

SLAYER ACADEMY

"MOTHER, MOTHER"

STARRING

EMILY BROWNING

EMILY BOOTH

RACHAEL LEIGH COOK

MILA KUNIS

KATHERINE HEIGL

KYOKO FUKADA

WITH

JACQUELINE MCKENZIE

BRADLEY COOPER

NAVEEN ANDREWS

FAMKE JANSSEN

AND

JULIA LING

SPECIAL GUEST STARS

NICHOLAS BRENDON

MAGGIE CHEUNG

GUEST STARRING

KIRSTEN PROUT as 'Belle'

JEFF RICKETTS as 'Weatherby'

CREATED BY
LEE A. CRIMES
WITH
CHRIS KELLY & PAUL ROBINSON

PRODUCER	PRODUCER
DANIEL LOACH	TOM EAST

PRODUCER	PRODUCER
LI ROBB	CHRIS HAIGH

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER	EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
AARON DRISCOL	ALDEN C. CAELE

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
LEE. A. CRIMES

WRITTEN BY
TOM EAST

BASED ON CONCEPTS AND CHARACTERS CREATED BY JOSS WHEDON
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PREVIOUSLY

ZOE (V.O.)
Previously, on Slayer Academy...

EXT. FACILITY - COURTYARD - NIGHT

DELANEY is shoving the unconscious form of KIRA into the back of a Jeep. They're in the courtyard of a CABAL FACILITY.

TROOPER (O.S.)
Stop!

She whips her head up - two CABAL TROOPERS are racing towards her from the far side of the courtyard!

DELANEY
(weary)
Come on, fellas, can't we just call
this a win now?

As the soldiers reach her, she SLAMS the door into the first trooper, knocking him flat!

The other raises his weapon but she grabs it and REVERSES it onto him, SMACKING him in the forehead with the butt of it.

She DIVES into the Jeep, slides into the driver's side and shoves the key in, starting the jeep with a ROAR of the engine.

She SMIRKS, checking the rear view mirror before she removes the handbrake and SCREECHES off.

The gates at the end of the courtyard are open but SLIDING SHUT, Delaney's Jeep weaving between more incoming troopers before she blasts through the gates!

GUNFIRE chases her out, the Jeep's windows SHATTERING, but she stays on course and speeds off into the night as we:

CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - CORRIDOR - DAY

GABRIELA stands with ZOE just outside the dorms.

GABRIELA
So, how can I help?

ZOE
You're kind of a witch, right? Can
you locate someone?

GABRIELA
Yes, I suppose I could... who?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ZOE

It's a male friend of mine. His...
his name's Dade.

(beat)

You're not gonna ask me who he is?

GABRIELA

(shrugs)

Is it any of my business? Look,
here's how this'll work. I find the
boy and he seems on the level, I
tell you. If he seems like a bad
guy, I go to Grace.

ZOE

Fair enough.

Gabriela smiles at Zoe before heading back into her dorms.
Zoe bites her lip nervously before we:

CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - INFIRMARY - NEXT

Kira, dressed in a MEDICAL GOWN, lies still on the bed as
MANU attends to her.

MANU

Delaney, your mother is in a sort
of coma. I've found evidence of an
old gunshot wound which may have
been the cause of it.

(beat)

If the bloods I've taken are any
indication, she's been kept heavily
sedated since then.

Manu holds an X-RAY up to the light.

MANU (cont'd)

And judging from these scans,
there's evidence of a lot of stress
having been put on her brain. She
was most likely scanned. Magically.
Like somebody trying to open a
combination lock.

(beat)

The drugs have taken a hold on her
and she's remaining in this magical
coma, and nothing we can do here
can stop that.

DELANEY

You mean you can't wake her up?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MANU
(nods)
I'm sorry, Delaney.

He glances away for a moment - and Delaney is GONE when he looks back round.

CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - DORMS - MORNING

Zoe enters the dorms to find ZILVIA, another young Asian Slayer, going through some photographs.

ZOE
Zilvia? Zilvia Paik?

ZILVIA
That's me. Who wants to know?

ZOE
I'm Zoe. I, uh... I wanted to ask
you about something. I need to know
about your cousin.
(beat)
Dade.

ZILVIA
I haven't seen Dade for years, why
do you -

ZOE
Trust me. It's very important.
(beat)
And if you also know anything about
your Aunt Huang, that'd be a huge
help too.

ZILVIA
Oh, Auntie Huang's in protective
custody.

ZOE
What?

ZILVIA
She's got a lot of enemies. After
she ragged on that big coven about
twenty years ago, the Council put
her up somewhere safe and she's
been there ever since.

ZOE
Do you know where?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ZILVIA
(scoffs)
Like I'd know that!

Zoe consider this new information, then rises.

ZILVIA (cont'd)
Sorry I couldn't be more help.

ZOE
No... no, you helped.
(smiles)
Thanks.

Zoe turns and leaves the room, and we:

CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - INFIRMARY - DAY

Delaney's unconscious form BURSTS INTO LIFE! She GASPS for air and struggles, flailing as Manu and the now present SKYE and RACHEL hold her down.

She was lying on a bed next to Kira, who remains in her comatose state as Delaney takes a DEEP BREATH and then looks around her, the fire back in her eyes as she sits up.

SKYE
For the benefit of those of us who
don't have a degree in practical
magic... the frick did you just do?

DELANEY
(still catching breath)
I tapped into Kira's mind. Snuck in
past the defences to speak to her.
(serious)
I know what I need to do now.

Delaney slides off the bed and onto her feet. The others watch, curious, as she looks down at Kira.

SKYE
So? Spill! What do you have to do?

DELANEY
Kira told me about this person who
could help. The only person who
could heal her.

BLACK OUT:

END OF TAG

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. CLIFFSIDE - NIGHT 1

RAIN and HAIL splatters down on the worn land, making the path treacherous for the GIRL stumbling down a nearby path.

Her dark hair is tied back into a ponytail, and she's wearing a thick raincoat to keep the elements off herself as much as possible.

The wind shrieks as her ponytail flies out behind her and the rain shoots off her face as quickly as it landed there. Her face is grim, but she's determined to make it to wherever she's going.

She stumbles down the wet path - but TRIPS and falls onto both knees. She lets out a cry of pain as she goes down - but freezes suddenly.

She stays still, looking round intently.

WHOOSH! Something RUSHES past her at lightning speed, knocking her back to the floor. After a few seconds, she pushes herself to her feet - and hurries on down the path, this time running.

Then, she stops - but the sound of footsteps continue to follow her. She turns - but there's no-one there.

She spins back round and hurries round a twist in the path and down towards the beachside beside the cliffs.

2 EXT. BEACHSIDE - NEXT 2

She hurries onto a sand of the beach, her trainers sinking into the wet material. But she hurries on, aiming for something off screen with a look of determination etched across her features.

The tide SPLASHES around her feet as she gets further in - and behind her there's more SPLASHING.

She spares a look back - but there's no-one there. Then, she freezes, allowing the water to claw around her feet.

Finally, we see what she's aiming for - at the end of the beach is a dark CAVE.

Shrugging out of her raincoat, the girl reveals a slim, petite figure with a good sense in fashion.

Except, on her belt are several things you wouldn't normally see on a girl - HOLY WATER. A STAKE and a CROSS. A chain of GARLIC.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

Loosening the stake with her right hand and then a TORCH with her left, the girl sets forward, letting the rain fall down her but not shivering an inch as she steps into the darkness.

3 INT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS

3

The torch flickers to life, showing what you would expect from a cave in the mountainside. The walls are damp, one part delivering an endless DRIP of water.

But the girl carries on, shining her torch into the seemingly endless darkness.

That is, until she stumbles upon something. Taking a step back and a gasp, the girl shines her torch downward - it's a SKELETON.

The girl looks solemn, kneeling down beside it.

GIRL

(sad)

Lucy. I'm so sorry.

She shakes her head, throwing the emotion off her face. She stands up, stake at the ready - now she's ANGRY.

She storms forward, torch showing nothing - until the cave widens into an opening.

The opening is dimly lit by a single crack in the ceiling that seems to carry on until the top of the cliff. A tiny ray of moonlight shines through, illuminating another skeleton in the center of the opening.

She shines her torch around the chamber - but she doesn't need her torch to see the FACES leering out at her from the darkness!

She steps forward into the center of the chamber next to the skeleton, dropping her torch and raising her stake.

GIRL (cont'd)

So is this going to be a fair fight
or what?

A figure steps forward from the shadows, his features disfigured - a VAMPIRE. And then another one. And another. Soon, she's completely surrounded by a gang of thirteen vampires.

GIRL (cont'd)

I guess not.

(counts)

Thirteen. Lucky number.

(CONTINUED)

Then, the first VAMP lunges towards her! She jumps over him, twisting in midair to cleanly STAKE him in the back. He DUSTS before he even hits the ground.

She lands neatly on both feet, smiling in glee at the obvious glares she's getting from the remaining twelve vamps.

Then - they all close in at once.

GIRL (cont'd)

Oh... crap.

The first LUNGES as we CUT TO:

EXT. BEACHSIDE - NEXT

A CRY of pain and horror rings out across the beach - but no-one's there to hear it as we CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - DORMS - MORNING

DELANEY tosses and turns in her sleep, having kicked away her blanket and her pillow thrown across the floor. She's still fully clothed, though - this was only a nap.

DELANEY

(mumbling)

No... no! You can't take her. Get away from her!

She's still fast asleep - but RACHEL isn't. She watches over her friend, concern etched over her face.

DELANEY (cont'd)

Get away!

Rachel pauses for a second - before climbing out of her bed and lightly resting a hand on Delaney's shoulder.

RACHEL

It's alright, Delaney. It's all just a dream.

Delaney's eyes SNAP OPEN. Rachel's hand snaps back, startled.

DELANEY

It's not a dream if it's still there when I wake up.

RACHEL

(exhales)

Damn, it's creepy when you do that.

Rachel waits for Delaney to sit up, rubbing her eyes.

RACHEL (cont'd)
We're trying everything to wake Kira up. You've barely slept for the last few days, you need to rest.
(beat; awkward)
Maybe you should just consider that she's -

DELANEY
Don't you dare say it, Rachel.

RACHEL
But -

DELANEY
No! She needs my help, that's all. Nobody here knows what they're doing.

Delaney slides out of bed, going straight for the LOCKER at the end of her bed. She opens it, rifling through the many BOOKS stuffed inside.

RACHEL
What if... I could give you a nudge in the right direction?

DELANEY
(not looking up)
What do you mean?

RACHEL
You should talk to Reiko.

DELANEY
Reiko? What for?

RACHEL
Hey, those Slayer dream things aren't just limited to actual Slayers these days, you know.

Rachel taps the side of her head.

RACHEL (cont'd)
Just take it as a message from... wherever. Go talk to Reiko. She'll tell you what you need to know.

DELANEY
You're sure?

Rachel nods. Delaney starts pulling on her clothes, clearly in a hurry.

(CONTINUED)

DELANEY (cont'd)
Let's hope you're right. I sure
don't want to have to waste time
listening to that chick babble
about whatever's popped into her
mind since she snapped her last
stick of gum.

Delaney's out of the dorms in a flash, leaving Rachel to
watch her depart.

Rachel then leans forward, wincing and rubbing her temples -
having hidden the pain she was feeling the whole time as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

6 INT. CAMPUS - LIBRARY - MORNING

6

The morning sun shines through the library's windows and SOFIA has to hold a hand to her eyes to block it out.

She looks around, but the place seems to be empty.

SKYE (O.S.)

Frankie!

(beat)

For the love of Daniel Jackson,
woman, let me in!

Sofia raises an eyebrow and slowly trots off in the general direction of Skye's voice to find out what's going on.

7 INT. LIBRARY - OUTSIDE FRANKIE'S OFFICE - NEXT

7

Sofia finds Skye by the office door, trying to barge her way in.

SOFIA

What are you doing?

SKYE

She's locked herself in there.
Haven't heard a word out of her for
days. I mean, I'm all about
respecting privacy, but now we're
moving into 'friendly concern,' so
all she needs to do is...

(rattles handle)

... open the fricken door!

Getting no response from inside the office, Skye abandons the door and turns towards Sofia.

SKYE (cont'd)

You try. You've got a less
threatening voice.

SOFIA

(dry)

But you have such a way with words.

Sofia gently eases Skye away from the locked door.

SOFIA (cont'd)

After what Frankie's been through,
I think she's owed time to mourn.
What happened to Dunstall... nobody
should have to go through that.

(CONTINUED)

SKYE

Hey, I'm not saying it doesn't suck, but we have a duty as her friends to pull her ass out of this funk before it sets in permanently. Do you want another term of Angry Frankie?

(dramatic)

Are we forgetting what she was like after she hurt her arm?

Grimacing, Sofia looks away from Skye and at the office door.

SOFIA

Surely there must be some way of getting her out?

SKYE

(shakes head)

We've tried. Phoned her, tried to kick the door down, nothing's working. I think she might have put a spell on the door. I'll ask Delaney to check. Failing that, I'll just kick harder.

(beat)

So what are you doing here? Is it that test on Slayer History we've got this afternoon? 'Cause I'm with you if you want to bail on that. Never could get the dates right for that Thessily Thessi... thessila... whatserface.

SOFIA

(shakes head)

It's... personal. Reiko and I had... words the other week, and I just wanted to talk to someone about it.

SKYE

And you picked Frankie?

SOFIA

Don't take this at all personally, Skye, but sometimes your advice is a little too... blunt.

SKYE

And Frankie's isn't? We are talking about the same girl here, right?

SOFIA

No, no... look, this is coming out all wrong.

(CONTINUED)

SKYE

(pouts)

Just because I favour 'kicking' as the solution to many of life's problems does not mean I can't be a sympathetic ear.

SOFIA

I know! And I appreciate that. I just feel that maybe... sometimes, you have a hard time separating your emotions from a situation, whereas Frankie can get a better sense of the bigger picture.

SKYE

(blinks)

I don't do that.

Sofia lays a hand on Skye's shoulder and gives her a warm smile.

SOFIA

You were here to talk to Frankie about Erika, weren't you?

Skye hesitates, then sighs heavily. Shoulders slumping.

SKYE

Erika's leaving tonight. Then there's my physical. That'll be fun, won't it? And now Frankie's shut herself in there...

(louder)

Meaning that she's wasting time that she could be spending on finding a cure!

(beat)

I guess I could do with a friend right now.

Sofia's about to respond with her own comforting reply when:

ZOE (O.S.)

Hello?

The girls turn - ZOE is at the head of the stairs.

ZOE (cont'd)

Hey. Sofia, there's someone to see you in reception.

SOFIA

(confused)

Who could possibly be here to see me?

(CONTINUED)

SKYE

(sour)

If it's who I think it is, be
prepared to put up a fight.

SOFIA

(frowns)

What do you mean?

Skye doesn't respond, and from Sofia's worried expression we
CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - RECEPTION - NEXT

The three girls enter the main reception, Skye just ahead of
Sofia as though expecting to defend her from someone.

Sofia and Skye scan the room for any new arrivals. It's quite
crowded, but FITZGERALD can be seen on the other end of the
room, discussing something with a MAN with his back to the
girls.

Zoe gives Sofia a little nudge on the back.

ZOE

He's over there with Miss
Fitzgerald.

She slinks off, leaving Sofia and Skye alone.

SKYE

Go for it. I've got your back.

SOFIA

Why would my back need getting?
Skye, who exactly are you afraid of
here?

Fitzgerald hears them and turns:

FITZGERALD

Ah, Sofia. Good.

And she steps aside - to reveal XANDER HARRIS!

XANDER

(grins)

Hey, kiddo.

Sofia stares at him for a long beat - and Xander's smile
drops ever so slightly - before recognition lights up across
her features.

SOFIA

Xander!

She races towards him and almost LEAPS into a hug, wrapping her arms tight around him.

XANDER
(to Fitzgerald)
There, see? Told you she'd remember me.

SOFIA
Oh, be quiet.

Still clamped firmly against him, Sofia looks like all's well with her world at last as we CUT TO:

Reiko is wandering down a corridor, scrolling through tracks on her iPod - until a hand snatches out of a doorway and pulls her in. She gives out a little YELP.

Zoe's head pops round the corner of the corridor, and she catches MUTED VOICES coming from the room Reiko was pulled into. She begins to advance cautiously.

REIKO (O.S.)
You know, you could just stop me and say 'hey, Reiko!' There's no need to kidnap me.

DELANEY (O.S.)
Reiko, shut up.
(beat)
Can you help me find somebody called Lady Huang?

Zoe reaches the doorway and eavesdrops:

REIKO (O.S.)
How do you know about her? She's only -

DELANEY (O.S.)
Let's cut all the running round in circles about this, alright? I know you know about her, and it's very important that I know it too.

REIKO (O.S.)
(beat)
Alita told me about her once. She's like Obi-Wan Kenobi, this old hermit living up in the hills near her village.
(beat)
Why?

DELANEY (O.S.)
I'm thinking she might be able to
help me wake Kira.

Zoe inhales a deep breath and then enters the room:

10

INT. CAMPUS - CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

10

The two girls inside look up as Zoe enters.

DELANEY
(tetchy)
Can I help you?

ZOE
Sorry, I was passing and couldn't
help but overhear.

DELANEY
Sure you couldn't. What with the
door being closed and all.

ZOE
I know where to find Lady Huang.

Delaney's eyes brighten up as she hears this.

ZOE (cont'd)
I was speaking to this girl called
Zilvia about... something else, and
Huang's name came up. Seems we're
both looking for her.

DELANEY
Great. Tell me where to find her
and I'll send my regards.

ZOE
(shakes head)
I'm coming too. Whatever you need
her for, I need to speak to her
just as bad.

REIKO
Aren't you two guys forgetting
something?
(off looks)
I can speak the language. Unless
you were planning on hiring a
translator.

ZOE
(ignoring her)
And I know what tricks she might be
pulling. She's a very...
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

10

CONTINUED:

10

ZOE (cont'd)
complicated woman, and her house
will probably be guarded.

DELANEY

(beat)
Alright, fine. I'll go speak to
Fitzgerald and we should be good to
leave in a few hours.

REIKO

I'm coming too!
(odd looks)
What, I can't have something to
talk to her about too?

Reluctantly at first, Delaney nods before brushing past Zoe
and out of the room.

11

INT. CAMPUS - RECEPTION - NEXT

11

Sofia sits with Xander on the seats just by the reception
desk, the others having left.

SOFIA

So what are you doing here?

XANDER

(shrugs)
I spoke to Willow a little while
ago, and she told me what went on
with the Cabal and then the memory
wipe, 'Seven Years In Tibet' thing.

Sofia's eyes dart away from him and he notices, quickly
changing the subject.

XANDER (cont'd)

I thought I'd catch a plane and try
and help pop those memories back up
in there.

He taps her on the head, and she smiles at him.

XANDER (cont'd)

(smiles)
Anyway, it's just an excuse to see
you again, isn't it?

SOFIA

(cheeky)
Of course it is. You just can't
keep away from this place. Given
that you're one of only a handful
of boys within several miles.

(CONTINUED)

XANDER

Call it the Giles effect. I spent the formative years of my life in his library, so I'm thinking it's more some kind of unconscious magnetic pull anything to do with him has on me.

(beat)

Which is actually a lot creepier than I've realised until now...

Sofia chuckles, and Xander takes a beat to look around - noticing the dark looks Sofia keeps getting from Slayers that pass by.

XANDER (cont'd)

Hey, here's a crazy idea. Let's sign you out and go grab some lunch in one of these 'pubs' Willow keeps telling me about.

SOFIA

I'll... I'll have to check. I'm not exactly allowed to go wandering off without adult supervision at the moment.

XANDER

But you'll be with me.

SOFIA

Exactly.

Sofia grins at Xander's reaction, before rising and taking him by the hand.

SOFIA (cont'd)

Come on, then. Let's go see the woman in charge.

XANDER

(rising)

Ah, yes. Fine figure of a woman.

(off look)

No. Just... no.

FITZGERALD (PRE-LAP)

I suppose I have no choice, do I?

CUT TO:

Fitzgerald sits behind her desk, and Delaney, Reiko and Zoe sit in chairs on the opposite side.

(CONTINUED)

FITZGERALD

(counts off on hand)

What with Skye's physical,
Erika's... unfortunate departure,
and Mr. Harris showing up to talk
to Sofia, A Squad's pretty much
benched right now.

(beat)

However, Kira's still an asset to
the Academy in my opinion, even if
that's not shared by others. It's
in our best interests to revive
her. Therefore...

She SIGNS a sheet before her with a flourish, handing it to
Delaney. She lets out a sigh of relief and smiles gratefully.

FITZGERALD (cont'd)

I'll set up a plane for tomorrow
morning. That should give you girls
enough time to pack.

(off Reiko)

I daresay it may take a while.

Delaney freezes in her seat and gives Fitzgerald a pleading
look.

DELANEY

With all due respect, I'd prefer to
leave today. If this Lady Huang
chick's is meant to be some sort of
witch in hiding, then maybe she can
help us combat the Virus. It isn't
just about waking up M - Kira.

REIKO

Although if she is in hiding, she
hasn't done a very good job with
it, given that we all know about
her.

(off looks)

I'm just saying.

FITZGERALD

Fine. I'll get the plane ready for
seven tonight.

DELANEY

Thank you.

FITZGERALD

Just do me a favour and don't get
yourselves killed.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

12

CONTINUED: (2)

12

FITZGERALD (cont'd)
 So far I've not had any of my
 managerial decisions backfire on me
 the same way Barbara's always
 seemed to, so I don't want to
 change that now!

Nodding, Delaney leads the girls out of the room.

Sighing, Fitzgerald turns her chair to look out of the window at the field, where several groups of girls are jogging round the pitch.

Her look darkens as she leaves her seat.

13

INT. CAMPUS - GYMNASIUM - LATER

13

Fitzgerald enters the gymnasium to see Skye BOUNDING over a pile of crates. She walks over to DR. MANU CAIRNS whose watching Skye intently.

FITZGERALD
 Any results?

MANU
 (astonished)
 Blood pressure's exactly the same
 as a normal Slayer's, steady
 heartbeat and all.
 (beat)
 She's completely human.

He shows her a graph he's drawn up on a sheet of paper. She skim reads it and then looks up.

FITZGERALD
 So you're not seeing any noticeable
 side effects?

MANU
 She's comparing more to any other
 Slayer, but the drop in stamina and
 strength isn't significant.
 (beat)
 All that seems to be lost is the
 vampiric abilities such as her
 regenerative power, and her ability
 to sense other vampires and demons.

FITZGERALD
 (nods)
 Which is a shame to lose, but at
 least she's not any less powerful
 than the rest of our girls. But,
 now come the important questions.
 (beat; louder)
 Skye, that's enough for now.

(CONTINUED)

Finishing off with a flip and landing on both feet in front of the two academy staff, Skye lets slip a grin.

SKYE

So how did I do?

MANU

Congratulations, you're completely human.

SKYE

(rolls eyes; mutters)

Because I didn't know that already.

MANU

I'm still not sure I quite understand how you actually are human, though - could you run it past me again?

SKYE

I found a lead and followed it through. That's all you need to know.

(beat; off looks)

Don't look at me like that. I didn't exactly get hold of the information through what you'd call 'legal' channels, so if it's all the same to you I'm gonna keep quiet about it so I don't get myself into any more trouble.

FITZGERALD

(weary)

Skye...

SKYE

Listen, I'm fine! It's not that big a deal! It's not going to affect me. The biggest threat right now is the virus, and you shouldn't be wasting time on me whilst you could be helping Frankie.

(off looks)

If Frankie would get out of that goddamn room then she'd be back researching, taking her mind off Dunstall. Which is what she needs.

Sudden RATTLING draws the trio's attention to the doors were TWO SLAYERS are wheeling out a covered BODY on a trolley.

Manu's look darkens as he notices this, and Fitzgerald looks away. Skye's transfixed by the sight, however.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: (2)

13

SKYE (cont'd)
What happened?

MANU
(blunt)
She died.

Without another word, he shuffles off to follow the two Slayers with Fitzgerald following seconds later, leaving Skye on her own.

SKYE
(calling after him)
Will you stop stating the obvious?

She doesn't get a reply however, and returns to grumbling under her breath as she moves back to the changing rooms.

14 EXT. BEACHSIDE - AFTERNOON

14

Xander's CAR pulls up on the deserted beach, rain thumping down hard on the windows and the windscreen wipers swishing back and forth like mad.

The waves crash against a nearby cliff side and roll up the beach, stopping in front of the car before rolling back down the bank.

15 INT. XANDER'S CAR - NEXT

15

Inside, Sofia is looking out at the beach with an expression of confusion mixed with amusement showing on her face.

SOFIA
Is this your definition of
"someplace nice," then?

XANDER
I'll have you know I'm an excellent
judge of ideal holiday locations.
(beat)
This, however, isn't a holiday.
We're heading for a cave on the
other side of the cliff. Through
that forest up there.

Xander grins, groping underneath his chair for something.
Sofia frowns.

SOFIA
(confused)
What are you doing?

(CONTINUED)

XANDER
Looking for something...
(beat)
Aha!

He pulls his hand up and quickly flicks something towards Sofia. Instinctively, she catches it and looks down at her hand. It's a STAKE.

XANDER (cont'd)
(grins)
I thought this might help clear up
your mind a little.
(beat)
You ready?

Without giving time for Sofia to answer, Xander opens his door and steps out into the pouring rain.

Sofia frowns, looking at him through the windscreen before opening up her own door and following.

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

16

INT. AEROPLANE - DAY

16

Delaney sits on a separate row of seats to the two other girls, although Reiko seems intent on including her into the conversation.

REIKO

So I said, 'that's my sword, I swear!'

Reiko pauses, probably waiting for a laugh or an applause. Neither come.

REIKO (cont'd)

I thought it was funny.

ZOE

I'm sure it was... at the time.

REIKO

Hey, Delaney? You got what I meant, right? 'Cause, see, he thought it was my -

DELANEY

Reiko, I can honestly say that I have never cared less about anything in my life than I do the punchline of this story.

(beat; exhales)

Please stop talking. Before I take away your voice.

REIKO

Can you... do that?

Delaney just raises an eyebrow. Reiko stares at her in shock - before gulping and turning back around in her seat.

Zoe lets out a little snigger before turning round and giving Delaney the thumbs up.

Delaney sinks back into her seat, letting out a sigh of relief at the rare moment of Reiko being quiet - until it starts all over again.

REIKO (cont'd)

There was this other time, though, when Katie had this axe, right?

Grumbling, Delaney waves her hands, emitting a green pulse of energy towards Reiko.

(CONTINUED)

REIKO (cont'd)
So Fran sa -

Reiko cuts off, her mouth still moving but no words coming out.

Reiko puts a hand to her mouth in shock - before turning to Delaney in disbelief.

Delaney just grins, theatrically dusting her hands before settling down and closing her eyes.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Sofia and Xander make their way through a dense forest at the top of the cliffside, pushing away branches as they try to stay as quiet as possible.

SOFIA
(breaking the silence)
I remember killing her.

Xander freezes, turning. Sofia stands still in between several trees.

SOFIA (cont'd)
Alita. I remember her face. The
look of despair in her eyes. I see
it every time I close my eyes.

Xander takes a step forward, laying a hand on her shoulder.

XANDER
It's okay -

SOFIA
No, it's not, Xander. It's not only
her. I can remember it all. All the
Slayers I helped... him hunt down
and murder, all the innocent people
I helped him kill!

She looks down at the ground, a TEAR rolling down her cheek.

SOFIA (cont'd)
And I remember him. He's the
hardest thing to remember, but he's
what I need to understand the most.
I need to know what he did to me,
to make me... love him.

XANDER
We can't help who we love, Sofia.
Heck, I'm the guy who married an ex-
vengeance demon, after all!

SOFIA

It's a little different for me.

XANDER

Is it? I knew Anya had a... past,
let's say. But I loved her anyway.
I loved who she was there and then,
not who she used to be.

SOFIA

He asked me to go with him.

Xander pauses, looking to Sofia. She closes her eyes, taking her time getting this out.

SOFIA (cont'd)

I've never... nobody else knows
that. The first time we all went to
the Arctic, after he'd opened the
Hub and he shot me...

One hand unconsciously rubs her side, right where Braeden put that bullet in her.

SOFIA (cont'd)

... he asked me to go with him. He
said he'd save me if I went.

XANDER

Sofia, from what I've heard about
that - which isn't much, admittedly
- you were dying. You didn't have a
choice.

SOFIA

(rounds on him)

Of course I had a bloody choice!
He'd just unlocked every Hellmouth
on the planet, for God's sake! When
he asked me...

A long beat. She bows her head. Xander closes in.

SOFIA (cont'd)

I made him ask me.

She looks up, challenging Xander to react. To his credit, he stays quiet.

SOFIA (cont'd)

Because I knew if he did, I'd say
yes and we'd be together again. And
at that moment, that's what I
wanted. I just wanted to be with
him again.

(CONTINUED)

XANDER

Sofia...

He reaches for her, but she PUSHES away.

SOFIA

So that's why I ran away. Once I'd gotten all that Cabal conditioning out of my head, once I'd had some time to think about the consequences of that choice... that's why I couldn't stay.

XANDER

(beat)

The point I was so inelegantly trying to make is that love is blind. It's more than blind - it's blind and stupid. It doesn't care whether what you're feeling is good or bad.

Sofia lets out a SOB, emotions bubbling to the surface.

SOFIA

I hate what I've become! What he made me become!

Tears flow freely as she lunges forward into Xander's arms, WEEPING into his shoulder as he comforts her.

XANDER

Everything's alright, Sofia. You're going to get through this.

SOFIA

How? How do I face what I've done?

XANDER

Faith -

Before he says another word, Sofia's world seems to collapse.

SOFIA

Is what I was most scared of. I didn't want to be like her.

(bitter laugh)

But no, I'm even worse. I'm the girl that kills her fellow Slayers.

XANDER

(desperate)

Sofia, please. You can get past all this, but you have to realise it'll take time.

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA

What? What do I do, then?

XANDER

You have to take all your memories back, even - especially the bad ones. It's what Faith had to do before moving on, and it made her a stronger person. Even she's making a difference now. And you can too, as long as you face what you've done and -

CRACK! Something snaps on the ground nearby. The duo freeze, eyes scanning the area for the source of the noise.

SOFIA

(whispers)

There.

She points to her left and Xander peers through a gap in the trees - to see the retreating forms of two figures.

XANDER

Vampires?

SOFIA

I'm not sure. We'd better check it out, though.

Xander nods in agreement and slowly the duo creep forward. They make it a few steps - before Xander steps on a twig and SNAPS it.

The two VAMPIRES up ahead spin round immediately, their features VAMPING OUT with a SNARL!

XANDER

(sighs)

It's always the twig...

They charge - the first rugby-tackling Xander to the ground and the other SWEEPING Sofia's feet from underneath her, sending the duo to the ground.

Sofia kicks off the ground, SPIN-KICKING her vamp hard in the face. His neck snaps round dangerously and he stumbles to the ground.

Xander manges to KNEE his opponent off him and dives to his feet quickly. The vampire lunges again - but Xander lifts his stake and DUSTS him.

Sofia hits her vampire once, twice, three times before it finally gets the message and BOLTS.

(CONTINUED)

Karate-chopping a tree branch into half, Sofia raises her hand-made STAKE, ready to throw - until Xander catches her arm.

XANDER (cont'd)
Kill him and we'll never know where
their hideout is.

SOFIA
Yes, but then they'll know we're
coming!

Sofia pauses and looks back - but the vampire's barely a speck in the distance.

SOFIA (cont'd)
Come on!

Grabbing Xander's arm, she begins to pull him along with her.

XANDER
(cries out)
Ow! Slayer strength! Slayer
strength!

Sofia lets go of his arm and races on alone, leaving Xander stumbling behind her.

XANDER (cont'd)
Hey, wait up!

But soon, Sofia's barely as visible as the vampire.

XANDER (cont'd)
Typical.

He lets out a sigh and continues to give chase.

Thick clouds cover up the sun, as Sofia stands atop the cliffside. Xander catches up to her, out of breath.

XANDER
Alright, next time, you let me go
first.
(exhales)
What have we got?

She points - down on the beach, the vampire is making a run for a barely visible hole in the cliffside.

SOFIA
I think we just found their hiding
place.

She lets out a smug grin - before jumping off the cliffside!

XANDER
(alarmed)
Sofia!

He dashes to the edge - and sees Sofia has landed on a path a few feet below. She smirks up at him.

XANDER (cont'd)
You, young lady, are going the
right way about a spanked behind.

SOFIA
And here was me thinking I'd grown
up since last time you were here.
(nods towards cave)
Let's go!

Xander decides to take the long route and follows the path. Sofia sighs, tapping her foot against the ground as she waits, mock impatient.

The duo reach the beach, the clouds are clearing now so they're sure they won't be attacked here. They start to walk towards the cave in the wall.

SOFIA
DO we have a plan?

XANDER
I thought you'd made one, what with
the rushing ahead.

SOFIA
Oh, I'm sure I'll think of
something. I just thought I should
check with you first.

Xander scrunches up his face, taking a look at the water as it rolls in beneath their feet.

XANDER
So what is your plan?

SOFIA
We go in, get outnumbered, fight
back and try not to die.

XANDER
Good plan.

SOFIA
Thanks.

XANDER

I think I have a better one,
though.

SOFIA

I'm listening.

XANDER

We go in, be careful, be
outnumbered, fight and kick ass.

SOFIA

(grins)

Sounds like my kind of plan.

XANDER

I thought so.

They've reached the mouth of the cave. They share a look,
before slowly stepping in, both loosening STAKES from their
belts.

They creep in slowly, Sofia squinting into the gloom.

SOFIA

I can't see a bloody thing.

The light from the mouth of the cave is dying out with every
step they take further into the cave.

XANDER

Hang on.

(pauses)

Got it.

There's a click - and Xander lights up a FLARE.

SOFIA

Where were you keeping that?

XANDER

(pats pockets)

Cargo pants. Anyway, that's better.

SOFIA

Or... not.

XANDER

(frowns)

Why not?

SOFIA

Because now we can see that we're
surrounded.

Xander looks round - she has a point. Eight VAMPIRES leer out from the darkness as we CUT TO:

Delaney's silencing spell seems to have worn off, and Reiko's gone back to her non-stop chatter.

Delaney, however, seems to have fallen asleep and Zoe looks like she's about to drift off any minute.

REIKO

I hope we're there soon, this ride is pretty boring. You guys aren't very fun.

ZOE

The pilot said we'd be there in half an hour, so just sit tight and we'll -

CRASH! The cabin SHAKES violently, rocking the girls around in their seats.

REIKO

(gulps)

That can't be good...

The plane then LURCHES sharply to the side, the engines ROARING with the extra strain!

Reiko tumbles out of her seat with a YELP, rolling down the aisle - until a HAND snaps out and grabs her. It's Delaney - she's awake.

DELANEY

This is why they have belts on the seats.

Reiko offers a sheepish smile as Delaney pulls her into the seat next to her, both girls fastening their seat belts.

ZOE

What's going on? Turbulence?

DELANEY

No... somebody's causing this.

She sits up, clenching one fist before her - which starts to GLOW a hazy orange.

DELANEY (cont'd)

There's magic in the air outside the jet. Somebody on the ground's trying to drive us away.

REIKO

So do something before we go all
Oceanic 815-y!

PILOT

(filtered; over intercom)
Girls, stay in your seats. We're in
a bad patch of turbulence, so we're
going to try and climb through it.

The plane starts to CLIMB sharply, the girls pushed back into
their seats...

... before it suddenly LURCHES forward, pitched back into a
dive again!

ZOE

Crap, crap, crap...

REIKO

Delaney! Help!

DELANEY

(serious)
Hold onto something.

Reiko's about to ask why - when Delaney's eyes begin to glow
a lime GREEN, and the air around her turns as green as her
eyes.

She's chanting some inaudible words under her breath - just
as the plane does another sharp JERK to the right!

Zoe and Reiko SCREAM as overhead luggage compartments pop
open, spilling SUITCASES into the aisle!

REIKO

We're going down!

The entire cabin SHUDDERS, the engines roaring louder and
louder as Delaney keeps chanting...

Then - everything's calm.

Delaney opens her eyes, looking around. The plane's back to
flying level, Reiko and Zoe gasping for breath.

Without a word, Delaney settles back down, taking the in-
flight magazine from her seat.

REIKO (cont'd)

(shaking)
What... what happened?

DELANEY

We were in trouble. I fixed it.

(CONTINUED)

Zoe unfastens her seatbelt and walks off to the pilot's cabin. Delaney tosses the magazine away, stands and stretches as Zoe makes her way back.

REIKO

So what was it?

ZOE

The pilot has no clue, the engines are fully working and nothing seems to be broken.

DELANEY

It was some sort of enchantment. A magical early warning system, something to ward off travellers.

ZOE

(nods)

Huang has many enemies.

Reiko gives her a look that screams "How do you know?" But says nothing of it.

PILOT (O.S.)

(filtered)

Right, ladies, touchdown in fifteen minutes. Barring any more... hiccups, that is.

Delaney settles back into her seat, letting out a long sigh.

Xander and Sofia circle, back to back, as they try and work out their next move against the incoming vamps.

XANDER

Why did it have to be your plan? I preferred mine!

HEAD VAMPIRE

Oh, would you two stop whining already?

SOFIA

Or what? You'll scare us to death with that ugly mug of yours?

The HEAD VAMPIRE growls and bellows:

HEAD VAMPIRE

Kill 'em!

All the vampires charge at once - but Sofia's gone in an instant. They freeze, looking around in confusion, leaving themselves open enough for Xander to DUST one of them.

HEAD VAMPIRE (cont'd)
Forget about the girl and get him!

SOFIA (O.S.)
Forget about me?

Suddenly, Sofia spins down from her hiding place on the ceiling, cleanly DUSTING a vamp as she neatly lands in a crouch.

SOFIA (cont'd)
You don't just simply 'forget'
about me. It's... rude.

She lobbs the stake right at the Head Vamp - but he catches it out of the air!

SOFIA (cont'd)
Oh... bugger.

The head vampire lobbs it back - but Sofia grabs the nearest vampire and shoves him in front of her, DUSTING him as the stake hits.

The other vampires seem uncertain what to do, knowing now that Sofia's a Slayer.

HEAD VAMPIRE
What are you waiting for? Get her!

The vamps charge - but Sofia ducks in between them, kicking the one on her left whilst cleanly DUSTING the one on her right.

Xander lunges towards his opponent VAMPIRE and aims for his heart - but the vamp pushes him back to the ground. It closes in for the kill - and before Xander can even move, it DUSTS.

Sofia barely stays in the same place for more than a second, sliding in between opponents and beating them down to the ground and she DUSTS one after another.

Xander barely dusts another opponent before only one vampire remains - the head vampire.

XANDER
What do you think we should do with
him?

HEAD VAMPIRE
Please, let me -

SOFIA

What? Live?

(chuckles)

Of course. Off you go.

She stands to the side, leaving the way to the mouth of the cave open. Pausing for a second, he bolts - only to run straight into the sunlight and to go up in FLAMES before he DUSTS!

SOFIA (cont'd)

Now that was just silly.

Sofia grins and she's about to go forward for a hug - but Xander sharply turns and looks for something.

XANDER

Did you hear that?

SOFIA

Hear what?

XANDER

A noise. It sounded like... a person.

Picking up his torch from where it was discarded on the floor, Xander shines it further into the cave - illuminating the form of the Slayer in the teaser - and she's ALIVE!

SOFIA

(smiles)

It's alright. You're safe now.

The girl looks back with wide, frightened eyes as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

23

EXT. BEACHSIDE - DAY

23

Sofia and Xander support the Slayer in between them. The wounded and barely-conscious girl is wrapped up in Xander's warm jacket, leaving Xander shivering in the cold wind.

Sofia lays the Slayer across the backseat and checks the girl over - revealing BITE MARKS on several parts of her body. Xander hovers nearby, concerned.

SOFIA

They were feeding off her. Keeping her alive so she'd last longer.

(off his look)

I've seen this done before. You get a lot of vampires in a small community, they have to make their meals last.

The girl STIRS, eyes fluttering as she comes round.

GIRL

I... I...

SOFIA

Ssh. It's okay now, you're safe.

GIRL

Wh- Who a -

SOFIA

My name's Sofia, and I'm a -

GIRL

Slayer. Sof -

(coughs)

Sofia Romero.

SOFIA

(frowns)

You've heard of me?

GIRL

Last I heard you...

(cough)

... were evil, but I guess you've stopped. Which helps. I'm...

(cough)

... Annabelle. I prefer "Belle," though. Thanks for getting me out of there. Those bloody vampires were using me like a vending machine.

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA

Nice to meet you, Belle. Now, I have something to ask you.

BELLE

You want me to go to your Academy, right?

SOFIA

(taken aback)

Er... yes, that was what I was going to say.

BELLE

Good. About time some of you people found me! I'd have gone myself if I knew where it was.

Belle suddenly violently COUGHS. Sofia takes a step back, and stands next to Xander. Belle registers their concern and smiles, shaking her head.

BELLE (cont'd)

Don't worry. I haven't got that.

SOFIA

You know about the virus?

BELLE

My Watcher. When he was around, at least. He told me about it. Although not where to find your Academy, sadly.

SOFIA

What happened to him?

BELLE

(grim)

He was one of the vampires you killed in that cave.

She doesn't need to say another word, and Sofia lets it drop. Belle sighs and pulls her feet into the car, closing the door to give Sofia and Xander a moment.

XANDER

I think we can call this a win. We got the girl and killed the bad guys.

SOFIA

(smiles)

Thanks.

She turns and hugs him, and he returns the embrace.

(CONTINUED)

XANDER

Heh, I'd better hope the wife
doesn't hear about all this
hugging, she'd -

Sofia freezes, pulling away.

SOFIA

(shocked)

W- wife?

(beat)

You're... married?

Xander pauses, winces, then lifts his hand - and sure enough
there's a WEDDING BAND there. Sofia mentally kicks herself
for not noticing it sooner.

XANDER

I'm thinking now I should have
broke this particular news item to
you more gently...

Without another word, Sofia returns to the car and climbs
into the backseat next to Belle, still completely in shock.

Xander sighs, inhaling a deep breath of fresh air before
returning to the drivers seat.

Inside a small, traditional cart, Delaney, Zoe and Reiko are
squashed inside as they are pulled up the side of a hill. In
the distance, we can just see Alita's VILLAGE at the bottom
of the hill.

Reiko is, as usual, bubbling with excitement and seemingly
driving the other two girls mad.

REIKO

I'll be coming back soon, you know.
Alita told me what to do.

ZOE

(not listening)

Mmm.

REIKO

Very important. Top secret. But
very cool. You know?

Suddenly, the cart stops without warning.

REIKO (cont'd)

This doesn't look like the place.

The DRIVER appears at the side of the cart.

DRIVER

(Japanese)

<I can't go further. The path is
bad for my cart.>

REIKO

(nods; Japanese)

<Alright. Thank you, Takeo-san.>

She reaches into her pockets, digging out some coins, and hands them over. The Driver thanks her, hops back into his cart and starts to make his way back down the hills.

Reiko joins the others at the start of a beaten track leading through, up and down various hills.

DELANEY

Let me guess, her house is on the
other side?

ZOE

Correct.

REIKO

It's not too far, though, right?
It'll be an adventure!

DELANEY

(mutters)

A very loud adventure...

REIKO

What?

DELANEY

Nothing. Let's go.

Delaney leads the way, the others following her lead.

Manu and Fitzgerald stand together looking over some reports. In the background, CERYs is comforting a SLAYER suffering from the VIRUS. Fitzgerald notices this.

FITZGERALD

She seems to be spending a lot of
time in here.

MANU

(solemn)

Claire's death really hit her hard.
I don't think she'll ever be the
same again.

FITZGERALD

We'll need the old Cerys back if we're to win this war.

MANU

(raises eyebrows)

You're calling this a war?

FITZGERALD

(dark)

No. I'm calling it genocide.

They don't expand on the subject, instead Manu changes it.

MANU

As you can see, by these reports Tanya still had a week or two left in her. Ten hours later, she's gone.

FITZGERALD

This isn't good. We'll have more dead Slayers in this school than alive soon, and I won't let that happen.

Manu nods, placing the file back on the shelf.

MANU

Have you given any more thought to my suggestion, then?

Fitzgerald furrows her brow, deep in thought.

The sun is setting as Delaney, Reiko and Zoe finally reach the end of the path and find themselves in a huge clearing.

However, nothing can be seen for miles.

REIKO

(whining)

Do we have to do more walking?

ZOE

I don't get it, we should be right here!

DELANEY

Clearly, we're not. Fat lot of good bringing you along turned out to be, huh?

Something catches Zoe's eye, but the others don't seem to notice it.

ZOE
Uh... guys?

DELANEY
(without turning)
What?

ZOE
Oh, you know. Just looks like we're
about to be eaten alive.

At this the other girls turn round - all seeing a horde of
DEMONS coming towards them!

REIKO
(gulps)
Shimatta...

DELANEY
Get behind me!

The demons all charge at once, bellowing war cries and
raising huge CLUBS - until Delaney sends a powerful blast of
MAGIC their way - and they shimmer out of existence!

DELANEY (cont'd)
(blinks)
Huh?

REIKO
Nice going!

She's about to charge in - but Delaney pulls her back.

REIKO (cont'd)
Hey, get off me!

DELANEY
I didn't do anything. That magic
should have just pushed them flat
on the ground, not disintegrated
them.

ZOE
So... what does that mean?

DELANEY
It means they weren't real -
they're illusions. Another trick
from whoever tried to force our
plane out of the sky.

REIKO
'Illusions'? What, like David
Blaine?

(CONTINUED)

VOICE (O.S.)

As in something that is visible,
but not real.

The trio whip round - to see a middle-aged WOMAN looking down on them from a nearby hill. She's dressed in plain clothes, with a red shawl around her.

Reiko stares for a beat - then offers a little curtsey, but the others do nothing.

DELANEY

You're Lady Huang?

HUANG bows her head lightly.

HUANG

As much as you are Delaney Brogan.
I recognised the... flavour of your
magic.

DELANEY

I'll take that as a 'yes.'

(beat)

Do you know what we're here for?

HUANG

I do.

DELANEY

Are we gonna have to fight anything
else to get you to talk to us?

HUANG

(grins)

I trust your intentions to be
honourable, Slayer.

(off Zoe and Reiko)

Your companions' minds say as much.

She turns and slowly walks off to the north.

REIKO

How far are we -

In a FLASH of LIGHT, a CABIN appears before them.

REIKO (cont'd)

(beat)

Not too far, then.

Huang enters, leaving the doors open for the girls to follow her. Delaney leads the way and together they make their way inside.

27

INT. HOTEL - DINING ROOM - MORNING

27

Xander is seated alone at a table in the dining room of a hotel. He's cleaned himself up and is slowly munching away at some toast.

Sofia appears, and joins him at the table, sitting opposite him. She sits quietly for a beat, until:

SOFIA

I'm sorry for being so quiet.

XANDER

It's understandable. It all happened kind of quickly for me, too. See, I didn't want to mention it right away, what with you being so... fragile right now.

SOFIA

(rolls eyes)

I'm not some mental patient, Xander. You just... took me by surprise.

(beat)

So tell me about your wife.

XANDER

What can I say. She's a Slayer too. I must have a thing for Slayers. First Buffy, now Alice.

SOFIA

That's her name? Alice?

XANDER

(nods)

Me and Willow were working down in Ireland and we came across her. She's been a great help. We started seeing each other - and then it just snowballed into something big.

SOFIA

How big?

XANDER

(beat)

She's pregnant.

Sofia seems taken aback, but she keeps her emotions in check.

SOFIA

How... congratulations. I'm really happy for you.

(CONTINUED)

XANDER

And there's something I wanted to ask you.

SOFIA

Yes?

XANDER

We want you to be Godmother.

Her jaw drops, but her eyes tell a different story.

SOFIA

(beaming)

Of course! How could I ever refuse?

(beat)

But hang on, how much does Alice know of me? She might still think I'm still under the Cabal's infl-

XANDER

Alice trusts me, and she trusts my judgement. When I say you're fine, she believes me.

SOFIA

(still reeling)

Oh, Xander, thank you so much.

XANDER

It's the least I can do.

(beat)

This time, I'm going to raise a real family. I didn't get to have one with Hope, and I'm going to make sure this little girl gets one.

Sofia's smile suddenly falters and she frowns, looking down at the table.

SOFIA

(suddenly down)

I just wish I could have been at the wedding. I've missed so much in everyone's lives.

Xander shakes his head, patting her gently on the shoulder as a friend does when someone's down.

XANDER

There's always plenty more to see. You may have missed one chapter in my life, but when we get through this, you'll be able to enjoy watching another.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED: (2)

27

The duo share a smile. Sofia helps herself to some of Xander's toast as we:

28 INT. HUANG'S CABIN - EVENING

28

Back over to Japan, where Delaney, Reiko and Zoe are seated in Lady Huang's vast cabin.

Delaney and Zoe sit quietly and respectfully, while Reiko looks around like a tourist.

Huang herself is brewing some tea, her movements measured and graceful even in this simple task.

REIKO

It's like a TARDIS, isn't it?

(off looks)

Small on the outside but bigger on the inside.

HUANG

It is but a simple enchantment made to expand the depths of a place.

REIKO

So now we all know how Mary Poppins had a magical handbag!

Delaney rolls her eyes and Zoe shifts, embarrassed. Reiko gets the message.

HUANG

(turning to Delaney)

So, you wish the means to revive your mother from her deep sleep.

DELANEY

(hopeful)

You know how to, don't you?

HUANG

Of course. Your mother would not have sent you if I did not know.

DELANEY

(surprised)

You knew Mom sent me here?

HUANG

When I am alone, I often watch the world go by. Lately, my inner eye has been drawn to this Academy of yours, and its many recent trials. I've watched you search for a way to first find and then cure your mother.

(CONTINUED)

DELANEY

All this time, and you didn't
contact me?

HUANG

(cryptic)

It is not how it should have played
out. You were always meant to come
to me, but not I to you. The
balance would have been upset.

REIKO

And in English that is?

ZOE

Delaney had to come to the her, not
the other way around, or the
balance would have been disturbed.

DELANEY

So you'll help me wake her up?

HUANG

(nods)

Of course. Your family has a part
to play in the course of destiny.

DELANEY

(beat)

Whatever. What do I need to do?

Huang waves her wrist - and a sheet of PAPER appears in her
hand.

HUANG

You and your friend -

(she nods to Reiko)

- will need to retrieve these items
from the forest. They shouldn't be
too hard to find. After that, I
will show you the spell you need to
awaken your mother. It will only be
effective for one use, however, so
we must be sure to prepare it
carefully.

ZOE

What about me?

HUANG

Stay, please. Help me brew the tea
for when your friends return.

Zoe glances at Delaney, who shrugs.

(CONTINUED)

DELANEY

We won't be long.

The two girls stand and leave, leaving Zoe with Huang. Zoe waits a few moments, awkward, before:

ZOE

Do you know why I'm here?

HUANG

Of course.

ZOE

Right. Because, you know, you certainly seem to know everything else going on around here, so I figured I should assume -

HUANG

(interrupts)

You seek my son.

(beat)

Dade.

Zoe's face hardens, and off this we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

29

INT. HUANG'S CABIN - NIGHT

29

Huang watches as Zoe carefully pours out four cups of steaming tea.

HUANG

I presume you have tried other ways
to find Dade?

ZOE

I had a gypsy-witch seek him out,
among other things.

(beat)

None of them worked. It's like he's
immune to magic entirely.

HUANG

That is because he is.

ZOE

(frowns)

I don't understand.

Zoe puts the teapot down, and Huang glides to one of the many shelves filling the walls, searching for something.

HUANG

The circumstances around his birth
are... another story. For now, all
you need know is that being carried
to term by one such as myself
exposed him to a substantial amount
of magic. Just as babies absorb
nutrients from their mother, so too
did Dade take on some of my own
magic.

ZOE

(nods, understanding)

But can you find him?

HUANG

I'm afraid not. I sent him and his
father away when he was just a baby
- I did not want him under the
danger of constant attack.

(beat)

As I'm sure you have guessed from
my solitude, I have many people who
would wish me harm. Even after all
this time.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

HUANG (cont'd)

I can cope with the occasional assassin that locates me, but the more hidden I remain, the better for both myself and Dade.

Huang moves away from the shelf, a pot of HERBS in one hand which she sprinkles over the tea.

ZOE

(hopeful)

But isn't some magical bond between you two? I've seen it before. Like with identical twins.

HUANG

I cut all connections off from him and his father. It was the... correct path, although far from the easiest.

(beat)

I'm afraid I know as much about his whereabouts as you do, but this is necessary to ensure his safety.

ZOE

That's just it! He's not safe now. There's someone after him. Josh Sutton. The new Slayer-killer.

HUANG

Yes, I know of the necromus and his intentions. The history the three of you share makes his quest all the more dangerous.

Huang turns to Zoe, seeing her crestfallen expression, and gently lifts her head up to face her.

HUANG (cont'd)

You will find Dade. Of that I am sure. I know of the bond the two of you shared, and I know this means I can trust you to protect him.

(beat)

It just remains to be seen whether you are in time to save him or not.

Zoe sighs - just as the door opens and Delaney and Reiko return, their arms cradling several different materials.

HUANG (cont'd)

Ah, good. Just place what you have found on the table. Zoe?

Zoe blinks - then grabs the tea and starts handing the cups out.

(CONTINUED)

HUANG (cont'd)
Now we may begin.

Still wary, Delaney eyes Huang carefully as she sips her tea,
and we CUT TO:

30 EXT. HUANG'S CABIN - LATER

30

A little while later, our Slayer trio and Huang leave the
cabin, Delaney looking fresh-faced and hopeful whilst Zoe
still looks a bit disheartened.

As the two girls make their way forward, Reiko stops and
turns to Lady Huang.

REIKO
Before I leave, I must know
something.

HUANG
(nods)
Kimusume Reiko, I am still waiting
to talk to the right girl.

REIKO
(frowns)
But Alita is -

HUANG
Kagemura Alita may have passed on,
but there is another.

At this, Reiko's face falls and she looks visibly upset.

REIKO
I... I don't understand. Alita told
me, before she died, she said -

HUANG
You have a destiny waiting of your
own. Do not be downcast. There are
many trials ahead for you, and you
will need all your resolve to face
them and triumph.

This doesn't seem to comfort Reiko much, but she mumbles a
goodbye message to Huang before running off to catch up with
the others.

DISSOLVE TO:

31 INT. CAMPUS - ERIKA'S DORM - MORNING

31

Skye walks in without knocking - but her face falls as she
see's what's happening inside - ERIKA is packing for her
imminent departure.

(CONTINUED)

Erika's having to identify her clothes and belongings by touch alone, which is slowing things right down. Skye watches for a beat, until:

SKYE

Here, let me help.

ERIKA

No, thank you, Skye, this is a task I must complete by myself.

SKYE

Even if it takes you all day?

ERIKA

(smiles)

Even if it takes me all day.

SKYE

Fine - but I'm staying right here. I want to make as much as I can from the time we have left.

ERIKA

That is understandable.

They stand there for a moment in silence, only Erika moving as she feels her clothes before placing them into a suitcase.

SKYE

Will you be coming back?

ERIKA

(beat)

Perhaps. My only concern right now is to make Maria as comfortable as I can before... before the end.

SKYE

Erika, please don't say that. We don't know what's gonna happen tomorrow, or the day after that. Manu could have some breakthrough, or those Council geeks who were working on the Scythe might turn something up at last.

ERIKA

One way or another, we will all die, Skye. It's not a question of "if", but a matter of "when."

Skye is silent, and Erika's only just managing to keep her emotions in check as she packs away the very last item of clothing and zips up the suitcase. She turns back to Skye.

(CONTINUED)

ERIKA (cont'd)

Skye, no matter what you say, I will not let Maria die in a foreign country. I owe it to her to take her home.

SKYE

But -

ERIKA

Please, do not make this harder for me. I do not wish to leave, but it is something I must do.

SKYE

(sighs)

Promise me one thing.

ERIKA

Anything.

SKYE

You'll come back when...

(she falters)

... when she's passed on.

Erika steps forward, placing a hand on her friend's shoulder.

ERIKA

I promise to return.

She pulls Skye close into an embrace, Erika letting a few TEARS loose at last.

Skye can't hold hers back any longer, letting out a much louder SOB that only makes Erika squeeze her tighter.

The sun is just rising as Delaney, Zoe and Reiko step back into the warmth of the Academy reception.

They are greeted by Fitzgerald and Manu, alongside several other students including Rachel, who runs forward and greets Delaney with a hug as the other girls move off to greet their friends.

RACHEL

God, you look tired.

DELANEY

I've gone past that. I'm onto stage two now. I'm not sure my body clock's even set to a time zone right now.

RACHEL
Did you get what you needed?

DELANEY
(nods; grins)
Yeah.

RACHEL
Good. So no rest for the wicked,
right?

DELANEY
(exhales)
And we must have been so very, very
wicked.

They share a grin as Delaney moves straight for the door to the corridor.

DELANEY (cont'd)
(over shoulder)
Coming?

RACHEL
I'll catch you up. I've... got
something to do.

Delaney nods, not even turning back as she leaves. Rachel stands alone in the reception now, and sighs, digging her hands in her pockets.

RACHEL (cont'd)
(quiet; after Delaney)
I just don't know if I want you to
bring her back...

There's a BEEP of a horn and Rachel spins round, watching a car come up the driveway. Glad of the distraction, she walks out to greet the newcomers.

Delaney sits beside KIRA, who is still deep within her coma. The only other person beside the two Brogans and the dying Slayers is GREG, who's keeping watch.

Delaney shoots Greg a look as she starts unpacking things from her bag - textbooks, spell ingredients.

DELANEY
I still can't believe you took a
holiday in the middle of all of
this.

GREG

It wasn't a 'holiday,' it was a
Watcher's retreat. Important stuff.

DELANEY

(not buying it)

Uh-huh. Sure you didn't just want
to get away from this place?

GREG

Not after last time. I think I
learned my lesson.

Greg watches, curious, as Delaney starts laying out several
items - crystals, candles - carefully arranging them.

GREG (cont'd)

You sure you know what you're
doing?

DELANEY

Positive. Got that Huang lady to
explain it twice to make sure.

(off look)

I'm sure. I wouldn't be doing any
of this if I wasn't.

GREG

Alright, alright. I believe you.

(beat)

Good luck, I suppose.

DELANEY

If Huang was on the money, I won't
need it.

Delaney crosses her legs on the stool she's seated on, and
raises her arms above her head. Closing her eyes, she begins
to chant.

Rachel exits via the glass double doors as Xander's car pulls
up. Sofia exits first, helping out Belle as Xander exits.
Rachel walks down to greet them.

RACHEL

Sofia, Mr. Harris.

XANDER

Please, call me Xander.

RACHEL

Alright. Xander.

Her eyes fall on Belle, who is looking at the school in awe.

RACHEL (cont'd)
And who's this?

Belle hears that Rachel's talking about her and brings her attention back to the situation. She extends her hand.

BELLE
I'm Belle, nice to meet you.

As Rachel shakes Belle's hand, they start to quietly chat.

INT. CAMPUS - INFIRMARY - NEXT

Delaney chants away, but only this time she begins to LEVITATE from the stool, floating in mid-air with her legs crossed and eyes closed.

Greg looks on in awe, half-grinning to himself as he watches a purple AURA develop around her, and symbols begin to flicker in and out of the air.

GREG
Now this is impressive...

DELANEY
(mid-chant)
Ssh!

Admonished, Greg shuts up and lets her continue.

EXT. CAMPUS - FRONT ENTRANCE - NEXT

Back at the school entrance, Rachel leads Belle back to the Reception. Sofia turns to Xander, smiling.

SOFIA
I think you were right. This was a 'win.' More girls die in this place every day, but today... today we added one instead of taking away.

XANDER
Even I know that's good math.

SOFIA
I'm so glad you came, Xander. You helped me remember... not memories, just more who I am. And not who I was.

XANDER
I'm glad, too. If you can start to get your head round why I took you under my manly wing in the first place, maybe there's hope for you yet.

SOFIA

And as for you and Alice...

XANDER

Again, sorry for not telling you sooner. Things got... busy back home when we found out she was pregnant.

SOFIA

(warmly)

I'm glad you've got your happy ending at last.

XANDER

What's 'ending'? Something tells me my life is going to get spectacularly more complicated from here on in!

(beat)

If there's one thing I've learned in my...

(counts)

... thirteen or so years of this business, it's that things happen for a reason. Maybe you were meant to go through everything you did.

SOFIA

(raises eyebrow)

I was supposed to fall in love with the villain, be brainwashed by a syndicate of evil demons and then...

She trails off, still unable to finish that thought.

XANDER

Actually, yes, I do. Knowing full well the face you'll pull when I say this in advance, Faith made just as many mistakes as you. Probably more. But she turned them around. You've heard the good stories coming out of New York?

Sofia nods, and Xander grins, pulling her closer.

XANDER (cont'd)

I know you can do this, Sofia. You were put through all this so you can turn it into something good.

They embrace - only for a HORN to sound suddenly. They step apart, and even Rachel and Belle turn to see what's happening.

(CONTINUED)

An SUV storms up the drive to the school and screeches to a halt. Then, the Council operative WEATHERBY steps out, along with the rest of his OPERATIONS TEAM!

As she sees them, Sofia's face falls.

SOFIA

No...

XANDER

Who are these guys?

WEATHERBY

Romero, you're coming with us.

They step forward, Xander protectively pushing Sofia behind him.

XANDER

Hey! Back off. What's going on? Who are you people?

WEATHERBY

Weatherby. Watcher's Council. We're here for Romero. She's under arrest.

XANDER

On what charge?

WEATHERBY

Clearly, you haven't been keeping up with current events! She's got a lot to answer for. Now stand aside.

The other two Operatives muscle the protesting Sofia out of Xander's grip, one keeping Xander back as the other leads Sofia to the SUV.

SOFIA

Xander!

He tries to push past the Operative - but it's Rachel who appears at his side, face like thunder.

RACHEL

Allow me.

WHACK! She clocks the guy and he stumbles back, but Rachel only makes a few more steps before:

BZZT! She CRIES OUT and hits the deck - the Operative has zapped her with a TASER.

The Operative stands over Rachel, a BATON in his hand.

(CONTINUED)

OPERATIVE

I should take you in for that...

WHAP! He hits her with the baton, leaving Rachel slumped on the ground.

OPERATIVE (cont'd)

... but we're not here for anyone else today. Luckily for you.

Xander tries to jump him, but finds the points of the taser pressed against his belly.

OPERATIVE (cont'd)

One and only warning, Mr. Harris.
We're just here to do our job, we don't have time to get sucked into a fight with you all.

Sofia, meanwhile, is putting up a hell of a fight. Kicking and screaming for help, she's thrust inside the first SUV.

SOFIA

Xander, help!

XANDER

Sofia!

WEATHERBY

Do something about her, will you?
I'm not going to have her moaning all the way back to London.

The Operative leans into the SUV, SYRINGE in hand and there's a final scream from inside until all goes silent.

WEATHERBY (cont'd)

(to Xander)

Pleasure doing business with you.
Cheerio.

The Operative keeping Xander back SHOVES him to the ground, and there's a CRUNCH as something breaks.

Winded, he's unable to get up, helpless as the Operatives climb back into the SUV, which departs as quickly as it arrived.

With a final cry, Delaney lets out:

DELANEY

Goddess, awaken this being, for all to behold!

(CONTINUED)

The purple light expand, covering the entire infirmary and then there's a FLASH OF WHITE LIGHT and everything returns to normal.

Delaney suddenly DROPS from the air, and Greg leaps to catch her before she hits the ground.

GREG

Are you okay?

DELANEY

(shrugggging off)

I'm fine, I'm fine.

Getting shakily to her feet, Delaney is straight to Kira's side, looking for any sign of life.

Kira's eyelids flutter open as she awakens. She sits up, looking round, a hand pressed to her head.

KIRA

Where... where am I?

DELANEY

(quiet)

Mom?

Kira only blinks at her in surprise.

DELANEY (cont'd)

Are you okay? Mom?

GREG

Kira, is something wrong?

She frowns, turning on the bed to face them.

KIRA

Who are you? And why are you calling me 'Kira'?

Delaney frowns, aghast. Something's gone wrong. Greg and Delaney exchange a worried look.

KIRA (cont'd)

Well?

GREG

(slowly)

Because that's your name. Kira Brogan. I'm Gregory Giles, you're at the Rupert Giles Academy in England...

Kira reacts at the name 'Gregory,' but manages to cover it as Greg continues:

(CONTINUED)

GREG (cont'd)
And this is your daughter, Delaney.

Kira looks Delaney up and down, SCOFFING.

KIRA
Don't be ridiculous. I don't have a
daughter, and my name certainly
isn't 'Kira Brogan.'

DELANEY
(meek)
Mom...

KIRA
Look, whoever you are, my name's
Evelyn.
(beat)
Evelyn Pierce.

Greg's face immediately changes - his eyes go wide and his
jaw drops. He claps a hand to his mouth, taking a step or two
back in shock.

Delaney's equally as shocked. She turns to Greg, her mind
starting to connect the dots.

DELANEY
Wait a second... 'Pierce'? As in...
(beat)
But that means... you... you're
my... my...

She can't finish the sentence, watching the world drop out
from beneath Greg.

He STUMBLES back, clattering into nearby chairs as Kira
watches him in bewilderment.

KIRA
Now is somebody going to tell me
what on earth is going on here, or
am I going to have to start getting
angry?

Greg and Delaney's stunned expressions are matched by Kira's
confusion as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF SHOW

NEXT WEEK

SOFIA (V.O.)
Next week, on Slayer Academy...

INT. CAMPUS - STAFF ROOM - DAY

XANDER bursts into the staff room, interrupting a faculty meeting to breathlessly announce:

XANDER
Sofia! It's... the... they...
they've taken Sofia!

CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - INFIRMARY - NEXT

GREG is still backing away from the fully revived KIRA, while DELANEY hangs back with her jaw to the floor.

KIRA
What's the matter with you? Didn't
you hear what I said? My name is
Evelyn Pierce, and if I'm at the
Rupert Giles Academy, whatever that
is, I demand to speak to the man
himself right now, young man!

Greg just turns and runs from the room, BUMPING into other people, beds and anything in the way as he flees.

A bemused Kira turns to Delaney, who's own head is still spinning.

KIRA (cont'd)
Is anybody going to tell me what's
going on?

CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - BRIEFING ROOM - NEXT

FITZGERALD addresses the assembled A and B SQUADS (minus Delaney and Erika):

FITZGERALD
I'm afraid the rumours you've no
doubt all heard by now true.
Sofia's been taken into custody by
the Council.

MURMURS of surprise ripple through the room.

CUT TO:

INT. OPERATIONS VAN - REAR COMPARTMENT - DAY

And a despondent SOFIA sits in shackles, awaiting her fate as the van she's locked inside drives on.

FITZGERALD (V.O.)

I don't need to tell any of you how serious this is. If Sofia's found guilty of treason against the Council for her actions when she was with the Cabal... they'll send her to Laneshead prison for the rest of her life.

(beat)

If she's lucky.

CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - GREG'S ROOM - DAY

Delaney enters to find Greg by the window, his head in his hands.

DELANEY

Greg? She... she's asking for -

GREG

Get out.

DELANEY

Greg, come on! You think this isn't crazy for me too? But she needs -

GREG

I said get out!

He whirls to face her - and his bedside lamp EXPLODES!

Delaney leaps back, alarmed - and Greg looks just as shocked as we:

CUT TO:

INT. COURTROOM - DAY

Sofia stands before a panel of stern-faced WATCHERS, as though at a military tribunal.

WATCHER

Sofia Romero, it is the opinion of this hearing that not only were you fully aware of your actions whilst affiliated with the Cabal...

He pauses, glancing round at his colleagues.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WATCHER (cont'd)
... but you also willingly colluded
with our enemies to bring down both
this Council and the Academy
itself.

(beat)
How do you plead?

Sofia stares back defiantly, keeping silent as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF TAG