

SLAYER ACADEMY

"And All That Could Have Been"

by
Alden C. Caele

&

Lee A. Chrimes

TEASER

FADE IN:

1

EXT. CAMPUS - GRAVEYARD - DAY

1

SKYE and ERIKA walk between rows of stone memorials that stretch out for almost as far as the eye can see. Skye holds a bunch of pink flowers in her hand.

Skye hugs her arms to herself as if she can feel a chill, though the day is sunny and bright. The silence weighs heavily on both of their shoulders. Neither speaks.

They slowly approach a small shrine - but they aren't the first to be there. REIKO kneels at it, cheeks wet, leaving an offering. She stands, and as she notices her two fellow Slayers approaching, she attempts to smile.

REIKO

Hey, Skye. Erika.

SKYE

Hey.

REIKO

Left her an offering. Some rice balls. It's old-school, but she'd like that.

SKYE

(smiles)

Yeah, she would. She was all about the old school.

Reiko turns away and heads back up to the school, just visibly over a hill. Skye turns to look at Erika.

ERIKA

I feel for Reiko. She looked up to Alita. For someone so young to suffer such loss...

SKYE

Goes with the territory.

(winces)

Okay, I did not just say that.

ERIKA

Alita was a great teacher. Reiko learned much from her.

SKYE

(sadly)

Hell, yeah. Allie was practically that girl's big sis, and now...

(CONTINUED)

She twitches when she sees Erika's face fall.

SKYE (cont'd)
(apologetic)
Damn it, I'm sorry -

ERIKA
(quickly)
It's alright. I know we will get
Maria back, Skye. I am not so weak
that I will crumble at the very
mention of her name.

SKYE
(nods)
Fair enough.

Skye turns to the shrine, almost unable to approach it. She stops, glances at Erika, but she doesn't notice.

SKYE (cont'd)
Hey, Erika...

Erika just waves her off. She knows. She heads off to give Skye her privacy.

Skye glances at it again, and finally takes the plunge and kneels. Hesitantly at first, she begins to speak.

SKYE (cont'd)
Hey, Allie. Sorry I haven't visited
much, but with Dana and the Sofia
of it all...
(beat)
I almost said you wouldn't want me
to mention Sofia's name, but that's
not you. Even after what happened,
you'd still care about her, worry
about her.

Skye chuckles darkly trying to find some humour in the bleak moment.

SKYE (cont'd)
You know, that's what I miss about
you, what we all do. You had this
compassion, this huge ability to
care.
(smiles)
Hell, you may've even started
Little Miss Evil, Delaney herself
on the right path. It's weird, but
you were probably the best out of
all of us.

Skye pauses, unsure how to continue, awkward with the absence of a partner. She glances around before continuing.

SKYE (cont'd)

Look, I've got a feeling that right now, I'm just talking to myself, but... we've seen ghosts and spirits before now, so I think the question over whether there's an afterlife or not is pretty much a given.

(beat)

So if you are out there, Allie, somewhere in the universe, just... help us out a little. Give us a win. Give us something.

Realising how ridiculous she sounds, Skye just shakes her head at herself.

It's hard to tell under the bruises, but it is indeed SOFIA who hangs from the dungeon wall, eyes closed, almost as if she's lost in prayer.

A fist CRACKS her head back into the stone wall, then retracts.

GREG stands before her, bloodied, expression blank, eyes raw and empty. He turns and leans on a nearby table, taking a deep breath.

He reaches to remove his brass knuckles, when:

SOFIA

Greg...

He looks up at her, almost as if she's woken him up. He frowns.

SOFIA (cont'd)

(quiet)

Don't stop.

Shaking, he throws his knuckles down on the table and leaves, SLAMMING the door. Sofia flinches at the noise, and lowers her head.

GIRL (O.S.)

Looks like you're having a rough time of it, limey.

Sofia's head snaps up, recognising the voice.

And before her stands EMMA! Arms folded, a stern expression on her face, and a bucket full of Texan sass.

Sofia's jaw drops. She shakes her head, hoping to clear this vision - but Emma's still there when she opens her eyes.

EMMA

Girl, we gotta talk.

Sofia gapes back, utterly thrown, and we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

3

INT. CAMPUS - DUNGEON - DAY

3

Sofia and Emma stare each other down, Emma annoyed and Sofia confused. A moment, before:

SOFIA

Is it... is it really you? Or are
you...

EMMA

The First?
(shakes head)
Not this time.

SOFIA

(straightens)
Why should I believe you?

EMMA

Because you know it's me.

A beat. Sofia slowly shakes her head. Emma SIGHS.

EMMA (cont'd)

Worth a shot. Look, limey, y'all
are just gonna have to trust me
that it's really me, alright?

SOFIA

But... you... how are you here? I
thought you went into the light
when we killed the Sonho demon?

EMMA

(rueful smile)
Y'know what, I did. I went into the
damn light, ready and waiting for
it to be all smiles and hotcakes.

Sofia raises an eyebrow, but stays quiet.

EMMA (cont'd)

And then I start hearin' about this
stunt you pulled. I'm not gone five
minutes and you've already hooked
up with a bad seed! If you'd spent
any real time with me, you'd have
learned Emma Preston's Lesson
Number One - boys are stupid. Throw
rocks at them.

Sofia opens her mouth to speak:

(CONTINUED)

EMMA (cont'd)

Five minutes! And then there was the Romeo-ing and Juliet-ing, and next thing I hear you're killing your own sisters.

Sofia shrinks back, Emma's accusing glare cutting right through her.

SOFIA

It wasn't like that... it was... I didn't know what I was doing.

EMMA

Sure you didn't.

SOFIA

They brainwashed me! They made sure I never had chance to stop and question what I was doing!

Emma is just quiet. If she was angry before, she isn't now; she's disappointed, and that's worse.

EMMA

(shakes head)

Now you're excusin' yourself.

SOFIA

That's not what I -

EMMA

Then what do ya mean, Sofia? You may not've killed many Slayers, but you killed enough.

(ranting)

And some weren't even Slayers! Anyone who got in your way, bystanders, you just watched Braeden gut 'em like fish!

(in her face)

It's nice to know a girl sacrificin' her life for the greater good was worth it'n all.

Sofia looks down, chastened.

EMMA (cont'd)

I mean, I get it. I do. You think that stayin' locked up in here, having Greg beat seven shades o' mercy out of ya is what's gonna make it all better. Well, time for a newsflash, Sofia - ain't ever gonna happen.

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA

What else can I do? I'm nothing to any of them now. The Cabal, the Academy... they've both given up on me.

EMMA

Not exactly, honey.

Sofia looks up at Emma, confusion and a glint of hope in her eyes. Emma's about to speak:

A SLAM heralds the re-entry of Greg, and Sofia's head snaps to see him. She looks again; Emma's gone.

INT. CAMPUS - DORMS - NEXT

RACHEL writhes in bed, though she's clearly asleep. She grimaces in pain, turning violently with her covers in her grasp.

A RIP can be heard as she twists particularly hard, and suddenly shifting into DANA. Dana lets out a SCREAM of pain and turns away again, twitching and curling into a ball.

Just on the next bed sits DELANEY, a look of pain etched over her face as she watches her friend. Hesitantly, she reaches over:

And her hand is SMACKED away by the twisting girl! Delaney registers surprise for a beat, then frowns in annoyance.

ON DANA

As her eyes open suddenly. She calms down, falling back into the tattered bed, before looking over at Delaney.

DELANEY

(no nonsense)

Rachel.

The other girl shifts back to RACHEL and sits up, hair messily covering her face.

RACHEL

(mumbled)

What?

Delaney prepares to give her a tongue lashing, but stops herself. Tries to be kind.

DELANEY

You wanna...

(lost for words)

... go for a walk?

(CONTINUED)

Now it's Rachel's turn to be frustrated, as she levels a glare at her friend.

RACHEL

(sarcastic)

Yeah, a walk. Great idea. Maybe we can pick some daffodils, have a picnic with our new classmates. Fun.

DELANEY

Sarcasm. Real helpful, Rache. It's not like you've been living here for months already.

RACHEL

(dark chuckle)

You think that's it? What we do here? You think we braid each other's hair and tell each other stories about boys?

(beat; realises)

You really think they've accepted either of us as comrades, huh? After Sofia?

DELANEY

Don't go there.

Rachel stands, looking down on Delaney.

RACHEL

Why not? One of their own betrayed them, and you think you've -

Delaney interrupts her by standing, locking eyes with her friend and breathing hard with anger.

DELANEY

Stop trying to distract me. You were the one talking it up, saying we could be 'heroes' here.

Rachel doesn't speak, and Delaney just keeps on going.

DELANEY (cont'd)

Dana's been gone -

(corrects)

Dead for days, and you haven't left your room. I've been playing nursemaid, bringing you your food -

RACHEL

(yelling over Delaney)

I know! I know that, alright? I know.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

RACHEL (cont'd)
(beat, thankful)
I know you've been taking care of
me.

Delaney doesn't know exactly how to respond to that. The two stare each other down, trying to figure out what the other is thinking. Finally:

DELANEY
You have to get out of this room.

RACHEL
(shakes head)
No.

Delaney gently takes her by the hand.

DELANEY
It's time.

RACHEL
No!

DELANEY
Come on, Rachel! Let's go!

RACHEL
(yells)
No!

Rachel goes to PUNCH her, but it's a half-assed attempt that Delaney easily catches.

Rachel's face wrinkles as a fresh wave of emotion hits her, and with a SOB she sags forward into Delaney's arms.

DELANEY
Oh, come on, Rache... don't do
this. You know I don't do that
whole 'shoulder to cry on' thing...
(sighs)
Ah, hell.

Delaney holds her, albeit awkwardly, as Rachel cries into her hair.

RACHEL
(muffled)
She was everything, Delaney. She
was a part of me, a part I'll never
get back.
(sobs)
We were happy. Finally.

Delaney just stands there, letting her friend sob, blinking back tears of her own.

5

INT. CAMPUS - FITZGERALD'S OFFICE - NEXT

5

A solemn FITZGERALD and BARBARA sit side-by-side on one side of a desk, appraising a nervous ANNA. Behind Anna, an angry SKYE paces.

FITZGERALD

Skye, could you please sit down?

Skye just raises her eyebrows at Fitzgerald, daring her to push it.

FITZGERALD (cont'd)

(to Anna)

Ms. Sutton, we have some... concerns.

ANNA

I'm sorry to hear that. I'm sorry if I've been a bit distracted lately -

BARBARA

No, Anna, it's not about your performance in the field.

Anna shuts up, swallowing nervously but otherwise visibly keeping her cool.

ANNA

Then... you got me. Is it my studies? Am I dropping behind in class? I mean, you know we hardly get time to even take any lessons any more, right?

FITZGERALD

(wry smile)

No, we're not concerned about that.

(serious)

It's... some of your recent behaviour has been flagged up as, well, how can I put this... suspicious.

Anna just looks from one Head to the other, confusion showing across her face.

BARBARA

Some of the girls have mentioned you've been increasingly tense and distant around them. That you always seem to go missing, almost at random, whether it's on a mission, in training, or in class.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BARBARA (cont'd)

Then there's the phone calls at all hours of the day, which are clearly causing you great personal distress, and Mei expressed concern after you smashed your phone. Not to mention the recent incident that saw Dana escape from custody.

A flash of panic shows behind Anna's eyes. Barbara leans forward, locking eyes with Anna...

... and lays a hand on hers warmly.

BARBARA (cont'd)

(concerned)

Is everything alright at home? We know your family situation is a difficult one, and we just wanted to tell you that you can come to us with anything that's affecting you.

Anna breathes a sigh of relief, and shakes her head.

ANNA

It's just dealing with my kid brother, Josh.

(rambling)

He's got something, and the doctor was threatening to refuse treatment unless I showed up with ID to prove I was family and not just some girl ordering tests and stuff.

FITZGERALD

(frowns)

I'm sorry to hear that. The Council has access to doctors, and I'm certain -

ANNA

(quickly)

No, no, it's fine. The Council's got a lot on their hands right now with the Cabal, and I've got a handle on it. Really.

She flashes a quick smile. Barbara nods reluctantly.

BARBARA

If there's anything...

ANNA

(nods; sincere)

I know, we're all family here. But thanks for worrying.

(beat)

I'll catch you later. Heads, Skye.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (2)

5

She turns and exits.

6 INT. CAMPUS - HALLWAY - NEXT

6

As soon as she's clear of the office, Anna sags against the wall, exhaling with relief. That was too close.

She takes a moment to compose herself, fixing her usual face back on before continuing on her way.

7 INT. CAMPUS - FITZGERALD'S OFFICE - NEXT

7

Barbara and Fitzgerald share a look, while Skye approaches the desk.

BARBARA

I think she's telling the truth.

FITZGERALD

I didn't get that impression.

Barbara flips through Anna's file.

BARBARA

Everything seems in order. Her brother is checked into a hospital in Manhattan, so... she's given us no reason to think she's lying.

Fitzgerald shakes her head.

FITZGERALD

It's a sore subject, but there was no reason to think Sofia was a risk - except for early warning signs. Moodiness, disconnection, distant behaviour -

Skye steps forward, cutting her off.

SKYE

I was pretty fricken distant first year. I'm still here, aren't I?

FITZGERALD

Yes, and you've remained a valuable member of the team. However -

SKYE

Wait a sec.

Fitzgerald pauses, but then leans back and nods.

(CONTINUED)

SKYE (cont'd)
Now, if I recall correctly, you
Council types were ready to be
judge, jury and executioner over a
frame job last year. Plus, your
dumbass 'partner' almost got me
killed because he was a
bloodthirsty little snake.

(beat)
So forgive me if I don't quite
trust your instincts this time
round.

BARBARA
(taken aback)
Skye, we would never -

Skye fixes her with a glare that could kill small animals
before turning and leaving, SLAMMING the door in her wake.

8 INT. CAMPUS - HALLWAY - NEXT

8

Skye speeds down the hallway, past a nervous DEBBIE. Hold on
Debbie as Skye disappears down the hall.

DEBBIE
(whispering)
You can do this, you can do this...

She opens the door:

9 INT. CAMPUS - STAFF ROOM - NEXT

9

She enters the room to find Greg standing at the sink,
washing his raw knuckles. At this sight, Debbie almost
leaves, but she steels herself and approaches.

She opens her mouth to speak:

GREG
Don't.

He turns to look at her, freezing her in her tracks with the
anger in his gaze. Despite this, his tone is calm.

GREG (cont'd)
You don't... you shouldn't blame
yourself, Debbie.

These so-called words of comfort do nothing to calm her. He
sounds almost drunk, not himself, as he leans on a table to
support himself.

GREG (cont'd)
It didn't have anything to do with
you.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

GREG (cont'd)
I mean, it did, Aiden always liked
you, but...
(beat)
He would've died for anyone. Any
Slayer.
(grins bitterly)
Even you.

Debbie steps back, unsure whether he's still trying to be
kind or not.

DEBBIE
I -

GREG
Come on, Debbie. You think he died
because he thought you could help
fight the Cabal? That's a joke.

Debbie takes in a breath, shakes her head. She moves towards
him, reaches out to him. She grasps his arm.

DEBBIE
This isn't you, Greg. You're
grieving, you're -

He WHIPS his arm, throwing off her weak grasp.

GREG
(angry)
Grieving, not grieving, it doesn't
matter. I just wanted you to know,
he knew you wouldn't make a
difference. A girl who needs help
just to get through a Cruciamentum
can't even help herself.

He levels a glare at her, seeing her as nobody, seeing her as
the enemy.

GREG (cont'd)
He died because you were a sweet
girl, and it would have been a
shame if you were dead. That's all.

Debbie, unable to take any more, turns and runs from the
room. The door SLAMS into the wall as she escapes.

GREG (cont'd)
(quiet)
There's always someone to die for
in this damn school...

Greg watches her go, then sits down and lays his head in his
hands. We return to:

10 INT. CAMPUS - DUNGEONS - NEXT

10

Sofia sits on the floor, legs curled up against her chest.
Fresh BRUISES mark her features.

EMMA (O.S.)
So, I'm guessing...

Emma steps back into frame, looking the sorry state of Sofia
up and down.

EMMA (cont'd)
... you're still going ahead with
this whole thing of yours? Thinking
that if Greg finally beats you to
death, it'll make up for anything?

SOFIA
(quiet)
It's a start.

Emma rolls her eyes, crouching before her.

EMMA
When did you get so gloomy?
(cuts Sofia off)
And don't say 'around the time I
killed my friend,' because... ooh,
if I could hit you, believe me,
you'd take even less time to brush
your teeth of a morning.

Sofia turns away. Emma bows her head.

EMMA (cont'd)
I've tried, but I can't sugarcoat
all this, so I'll give it to you
straight, as a friend.
(beat; looks up)
To fix this mess you've made, you
gotta die. It's the only way.

SOFIA
I've... what?

EMMA
The things you did, well, ain't
nobody who expected 'em, especially
the Powers. They want a re-do.
They, as they so charmin'ly put it,
'backed the wrong horse.'

Sofia finally finds her voice:

SOFIA
But... what do you mean?

(CONTINUED)

EMMA

You've got a choice to make. Three years ago, the sonho demon killed one of us, and the other survived. You've got a chance to switch that all around.

SOFIA

You mean...

EMMA

(nods)

You go, I stay.

Sofia stops to consider it, and Emma rolls her eyes.

EMMA (cont'd)

C'mon, Limey, you don't think I'd expect you to make a decision just like that?

SOFIA

So how much time do I have?

EMMA

A while. Gotta run you through the sales pitch first. Show ya what coulda been.

She moves towards Sofia, reaches out and places her hand over Sofia's eyes.

Sofia suddenly JERKS as WHITE LIGHT flares beneath Emma's hand, and we:

WHITE OUT:

FADE IN:

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Sofia lays on a dirt path, unconscious. She flutters her eyes turns, tries to see clearly.

SOFIA'S POV

Blurry, but the shape of FEET approaching is obvious. Before Sofia can move:

NORMAL POV

A blur of motion as someone trips over Sofia with a YELL. Sofia sits up and shuffles back, tries to get a look at the runner.

(CONTINUED)

She gets up, and turns to reveal it's ALITA! She smiles politely, dusting herself down.

ALITA

I apologise, I was running, I did not see you.

SOFIA

(beams)

Alita!

Alita continues to smile, but uncomfortably.

SOFIA (cont'd)

It's me, Alita! Sofia! Oh, God, I'm so glad to see -

ALITA

(awkward)

Have we met?

Sofia stops dead. Her face falls, and we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

12 EXT. CAMPUS - TRACK - DAY 12

Sofia continues to stare at Alita, who shifts uncomfortably under the intense gaze.

ALITA
You must be new?

Sofia blinks, shakes herself out of her surprise, and nods mutely.

ALITA (cont'd)
Have you registered at the school?

Sofia glances around - no sign of Emma - and decides to improvise. She throws a hand out to shake.

SOFIA
Yeah, I just got off the bus, was looking around. I'm... Sonya, Sonya George.

Alita, finally less uncomfortable, reaches out and shakes it.

FLASH CUT TO:

13 INT. CAMPUS - DORMS - DAY 13

A quick snapshot of a blue-tinted scene - Sofia lies dead in a bed, and Alita, Emma and FRANKIE crowd around, sobbing.

FLASH CUT TO:

14 EXT. CAMPUS - TRACK - DAY 14

Sofia pulls back, as if burned, and looks horrified at Alita.

ALITA
(surprised)
... Alita Kagemura.

Alita has no idea how to respond to this - but doesn't have to as the girls are interrupted by FOOTSTEPS.

A girl nears them, and Sofia is shocked to see that it's TRINA (last seen in 1x18)! Her hair is pink and black, her goth-punk chic all in accord.

TRINA
Yo, Allie.
(sees Sofia)
New girl?

(CONTINUED)

ALITA

She has just arrived here at the school, yes.

TRINA

(rolls eyes)

Yeah... that's what 'new girl' means, Allie.

(to Sofia)

Don't mind her. She grew up in the countryside.

Sofia blinks, then sticks out her hand again.

SOFIA

I'm Sonya -

TRINA

(waves her off)

Not to be a bitch, but don't have time to do the whole intro's thing. Maybe later.

(to Alita)

We got a briefing. Now.

Alita nods and turns to leave. She glances back to Sofia.

ALITA

Nice to meet you, Sonya.

(beat)

Be careful.

She and Trina run off to the school, leaving Sofia on her own.

EMMA (O.S.)

Nice sight, huh?

Sofia turns around to see Emma. She's slightly transparent, so henceforth she'll be known as GHOST EMMA.

SOFIA

Alright, I have to ask - what the hell is going on?

GHOST EMMA

Told you there was a sales pitch. Honey, this is the world you're getting a chance to make. This is the world -

SOFIA

(interrupts)

Where I die?

(CONTINUED)

Emma just shrugs, as if to confirm. Sofia looks towards the departing girls.

SOFIA (cont'd)
So, both of them...
(looks at Emma)
Trina?

EMMA
I guess I was just a little more
open-minded than you, is all.

Sofia looks away, Emma's comment striking a nerve.

SOFIA
So, what now?

Emma grins widely and motions towards the school.

GHOST EMMA
It's a nice day, so go up and take
a look around. Check up on
everyone, see the sights.

Sofia turns to go, but Emma doesn't follow. Instead, as she watches Sofia walk away:

GHOST EMMA (cont'd)
One last thing!

Sofia looks back.

GHOST EMMA (cont'd)
If you see another me, well... just
don't listen to her.

SOFIA
How will I know it's not you?

Emma stops herself from chuckling.

EMMA
You'll know. Trust me.

Sofia, looking more confused than ever, leaves.

Sofia walks through the reception area, her eyes taking in how different, how alive the place is. The ranks are still thinned, but conversations, smiles, are all present - things are good. At least, they seem good.

She catches the eye of JENNIFER, who winks as she passes her.

JENNIFER

(points)

Headmistresses' office is that way.
Good luck!

Sofia just smiles as the girl continues on her way. She stops as she sees a group standing together at the side.

They are KEEYA, two years older than last we saw her; JUANITA and TSULA. The three stand around chatting, though Juanita seems visibly nervous.

Sofia watches them, unsure as to what to do.

EMMA (V.O.)

(whispers)

Go say hi!

Sofia stumbles forwards, as if shoved, and decides to make her way to the girls. As they notice her, she smiles and gives a little wave.

SOFIA

Um... hello. I'm new. My name's Sonya.

KEEYA

(grins)

Glad we've still got recruits coming in. Nice to meet you, Sonya. I'm Keeya Mandisa, and these two fine pieces of Slayerdom are two-thirds of my squad.

She throws a glance to the other two girls.

KEEYA (cont'd)

Going to introduce yourselves?

(apologetic)

Sorry, they haven't been here that long either. I was petrified of everything when I got here, so I guess I shouldn't be so hard on them.

Sofia looks to meet the other girls. Tsula extends her hand.

TSULA

Tsula Nimeda. Pleased to meet you.

Sofia reaches out and takes her hand, grasps it tight:

FLASH CUT TO:

16 INT. DUNGEONS - NIGHT 16

A flash of a scene, Tsula kneeling on the cement floor with a bloody REIKO in her arms. Reiko is clearly dead, and Tsula looks up at a figure in shadow.

DEX (O.S.)
I guess she just wasn't strong
enough. Pity.

FLASH CUT TO:

17 INT. CAMPUS - RECEPTION - DAY 17

Back with Sofia, as she tries to control her reaction to the sudden jolt. The other girls don't notice, but Tsula does and looks at her oddly.

SOFIA
(quickly)
Sorry. Nerves. I, er... sorry.

She looks to Juanita, but she doesn't offer a hand.

JUANITA
(nods)
Juanita Davalos.

Sofia, undeterred, just looks at Keeya. Keeya answers her before she can ask.

KEEYA
Our number two, well, to be honest
she's a bit of a bitch. She's a
good fighter, but she likes to keep
to herself mostly. Ever since -
(catches herself)
Well, when you're a Slayer, stuff
happens.

She doesn't elaborate. Instead, she throws an arm around Sofia's shoulders:

FLASH CUT TO:

18 INT. CONVENTION CENTRE - DAY 18

Back in the fray (which took place back in 1x16), RACHEL heads towards the wicca, AMELIA. Keeya moves to intercept as Emma yells:

EMMA
Get to Madame Pouvier!

DANA bursts from nowhere, sword up high as she looms down on Keeya - who has nowhere to go!

(CONTINUED)

But Emma, a SCAR prominent across her cheek, reaches out and PULLS Dana away from Keeya, slamming her down and, as if she were a vampire, STABBING her in the chest!

Keeya GASPS as Emma watches Dana bleed, but is forced to step back as Dana thrashes. Dana attempts to clamber to her feet, but falls back - DEAD.

Something dies behind Emma's eyes as she looks at Dana's dead body, then locks eyes with Keeya.

Keeya visibly trembles before turning to block a strike from Rachel:

FLASH CUT TO:

Keeya, her arms around Sofia's shoulders, points her towards the end of the hall to where a REDHEAD stands talking to another girl.

KEEYA

If you want to go get settled, go talk to her. There's a school-wide briefing soon and she'll be able to tell you what you need to know, 'kay?

SOFIA

(smiles nervously)

Thank you.

KEEYA

We're all sisters here, Sonya. Don't forget that.

Sofia nods, and walks away from the group, approaching the girl.

She bumps into someone, and turns to see it's HEIDI! Their arms brush:

FLASH CUT TO:

Heidi stands in the doorway of the dark room, staring in horror at the ground:

Where lies a bloody and broken DEBBIE!

HEIDI (V.O.)

I can't do this any more. I'm sorry.

(CONTINUED)

Heidi rushes inside:

FLASH CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - ASSEMBLY HALL - DAY

Sofia's gaze follows Heidi as she meets Keeya and the rest, and doesn't notice when she collides with the redhead!

The girl turns, and it's EMMA, wearing shorter hair and a SCAR down one cheek.

EMMA

(smiles)

Oh, hey, you're Sonya, right?

SOFIA

(surprised)

Er, yes. Yes, I am.

EMMA

(smiles)

Allie told me about you. I'm Emma Preston, I'm the leader of A Squad.

She reaches out a hand, and Sofia, prepared this time, takes it as she's launched into:

FLASH CUT TO:

INT. ABANDONED HOUSE - NIGHT

Emma (scarless) and a VAMPIRE fight, the vamp obviously having the upper hand - and a weapon, a KNIFE.

Emma backs up a step, but he SLASHES across her cheek - right where her scar should be - and then grasps her by her neck, SLAMMING her against the wall.

VAMPIRE

Come on, Slayer! Fight back! Isn't that what you were 'Chosen' to do?

She is paralysed by fear. He smiles and LICKS the bleeding cut...

Then DUSTS. Emma stands with a broken (and sharp) table leg in one hand, gasping, and slides down the wall into a crouch.

She presses a trembling hand to the cut on her cheek, trying to hold back a SOB as we:

FLASH CUT TO:

23 INT. CONVENTION CENTRE - DAY 23

Emma kneels, eyes open, face blood-spattered, and her Scythe dug deep into Dana's abdomen.

She stands and watches the girl spasm, horror in her eyes but nothing showing on her face.

FLASH CUT TO:

24 INT. CAMPUS - DORMS - NIGHT 24

Emma sits on a bed, deep into a long kiss with TYSON!

He breaks off first, Emma eyeing him up hungrily - which seems to have unsettled Tyson.

TYSON

What's gotten into you?

EMMA

Tyson... shut up.

She GRABS him and pulls him in for another KISS.

FLASH CUT TO:

25 EXT. STREET - NIGHT 25

Emma stands in a rain-soaked city street, fight-ready, with the Scythe. She's shaking with fury, calling out as a HELICOPTER roars past overhead:

EMMA

She has to come back with us. It's the only way.

PAN ROUND to see her opponent - SKYE! She locks gazes with Emma, defiant and thunderous:

SKYE

Make me.

FLASH CUT TO:

26 INT. CAMPUS - ASSEMBLY HALL - DAY 26

Sofia, with almost no reaction, finishes the shake and pulls her hand back.

SOFIA

'A Squad,' then? That sounds like it's important.

(CONTINUED)

EMMA

Girl's gotta do what a girl's gotta do, right?

SOFIA

(not following)

Definitely.

EMMA

Here, come with me. I'll give you the heads up at the briefing so you're not too lost, 'kay?

SOFIA

I'd appreciate that. Thank you..

Emma just smiles and leads her into:

Slayers don't fill the room, but it's still more numerous than seen lately. Emma leads Sofia down the aisles and sits her down.

EMMA

Alright, limey, here's the scoop. We're losing more than we're getting these days, so do me a favour and don't die.

SOFIA

Um... I'll do my best.

She point out a doorway. Keeya walks through.

EMMA

Keeya, you've already met. That girl's been here forever. Always got a smile and a kind word, even after all the crap she's been through. You know she spent two months locked in a haunted house?

Following her are Tsula and Juanita.

EMMA (cont'd)

Those two are junior B Squadders. Tsula's been on since last year after she quit working as a Council bodyguard, and Juanita just got temporarily promoted because of, well... you know.

SOFIA

Actually... no.

EMMA

(beat)

Never mind. Long story.

Last but not least is HEIDI.

EMMA (cont'd)

That's Heidi. She's about as popular as a rattlesnake at a baby shower, but I think she's not given enough credit. She certainly hides it well, but she's a good person at heart.

Entering from another door are Alita and Trina, chatting amicably, and Skye.

EMMA (cont'd)

You've met Allie and Trina, and Skye... She's the last A Squad member you haven't met. I'm sure her reputation precedes her.

Sofia looks at Emma, but she doesn't continue. She frowns, and turns to centre stage. The rest of the girls pour in, and Barbara and Greg appear on the stage.

SOFIA

(whispers)

Where's Miss Fitzgerald?

EMMA

Who?

SOFIA

(quickly)

Never mind.

The other A Squad girls make their way to their seats. Sofia's hand brushes Trina's:

FLASH CUT TO:

Alita and Delaney are still mid-combat when the chamber is suddenly flooded with LIGHT, and the two girls recoil, shielding their eyes.

The light starts to fade, but all around them the cavern is showing signs of stress - CRACKS start to race up the walls, and huge chunks of ICE start to fall from the walls and ceiling, CRASHING against one another on their way down!

DELANEY

The hell...?

(CONTINUED)

The girls look up - and in that split second, realise the fight will have to wait.

They both leap to their feet and take off, running in different directions back to safety, but Alita hears a loud CRACK from overhead...

... and looks up to see a huge hunk of ICE plummeting towards them! She whips round, ready to yell out a warning, but before she can speak:

SLAM!

The ice SMASHES straight through the middle of the bridge, breaking it in two!

The girls are thrown up into the air, hands clawing at nothing as the bridge crumbles beneath them, collapsing back into the chasm!

DELANEY (cont'd)
(yelling)
Oh shiiii-

Delaney's cry echoes round the cavern as she drops from view, disappearing into the black.

Alita manages to get one hand GRABBED onto a ledge as she drops, and grimaces as she tries to pull herself up onto the ledge, clinging to the fragmenting ice with every ounce of her strength...

... but something CRACKS, and her eyes widen as the chunk of ledge she's hanging on to starts to crumble away...

... and with a final SHOUT of fear, Alita loses her grip, falling backwards into the chasm...

... but Trina's HAND snaps into frame, grabbing Alita and saving her from the fall!

TRINA
Woah! Hang on, Allie! I gotcha!

Trina HEAVES, Alita scrambling for grip as well, and she's quickly back up to the relative safety of the ledge:

FLASH CUT TO:

The girls around Sofia sit down, and she realises she was rooted to the spot. She rubs her temples.

Barbara approaches the podium, taps the mic to check. She glances round at the staff behind her.

(CONTINUED)

BARBARA

Alright, girls, you may be
wondering why all of you have been
called to this briefing.

(beat)

We're planning a major offensive
against the Cabal, and we're
confident that, if it's a success,
we'll finally be able to neutralise
them completely.

As the MURMURS of conversation spread throughout the hall:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

30 INT. CAMPUS - ASSEMBLY HALL - DAY

30

Barbara gestures for quiet.

BARBARA

(flips through folder)

As you know, the Cabal have three of our Slayers held hostage - Erika, Fran and Gabriela. The Cabal plan is to use them in a ritual that will lock open the Hub permanently, and if they're successful this advantage will almost certainly could give them what they need to completely overwhelm our forces.

(beat)

However, thanks to our numerous attacks, this is their last chance. It is, to use a colloquialism, all or nothing.

(beat)

Greg will lay down the specifics.

As Greg steps up to the podium, we CUT TO:

31 INT. CAMPUS - LIBRARY - LATER

31

Sofia enters, looking around. Everything is roughly where it should be.

Her eye is caught on a picture sitting on the desk - of FRANKIE, DUNSTALL and a young BOY between them. They wave to the camera cheerily.

Sofia gapes at the Kodak moment, not noticing someone approach her until:

WOMAN (O.S.)

You must be one of our many new arrivals.

Sofia looks up to meet the librarian, a woman identified by her name pin as MRS. GLENCOSTE. She looks fondly at the picture.

MRS. GLENCOSTE

That's Frankie. We do miss her, but Miss DuCont gave birth to her young son, Henri, two years ago. Then, she retired her stake, married the father, and moved back to his home in America. Touching story.

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA
(smiles)
Yes, that's...

Her smile fades as what really happens hits her.

SOFIA (cont'd)
... that's really something.

Sofia nods to Mrs. Glencoste and moves on. She sees LAYLA sitting at a library table and approaches her.

SOFIA (cont'd)
Hello. I'm Sonya.

LAYLA
(smiles)
Layla. So, new girl?

SOFIA
And I'm certainly going to be glad
when people stop calling me that!

Layla chuckles as Sofia sits across the table from her.

SOFIA (cont'd)
That nice red-headed girl, um,
Emma. What's her story?

LAYLA
What, you mean Bottle Rocket
Preston? She's incredible. She's
been leading the A Squad since the
school started, and she's easily
the best Slayer this whole campus
has got.

SOFIA
And everything's... going well?

LAYLA
You heard Ms. Griffin, right? We're
so close to eliminating the Cabal.
And when I see Emma kill that guy,
it'll be sweet.

SOFIA
Braeden?

Layla just looks confused, then remembers.

LAYLA
Him? News must travel slow where
you're from. He got run through by
his demonic ex last year.
(MORE)

31 CONTINUED: (2)

LAYLA (cont'd)
(off Sofia's confusion)
You don't know about him and Skye?

Sofia's eyes bulge, and we CUT TO:

32 EXT. CAMPUS - GROUNDS - NEXT

32

Sofia storms out of the school, looking around.

SOFIA
Emma? Emma! Get your ghostly arse
out here, now!

As she walks away from the school, Ghost Emma starts to materialise.

SOFIA (cont'd)
I could punch you!

GHOST EMMA
Technically -

SOFIA
(ranting)
Why didn't you tell me? Warn me
about this? Braeden and Skye?!?
Debbie's dead?!? What the bloody
hell kind of 'sales pitch' is this?

Ghost Emma looks down, avoiding Sofia's gaze.

GHOST EMMA
Things... happened a little
differently in this place.

SOFIA
(angry)
Elaborate. Please.

Ghost Emma bites her lip, and reaches out to touch Sofia's arm, speaking over the images:

DISSOLVE TO:

33 EXT. CAMPUS - PAVILION - NIGHT

33

Skye and Braeden make out hungrily, Skye **SHOVING** Braeden against the wall.

GHOST EMMA
Vampire, anti-Slayer. Both of them
had some kind of inner darkness.
Skye didn't know what Braeden
really was, but she knew he was
lonely and that was enough.

Darcie crosses by them and stares, eyes darkened.

(CONTINUED)

GHOST EMMA (cont'd)

We all know Darcie had this weird obsession with Braeden, and if she couldn't have him, she sure as hell wasn't letting Skye. So she slit poor ol' Debbie's throat and dumped her body in Skye's room.

FLASH CUT TO:

The sounds of BATTLE surround Skye and Braeden. The former is locked up, the second reaches out, keys in hand.

He leans forward, kisses her. It's clear from his eyes he's in love with her. He's looked that way at Sofia too many times for us to be unfamiliar with it.

GHOST EMMA

Skye was blamed, but with nobody to defend her...

HEIDI (V.O.)

You bitch! I'm gonna see it when you burn, Skye!

GHOST EMMA

... she was vulnerable, and Braeden gave her the easy route: accept that darkness within her, turn her back on her friends.

Skye nods, and Braeden unlocks her.

GHOST EMMA (cont'd)

She did.

FLASH CUT TO:

Skye exits the castle, Slayer Codexes under her arm, and breaks into a van, SMASHING the window with her elbow.

GHOST EMMA

Thing is, Skye's always been more Slayer than vampire. She realised she was on the wrong side, so she snuck out and came on back, hoping she could earn her place back among us by stealing some pretty valuable old books from Kira.

FLASH CUT TO:

36 INT. CAMPUS - BARBARA'S OFFICE - DAY

36

Heidi stands in front of Barbara, eyes tear-stained and face angry.

GHOST EMMA

Debbie's death knocked Heidi down
like a barn in a hurricane, and she
resigned as B squad leader. She's
sworn to not retake it until she
kills Darcie.

Barbara writes something down as Heidi leaves the room.

FLASH CUT TO:

37 EXT. ARCTIC HUB - CHAMBER - NIGHT

37

ON SKYE, breathless and pale. She looks up, and in the
FOREGROUND we see Braeden still clutching the Scythe, the
energy of the Hub coursing through him as the Hellmouths all
over the world are activated.

Skye is trembling, but standing her ground. Braeden turns to
face her, as the Hub continues to glow brighter and brighter
behind him.

BRAEDEN

Still up and going? You're stronger
than I thought.

SKYE

I'm a lot of things you don't
understand.

(beat)

You know I can't let you do this.

BRAEDEN

It's too late now.

A flash of uncertainty crosses Skye's face, but it's gone in
an instant.

She hobbles forward - BLOOD seeps from a bad wound on one leg
- and approaches Braeden.

SKYE

Braeden, I... I can't fight you any
more.

Braeden frowns, but as Skye keeps coming he steps away from
the Hub, approaching her.

They stop, inches apart, gazes locked. Skye's pleading
expression meets his stoic features.

(CONTINUED)

And then they lean forward into an EMBRACE, Skye leaning against him for support.

BRAEDEN

I'm sorry... I'm sorry it had to go
down like this...

There are TEARS flowing down Skye's face as she reaches round behind Braeden's back.

SKYE

I'm sorry too...

BLAM! Braeden GASPS. Stiffens. And staggers back a step.

Skye's hand is around the HANDGUN he was packing, a smoking BULLET HOLE through his chest.

Braeden tries to push himself up but fails, her strength fading as her lifeblood seeps out onto the chamber floor.

All around them, the swirling lights are disrupted as the chamber SHAKES, starting to collapse just like everywhere else in a shower of ice fragments.

BRAEDEN

(gasping)

How... how could you...

SKYE

(softly)

I didn't have a choice.

Braeden doubles over in excruciating pain, unable to stop Skye as she walks past him, right up to his Scythe.

She GRABS it with both hands, energy coursing from her, and the RUMBLING echoing through the cavern rises to a deafening volume.

With a final, vein-popping SCREAM of exertion, Skye PULLS the Scythe free - and the rumbling dies down in seconds.

The glow of energy from the Hub is gone, the spinning discs forming its mechanism slowing and skittering to a stop.

Skye turns, looking down to where she left Braeden - but he's already gone.

Lifeless and still, his blood pooling around him, he's no longer for this world.

Skye stares at his body for a long beat, then sadly trudges back out of the chamber:

FLASH CUT TO:

38

EXT. CAMPUS - GROUNDS - DAY

38

Sofia tries to process all the information as Emma continues to speak.

GHOST EMMA

And that's the story so far.

SOFIA

But... Skye never killed anyone?
She just came back?

Emma nods.

SOFIA (cont'd)

But she... she wasn't in love with
him, she couldn't have been, or
she'd never...

GHOST EMMA

Does that excuse anything?

Sofia shuts up, acceding Emma's point.

SOFIA

But... Debbie, Reiko -

EMMA

Trina, Juanita, Keeya. Frankie's
son. Isn't this worth it?

Sofia looks back at the school. It looks the same as day one -
no evidence of rebuilding or repairs.

She turns back to Emma.

SOFIA

How can I choose?

LAYLA (O.S.)

Sonya!

Sofia turns around to see Layla running towards her.

LAYLA (cont'd)

Come on, we're shipping out!

SOFIA

Alright, I'll be there in a second!
(turns back)
I want to know how I can -

Ghost Emma is gone. Sofia starts, thrown, but as Layla calls
her again she has to turn and head off.

39 EXT. CAMPUS - PARKING LOT - NEXT

39

Two large BUSES are waiting outside the main entrance, with Slayers filing on and filling them both up.

Tyson and Emma wait at the steps of one bus, sharing a quick final KISS before she hops up and boards.

Sofia looks through the windows as she walks past both buses, catching a series of moments:

- Trina sits writing in a notebook, and Alita sits with her, giggling at whatever she's writing.

- Keeya glances at a photo of Fran, before pocketing it and getting on the bus.

- Emma finally takes her seat away from the other girls, eyes closed in prayer.

GREG (O.S.)

Sonya?

She turns to see Greg beckoning her to get onboard.

GREG (cont'd)

Time to go.

Sofia sighs, then heads onto the bus, and we DISSOLVE TO:

40 EXT. AFRICA - DIRT ROAD - DAY

40

The two buses bounce across a dusty, uneven dirt track, leaving a cloud behind them.

41 INT. SECOND BUS - NEXT

41

Sofia peers out through the window, shading her eyes against the sun.

Around her, some Slayers chatter quietly with their nerves, others remain silent.

Sofia looks down the aisle and out through the bus' windscreen, seeing the first bus blazing the trail ahead.

She looks around, trying to catch someone's eye, but all the girls she knows nearby are focused on their own thoughts.

Sofia looks back towards the first bus...

BOOM! Something EXPLODES beneath it in a burst of orange flame!

The bus REARS UP like a bronco, before falling onto its side and CRASHING onto the road.

(CONTINUED)

The second bus SLAMS on the brakes, but can't avoid T-BONING the other bus head on.

Slayers are thrown from their seats, the bus filling with SHATTERED GLASS and the sound of GRINDING METAL.

The buses are locked together, skidding forward for a few excruciating seconds, before finally coming to a stop.

Emma and Keeya are first out of their seats as the girls around them pick themselves up.

EMMA

Everyone okay?

ALITA

I believe so...

SKYE

What happened?

TRINA

(panicking)

Somebody blew up the first bus!

TSULA

No, look - it's still there. We're alright. We're both alright.

Keeya looks out through the window, her eyes bulging at what she sees.

KEEYA

No, we're not...

(yells)

Everybody, out of the bus, now!

She PUNCHES an emergency release switch, flipping open doors on either side of the bus.

KEEYA (cont'd)

Go! Go! Go!

Bewildered Slayers, many nursing minor injuries, start to pile outside.

KEEYA (cont'd)

Grab the first sharp thing you find
and move! Leave your bags behind!

Keeya marches down the aisle, counting the Slayers off.

SOFIA

What is it?

Keeya just nods towards the window, and Sofia looks outside:

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: (2)

41

DEMONS. A swarm of them, descending from the hills either side of the road in a cloud of dust.

KEEYA

The welcoming party.

Sofia blanches, scrabbling in her bag and bringing up a sword, before following the crush of girls leaving the bus.

42 EXT. DIRT TRACK - NEXT

42

Sofia finds herself alongside Heidi and Juanita, both of them eyeing up the incoming horde.

JUANITA

Whaddya say? I'll take the thirty thousand on the left, you take what's on the right?

HEIDI

(squints)

I think there are more on my side.
Wanna switch?

They share a quick grin, but the demons are seconds away now.

EMMA

A Squad, with me! We're goin' after our girls! The rest of you, hold the line!

KEEYA

Aye aye, cap'n.

Sofia doesn't know where to go, but Emma takes her hand.

EMMA

This way!

Emma leads her team (Skye, Alita and Trina) away from the battle, Sofia following.

They sprint away, quickly leaving the wrecked buses and crowd of Slayers surrounding them behind.

Sofia looks over her shoulder, and gets a great vantage point as the first waves of demons rush the waiting Slayers.

SLOW MOTION as demons go flying, HACKED down, THROWN through the air or FLOORED by power punches, the Slayers standing firm as the demons crash around them.

EMMA (cont'd)

Sonya, come on!

(CONTINUED)

RESUME SPEED as Sofia hurries to keep up, Emma leading her team up a steep hillside.

ALITA
We are close now.

TRINA
Yeah, you feel that too? Almost like -

EMMA
Magic. Bad magic, and lots of it.

She crests the hill, pausing while the others catch up.

They're looking down into a clearing, where a STONE STAIRCASE leads down from the hillside onto some kind of TRIBAL ALTAR! A huge MONUMENT rises from its centre, the likeness of a grotesque DEMON carved into it, and a SHAMAN stands before that.

More demons line the circular platform, rising up from the dusty ground below, but all attention is on the altar itself.

ERIKA and FRAN are both chained down to a pair of tables, ready to be part of the Cabal's sacrifice!

Three familiar figures wait nearby, looking up at the Slayers - DEX, CASSANDRA and DARCIE, while a fourth still has his back to them.

EMMA (cont'd)
(cold)
It's Joseph.

JOSEPH turns - chiselled features, long, messy dark hair and the pose of a catwalk model - apart from the malevolent DARK SCYTHE in his hands.

SOFIA
(off Scythe)
My God...

ALITA
The Anti-Slayer! He's here!

EMMA
Which means we can end this today.

The guard demons let out a communal ROAR and start to surge forward, outnumbering Emma's squad four to one.

TRINA
As soon as we take care of that...

The girls brace themselves, ready for the attack...

... but something SHOOTs into the middle of the charging pack and EXPLODES, sending bodies hurtling through the air!

Emma spins to see a bloodied Cerys, lowering a smoking rocket launcher.

CERYs

Don't stand here staring at me, go!

EMMA

(grins)

Thanks, teach.

(to Slayers)

Let's go!

She leads the charge down the staircase, the girls nimbly hopping over the swathe of shattered demon corpses.

The girls break off, each one picking a target - Skye goes for Dex, Alita for Cassandra, Trina for Darcie and Emma for Joseph - leaving Sofia at a loss for what to do.

The four other girls launch into a vicious scrap with their opponents, fists, feet and weapons flying.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

Looking for someone, dear?

Sofia spins - and gapes at the person stepping out from behind the monument:

JILHANDRA

I'm sure I can help.

JILHANDRA smirks, ENERGY starting to blaze around her hands, and as Sofia GULPS and raises her sword, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

43

EXT. ALTAR - DAY

43

It's back to the battle royale - our focus is on Sofia and Jilhandra, as the other girls' fights flicker by around them.

Jilhandra hurls a BLAST of energy at Sofia, who throws herself to the side to avoid it.

She barely scrambles back up to dodge another, Jilhandra toying with her as she chases Sofia round with bolts.

Emma's face is a mask of rage as she lays into Joseph, who isn't breaking a sweat as he coolly blocks her attacks.

JOSEPH

Come on, Em. Stop trying so hard!
You might actually land a couple.

EMMA

Shut up!

She keeps hacking down at him with her Scythe, her ferocious anger causing her to lose balance.

She stumbles, and Joseph neatly sidesteps to catch her with a SLICE up her side.

Emma lets out a ROAR of fury, swinging her Scythe round at Joseph's head and finally making him snap back.

Alita is dicing with Cassandra, who has the measure of her despite Alita's raw speed.

CASSANDRA

I have to say...

She DUCKS one nunchuck swing.

CASSANDRA (cont'd)

... you've gotten better.

WHACK! She FLOORS Alita with an uppercut.

CASSANDRA (cont'd)

But not all that better.

Skye, meanwhile, is up close and personal with Dex, her sai SPARKING off his daggers as the two engage in a rapid-fire knife fight.

SKYE

I'm gonna make sure you suffer for
what you did to Reiko...

(CONTINUED)

DEX

You are? Well, lucky old me. And here I was, thinking she secretly enjoyed it.

SNIKT! He gets a lucky shot, cutting across Skye's cheek.

DEX (cont'd)

Careful, Skye. You'll take someone's eye out with those things.

Skye's face contorts in anger as she doubles her efforts.

Trina, meanwhile, is losing the fight to Darcie - who is now in the half-demonic state we last saw her in.

DARCIE

They send you to try and stop us?

TRINA

We'll be just fine.

Darcie SWATS Trina's sword away, KICKS her exposed stomach and SWEEPS her to the ground.

DARCIE

Oh, I'm sure you will.

She STABS down, Trina barely rolling out of the way.

DARCIE (cont'd)

In fact, I think you'll be about as good as the last lot they sent after -

HEIDI (O.S.)

Hey!

Darcie looks up:

WHAP! An ARROW slams into her eye!

Trina whips round to see Heidi lowering a CROSSBOW.

HEIDI (cont'd)

Nice to see you again, too.

More Slayers are behind them - the rest of the contingent from the buses!

The reinforcements are pouring down the stone staircase even as Heidi, Keeya and Tsula join the fray.

Heidi hauls Trina up as Darcie staggers around, YOWLING in pain as she tries to wrench the dagger from her eye socket.

(CONTINUED)

TRINA

Thanks.

(off Darcie)

Shouldn't she, uh... fall down now?

HEIDI

Stand back. I've got this.

She takes a few steps forward and ROUNDHOUSE KICKS Darcie to the floor, and a grinning Trina breaks off to find a new fight.

She rejoins Alita, saving her from an attack by Cassandra and buying Alita time to get back to her feet.

CASSANDRA

(wipes bloody lip)

Oh, like this, is it? Two on one?

WHAP! POW! Both girls lands JABS to Cassandra's jaw.

TRINA

Looks like!

They launch themselves at Cassandra, as Tsula intervenes in Skye and Dex's fight.

She BARGES Dex to the ground, KICKING him in the face as Skye, peppered with knife wounds, gasps for breath.

SKYE

Thanks. Where's Juanita?

TSULA

She... she took a sword for me.

SKYE

(beat)

You got him?

WHACK! Tsula KICKS Dex again, this time in the gut.

TSULA

I got him.

She draws a long KNIFE from her belt, ready and waiting as he starts to get back up. Skye slips away.

Heidi and Darcie are in a full-on grudge match, both girls CLAWING and SWIPING at each other.

Darcie has yanked the arrow from her eye, leaving a bloody mess in the socket.

Darcie HEADBUTTS Heidi, and while she's stunned Darcie leans forward and BITES her arm!

(CONTINUED)

Heidi CRIES OUT, punching Darcie until she lets go. Heidi stumbles back, clutching her wound.

DARCIE

That's my gift to you, slut. Before
long, you'll be just like -

SHINK! A DAGGER flies into Darcie's empty eye socket, the blade going straight through to her brain.

HEIDI

I'll never be like you.

Darcie sways and finally CRASHES to the floor, Heidi wilting soon after.

Emma and Joseph's fight is getting interesting now - Joseph is on the back foot, Emma's relentless barrage of attacks starting to make him sweat.

JOSEPH

(between blows)

I never could... work out... why
you hated me... so much!

EMMA

Because you're everything I'm not,
you freak!

POW! She KICKS him in the gut, following up straight away and almost pushing him back on one knee.

EMMA (cont'd)

You're what happens when everything
that's good about us gets twisted
round and sent rotten...

Another HACK knocks his Scythe from his hands - and a few fingers along with it!

EMMA (cont'd)

... and there's only one thing you
can do with that.

She PLUNGES her Scythe into his gut, Joseph's eyes BULGING as the blade bursts through his back.

EMMA (cont'd)

Cut it out.

He COUGHS, and Emma leans in close to whisper into his ear:

EMMA (cont'd)

I'll pray for your soul, Joe. Maybe
God'll forgive you where I
couldn't.

(CONTINUED)

He slumps backwards, Emma letting him fall away from the Scythe blade. Her face is blank - no pity, no anger, nothing.

She looks round, surveying the battle - the second wave of Slayers were followed by more demons, but they're keeping them at bay.

Tsula gets STABBED in the side by Dex, but in one move she whips an ARROW from the quiver on her back and JAMS it through his cheek!

Dex jolts back, and Tsula pulls the knife from her side and SINKS it into his heart.

Trina SWEEPS Cassandra down, and Alita gets behind her to wrap her nunchucks round the elder Slayer's neck.

Cassandra CHOKES as Alita pulls tighter, the chains crushing her windpipe - until with a final COUGH, Cassandra slumps.

Alita releases her, letting her limp body tumble face first to the ground.

JILHANDRA (O.S.)

How's that? Snug enough for you?

Emma turns and sees Sofia suspended several feet in the air, held in place by a magical grip from Jilhandra!

Sofia kicks her legs, hands clawing at her throat as the grinning Jilhandra tightens her grip.

EMMA

Keeya! Skye!

They look up, and Emma nods towards Sofia. Keeya rushes over, but as Emma WHISTLES, Skye stops and turns:

And Emma THROWS JOSEPH'S SCYTHE over to her, Skye SNATCHING it out of the air. She looks to Emma, who nods. Go get her.

Skye follows Keeya, joined by Layla and Jennifer as more Slayers pile down onto the altar behind them.

LAYLA

Plan?

SKYE

Kill.

LAYLA

Right.

The foursome charge Jilhandra, but she sees them coming and SWEEPS one hand in their direction.

(CONTINUED)

A wave of ENERGY knocks the girls off their feet, and as Jennifer recovers she's it by a stream of GREEN ENERGY from Jilhandra's free hand.

Jennifer GASPS, her body CONVULSING with the power coursing through it - until the stream cuts off and she hits the floor. Dead.

Skye is in first, her newly-acquired Scythe CLEAVING towards Jilhandra, forcing her to release Sofia and put up a WALL to defend.

Emma finally locates the two captive Slayers, Erika and Fran - and the SHAMAN is ready with his knife to sacrifice them!

EMMA

No...

She charges forward, barging past demons and Slayers alike, but the Shaman's knife plunges down...

EMMA (cont'd)

(screams)

No!!

And it's FRAN who gets the blade, GASPING as it pierces her chest.

EMMA (cont'd)

You dirty son of a...

She LEAPS through the air, foot out in a FLYING KICK that connects with the Shaman dead on.

His neck CRACKS as the kick strikes, sending him head over heels back across the altar.

Emma spares a moment to look at Fran's wide, lifeless eyes before she quickly unties Erika.

EMMA (cont'd)

Erika, I couldn't -

ERIKA

Give me something to use.

Emma blinks, then picks up a stray STAFF and hands it to her.

ERIKA (cont'd)

Thank you.

And she's off, straight into the melee - and FLOORING a demon with one STRIKE of the staff!

Emma finds her next target, seeing her girls take on Jilhandra as the sorceress tries to keep them back.

(CONTINUED)

Jilhandra snaps a bolt of magic at Layla, BLASTING her off her feet - but in that second, her defences drop.

Keeya and Skye charge in, bringing their weapons down with a joint BATTLE CRY.

Jilhandra's arms are SEVERED in a spray of blood, and she lurches backwards with a piercing SHRIEK!

Skye keeps going, swinging the Scythe round again in an arc to BEHEAD the luckless Jilhandra, her head BOUNCING off the altar.

Skye, fully VAMPED OUT, turns as Keeya grabs her shoulder:

KEEYA

Skye... we're too late!

She looks round - and sees the monument to the demon is GLOWING!

Emma looks down - and sees Fran's BLOOD running through a rivulet and into the base of the monument.

Skye realises the Dark Scythe is also GLOWING, and quickly realises what must be done.

SKYE

Emma! Break 'em both!

She TOSSES the Scythe back to Emma, who JUMPS UP to grab it from mid-air.

She lands, already turning and bringing the Dark Scythe round with all her might against the monument...

CRASH! The Scythe SHATTERS into a dozen pieces, taking a huge CHUNK of stone from the monument in the process.

Something ancient and evil GROANS, the sound so thunderously loud it deafens everyone still standing...

... but in moments, the glow fades from the monument along with the sound.

Emma is still in place, the remains of the Scythe in her hand, resting on her knees for breath.

And she realises she can hear CLAPPING.

She stands - and turns to see all the surviving Slayers are CHEERING, APPLAUSE rippling through them.

They've done it.

(CONTINUED)

Emma lifts up the broken Scythe, and a SMILE finally cracks across her face.

She PUNCHES the air, yelling in victory, joined by the other Slayers.

Except Sofia, who is still on the floor, RED MARKS bruising her throat.

Everywhere she looks, Cabal demon and agent bodies outnumber the Slayer dead. All around, Slayers applaud and cheer the girl who led them to victory.

It's not all smiles - Keeya stands over Fran's corpse, WEEPING. She tenderly brushes hair from Fran's face.

And then everything FREEZES.

Sofia is the only one still moving, and she slowly rises, looking round for who or what caused this.

GHOST EMMA (O.S.)

Not the fairy-tale ending, I admit,
but the good guys win.

Sofia turns - Ghost Emma weaves through the frozen statues of the Slayers towards her.

GHOST EMMA (cont'd)

And this is how it'll go down, if
you take me up on my once in a
lifetime offer. Can't say it's a
hard choice, if y'all ask me.

SOFIA

(shakes head)

No... no, it can't... it can't be
that simple! Those girls, they...
they died! Fran, Reiko, Juanita...
Heidi! Oh, God, Heidi got bitten by
Darcie, she's as good as dead all
over again...

GHOST EMMA

Hate to remind you, hun, but Heidi
died a hell of a lot sooner in your
version of events.

Sofia turns away, unable to answer. She looks out, over the tableau before her.

GHOST EMMA (cont'd)

So what's it gonna be?

She looks down at her hands and flexes her fingers, looking at them as if she's never seen them before.

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA

(quiet)

No.

GHOST EMMA

Excuse me?

SOFIA

I said 'no.' I don't have to die for this to happen. Everything I just saw, the battle, killing the Cabal... I can do it.

GHOST EMMA

(incredulous)

Uh, not wantin' to rain on your li'l parade, but... no, you can't.

SOFIA

(snaps)

Oh, bollocks to you! I can't just sign my life away because you play me some... some pantomime of what could happen if I say 'yes,' can I? This hasn't happened! You've got no way of knowing this is how things will really turn out!

GHOST EMMA

The hell I don't!

Ghost Emma gets in Sofia's face, but Sofia stands firm.

GHOST EMMA (cont'd)

What's to lose? Huh? A few good lays with Braeden the acrobatic anti-Slayer and the nice, warm feeling of blood on your hands?

SOFIA

(shakes head)

You don't get it. You never knew these girls, never had their friendship, their wisdom, their love. How am I supposed to give that up?

GHOST EMMA

You don't have that either! Not any more! You made a choice. You killed everything in you they loved, the 'Sofia' they knew.

SOFIA

I'm still me! I don't want this!

(CONTINUED)

GHOST EMMA
You don't deserve this!

Sofia stops as Emma covers her eyes, wipes away tears.

GHOST EMMA (cont'd)
That one single day, with you and those girls, was the best in my damn life. And I can't force you to change your mind, but I can tell you that if you think for one second I'll love them any less than you, help them any less... you're just wrong, okay?

Sofia stops, watches Emma break down - finally.

GHOST EMMA (cont'd)
(crying)
I'm human, but so are you! What makes you better, more qualified? What if you were in my place?
(beat)
I didn't want to die either, Sofia, but I did it because it needed to happen. But I wanted to live.

Sofia looks down, embarrassed at herself. After a few endless seconds, she matches Emma's gaze.

SOFIA
I -

EMMA (O.S.)
Okay, okay... stop.

The words, strangely, didn't come from Emma herself. Sofia looks around, confused, then her eyes land back on Emma:

Who now has the SCYTHE digging through her abdomen!

GHOST EMMA
What...

She sinks to her knees, her eyes lifeless. Behind her stands another EMMA!

EMMA
(cold)
Hey.

SOFIA
(confused)
Er... what?!?

(CONTINUED)

The new Emma steps forwards, and as she does, the world around them begins to FALL APART, as does Emma herself! Sofia, steps back, closes her eyes:

WHITE OUT:

FADE IN:

EXT. NOWHERE

A flat white expanse stretches out as far as can be seen. No detail, nothing, just smooth white nothing. The only shadow cast is by Sofia, who stands in the middle.

In the same position, Emma stands, as she looked when she died, when she saved Sofia from the Sonho demon three years ago.

SOFIA

I... I don't understand, is this another part of the test?

EMMA

Nope, no test.

(beat)

It's me, Sofia. The real Emma. Luckily for you.

Emma smiles a little, steps forward - and PUNCHES Sofia in the face!

Sofia falls backwards, landing with a THUD! Sitting back and looking back up at Emma, she's speechless.

SOFIA

What was that for?

EMMA

Are you some kinda idiot all of a sudden, limey? Did you get so wrapped up in yourself that you'd follow some screwed up version of me into la-la land, thinking it was real?

Sofia stands, having had enough.

SOFIA

What the hell are you talking about, you... you bint! You appear, you disappear, you give me a choice, you kill you -

EMMA

That wasn't me.

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA

(beat)

Hmm?

EMMA

Absolutely not me. I'm me. That other me... beats the hell outta me. Coulda been a demon, coulda been your own brain trying to mess you up even more... damned if I know. And anyway, you have taken a lot of hits to the head lately...

SOFIA

That... actually makes a lot more sense now...

EMMA

Good. Now shut up.

Sofia starts to reply, but thinks better of it.

EMMA (cont'd)

You did this. This is all you, Sofia. Every detail, every twist and turn, is you.

(beat)

Your guilt over Keeya, over Trina, over Tyson, you gave them all nice and tidy happy endings. Frankie's baby, all you. This moronic Slayer sacrifice, all a fantastic melodrama from the skull of the most self-deluding, idiotic Slayer -

SOFIA

I've never -

EMMA

(snaps)

Don't interrupt me, girl!

(beat; calmer)

Even though I'm a nice girl, you have officially pissed me off. How could you fall for this crap?

Emma reaches out her hands, gesturing to the bizarre environment surrounding them. Sofia mumbles something.

EMMA (cont'd)

What was that now?

SOFIA

(bites lip)

What if it was real? What if the demon was right, and you would've -

(CONTINUED)

EMMA

I woulda what, been Wonder Woman?
For all the two of us know, first
time out I coulda gotten us all
killed.

(beat)

This ain't about me and we both
know it, so cut the crap.

SOFIA

(yelling)

Then what is it about?

EMMA

It's about you! It's about you
wanting to hit the reset button,
wanting to close your eyes and make
it all better. You want to die, and
you wanna fix everything doing it.

SOFIA

And that's bad how? I'm not such a
great addition to society, at this
point!

Emma just turns and walks away, unable to even look at Sofia.
She turns around, trying to keep her cool and failing
miserably.

EMMA

Are you even listening? You want to
be a martyr, and you don't get that
option! Dying's the easiest thing
in the world, easier'n breathing,
easier'n fighting, and you know
that. You've been there already.

(beat)

So no, you don't get your precious
happy ending. You can't erase
Braeden, and you can't erase
yourself, no matter how you try.

SOFIA

So that's it? I've destroyed
everything for everyone, and I just
have to live with it?

EMMA

(rolls eyes)

It ain't the end of the world.

(beat)

Not yet, anyway. I'm not saying
you'll survive to see it - heck I
don't even know if you'll see
tomorrow, way you're going.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

EMMA (cont'd)

What I do know is, redemption don't come cheap.

She stares into Sofia's eyes, daring her to argue.

SOFIA

I've... I've really made a mess, Emma, and I don't think I can do this any longer. I'm just...

(closes her eyes)

... I'm just tired of feeling.

Emma steps forwards, smiles and reaches out her hand to touch Sofia's.

EMMA

I know. But you gotta live for me, and all the other girls who died to get you where you are.

SOFIA

(faint smile)

'Redemption doesn't come cheap,' right?

She opens her eyes and looks at Emma, determination entering her eyes at last.

SOFIA (cont'd)

I know what I have to do. I know how I can help stop them. And I can stop them. It's the only way I can ever start to make any kind of amends for what I've done.

EMMA

(chuckles)

T'ain't me you gotta talk to, limey. Believe me, I already know. But when it's your time, we'll have a nice long chat 'bout things.

Emma reaches out and embraces Sofia. A light seems to come from inside Emma, spreading over them, covering everything. Blinding.

WHITE OUT:

FADE IN:

Sofia opens her eyes, the determination still there. She looks up to see SKYE standing by the doorway.

(CONTINUED)

SKYE

(cocks head)

You alright? You've been out of it
for the last few hours. You want me
to go fetch Manu or something?

SOFIA

No, I'm...

(smiles)

I'm fine.

Skye just quirks an eyebrow. Sofia stands, full of confidence
at long last.

SOFIA (cont'd)

We need to talk.

Skye looks to her, unsure, but as Sofia nods slowly, ready to
do what has to be done:

BLACK OUT:

END OF SHOW