

**SLAYER ACADEMY**

"Bloodstains"

by  
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## TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. CAMPUS - PAVILION - DAY

SOFIA sits with her back to us, staring out across the fields. Glorious sunshine, a light breeze.

There's hardly a sound to be heard - the whisper of the breeze and the rustling of trees.

Sofia looks to her side - there's SKYE, fiddling with her mp3 player intently. She glances up at Sofia and winks.

Sofia looks to her right - and there sits FRANKIE, absently munching her way through an apple as she stares into the distance.

Sofia looks back out front, and sees a distant FIGURE running towards them.

MIST creeps across the fields, the runner lost amidst a shroud of fog.

Sofia starts to fidget, her hackles rising as the runner approaches, but Skye and Frankie don't look fazed.

Sofia turns to Skye and lays a hand on her shoulder, but when she tries to speak nothing comes out.

Skye doesn't look up as Sofia SHAKES her, yelling as loud as she can but still only producing silence.

Sofia looks back towards the track - the runner is drawing closer with every second.

She tries Frankie next, but as Frankie idly picks a piece of apple skin from her teeth, she too is deaf to Sofia's cries.

Sofia looks back to the field, and to her horror the runner is now only moments from the foot of the pavilion!

Sofia rises, literally shaking with fear as she SCREAMS, veins bulging in her neck - silence.

The runner slows, wearing a hooded top that obscures their features, and comes to a stop at the base of the pavilion.

Sofia turns and tries to climb away, but she can't seem to get a grip on the steps - the harder she tries, the more she flails uselessly on the spot.

Sofia looks back to see the runner reaching for their hood, time seeming to slow down...

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... and ALITA is revealed as the hood falls back, hair drawn into a ponytail.

She looks up at Sofia and SMILES, and Sofia's struggle calms in a moment.

Confused, Sofia stares as Alita hops up the first few steps to join her, still looking benign.

Sofia tries to speak, but though her mouth forms the words 'I'm sorry,' no sound comes out.

Alita shakes her head, closing her eyes and laying a hand on Sofia's shoulder.

Sofia exhales heavily, as though she's been holding her breath all day, lowering her head.

When she looks back, her eyes are wet with TEARS, her lip quivering as waves of emotion crash over her.

She tries to speak again - but Alita suddenly frowns, looking down to her side.

A DARK STAIN has formed on the side of her hoodie, and she reaches down to roll it up.

Sofia's eyes bulge, and she tries to stop Alita reaching for it - but it's no good.

Alita lifts her top - and sees BLOOD soaking through her t-shirt!

Her head snaps up to look at Sofia, who recoils from the sight in horror.

She staggers backward, bumping into Skye and Frankie, both girls grabbing an arm each to hold her in place.

Sofia shakes her head desperately, trying to push back as Alita steps forward, reaching out a blood-stained hand...

ALITA

Why?

Sofia SCREAMS, her voice back to volume at last:

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - CORRIDOR - DAY

Sofia snaps back to reality - and she's being DRAGGED down a long hallway by two SLAYERS, several others crowding around her.

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She tries to turn her head - but a BOOT cracks across her jaw, snapping her head back.

JEERS and CURSES are flung her way as she's dragged, before the convoy reaches a door which needs to be unlocked.

Sofia tries to sit up - and POW! A hard PUNCH splits her lip. Several blows follow, with KICKS, STAMPS and PUNCHES raining down on her.

The door opens, and Sofia is off again, this time descending into:

INT. CAMPUS - CELLS - CORRIDOR - NEXT

BOUNCING painfully down a staircase, Sofia soon realises where she is - the cell block in the Academy basement!

She tries to fight, her hands SCRATCHING along the floor for grip, but a Slayer obligingly STAMPS on her hands.

The train stops by one of the cell doors, and with a BEEP the electronic lock opens, the glass panel sliding open.

INT. CAMPUS - CELL - CONTINUOUS

Sofia is hauled to her feet and THROWN forward into the cell, Slayer strength sending her against the far wall with a SMACK.

She collapses to the ground, winded and too battered to move as the door slides shut again.

She manages to push herself up to her knees, dabbing at her features and finding BLOOD dripping from her nose and lip.

She creaks her head round towards the entrance to the cell - and there stands a stony-faced FRANKIE.

SOFIA  
(voice cracks)  
Frankie... Frankie, what's -

FRANKIE  
(shakes head)  
Non. You do not get to speak.

Sofia tries to sit up but everywhere seems to hurt, so she sags into a kneeling position again.

FRANKIE (cont'd)  
Do you... can you even begin to understand what you 'ave done?

SOFIA  
I... I don't know... I can't -

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FRANKIE

(snaps)

Oh, spare me the mind games, Sofia.  
Do not even try to fool me with  
that 'I can't remember' *merde*.

Frankie steps right up to the glass, glaring murderously down at Sofia.

FRANKIE (cont'd)

As soon as we 'ave finished  
patching the 'oles upstairs, then  
we will turn our attention onto  
you. Until then... I think you  
should get some time to think about  
what you 'ave done.

SOFIA

Frankie, wait...

Frankie steps away, reaching for a control panel on the wall.

SOFIA (cont'd)

Frankie!

CLICK. The lights go out, plunging Sofia into near total darkness.

SOFIA (cont'd)

(desperate)

Frankie!

All Sofia hears is Frankie's FOOTSTEPS as she turns and walks away, followed moments later by the SLAM of the door.

Sofia hangs her head, SNIFFING loudly as the tears make a comeback.

SOFIA (cont'd)

(whispers)

Frankie...

Sofia starts to SOB, wrapping her arms round herself and hunching over almost to the floor.

She rolls onto her side, curling up in the foetal position as she continues to WEEP, before we finally:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF TEASER**

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - AUDITORIUM - DAY

The aftermath. The entire hall has been transformed into a field hospital, with wounded Slayers spread out across the floors on whatever could be found.

DR. CAIRNS hurries from patient to patient, with plenty of Slayers spattered with blood as friends try to help - holding bandages, cleaning up wounds.

Slayers run to and fro with fresh supplies, the windows out onto the quadrangle wide open to ease the flow of traffic.

The MOANS of injured Slayers fill the room, backed up by the nervous CHATTER of those able to help and people rushing in all directions.

Manu listens at the chest of one Slayer with his stethoscope, checking for a pulse - before sighing, reaching down and closing the poor girl's glazed eyes.

DEBBIE (O.S.)

Doctor... Manu?

He looks up - a very pale DEBBIE stands before him, woozy and unsteady on her feet. Her clothes are red with blood.

DEBBIE (cont'd)

I, uh, I was looking for some bandages, but now I can't find any so I think we might have used them all up, and... and so I didn't know what to do, and... and I -

He stands, taking her by the shoulders.

MANU

Debbie, it is alright. You were badly wounded, you need to rest.

DEBBIE

No! No, I can't rest, people are hurt, they need me, I've got to... got to...

She almost FAINTS dead away, and Manu struggles to keep her upright.

MANU

(calls out)

Can somebody help me?

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CONTINUED:

Two Slayers come hurrying over - TSULA and ALANA - and take the almost unconscious Debbie from Manu's arms.

She's laid onto an available piece of floor, Manu checking her over quickly as we CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - CORRIDOR - NEXT

BARBARA and FITZGERALD march along, SMOKE wafting in from the fires still burning outside, ducking as SPARKS fly from a severed electrical conduit in the ceiling.

They're both showing signs of the fight - torn clothing, cuts and scratches.

FITZGERALD

How long until our defences are back up?

BARBARA

Hard to say. We're stretched thin just trying to cope with all the wounded.

Several Slayers hurry past them, and the two Headmistresses walk on, inspecting the damage.

FITZGERALD

The Cabal could launch an attack at any minute, and we'd be completely open to attack.

BARBARA

Do you think I don't know that?

FITZGERALD

So we have to do something!

BARBARA

Listen, Grace - this is clearly your first major disaster, so take it from the voice of experience. This is, quite literally, the best we can do right now.

FITZGERALD

But -

BARBARA

People have tried to tear this Academy down several times now. But it's still here.

She starts to walk away, leaving a frustrated Grace behind.

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BARBARA (cont'd)  
(over shoulder)  
Maybe you should try to work out  
why that is!

Fitzgerald curses silently, turning and heading away as we  
CUT TO:

EXT. CAMPUS - QUADRANGLE - NEXT

CERYS is fighting a fire, SPRAYING it with foam from an  
extinguisher. She's as bloodied and sooty as the other  
Slayers around her.

CERYS  
Alright, this one's done. Tia,  
Layla, go and check the science  
block again. Neela, you take Maya  
and go double back through the  
library.

The girls around her scatter, and Cerys calls after them:

CERYS (cont'd)  
And don't try to put anything out  
by yourself! If you see smoke and  
flames, get some help!

Cerys pauses to COUGH, soot thick in her lungs, until she  
hears from behind:

KIRA (O.S.)  
Anything I can do?

Cerys spins as KIRA emerges from the smoke, looking  
remarkably unharmed. Cerys just glares coolly at her - and  
SHOVES the extinguisher into her arms.

CERYS  
Get me another. That one's empty.

Cerys starts to walk away, and Kira calls out:

KIRA  
Anything I can do to help?

CERYS  
Yeah - stay out of my way!

Kira throws an obscene gesture after her, but Cerys doesn't  
notice as she grabs FRAN, just exiting a side door.

CERYS (cont'd)  
Francesca, have you seen Greg?

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FRAN

Uh, no, I haven't. Why? Is he...

CERYS

No, but I can't put this place back together by myself! I need his help.

FRAN

I'll go look.

She hurries off, leaving Cerys as she turns and surveys the damage to the Academy's central square.

Windows are SMASHED, SMOKE rises from the fires yet to be put out, and spatters of BLOOD are all over the concrete.

Cerys lets out a breath - and WINCES, gingerly peeling back her jacket to reveal BLOOD - and a shard of METAL embedded in her side!

Cerys closes her eyes, focusing her willpower as she covers the wound back up - she doesn't have the time right now.

INT. CAMPUS - AUDITORIUM - NEXT

Fitzgerald waits as Manu uses a HEART RESUSCITATOR on one Slayer, SHOCKING her body with a jolt of electricity.

He quickly checks her pulse - nothing. He leans back, glancing to CLAIRE who turns up the ampage a touch.

MANU

Clear!

He SHOCKS the Slayer again - nothing.

CLAIRE

Dr. Cairns...

MANU

Charge to three-fifty.

CLAIRE

But -

MANU

Claire, I said charge to three-fifty!

CLAIRE

(blurts)

She's dead!

A beat. Manu turns to stare at Claire, who shakes her head sadly.

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CLAIRE (cont'd)  
She's not coming back. We've been  
trying for too long.

Manu bows his head for a beat, before reaching over and  
switching the paddles off.

MANU  
(wipes brow)  
Time of death, three fourteen p.m.

He stands, Claire biting her lip to hold back the tears as  
Manu turns to Fitzgerald.

FITZGERALD  
I'm almost afraid to ask how many  
that is now...

MANU  
Twelve.

FITZGERALD  
Dead?

MANU  
If we're counting injured, then the  
figure is nearer forty.

FITZGERALD  
Oh, my God...

He starts to move, and she quickly keeps up.

MANU  
We're running out of basic  
supplies. Blood, bandages - even  
room to put these girls.

FITZGERALD  
The Council are sending fresh stock  
over, along with as many paramedic  
teams as they can spare.

Manu nods, looking back out across the hall of injured.

MANU  
I'm afraid I can't give you any  
guarantees, Grace.

FITZGERALD  
Just tell me you'll do your best.

MANU  
I will.

He notices a CUT on her head, and reaches to touch it.

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FITZGERALD  
(quickly)  
I'm fine.

MANU  
That's a deep cut. You should -

FITZGERALD  
I said I was fine. I'm not lying on  
the floor dying. We need to  
concentrate on the girls first.

Fitzgerald turns as a Slayer COUGHS loudly nearby, and she looks down to see the young girl still has half an ARROW sticking out of her chest.

Fitzgerald's heart sinks as she starts to realise just how bad a shape they're in, and we CUT TO:

INT. CABAL HQ - CORRIDOR - DAY

PUSH IN on the door to an office suite. Muffled, raised voices SHOUT back and forth within.

INT. CABAL HQ - ALARIC'S OFFICE - NEXT

Inside, BRAEDEN (still showing signs of combat) stands defiantly before ALARIC and JILHANDRA, the two Cabal leaders red-faced as they bellow furiously at him.

ALARIC  
I don't give a damn how important  
you felt it was - you jeopardised  
your entire team!

BRAEDEN  
I couldn't just let them get away  
with hitting us the way they did!

JILHANDRA  
This isn't an opportunity for you  
to play out your own petty agendas,  
Braeden! We're trying to win a war  
here!

BRAEDEN  
Don't you think I get that? I was  
trying to hit the Academy hard,  
take back something that belongs to  
us! I got the girl, didn't I?

ALARIC  
You lost one of your team!

Braeden shuts up, and Alaric leans across his desk.

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ALARIC (cont'd)

She knows everything. Access codes,  
mission objectives, base schematics  
- and you let them capture her?

BRAEDEN

I didn't 'let' them do anything.

JILHANDRA

Alaric... get this failure out of  
here before I turn him inside out  
and nail a mirror to his forehead.

Braeden blinks, not sure how serious that threat was.

ALARIC

I think you'd better go.

Braeden chews his lip, thinking better of making a retort  
before turning and storming out, SLAMMING the door shut.

JILHANDRA

(sighs)

What are we going to do?

ALARIC

We could activate our asset inside  
the Academy. Assassinate Romero  
before she can talk.

JILHANDRA

I meant about him.

ALARIC

(beat)

Maybe it's better that she's gone.  
She was a distraction. A  
complication waiting to happen.

JILHANDRA

His head won't be where we need it  
while they've got her.

ALARIC

Then he'll have to learn to adjust.

Jilhandra fumes, holding Alaric's stern gaze for a beat  
before marching away.

She leaves, and Alaric sinks into his seat, still furious. He  
finally POUNDS his fist against his desk as we CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - INFIRMARY - NEXT

As overflowing as the auditorium with dead and wounded  
Slayers, Debbie has recovered enough to keep things running.

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She's changing GABRIELA's bandages, the curvy Romanian Slayer nursing a badly gashed arm.

DEBBIE

You were lucky. This could have hit an artery.

Gabriela doesn't reply, and Debbie looks up to see she's staring at her.

DEBBIE (cont'd)

What?

GABRIELA

You were dead.

Debbie hesitates - then gets back to work.

GABRIELA (cont'd)

I saw you fall. I saw you take that hit. Nobody could have come back from that. Not without -

GREG (O.S.)

Debbie?

Debbie turns - and GASPS in horror.

GREG stands in the doorway, covered with mud, blood and everything in between - with the limp body of AIDEN held in his arms.

GREG (cont'd)

(dazed)

I think... I think I should put him down now.

Debbie lurches over, quickly SWEEPING her computer and effects off a desk so Greg can lay Aiden down.

Debbie looks Aiden over - his skin is almost white, dried BLOOD running from his eyes and nose.

Debbie lays a tender hand on his shoulder, pushing stray locks of hair back from his face.

DEBBIE

(soft)

God, Greg, how long have you -

She looks up - Greg is gone.

DEBBIE (cont'd)

Greg? Greg!

She heads for the door, but Greg is nowhere in sight.

EXT. CAMPUS - LIBRARY ROOF - NEXT

Down in the quad (to the right), Slayers move around as the damage control continues.

Boots POUND into view as somebody races across the roof - PULL BACK to find an injured and frantic DELANEY.

DELANEY

Rachel? Rachel! Dana! Where are you?

She keeps moving, flowing through a thick pillar of black smoke as her search continues.

EXT. CAMPUS - QUADRANGLE - NEXT

Kira looks up and sees Delaney sprinting around the rooftop, trying to work out where she's going.

EXT. CAMPUS - MAIN ENTRANCE - NEXT

Delaney bounds nimbly from surface to surface, covering the ground to the entrance in moments.

It's a twenty foot drop to the ground - but Delaney just HOPS neatly from wall to wall, staggering her descent and FLIPPING to the ground to keep on running.

EXT. CAMPUS - GROUNDS - NEXT

Delaney runs into view, head scanning all around.

DELANEY

Rachel! Dana! Rache...

She trails off, her shocked eyes spying something up ahead:

DELANEY (cont'd)

Rachel!!

She surges forward - lying sprawled on the floor in Skye's usual haunt is RACHEL, a pool of dark blood by her side.

DELANEY (cont'd)

Oh, no, no... no...

Delaney races over to her, SKIDDING to a stop in the gravel as she tries to cradle Rachel's body.

KIRA (O.S.)

Don't move her.

Delaney looks up - Kira is HOVERING a few feet away, gently levitating herself over to touch down on the ground.

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KIRA (cont'd)  
She could have broken bones,  
internal injuries.

DELANEY  
So let's get her some help!

KIRA  
Wait.

She passes a hand over Rachel's body, her palm GLOWING softly.

DELANEY  
Well? Is she okay? Is she gonna be  
alright?

Kira pulls her hand back.

KIRA  
She'll live. Just.  
(beat)  
Help me with her.

Kira starts to scoop Rachel up, Delaney helping keep her steady.

KIRA (cont'd)  
I'll get us back to the infirmary.  
Are you ready?

Delaney nods, not taking her eyes off Rachel. Kira closes her eyes - and with a FLARE of purple light, the trio are gone.

INT. CAMPUS - CELLS - NEXT

Back with Sofia, still curled up but no longer crying. She can hear distant THUMPS and SHOUTS as the Academy population rushes around above her.

The LIGHTS suddenly come back to life, and Sofia sits up, looking round but seeing nobody beyond the glass.

SOFIA  
Who's there?

No answer. Sofia slowly gets to her feet, hesitating with each twist and tinge of pain.

SOFIA (cont'd)  
Who's out there?  
(beat)  
Skye? Is that you?

From the shadows outside steps Greg - emotionless. Cold.

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SOFIA (cont'd)  
(exhales)  
Greg...

Greg reaches out and taps in the access code, the lock BEEPING before the glass panel SLIDES back.

SOFIA (cont'd)  
Greg, please... you have to listen  
to me, I didn't know! I didn't know  
what...

She trails off as Greg steps inside - and sees that he's carrying a LEATHER BRIEFCASE.

He sets the case down, opening the locks and reaching inside - to bring out a pair of KNUCKLE DUSTERS.

Sofia GULPS, her wide, scared eyes watching as Greg mechanically slips the brass knuckles on, flexing his hands.

SOFIA (cont'd)  
Greg, please. Don't do this.

He rises, turning to face her and moving slowly forward.

SOFIA (cont'd)  
Greg... Greg, it's me! I'm me  
again! I remember!

Greg keeps advancing. Sofia backs up but soon runs out of space.

SOFIA (cont'd)  
Greg, no... Greg!

He closes in, and Sofia knows there's no way out now. He raises his fist, and her hands go up to defend herself.

SOFIA (cont'd)  
Ple -

CRACK! His first blow knocks her sideways, and we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT ONE**



ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - CELLS - CORRIDOR - DAY

PAN ACROSS the corridor, passing other, empty cells - as the distant sound of PUNCHES hitting their target echoes around.

Each PUNCH is followed by a GRUNT of pain, getting louder the closer we get to the source.

Another PUNCH, this one leaving its victim COUGHING weakly, and we come to a stop to find Skye, sitting against the wall in the dark - CRYING.

A glimpse into the cell next to her reveals Sofia taking another PUNCH from Greg, Sofia SPITTING a mouthful of blood onto the floor.

She's SHACKLED now, her wrists chained to the wall by thick loops of steel.

Skye's cheeks are wet with tears, and she knows she can't bring herself to look inside no matter what she hears.

The cell falls silent, except for Sofia's ragged breath - and a moment later, the glass door slides open.

Skye scrambles to her feet, quickly wiping the tears away - but Greg doesn't even look at her as he strides past her, the panel smoothly sealing behind him.

She glances down and sees the BLOOD over his hands, but Greg doesn't move a muscle as he moves back down the corridor.

Skye stays where she is, unable to move - she can't go inside, but she can't bring herself to leave either.

SOFIA

Skye...

Skye looks over, edging away from the panel.

SOFIA (cont'd)

Skye, I know you're out there.

(coughs; spits)

It's alright. You don't have to say anything.

Skye runs her hands through her hair, her mind racing as she tries (and fails) to process what's happening.

SOFIA (cont'd)

He didn't even ask me any questions...

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Skye almost breaks at that, but clenches her fist as she struggles to remain in control.

She leans against the wall and SLIDES down into a crouch, bowing her head and resuming her vigil as we CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - INFIRMARY - NEXT

Debbie looks up as the main doors are KICKED OPEN, Manu charging through with a Slayer on a gurney, the girl WRITHING and CONVULSING.

MANU

Quickly, quickly! Move!

DEBBIE

Manu? What's -

MANU

She's having a seizure! I need diazepam, stat!

Debbie scurries over to the supply cabinets, SWEEPING through the trays and scattering bottles and boxes over the floor.

MANU (cont'd)

Come on, Debbie!

DEBBIE

Hang on, hang on!

Debbie hurries over, a pill bottle in her hand. Manu grabs it and shakes a handful of the tablets out.

MANU

(to other Slayers)

Hold her. Keep her mouth open.

They oblige, forcing the bucking Slayer's mouth wide so Manu can force the tablets down her throat.

He clamps her mouth shut until she swallows - and her convulsions start to fade away almost immediately.

Relieved, Manu steps back as the girl is wheeled away to another corner of the room.

DEBBIE

Nice save.

MANU

Tell that to the girl who died on our way over here.

(off her look)

Allergic reaction. She went into shock and I had no way to help her.

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CONTINUED:

DEBBIE

Oh, Manu, I'm sorry...

MANU

'Sorry' can wait.

He heads for the nearest row of wounded Slayers, grabbing a chart and flipping through it as we CUT TO:

EXT. CAMPUS - SCIENCE BLOCK - NEXT

ANNA is over here, helping heave a piece of crumbling masonry back into place and repair a huge HOLE in the walls.

Gritting her teeth, she does her bit to haul the brickwork upright again, stepping back as it settles into place.

Her cell phone RINGS, and Anna pats her pockets for a moment until she finds it.

The caller ID reads 'Unknown number,' but the look on Anna's face says she knows exactly who it is.

Anna makes sure nobody is watching and then heads away, pushing through the swing doors into:

INT. CAMPUS - SCIENCE BLOCK - NEXT

She connects the call, putting the phone to her ear:

ANNA

What the hell kind of god damn  
right do you people have to call me  
when -

VOICE

(filtered; through phone)  
Take it easy, Anna.

ANNA

'Take it easy'? Do you have any  
idea what just happened here?

VOICE

We know. It wasn't authorised.

ANNA

(disbelief)  
Wasn't... are you out of your  
motherf -

VOICE

You'll shut up, and you'll listen,  
or this call and your brother's  
life are terminated. Do you  
understand?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Still seething, Anna has to turn and PUNCH the wall to dispel her rage.

VOICE (cont'd)

Anna?

Her eyes close. She fights to keep her cool.

ANNA

I'm here.

VOICE

Good. Now. Your previous handler is dead.

ANNA

What?

VOICE

He was killed by Dexter as part of Braeden's plan to attack the Academy.

ANNA

(sneers)

And what a crying shame that is.

VOICE

Don't try to get smart with us, Sutton. I just wanted to make sure you knew that.

ANNA

Oh, right. Well, here, let me tell you what I think of your courtesy.

She turns and HURLS her phone across the corridor, and it SMASHES against the wall!

MEI pokes her head round the corner, blinking in surprise. Anna raises her hands.

ANNA (cont'd)

Sorry, sorry. Just me. Losing my head, ya know?

Mei retreats slowly, obviously spooked by Anna's outburst, and as the girl herself rubs her tired eyes we CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - GYMNASIUM - NEXT

Cerys is co-ordinating the clean up effort here, looking paler but still very much in charge.

A large section of the wall has collapsed in, exposing the grounds outside.

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CERY'S

Alright, Layla, go help Neela start shifting some of that rubble out of the way.

LAYLA

Using what, exactly? My hands?

CERY'S

Yes, your bloody hands! If you can find anything to help, be my guest, but we need this stuff out of here!

NEELA

Why? What's so important about the gymnasium?

Cerys winces, clutching her side again. Layla frowns, sensing something isn't right.

CERY'S

Because at the rate we're going, we're going to run out of space in the main hall and have to start looking after the injured in here as well, and...

She GRIMACES, hand pressed carefully to her side.

LAYLA

Miss Mason? Are you alright?

CERY'S

I'm fine! Get on with it, before...

She trails off, suddenly going dizzy - and as Layla lunges to catch her, Cerys faints dead away!

LAYLA

Miss Mason!

(to others)

Help! Go and find Dr. Cairns, quick!

Cerys MUMBLES, fighting to stay awake, but as Layla peels back her jacket, she sees the problem.

LAYLA (cont'd)

(blanches)

Oh, good God...

The piece of SHRAPNEL in her side has turned, opening a jagged wound in Cerys' side. Her shirt is slick with blood, and as Layla yells for help again, we CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - DORMS - NEXT

Barbara is performing a quick sweep as she pokes her head inside the dorm room - but she stops and leans back in.

ERIKA sits on her bed, a mangled flower-shaped CUSHION in her hands. She turns it over and over as Barbara approaches.

BARBARA

Erika?

She looks up - and Barbara sees she's been CRYING. Her milky eyes are blotchy and red.

ERIKA

I apologise for not helping with the work going on outside, Miss Griffin, but... I have... I have just been...

Barbara sits down, placing one hand over Erika's.

BARBARA

It's alright. I understand.

ERIKA

She...

(fights back a sob)

I said I would protect her. I said I would always keep her safe, no matter what, and now... now they have her, and it is all my fault...

Emotion finally overcomes her, and as she cries again, Barbara tenderly pulls her in and wraps an arm round her.

BARBARA

Erika, I want you to listen to me.

Erika SNIFFS, too weak to argue.

BARBARA (cont'd)

I'm going to make you a promise. We are going to get your sister back.

ERIKA

My mother always told me you should not make promises you cannot keep.

BARBARA

And she was a wise woman.

(beat)

But I mean what I say.

Erika sits up, turning towards Barbara.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BARBARA (cont'd)  
We won't let them keep her from you  
for long. As soon as we're ready,  
I'm going to send a team out to  
bring her back.

ERIKA  
Will I -

BARBARA  
You'll lead that team.

Erika lowers her head, managing a half smile when she looks  
back up.

ERIKA  
(soft)  
Thank you.

BARBARA  
I'd do the same for any of you. You  
should know that by now.

Erika chuckles, nodding and wiping her eyes.

BARBARA (cont'd)  
Now, come on. There's too much  
crying going on around here. We all  
have work to do.

ERIKA  
Yes, Miss Griffin.

BARBARA  
Erika, please - when are you ever  
going to call me 'Barbara' like  
everybody else?

ERIKA  
Possibly on the day I finally  
forget my manners.

Now it's Barbara's turn to smile, and as they exit we CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - CELLS - CORRIDOR - NEXT

REIKO clomps down the staircase, blinking as she finds Skye  
still sitting outside Sofia's cell.

REIKO  
What are you doing here?

SKYE  
Looking for my chutzpah.

Reiko nods towards the cell.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

REIKO  
Is she awake?

SKYE  
(nods)  
Greg just finished a session with  
her, though. You might not get much  
out of her.

REIKO  
Hmm. Good.

She steps past, peering into the cell.

Sofia is leaning against the back wall, arms and legs tucked  
tight against her body.

She looks up as Reiko stands before the glass, chains  
CLINKING as she shifts position.

SOFIA  
Reiko?

REIKO  
Oh, you remember me. Good.

SOFIA  
Of course I remember you.

REIKO  
Had to check. You know, what with  
you trying to kill me and everybody  
else the last few months.

Sofia bows her head, but Reiko BANGS her fist against the  
glass to keep her attention.

REIKO (cont'd)  
Hey! No! Look at me! Look at me!

Sofia meets her gaze, realising that Reiko is literally  
snarling with fury.

REIKO (cont'd)  
I hope they leave you in here to  
rot, you... you bitch!

Sofia is silent, letting Reiko say her piece.

REIKO (cont'd)  
I should kill you.

SOFIA  
That won't help.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (2)

REIKO

(roars)

I should pull your head off your  
freakin' neck for what you've done!

Skye's arm reaches into view, laying a hand on Reiko's - a  
silent signal to watch what she's saying.

REIKO (cont'd)

Alita was special. She was a hero.  
She was my hero. And you took her  
away.

SOFIA

Reiko, I -

REIKO

(yells)

Shut up!!

(beat)

She had a destiny! She was going to  
do something great, something  
nobody else ever managed in a  
thousand years, and now she's dead!  
She's dead, and it's all your  
fault!

SKYE (O.S.)

That's enough, Reiko...

Reiko HAMMERS the glass with her fists, totally losing it.  
TEARS streak down her face.

REIKO

Look at me! Look at me! Do you hear  
me? She had a destiny! What the  
hell do you have? You've got  
nothing! Get that? Nothing!

Skye GRABS Reiko and YANKS her back, pulling her to one side.

SKYE

What the frack are you doing?!?

Reiko SHOVES Skye's hands off her and returns to the cell:

REIKO

I'm gonna be there. When they kill  
you. When you go down in flames I  
am gonna be right there.

(beat)

I'm gonna watch you get sent to  
Hell.

Sofia just lowers her head, and this time Reiko lets Skye  
drag her away.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SKYE

C'mon, Reiko, you can't just -

REIKO

Leave me alone.

She stomps away, wiping her eyes as trying to hold back the SOBS as her anger melts into remorse.

Skye watches her go, knowing there's nothing she could say. She glances back towards Sofia's cell - and decides to follow Reiko out as we CUT TO:

EXT. CAMPUS - BASEMENT STAIRS - NEXT

Reiko and Skye meet Anna halfway.

ANNA

Oh. Uh, I was just - is she...

REIKO

I'm fine.

She BARGES past Anna and keeps going.

ANNA

(frowns)

What'd I miss?

SKYE

Reiko just had what is probably her first ever full-scale tantrum.

ANNA

Didn't think she had it in her.

SKYE

Reckon the Council has Slayer anger management classes?

The girls manage a smile - but it soon fades. Not a day for jokes.

ANNA

(off cells)

You want me to take over?

SKYE

Hell, yes. I need... actually, I don't know what I need. But I want it with that bottle of JD in my room, whatever it is.

ANNA

I hear that.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A beat.

ANNA (cont'd)  
Skye, if you wanna talk about -

SKYE  
(sharp)  
Not yet. Anna, you know I love you,  
but... I can't talk about her not  
being here. Not yet.

They pass, Anna continuing down into the cells:

INT. CAMPUS - CELLS - CORRIDOR - NEXT

Checking over her shoulder, Anna waits until Skye's footsteps  
have faded before she approaches the cells.

She paces slowly to a stop before Sofia's cell, peering  
inside but getting no response.

ANNA  
Hey.

Sofia looks up. Anna reacts at her bruised, swollen features.

ANNA (cont'd)  
Guess Greg came by already, huh?

SOFIA  
If you've come to gloat, I imagine  
there'll be plenty of time for that  
another day.

ANNA  
That ain't why I'm here.

She looks around again to make sure they're alone. Anna then  
leans up close against the glass, voice low:

ANNA (cont'd)  
Do you... do you know?

SOFIA  
Do I know what?

ANNA  
Sofia, I swear to God -

SOFIA  
Yes. Yes, I know.

Anna sags. The bottom just fell out of her world.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SOFIA (cont'd)  
I know you're the 'asset' inside  
the Academy. I've known for some  
time.

ANNA  
Have you - I mean, did you tell -

SOFIA  
The people I was with already knew  
too.  
(beat)  
Or are you asking if I told anybody  
here about you?

ANNA  
Did you?

A long beat passes. Sofia is silent.

ANNA (cont'd)  
Sofia? Did you tell anyone?

PUSH IN on Sofia, her expression unreadable as we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT TWO**

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - INFIRMARY - DAY

CLOSE ON RACHEL as her eyelids flutter, starting to slowly come round.

Blurs of motion hurry past - the infirmary is still stacked to the rafters, after all.

Rachel turns her head to one side, wincing at the effort - there are several ugly purple BRUISES down one side of her face.

DELANEY (O.S.)

Easy. Don't want to mess that  
pretty face up any more than you  
have already.

Rachel squints - and Delaney comes into view. She's trying to smirk, but her concern is obvious.

RACHEL

(croaks)

Didn't know... you cared...

DELANEY

Who says I do? I just figure, if  
you're gonna end up all deformed, I  
don't wanna spend my days having to  
look at you.

RACHEL

If only you knew...

Rachel chuckles - but this soon descends into a fit of  
COUGHING.

Delaney glances over as Debbie joins them, shining a penlight  
into Rachel's eyes.

DEBBIE

Is she responsive?

DELANEY

Yeah, she seems -

DEBBIE

Good. Keep an eye on her.

And she's gone - more patients to take care of. Delaney rolls  
her eyes and leans in closer.

RACHEL

What happened?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DELANEY

Looks like you met the advance party of the Cabal's raid.

RACHEL

We... got hit again?

DELANEY

(nods)

Braeden's goons and a few packs of those battery farm demons. Knocked us up pretty good.

RACHEL

Is everyone...

Delaney just shakes her head, and Rachel closes her eyes.

RACHEL (cont'd)

Who did they get?

DELANEY

(beat)

Alita's dead.

RACHEL

What?!?

DELANEY

And that Aiden guy, too. Ten more, don't have the names yet.

RACHEL

Oh, God... I liked Aiden. He was cool to me.

DELANEY

Yeah, well... between you and me, it coulda been a lot worse. We did get one bonus, though.

Rachel turns to her, and Delaney smirks again.

DELANEY (cont'd)

We got Sofia.

RACHEL

Really?

DELANEY

(nods)

She was the one who took out Alita. Freaked out soon as she did it, and next thing she knows she's waking up in the cells. Makes a change, huh?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DELANEY (cont'd)  
(off Rachel's look)  
As in it's usually me down there.

RACHEL  
Have you seen her?

DELANEY  
Not yet. Working on my intro, you know.

Rachel manages a weak smile - but a commotion at the door gets the girls' attention.

Layla hurries in, the limp Cerys in her arms, calling for help as Debbie rushes over to her.

LAYLA  
I don't know what happened, she must've been hurt in the raid but just not said anything...

Layla carefully lays Cerys down, and Debbie examines the ragged tear in her side.

DEBBIE  
(grimaces)  
What the hell did she do, try to take on a tank?

LAYLA  
I don't know! She just collapsed, and that's the first we knew...

DEBBIE  
Alright, alright. I'll deal with this. Get back out there and help.

Layla backs up a few steps, then finally tears herself away and exits.

Cerys is mumbling incoherently as Debbie carefully wipes away excess blood around the shrapnel.

DEBBIE (cont'd)  
You know, Cerys, I'm sure you think you were being selfless with this and all, but in my book walking around with half a cross bar sticking out of you is just plain bloody stupid!

Debbie keeps one hand covering the wound as she roots through the closest pile of supplies with the other.

Her eyes flick up to Aiden's body, covered by a sheet on the far side of the room, and we CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - CELLS - NEXT

Sofia leans back, chains RATTLING at the movement.

SOFIA

(sighs)

No, Anna, I haven't told anyone.  
Not that I've been asked, by the  
way. I think the next few days are  
set aside for the beatings.

Anna leans against the glass, exhaling with relief.

SOFIA (cont'd)

But I'm not going to keep quiet for  
long.

Anna's head snaps back up, alarm all over her face.

SOFIA (cont'd)

Sooner or later, they'll get enough  
out of me to figure it out for  
themselves.

ANNA

But...

SOFIA

Anna, you and I both know that if I  
give away everything straight away,  
then the Operations team will come  
for me and that'll be the last that  
anyone ever sees of me.

ANNA

So what are you planning?

SOFIA

I'm offering you the chance to give  
yourself up.

ANNA

(scoffs)

You're out of your damn mind.

SOFIA

Until recently, yes, I was.

Out in the corridor - unseen by Anna - Skye returns, keeping  
to the shadows as she creeps closer.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

SOFIA (cont'd)

Look at me, Anna. I'm chained up and half my body is forming into one giant bruise, all at the hands of the people I used to be able to call my friends and comrades. Why? Because I let myself be taken down the wrong path.

ANNA

What do you mean?

SOFIA

There were things in my life that were pushing me this way, trying to get me to choose the easy way out by giving in to them. And I let them. I let them because I was in love with the wrong man, I let them because I didn't think I was good enough to be here any more, and I let them because I honestly felt that it was the only path I had left to take.

(beat)

Don't let yourself make the same mistakes I did. If you have something within you that's leading you astray, then you have to cut it out before it destroys the person you want to be.

She stands, taking a few steps forward.

SOFIA (cont'd)

Don't end up like me.

SKYE (O.S.)

(whispers)

Anna?

Anna glances round, sees Skye and looks back to Sofia, finally stepping away from the cell's glass panel.

SKYE (cont'd)

What was all that about?

ANNA

She, uh... Sofia was just telling me something. I think she's ready to start talking, if anybody wants to listen.

SKYE

Yeah, well... we're needed upstairs. Come on.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ANNA

Right, right... sure.

Anna walks away, clearly distracted, and a puzzled Skye watches her for a beat before glancing back at Sofia's cell.

Too soon. She looks away and follows Anna up the stairs, as we CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - STAFF ROOM - NEXT

Barbara and Fitzgerald have the floor plans of the campus spread out on the staff room table, RED MARKER indicating damaged areas.

Fastened to the wall are copies of the Academy's student roster - with RED LINES through a dozen names.

BARBARA

(off map)

Alright, so if we pull the perimeter fence back to cover this damaged section of the outer wall here...

FITZGERALD

(following)

... then we can seal up that whole area and move on to the next breach. Good thinking.

BARBARA

It's not my first disaster, remember?

The door swings open - and both women fall silent as Greg steps in. His movements are stilted, almost trance-like.

BARBARA (cont'd)

Greg! Oh, Greg, thank goodness you're alright. We were so worried about...

She trails off as Greg sits down without a word, staring at the floor.

FITZGERALD

Greg?

She approaches him, looking him up and down - minor injuries, nothing serious.

FITZGERALD (cont'd)

Is something... Greg, what's the matter?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KIRA (O.S.)  
I'm afraid Aiden is dead.

The girls turn as Kira steps inside, casting a sympathetic glance down at Greg.

BARBARA  
What?!?

FITZGERALD  
How? Where?

KIRA  
I'm not sure where exactly, but he  
was using his ability to heal  
Slayers left right and centre, and  
he... his body just gave out.

Barbara's hand goes to her mouth, while Fitzgerald lowers her head. They had no idea.

Kira crouches before Greg, trying to make eye contact. His stare is a thousand yards away.

KIRA (cont'd)  
Greg, I don't know if you're  
listening or not, but I want you to  
know that there are plenty of girls  
still alive now because of Aiden.  
He gave his life for this place.

Greg suddenly jumps to his feet, throwing Kira a glare that could melt solid concrete before marching out of the room.

KIRA (cont'd)  
(blinks)  
Apparently, it was something I  
said.

She turns - Fitzgerald is back to pacing, but Barbara is sat at the table trying to hold back the tears.

KIRA (cont'd)  
Oh, come on, both of you! There's  
no time to mourn them while this  
school is still a sitting duck!

FITZGERALD  
(icily)  
We're aware of our problems, thank  
you.

KIRA  
I don't think you are. What if the  
attack we just experienced was only  
the first wave?  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIRA (cont'd)  
There could be an even bigger horde  
of those value-pack monsters  
waiting out there.

FITZGERALD  
What exactly are you suggesting?

KIRA  
A counter strike.

BARBARA  
(wearily)  
Kira...

KIRA  
I'm deathly serious. We need to  
show that we're still a force to be  
reckoned with, to dissuade the  
Cabal from trying again now that  
we're on the back foot.

BARBARA  
(shakes head)  
We can't. We can't risk bringing a  
full-scale apocalypse down on our  
heads.

KIRA  
Oh, so you'd rather sit here and  
wait for the second wave to come  
and finish the job?

Barbara stands sharply, fixing Kira with a stern gaze.

BARBARA  
We stay put. We fill the holes, we  
patch up our girls, and then we  
think of our next step.

Kira throws up her hands, leaving the room as Barbara  
literally shakes with suppressed anger.

Fitzgerald is stuck in the middle, wisely keeping quiet as  
Barbara sits back down, turning her attention back to the map  
before she snaps.

INT. CAMPUS - CELLS - NEXT

Delaney is here now, taking full advantage of the opportunity  
to goad Sofia.

DELANEY  
... and so then, right after your  
boyfriend puts a hole through this  
Lola girl, he turns to me and he  
says -

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SOFIA  
(interrupts)  
Is there any point to this?

DELANEY  
Sure there is! I'm telling you a story. You probably missed these parts while you were busy gutting your ex-friend Alita.

Sofia looks away, and Delaney grins wickedly as she sees another place to strike.

DELANEY (cont'd)  
Gotta say, I've never seen Reiko as pissed as she was right after she spoke to you down here. For that girl to get that worked up, well...

SOFIA  
(soft)  
Stop it.

DELANEY  
I'm sorry? What was that? Couldn't hear ya because of the glass.

SOFIA  
I said, stop it.

DELANEY  
(beat)  
Nope, sorry, still having trouble with the -

SOFIA  
(yells)  
Stop it!

Sofia trembles, then tries to pull herself back together. Delaney folds her arms, gloating.

DELANEY  
Not so funny when you're inside the cell, is it? When you're the one everyone's looking at like you've got a swastika tattooed on your forehead? Which can be arranged, by the way.

SOFIA  
Leave me alone, Delaney.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DELANEY

Or what? You'll rattle your chains at me? What is this, 'A Christmas Carol'?

SOFIA

What do you want?

Delaney's smile suddenly switches into a SNARL.

DELANEY

I want to see you suffer, is what I want.

Sofia is silent, holding her piercing glare.

DELANEY (cont'd)

I want to see everybody here find someone new to hate, I want to be there when they kick every scrap of intel they can out of your pasty little ass, and then I want to be the one who gets to put you out of your misery for what you did to Alita.

Sofia turns away, Delaney's threats losing their effect.

DELANEY (cont'd)

D'you hear me? I'm not the monster any more - you are. You're the killer. You're the girl people use as an example of how not to be a Slayer.

(beat; smirks)

You're the new Faith.

Sofia closes her eyes, TEARS rolling down her cheeks, but that doesn't garner any sympathy from Delaney.

DELANEY (cont'd)

That's right. You sit in there, and you think about how far backwards you've come from the girl you wanted to be, and you just remember this...

She pushes herself up close to the glass.

DELANEY (cont'd)

... you're the bad girl now. I'm on the right side of this glass. I'm one of the good guys.

(sneers)

And you'll never know how that feels again.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SKYE (O.S.)  
That's enough.

Delaney looks round - and Skye finally steps into view, keeping her eyes on Delaney.

DELANEY  
Ah, come on, Skye, this is fun!  
Look, see? I made her cry. I'll bet  
you ten bucks you can't.

SKYE  
We're in England, you idiot. It's  
pounds, not dollars.

DELANEY  
Ten pounds, then.

SKYE  
(beat)  
Get out of here.

DELANEY  
But I'm not -

SKYE  
(roars)  
I said get out!

Delaney reacts, but quickly sees Skye isn't messing around. With a final derisive sneer at Sofia, Delaney exits.

Skye watches her go, still not looking at Sofia until she hears:

SOFIA  
Thanks.

Skye finally looks round, and sees Sofia wiping her eyes.

SOFIA (cont'd)  
You didn't have to do that.

SKYE  
No, I didn't.

SOFIA  
But thanks.

Skye bows her head, taking a deep breath.

SOFIA (cont'd)  
Have you worked out what to say to  
me yet?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

SKYE  
Not really.

SOFIA  
That's alright.

A beat. Skye opens her mouth a few times, but can't find any words to start with.

SOFIA (cont'd)  
What's happening upstairs?

SKYE  
We're putting the place back together. Plenty to do. You know how it is - you were here for the last couple of these things.

SOFIA  
(beat)  
Have they made a decision about me?

SKYE  
Not that I've heard.

She falls silent again, head down. After a long beat, Skye presses a hand against the glass.

SKYE (cont'd)  
(soft)  
Why?

Sofia rests her head back against the wall, letting out a bitter laugh. Skye just stares in, almost willing Sofia to find an answer she can believe as we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT THREE**



**ACT FOUR**

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - CELLS - DAY

Sofia stands, shuffling as close to the glass as she can.

SKYE

Why'd you do it, Sofes? Why'd you go bad? Why'd you turn your back on all of us? After all we've been through, everything we've done together - after you had my back over the Heidi thing...

SOFIA

Love.

SKYE

(shakes head)  
Not good enough.

SOFIA

It's the truth. I can see a lot of things more clearly now, and I'm not saying for a second that I did the right thing, but... I know exactly why I chose him over you.

SKYE

So that's what it was?

SOFIA

I was dying, Skye. He shot me.

Skye blinks - she didn't know that.

SOFIA (cont'd)

Remember? When I took him on over the Hub last year? That's what had happened before you came in.

SKYE

I... I just saw him carrying you away, I... I didn't know what -

SOFIA

I said to him, looked him straight in the eye and said 'you'll have to kill me if you want to get out of here.'

Skye doesn't know how to respond. Sofia turns and paces away from her, continuing:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SOFIA (cont'd)  
So he pulled a gun, and he put a  
bullet in me, and as I lay on the  
floor bleeding to death, he knelt  
above me and whispered...

She hesitates, struggling with the feelings the memory  
brings.

SOFIA (cont'd)  
He said he loved me. He said his  
world wasn't right without me in  
it, and if I went with him, I'd  
live.  
(beat)  
Skye, you have to understand, I  
didn't have a choice.

SKYE  
You could've died.

Silence. Sofia turns and holds her gaze.

SOFIA  
I didn't want to die.

SKYE  
Better that than what you ended up  
becoming.

SOFIA  
Yes, well... hindsight's always  
twenty-twenty, isn't it?

SKYE  
(quirks eyebrow)  
Have to say, you're being kinda  
flippant given the mess you're in.

SOFIA  
Gallows humour.

Skye nods, conceding the point.

SKYE  
So what's with the hair?

Sofia pulls a few strands of her jet black hair forwards.

SOFIA  
I'm not sure. Side effect of the  
conditioning, I think.

SKYE  
Maybe you oughta switch brands?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SOFIA  
(half smile)  
The mental conditioning.

SKYE  
Oh.  
(beat)  
Wait, what?

SOFIA  
It's how they kept me compliant.  
Twice a week. Dr. Sventson sat me  
down before a big screen, and...  
actually, I don't remember much  
about what went on in there, except  
that when I came out again I was  
another step away from who I was.

SKYE  
See, that's what I've been trying  
to figure out.

SOFIA  
What do you mean?

SKYE  
How much of what you've done was  
you, and how much was them getting  
into your head. I mean, I knew you  
wouldn't just turn on us like that.  
No way. Not even after all the crap  
this place put you through.  
Especially after the crap you put  
yourself through.

SOFIA  
I believe they call it 'Slayer's  
Guilt,' or lately the 'Buffy  
Complex.' Permanent sense of  
failure based off impossibly high  
personal expectations.

SKYE  
Don't forget the shitty love life.

SOFIA  
I think we covered that.

It's almost like old times for a moment - and then Skye's  
expression shifts to something more solemn.

SKYE  
Sofia... you killed Alita.

Sofia hangs her head.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SKYE (cont'd)  
God knows, if this glass wasn't  
here... I don't think you and me'd  
be having such a civil  
conversation.

SOFIA  
I know.

SKYE  
We can stand here all day, trying  
not to talk about it, and God knows  
I don't want to, but... Sofes,  
they're gonna send you away for  
this. For good.

SOFIA  
It's what I deserve.

Skye presses both hands against the glass.

SKYE  
So help us. Tell us what you know.  
Give us something we can use, and  
maybe -

SOFIA  
(over her)  
Maybe what? They'll forgive me?  
They'll say 'oh, never mind about  
Alita, you're free to go because  
you gave us all these juicy  
secrets?' Wake up, Skye. I'm not  
getting out of this, and we both  
know that.

SKYE  
You don't know that.

SOFIA  
(snaps)  
Maybe I don't want to forgive  
myself, have you considered that?

SKYE  
Of course I have. This is you we're  
talking about.  
(beat)  
Getting you, and everything you can  
tell us, may be what we need to  
swing this thing our way for good.

Sofia shakes her head, shuffling back towards the far wall of  
the cell. She rests against it, head down.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

SKYE (cont'd)

Sofes, you took a chance on me when most of the planet was trying to set me up for Heidi. I wouldn't be much of a friend if I didn't do the same for you.

SOFIA

We're not friends any more.

SKYE

I'm not friends with the girl whose ass I've been kicking all year, no - but I'm still friends with you.

Sofia looks up, her expression not reflecting Skye's hope.

SOFIA

Aiden's dead, isn't he?

SKYE

(blinks)

How did... how did you know?

SOFIA

I saw it in Greg's eyes when he was in here with me.

(beat)

Actually, it's what I didn't see in his eyes that told me. They were... empty. Dead. Like they'd seen something so horrible, so...

SKYE

Yeah... I get it.

Sofia slides down to the floor, bunching up her chains as though they were a security blanket.

SOFIA

I think you should go.

SKYE

(beat)

I've taken all damn day to get the balls to talk to you, and now you get to say when this is over?

(shakes head)

Nuh-uh. Not how this works.

SOFIA

Skye... please.

(closes eyes)

They need you up there.

Skye tries to say something, but Sofia stays silent.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

SKYE

This isn't over. I'll be back.

She steps back, willing Sofia to keep talking - but this conversation is over.

With a final, frustrated GRUNT, Skye turns on her heel and marches away.

Sofia opens her eyes once she hears the door SLAM nearby, pulling away a lock of her hair.

Her face suddenly twists in anger, and she YANKS her fist away, tearing a clump of hair straight out of her head!

Her fist trembles as she grips the hair tightly, before finally letting it fall to the floor.

INT. CAMPUS - LIBRARY - NEXT

Frankie looks up from her clean-up as Delaney approaches her. A few other Slayers are helping out in the background - bookcases are tipped over, the walls are SCORCHED in places and there's more BLOOD spattered around.

FRANKIE

What is it?

DELANEY

They, uh... we're just...

FRANKIE

'Urry up and speak, Delaney, can't you se 'ow busy I am?

DELANEY

(blurts)

It's Alita.

Frankie shuts up. Delaney struggles with her words.

DELANEY (cont'd)

We're... Griffin's saying a few words outside. Thought you'd want to be there.

Frankie nods, placing her armful of books down and following Delaney out.

INT. CAMPUS - DORMS - NEXT

Erika lies on her bed, curled up on her side, Maria's favourite cushion clutched tightly to her chest.

The door opens and Skye leans in, pausing when she spots Erika. She waits a beat, then heads over.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ERIKA

Skye, please... I do not wish to have company.

SKYE

I know, but this is important. We're having the memorial for the people who died.

Erika rolls onto her back, and Skye reaches down to squeeze her by the hand.

SKYE (cont'd)

Come on.

Erika nods, carefully placing the cushion on her bed before rising. Skye leads her out of the room.

EXT. CAMPUS - GARDENS - NEXT

Skye and Erika meet Frankie and Delaney, exchanging sombre nods as they join the large crowd out in the memorial gardens.

Every Slayer able to walk, hop or crawl out of the infirmary is here, but despite the numbers no-one makes a sound.

Barbara and Fitzgerald stand at the head of the crowd. Before them lie over a dozen bodies, white sheets draped over them.

Barbara looks up, surveying the girls before her - and spies Greg, lurking over by one of the entrances.

FITZGERALD

Thank you all for coming.

That snaps Barbara out of it, as Fitzgerald steps forward.

FITZGERALD (cont'd)

It seems like we've had to do this a lot this year, and I don't think I need say anything about how much that affects us all each and every day.

She looks down at the bodies at her feet, each one wrapped tightly in the sheets like a burial shroud. Small placards before each one bear the victim's name.

FITZGERALD (cont'd)

Today, we lost people we called our comrades.

She looks up, meeting Skye's eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FITZGERALD (cont'd)  
Our friends.

And then on to Reiko, whose red eyes betray how quiet she's trying to keep.

FITZGERALD (cont'd)  
Our heroes.

Barbara looks up - Greg is still there.

BARBARA  
And people we loved.

Greg just stares back as Fitzgerald continues:

FITZGERALD  
All we can ask of ourselves is that we remember them for how they lived, and not how they died. Remember them as people who fought by our side, faced dangers that would make other people run in terror without missing a step... and above all, as part of a generation who dedicated their lives to protecting this world, and every living soul on it.

Fitzgerald looks up - and sees that Delaney has raised her hand.

FITZGERALD (cont'd)  
Delaney?

She shifts as all eyes turn to her.

DELANEY  
I, uh... I'd like to say something.  
If that's okay.

Fitzgerald glances at the assembled Slayers - nobody speaks out. She nods, and Delaney steps forward to join her.

DELANEY (cont'd)  
I know I'm probably the last person you guys want to hear from right now, but...  
(beat; sighs)  
You know what, screw it. I'm a part of this now. I was out there fighting just as hard as any of you for this place, and I...

She looks down at the bodies, focusing on one in particular - Alita's.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (2)

DELANEY (cont'd)  
... I lost a friend today too.

There are a few surprised looks, but Skye nods, respecting Delaney's feelings.

When Delaney looks up, there are TEARS in her eyes, but she doesn't seem to notice.

DELANEY (cont'd)  
I wanna say, right now, that no matter what happens, no matter what the Cabal throw at us, however many demons or anti-Slayers or anything else comes our way... I'm gonna be right there with you all. Fighting with everything I've got.

She looks to Alita's body again.

DELANEY (cont'd)  
Because if just one of you could learn to trust me... then maybe I'm not so bad after all.

Delaney finally realises she's crying, and as Fitzgerald lays a hand on her shoulder, she steps away to wipe her eyes.

FITZGERALD  
Thank you, Delaney.  
(looks around)  
Would anybody else like to say anything?

No-one speaks up. After Delaney's speech, nothing more needs to be said.

Barbara looks towards the entrance - but Greg is gone. She sighs, obviously disappointed.

FITZGERALD (cont'd)  
We'll be making all the funeral arrangements in the morning. If any of you want to pay your respects in private...

She doesn't finish the sentence, letting the girls slowly disperse until only Skye, Frankie, Delaney and Reiko remain.

BARBARA  
Girls?

Frankie nudges Skye, who shoots her a look.

FITZGERALD  
Is there something you want to ask?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SKYE

What are -

FRANKIE

(blurts)

We want to know what we are doing  
about Sofia.

A beat. Barbara and Fitzgerald exchange an uncertain look,  
before:

KIRA (O.S.)

We're going to leave her exactly  
where she is.

They turn as Kira approaches.

BARBARA

Excuse me?

KIRA

Sofia knows she's done something  
she can never take back. We'd be  
making it easy for her if we  
questioned her, gave her a  
distraction, something to take her  
mind off herself.

(beat)

The worst thing we could do would  
be to leave her sitting in that  
cell, with nothing but her own  
emotions for company.

Kira gets some disgusted looks, but she just shrugs.

KIRA (cont'd)

A few days of that, and she'll tell  
us anything we need to know just to  
get away from herself again.

SKYE

(scowls)

You're sick.

KIRA

And yet, I'm the one walking free.

FITZGERALD

For now.

Kira stares back - but then just smirks before glancing at  
Delaney. She nods, and Delaney skulks away to follow her.

KIRA

I'll be in my room.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

BARBARA  
You don't have a -

KIRA  
I picked one out for myself.  
(over her shoulder)  
I assumed I'll be needed around  
here a little more.

And with that, she and Delaney are gone.

SKYE  
Bitch.

REIKO  
Miss Fitzgerald?

FITZGERALD  
Yes, Reiko?

REIKO  
Alita, she... she told me what she  
wanted to happen to her if... if...

BARBARA  
(nods)  
If anything ever happened to her,  
yes. I know.  
(beat)  
Would you like to escort her back  
home? I think she'd have liked  
that.

Reiko nods, SNIFFING as Skye lays an arm across her  
shoulders.

The remaining girls take their leave. Barbara and Fitzgerald  
pause for a moment by the memorials.

BARBARA (cont'd)  
I don't know how much longer I can  
keep doing this, Grace.

FITZGERALD  
You were the one telling me to  
listen to your voice of experience  
earlier!

BARBARA  
Only for the damage control part.  
This... this part I've never been  
very good at.

Fitzgerald hesitates - then offers Barbara a sisterly hug.  
Barbara leans into her as we DISSOLVE TO:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

MONTAGE:

A) PAN ACROSS the infirmary, where Debbie is still hard at work bandaging the sedated Cerys.

B) Sitting on a bench elsewhere in the gardens, Delaney breaks down and CRIES, Kira looking awkward next to her - before finally wrapping a cautious arm around her.

C) Greg sits in his room, curtains drawn and lights out, resting his head on his hands as he stares at nothing.

D) Anna is back in the science block, retrieving the shattered pieces of her phone. Guilt radiates off her in great, crashing waves.

INT. CAMPUS - CELLS - NEXT

And finally, we rejoin Sofia. She looks up towards the glass panel - but nobody is there.

She looks away - and somebody STEPS INTO FRAME right in front of her.

Sofia lifts her head - it's EMMA, looking down sadly at her. Sofia looks to her side - TYSON is there too, along with TRINA and KEEYA, the spectres' faces masks of disappointment.

Sofia turns away - but standing before her is ALITA, and one look at her features pushes Sofia into a fresh wave of gut-wrenching SOBS.

PULL BACK as she buries her head in her hands, body jerking as she weeps - but the spectres are gone.

They're only for her.

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF SHOW**