

**SLAYER ACADEMY**

"Under Siege"

by  
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TEASER

FADE IN:

1

EXT. GRAVEYARD - NIGHT

1

A fresh, unmarked grave lays before us. The dirt covering the grave can only be a day or two old.

DELANEY (O.S.)  
It's not about power.

DELANEY steps into view, and speaks directly to the camera. She's holding a stake idly at her side.

DELANEY (cont'd)  
Not always, anyway. You may think you have all the power in the world, but wait till you're abandoned, you're captured, or you make a mistake that you can't run away from, then you'll know what I'm talking about. That creeping, nagging feeling of helplessness that you can never push out of your mind completely and is always there just piling on the anxiety.

Delaney pauses for a second in contemplation, flipping the stake idly in her hand.

DELANEY (cont'd)  
It took me a while to figure that out, and if you're only going to listen to one thing I say tonight, then this should be it.

Delaney gives a look of dignified satisfaction, giving her lesson time to sink in.

DANIA (O.S.)  
So should we be writing this down?

The camera PANS AROUND so that we see who Delaney has been lecturing too.

DANIA sits cross legged on the ground, smirking and looking bored. Next to her, sitting on her knees, is another slayer, PADMA. Padma is 21 years old from Sri Lanka, and her vacant gaze hints at the horrors she's witnessed in her life.

DANIA (cont'd)  
I mean, is there going to be some kind of test or something? Because I know that Hamish guy said this was a "school"...

(CONTINUED)

Dania gives air quotes around the word school with her fingers, punctuating her sarcasm.

DANIA (cont'd)  
... but I figured that was some  
kind of cover, or pretense, or...  
whatever.

Dania smirks but Delaney doesn't look entertained.

DELANEY  
Was there a point to any of that?

DANIA  
I was just wondering if I should be  
raising my hand when I ask  
questions from now on.

DELANEY  
Honestly, New Darcie? It doesn't  
even really matter. You're probably  
not going to last very long.

Dania's lips fall into an unimpressed frown. Padma raises her hand.

DELANEY (cont'd)  
(sighs)  
Yes, New Dana?

PADMA  
I still do not understand why you  
insist that I use this instead of a  
gun?

Padma holds her own stake out in front of her, keeping it far in front as if it was radioactive. Delaney sighs again and rubs her temple.

DELANEY  
Because stakes and swords are what  
kill vampires and demons, not guns.

DANIA  
But guns kill Slayers, don't they?  
Isn't that who we're up against?  
Mostly?

DELANEY  
No... well, yes, but it's not like  
it's 'us versus them.' It's more  
like they're in the way of what we  
want.  
(beat)  
Usually.

PADMA

So would not a gun help us get what we want more effectively?

KIRA (O.S.)

But now you're making a fatal assumption, Padma.

The three Slayers turn toward KIRA, who has a blonde slayer who speaks in a South African accent, TORI, at her side.

KIRA (cont'd)

More effective does not necessarily mean better.

Dania suddenly sits up right in front of Kira while Delaney's posture slouches slightly.

KIRA (cont'd)

(introducing Tori)

Delaney, Padma, Dania, I'd like you to meet our newest teammate. This is Victoria.

TORI

Actually, I prefer Tori.

DANIA

We 'actually' aren't allowed to choose our names in this class.

Delaney gives Dania an unimpressed look before turning to Kira.

DELANEY

What were you two doing in your workshop? There's so much residual magical energy around you that it's kind of giving me a headache.

Tori flashes Kira a look and Kira hesitates slightly before answering.

KIRA

Right now your only concern is training our new recruits, Delaney. Let me worry about everything else.

Delaney shakes her head, not getting an answer but at this point she's too used to it to care.

KIRA (cont'd)

(to Tori)

I'll leave you girls alone to get acquainted with each other.

1 CONTINUED: (3)

1

Kira turns and walks away from her Slayers, clearly looking preoccupied.

DANIA (O.S.)  
You know, maybe your head just  
hurts because it's finally gotten  
too big for your body to support?

As we follow Kira we don't hear if Delaney says anything back, but we do see a FLASH in the background followed by a YELP of pain from Dania.

Kira continues to walk and we realize that the Graveyard is directly adjacent to the Castle.

As Kira approaches the entrance we see that HAMISH is at the door waiting for her.

HAMISH  
How's everything lookin' with the  
new lass?

KIRA  
Fine.

HAMISH  
So your spells worked?

KIRA  
Yes.

Kira walks right past Hamish and into the castle, her steps full of distinct purpose. Hamish lifts an eyebrow and follows.

2 INT. CASTLE - ENTRYWAY - NEXT

2

Kira continues to march through the castle.

HAMISH  
So the spell must have taken a lot  
out of you, what with leaving you  
with only enough energy to manage  
one syllable answers?

KIRA  
Delaney sensed residual magic.

HAMISH  
Aye, so. This whole place is  
saturated in the stuff. Whatever  
you did really must have drained  
you.

(CONTINUED)

KIRA  
(shaking her head)  
That's not me.

Now Hamish really looks surprised.

HAMISH  
So what is it?

KIRA  
That's what I'm trying to find out.

She stops, turning to Hamish, glancing left and right before:

KIRA (cont'd)  
There's something here.

And with that, Kira walks through a door and heading down a flight of steps, slamming the door behind her as we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF TEASER**

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

3

EXT. GRAVEYARD - NIGHT

3

Back on Delaney and the new recruits, with Tori hanging back from the others.

DANIA

So what are we doing out here,  
anyway?

DELANEY

Waiting.

DANIA

For wha -

Dania doesn't get the chance to finish, because a HAND suddenly shoots out of the fresh grave, startling Dania and causing her to jump back!

DELANEY

That.

Padma stiffens slightly, and Tori edges closer toward the hand. Delaney notices both of these things.

DELANEY (cont'd)

Who here has ever staked a vampire.  
(to Dania, sarcastic)  
By a show of hands.

Dania slowly and apprehensively raises her hand while Tori raises hers quickly, but not that high.

Padma doesn't raise hers, and instead watches as a male VAMPIRE starts to slowly pulls himself out of the ground.

TORI

(to Padma, surprised)  
You've never staked a vampire? And  
you're a slayer?

Padma shakes her head, still watching the vampire.

TORI (cont'd)

How? I mean... why not?

PADMA

Because in my life there have  
always been more pressing monsters  
that needed to be fought.

Delaney takes a step forward, breaking the sudden tension in the air.

(CONTINUED)

DELANEY

Okay, since we're in the presence of a virgin I'll start with the basics. First things first, our friend over here...

(points to the vampire with her stake)

... is, in fact, a vampire. They're undead, strong, and evil. Fortunately, as Vampire Slayers, we have the inherent advantage. The names pretty much indicated who usually ends up on the wrong side of the stake.

At this point the vampire, whose legs are still underground, seems to take notice of what Delaney is saying.

VAMPIRE

(blinks)

"Vampire Slayers?"

DELANEY

(to vampire)

Shh.

(to the Slayers)

Anyway, I'm pretty much just wasting my breath, because this is already hardwired into each of you.

DANIA

Okay, but I'm still confused. I thought that they taught you how to stake a vampire at the other Academy.

DELANEY

Yes, and if they are able to beat a vamp, don't you think you should too if you expect to stand a chance against them?

Delaney turns toward the vampire in order to let her words sink in. She GRABS the vampire, who is now struggling get out and get away from the girls, and DRAGS him the rest of the way out of the ground.

The three girls all tense up slightly. Dania backs away, Padma looks unsure, and Tori actually looks ready to pounce.

DELANEY (cont'd)

Anyway, enough talk.

Delaney SHOVES the vampire toward the girls.

(CONTINUED)



DELANEY (cont'd)  
Pop quiz time.

Delaney takes a step back and watches as the action starts. The Vampire is pushed closest to Dania, who quickly begins to backpedal.

DELANEY (cont'd)  
Come on, New Darcie, what are you  
afraid of? Your predecessor would  
be ashamed!

Dania looks angry and gathers her courage to attack the vampire, attempting to PUNCH him but missing. She manages to counter the vampire's own PUNCH and lands a small JAB.

As Dania's confidence begins to grow, she watches as the vampire switches into GAME FACE, and she freezes up.

The vampire senses his opening, but he's caught off guard by Padma, who grabs him by his shoulders and SLAMS him against a nearby tree, causing Dania to fall to the ground.

DELANEY (cont'd)  
There you go, New Dana! Way to show  
some initiative.

Padma is a brutal street fighter, taking every opportunity to SMACK DOWN the vampire one way or another, and not above the occasional low blow and cheap shot.

Unfortunately, as she fights with the vampire, she forgets about his greatest weapon, and while grappling the vampire she leaves her neck open - allowing the vampire to sink its teeth in!

DELANEY (cont'd)  
(cringes)  
Not so good, New Dana!

Delaney runs forward to intervene but Tori is quicker, YANKING the vampire off of Padma and forcing it to double over before delivering a rapid succession of knees to its face.

TORI  
Okay, I know I've only known you  
lot for a grand total of five  
minutes or so, but you give off  
pretty glaring first impressions.

Tori wraps her arms under the vampire's armpits and FLIPS him over before SLAMMING him on the ground, eliciting a loud GROAN from the vamp.

(CONTINUED)

TORI (cont'd)  
(to Dania)  
You put up a series of guards of various effectiveness in order to hide your own insecurities, which, incidentally, you do a poor job of hiding.

Dania looks pissed from her vantage point on the ground and opens her mouth to begin to talk, but Tori cuts her off.

TORI (cont'd)  
Why don't you attempt to catch your breath before you have a panic attack, and we'll just fill in your clever insult on our own, 'kay?

The vampire begins to get up, and Tori helps him by giving him a strong KICK to the gut to get him to his knees, followed by another KICK to the chin to lay him out at the trunk of the tree.

TORI (cont'd)  
(to Padma)  
You clearly have some sort of unresolved anger issues stemming from God only knows what, and leaving me praying that we get our own rooms in this place.

Padma rips a piece of cloth from her shirt and applies pressure to her open wound on her neck, tying it tight while eyeing Tori almost like prey eyeing its predator.

Delaney eyes Tori expectantly as Tori takes a step toward her.

DELANEY  
And me?

Tori reaches forward and grabs the stake out of Delaney's hand.

TORI  
You?

Tori take a step toward the vampire.

TORI (cont'd)  
My guess is that this is the first time in, well, maybe ever that you're in any real position of authority, and it's gone to your head in a matter of moments causing you to fall helplessly in love with the sound of your own voice.

The vampire doesn't even open his eyes as Tori effortlessly STAKES him, before throwing the stake back to Delaney in one fluid motion.

TORI (cont'd)  
No offense or anything.

Delaney eyes Tori for a moment before allowing herself to grin.

DELANEY  
I like you, New Rachel.

TORI  
'New Rachel'?

Dania stands up from the ground and dusts herself off.

DANIA  
It's her nickname system. She puts us into the roles of her old teammates instead of actually getting to know us.

TORI  
(to Delaney)  
So why am I the New Rachel?

DELANEY  
Because I like you.

DANIA  
Wait, so why am I the New Darcie?

DELANEY  
Because I hate you.

Dania's expression shows that she's getting too tired of this routine to even come up with anything in response.

DANIA  
(indicating Padma)  
And her?

DELANEY  
Because I'm afraid of her.

Padma doesn't react and only continues to administer her own first aid without asking for anyone else's help. Tori smiles at Delaney.

TORI  
So what happened to the old Rachel?

Delaney's grin falls flat for a moment, before she forces a less genuine one back on and we CUT TO:

4

INT. ACADEMY - DANA'S WARD - NIGHT

4

In a small, clean room DANA lays comatose on a hospital bed. Despite the coma, there are large restraints binding her to the bed, just in case.

The door opens and in walks RACHEL, carrying a mug of coffee. She takes a seat next to Dana and smiles at her.

RACHEL

You look peaceful today. Getting any better?

Rachel helps herself to Dana's chart and flips through it, but from her expression it doesn't look like there's been any progress.

RACHEL (cont'd)

(sighs)

You know something? I think Debbie and Manu are starting to avoid me. I mean, it's not like anyone in this school is really going out of their way to find me, but I've definitely seen them less as of late. Probably getting sick of giving me the same answers over and over.

Rachel takes a sip of the coffee.

RACHEL (cont'd)

But hey, look, at least they're trusting me with actual non-disposable cups now.

Rachel grins for her own benefit.

RACHEL (cont'd)

I mean, whatever, I wasn't expecting a big welcoming party. We've made it this long without friends, so it's not like we need any now, right?

Rachel doesn't look entirely convinced as she takes another sip of coffee.

RACHEL (cont'd)

Of course, it might be useful to have at least one person get our backs when we have to fight back the eventual lynch mob.

Rachel begins to take another sip when she notices the door opening and DEBBIE walking in, her nose in an old book.

(CONTINUED)

Debbie looks up and sees Rachel and immediately looks tenser.

RACHEL (cont'd)  
(rolls eyes)  
Yeah, because I'm so deadly when  
I'm armed with a cup of coffee.

Debbie catches her breath and calms down a little.

DEBBIE  
No, it's not like that. I guess I'm  
just still used to seeing you and  
then getting my arse kicked. You  
know, reflex. Or something.

Rachel and Debbie actually share a small grin.

DEBBIE (cont'd)  
Anyway, I think I may actually have  
news.

Rachel immediately sits forward in her seat.

DEBBIE (cont'd)  
(apprehensive)  
Well, I mean, at least, I think  
that when -

RACHEL  
It's okay, Debbie. I won't spring  
to the attack if it's bad news.

Debbie smiles again and calms back down.

DEBBIE  
At first, I thought Dana was just  
slow to heal, as there seems to be  
a lot of that going on this year,  
but the more I looked into it, the  
more I realized that it's something  
more.  
(beat)  
I think whatever Cassandra used to  
hurt Dana did more than physical  
damage to her. I think it infected  
her with something mystical.

RACHEL  
So what are we going to do?

DEBBIE  
"We" have already talked to the  
Headmistresses about it, and  
they're going to bring in some  
outside consultation to take a look  
at her.

RACHEL  
(anxious)  
When?

DEBBIE  
Tonight, actually, I think. I was  
going to go hunt you down for once  
after I checked on Dana to let you  
know, just so you know.

Debbie turns to leave the room and stops at the door before  
she leaves.

DEBBIE (cont'd)  
And, well... I wanted to tell you  
that you're not the only person  
that feels like they don't fit in  
here. Just give it some time.

Rachel smiles and looks as if she might want to say something  
but doesn't remember how to say it and can only nod.

Debbie leaves the room with a knowing smile, hearing Rachel  
without her ever speaking, and we cut to:

Hamish walks down the stairs into the dark basement of the  
castle, which is lit by torches along the wall. As he gets  
closer to the end of the stairs, a strange GRINDING sound  
gets louder and louder.

As he gets to the bottom of the steps, he finds the cause of  
the disturbance:

Kira stands along one wall, her hand GLOWING a faint blue. In  
the center of the room a large HOLE has been dug through the  
stone of the floor, and within the hole the ground below is  
swirling, as if it were water being drained.

HAMISH  
And what, if you don't mind me  
asking, are you trying to  
accomplish down here?

KIRA  
It's beneath us.

HAMISH  
Thanks for such a specific answer.  
My, how I feel appeased.

KIRA  
(ignoring his sarcasm)  
Whatever it is that we're feeling,  
it's coming from beneath us.

HAMISH

And how did you come about this information?

KIRA

Because I can hear it calling to me. I can feel it calling me.

With that, Kira raises her hands and the blue glow expands, causing Hamish to lose his balance as the ground begins to SHAKE.

HAMISH

Are you sure you're not just trying to fill the void o' crazy that Dana left in all o' our hearts?

KIRA

Something wants out, and I'm not prepared to let it catch us by surprise.

Hamish is about to interject when the ground begins to shake much more violently, before abruptly stopping - and a shaft of LIGHT emerges from the hole.

Hamish and Kira cautiously step forward and look down in awe at a familiar sight...

... a freshly activated HELLMOUTH!

They both take a moment to let this revelation sink in.

HAMISH

Well. Don't we look stupid.

As Kira and Hamish continue to stare down at the Hellmouth, we CUT TO:

Delaney leads the three new girls back into the castle, walking next to Tori while Dania and Padma are a few steps behind them.

DELANEY

Okay, everybody did pretty good today.

(beat)

You know, except for New Darcie.

DANIA

Yeah, and you did a great job of just standing around. Give yourself a hand.

DELANEY

How could you see anything while  
you were trying to hide?

TORI

(interrupting)

So what do we do now?

DELANEY

Now we get some much deserved rest,  
and then tomorrow -

Delaney doesn't get to finish as a loud EXPLOSION suddenly  
rocks the castle!

The girls are thrown to the floor as BRICKS and DUST blast  
over them, filling the corridor with thick smoke.

Delaney looks up and around at the fallen debris and through  
the haze of dust, to see a large and gaping HOLE where one of  
the walls of the entry way used to be!

DELANEY (cont'd)

What the...?

Suddenly, dozens of WARRIOR DEMONS clad in armor and  
brandishing swords and shields begin to pour through the  
opening!

And leading the charge is BRAEDEN, clutching his SCYTHE like  
a banner!

BRAEDEN

(yelling)

Okay, boys, let's do this fast and  
let's do this dirty! I forgot to  
set my TiVo and I'm not missing  
'Lost' for anybody!

Braeden's gaze quickly falls on the downed rogues, and as  
more and more demons flow through the opening behind him, he  
grins wickedly at them.

BRAEDEN (cont'd)

(points)

There!

Delaney gapes at the sight, but quickly snaps out of it when  
she realises the other girls are frozen to the spot as well.

TORI

So is this another quiz, or are -

Delaney cuts Tori off as she GRABS the younger girl by the  
collar and leads her away from the charge.

(CONTINUED)



DELANEY  
Move, move, move!

Dania is right behind them, Padma hesitantly following their lead while looking back at the army with lust in her eyes.

The girls quickly put enough distance down to leave Braeden and his posse behind, but they can still hear him shout:

BRAEDEN (O.S.)  
Get after 'em, boys!

DELANEY  
(yelling, frantic)  
Do everything I say, or I promise  
this is going to be the last "test"  
any of you ever take!

Tori looks for any trace of humor in Delaney's face, and finding none nods in understanding.

Behind them, the CHEERS and HOWLS of the demons echo down the corridor as the girls race on, putting some ground between them and the invaders.

PADMA  
Where are we going?

The girls follow Delaney up to a heavy door, which she quickly UNLOCKS with a key from her belt.

She pulls the door open and waves the girls inside, and as they step into the room they see:

DELANEY  
To get you some guns.

The room is an ARMOURY, crammed with every conceivable weapon they can think of! The girls gape in awe at the arsenal before them as the door swings shut, and we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT ONE**

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

7 INT. CASTLE - ARMORY - NIGHT

7

The walls of the Castle's armory are lined with weapons. Most are the typical medieval variety but there is also a wall lined with more modern firearms.

Delaney marches forward, grabbing a large HANDGUN from the wall before turning to the other girls:

DELANEY

This isn't the time to get fancy.  
Take whatever you feel most  
comfortable with, but keep in mind  
we're going to need to go for the  
quick incapacitate or kill. Padma,  
I'd highly suggest that you at  
least have a sword along with a  
gun. Probably two. Of each.

Padma continues to load herself up with guns before also strapping a sword to her back.

DANIA

What happened to "New Dana?"

DELANEY

I guess I'm hoping that things are  
gonna turn out better for her than  
the Old Dana.

Delaney continues to get weapons but also reaches into a drawer and pulls out a CELL PHONE.

DANIA

And what's that for?

DELANEY

It's our secret weapon.

DANIA

Really? 'Cause from where I'm  
standing, it looks more like a  
phone.

PADMA

Stop it!

Delaney, Dania, and Tori all freeze and look over to Padma.

PADMA (cont'd)

This is not the time for you  
children to bicker and joke with  
each other.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

7

CONTINUED:

7

PADMA (cont'd)

(cold)

This is war, and if you don't start  
treating it with respect then  
you're going to die. End of story.

Padma marches toward the door as the sound of the Cabal  
strike force approaching gets louder and louder.

DELANEY

(to Tori)

You ready for this?

TORI

As I'll ever be.

Delaney turns to Dania who for once looks like she isn't  
going to complain or throw out an insult.

DELANEY

Alright, we stick together, so  
right now that means we haul ass to  
catch up to Padma before she can  
find out whether or not these  
demons are bullet proof.

Tori, and Dania race out the door, Delaney following as she  
starts to dial a number on the phone, and we CUT TO:

8

INT. CASTLE - BASEMENT - NEXT

8

Kira and Hamish are oblivious to the conflict upstairs, as  
they are currently preoccupied in closing the Hellmouth.

HAMISH

(mutters)

I mean, you'd think this is the  
kind of thing that we'd know  
about...

KIRA

Hamish, you have to speak more  
clearly.

Kira is standing above the Hellmouth as GLOWING ENERGY pulses  
through her, into the Hellmouth and back into her, taking its  
toll on her in the process.

Hamish is a few yards away, chanting passages from a book as  
WIND whips round the room, buffeting the pages.

HAMISH

I think I'm speaking pretty damn  
clearly for not even knowing what  
language I'm speaking!

The stop arguing as they look up, the commotion upstairs  
causing some dust to unsettle and fall down on them.

(CONTINUED)

KIRA

What's Delaney doing to those girls  
up there?

Hamish shrugs - before the castle walls again SHAKE. Kira  
looks annoyed.

KIRA (cont'd)

Go and see what they're doing. I  
can't concentrate like this, and  
there's no telling when this thing  
could just pop open on us.

Hamish nods and begins to jog up the steps...

... only to be telekinetically FLUNG back down them and  
against the wall!

KIRA (cont'd)

Hamish!

He BOUNCES painfully down the steps, sliding to a halt as  
Kira's gaze rises to the entrance - and her jaw drops!

Walking down the steps with a broad grin on her face is  
JILHANDRA!

JILHANDRA

What's the matter, Kira? No kind  
words for an old friend?

Kira opens her mouth to speak, but instead sends a faint  
green RIPTIDE of power toward Jilhandra!

Jilhandra looks only momentarily phased before she disrupts  
the energy with a wave of her hand.

JILHANDRA (cont'd)

Not bad. I really hate to say it,  
but I can't help but feel that  
you're slipping in your old age.

Jilhandra SNAPS her fingers, creating her own faint violet  
WAVE of power, this one KNOCKING Kira back against the wall a  
few feet from Hamish.

HAMISH

Kira, we have to -

KIRA

(gritted teeth)

No!

(beat; quickly)

Don't worry about me, I can take  
care of her. Just find Delaney and  
the others.

(CONTINUED)

HAMISH

But -

KIRA

(final)

I'm not losing my daughter.

(beat)

Not again.

Hamish nods in understanding and begins to sprint up the steps. With a wave of her hand, Kira knocks Jilhandra off of the spiraling staircase toward the ground below!

Jilhandra falls for a moment but soon rights herself and gracefully floats down to the floor, dusting herself off as Hamish leaves the room.

JILHANDRA

That was unnecessary. I was going to let him pass.

(shrugging her shoulders)

It's not like he's going to make a difference anyway.

Rage burns in Kira's eyes that spreads down to her clenched fists, as FLAMES erupt from them and rocket toward Jilhandra!

KIRA

If you've so much as touched my daughter -

JILHANDRA

You'll what?

Jilhandra doesn't even move as a wall of force protects her from the flames.

JILHANDRA (cont'd)

Isn't it a little late in the game to start trying to be a human being, let alone a caring mother?

Kira doesn't respond, but instead PUNCHES her fist into the ground, causing several rocks to fly at Jilhandra from different angles, many actually causing her pain.

Jilhandra looks pissed as her finger nails GLOW and she quickly opens her clenched fist, causing large, deep SCRATCHES to appear on Kira's face.

JILHANDRA (cont'd)

Now that was just stupid, Kira. You're no match for me when you're at your best, let alone right now while you're under the influence of a Hellmouth.

(CONTINUED)

Kira stands back up and extends her hands forward, sending LIGHTNING BOLTS hurtling toward Jilhandra!

Jilhandra holds her arms out and sends out her own bolts, meeting Kira's halfway. The two women struggle to overcome the other.

KIRA

Put your magic where your mouth is.

Kira reaches an arm out behind her - and another BOLT of energy streaks towards the Hellmouth, CRACKLING over its surface and sending a SURGE of power back into her!

Kira PUSHES with everything she's got, and as Jilhandra slowly begins to lose the struggle we CUT TO:

INT. CASTLE - ENTRYWAY - NEXT

Delaney, Tori, and Dania arrive back in the entryway just as Padma makes her first assault.

Padma is a sight to be seen, rolling and weaving between the Warrior Demons as she unloads her full clips at them. To her horror, the bullets have no effect!

BRAEDEN

Check you out, G.I. Jane.

Padma turns towards Braeden, who grins at her.

BRAEDEN (cont'd)

You must be new at this.

Padma drops her guns and reaches for another loaded one at her waist, and in one motion brings it up to face Braeden, who suddenly realizes what's happening and DIVES while Padma begins to unload another clip.

BRAEDEN (cont'd)

Okay, I guess I asked for that...

Padma is racing toward him before she's caught off guard by a sudden blow to the side from CASSANDRA!

CASSANDRA

And you kind of asked for that.

Cassandra unsheathes the sword at her side and moves toward the downed Padma, who is quickly getting back to her feet.

Before Cassandra can get too close, Delaney catches her in the back of the knee with a swift KICK, then knocks her down with an ELBOW to the face!

(CONTINUED)

Padma is back on her feet and moving toward the demons while Delaney turns to Braeden.

DELANEY

(fake)

What's up, Brae? Long time no see.  
I thought we promised to at least  
IM each other every day.

Braeden swings his scythe at Delaney. She catches it by the shaft and attempts to flip him with it, but he resists.

BRAEDEN

I'm surprised to see you here, D. I  
figured Kira would have slung you  
over a cliff or something by now.

Braeden attempts to head butt Delaney, but she's too quick and pulls on the Scythe, causing him to lose his balance and fall forward.

DELANEY

See Braeden, unlike your flaky ass  
I don't go from faction to faction  
so easily.

BRAEDEN

You've got me all wrong, mate. It's  
only ever been the one team where  
I'm concerned.

DEX (O.S.)

And that would be the winning team.

Delaney can't even turn around before DEX delivers a blow to the back of her head!

She fortunately gets her bearings back in time to stop his next attack, which would have buried a dagger in her gut!

DEX (cont'd)

You know, us, in case you got  
confused in all the head trauma.

Delaney back pedals as Dex advances on her, but Tori gets in the way, beginning to match her sword with his daggers.

TORI

I got these two, Delaney, you help  
the others!

DEX

You 'have' us?

Dex quickly SWEEPS down and takes out Tori's legs, looming over her as she recovers.

(CONTINUED)

DEX (cont'd)  
And how exactly do you 'have' me?

In a fluid motion, Tori puts all of her weight on her hands and uses her feet to push Dex's hands up over his head, before quickly reloading herself in order to send both of her FEET in his jaw, sending him backward.

TORI  
A lot like that, actually.

DELANEY  
Tori, be careful!

Delaney and Dania are fighting side by side against Cassandra and a horde of demons. Swords CLASH and SPARK as the two girls desperately hold back the tide.

DELANEY (cont'd)  
Those two are a lot more dangerous  
than you think they are.

BRAEDEN  
You should listen to the girl,  
she's smarter than she looks.

Braeden CRASHES his scythe against Tori's sword, and Tori is clearly struggling to keep up.

While fighting, Braeden suddenly looks as if a new realization is upon him.

BRAEDEN (cont'd)  
But who exactly are you?

Braeden catches Tori off guard and takes a moment to lean in close.

BRAEDEN (cont'd)  
I mean, I sense the whole Slayer  
thing on you, but there's something  
else, isn't there?

Tori squirms beneath Braeden who beams down at her.

BRAEDEN (cont'd)  
Got anything you want to share?

Tori finally loses her grip on her sword, and Braeden raises his scythe for a killing blow...

... but instead catches a quick KICK in the gut from Padma!

Braeden doubles back as Tori grabs her sword, and only a moment later she's completely reversed the situation.

(CONTINUED)



TORI

Yeah, I've got something. How do you like being on the pointy end of the blade?

Tori catches a blur of motion in her peripheral vision and turns just in time to see SOFIA finally enter the fight, coming at her too fast for her to fully react.

Tori again counters with her sword, but she can't get a decent footing, and the only thing that saves her is a last minute magical SHOVE from Delaney, pushing Tori out of harms way but still leaving her arm GASHED by Sofia's scythe!

Sofia spins, grinning in anticipation of the fight, and Delaney slowly lowers her smoking hand.

DELANEY

Wow, Sofia. The rumors just don't compare to seeing it for yourself.

SOFIA

Sorry I can't return the compliment.

Sofia SWIPES at Delaney with her Scythe, forcing her to take a step back.

SOFIA (cont'd)

(quieter, fake concern)

But I think you actually put on a little weight since I saw you last.

DELANEY

Actually, I was going to say the same thing. And it's standing right next to you.

Delaney comes at Sofia full force, moving fast enough to catch Sofia off guard and landing several good KICKS to her chest and gut.

DANIA

Delaney! Look out!

Delaney turns just in time to see Dania intercepting Braeden before he could surprise her from behind. Dania TACKLES Braeden, slamming him against the wall.

She lets go of Braeden in time to see Cassandra approaching her, but Dania is quick enough to grab Cassandra by the shoulder and use her momentum to FLIP her over, sending her flying toward an awaiting Padma!

(CONTINUED)

DANIA (cont'd)  
(grinning)  
These guys aren't that tough.

As Dania gloats she doesn't realize that Dex has circled around her, and almost gets stabbed in the shoulder before Tori intercepts him, using her good arm to wield her sword.

DELANEY  
Keep thinking like that and you're  
going to wind up dead, rookie.

Dania frowns and turns toward Sofia who matches up with her, forcing Dania into a pack of demons.

Dania fights back with all she has, but she's beginning to be overwhelmed, buried beneath a sea of demon flesh.

DELANEY (cont'd)  
Dania!

Dania is starting to take HITS more and more often, until one demon is able to CATCH her side with a blade.

DELANEY (cont'd)  
Dania!

Delaney is racing toward the young Brazilian girl but isn't fast enough. The girl is more and more overpowered until Delaney can't even see her!

Delaney continues to fight her way forward, but Braeden surprises her.

BRAEDEN  
Going somewhere?

Delaney tries to push him away with a KICK but he won't back off. As Delaney looks through the crowd for Dania she suddenly see Padma literally RUNNING on top of the demons!

Padma makes her way to the center of the crowd and a moment later is dragging the bloodied Dania from it.

PADMA  
Stay behind me!

Padma now has a sword in each hand and is SLASHING her way through the demons, killing anything that comes in her way.

She moves like a wild animal who has just tasted blood, and works her way through the demons until she meets Sofia.

She manages to nearly run a sword through Sofia, causing Sofia to DIVE out of the way of the attack.

(CONTINUED)

Padma, her face etched with fury, races toward her, but as she turns toward her she suddenly freezes, her face registering surprise as she looks down...

... to see that Dex has hurled a DAGGER directly into the center of her chest!

Dex is now racing toward her with his other dagger poised to attack.

DEX

I like you kid, you've got guts.

Dex BURIES his other dagger into Padma's stomach, causing her to spit up BLOOD.

DEX (cont'd)

Let's see what those look like.

DELANEY

No!

Delaney can do nothing as Dex slices Padma from NAVEL TO STERNUM, draining the last little bit of life from her before DUMPING the girl on the ground.

DEX

One down...

Dex flips the dagger in his hand, preparing to throw it at Delaney. Delaney tries to react but knows there's no time.

Time SLOWS DOWN as Delaney blinks, watching the dagger begin to move forward...

... and Dex is caught in the side by a SWORD from one of the WARRIOR DEMONS!

The demon withdraws his sword as time and Dex falls to the floor, clutching the wound above his hip.

Delaney looks on incredulously as the demon MORPHS into Hamish!

Time still moves slow for everyone except for Hamish, Delaney, Tori, and Dania.

DELANEY

(slowly)

What's... happening...?

Before anyone can answer her a shaft of light CRASHES through the floor, forming a pillar in the entryway that begins to expand, pushing everyone except for the rogues out of the room.

(CONTINUED)

KIRA (O.S.)  
We need to move. Now.

Kira appears from the basement, clearly strained by her spell to the point that she collapses at the entry. Tori races over to help her.

HAMISH  
How did you manage to shake  
Jilhandra?

KIRA  
(woozy)  
I tapped into the Hellmouth, but  
it's left me running on fumes...  
and she won't be held down there  
for long.

Hamish helps Tori get one of Kira's hands over each of their shoulders.

Delaney turns to see Dania crouched over Padma's mutilated body.

DELANEY  
Dania, we have to go!

DANIA  
(quiet)  
We're going to leave her here?

DELANEY  
We don't have a choice.

Dania nods her head and slowly stands up as the rogues race out of their castle.

10 EXT. WOODS - MOMENTS LATER

10

The five rogues race through the woods behind the castle. Kira is moving on her own but they're not moving fast, as their lead is quickly diminishing.

TORI  
Do we have a plan?

DELANEY  
Yeah. Keep running.

They run on for a few more seconds, until Hamish skids to a halt and the others crash into him.

DELANEY (cont'd)  
Are you high? I just said 'keep  
running'!

(CONTINUED)

HAMISH

Aye, but...

He nods forward - and the girls see another wall of WARRIOR DEMONS emerging from the woods in front of them!

HAMISH (cont'd)

... easier said than done.

The group form a circle, quickly realising that the demons have them surrounded.

Braeden leads his team out through the demons, chuckling at the helpless rogues.

DANIA

You know, now would be a good time for that secret weapon of yours.

DELANEY

Actually... that would be her, right there.

Delaney points ahead to one of the warrior demons, who is holding a struggling ALITA by the neck!

JILHANDRA (O.S.)

Well, this is an unexpected treat.

Jilhandra, emerges from the woods and into the circle of demons, looking a little worse for wear.

JILHANDRA (cont'd)

(off Alita)

Bring her here.

ALITA

(weakly; to Delaney)

Sorry...

DELANEY

Hey, it's the thought that counts.

But as the demon approaches, it suddenly TOSSES Alita toward a shocked Sofia and Cassandra, and Alita is ATTACKING them before she even hits the ground!

As Braeden looks on in confusion, the demon approaches him as it MORPHS into Rachel!

SKYE (O.S.)

Gotcha!

From different sides SKYE, FRANKIE, JUANITA, and TSULA enter the fight, and the rogues take their cue and begin matching up as well.

(CONTINUED)

Delaney fights her way over to Alita, who has switched over to fighting one of the demons.

ALITA

I gathered everyone that I could,  
including Rachel, who insisted on  
coming to help you.

DELANEY

(smiling, sincere)  
Thank you.  
(beat)  
But how did you get here so fast?

ALITA

We received a ride with a friend.

JILHANDRA

(screams)  
Stop!

As Jilhandra screams everybody except for her, including her allies, are forced to their knees by an invisible force.

JILHANDRA (cont'd)

(smiling)  
That's better. Now, children, we're  
going to start doing things my way.

VOICE (O.S.)

I'm not so sure about that.

A BRIGHT LIGHT soon engulfs the circle, and when it clears everyone begins to slowly stand back up - to see Jilhandra in a BEAR HUG from a tree!

She struggles against the thick branches wrapped around her, but whatever twisted the tree made sure she couldn't get out.

Jilhandra ROARS in fury and looks up to see...

... in the center of the circle stands WILLOW ROSENBERG!

WILLOW

Hi, I'm Willow. You may have heard  
of me. I'll be kicking your tush  
now.

Jilhandra glares at her with BLACK EYES, Willow just half-smiling as she raises her hands, CRACKLING with energy, and we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT TWO**

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

11

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

11

Same as before, with the Slayers and the Rogues starting to reorient themselves to take on the Cabal.

There's still plenty of fighting going on - the Slayers are holding back the Warrior Demons while the Rogues square off against Braeden and his gang.

Willow, floating a few inches above the ground, moves toward Jilhandra who is struggling to free herself from the grip of the tree.

WILLOW

Alita, are you girls alright?

Alita is locked in a sword fight with one of the Warrior Demons. She manages, between attacks:

ALITA

Yes, Miss Rosenberg, I believe we can handle these demons.

WILLOW

Good. Then I'll just be going all Glinda-y over here if you need me.

A pack of demons CHARGE Willow, but with a sweep of her hand she scatters them like bowling pins.

She moves towards the still-captive Jilhandra, as Skye edges closer to the battling Delaney.

SKYE

Delaney, you ready to split?

DELANEY

But what about -

SKYE

Trust me, she can handle herself.

Skye fishes something from her pocket and nods to the other Slayers, who do the same.

SKYE (cont'd)

Now!

As one, they THROW the items forward - and a barrage of FIREBALLS blast any nearby demons back out of reach!

SKYE (cont'd)

Let's go!

(CONTINUED)

She takes off, the Rogues and Slayers quickly falling in as they sprint away from the stunned demons.

Braeden is the first to recover, rubbing his watering eyes and snarling with fury.

BRAEDEN

Come on!

He leads his team and several demons in pursuit of the fleeing Slayers.

Jilhandra is still struggling as Willow floats calmly towards her, the air CRACKLING with energy to keep demons at bay.

JILHANDRA

I'm not sure who you are...

Jilhandra allows her body to almost MELT its way from between the branches, resolidifying herself on the ground.

JILHANDRA (cont'd)

... but I guarantee you that you  
just bit off more than you can  
chew.

Jilhandra sends a dozen RED MYSTICAL ORBS hurtling at Willow, who almost effortlessly waves them away and sends them scattering.

WILLOW

And I'm not exactly sure who you  
are...

Now it's Willow's turn, and she attacks by forming a mystical bow in her hands and sending a GLITTERING GOLDEN ARROW rocketing toward Jilhandra!

Jilhandra's eyes bulge before she crosses her arms around her, a SHIELD of energy expanding outward from her chest.

WILLOW (cont'd)

... but all I know is that you've  
been trying to take out Slayers,  
and I take personal offense to that  
because, and I don't really like to  
brag, but I kind of made them.

A wave of revelation washes over Jilhandra's face.

JILHANDRA

Oh... you're her.

Jilhandra claps her hands together quickly, forcing the air itself to SHAKE WITH FORCE.

(CONTINUED)



This time, Willow cannot deflect the attack, and falls backward against another tree.

JILHANDRA (cont'd)  
This is going to be one for the  
highlights tape, then.

Jilhandra propels herself through the air toward Willow as we  
CUT TO:

ON DELANEY & DANIA:

Delaney and Dania have grouped together and are working together to fight against Sofia, who is being continuously pushed back.

JUANITA  
Move your asses! Coming through!

From between Delaney and Dania, Juanita RUNS a Warrior Demon straight into Sofia's Scythe, causing the demon to impale itself with its own momentum before knocking Sofia over!

Delaney turns to Juanita, but Juanita SHOVES her out of the way!

JUANITA (cont'd)  
I coulda sworn I just said 'get out  
of my way'!

Delaney watches as Juanita dodges another Warrior Demon's attack, dancing to a beat that only Juanita can hear.

In short order, Juanita positions herself behind the demon and simultaneously takes out its leg and puts it in a headlock, SNAPPING its neck with great effort.

DELANEY  
I'm gonna take a shot in the dark  
and guess that you're Juanita?

Juanita looks surprised, but doesn't get the chance to ask Delaney anything because Sofia has GRAPPLED Delaney from behind!

Delaney struggles within her grip and eventually SLAMS Sofia back into a tree.

Sofia grabs Delaney and returns the favor, as the two's fight moves them away from Juanita and Dania.

Juanita and Dania move to help out but two more Warrior Demons get in their way, so they each pick their own target.

JUANITA  
So who are you?

(CONTINUED)

DANIA

I'm Dania. I'm apparently the evil  
version of you.

Juanita eyes Dania as they continue to fight their respective  
opponents and shrugs slightly, and as the two Hispanic  
Slayers continue to fight side by side we join:

ON FRANKIE & TSULA:

Frankie and Tsula each are fighting against a Warrior Demon  
in another part of the woods.

FRANKIE

Tsula, watch your flank!

Frankie warns Tsula in time for the younger Slayer to barely  
avoid an attack from a third demon, side stepping in time for  
the demon to run right by it.

Unfortunately, Frankie leaves herself open and the demon  
she's fighting gets the upper hand on her, delivering a  
series of BLOWS that stagger her.

Tsula sees what's happening and manages to finish off her  
demon with a STAB to the throat from her sword.

She turns toward Frankie but has to quickly sidestep as Tori  
comes racing through.

TORI

Pardon me!

Tori runs toward the demon that almost stabbed Tsula, but on  
the way delivers a FLYING KNEE to Frankie's demon's back,  
allowing Frankie to regain the upper hand without even  
slowing Tori down.

Tori gives her demon a left then a right to the chin and  
follows it up with a ROUNDHOUSE KICK, sending the demon  
backwards.

She turns back to Tsula and grabs her sword.

TORI (cont'd)

Mind if I borrow this?

As Tori and Tsula make eye contact, there's a flash of  
recognition, but Tori soon turns back to her demon, finishing  
it off quickly by SPEARING it through the heart.

TSULA

T... Tori?

Tori hands back the sword back to Tsula, but doesn't exactly look thrilled about this little exchange. She doesn't answer Tsula, but she only nods.

TSULA (cont'd)  
(slightly disappointed)  
Is this what you've been doing  
since you left the Council?

Tori looks slightly guilty and turns away from Tsula, watching as Frankie finishes off her demon and paying particular attention as Frankie's arm VIOLENTLY TWITCHES and causes her to drop her sword.

TORI  
You're Frankie DuCont, aren't you?

FRANKIE  
(surprised)  
*Oui?* Do we know each other?

Tori's facial expressions shift and there seems to be a hint of jealous anger in her face.

TORI  
(mocking)  
How did daddy's little princess do  
on her Cruciamentum?

Frankie's eyes go wide in shock before narrowing in suspicion, but before she can ask any more questions the girls are hit by a fresh wave of demons.

As the Slayers fight the demons they are spread out from one another and we switch to:

ON SKYE & BRAEDEN:

Skye is matching blades with Braeden while Alita and Rachel are close behind her, taking on four of the warrior demons.

SKYE  
Hey, Braeden, can you do me a favor  
and give Alaric my best? You know,  
assuming of course that you make it  
out of this.

BRAEDEN  
Why? You looking for a good  
reference for when you finally go  
bad and tear your girlfriend's  
throat out?

Skye's jovial mood instantly drops, and she connects hard with Braeden's jaw.

(CONTINUED)

Behind her, the demon that Rachel is attacking back pedals and bumps into Sofia, who has Delaney in pursuit.

Alita quickly CUTS DOWN one of her demons and turns her attention to Sofia, quickly getting into a technical series of counter attacks and blocks.

Delaney and Rachel meanwhile fight side by side against the three remaining demons.

DELANEY

You came back. I'm impressed.

RACHEL

Come on. All this time and you haven't noticed I don't leave my friends behind?

Delaney and Rachel share a moment of reconnection as they continue to fight, before we switch to:

ON DANIA & JUANITA:

Dania and Juanita are fighting together against one of the Warrior Demons.

Juanita lands a PUNCH to the demon's face, but her kick is countered when the demon grabs her by the foot, SWINGS her around, and sends her flying.

Dania is immediately in her place, narrowly dodging a punch to her face and delivering a few small KICKS to the demon's waist.

DANIA

(in Spanish)

<Plan?>

Juanita is running back toward the demon.

JUANITA

(in Spanish)

<You go low, I'll go high.>

Dania immediately maneuvers herself to the ground below the demon, wrapping her legs between his.

Juanita runs full speed at the demon, grabs its hands, and walks up its body before flipping herself upside down and wrapping her legs around the demon's neck!

Dania knocks the demon back and on the way to the ground Juanita manages to SNAP its neck with her legs.

Dania stands to congratulate Juanita, but hears:

(CONTINUED)

FRANKIE (O.S.)

Look out!

Juanita turns and sees that Cassandra is brandishing a glowing blue ANTI-SLAYER SWORD!

Juanita moves to pull Dania out of the way, but being around the sword slows her down, and Dania's leg receives a large GASH as Cassandra SLICES down!

Dania falls to her leg and YOWLS in pain. Juanita helps her to the ground but immediately turns toward Cassandra, trying to ignore the sword's dizzying effect.

CASSANDRA

(smirks)

You look a little off colour.  
Perhaps you need some rest?

Juanita shakes her head, trying to clear the waves of nausea as she raises her fists.

JUANITA

I'll sleep when I'm dead.

CASSANDRA

Careful what you wish for.

Cassandra SLICES but Juanita dodges, and now it's her to turn to grin.

FRANKIE

Juanita! Get back 'ere! She's too powerful with that sword!

Frankie races toward Juanita but Juanita doesn't listen, giving Cassandra her all and forcing her back.

As Frankie slides toward Dania to bandage her leg, she watches as Juanita disappears into the darkness.

ON SKYE & BRAEDEN:

Skye is still fighting Braeden, but Braeden is able to take out her sais in two quick blows before delivering a third, disorienting STRIKE to the side of her head.

As Skye falls over onto her hands and knees, Braeden stands above her - with the stake end of his Scythe pointing down at her heart!

BRAEDEN

You know, I've always been curious  
what would happen if I did this...

(CONTINUED)

Braeden raises his Scythe up, preparing to stake Skye just as  
Tori happens upon the battle.

TORI

No!

Tori races toward Braeden and tackles him, but not before he  
RUNS SKYE THROUGH the small of her back, causing Skye to howl  
out in pain!

Tori is quick to get off Braeden and turns back to Skye to  
see her standing back up.

TORI (cont'd)

(shocked)

What... what are you?

Skye rubs her back while turning to face Tori, seeing Braeden  
quickly approaching her from behind.

Skye VAMPS OUT and Tori's eyes go wide.

SKYE

Pissed, is what I am!

Skye dives at Braeden, desperately trying to get to his neck.

FRANKIE (O.S.)

'Elp! Somebody!

Tori turns from Skye and Braeden to see Frankie cradling  
Dania a few yards away, with four warrior demons closing in  
on them!

Tori looks back, but Skye is already tearing into Braeden  
with little regard for anyone else, so Tori tears herself  
away and heads for Frankie.

Tori is quick to race over to the demons, allowing Frankie to  
set Dania down and they each begin to take on two at a time.

FRANKIE (cont'd)

*Merci.*

TORI

Thank me when we're out of here,  
okay?

Braeden is able to pull Skye off of him and ELBOW her in the  
chin, knocking her over and allowing a fifth Warrior Demon to  
keep her on the ground.

BRAEDEN

(to Demon)

Hold her there! I'll be back.

(CONTINUED)

SKYE  
(struggling)  
Are you kidding me? Come back here,  
asshole! I ain't done yet!

Braeden stands up and grabs his Scythe while he scans the area. Dania is right in his sight.

Dania looks over just as she sees Braeden approaching her and her face is immediately overcome with fear. She tries to stand to defend herself, but her wounded leg collapses under her weight.

Braeden reaches her as her hands go up in submission, shaking her head desperately.

DANIA  
Wait, no! Please! I'll - I'll -  
I'll work for you! I'll do  
anything!

BRAEDEN  
Work for us?  
(beat)  
Seriously?

DANIA  
Yes! Yes... anything! Just don't...  
please don't kill me!

BRAEDEN  
Well... alright. Since you asked so  
nicely. Just let me get a pen.

He turns away, and for half a second Dania thinks she's going to be spared...

... until Braeden turns and THRUSTS his Scythe forward, burying it deep in Dania's chest!

JUANITA (O.S.)  
Dania!

Juanita and Cassandra's fight brings stumbling them into the scene, and Juanita turns in time to see Braeden YANK his Scythe out of Dania's chest, lifting her up in the process.

Braeden puts his foot on Dania's chest, pushing her onto the ground to free his weapon, and she drops like a limp doll.

JUANITA (cont'd)  
No!

Not paying attention, Juanita is almost decapitated by Cassandra before Tsula is able to save her, sluggishly engaging Cassandra.

(CONTINUED)

Juanita runs toward Braeden, but Skye is there first, and the two Slayers are barely able to keep up with Braeden, who is high from his latest kill.

Tsula is not doing so well against Cassandra, who is rapidly gaining the upper hand on the weakening Slayer.

CASSANDRA

Come on! Don't you good girl  
Slayers know when it's time to just  
roll over and play dead?

TSULA

(vision swimming)  
We're not known... for following  
the rules! Even if...

Tsula suddenly falls back, overcome at last, but as Cassandra approaches her shoulder is suddenly GRABBED from behind.

RACHEL

Uh-uh. Not this time.

Rachel spins Cassandra and lands a vicious UPPERCUT that sends the older Slayer sprawling!

RACHEL (cont'd)

Try picking on someone that's  
immune to that fancy sword.

CASSANDRA

(grinning)  
I thought you'd never ask.

As Rachel starts to empty out her aggression on Cassandra we return to:

ON WILLOW & JILHANDRA:

Back on the magical fight between Willow and Jilhandra, with the two witches rapidly firing spells back and forth.

BLASTS of brightly-coloured energy sail between them, with ricochets and SPARKS flying setting nearby trees ablaze!

Not far away, Hamish struggles to keep the still weakened Kira from joining the battle.

Jilhandra reaches her arm forward, sending a violent flurry of WIND toward Willow, which cuts at her clothing.

Willow looks down at her tattered sleeve, mouth open in shock as she turns to Jilhandra.

WILLOW

I liked this shirt!



Jilhandra, nose BLEEDING from exertion just SNIFFS, her face thick with sweat as she readies another spell.

WILLOW (cont'd)  
Is that all you have left? Because,  
I gotta tell you, your spells  
aren't exactly as awe inspiring as  
they were at first.

As Willow speaks, VINES grow from the ground and bind Jilhandra's legs!

WILLOW (cont'd)  
Maybe you should have taken a  
little nap before you came here  
tonight.

Jilhandra is starting to show fatigue from the battle, but looks over just as Tori steps into scene, finishing off yet another Warrior Demon.

Jilhandra reaches out toward Tori, and suddenly Tori is being DRAGGED across the ground by an invisible force, straight into Jilhandra's waiting grip!

JILHANDRA  
(beaming)  
I just need a little pick-me-up.

GLOWING ENERGY begins to pour from Tori and into Jilhandra, and a few seconds later Jilhandra looks rejuvenated while Tori grasps for breath.

Weakly, Tori opens and closes her fist, and her eyes begin to well up.

TORI  
(quietly)  
No...

Jilhandra turns her attention from Tori back to Willow, DROPPING the weakened Slayer on the ground.

JILHANDRA  
Much better.

Jilhandra sends a massive torrent of GREEN FORCE toward Willow, who at first tries to resist but soon flies backward.

Off Jilhandra's look of satisfaction we return to:

ON SOFIA & ALITA:

Back with Sofia and Alita, with Sofia fending off Alita's attacks with her sword.

SOFIA

Wow! You're really trying here,  
aren't you? If I didn't know  
better, I'd swear you were trying  
to kill me...

Alita continues to push Sofia back, spinning and weaving  
between Sofia's attacks while continuously attacking with her  
own.

SOFIA (cont'd)

What brought about this change of  
heart? Did you finally realise that  
passive-aggressive won't cut it?

ALITA

No...

Alita DUCKS under another blow and SHOVES Sofia back.

ALITA (cont'd)

... I just managed to clear my  
conscience on something.

Staggering, Sofia TRIPS backwards. Seeing her moment, Alita  
KICKS the Scythe out of Sofia's hands.

With her sword at Sofia's throat, the reality of the  
situation suddenly hits Alita, and she's forced to look away  
from Sofia and what Sofia tripped over: Dania's dead body!

Sofia cautiously looks down at the body as well, the gaping  
hole in her chest making it evident what killed her.

ALITA (cont'd)

How many more Slayers must be  
murdered until it is your turn,  
Sofia?

SOFIA

What?

ALITA

We both know that even if Braeden  
completes his mission, there will  
still be one Slayer left to  
execute.

Sofia looks back up at Alita, and for a moment, a trace of  
the old Sofia can be seen, but just as quickly it evaporates.

Alita notices flashes of light in the distance, and as Sofia  
tries to recover Alita quickly KICKS Sofia in the head,  
knocking her out cold!

Alita runs back toward Willow as we switch to:

(CONTINUED)

ON CASSANDRA & RACHEL:

Alone in the woods, Cassandra and Rachel clash swords, neither having a distinct advantage over the other.

CASSANDRA

So tell me, Rachel, has Dana fallen into a coma yet?

Rachel doesn't respond, but her face gives away the truth and Cassandra laugh, sending Rachel into a fury.

CASSANDRA (cont'd)

I don't know why you're even here.  
Dana doesn't have much more time left before she burns up from the inside out.

The angrier Rachel gets, the sloppier she gets, making more and more mistakes. Cassandra not only notices this, but she takes advantage of it.

RACHEL

You better pray she doesn't die, Cassandra, because if she does I'll kill you, even if I do it with my last breath.

CASSANDRA

Whatever you need to tell yourself to get you through the day, Rachel, but if I were you I'd be spending as much time as my friend as I could.

Cassandra has Rachel just where she wants her, and manages to SWAT away her sword.

CASSANDRA (cont'd)

(shakes head)

Stupid, predictable little girl.

Cassandra is toying with Rachel. Looking past her, Cassandra sees Braeden approaching and beams widely.

CASSANDRA (cont'd)

Time to say goodbye.

Braeden is within striking distance, but instead of attacking Rachel he throws a tangled mess of ROPES at Cassandra, which quickly wrap themselves around her and lift her high into a tree!

RACHEL

(smirks)

Goodbye.

(CONTINUED)

Rachel turns around, and isn't the least bit surprised when Braeden MORPHS into Hamish.

RACHEL (cont'd)  
So... I guess there's no hard feelings, huh?

HAMISH  
(grins)  
It seems that for the time being, no one has the luxury of having "hard feelings."

Rachel smiles and looks over, noticing Cassandra's sword. As Rachel eyes it curiously we return to:

ON WILLOW & JILHANDRA:

Both women are forcing a COLUMN OF ENERGY forward, that meets each other half way in a sphere of BLINDING LIGHT.

Delaney races toward the battle, taking everything in and seeing Tori still laying on the ground.

DELANEY  
Tori! What's wrong?

TORI  
(distant)  
They're gone...

Delaney helps Tori up as she puts one of Tori's arms around her shoulder to support her weight.

DELANEY  
Who's 'gone'?

Delaney looks back toward the battle as she notices the sphere of light getting closer and closer to Willow, and Willow struggling to force the sphere away from here.

Kira, still struggling to stand, cannot idly stand back any longer.

KIRA  
Oh, for God's sake! If you want something doing...

Pushing her hand forward weakly, she lets loose a CLOUD OF SPARKS that attack Jilhandra, before collapsing again.

Jilhandra screams, breaking her concentration while Willow falls to her knees.

Jilhandra spins round, but quickly turns from the battered Kira to Delaney, a wicked grin spreading across her face.

(CONTINUED)

KIRA (cont'd)  
(pales)  
No...

JILHANDRA  
What was that, Kira? It was too  
weak and pathetic for me to hear.

Jilhandra extends her hand and a faint blue beam heads  
straight for Delaney...

... until Tori notices and gets in between the beam and  
Delaney!

An EXPLOSION OF LIGHT follows, and when it clears Delaney  
stares blankly through the space where Tori once stood.

WILLOW  
(screams)  
Enough!

As Willow SCREAMS, the clearing is once again filled with  
light, and when it clears all the Slayers and Rogues are gone  
- leaving only Jilhandra!

JILHANDRA  
(sneers)  
Cowards...

Jilhandra steps forward, but as she does she collapses in  
fatigue, surrounded by the bodies of the fallen Warrior  
Demons as we finally:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT THREE**

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

12

INT. ACADEMY - CELL - NIGHT

12

Kira sits alone in one of the cells at the Academy, slouched over in a chair, asleep.

Slowly, she comes to, and is immediately confused and disoriented.

She quickly jerks her hands, but realizes that she's not bound in any way, other than being locked in the cell.

BARBARA (O.S.)

You're awake. Good.

Kira's eyes are still focusing, but as she looks through the glass of her cell she sees BARBARA and FITZGERALD staring back at her.

BARBARA (cont'd)

Willow didn't have the chance to prep you for the teleportation like she did the others. You've been out for an hour now.

Kira leans back in her chair, quickly assessing the situation.

KIRA

So I'm your 'guest' now, is that it? Dare I ask what you're going to do with me?

BARBARA

That's the question of the hour.

Fitzgerald flashes Barbara a look, but then turns her attention back to Kira.

FITZGERALD

To be honest, right now you're lucky that I haven't had you shipped off to a Council Interrogation Center.

KIRA

So why haven't you?

FITZGERALD

(sighs)

Because that depends on how you want to proceed.

Kira raises an eyebrow. Barbara steps closer to the glass.

(CONTINUED)

BARBARA

Kira, we're all in over our heads right now. We're facing something the likes of which neither of us have ever seen before.

(beat)

The situation is quickly turning into 'the enemy of my enemy is my friend.'

Kira looks from Barbara to Fitzgerald and then back to Barbara.

KIRA

Are asking me to... work with you?

Barbara opens her mouth to speak but Fitzgerald cuts her off.

FITZGERALD

We're willing to listen to whatever information you can give us about the current threat.

Kira blinks once, and makes her decision in a moment.

KIRA

What do you want to know?

Barbara and Fitzgerald swap a quick glance.

BARBARA

Why were you attacked? Why now?

Kira bites her lip, not breaking eye contact with Barbara.

KIRA

I like the tactic, Barbara. Giving me the opportunity for the cop out reason of them simply wanting my Slayers, or maybe even saying that Jilhandra waited for the Hellmouth to affect me, even though you probably realized that it was her who activated it.

FITZGERALD

I'm sorry - 'Hellmouth'? What Hellmouth?

KIRA

In the castle basement. Must have been dormant for centuries, even when Braeden activated the Hub.

Barbara's expression doesn't change, while Fitzgerald leans in during Kira's pause.

(CONTINUED)

KIRA (cont'd)

It's because of what I was learning from my work with Victoria, and my work with Dana before that. The things I was pulling from Dana's head, and what I wanted that boy Tyson to get out of her dreams.

(beat)

It's because of what I was learning about the Slayer line.

Barbara and Fitzgerald exchange another look.

FITZGERALD

Thank you, Miss Brogan.

Barbara and Fitzgerald then leave the room, leaving Kira staring blankly forward.

INT. ACADEMY - DELANEY'S CELL - NIGHT

Delaney is in another cell, completely identical to Kira's. When her door opens, Delaney visibly tenses for a moment.

RACHEL

Maybe you don't need this caffeine. You look a little on edge as is.

Rachel walks into Delaney's cell, holding two cups of coffee. Delaney eases a little.

DELANEY

You'd be on edge too, if your stay here was anything like mine last year.

RACHEL

Fair enough. Hamish didn't want his either.

Rachel sets both cups of coffee onto a small table and then sits adjacent to Delaney as they talk through the glass.

DELANEY

So how long was it before they let you out of your cell?

RACHEL

Actually, they never put me in a cell.

DELANEY

(raises eyebrow)

Really? Whose ass did you kiss to get that kind of treatment?



RACHEL

(smirks)

Yeah, it's apparently what happens when you show up here without, you know, trying to steal anything or anyone.

DELANEY

Huh. Who'd have thought.

There's a pause between them.

RACHEL

It wasn't your fault.

DELANEY

Say what now?

Delaney tries to act aloof, but her voice lacks its usual spark.

RACHEL

Those girls? What happened to them? It wasn't your fault. And please give me the courtesy of not having to cut through your defenses.

Rachel looks Delaney in the eye, and Delaney eventually drops her gaze to the ground.

DELANEY

I was supposed to be teaching them. I was supposed to protect them.

(beat)

Some protector. One of them died saving me.

RACHEL

We're not the same people we were when we first met.

DELANEY

Yeah, it's almost like we're... friends now or something. Weird.

RACHEL

(smiles)

It was all about power back then, you know? Proving to the world that we were strong. But now...

DELANEY

(beat)

Now?

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: (2)

13

RACHEL

Now it's about sticking together,  
or else all the power in the world  
isn't going to matter.

Delaney and Rachel sit together in silence for a moment as we  
CUT TO:

14 INT. ACADEMY - DANA'S WARD - NIGHT

14

Kira is walked into Dana's room, escorted by a very timid  
Debbie, who lets Kira in and then quickly shuts the door.

Kira looks over to see Willow standing over Dana's bed,  
staring down at the girl.

KIRA

How is she?

WILLOW

(shaking her head)

She only has a couple of hours left  
unless something is done.

Kira steps forward and looks down at how peaceful Dana looks  
in her bed.

KIRA

You bound my magics.

WILLOW

(nodding)

I did.

KIRA

Am I ever going to be unbound?

WILLOW

Maybe. And even then. Only a  
little. Can't have a fully loaded  
evil witch just waltzin' round the  
place, now can we?

Willow looks up for Dana and to Kira. She holds out a small  
CHARM hanging on a chain.

WILLOW (cont'd)

I've been instructed to limit your  
power. Barbara is going to be the  
only person that will be able to  
fully lift the bind, but she'll  
also be able to make the bind all  
snuggly again if you so much as pop  
a balloon animal without asking.

Kira looks back down at Dana.

(CONTINUED)

KIRA

What are you going to do for her?

WILLOW

Actually, it's what we're going to do for her.

Kira looks at Willow sideways, and Willow returns the favor with a lopsided grin.

WILLOW (cont'd)

I vouched for you, you know.

KIRA

Why? You don't even know me.

WILLOW

I was evil once. Granted, it was for all of a couple of hours, but I had my own little fling with apocalypsing, and I know that it's possible to come back from it.

(beat)

I felt you, Kira. When your magic was going all wonky from the Hellmouth, it left your aura radiating. I know that all you want right now is to keep your daughter safe, and I know that you know that this is the best place to do that, and that you're willing to do what it takes to stay here.

Kira looks uncomfortable and looks back down at Dana.

KIRA

What's wrong with her?

WILLOW

Basically, she's being hollowed out, body and soul. A parting gift from the Cabal.

KIRA

So what are "we" going to do?

WILLOW

(smiling)

I found a counter spell, but if I cast it now it'd burn out her soul while healing her body, so I need you to be a conduit to transfer her soul from her body to our vessel.

KIRA

'Vessel'?

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (2)

14

RACHEL (O.S.)  
That would be me.

Kira turns to see Rachel leaning against the doorway. She frowns in confusion as we CUT TO:

15 INT. ACADEMY - DELANEY'S CELL - NIGHT

15

Delaney's head perks up as she once again hears the door open and then close.

She stares forward, saying nothing and keeping her eyes fixed on her visitor.

The camera pans around to show GREG standing in the doorway, unable to fully enter the room.

Delaney and Greg stare at each other will remaining in tense, uncomfortable silence.

Finally, Greg steps forward and unlocks Delaney's cell. He opens the door for her, but then turns around and leaves.

After he leaves, Alita enters. She regards Delaney for a moment, then offers a short bow.

ALITA  
We've found you a room.  
(beat)  
We have a lot of rooms becoming  
available lately.

Delaney stands and walks toward Alita and the door.

DELANEY  
Thanks.

ALITA  
He's not going to hurt you.  
(beat)  
Not again.

Delaney stares at Alita, but doesn't say anything. Alita nods, and leads Delaney out of the cells.

16 INT. ACADEMY - DANA'S WARD - NIGHT

16

A cot has been placed next to Dana's bed, and Rachel lays on it. She looks pretty nervous.

Kira and Willow prepare to cast their spell, and Barbara and Fitzgerald are there to witness the ceremony.

Skye and Frankie are standing guard at the door, just in case anything goes wrong.

(CONTINUED)

Willow walks over toward Rachel.

WILLOW

Okay, we're ready. Once we perform this transfer, Dana's soul is going to be in your body rubbing elbows with your soul 24/7 until the healing spell finishes, which should take a couple of weeks. At least.

(beat)

Once you're both in there it's going to be a two minds, one body kind of thing. All of your memories, your thoughts, you're going to share them all.

(beat)

Now, the way I have this figured out, all the crazy should stay in the body, so at least you two will have that going for you.

(beat)

Do you need me to go over any of this again? I tend to ramble right before I cast.

RACHEL

Two minds, one body, no crazy. Got it. Let's go.

Barbara walks over to Rachel with Kira right behind her.

BARBARA

You don't have to do this, you know. You don't need to prove anything to anyone, and everyone will understand if you aren't prepared to do this. We could try to find another way.

Rachel doesn't say anything. She doesn't need to say anything, and Barbara nods.

BARBARA (cont'd)

Alright, let's begin.

Barbara steps back, and Kira and Willow take their places. Willow stands above Dana, reciting passages from a book in a strange language while holding her hand over Dana's head.

Kira stands in between Rachel and Dana, a hand on each girl's chest.

As the spell picks up, a warm, white GLOW flows from Willow's hand and into Dana, slowly pulsing through the girl.

(CONTINUED)

The lights of the room FLICKER slightly, and all four of the other women all step closer to get a better look.

Suddenly, an orb of white, pure LIGHT escapes from Dana's chest, passes through Kira and into Rachel!

At once, Rachel's eyes fly open, and with a GASP she lurches bolt upright on the bed!

Her hands press against her head, her face screwed up in pain as Willow and Barbara quickly crowd round her.

WILLOW

It's alright! Just relax, just let it happen...

RACHEL

It hurts!

BARBARA

Can't we do something?

WILLOW

It's done now. She's just gonna have to ride this out.

Rachel flops back onto her bed, her back arching as she HOWLS in pain!

Barbara throws a desperate look to Willow and Kira, but their expressions tell her they just have to wait...

... and Rachel slowly calms down, her body relaxing as she sags, limp, on the bed.

Her eyes are closed and her breathing is ragged, but she remains still.

WILLOW (cont'd)

Did she -

She's cut off as Rachel suddenly starts to CHANGE, her features shifting and morphing!

Her skin darkens a shade, her hair grows longer and darker, and her body mass shrinks a few sizes as she changes before their eyes...

... and moments later, the form of DANA lies on the bed before them!

SKYE

Ho-ly crap...

Rachel/Dana stirs, swallowing as she moves her head round. She GROANS, starting to sit up, her hand to her forehead.

(CONTINUED)

Skye and Frankie both step forward but Willow holds a hand out to them, letting Rachel/Dana get a chance to adjust on her own.

DANA  
My... my head...

Rachel/Dana speaks in Dana's voice, only it's clear, coherent.

BARBARA  
(calmly)  
Dana...?

DANA  
I... I...

Rachel/Dana looks over and sees Dana's body - her real body - and suddenly her face goes blank.

BARBARA  
Dana?

DANA  
(quietly)  
What... where...?

Rachel/Dana's hands approach her face but stop short, almost afraid to touch herself.

Suddenly, Rachel/Dana is hit with a VIOLENT FLASH of memory. It's less than a second and shows YOUNG DANA being dragged by her leg toward a door, the body of her DEAD FATHER behind her and Dana screaming and kicking the entire time as tears pour down her cheeks.

Rachel/Dana freezes as she's hit by another FLASH, this one showing young Dana, her face dirty except where her tears have streaked the filth, chained to a radiator in a dungeon-like basement, SCREAMING in terror in front of an unseen assailant as she struggles in vain to cower small enough to escape his reach.

Rachel/Dana closes her eyes tightly as the next FLASH hits her like a punch to the face, causing her to recoil, as she sees herself taking a scalpel to the face of a NURSE at the asylum, her violent expression devoid of humanity.

Rachel/Dana suddenly SLAMS her hands on Rachel's empty bed, causing Skye and Frankie to once again take a step toward the girl but this time they're stopped by hurried motions from both Barbara and Willow.

Another FLASH shows Dana as she takes a saw to SPIKE'S wrists as she begins to hack them off!

(CONTINUED)

Rachel/Dana stays hunched over Rachel's bed, her eyes still sealed tightly shut and her muscles tensing as if she's preparing to strike.

Skye and Frankie exchange nervous glances, unsure how to react.

A FLASH shows Dana KILLING KEEYA without a trace of remorse as the blood splatter hits her face.

Rachel/Dana finally opens her eyes and looks up, and as Skye and Frankie look back, prepared to take her down, they stop short and again exchange looks of uncertainty.

Rachel/Dana's face is streaked with TEARS!

Another FLASH has Dana looked in combat with Heidi, blood lust once again fueling her desires.

Tears continue to pour from Rachel/Dana's eyes as she shakes her head slowly.

Willow attempts to place a comforting hand on the girl's shoulder, but she instinctively flinches away from her hand.

The FLASHES begin to pick up their pace and we see Dana strapped down to a table in Kira's lab, the girl feebly struggling against restraints.

Rachel/Dana collapses to her knees, looking up hopelessly at the rest of the room.

A FLASH and we see her strapped down again, this time at the Cabal's lab as she's being treated much less gently than she was with Kira.

Rachel/Dana slowly brings her hands in front of her face and can only stare at them in silent inspection as she continues to cry.

The FLASHES are speeding up to the point of being nearly indistinguishable as we watch Dana taking out Slayer after Slayer for the Cabal.

With this onset of memories, Rachel/Dana begins to violently SOB, and as the memories continue to pour in the girl pulls herself into a fetal position, SHIVERING like a child.

Everyone in the room can only watch as the girl continues to wail as Willow kneels on the floor and puts the girl's head in her lap, gently stroking her hair as we finally:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF SHOW**