Ssh. Please. Just...

(beat; deep breath)

Just don't leave me tonight.

He hesitates, then KISSES her again, and this time doesn't resist as she pulls his t-shirt off over his head.

He rolls onto his side, their arms and legs wrapping round each other, and as Braeden starts to lift off Sofia's shirt, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

7 EXT. CAMPUS GROUNDS - MORNING 7

The morning after. Birds SING. A light breeze WHISTLES across the green grass that surrounds the campus itself.

The Academy is silhouetted against the rising sun, and after a moment we cut to:

8 INT. CAMPUS - INFIRMARY - NEXT 8

Alita is curled up asleep in a chair at the bedside of TYSON, who is just waking up.

Blinking, he looks round until his eyes fall on Alita. He smiles, reaching out a hand to tenderly stroke a lock of hair from her face.

9 INT. CAMPUS - BARBARA'S ROOM - NEXT 9

Barbara is also just waking up, stretching out and looking out across the playing fields visible through her window.

She turns to her side, already smiling as though expecting someone to be there, but frowns when she sees she's alone.

The HISS of a shower suddenly sounds from the next room, and Barbara allows herself a grin again as she flops back down.

10 INT. CAMPUS - ELLEN'S ROOM - NEXT 10

Rays of sunlight fall across the foot of Ellen's bed, and as we pan up across half-packed cases, the mark of a woman not sure if she's coming or going, Ellen herself comes into view.

She's sitting with her back against the wall, hugging her knees and looking like she's gone another night without any sleep.

11 INT. CAMPUS - DORMS - BRAEDEN'S ROOM - NEXT 11

And we pan across the floor of Braeden's room, picking up some noticeably feminine items of clothing before arriving on the bed...

... where Sofia and Braeden lie asleep in each other's arms. They look secure - safe. And peaceful.

12 EXT. CAMPUS - FRONT GATES - NEXT 12

Pan down from the top of the gates, the Academy framed in the background.

(CONTINUED)

A WOMAN dressed in black stands facing the gates, her long dark hair flowing in the wind.

It's KIRA.

Her eyes are closed, her hands by her side, but she slowly brings her hands up, palms out.

She opens her eyes - and they're BLACK, literally CRACKLING with dark magical energy!

KIRA
Alright, you lot...

Pull back a little - and there are around FIFTEEN WARRIOR DEMONS arrayed behind her!

KIRA (cont'd)
... time to see if you were worth
the money.

The Warrior Demons CACKLE, all of them various shapes, sizes and species but all armed to the teeth and looking ready to do some serious harm.

Kira brings her arms up outstretched before her - and then CLAPS her hands together!

There's a terrifically loud BOOM and a BLAZE of energy - and the front gates EXPLODE!

Twisted hunks of metal and concrete are blasted back through the air, and we SMASH CUT TO:

MONTAGE:

A) Alita jolts awake, leaping to her feet as Tyson looks round in alarm.

B) Barbara sits up in bed, the distant 'boom' still reverberating round the campus.

C) Ellen's head snaps round.

D) Sofia and Braeden's eyes both open at the same moment.

E) In her cell down in the basement, the badly-bruised DELANEY suddenly looks up - and starts to GRIN...

The smoke from the explosion clears - and the gates are gone! There's a CHEER from the assembled demons.

14 CONTINUED:

14

Without saying a word, Kira starts to march towards the Academy, and as the demons follow, we cut to:

15 INT. CAMPUS - DORMS - NEXT

15

An ALARM BELL is ringing as various Slayers open their dorm room doors and poke their heads out. ANNA jogs past, KNOCKING on people's doors.

ANNA

Come on, everybody! Get up! Get outta bed!

She gets to Skye's dorm but Skye opens the door before she can knock. Skye's clutching her head as though hung over.

SKYE

(wincing)

'sappenin'?

ANNA

(urgent)

Get your ass in gear, Skye. Something just went bang out front, and next thing I know every alarm in the campus is going off!

SKYE

Ah, jeez...

Skye ducks back into her room, and we cut to:

16 INT. CAMPUS - RECEPTION - NEXT

16

Pulling on her jacket, Barbara finds an alarmed Greg and Ellen already waiting for her.

BARBARA

What's happening?

ELLEN

Incoming hostiles, front gates. Counted about fifteen demons, heading our way.

BARBARA

We're under attack? Again?

GREG

It's worse than that.

(beat)

It's Kira. She's leading them.

Barbara pauses, looking round as BRYCE, still wet from the shower, dashes into reception along with Aiden and JAZ.

(CONTINUED)

BRYCE

Let me guess. Battle stations?

Barbara's voice rises a notch in volume as she starts barking her orders out.

BARBARA

Ellen, open up the armoury and dish out everything we have. Aiden, go with her to help and then get to the infirmary.

They dash off, and Barbara turns to:

BARBARA (cont'd)

Jaz, get back to the infirmary and get ready to receive wounded.

JAZ

But we don't even-

BARBARA

Now, Jasminder.

Barbara's use of her full name impresses the seriousness of all this on Jaz, and she dashes off.

BARBARA (cont'd)

Greg, go and check on the girls. If we need to mount any kind of defence, I want every Slayer on campus armed and ready to fight before Kira gets here.

GREG

Leave it to me.

He runs off as Bryce steps over.

BRYCE

What about me?

BARBARA

Start locking down as much of the campus as you can. You've got all the codes. We need to limit the attacking force's access as much as we can.

BRYCE

No worries.

He jogs off, but pauses as she calls out:

BARBARA

Eric?

(CONTINUED)

BRYCE
(turns)
Yeah?

BARBARA
No hero stuff. Leave that to the
Slayers.

BRYCE
(grins)
Don't need to tell me twice, B.

And with that. He's gone. Barbara looks around for a beat,
then marches over to the front desk, reaching round behind
the counter and hitting a panic button under the desk.

Heavy steel SHUTTERS start to descend all across the front
entrance, sealing the glass doors off as we cut to:

Slayers are dashing left, right and centre, with Greg
shouting instructions as girls pass him.

GREG
Come on, keep it moving! Get
dressed, get to the armoury and get
into position!

Darcie stops before him, sword already in hand.

DARCIE
Where's a good place to start? You
lot have been through this once
already - I haven't.

GREG
(thinks)
The library. It was a weak point
last time, go and help Frankie lock
it down.

Darcie nods and dashes off. Greg hears a door opening behind
him and turns round...

... and there's Sofia and Braeden, caught red-handed as they
step out of his room, still pulling their clothes on! Greg
blinks, and Sofia blushes a deep, deep red.

SOFIA
G-Greg, I-

GREG
(flat)
Get dressed, get to the armoury and
get into position.

He moves off, as Sofia calls out:

SOFIA
But what's happening?

SKYE (O.S.)
It's Slayers versus rest of world,
round two.

Sofia turns - and Skye tosses the SCYTHE to her! Sofia catches it, allowing Skye chance to shoot Braeden a quick look before she draws her SAI DAGGERS.

SKYE (cont'd)
You in the game?

Sofia nods, and Skye's look to Braeden gets the same response.

SKYE (cont'd)
Alright, squad leader... do your
thing.

Sofia straightens, gripping her Scythe tightly as we cut back down to:

The reception area is deserted, the heavy shutters down over the front doors.

A beat - and then with another huge BOOM, a hole is blasted straight through the shutters!

Hunks of steel fly across the reception, SPEARING into the walls and SMASHING several framed photographs.

Kira steps smoothly through the gaping, jagged hole, her keen eyes scanning the reception as the jabbering demons clamber in behind her.

KIRA
(to demons)
Spread out. Kill anything that gets
in your way. When I give the
signal, fall back or get left
behind. Understand?

A chorus of nods and GRUNTS signals yes, they understand.

KIRA (cont'd)
Get moving.

With a series of BATTLE CRIES, the howling demons charge off screen, and as we hear doors SMASHING as the demons batter though them, Kira steps off frame and we cut to:

19 INT. CAMPUS - CORRIDOR - NEXT

19

Alita and Anna are side by side, weapons ready as they look down a long, narrow corridor leading off from the canteen.

ANNA

I'm starting to get some really bad
flashbacks here...

ALITA

Me too.

They exchange a nervous glance - and the first two DEMONS round the corner up ahead!

ALITA (cont'd)

But we will have time to be scared
later!

She CHARGES forward, and with a SHOUT Anna is right behind her as they close in on the demons.

The hulking demons, all gnarled skin and rippling muscles, ROAR as the Slayers close in, raising their huge, jagged swords.

Alita LEAPS up into the air, nimbly pushing off one wall as a demon's sword RIPS through it, her nunchucks SMACKING across the demon's thick-skinned head.

She lands behind it, FLIPPING to the side as the next demon's sword SMASHES into the ground, but this gives Anna an opening to steam in with a KICK, launching herself up and over to KICK the demon again with her other foot.

Alita turns to see one demon lumbering towards her. Her eyes snap to either side, spotting something.

The demon HOWLS, lifting its sword high into the air, but Alita stays in place as it barrels towards her.

The sword swings down towards her - and she DIVES to the side, missing the sword by a fraction as it SLAMS into the floor, cracking the tiles in two!

The demon looks up - just in time to see Alita holding a STEEL POLE in her hands, torn straight from the long coatstand running along the wall!

The demon has time to GRUNT in surprise - before Alita RAMS the pole into its skull, SLAMMING the demon against the wall with a wet SQUELCH.

The demon falls limp, pinned to the wall, as its sword CLATTERS from its hands.

(CONTINUED)

Alita looks up to see Anna has the advantage on her demon, her fists POUNDING into it as she lets rip, her face twisted with rage as she beats the life out of the creature.

Alita joins her as Anna staggers back, her fists wet with blood as she pants for breath.

ALITA (cont'd)
You mustn't expend all your
strength on one foe when there are
still many to fight, Anna!

ANNA
Yeah, well... I've only got one way
to fight. Sorry.

They hear a SMASH of glass from the next corridor along, and Alita pats Anna on the arm before dashing off.

ANNA (cont'd)
Hey! Where are you going?

ALITA
(calls back)
Find others and help them! I'll be
alright!

Anna can only watch as Alita tears away, and we cut to:

With the sounds of ROARS and fighting coming from outside, Jaz is busy packing away everything she can as DEBBIE stands by the door, clutching a sword.

DEBBIE
(terrified)
Oh, God, oh, God, oh God...

JAZ
Debbie, that really isn't helping!

DEBBIE
What do you expect me to do?!? I
retired from all this, remember?

JAZ
(snaps)
You don't get to 'retire' from
being a Slayer, Debbie! You've
either got it in your blood or you
haven't!

They both look up as the door BUCKLES, something heavy slamming into it from outside.

DEBBIE

Something tells me we're all about
to see exactly what's in my
blood...

The door FLIES OPEN - and a dead DEMON falls forward with a
THUD, a SWORD buried in its back up to the hilt!

Debbie looks up as Braeden leans in through the doorway,
checking the infirmary is clear.

BRAEDEN

Sorry about that. Crafty bugger
almost got past me!

DEBBIE

Are there any more?

Braeden puts one foot on the demon's back as he tries to
wrench his sword free.

BRAEDEN

One or two, I'm guessing. You girls
alright here?

JAZ

We'll manage.

BRAEDEN

Right.

He turns to go, when:

JAZ

Can you put that door back up
first?

Braeden looks down at the splintered door as we cut to:

Frankie hurries back into frame, Darcie close behind her as
more SHOUTS and CRASHES can be heard close by.

FRANKIE

They are coming closer!

DARCIE

You let me worry about those,
princess. You just lock yourself up
in that office and let the real
Slayers do all the work!

FRANKIE

(jaw drops)
Quoi?!? I will 'ave you know I-

DUNSTALL (O.S.)

Frankie?

The girls look up - DUNSTALL is up on the top floor, looking down. Noticeably shirtless.

DUNSTALL (cont'd)

What's going on out there?

Darcie just has time to throw a sly grin at a reddening Frankie before there's a CRASH at the door.

DARCIE

I'll handle this. Go!

Darcie SHOVES Frankie towards the staircase as she rushes back into the library foyer, and as Frankie looks on, torn between her choices, we cut to:

INT. CAMPUS - CELLS - CORRIDOR - NEXT

Looking down the long, dingy corridor that houses the Academy's mini-cell block...

... and the door at the far end DETONATES outwards, FLAMES licking along the walls!

Once again, it's Kira who steps into view, the CLICK of her boot heels ringing out down the dark corridor.

She comes to a stop before one cell - and there's Delaney. She lifts her head and manages a short, mirthless laugh.

DELANEY

Might've known it'd be you.

Kira takes a beat, obviously not expecting to see Delaney in the battered state she's in, before she looks up and round, examining the thick glass wall of the cell.

DELANEY (cont'd)

So, what's the master plan for getting me out of...

Delaney trails off as Kira places a hand against the glass - and it starts to MELT!

Delaney is suitably impressed as the glass bubbles and boils away, slopping down to the floor and allowing Kira entry at last.

DELANEY (cont'd)

Okay... that was cool.

Kira heads for Delaney's chair, and all she has to do is touch the bonds round her wrists to free her.

(CONTINUED)

Delaney stands, rubbing her wrists as she notices the power fizzing around Kira - and the black eyes.

DELANEY (cont'd)
What did you-

KIRA
Come on.

Kira takes Delaney by the arm and turns to leave the cell:

SOFIA (O.S.)
I'm terribly sorry...

And there's Sofia, Skye and Erika!

SOFIA (cont'd)
... but we really must insist that
you stay.

Kira narrows her eyes, ready to face the trio down as we cut back to:

As Dunstall pulls his shirt on, the office clearly the scene of some eventful goings on if the empty bottles of wine and sleeping bag are anything to go by, Frankie starts digging through one of the wooden chests on the floor.

DUNSTALL
What are you looking for? We need
to get you somewhere safe!

FRANKIE
(still searching)
I know I left it... ah!

She steps back - and lifts her SWORD!

FRANKIE (cont'd)
I 'oped I would find a use for this
again one day.

DUNSTALL
You're not serious...?

Frankie heads for the door, all business.

FRANKIE
Wait 'ere. I will be back soon.

Alarmed, Dunstall starts after her.

DUNSTALL
Frankie, no! You can't-

SMASH! Something breaks outside - on the upper level! Frankie looks to Dunstall one last time, then turns and marches up to her door, flinging it open:

Frankie steps out, her eyes sweeping across the floor. The rows of bookshelves of the Restricted section are at the rear, with more desks to the front. Nothing moves.

Frankie hears somebody CURSING off screen, and she slowly creeps forward to investigate, her sword at the ready.

Her arm starts to TWITCH, and Frankie freezes, screwing her eyes shut.

The tremor dies down, and Frankie exhales, opens her eyes and starts forward again.

She's taken a few steps when she hears FOOTSTEPS - somebody is coming towards her! She raises her sword, ready to meet the intruder.

FRANKIE

Alright! I know you are back there.
You 'ad better come...

She trails off as we follow a pair of BOOTS sauntering out from between the bookshelves.

Frankie's jaw drops in utter shock.

FRANKIE (cont'd)

You!

DARCIE sneers at Frankie - three heavy BOOKS under her one arm, her sword in the other.

DARCIE

That's right, princess. Me.

Darcie lifts her sword, aiming it at Frankie.

DARCIE (cont'd)

Now try and stop me.

Frankie hesitates, then grits her teeth and gets ready for the fight, as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

25

INT. CAMPUS - LIBRARY - UPPER FLOOR - MORNING

25

Darcie and Frankie have each other at sword point, only a few metres apart. Sounds of FIGHTS can still be heard from round the campus, but these two only have eyes for each other.

FRANKIE

I should 'ave known you were not one of us.

DARCIE

I sometimes wonder if I'm one of anything, sweetheart.

She takes a step forward, and Frankie hops back, both girls keeping their swords up.

DARCIE (cont'd)

Now, if you'd be so kind as to get out of my way, I can spare you the embarrassment of having to get yourself well and truly licked.

Darcie steps towards the staircase - and with a CLANG, Frankie's sword darts into frame, bouncing off Darcie's weapon and knocking her back a step!

DARCIE (cont'd)

(beat)

Like that, is it?

FRANKIE

Oui. En garde.

(beat; grins)

Bitch.

Darcie narrows her eyes - and LAUNCHES herself at Frankie with a YELL!

Their swords CLASH together, Darcie spinning round and SLICING her sword towards Frankie's feet.

Frankie HOPS into the air, but gets a PUNCH in her chest that knocks her back.

Scrambling to her feet, Frankie is on the back foot as Darcie LUNGES at her again and again, her sword SPEARING into desks, books and chairs alike as Frankie is forced to scrabble backwards.

Darcie STABS at her, but Frankie ducks to the side - too slow to avoid taking a CUT along her cheek!

(CONTINUED)

Darcie grins, but Frankie is soon back up and on her feet, spiralling round and SLASHING across Darcie's chest, catching her other arm and making her drop the books!

Clutching her arm as BLOOD starts to seep through her fingers, Darcie literally GROWLS as Frankie coolly assumes a fighting stance again.

FRANKIE (cont'd)
Per'aps you are not quite as
skilled as you believed, *non*?

Darcie glares at her for a beat, then CHARGES forward with a CRY, and as the two girls CLASH together, we cut to:

Kira guides the still weak Delaney round behind her as Sofia, Skye and Erika step forward.

KIRA
So you three are going to stop me,
are you? All by yourselves?

SKYE
That's the plan.

ERIKA
We would have sent only two, but I
thought we could-

POW! Erika is hit in the chest by a BALL OF MAGIC, and she's sent hurtling backwards to SLAM into the wall!

SKYE
Erika!!
(to Kira; snarls)
Oh, it's on now!

Skye VAMPS OUT, and with a feral GROWL launches herself towards Kira!

SOFIA
Skye, no! Wait!

Sofia can see the move coming, but Skye's got the red mist now - and is blindsided as Kira's other hand SWEEPS ROUND, delivering a solid BLAST of energy straight into her!

Skye CRASHES into the far wall of the cell, and as Kira clutches her fingers together and PULLS her hand towards her, Skye is DRAGGED along by an invisible force!

SOFIA (cont'd)
Skye!

Sofia rushes in, swinging her Scythe round, but Kira raises her free hand and puts up a WALL of protective magic.

Sofia hits the barrier hard enough to knock her off her feet, and is helpless as Kira lifts her hand, raising Skye into the air...

... and then SLAMS her down into the floor of the cell! Debris is kicked up from the force of her impact.

SOFIA (cont'd)

No!!

Sofia leaps up, HAMMERING at the barrier with her Scythe, but as Kira continues to SLAM Skye into the floor, ceiling and walls, she turns to sneer at Sofia's efforts.

KIRA

You know, that thing you're holding was much more potent before you let it lose its power.

Sofia freezes, just as Skye CRASHES into the ground again, and Kira finally releases her as Skye slumps to the floor, out cold.

KIRA (cont'd)

Now...

Kira drops the magical barrier, turning and advancing slowly on Sofia. Sofia grips her Scythe tight, trying not to show any fear.

KIRA (cont'd)

... let's see to you, then.

Sofia GULPS, and we cut to:

Frankie and Darcie are still fighting furiously, Frankie LEAPING up onto a table to avoid a low swing, swiftly followed by Darcie.

Their sword blades CLANGING together as they attack, the two girls hop from table to table, KICKING books and computers out of the way as they fight.

Dunstall is out of the office now, watching helplessly as he tries to figure out some way to help.

Spotting the discarded books Darcie was stealing, he rushes over and grabs them.

(CONTINUED)

Darcie's head snaps round, seeing Dunstall grab her prize, and as Frankie scythes in again Darcie smoothly ducks the swing, ELBOWING Frankie in the gut and KICKING her back off the table.

She hits the floor with a THUD, and Dunstall spins round to see Darcie grinning down on him - a DAGGER in her hand!

DARCIE

I'm sure I still have a few days
left on those.

Dunstall turns to run - and THUNK! Darcie's dagger SLICES into his shoulder!

He cries out and stumbles to the floor, the books scattering from his grip as Darcie hops off the table and marches over.

FRANKIE (O.S.)

No!!

Frankie bursts into frame, leaping over the table and swooping down on Darcie...

... who turns and STABS Frankie in the chest!

Frankie GASPS as Darcie TWISTS the blade, SHOVING Frankie to the floor and YANKING her sword back out of her.

It's not a serious wound, but it's enough to keep Frankie down as Darcie coolly walks past Dunstall, scoops up her books and starts down the staircase.

DARCIE

I'll be seeing you all, then.
(beat)
Oh, and Frankie?

Frankie, already going pale, manages to push herself up, her bad arm spasming badly next to her.

DARCIE (cont'd)

(smug)
I told you I'd win.

Darcie skips down the stairs as Frankie tries to get up and falls, CRYING OUT in pain! She watches Darcie exit, yelling after her as we cut to:

A quiet part of the campus, far away from all the fighting.

Until the floor literally EXPLODES outwards - and Sofia comes hurtling up through the floor!

Covered in dust, she hits the floor with a painful THUD, the Scythe falling from her grip as she rolls across the rubble, BLOOD on her teeth as she coughs and grimaces.

She starts to push herself up, watching with horror as Kira and Delaney, surrounded by a bubble of shimmering blue energy, float up through the hole in the floor!

Sofia hears SHOUTS to her left, and looks down an adjacent corridor to see ELLEN levelling a shotgun at another demon and FIRING at close range, the demon's chest exploding in a spray of thick black BLOOD.

She tries to call out, but her voice only comes out as:

SOFIA
(croaks)
Ellen! Ellen! Help me!

KIRA
Oh, come now, Sofia...

Kira steps into frame, sticking her BOOT into Sofia's chest and pinning her against the floor.

KIRA (cont'd)
... you should know by now that the
leaders, past and present, always
end up alone.

Sofia's too stunned to fight back as Kira strides past her, supporting the staggering Delaney as they head for the entrance, and we cut to:

Her trusty sword in one hand, Barbara dashes across the quad to meet Bryce and Jaz coming the other way. A SCREAM echoes out from somewhere close by, and all three of them show signs of some action.

BARBARA
How are we doing?

BRYCE
Hard to say. I've seen at least six
demons go down...

JAZ
... but we've had to evacuate the
infirmary, and I've got at least
four badly wounded with nowhere
safe to put them.

BRYCE
We could do with a plan, B.

BARBARA

Keep everybody moving. The science block's still clear, so get everyone who's hurt in there and seal it off.

Bryce and Jaz nod and start to dash off, when Barbara calls after them:

BARBARA (cont'd)

Wait, wait!

She jogs back over to them.

BARBARA (cont'd)

Jaz, I need you to check on the magical supplies first. If Kira's here, she could go after those, and we can't let that happen. I need you to override the security codes and lock the storeroom down.

JAZ

(disbelief)

Just me? But what about-

BARBARA

Find somebody else to help you! Eric, you go to the science block and make sure it's secure.

BRYCE

Got it.

Jaz still doesn't look convinced about this plan, but as Barbara and Bryce head off their separate ways, she has no choice but to do the same as we cut to:

Darcie steps cautiously out of the library, hearing FIGHTING below her and off down a classroom corridor to her right, so she hurries towards us.

She gingerly steps over the bodies of both a fallen demon and a Slayer, pausing to look at the Slayer.

DARCIE

Sorry, dear. Better you than me.

ALITA (O.S.)

Darcie?

Darcie freezes, slowly looking up to see Alita standing before her. Alita is spattered with blood - but it's all demon.

ALITA (cont'd)
What are you doing? You're supposed
to be guarding the library!

DARCIE
Er...

ALITA
(narrows eyes)
And what are you doing with those
books?

Alita's keen eyes spot the fresh BLOOD on the surface of the
books - Dunstall's - and quick as a flash she's drawn her
nunchucks, SNAPPING them into shape.

ALITA (cont'd)
Put them down.

DARCIE
(steps back)
Now, just a minute! You've got this
all wrong.

Alita slowly advances on her, ready for action.

ALITA
I don't know what you're doing, but
if you don't put those books down
in the next five seconds, I'll-

DARCIE
(smirks)
You'll what? Bleed on me?

Alita frowns, puzzled - and then stiffens, her eyes bulging.

DARCIE (cont'd)
(winces)
Ouch, Now that had to hurt.

Alita's arms slowly drop, and she looks down at her t-shirt -
and a dark pool of BLOOD is starting to form!

She staggers forward a step, her nunchucks falling from her
fingers, and as she FALLS, she twists round...

... and sees BRAEDEN! He lowers his Scythe, and Alita stares
up at him in sheer disbelief.

ALITA
(gasps)
Br... Braeden...

Braeden manages to actually look guilty - as a drop of
Alita's BLOOD falls from the tip of his Scythe!

(CONTINUED)

Darcie scurries into frame, grabbing Braeden's arm and starting to drag him away.

DARCIE
Come on! We have to go!

ALITA
But... you...

DARCIE
Braeden! Come on!

Braeden tears his eyes away from Alita, following Darcie as the duo make their escape down a staircase.

Her breathing shallow, Alita tries to push herself back up - but slumps back down, her eyelids fluttering as they close...

31 INT. CAMPUS - MAGICAL SUPPLIES STOREROOM - NEXT 31

A thick security door faces us, with a small numeric keypad to one side. A hand reaches into frame and inputs a code, and with a BEEP the door HISSES as it starts to open.

32 INT. CAMPUS - CORRIDOR - NEXT 32

Jaz hurries down another part of campus, almost stopping as she hears a Slayer crying out distantly for help, but with a grim expression she has to run on.

She barrels round a corner and collides with Tyson, who was coming the other way, knocking them both down.

TYSON
Jaz?

He's first up, helping her back to her feet.

TYSON (cont'd)
(quickly)
I can't find anybody else! I keep hearing fighting, and I've had to hide from these huge demons, and-

JAZ
(grabs his hand)
There's no time, come on!

TYSON
What?

She drags him off as she starts running again.

JAZ
We have to secure the magical supplies!

TYSON

But... shouldn't we find one of the
Slayers instead?

JAZ

You'll have to do!

The duo run on as we cut to:

INT. CAMPUS - MAGICAL SUPPLIES STOREROOM - NEXT

Jaz and Tyson skid round a corner, but Jaz slows when she
sees that the door is already open.

JAZ

Oh, no...

TYSON

This is bad, isn't it?

Jaz shushes him, starting to creep slowly forward as she
hears somebody moving around inside the storeroom.

She looks down at her sword as though wishing it would
magically become a rocket launcher, before turning back to
Tyson.

JAZ

(whispers)

Stay here. Don't make a sound.

Tyson nods, not about to argue, as Jaz slides up to the open
doorway. Clutching her sword tightly, she peeks round the
door frame...

... and as her eyes bulge in shock, she steps right out into
the open!

TYSON

(hisses)

Jaz! Jaz, what are you-

Tyson leans out to try and grab her - and his jaw drops at
who he sees.

Both of them stare for a long beat, before Jaz finally
speaks:

JAZ

Eric?

BRYCE looks round from inside the storeroom!

A large bag is slung over his shoulder, and he's already
stuffed several heaps of magical items into it, his arm out
to grab more.

(CONTINUED)

Jaz can't quite believe what she's seeing, but with a loud CLICK, Bryce quickly pulls a GUN!

JAZ (cont'd)
Bryce, what the hell are you
doing?!?

BRYCE
(firm)
Walk away, Jaz.

TYSON
But.. but... you?!?

BRYCE
I mean it, Jaz! Walk away!

TYSON
You can't be serious! You're in
league with Kira now?

Bryce scoops a last few things into his bag and heads for the exit, keeping his gun trained on Jaz and Tyson as he carefully steps outside.

JAZ
You won't get away with this. Not
now we know it was you.

BRYCE
(beat)
You're right.

He starts to lower the gun, much to Tyson's surprise...

... but then he suddenly lifts it and FIRES!

SMASH CUT TO:

Sofia staggers into reception to find a similarly bloody Greg and Aiden, both deep in combat with another warrior demon!

It ROARS as it swings one huge fist round, SWATTING Aiden off his feet, and as the beast turns its full weight on Greg, Sofia summons the last of her energy to run forward.

With a CRY, she SWINGS her Scythe round, catching the surprised demon just as it turns - and BURYING the Scythe in its throat!

The demon GURGLES as it sinks to the floor, clawed hands scrabbling desperately at its throat, but in moments it's down for good.

(CONTINUED)

Sofia collapses, but Greg manages to catch her just as Aiden limps back into frame.

GREG
Are you alright?

AIDEN
Are you alright?

GREG
I'm fine, what about Sofia?

AIDEN
I'm fine, what about Sofia?

A beat.

The doors leading to the canteen are thrown open as Anna and Ellen rush in. Ellen twists round and SHOOTs over her shoulder to a CRY of pain off screen.

ELLEN
I think that's the last one, so we
should be...
(looks round)
Oh, this had better not be all of
us...

ANNA
Sofia? The hell happened to you?

BOOM! The doors leading to the hall SHOOT across the room, blasted right off their hinges!

One of the doors SLAMS right into Aiden, pinning him to the floor, as the other sideswipes Ellen and Greg, knocking them down.

Anna opens her mouth to speak - and both she and Sofia are BLASTED off their feet by a bolt of magic!

Anna CRASHES into the ground, and Sofia skids across the rubble-strewn floor, managing to get her head up just as Kira and Delaney step into reception.

Kira surveys the battered staff and Slayers before her, her lips twisting into a cruel smirk as she shakes her head, TUTTING loudly.

KIRA
Dear, oh dear. Was this the best
you could do? I thought you'd have
all pulled your socks up after last
time this happened...
(checks watch)
Anyway. It's been fun, but it's
time we were all going.

Stunned, the others can only watch as Kira steps over them and heads back out through the hole in the barriers.

Hearing what sounds awfully like a HELICOPTER coming in, Sofia pushes herself to her feet, stumbling outside:

35 EXT. CAMPUS - FRONT ENTRANCE - NEXT

35

Staggering along, the deafening sound of a HELICOPTER swooping low over the campus is accompanied by the grit and gravel of the driveway whipping up in the rotor's wash.

Sofia covers her eyes as she looks up to the black helicopter, which is coming in to hover overhead.

Kira is already out of reach, glancing upwards as a rope ladder unfurling and dropping down in front of her.

Sofia starts to march forward, running on pure anger alone now.

She's only made it a few steps when she stops, seeing three figures running towards her from across the courtyard.

It's Braeden, Darcie and Bryce!

SOFIA
(relieved)
Braeden...

Her relief soon turns to confusion, however, as the trio suddenly veer towards the waiting helicopter!

SOFIA (cont'd)
Braeden?
(yells)
Braeden!!

Darcie gets to the rope ladder first, followed by Bryce, who grabs Delaney and helps her up as Kira shoots out a WAVE of dark energy, KNOCKING Sofia to her feet! She tries to stand, but the energy pins her down!

Sofia looks up from the floor in utter disbelief as Braeden puts one foot on the bottom of the ladder.

They make eye contact, Sofia's pleading gaze meeting his troubled eyes dead on.

They hold the gaze for what seems like an eternity...

... and then Braeden breaks it, starting to climb the ladder!

SOFIA (cont'd)
No... no!!

Sofia tries to get up, but Kira's magic still has her pinned to the floor - and suddenly, she hears FOOTSTEPS crunching along the gravel next to her.

(CONTINUED)

KIRA
(calling to someone)
Come on! There's no time to change
your mind now!

She manages to turn her head round...

... and Erika is walking past her!

SOFIA
(stunned)
Wh... but...

Erika looks down on Sofia for a beat, then hangs her head in shame as she scurries over to join Kira!

Kira's smirk says it all as she helps Erika get started on the ladder.

KIRA
I'm glad you decided to accept my
offer. You know it made sense.

Erika glances her way, but is silent as she quickly climbs the ladder and into the waiting helicopter with the others.

Kira grabs hold of the ladder and lets it pull her back up into the helicopter as the ladder retracts, the helicopter starting to rise into the air.

She makes the time to offer a last, victorious wave as she rises.

Sofia can only watch as the helicopter pulls up and away, speeding off into the sky and away, and as the distraught Sofia keeps screaming Braeden's name after it, we finally:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

36 EXT. CAMPUS - FRONT GATES - DAY 36

It's a short while later. The twisted, buckled remains of the front gates look down on the Academy below, which has several stray plumes of SMOKE rising from it.

37 INT. CAMPUS - RECEPTION - NEXT 37

With a HEAVE, Anna manages to haul the doors off Aiden, who's out cold as Anna tries to help him to his feet.

Greg is soon over to help, blood running down his face from a bad gash on his forehead.

ANNA
(off Greg's wound)
Greg, you're hurt! You need to-

GREG
(urgent)
Get Aiden to the infirmary. We're going to need him on his feet.

ANNA
(nods)
I got him.

Anna lifts Aiden up, slinging him over her shoulders fireman style before heading off through the canteen.

Greg turns and sees a shellshocked Sofia sitting on the leather seats over by the desk, oblivious to the mayhem all around her. He heads over to her.

GREG
Where's Skye?

SOFIA
(dazed)
She's down in the cells, I think she's hurt, so-

GREG
Go and make sure she's alright. I'll do the rounds, get everybody together.

SOFIA
But... but what about-

GREG
(firm)
Go.

(CONTINUED)

Greg helps her to her feet, and Sofia wanders away, stepping over the debris as if in a trance.

Greg watches her go, concern etched into his face before Ellen jogs over to him.

ELLEN

Damage report?

GREG

I don't know yet. We've got several breaches in our walls, and-

ELLEN

(off his cut)

I meant you.

GREG

What?

He finally realises he's bleeding, dabbing a hand to his forehead.

GREG (cont'd)

Oh.

ELLEN

Go get that checked out. I'll keep an eye on things here.

GREG

(nods)

Gather the injured together and send them down to the infirmary. Anybody who's still fit, keep them in the assembly hall so Barbara can make an announcement when she gets here.

Ellen nods, and as Greg makes his way off screen we cut to:

Frankie WINCES as Dunstall straps the final piece of bandage round her wound, biting his lip.

She's sat on her desk, with Dunstall stood next to her, a first aid kit open on top of the desk.

DUNSTALL

Sorry.

FRANKIE

Don't be. You are not the one who stabbed me.

DUNSTALL
(hangs head)
Yeah... sorry. Again.

She turns to him, holding his gaze as she manages a smile at last, reaching one hand out to touch his cheek.

They're interrupted as the library door suddenly BURSTS open, and Frankie leaps off the desk to see:

Alita, pale and slick with sweat, collapsing in a heap just past the door!

FRANKIE
(gasps)
Alita!

She hurries over, ignoring the pain in her side as she starts to lift Alita up.

Dunstall stops her, drawing her attention to the bloody wound in Alita's side.

DUNSTALL
Stay here with her. She's lost a lot of blood, so keep her warm and try to dress the wound best you can.
(stands)
I'll go find help.

Frankie watches as he charges out of the library before looking back down at Alita, who is only semi-conscious as Frankie tries to wipe the sweat from her brow.

39 INT. CAMPUS - INFIRMARY - NEXT

39

Debbie looks up as the doors fly open and Anna hurries in, Aiden still over her shoulders.

DEBBIE
Aiden! Oh, no...

She darts over, but as Anna lays Aiden down on one of the beds, she sees that pretty much all the others are full.

ANNA
Damn! What happened to us? We get nuked or something?

DEBBIE
(flustered)
I don't know!
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DEBBIE (cont'd)
I can't find Jaz anywhere, and now
Aiden's unconscious, and people
keep coming in and I don't know
what to do, and I-

ANNA
Debbie! Focus!

Anna grabs Debbie by the shoulders, looking into her eyes.

ANNA (cont'd)
Look, I know this is crazy, but you
have to stay sharp. There are
people here who need you, you
cannot afford to lose it right now!
(beat)
Okay?

Debbie manages to nod, still shaking with adrenaline as Anna
steps away from her, looking out over the wounded filling the
infirmary as we cut to:

Skye is groaning as she picks herself up from the floor,
piles of rubble all round her from her recent action.

She pushes herself up onto her knees to find Sofia sitting
over by the melted glass wall of the cell.

SKYE
(woozy)
Sofes? Man... from the look on your
face, I'm guessing we lost, huh?

Skye registers Sofia's dazed expression and manages to get to
her feet, limping over to her.

SKYE (cont'd)
Sofes? Are you... what's going on?
(beat; tense)
Is someone... did somebody... not
make it?

Sofia looks up at her at last.

SOFIA
(softly)
Braeden and Erika, they're...
they're gone.

Skye's jaw drops. She staggers back a step.

SKYE
(shakes head)
No... no, no way, that can't...

SOFIA
No, you don't understand. They're
not dead. They're gone.

SKYE
(blinks)
Huh?

SOFIA
They left. With Kira.

SKYE
(stunned)
Say what?!?

SOFIA
And Bryce and Darcie. All four of
them. They betrayed us. They...

Sofia's lip starts to tremble, and Skye instinctively grabs her as Sofia starts to SOB, burying her face in Skye's chest as she wails.

Skye looks just as shocked, her world spinning round her as she keeps a tight hold on Sofia, and we cut to:

41 INT. CAMPUS - SCIENCE BLOCK - NEXT

41

Barbara hurries across the upper level of the block, looking for any sign of life. She hears footsteps and rounds a corner to see Greg, a handkerchief pressed to his head wound.

BARBARA
(relieved)
Greg! I'm glad to see you. Where on
Earth is Bryce? I told him to-

GREG
He's not here, Barbara.
(beat)
He was working with Kira. He left
with her. And... and that's not
all. Braeden, Darcie and Erika all
did the same.

Barbara gapes, her mouth opening and closing as she tries to find the words.

BARBARA
But...

GREG
Come on, you're needed elsewhere.

Greg walks over and takes her by the arm, leading her away as we cut to:

42 INT. CAMPUS - INFIRMARY - NEXT

42

With Anna pressed into duty fixing up any wounded Slayers she can, Debbie is doing her best to tie off a bad wound in one young Hispanic Slayer's arm when Dunstall kicks the door open and rushes inside.

DUNSTALL
(looking round)
Where's Jaz?

DEBBIE
(snaps)
I don't know!

ANNA
What's up?

DUNSTALL
It's Alita. She's been hurt pretty bad, she needs some help and fast.

Anna looks to Debbie, but Debbie can't leave her patient.

AIDEN (O.S.)
I'll go.

The girls look round to see Aiden, awake but looking a little unsteady, getting to his feet.

ANNA
Aiden, man, you just took a door to the face, you're in no state to-

AIDEN
(firm)
I said I'll go.

He heads for Dunstall, leaning on him for support, and with a nod to Debbie the two boys exit as we cut to:

43 INT. HELICOPTER - DAY

43

In the passenger compartment of Kira's helicopter, she's sitting with Delaney dozing against her up front. Bryce, Braeden and Darcie sit together, with Erika by herself in one corner as she stares out through the window.

Braeden can't take his eyes off Erika, his surprise at her being here pretty obvious until Darcie nudges him.

DARCIE
Didn't your mother ever tell you
it's rude to stare?
(beat)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DARCIE (cont'd)
Although, it might be different
considering it's a blind girl.

Braeden shoots her a look, but she just raises one eyebrow at him, daring him to retort.

Darcie turns her attention to Kira next, patting the three books slung into a bag by her feet.

DARCIE (cont'd)
Mission accomplished, then?

KIRA
(nods)
You all did very well. I should
thank you all for being so patient,
and keeping the pretence up for so
long.
(to Erika)
Well, not you, perhaps.

Erika still doesn't turn round, and Delaney finally stirs, sitting up and stretching with a grimace.

DARCIE
She lives!

DELANEY
(sees Darcie; frowns)
Oh. It's you.

DARCIE
The very same.

DELANEY
(to Kira)
So... this was part of the plan
too, huh?

KIRA
As I've said before, I don't have
to tell you everything.

DELANEY
Something would be a start.

Kira just deadpans Delaney, who gets the hint and drops the subject. Kira's eyes fall on Braeden's Scythe, still clutched tightly between his knees.

BRYCE
So what happens now? We fulfilled
our end of the bargain, but I hope
you can do the same.

KIRA
Relax. Everything's under control.

She reaches into her jacket and takes out a mobile phone, dialling in a number and waiting.

KIRA (cont'd)
 (into phone)
 It's me. Tell your superior that my mission was a success...
 (looks at Braeden)
 ... and I have everything we'll need now.

She hangs up, only offering Bryce a casual smile by means of an explanation as the helicopter travels on.

We close in on Erika, still staring out through the window, and we DISSOLVE from her features to:

Skye is staring out across the quad through the hall's windows, and behind her a crowd of Slayers has gathered, waiting for some news as the chatter noisily.

As Barbara and Ellen make their entrance, the girls manage to fall silent, waiting for Barbara to speak. Barbara stares out across the girls for a beat, before:

BARBARA
 I'll make this quick. A short while ago, we were attacked by Kira Brogan and a force of shobnah warrior demons.
 (beat)
 All the demons, I'm glad to report, have been taken care of.

This gets a murmur from the girls.

BARBARA (cont'd)
 However, in the course of the engagement, Delaney Brogan was liberated from our custody... but I'm afraid that's not all.
 (beat)
 Three of our own broke ranks and escaped along with Kira herself.

And now the girls erupt into chatter, forcing Barbara to raise her hands and signal for silence.

BARBARA (cont'd)
 Now, I'm in no position to tell you any more right now than those basic facts, but until further notice the campus is back in lockdown. Nobody in or out.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

44

CONTINUED:

44

BARBARA (cont'd)
We need to keep the entire
perimeter under guard until the
damage has been repaired.

She motions for Ellen to step forward.

BARBARA (cont'd)
Ellen here will be co-ordinating
those of you able-bodied enough to
join in. Any of you with medical
training, you'll be required down
in the infirmary to help out.
(beat)
That is all.

She turns and strides away, Ellen having less luck making
herself heard over the Slayers as she leaves.

45

INT. CAMPUS - CANTEEN - NEXT

45

We follow Barbara as she leaves, stony-faced, but Skye soon
jogs out to catch her back up.

SKYE
Barbara? Barbara!

Barbara stops and turns as Skye catches her.

BARBARA
Yes?

SKYE
I just... I wanted to... I mean, I
don't know why...

BARBARA
(sighs)
No, I don't know why Erika went
with them either, Skye. As soon as
I find out, you'll be the first to
know.

She lays a hand on Skye's shoulder.

BARBARA (cont'd)
For now, I need you to help take
control. You and Sofia. Jaz and
Tyson are still missing, so get out
there and find them.

SKYE
(nods)
I'm on it.

Skye turns and jogs away, and as Barbara watches her go the
strain on her is clear for all to see as we cut to:

46

INT. LIBRARY - FOYER - NEXT

46

Alita has been laid down on Frankie's desk, everything cleared out of the way as Frankie stands by her, holding her hand. Alita's wrapped in a sheet and looks to be asleep.

Frankie looks up as Dunstall and Aiden head in, hurrying over to her.

AIDEN

How is she?

FRANKIE

I put together a little magic to
'elp with the pain, and I bandaged
'er wound as best I could, but
there is only so much I can do
'ere.

She steps back as Aiden lifts the blanket up, seeing Frankie's dressing and gingerly lifting it. He winces as he sees the wound - it's a bad one.

FRANKIE (cont'd)

Can you 'elp?

AIDEN

I'm not sure.

He pauses, going light-headed for a beat, but Frankie is there to steady him.

FRANKIE

Aiden...

AIDEN

I'm fine, I'm fine. Just... just
give me a second.

He wipes his brow with his arm, narrowing his eyes as he stares hard at Alita's wound.

Aiden reaches out and lays his hands on either side of the wound, and Alita frowns, murmuring in her sleep.

FRANKIE

(hisses)

Be careful!

AIDEN

(frowns)

I am!

Aiden takes a deep breath, then closes his eyes, pressing his hands down on Alita's belly as we cut to:

47 INT. CAMPUS - CORRIDOR - NEXT

47

Sofia and Skye are heading down another corridor, signs of combat evident from the BLOOD on the floor and CRACKS in the walls.

Sofia still looks out of it, her Scythe hanging limply by her side as she follows Skye.

SKYE

Sofes, c'mon! Pick it up!

SOFIA

Huh?

Skye sighs and marches back over to her, taking her firmly by the shoulders.

SKYE

Don't you think I'm screwed up too?
That my head's screaming a million
different things to me at once? I
don't understand what's happened
any more than you do, but we can't
stop to think about that now! Those
things could be back any second,
and we have to-

SOFIA

We'd just made love...

SKYE

(beat)

What?

SOFIA

Me and Braeden, we... I'd never...
I mean...

Skye takes a deep breath and steps back, not sure what she should say. Sofia is still looking at the floor.

SKYE

Um... right. Maybe... maybe you
should wait here. I'll finish this
bit of the sweep.

Sofia manages a half-hearted nod as Skye jogs off round the corner.

Sofia leans against the wall, sinking down to squat on the floor, her energy utterly spent.

She leans forward, putting her head in her hands and letting her hair fall forward to cover her face, when she hears:

(CONTINUED)

SKYE (O.S.) (cont'd)

Sofia.

She looks up, but when Skye doesn't speak again, Sofia manages to drag herself to her feet and round the corner.

Skye's standing by the open doorway to the magical supplies storeroom, staring down at something on the floor.

SOFIA

What is it?

Sofia wanders over, but as she joins Skye she sees what's caught Skye's attention.

It's Tyson.

A BULLET HOLE in his chest.

BLACK OUT:

END OF SHOW