

SLAYER ACADEMY

"INTO EACH GENERATION"

STARRING

EMILY BROWNING

RACHAEL LEIGH COOK

KYOKO FUKADA

RACHAEL TAYLOR

PARIS HILTON

WITH

BRADLEY COOPER

MIA WASIKOWSKA

JESSY SCHRAM

AARON YOO

KIRSTEN PROUT

CHIAKI KURIYAMA

LACEY MOSELY

NAVEEN ANDREWS

GUEST STARRING

MATTHEW BOMER

DANA DAVIS

AND

MARY MCDONNELL

TEASER

FADE IN:

1

EXT. CAMPUS - MAIN ENTRANCE - DAY

1

The Slayer Academy. Now home to the sizeable remains of the Coven's DEMON ARMY, camped out in pockets all across the front grounds.

Packs of demons in all manner of size, shape and species are busy putting out campfires and stretching their limbs.

The campus itself has seen better days - left to their own devices, the demons have kept busy. Windows are SMASHED, cars parked outside stripped clean, and several FIRES burn.

Into the midst of this, in a BLAZE of light, comes CELESTE and MELA, warping into place just outside the entrance.

Startled demons scatter as the two women touch down, giving them room as Celeste stumbles, weakened by the trip.

MELA

Steady, steady!

Mela supports her, and with a smile Celeste regains her composure, straightening. She scans the camps behind them.

CELESTE

Good to see our allies have kept themselves entertained...

MELA

(urgent)

We don't have much time. We need to get inside and fortify ourselves. The Slayers won't be far behind.

She realises Celeste is looking proudly down at her.

MELA (cont'd)

What?

CELESTE

You said 'the Slayers'. That's the first time you've referred to them like that.

(beat)

As the enemy.

Mela opens her mouth to reply... then looks down at her right hand. Dried BLOOD stains her fingers.

CELESTE (cont'd)

Mela, look at me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Celeste lays her hands on Mela's shoulders.

CELESTE (cont'd)
I know you still don't fully
understand what I'm trying to do
here, but please believe me it was
for your own protection.

MELA
Protection from whom?

CELESTE
I couldn't risk the Academy getting
their hands on you and finding out
what I was planning. That's why I
couldn't tell you more.

Mela carefully - but firmly - removes Celeste's hands.

MELA
You don't have to worry.

Celeste blinks, sensing something, and looks over her
shoulder.

CELESTE
No, I don't suppose we will...

Frowning, Mela looks past her:

And sees the assembled demons are dropping to their knees,
supplicating themselves - all of them facing Mela!

Mel's eyes widen, trying to take in the sight of hundreds of
demons in every form imaginable falling in worship.

MELA
Why are they...

She stops, realising. Looks down at her hands, clenching them
into fists.

CELESTE
(nods)
They can feel the power inside you,
just as they did with Hamish. Only
now it's stronger. It's with
someone it's meant to be.

Celeste takes another moment to look around.

CELESTE (cont'd)
They'll listen to you now.

She bows her head, starting to MURMUR under her breath.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MELA

What are you doing?

(no reply)

Celeste? I said what are you -

Mela stops as her whole body begins to GLOW! Startled, she steps back, lifting her hands and staring in amazement.

MELA (cont'd)

What's... what's happening?

Celeste lifts her head, quirking a grin.

CELESTE

Like you said, we need to be ready.

Mela looks around her - and sees that the nearest ranks of demons are also starting to GLOW, pulsing in synch with the light spilling from Mela!

CELESTE (cont'd)

Don't fight it, just relax. Exhale.
Let it all flow through you.

MELA

(breathing rapidly)

Celeste, please, I need you to tell
me what you're doing...

Growing more agitated, Mela looks further to see the light spreading from demon to demon, cascading outwards from her!

The demons begin to rise, reacting to the power they can feel washing over them.

CELESTE

I'm just giving them all a little
bit of what makes you so special.

She turns and heads for the main entrance, Mela remaining entranced by what's happening until she calls out:

MELA

Wait - wait! I don't know what I'm -
what am I supposed to do?

Celeste pauses by the shattered glass doors, turning back.

CELESTE

Wait for the spell to work its way
through your troops. Then, get to
work. We have a defence to
mobilise.

MELA

What about you?

(CONTINUED)

CELESTE

Come and find me when you're done
out here.

(smiles)

I'll tell you everything you want
to know.

She steps inside, leaving Mela alone, surrounded by the still-
bowing, GLOWING demons as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

2 EXT. FIELDS - DAY 2

A line of HELICOPTERS powers towards us, flying low over the rolling countryside below. Squat troop carriers are flanked by GUNSHIPS bristling with weaponry.

On the ground below, kicking up a plume of dust as they bounce over the terrain, a larger convoy of VEHICLES - tanks, APCs, Jeeps, trucks and everything in between.

3 INT. HELICOPTER - NEXT 3

Looking out from within the open passenger section of the lead helicopter is SOFIA, surveying the phalanx below.

Pressing one hand to the HEADSET she's wearing, she looks away, listening to something. She turns back to face the others:

DELANEY, TORI, REIKO, FRAN and PATTY. Her strike team. All worse for wear but gritting their teeth and bearing it.

SOFIA
(shouting over noise)
That was Danny. He says a recon
team just found Hamish's body.

Glances are cast at Delaney, but she keeps her chin up. Betraying no emotion.

DELANEY
What happened?

SOFIA
They're not sure. Looks like he was
stabbed.

DELANEY
Good.
(off looks)
He didn't deserve a good death. He
got what was coming to him.

Concerned, Reiko looks to Sofia, who just shakes her head - don't push it.

TORI
What's our ETA at the Academy?

PATTY
'ETA'? I think you've been riding
in this helicopter too long.

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA

Not long. Less than ten minutes as the crow flies. Or helicopter, in this case.

REIKO

Do we have a plan yet?

SOFIA

(taps mouthpiece)

Greg, come in? Over.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. APC (MOVING) - NEXT

Where GREG clings to his seat as the personnel carrier he's riding in BOUNCES over another bump.

GREG

(into headset)

I'm here. Losing another filling every mile, but otherwise in one piece.

He glances round - FRANKIE and DADE are manning laptops behind him, more SOLDIERS sitting in berths behind them.

Up front, WINSTONE rides shotgun, checking over a RIFLE as he navigates for the driver.

SOFIA

Just catching up on where we are with attack plan 'Let's All Try Not To Get Killed'.

GREG

Winstone's co-ordinating a joint air and ground assault when we reach the campus. Local emergency services are on standby - we've got Madison running a cover story of a chemical spill to keep the area secure.

FRANKIE

(into headset)

I 'ave e-mails from the camp back at the Tor - our injured girls are being taken care of.

GREG

Celeste won't have the manpower to raise another barrier, or at least one that'll keep us out for very long, so once we've made a hole I want you girls to fly in and land.

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA

Is that wise? We have no idea what we're going to face in there.

DADE

Stands to reason Celeste didn't bring her whole army with her to the Tor.

(thinks)

Actually, why'd she bring so many at all? It's not like she was expecting us to be there.

GREG

We'll worry about the finer points of her master plan later, for now all your team needs to know is that we'll make you an opportunity.

SOFIA

Good to know.

(beat)

Speak to you later, Greg.

He manages a half-smile - but they both know she may be asking too much right now.

END INTERCUT:

Sofia takes a seat, nudging the sports bag by her feet - the SCYTHER juts out from within.

TORI

(off Scythe)

I heard a lot about that thing. It's supposed to have a lot of power. Anything in there that can help us out?

SOFIA

I'm working on something.

TORI

We're gonna need it. Now Mela's gotten so close to all that Coven power... it changes you. You start seeing the world differently. Like something you can control.

(beat; chuckles)

I should know, right?

As Tori glances her way, Reiko shuffles closer to Fran - who is still SHARPENING her knife with detached efficiency.

(CONTINUED)

REIKO

Fran? Look, if we find Mela -

FRAN

When. When we find her.

REIKO

I want you to promise me you're not gonna...

She trails off, searching for the words. Fran gives her a cool look, raising an eyebrow.

FRAN

What? Do anything stupid? Rush off and get myself killed?

(scoffs)

You can relax.

She returns to sharpening the blade.

FRAN (cont'd)

I know exactly what I'm doing.

Sensing the conversation is over, a troubled Reiko backs off. As Fran stares at her blade, sunlight GLINTING, we CUT TO:

EXT. CAMPUS - MAIN ENTRANCE - DAY

Mela clambers up from a low roof running over the canteen to a ledge, and from there up onto the small balcony that overlooks the front grounds - Skye's old hiding place.

From there, she surveys the driveway beneath her - taking in the sweep of DEMONS clamouring around the entrance.

THE DEMONS are excited now, buoyed by the new flush of power instilled in them, boisterously SHOVING one another, itching to put this boost to good use.

One by one, they turn to regard Mela looking down on them, and the army gradually falls quiet. Waiting for her.

Mela stares back at them for several long beats. Silence falls.

Until she grips her SWORD and raises it into the air, and with a colossal CHEER the demons copy her!

As SHOUTS and more CHEERS wash over her, a tiny GRIN starts to tug at Mela's expression, and we CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - AUDITORIUM - NEXT

Celeste looks round - hearing the clamour growing outside - and grins herself.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WITCH (O.S.)
Sounds like we've still got
supporters out there...

Celeste turns - there are a couple of COVEN RECRUITS before her, waiting for her next instruction.

The whole auditorium stills acts as a COMMAND CENTER for the Coven - desks, magic circles, computers, whiteboards and maps.

WITCH (cont'd)
What happened at the tor, anyway?
Weren't you supposed to be coming
back here with -

CELESTE
(quickly)
There was a change of plans. The
Academy were using it as a hiding
place, and in the confrontation
there were... complications.

The two witches swap a look, but wisely keep quiet.

WITCH #2
So... we don't have the power we
need for all of this?

CELESTE
(grins)
Always have a backup plan, my dear.

WITCH
Does it have anything to do with
the star pupil out there?

CELESTE
She'll do what she has to. For now.
When we need her...

She lets that sentence hang, and the recruits wisely don't push for any clarification.

CELESTE (cont'd)
Now. Bring me the phials. We can't
afford to rush this - if the circle
is incorrect even with the tiniest
detail, the focus could fail to
channel and we'll end up with a
black hole of power sucking
everything and everyone for miles
into the abyss.

The recruits exchange nervous glances - until Celeste SNAPS her fingers. One hands her a glass PHIAL of coloured sand.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

CELESTE (cont'd)
Get to work. We have a lot to do.

Consulting a thick SPELLBOOK, Celeste begins carefully pouring fine trails of sand, following an intricate pattern painted on the auditorium floor.

HIGH ANGLE to look down from the roof - the entire floor is now one massive MAGIC CIRCLE, and off this sight we CUT TO:

8 EXT. CAMPUS - DAY

8

Looking towards the campus from a distance. Thin plumes of SMOKE still rise from a few areas. Otherwise, it's all quiet.

Until the first line of Jeeps ROAR into frame, bouncing over uneven ground and leading the charge!

The HELICOPTERS are next as they swoop overhead, more and more vehicles following as the column advances on the campus.

9 EXT. CAMPUS - MAIN ENTRANCE - DAY

9

Where the assembled demons are starting to mass, the NOISE of the inbound posse of vehicles too loud to miss.

They start shoving and cackling at one another again, itching for a fresh fight.

The Slayer strike force is still a few minutes out, but as more and more demons join the swelling ranks, it's clear they'll still have a real fight on their hands.

ON THE ROOF, Mela rises from her perch, using a pair of binoculars to spy on the advancing vehicles:

BINOCULAR P.O.V:

She sweeps across the line of vehicles, then up towards the handful of helicopters.

ON MELA as she lowers them, frowning, trying to work out where they'll breach the campus first - until something else catches her attention, and she raises the binoculars again:

BINOCULAR P.O.V:

As sleek, black shapes STREAK past above the helicopters!

On MELA as her eyes bulge - she TOSSES the binoculars aside, gets to the edge of the roof and yells down:

MELA
Everybody take cover!

The demons are making too much racket to hear her, but a few cast curious glances up at her:

(CONTINUED)

Before the high-pitched SHRIEK of a JET ENGINE rings out, and in a heartbeat two JETS have lanced through the sky overhead!

A beat - and then EXPLOSIONS punch into the demons below!

Mela ducks for cover as FIREBALLS blossom below, sending demon bodies flying and leaving several CRATERS behind.

She cautiously rises, surveying the damage - the air strike took out a good chunk of the demons, the rest recovering.

But it's too late - the first wave of Army vehicles are at the gates at the top of the drive!

10

EXT. CAMPUS - FRONT GATES - NEXT

10

As a heavy APC THUNDERS its way into the gates, blasting them aside and rolling over them as they pitch backwards.

Funnelled by the high walls around the campus, the rest of the wheeled vehicles jostle for position as they fight their way onto the Academy grounds.

The helicopters fan out overhead, spacing themselves out as they dip their noses and speed onward.

11

EXT. CAMPUS - MAIN ENTRANCE - NEXT

11

Several vehicles floor their accelerators and barrel towards the waiting demons.

The armoured transports and Jeeps SLAM into the demons that charge them, scattering bodies in all directions.

Troops on MOUNTED GUNS begin opening fire, laying down a barrage of bullets that fells more and more creatures!

The first two helicopters swing round low over the campus, SIDE-GUNNERS laying down suppressive fire with large calibre MACHINE GUNS.

The demons fight back - climbing onto vehicles to hammer at hatches and try to claw their way inside, or by hurling SPEARS, JAVELINS and anything else with a point at the invaders.

Several troops fall - soldiers are dragged screaming from within Jeeps and APCs, others felled by spears that THUD into their chests.

One of the two Army TANKS manages to swing its turret round to take aim at a tightly-packed group of demons:

FOOM! It FIRES, the shell punching an EXPLOSION into the heart of the cluster of bodies!

(CONTINUED)

Through all of this mayhem, Sofia's team's helicopter powers straight towards the main entrance:

And jinks sharply to the left as a MISSILE of magical energy zaps towards it!

One of the other 'copters isn't so lucky, the bolt STRIKING it dead on - the helicopter DETONATES in a bright ball of flame, its flaming carcass spiralling down to CRASH down.

ON THE ROOF, Mela lowers her hand, still BUZZING with energy, and seeing the inbound helicopter decides to slip away.

Clinging onto handles for support, Sofia's team are buffeted as the chopper circles the roof in a tight circle.

SOFIA

(yells; to others)

You know your targets once we're inside! Don't stop for anything!

Nods of affirmation from the rest. Sofia glances to the pilot and gives him a thumbs up.

As the helicopter comes to a stop, hovering above the now-empty rooftop.

Sofia and the girls within jump down to the roof below, keeping their heads down as PROJECTILES hurled by the demons below CLATTER all around.

Tori is bundled up tightly in a thick hoodie, covering her skin from the sunlight overhead.

The helicopter pulls up and away once they're clear, the girls taking a moment to check weapons and regroup.

DOWN BELOW, and the Army/Initiative vehicles are all within the campus now.

The troop carriers are opened out, the soldiers pouring from within getting stuck into the frenzied demons.

GUNFIRE rattles out all around, with any demons getting close enough to attack making short work of the soldiers.

ONE APC skids round to a halt, Winstone already hanging out of the window and BLASTING at the demons surrounding him.

WINSTONE

There's our window! Go! Go! Go!

MORE TROOPS spill out from the back of the APC - these guys are close combat specialists, and they tear into any demon that strays too close with KNIVES and BATONS.

From within all this melee emerges Greg and Frankie, his hand already conjuring a FIREBALL while she STABS her rapier into the throat of a passing demon.

GREG

Ready to get your hands dirty?

FRANKIE

I am too fast to get dirty,
Gregory.

To prove her point, she KICKS another demon before JUMPING down from the APC's exit ramp and DECKING another demon with a yell!

Greg grins - then launches his fireball at a pack of armoured demons - they SCREECH in pain as the flames engulf them!

ON THE ROOF, Reiko risks a peek over the edge at the chaotic battle raging below:

It's not going well - the Army boys may have superior firepower, but the magically-boosted demons are tough foes even for them to beat.

SOFIA

Reiko, we don't have time to -

REIKO

I've gotta go help.

TORI

No, damn it! We stick to the plan!

REIKO

There won't be a plan if we get
rolled up and murdered out here!

She looks back across the battlefield - and then her expression changes. A thought strikes her, and whatever it is, it seems to do the trick. She turns to Sofia and grabs her arm.

REIKO (cont'd)

I know what to do.

(beat; sincere)

Trust me.

Sofia hesitates, glancing towards the battle - then nods.

SOFIA

You're not going solo. Patty, go
with her.

(CONTINUED)

PATTY

But -

REIKO

Patty, c'mon!

Reiko's already off, vaulting the edge of the roof down onto the slanted canteen roof below. With an annoyed GRUNT, Patty follows, and Sofia turns to the others:

SOFIA

More work for the rest of us, I suppose.

FRAN

Suits me.

Fran heads for the door that leads down into the campus proper, Tori following.

DELANEY

How're you doin'?

SOFIA

Shouldn't I be asking you that?

(off look)

But while you're asking... I could murder a pack of Jolly Ranchers right about now.

DELANEY

We make it out of this in one piece, I'll buy you the damn factory.

Sofia grins, the girls following their comrades as we CUT TO:

As Mela hurries into the hall, skidding to a halt at the sight of:

The MAGIC CIRCLE, now completed and stretching the length and breadth of the floor.

CELESTE

Mela? What are you doing here?

Mela tears her eyes from the circle as Celeste strides towards her, carefully stepping through spaces in the intricate designs.

MELA

(breathless)

You... you said when I was done, that I should...

(gulps)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MELA (cont'd)
I don't know how long we can hold
them off, even with -

From outside, the staccato rattle of GUNFIRE and ROARS of the
demons sound ever closer.

CELESTE
That's not why you came back.

MELA
A helicopter landed. On the roof.
(beat)
It's them.

CELESTE
Slayers?

Mela nods. Celeste turns away, thoughtfully stroking her chin
- and then she starts to GRIN.

CELESTE (cont'd)
Perfect...
(turns to Mela)
Lead them here.

MELA
What? Why? Don't we want to keep
them away from whatever...
(indicates circle)
... this is?

CELESTE
What 'this' is isn't something you
need to know yet. I want you to be
focused on your mission above all
else. Everything depends on you
bringing the Slayers into this
room. Do you understand?

Mela straightens, looking like she's going to retort - but
under Celeste's powerful glare, she relents.

MELA
I understand.

CELESTE
Good.

Celeste tilts Mela's head up to face her, one hand under her
chin and a warm smile on her face.

CELESTE (cont'd)
All that we've been through has
been leading toward this moment,
Mela. Focus on that.

Mela glances at the magic circle one last time, then turns and hustles back out of the room.

Celeste watches her go, her smile fading back to business-like efficiency as two more witches approach her.

WITCH

We're ready.

CELESTE

Good. Start the incantations.

WITCH #2

What if she can't -

CELESTE

(sharp)

Mela will do what has to be done.

Scolded, the witches head back to their spellbooks and ingredients arrayed out behind them.

From Celeste's calculating gaze as she surveys the circle beneath her, we CUT TO:

Rejoining the battle as things stay in a stalemate - the Army firepower versus the demons' durability.

Winstone unloads a SHOTGUN point blank into one jabbering, tentacled creature, getting drenched in GOO.

Cursing, he wipes a sticky handful of goop away and turns to his left:

Where Frankie SKEWERS another demon through its eye socket, twisting her rapier free as it falls. She's spotless.

Chuckling, he quickly RELOADS and heads towards a pack of hyena-like creatures harassing some INITIATIVE COMMANDOES.

ON THE APC, where a wide-eyed Dade is entranced by the mayhem all around - and something with long, insectoid arms tries to clamber up onto the roof!

He SHRIEKS and grabs the closest thing to hand - his laptop - and starts WHACKING it against the demon until it slides off.

He turns back to his survey, brow creasing as he shakes his head and mutters:

DADE

Something's wrong...

He looks around - sees demons LEAPING onto soldiers, some tearing chunks off another APC like animals at the zoo.

(CONTINUED)

DADE (cont'd)
They shouldn't be this strong! What
the hell did they -

REIKO (O.S.)
Dade!

He whips round - there's Reiko, Patty right behind her, both
girls spattered with BLOOD.

REIKO (cont'd)
Where's the flight case? The one
Delaney had with her at the Tor?

DADE
It's - why do you want that?

REIKO
Because -

Something JIBBERING hideously leaps towards her - but without
missing a beat, she turns, HACKS it down and returns to Dade:

REIKO (cont'd)
Because I know how to make sure we
win this!

Dade blinks, not understanding, as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

16

INT. CAMPUS - CORRIDOR - DAY

16

Sofia's quartet hurry along one of the campus corridors - wrecked furnishings and rubble litter the floor.

A door up ahead CRASHES open as several DEMONS pile out of it, spotting the girls and ROARING!

SOFIA

Here we go!

She leads them into the fight, whirling on one heel to drive the Scythe blade down in a SLASH across the first.

Delaney IGNITES her fist mid-way throwing a punch into the next, its exposed skull SHATTERING on impact.

Tori POUNCES on the next, VAMPING OUT as she grapples with it and sinking her FANGS into its throat!

Fran hangs back, letting the girls do their thing - until she senses something and glances to her left:

To see Mela at the far end of the next corridor, staring straight back at her!

Mela bolts, and Fran is straight off in hot pursuit. Sofia spots her and calls out, mid struggle:

SOFIA (cont'd)

Fran! Fran, wait!

She CRACKS the Scythe's stake handle against her opponent to drop it, Delaney putting hers down moments later.

She glances to her side - where a feral Tori tears a CHUNK of flesh out of the neck of her demon, SPITTING it out and leaving it quivering on the floor.

She wipes the thick blood from her mouth, turning to find Delaney staring at her.

TORI

What? Something on my face?

DELANEY

Never mind. Where did Fran go?

SOFIA

I don't know! She saw something and just took off...

(realising)

Mela.

(CONTINUED)

TORI

You wanna go after her?

Sofia hesitates, torn, so Delaney steps up:

DELANEY

Let her go.

SOFIA

But -

DELANEY

You saw the look in her eyes,
Sofes. She ain't gonna let any one
of us get between her and Mela.

The girls spin round as they hear a series of CRASHES, a
growing chorus of GRUNTS and SHOUTS echoing towards them!

DELANEY (cont'd)

Besides, we've got bigger problems.

TORI

Split up?

SOFIA

(nods)

Head for the auditorium.

She's already moving off, calling back:

SOFIA (cont'd)

Don't stop for anything!

Tori and Delaney split off in different directions, the roar
of the inbound demons becoming ever louder as we CUT TO:

Where Winstone and his troops are still BLASTING at the
assorted demons.

The Initiative Commandoes are HACKING into the demons at
close quarters, but as two more are FELLED by hulking, bony
demons, Winstone yells:

WINSTONE

Fall back to the APC!

His men back up, the gunner on the roof of the APC giving
covering fire.

WINSTONE (cont'd)

(glancing behind)

The hell is she doing in there?

He looks to the APC as we CUT TO:

18 INT. APC - NEXT

18

Where Reiko is frantically searching through the various flight cases of equipment.

Dade hovers nearby, trying to clear a path as Reiko tosses more and more boxes aside.

DADE

What are you expecting to find?

REIKO

I'll know when I - aha!

She rises - clutching the small, square FLIGHT CASE Delaney had with her at the Tor.

She pops the locks and flips the lid - to reveal the SPHERE OF ENCHANTIA. Dade's eyes bulge as she lifts it up.

REIKO (cont'd)

Get me to Greg. Fast.

Dade nods, bolting outside as Reiko stows the orb under one arm and follows him out:

19 EXT. CAMPUS - MAIN ENTRANCE - NEXT

19

Where she quickly DUCKS as a shower of ARROWS pepper the rear of the APC!

Dade grabs her hand and pulls her to safety, weaving through the struggling forms all around.

They find Greg, dispatching a demon with his sword. He turns to them as the duo race up.

GREG

Reiko? What are you doing out here?

REIKO

I'm fine! Patty came with me, she -

DADE

Yeah, where'd she go?

A nearby EXPLOSION sends demon bodies cartwheeling through the air. Reiko shrugs.

REIKO

She's around.

GREG

(sees the Sphere)

Is that -

(CONTINUED)

REIKO

Yeah, and I need you to help me
with something or these
supercharged demons are gonna wipe
us all out!

She pushes the Sphere into his hands, and Greg blinks down at it, not understanding, as we CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - AUDITORIUM - DAY

Looking down from above into the main hall. The Coven's desks and equipment have been cleared away - the magic circle dominates the space now.

PULL BACK to find we're with Tori, up in the rafters and peering down from the shadows.

She watches as Celeste paces out into the middle of the circle, hands on her hips as she surveys the work.

WITCH

Miss Rourke?

She turns:

NEW ANGLE as Celeste waits for the Witch to approach her. We're down at ground level now, looking out from behind stacks of abandoned chairs.

CELESTE

We're set. We just need to wait for
the right moment now. Let it come
to us.

WITCH

Yes, but the Slayers -

CELESTE

The Slayers are no longer your
concern. You need to be making sure
every last scrap of negative energy
pervading this campus is focused
right on this very spot...

She gestures to the centre of the circle, beneath her feet.

CELESTE (cont'd)

... so that we can finally do what
we've been working so long for.

WITCH #2

But without the focus, we'll -

Celeste waves a hand in irritation and strides away:

NEW ANGLE, watching from the far end of the room. Higher up from within the wings to the left of the stage.

CELESTE

We'll have our focus. Our pinpoint.
We just need to take care of a
little business first.

She pauses - then suddenly thrusts her hand forward, looking right up at us!

ON SCENE as a struggling, kicking Sofia is LEVITATED out from the shadows within the stage wing, held several feet in the air by Celeste's power!

She CHOKES, legs kicking and hands clawing at the invisible grip tightening around her throat!

CELESTE (cont'd)

Dear me, Sofia. Did you really
think I hadn't heard you by now?

She turns - and with her other hand gestures towards the back of the room:

The stacked chairs FLY APART, revealing Delaney! She reacts - and the witches are on her in a second, grappling and pinning her down!

CELESTE (cont'd)

Or you, Delaney.

DELANEY

(fighting back)

I am gonna tear you into so many
pieces, you useless old hag...

CELESTE

(tuts)

I'm sure if Kira were still with
us, she'd -

DELANEY

(explodes)

Don't you say her name! Don't you
even speak about her!

With a SHOUT, Delaney pushes both witches off her and RUSHES for Celeste!

Celeste turns her full attention to Delaney, letting Sofia DROP to the floor with a painful THUD.

Delaney gets a few feet away before Celeste swings her fist round, and Delaney is PUNCHED off her feet by a tidal wave of ENERGY that spills across the floor!

(CONTINUED)

She CRASHES into piles of equipment pushed against the wall, clattering noisily to the ground.

CELESTE

Now then. If you're both quite
finished interrupting me, then I
need to get on with -

SHINK! Celeste CRIES OUT and staggers back, clutching her shoulder - where a sharpened SAI DAGGER now sticks out!

Celeste snaps her head up - as Tori flips and lands neatly on the floor before her!

She rises, twirling Skye's other sai in her hand, an impish smirk on her vamped out features.

TORI

That was for Skye.

She raises the other dagger, ready to strike:

TORI (cont'd)

This one's for me.

Celeste drops to one knee and SLAMS her open palm onto the ground:

FWOOM! A bubble of opaque ENERGY rises around her, the shockwave sending Tori stumbling back until the energy covers several feet within the circle.

TORI (cont'd)

(huffs)

Okay, so that's fair.

CRASH! Both sets of auditorium doors fly open as two fresh packs of DEMONS pour inside, armed to the teeth!

Tori looks round - Delaney KICKS one of the recovering witches across the jaw to drop her.

She looks to Sofia - who is already on her feet, rubbing her throat but keeping her eyes on the demons.

TORI (cont'd)

Demons first, evil magical grandma
later?

DELANEY

I'll get Celeste. You two hold
those things off.

Delaney marches towards the magic circle, Tori rushing to meet the nearest group of demons head on as we CUT TO:

21 EXT. CAMPUS - MAIN ENTRANCE - NEXT

21

Where Greg, Reiko and Dade have made themselves a small clearing, safe behind a line of soldiers.

Greg turns the Sphere round and round, quickly studying the markings until they hear:

FRANKIE (O.S.)
Allons-y! I am 'ere!

Frankie barrels over to join them - she's injured but not slowed down one bit. A thick SPELLBOOK is under her arm.

FRANKIE (cont'd)
(to Reiko)
You are sure this will work?

REIKO
No. But I am sure in what Alita told me to do. And this is it.

Greg takes the spellbook, passing the Sphere to Dade. The group DUCK as another EXPLOSION blasts out nearby.

DADE
They're getting closer...

Greg leafs rapidly through the book:

GREG
I know, I know! Just give me a moment, I have to remember what the sorceress said when she... ah!

He holds the book open, laying one hand on the Sphere as he reads aloud:

GREG (cont'd)
Izaci na zrak piznutra i poslati sa...

The Sphere starts to GLOW, Dade's eyes widening.

DADE
Woah...

REIKO
Keep it still!

His sharp retort is lost as the soldiers OPEN FIRE at something large coming their way.

GREG
Hrabro srce ogledni primjerak je nijedan mjesto ovdje...

(CONTINUED)

Frankie looks out across the battlefield:

And sees the many and varied demons all beginning to GLOW in unison with the Sphere!

Some stop, confused, others are too lost in their bloodlust to notice.

ON GREG as he removes his hand, the Sphere's pulses of light growing stronger:

GREG (cont'd)
*Na taj nacin raspršiti životinja sa
 i donijeti meni u!*

SHOOM! A cascade of LIGHT bursts out from the Sphere, buffeting everyone in its radius!

FROM ABOVE as the shockwave of power radiates out from the group, flowing over the soldiers and demons alike.

The demons stop in their tracks, many starting to HOWL as the light washes over them, some stumbling and falling.

Lowering the hands shielding their eyes, the soldiers find the demons dazed, disorientated:

And so they ATTACK!

The demons are no match for the troops now, who roll back the battle lines in a matter of moments.

ON REIKO as she exhales, relieved, Greg and the others around her LAUGHING in disbelief as the tide of battle swings decisively their way.

GREG (cont'd)
 How did you know? How did you know
 that would even work?

Reiko just SMILES, and we CUT TO:

Where Reiko and ALITA embrace, moments before Alita's return to the other side of the veil.

CLOSE on the two as Alita leans in to whisper something into Reiko's ear:

ALITA
 When all hope seems lost, that
 which gave you power can also take
 it away. It will light your darkest
 hour.

Reiko frowns, but Alita just nods, and we CUT TO:

23 EXT. CAMPUS - MAIN ENTRANCE - DAY

23

As the Army and Initiative troops push closer to the Academy itself, the remaining demons cut down where they stand or wisely turning tail and fleeing.

Patty wanders through the flurry of troops as they advance, SOOT mixed with BLOOD all over her.

Reiko spots her and heads over, giving her a grateful hug. Patty just blinks, puzzled:

PATTY

What happened to all the demons?

REIKO

Never mind. Ready to go help the others?

Patty pats the BAG over her shoulder.

PATTY

Absolutely.

The girls hurry on, weaving through the troops and heading for the campus as we CUT TO:

24 INT. CAMPUS - AUDITORIUM - NEXT

24

Where Tori and Sofia are hacking their way through the tide of demons, bodies piling up all around them.

Delaney has both hands pushed against Celeste's barrier, which CRACKLES violently with energy, but it's no good.

From within, Celeste CHUCKLES, shaking her head.

CELESTE

I'm disappointed in you, Delaney!

She GASPS and staggers back, winded by the power she's put into trying to break it, when she looks up:

And sees Mela jog out onto the stage at the other end of the room!

Delaney straightens, locking gazes with her former protege, Mela quickly surveying the mayhem until:

FRAN (O.S.)

Don't. Move.

Mela turns - as Fran emerges from the shadows backstage, her KNIFE in hand and eyes burning into Mela.

ON THE OTHERS, each taking a moment during their respective battles to register the confrontation about to take place.

(CONTINUED)

MELA

Fran... please. I don't want to hurt you. Just -

FRAN

(scoffs)

Little late for that, Mel.

Mela backs up as Fran approaches, the girls oblivious to the battle raging in the auditorium behind them.

FRAN (cont'd)

Why did you do it? That's the part I can't figure out. I mean, I guess looking back, I should've seen it coming - the mood swings, hot one second, cold the next, all the times I could never find you, or you wouldn't tell me where you'd been... but them? The Coven? What the hell were you thinking?

Mela lowers her head, a moment of guilt washing over her.

MELA

She told me I would.

FRAN

What?

MELA

Hope. The Oracle. Back at the wicca convention. That's when I knew.

Fran frowns, and we FLASH TO:

Mela kneels before pint-sized HOPE HARRIS, who clutches Mela's hand as she says:

HOPE

You'll pick them. You shouldn't, but you will.

Mela blinks, unsettled, as we FLASH TO:

Where Fran starts to circle Mela, who keeps her head bowed.

MELA

Before then, all the years Hamish had been taking care of me, teaching me how to stay on top of my... urges...

FRAN

Your what?

MELA

(blurts)

You don't know what it's been like for me! You've seen what my family's capable of, what I'm capable of! Darkness... it's what I am! Who I am! I can't fight that!

FRAN

Did you even try?

MELA

Of course I tried! I was right there with you, with all of you, time after time! But...

She blinks away TEARS, wiping her eyes.

MELA (cont'd)

But it never made any difference to how I felt. Like I was just one step away from turning into what we were fighting against. And I felt like that every day. Every day!

Fran stays silent, Mela becoming more agitated:

MELA (cont'd)

I still thought maybe I had a chance, maybe... maybe if somebody like you could fall in love with me, then I wasn't... rotten. Corrupted. Broken.

FRAN

So you took the word of a six year old girl and that's what changed your mind?

MELA

She's the Oracle, Fran! She knows what's gonna happen! What we're all gonna do before we even do!

FRAN

Bull.

Fran advances on her, Mela holding her ground as Fran draws up close.

FRAN (cont'd)

You saved me back at the Tor. You didn't have to, but you did.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FRAN (cont'd)

I think you wanted to let yourself slip. You didn't think you were worth saving. That there wasn't anything good in you.

She raises her knife. Mela tenses, eyes on the blade.

FRAN (cont'd)

You wanna know what I think?

She suddenly flips the blade, offering the handle to Mela!

FRAN (cont'd)

I say, if you really, and I mean really think there's not a single point of light in your body worth holding onto... then kill me.

Mela's wide eyes flick from the knife to Fran.

MELA

(shakes head)

No... Don't - don't ask me to -

FRAN

I love you!

Mela reacts, and Fran takes a moment to realise what she just said herself, and she hears:

HOPE (V.O.)

When it's the right time... tell her you love her.

FRAN

(exhales; beat)

I... I love you. Still. After everything you've done to betray us, I... I can't stop that.

Hardening, she steps closer, holding up the knife.

FRAN (cont'd)

So come on! What's the problem? If you love me too...

Angry, she GRABS Mela's hand and wraps her fingers around the knife, pressing the tip of the blade against herself.

FRAN (cont'd)

You think you're bad? Evil? Prove it! Kill me! Stick this knife right into my heart, because I swear to God, Mel, if you don't then I'm just gonna -

Fran GASPS. Eyes bulge. She looks down.

(CONTINUED)

Mela's hand still holds the knife - which has pierced Fran's chest. Up to the hilt.

Starting to TREMBLE, Fran looks back up at Mela - who lets out a desperate SOB, fresh tears rolling down her cheeks.

MELA

I'm sorry... I'm so, so sorry...

Fran lets out a wheezing breath, BLOOD bubbling on her lips.

FRAN

Me... Mel...?

And she wilts, Mela releasing the blade as Fran CRASHES to the floor. Her glazed eyes stare back up at Mela:

DELANEY (O.S.)

No!!

Mela breaks out of her trance, whirling round:

To see Sofia and Tori have taken care of most of the demons, Delaney much closer to the stage now and staring in horror at Fran's body.

DELANEY (cont'd)

What... what did you do?

Slow, mocking LAUGHTER from behind makes the girls turn - to see Celeste shaking her head from within her barrier.

CELESTE

I always knew you'd make me proud
one day, Mela.

Under their feet, the circle starts to THROB with energy, trails of ENERGY snaking along the intricate designs.

CELESTE (cont'd)

I saw this moment from the first
day I laid eyes on you. You always
did have far too much of your
mother in you.

MELA

You... you knew?

Tori leaps back, alarmed, as the circle starts to SPUTTER with SPARKS and barely-contained energy.

CELESTE

There's been so much death in this
Academy, so much pain, and sorrow,
and anger - where do you think all
that negative power went?

(savouring)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CELESTE (cont'd)

It didn't 'go' anywhere. It stayed within these walls. Waiting.

The circle finishes coming to life, starting to RUMBLE as the floor beneath it starts to DARKEN and HARDEN.

CELESTE (cont'd)

All it needed was a simple push in the right direction. A focus. A single act of such pain, such betrayal and anger, that every scrap of power would be drawn towards it.

(smirks; to Mela)

One you just gave me. You're the vessel for the combined power of every Slayer on Earth, after all!

Sofia frowns, staring at the designs as though recognising them, as the circle starts to HARDEN, lines of chalk, powder and paint becoming grey like STEEL...

CELESTE (cont'd)

Don't get me wrong, this would all have been much easier if I'd been able to simply siphon the power off from the Tor like I was planning, channel it through the demons I took with me and use them as conduits to focus the energies, but, well...

She looks to Mela with a smirk.

CELESTE (cont'd)

I know how to improvise.

(beat)

And now the well is open, there's no stopping it. Your whole life has been tailored towards this moment... and I have never been more proud of you.

Sofia's eyes bulge and she staggers back, realisation hitting her at last:

SOFIA

(shocked)

Oh, my God... no...

DELANEY

What? 'Oh, my God' what?

Celeste's LAUGHTER is drowned out as the HUM from the magic circle rises, the RUMBLING starting to violently SHAKE the whole auditorium.

(CONTINUED)

The roof overhead CRACKS, the power building pushing against the walls!

Delaney and Tori stumble over to Sofia, struggling to keep their balance as they back away from the circle.

The metallic lines of the circle start to knit together, criss-crossing and bonding into a pentagram, a familiar star-shaped device...

SOFIA

She's opening a Hellmouth...

FROM ABOVE as the HELLMOUTH is revealed at last, filling almost the entire auditorium with the still-shielded Celeste at its centre!

CELESTE

(over noise)

Not just opening... creating! I'm breaking a hole open in the world, the biggest anyone has ever or will ever see... and it's all thanks to you!

Mela staggers back, shock washing over her as she reels, trying to process her role in the end of the world.

The Hellmouth starts to PULSE with energy, power rising as the room around it continues to shake itself to pieces:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

27 INT. CAMPUS - AUDITORIUM - DAY

27

On the stage, where Mela kneels by Fran's body, cradling her and gently stroking her fingers down Fran's cheek.

She leans down, TEARS dripping from her eyes as she tenderly KISSES Fran for one last time:

DELANEY (O.S.)

Never thought it'd be you.

Mela looks up - Delaney steps up onto the stage, murder in her eyes as she approaches.

DELANEY (cont'd)

Of all of us the Coven was trying to get to, to turn us... I never thought it'd be you.

Mela looks away, carefully lowering Fran back to the ground before rising, turning to face Delaney.

DELANEY (cont'd)

The power you've got... Mela, you could've been the best of us. You were a part of all this, this prophecy and everything else, but you... you had a chance.

MELA

(shakes head; sadly)

I never had a chance.

DELANEY

Guess we'll never know now, huh? Because you just crossed the line. And now you're just the same as any of the other things we've fought.

Mela nods, drawing her SWORD.

MELA

Then let's do this properly. No magic. Just you and me.

Delaney hesitates - then scoops up Fran's discarded sword.

DELANEY

(shrugs)

Works for me.

A beat - then the two girls CHARGE one another!

(CONTINUED)

Down in the auditorium, the room still RUMBLING and SHAKING around them, Sofia and Tori look down:

And see the HELLMOUTH continuing to form - floorboards buckle and tear, the elements shifting and reorganising into a huge, silvery pentacle.

TORI

(shouts over noise)

What do we do? How do we stop it?

SOFIA

I don't know!

TORI

(off Scythe)

What about that? You told me it worked on those Hub things to shut these down before, right?

SOFIA

We're not by a Hub! I don't know how to stop this!

They glance round - on the stage, Delaney and Mela are locked in battle, even sword strikes and blocks as they find their feet with each other.

CELESTE

You might as well start running, ladies...

The girls turn back to Celeste, still secure within her bubble of energy at the centre of the Hellmouth.

CELESTE (cont'd)

... because as soon as this opens up, it's going to stay open.

She lowers her head and raises her hands - and starts pushing the barrier out, spreading to cover more of the Hellmouth! The opaque matter darkens, hiding Celeste within.

Sofia and Tori keep backing up, stepping over the bodies of dozens of fallen demons...

REIKO (O.S.)

What the crap?

They turn - Reiko's reinforcements have arrived! Reiko, Patty, Greg, Dade and Frankie, with her LAPTOP under arm.

REIKO (cont'd)

Is that -

SOFIA

We have to get out of here!

(CONTINUED)

She hurries towards them, ushering the newcomers back towards the exit. Greg finally sees:

GREG

Delaney?

ON STAGE, and the duel is intensifying now - Delaney and Mela know all of each other's moves, every strike blocked, every feint countered.

Mela, however, is buzzing with the Slayer Power, giving her the edge she needs to keep Delaney at bay.

Delaney SNARLS and KICKS out, knocking Mela off balance, but her follow up flurry of blows are all deflected.

Mela SLAMS an open palm into her chest, then drops her ELBOW onto Delaney's leg.

Delaney SHOUTS and stumbles back, Mela following with a SNAP KICK that knocks Delaney flat.

Delaney nimbly FLIPS back to her feet, getting her sword up in time to BLOCK a slashing attack from Mela.

DELANEY

What did they offer you? Huh? What was so good about going over to their side?

MELA

They understand who I am! Here, every day, I was just... pretending! That wasn't who I was supposed to be!

DELANEY

You really believe that?

MELA

I've just been waiting for the moment to let it in, Delaney, don't you see that? This is how it was always going to end!

She CUTS Delaney's arm, Delaney lurching back to avoid another HACK.

MELA (cont'd)

Our fates are set. Our destinies are written out before we're born. That's what I believe.

DELANEY

I changed mine. There's no fate but what we make for ourselves.

(CONTINUED)

MELA

Did you? Or did you just do
everything you were supposed to do,
even if you thought you were making
a difference?

Delaney pauses - then goes back on the offensive, forcing
Mela back a step with each strike!

DELANEY

I know who I am. Where I'm supposed
to be. What I'm supposed to do.
Took me too long to figure it out,
but in the end -

WHUMP! Mela ducks one sweep and BLASTS a boot into Delaney's
chest, knocking the wind out of her.

MELA

In the end, we are who we are. And
that's all there is to it.

She looks to Fran's body, staring.

MELA (cont'd)

(quiet)

This is who I am.

Delaney SURGES up from the floor with a SHOUT, grappling with
Mela until both girls lose grip on their swords!

Delaney twists and JUDO TOSSES Mela onto the stage with a
THUMP, but Mela rolls aside to avoid the STAMP that follows.

Taking a moment, she looks around - Delaney closing in, the
auditorium shaking itself to pieces, the Hellmouth, Sofia's
team - and decides on a new tactic.

Mela springs up, spots a ladder backstage leading to the
roof, and is on it in a moment.

Delaney gives chase, even as Greg finally makes it up onto
the stage:

GREG

Delaney, wait! Delaney!

He gives chase, clambering rapidly up the ladder as the two
girls disappear into the shadows overhead.

BELOW, and Sofia's team are right back by the exit now,
Celeste's magical barrier covering the whole Hellmouth.

Another TREMOR rocks the whole building, the walls and
ceiling BUCKLING further under the pressure!

(CONTINUED)

FRANKIE

We cannot just let 'er open that
right 'ere on our own campus!

DADE

How are we supposed to get through
that barrier? It's pure magic!

Sofia blinks - then looks to Dade, realising:

SOFIA

You.

DADE

Huh?

Sofia grabs him, dragging him towards the edge of the
barrier.

SOFIA

You're the antidote to magic, Dade.
Everything your mother did gave you
an immunity, right?

DADE

(cautious)

Yeah...

She takes his hands and places them against the barrier. He
winces, but there's no shock from it.

SOFIA

So use it.

Dade shakes his head, not understanding - but then starts to
feel something, turning to the barrier:

As the dark energy starts to GLOW under his touch, starting
to lighten and flicker!

Dade looks to Sofia, who smiles and nods:

SOFIA (cont'd)

Just make me a hole big enough to
get through. I'll do the rest.

Dade nods, jaw set in determination as he returns his focus
to the barrier, starting to PUSH as we CUT TO:

Delaney bursts out of a trap door, quickly scanning the
rooftop for sight of:

Mela, who darts across the SHAKING roof, in between HOLES
that are sinking into the building!

DELANEY

Get back here, damn it!

She gives chase, arms up for balance as everything around her continues to RATTLE.

Moments later, Greg emerges from the same trap door, spotting the fleeing girls and hurriedly giving chase as we CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS - AUDITORIUM - NEXT

Sofia approaches Frankie, Reiko and Tori. Behind them, Patty is tying up the unconscious Coven witches.

SOFIA

If you're here, then I'm guessing the demons outside are gone?

REIKO

(brightens)

You shoulda seen it, Sofia! It was all about what Alita said to me back when she -

SOFIA

Reiko, I'm sorry, but you're going to have to tell me about it later. Right now, I need you to get everyone back away from the campus as fast as you can.

FRANKIE

Non. We are staying 'ere.

SOFIA

Where I'm going, you won't be able to follow. And if I don't make it back...

TORI

If you don't make it back, then that Hellmouth's gonna pop wide open and somebody's gonna need to be the first line.

She lays a hand on Sofia's shoulder.

TORI (cont'd)

Stop trying to save the world by yourself all the time.

SOFIA

(grins)

That sounds like something she would have said.

(CONTINUED)

TORI

Nope. All me.

DADE

Sofia?

She breaks away, hurrying over to Dade:

Who now has a football-sized HOLE in the barrier, nothing but more inky darkness beyond.

DADE (cont'd)

This is working... I think.

SOFIA

Good. Excellent. Just keep going,
Dade. Just a little more...

She glances at him - sees his skin beginning to turn PALE, dark black VEINS snaking across his exposed flesh.

Sofia hesitates, seeing the toll this is taking on him, and as Dade keeps pushing, we CUT TO:

Where Mela is racing for the edge, ready to make a LEAP across to the closest dorms rooftop:

Until a handful of ROOF TILES crash into her, and she clatters to the ground with a SHOUT!

She rises to find Delaney almost on her, and barely avoids the KICK she drives into the ground.

DELANEY

Where you running to now? Huh?

Delaney starts raining PUNCHES down on Mela, her face twisting with anger.

DELANEY (cont'd)

Your new boss? Think she can save you? That it?

MELA

(between punches)

Delaney...

DELANEY

(enraged)

You know what she did? What she took from me? My mother's dead because of her! Because of you!

BLOOD spatters as Delaney lands hit after hit, Mela taking a real pounding as she weakly tries to push Delaney back.

(CONTINUED)

DELANEY (cont'd)
You and every one of 'em, all you
ever did was take! Kill! Destroy
everything that got in your way!
You wanna be one of them?

Delaney lands an UPPERCUT that floors Mela, SNARLING.

DELANEY (cont'd)
Then you get to die like one of
them too.

And her KNIFE is in her hand as she closes in:

GREG (O.S.)
Delaney, no!

Delaney stops, turns - sees Greg further back, struggling to
catch up as the roof he's on starts to COLLAPSE!

Delaney blinks, snapping herself out of the red mist as she
sees her brother in danger.

DELANEY
Greg...

She breaks from Mela and runs back - but has to pull to a
sharp halt as a section of the roof CAVES IN before her!

DELANEY (cont'd)
Woah!

Teetering on the edge, she catches her balance and steps back
- Greg's side of the roof is starting to fall, lurching
sideways as he clings to a chimney!

GREG
Uh... I think I need help...

Delaney glances back at Mela - who is back on her feet,
wiping away the blood.

Delaney holds the gaze for a long beat - then forces herself
to look away, back to Greg.

DELANEY
Hang on, alright?

She takes a few steps back - then takes a RUNNING JUMP,
sailing over the hole in the roof and landing with a ROLL
just by Greg!

GREG
What about -

CRUNCH! Their section of the roof GIVES WAY at last, and
Delaney bundles Greg up and JUMPS with him!

31 INT. CAMPUS - LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

31

The roof CRASHES down into the library below, smashing bookshelves and furniture and depositing heaps of rubble as it SMASHES through the mezzanine gallery.

Greg and Delaney SLAM into one of the walls, rolling to a stop clear of the debris as the last of it thunders down!

Catching their breath, the duo COUGH through the thick dust as Delaney rises, hauling Greg to his feet.

DELANEY

You alright? Break anything?

GREG

No, I -

DELANEY

Good. Stay here.

She's off, BOUNDING over smashed tables and desks until Greg calls after her:

GREG

You can't just kill her!

She stops, turning to face him.

GREG (cont'd)

(shakes head)

That's not the way to end this. I know you're feeling... God, I can't even begin to know what you're feeling right now, but... she was my mother too.

(beat)

It's not because of Mela that she's dead.

Delaney looks to the floor, exhaling slowly, then:

DELANEY

It's my fault she had chance to betray us, Greg. She's my mistake.

(beat)

I have to fix that.

GREG

Delaney, wait -

But she's gone, clambering up over the collapsed wall and out onto the roof again, disappearing in moments.

Greg SIGHS, knowing he can't follow her this time, and as he dusts himself off we CUT TO:

32 INT. CAMPUS - AUDITORIUM - NEXT

32

Where Dade is still pushing at the barrier, a hole almost big enough for Sofia now formed. Reiko is by them, concern in her eyes as she watches Dade deteriorate, until:

REIKO
Alright, that's enough.

DADE
(gritted teeth)
Almost... I haven't...

REIKO
I said that's enough!

She goes to GRAB him, but as she makes contact she's SHOCKED and staggers back!

REIKO (cont'd)
Ow! What in the -

DADE
(gasps)
Oh, crap...

And with a BLAZE of light, a fully sized hole BURSTS open in the barrier!

Before anyone can stop him, he pitches forward, falling through and vanishing into the abyss beyond!

REIKO
No! Dade! No!

She goes to leap after him, but Patty quickly holds her. Frankie's hand goes to her mouth, and she looks to Sofia.

Sofia pauses at the edge of the hole, already starting to knit itself shut again.

Sofia glances at the Scythe, gripping it tight before turning to the others.

SOFIA
I'll bring him back. I promise.

Sofia nods, then takes a breath before LEAPING into the hole, plummeting into the black within as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

33

EXT. BLACK

33

Sofia freefalls into nothingness. Her hair whips up as though she's dropping at great speed, but there's nothing in the abyss around her.

Until suddenly, a PLATFORM appears below her - just a handful of tiles, right in her path.

She slows as she reaches it, landing lightly on her feet and looking around.

SOFIA

Dade? Where are you?

CELESTE (O.S.)

(echoing; all around)

Ah. I see you found a way in...

Suddenly, LIGHT and COLOUR washes through the black, the scene moulding and reshaping into:

34

EXT. VOID

34

Where Sofia now finds herself standing on a floating chunk of building - a small part of the ACADEMY itself.

The black turns to shimmering light, and as she looks around she can see more and more platforms - all ragged hunks of campus buildings, hanging in the void.

In the centre of the arrangement stands an open-top version of the AUDITORIUM, the HELLMOUTH dominating its centre.

Standing on that is Celeste, her skin PULSING from within with light.

CELESTE

Not that it matters. You're in my territory now.

She thrusts a hand into the air - and the platform Sofia is standing on starts to BREAK APART!

Sofia LEAPS, sailing through the air as the platform she left SHATTERS into fragments behind her.

She flies as if without gravity, angling for another roof and landing with a THUD, SKIDDING to a halt across its skewed surface.

Head snapping up, she sees Celeste turn her attention towards her again, and breaks into a SPRINT:

(CONTINUED)

She LEAPS into dead space again, moments before a blast of ENERGY strikes the platform she left!

It DETONATES into fragments that hurtle in all directions - one of them CRASHING into Sofia!

She's thrown off course, landing HARD on another platform and skidding painfully to a halt.

COUGHING, she rises unsteadily to her feet, using the Scythe for support:

CELESTE (cont'd)
(laughing)
What do you think you can honestly
do in here?

Celeste raises her hands, electric streaks of POWER blasting from her palms and into the curved walls.

Where they connect, light BLAZES and feeds back to Celeste in PULSES of energy!

Celeste now seems to be GROWING, her form expanding and rising, dwarfing the auditorium where she once stood.

Sofia backs up, glancing left and right as she tries to map out a route to reach Celeste.

CELESTE (cont'd)
We're in the gap between realities
here, Sofia. And the walls are very
thin.

On cue, the brilliance around them starts to DARKEN, with shadowy FORMS coalescing just beyond the barrier.

Monstrous, shapeless ENTITIES are pushing at the barrier as though peering into a fishbowl - EYES, TEETH, TENTACLES and a million other misshapen limbs!

CELESTE (cont'd)
They've been waiting a long time to
find a way into our world... and
they'll be very grateful to whoever
lets them in.

Celeste continues to GROW, now a colossus some fifty feet tall, her movements displacing the platforms floating by.

Sofia stares her down bravely, shouting back:

SOFIA
So this was your grand master plan?
Steal as much power as you could
and use it to tear a hole in the
world?

Celeste LAUGHS again, her voice now a deafening, BOOMING sound that echoes around the void.

SOFIA (cont'd)
Have to say... I've heard better.

Celeste stops laughing, coming to bear on Sofia.

CELESTE
I suppose you think you're
hilarious, don't you?

Sofia backs up as Celeste's towering new form LOOMS over her.

CELESTE (cont'd)
(sneers)
Look where it got you. All alone.
Powerless. Defenceless. Weak.

SOFIA
(smirks)
Are you sure about that?

And as Celeste brings a mighty hand sweeping down to SQUASH Sofia where she stands, our girl is off:

She LEAPS to the nearest platform moments before Celeste's hand SMASHES down behind her, the shockwave SHAKING all the nearby platforms.

Sofia keeps moving, head down as she runs for the nearest edge and FLIPS off into nothing as we FLASH TO:

As Sofia, back on the campus grounds, is FLIPPING neatly from one boat to the next across the lake!

Using the momentum gathered from the previous jump, she jumps again, twisting both vertically and horizontally to land in the next as we FLASH TO:

Where Sofia runs through the same well-practised motions as she LEAPS and FLIPS from platform to platform!

Celeste can't keep up with her, and in moments she lands on a platform too far round for Celeste to reach.

As the cumbersome giant starts to turn - Sofia spots what she was looking for:

DADE

Flat on his back on a platform near the floating auditorium. Sofia glances behind her, then quickly JUMPS:

As Celeste SWATS the platform she was standing on aside, the boulder careening into another and SHATTERING!

Sofia lands with a slide by Dade, hauling him quickly to his feet and keeping them both moving.

DADE
(dazed)
Wha... what...

SOFIA
Pay attention, double-o seven, I'm
about to need your help or we're
both going to get mushed!

And with Dade in tow she LEAPS for the auditorium, the duo making an undignified landing as they CLATTER to a halt!

DADE
Ow! Damn it! What the hell are you -

He looks up... and up... and up, taking in all of the gigantic Celeste as she slowly turns towards them.

DADE (cont'd)
(gulps)
Help...

SOFIA
Never mind that, help me with this!

Sofia GRABS one of his hands and drags him towards the nearest stream of ENERGY, still channelling power from the void walls into Celeste!

SOFIA (cont'd)
If I've got this right...

Keeping one hand tightly holding Dade's, Sofia reaches up and CHOPS at the strand of power - SLICING through it!

Celeste ROARS, terrifying - but starts to SHRINK as the flailing line of power snaps back towards the walls!

Sofia starts to pull Dade round towards the next, DUCKING to avoid another of Celeste's arms as she tries to GRAB the plucky duo.

DADE
How did you know that'd work?

SOFIA
If this place is all magic, then
somebody whose body is basically
anti-magic seems like someone worth
holding onto.
(off look)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA (cont'd)

That, and I didn't have another
plan. Hold on!

She LEAPS for the next power line - but Celeste's hand swoops
round and SNATCHES her up, the Scythe falling from her hand!

CELESTE

Enough!

Dade stumbles and falls, watching helplessly as Celeste holds
Sofia up - Sofia grimacing at the hand, bigger than she is,
gripping her tight as we CUT TO:

Back in the real world, where Mela has made it back round to
the front of the campus - but she comes to a halt at the
sight below:

Her demon army is in tatters - dozens of dead bodies litter
the grounds outside the entrance, with the military rounding
up the survivors.

The fight is still ongoing - one lumbering demons, arms long
and low like huge barbed TAILS, is keeping a group of
soldiers at bay.

Elsewhere, Initiative commandoes are getting stuck into demon
stragglers in vicious hand-to-hand combat.

DELANEY (O.S.)

Reinforcements, right?

Mela whirls - Delaney steps into view, the duo now more or
less back above the main entrance.

DELANEY (cont'd)

Smart move. Run from the fight,
lead me up here, lose me on a lap
back to the front and then have a
pack of your best demon boys
waiting for me when I caught up.
Smart. It's what I would've done.

The duo start circling each other slowly.

MELA

(shaking head)

We don't have to kill each other,
Delaney.

DELANEY

Who said anything about killing
each other? Bitch, I'm gonna kill
you. And you know how big a deal
that is for me. You earned it.

MELA

There's room for both of us in the Coven.

Delaney's jaw hangs - is she really hearing this?

DELANEY

'Kay, either you're playing for time or you're completely out of your gourd, 'cause if you think for a second -

FWIP! Mela's hand FLASHES out - and a hidden DAGGER slashes along Delaney's side!

She GRUNTS, dropping to one knee as Mela advances, all emotion gone from her face in an instant.

DELANEY (cont'd)

(gritted teeth)

Right. Course. Playing for time.

MELA

I think you taught me too well.

She brings her boot up for a STAMP - but Delaney CATCHES the boot and PUSHES it back!

Mela twists as she falls to land in a roll, already up before Delaney can rise and FLOORING her with a running KICK!

Another TREMOR rocks the campus - and the section the girls are on LURCHES to the side!

Delaney rolls onto her chest and gets a quick look across the campus beyond:

Where ragged TEARS are starting to rip their way through the earth, spreading out from the centre of the campus!

DELANEY

Ah, Hell...

Delaney gets up, quickly BLOCKING Mela's next few attacks and trying to find an opening.

She lands a HOOK but Mela immediately counters, HAMMERING Delaney's torso with punches!

She brings her leg up in a SNAP KICK that cartwheels Delaney back - and as she lands, the roof beneath her CAVES IN!

Delaney BOUNCES off one of the tables and onto the floor, Mela landing neatly several feet away.

(CONTINUED)

Delaney's flagging now, trying to use chairs to push herself up, but they skid away and drop her back down.

Mela takes her time, stepping over rubble and debris as she closes on the crawling Delaney.

She reaches down and GRABS Delaney's hair, pulling it back to haul Delaney painfully to her feet:

Then she drives an ELBOW into Delaney's back, spins her round and RIGHT CROSSES her, a bloody TOOTH flying from Delaney's mouth!

She stumbles back, pressing a hand to her mouth as Mela drops into a combat stance, ready for Delaney's next move.

DELANEY

Alright... I'm done going easy on you. You want the real me?

She rolls her shoulders, SPITTING out a mouthful of blood. She raises her dukes - fiery ENERGY crackling around them.

DELANEY (cont'd)

Show me why you get to be the one that prophecy was talking about.

Mela waits - then LAUNCHES into a flurry of attacks, her own fists BLAZING with dark, snapping trails of magic!

This time, Delaney's ready - she counters, feints, dodges, weaves and HITS BACK for everything Mela can throw at her.

Where their blows meet, FLARES of energy as the two sets of magic connect light up the room.

Grabbing an arm after a missed swing, Delaney HIP TOSSES Mela overhead and SMASHES her down onto a table!

Mela FLIPS UP as Delaney keeps up the attack, only blocking half of her hits and getting forced back with each one that connects.

Delaney SWEEPS her legs out, not breaking stride as she KICKS Mela in the gut!

Delaney GRAPPLES her, spins and HURLS her against the metal canteen buffet tables with a magically-boosted throw, Mela CRASHING through them:

And through the swing doors into the kitchen!

Delaney's on her in an instant, grabbing everything to hand - pots, pans, bowls, knives, cutlery - and attacking!

Mela grabs a serving tray, DEFLECTING the attacks, but Delaney KICKS a huge soup bowl from an oven into her!

Mela staggers, Delaney JUMPING to drive a PUNCH down that knocks Mela to one knee with a BLAZE of light!

Delaney goes for another grab, but Mela shoves a fridge door open into her path with a WHUMP.

Delaney staggers back, and Mela scoops up two KITCHEN KNIVES from the counter, SLICING and CHOPPING towards her!

Delaney ducks and dives around the attacks, until she hooks a foot round a BROOM and snaps it up into her hand.

Using it to BLOCK two blows, she snags it behind her back, twists and RAMS it into Mela's side, knocking her back!

Grabbing her again, Delaney CHARGES straight at another door with Mela like a battering ram:

40 INT. CAMPUS - CORRIDOR - NEXT

40

And with a CRASH the girls blast through into another corridor, Delaney releasing Mela to let her slide along the ground!

Delaney WINCES, pressing a hand to her side - BLOOD. Lots of it. But no time to worry about that now.

DELANEY

(calls out)

How am I doing so far? Still good enough to join your new gang?

Mela is trying to get up as Delaney surges in for Round Two, and we CUT TO:

41 EXT. VOID

41

Where Sofia SCREAMS in pain as Celeste SQUEEZES her ever tighter, until:

DADE (O.S.)

Hey!

Celeste turns - and sees Dade with the Scythe, ready to cut the other power line!

DADE (cont'd)

Oh, good, you can hear me up there. Didn't want you to miss this.

And he HACKS down, severing the line!

Celeste HOWLS as the power floods out of her in waves - she DROPS Sofia, who lands clumsily near Dade.

(CONTINUED)

Outside the void, the nameless horrors shift and tumble around each other, agitated, pressing shapeless forms against the barrier keeping them at bay.

Celeste SHRINKS rapidly, Dade recovering Sofia as soon Celeste is back to her normal size.

DADE (cont'd)
Alright!

He pushes the Scythe into the dazed Sofia's hands.

DADE (cont'd)
 There. Go on. Do your... thing.

Sofia blinks, still shaken - but Celeste isn't done yet. SNARLING, she raises her hands which SMOKE with sickly green energy.

CELESTE
 You can't comprehend the things
 I've faced to get where I am now...
 the demons I've bent to my will,
 the forces that don't even have
names!

Everything DARKENS further, the baleful light surrounding Celeste the only illumination.

Hunks of DEBRIS rise and start hurtling towards Sofia, who stands her ground as we FLASH TO:

Sofia spars with LADY HUANG, both wielding BO STAFFS which CRACK against each other in a blur of motion as we FLASH TO:

Back with Sofia, who rapidly SWEEPS her Scythe from side to side, blocking and deflecting everything coming her way!

CELESTE
 (snarls; echoing)
 You think you're pure? Worthy? I
 think we both know that's wrong.

And with a series of GROWLS and inhuman GRUNTS, several creatures start to BURROW their way up through the floor, SCRATCHING and CLAWING at the boards!

SOFIA
 Dade, stay behind me!

Putting herself before Dade, Scythe ready, Sofia watches as the beings pull themselves up into view...

... vacant eyes, rotting skin, shuffling walks - ZOMBIES!
They start to herd around Sofia in all directions.

CELESTE

Time to see if you really think
you've made up for anything.

And the zombies ATTACK, racing towards Sofia with a chorus of
tortured HISSES!

She gets the Scythe up, the creatures all bearing rusty,
broken SWORDS and weapons to fight her.

She deflects their blows, but she's surrounded, taking CUTS
from their jagged blades!

Stepping back, Dade watches helplessly as Sofia is
overwhelmed by the creatures.

More are coming, fresh zombies dragging themselves out of the
ground every moment!

Dade looks to Celeste, who keeps her gaze fixed on Sofia,
concentrating, her will keeping the ghouls moving.

He looks desperate, searching for anything he can do to help,
and as Sofia starts to disappear under the scrum of rotting
bodies pressing down on her, we CUT TO:

As Mela SMASHES out from one of the classroom windows
overlooking this section of roof, rolling to a halt!

Delaney climbs through the broken frame and limps towards the
bloody, winded Mela.

More TREMORS and TEARS are pulling the campus to pieces all
around them, but Delaney's focus is all on Mela.

She grabs Mela's shirt and pulls her up, landing PUNCH after
PUNCH on her. Mela's face is a bloody mess.

DELANEY

After everything we did...

She's SOBBING now, emotion overtaking the rage.

DELANEY (cont'd)

... we took you in, we gave you all
the help you needed, showed you how
to control your power...

Delaney lands a final PUNCH, letting Mela fall limply to the
floor. She COUGHS weakly.

DELANEY (cont'd)
(panting)
... but it didn't matter.

She kneels over Mela, placing her hands either side of Mela's head. Mela tries to push her away, but she's all used up.

DELANEY (cont'd)
You made me have to do this.
(beat; solemn)
Time to end your story.

Delaney lowers her head - and Mela GASPS as her BLOOD TATTOOS suddenly burst to life across her skin!

Delaney keeps her grip tight as Mela starts to SHAKE - and BLOOD begins seeping from the tattoos!

GREG (O.S.)
Delaney?

Delaney doesn't move - over her shoulder Greg is racing towards her from the far side of the roof:

GREG (cont'd)
No... no... no! Delaney, don't!

Mela WHEEZES now, the curse Delaney's flooding her system with choking what little left was left out of her.

MELA
I... I... I'm not... sorry...

Greg finally gets to them, TACKLING Delaney and pulling her away from Mela!

DELANEY
(struggling)
Get off me... let me go! I have to
do this! I have to -

MELA
(faint)
It's done...

The duo stop, looking up - to see Mela is looking at them, BLOOD oozing from her tattoos. But somehow, she SMILES.

MELA (cont'd)
Thank you... for being the one...
to do it...

Her eyelids flutter... a final breath escapes her... and Mela falls still.

Greg releases Delaney, clambering to his feet and stepping back, horrified.

(CONTINUED)

GREG

What have you done...

DELANEY

(grim)

What I had to.

She pushes herself up, shoving Greg away as he tries to help.

DELANEY (cont'd)

Only way... this could end. She
knew that.

Delaney looks up - sees the disappointment in Greg's eyes -
and has to turn away.

DELANEY (cont'd)

I'm sorry you had to see -

FWOOSH! Delaney's whole body suddenly BLAZES with power,
sending Greg staggering back, arms raised!

Delaney SCREAMS but it's lost in the mighty HUM of power
flooding into her, as we CUT TO:

Where Sofia is being held by two of the grotesque zombies as
others CLAW and RAKE at her! She CRIES OUT, fighting to get
free, but they've got her too tight.

Something clicks in Dade. He sets his jaw, fixes his gaze on
Celeste - and marches straight towards her!

SOFIA

(noticing)

Dade... no! Don't!

As he passes one sharp edge of the jagged walls, he SWEEPS
his hand over it, SLICING his palm open. He breaks off a
piece of wood with his other hand and keeps approaching.

She's too busy fighting off the growing army of cadavers -
and Celeste is too busy maintaining them to notice Dade until
he's almost next to her!

CELESTE

What -

He CUTS down across her forearm, opening a cut, then presses
his bleeding palm against it!

Celeste's eyes bulge, and as Dade's blood mixes with her own
there's a sudden BLAZE of light from within her!

The zombies DISINTEGRATE in a moment, collapsing into gooey
piles of bones and flesh.

(CONTINUED)

45

CONTINUED:

45

CELESTE (cont'd)
(wails)
No! No!!

Dade lets out a CRY - his skin turning a deathly white, BLACK VEINS spiderwebbing across his body!

Celeste lets out a BLAST of power, knocking him clear and sending more chunks of RUBBLE flying at Sofia!

Seeing her chance, Sofia sucks up what energy she can muster, focused only on Celeste as we FLASH TO:

46

EXT. CAMPUS - LAKE - DAY (FLASHBACK)

46

Pressing down within one of the boats on the lake, Sofia JUMPS high into the air, THROWING both swords in her hand backwards, and we FLASH TO:

47

EXT. VOID

47

As Sofia FLIPS over the hail of debris coming her way, releasing the Scythe in an arcing, backhand throw mid-jump!

SLOW MOTION as the Scythe cartwheels through the air, homing in on its target with deadly precision:

RESUME SPEED as the Scythe SLAMS blade first into Celeste's chest!

Celeste lets out a GASP:

48

INT. CAMPUS - AUDITORIUM - DAY

48

And instantly, the trio are back in the auditorium, standing over the Hellmouth!

The SHAKING stops dead as Celeste stumbles back, clutching at the Scythe buried in her chest as Sofia walks up to her...

And Sofia PUSHES it deeper, Celeste throwing her head back to SCREAM!

ENERGY BLASTS out of her, a pillar of light that PUNCHES a hole in the already half-collapsed roof:

Which starts to CAVE IN for good, great curved hunks of it SMASHING down around them!

49

EXT. CAMPUS - ROOFTOP - NEXT

49

As Delaney, already on her knees and SHAKING with the power coursing through her, suddenly rears back:

FLAMES leap from her body, her own BLOOD TATTOOS pushing back to the surface of her skin!

(CONTINUED)

Greg boggles, too stunned to react as Delaney feels a fresh tidal wave of power blazing through every molecule in her body, as we MATCH CUT TO:

Sofia YANKS the Scythe free with a SHOUT, letting Celeste wilt and fall to the floor.

Dade DRAGS her back seconds before a large chunk of masonry CRASHES down where she was standing!

Panting, wounded and exhausted, Sofia and Dade stand supporting each other for a beat...

... before Sofia begins to LAUGH. Relief, victory, everything in between washing over her all at once.

She turns and EMBRACES Dade - who after a moment hugs her right back.

The duo release, turning to find a dumbfounded Reiko and the others watching.

Then both Reiko and Frankie break, hurrying over to Dade and fussing him as Sofia is met by Tori and Patty.

TORI

I'm going to take it that means
things went well?

Sofia manages a nod - until the ground RUMBLES once more!

PATTY

Oh, come on!
(shouts)
We killed her! Hello? That means we
won! You can stop now!

SOFIA

(darkening)
It's not over...

The group back away as the Hellmouth itself starts to VIBRATE, the unearthly metal GRINDING and SHIFTING.

The star in the centre of its design DROPS AWAY suddenly - taking Celeste with it, her body falling out of sight.

The rest of the Hellmouth starts to MOVE, parts rotating like gears, others drawing back like tumblers in a lock:

And with a deafening ROAR, the Hellmouth OPENS!

Shards of the pentacle design FOLD BACK, the aperture dilating like a camera lens - and revealing a cavernous network of TUNNELS and RAMPS below:

Spiral stone walkways reach up to the surface, dozens of different routes leading up from the abyssal depths.

Half a dozen platforms form a disjointed plateau near the top, with more runways offering a clean sprint to the outside world for anything making it that far.

Silence falls as the Hellmouth opens completely, its sections grinding to a halt. The entrance is some forty feet wide.

REIKO

Did we -

A distant, echoing chorus of ROARS sounds from the depths, and as the stunned girls look down, they see the lights of hundreds of flaming TORCHES alight far below!

TORI

Oh... God damn it.

SOFIA

Reiko? You'd better get everyone outside in here, right now. We're about to be invaded.

Reiko nods, backing away from the Hellmouth before turning and racing for the exit.

SOFIA (cont'd)

Frankie, do you have anything that can close this?

FRANKIE

In the research from all the others we closed... per'aps. I cannot say.

Sofia looks to Tori, Dade, Frankie and Patty.

No words. This is it. The last stand.

And as the melee of sound coming from the Hellmouth rises, the clamour of hundreds of running feet stampeding towards the entrance, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

51 INT. CAMPUS - AUDITORIUM - DAY

51

Looking down on the open Hellmouth - as the shards of the aperture MOVE slightly.

Crowding round Frankie, the group SHOUT encouragingly even as she bats them away, irritated.

FRANKIE

Fils de pute! This is already going to take me too long without all of you babbling in my ears!

SOFIA

Just keep doing what you're doing, Frankie. It's working.

FRANKIE

Mais oui... but it is too slow.

She shares a dark look with Sofia. No prizes for guessing what she means by that.

Sofia heads back to the edge of the Hellmouth, careful to keep her footing through another TREMOR.

SOFIA

I think, and I say this as the group's eternal optimist, that we are officially buggered.

TORI

Alright, so who fancies taking on the thirty thousand rampaging Hellmouth demons on the left?

PATTY

We've got these...

She pulls her bag open and shows them - she's still got plenty of her homemade BOMBS left.

SOFIA

The campus is already crumbling around us, Patty, I don't think we want to go making it any worse.

TORI

(looking down)

Hoo boy...

Standing at the lip of the Hellmouth, the light beaming down from the lack of a roof overhead reveals even more:

(CONTINUED)

Every single ramp, path and staircase up from the depths is teeming with moving BODIES - vampires, demons, ghouls, werewolves and much, much worse.

ON PATTY as she cocks her head to one side.

PATTY

What's that? Further down?

(looks round)

Anybody else see that?

Sofia steps back, hands in her hair, mind spinning.

SOFIA

Right, so... we can set up a
blockade, try and slow them down -

TORI

With what? Harsh language?

REIKO (O.S.)

Hey!

She looks up - Reiko is back, with a dozen soldiers including Winstone for company.

SOFIA

(blinks)

Is that it? I told you to bring
everybody!

WINSTONE

This is everybody. Everyone we can
spare, anyway. You girls missed it,
but we took a hell of a -

He stops, he and his men noticing the open Hellmouth at last.

WINSTONE (cont'd)

Ah... damn it.

TORI

That's what I said.

SOFIA

Alright, over here! Quick!

The troops jog over, checking weapons as they form a perimeter around the Hellmouth.

Fresh TREMORS ripple through the campus, the buckling walls around them GROANING under the pressure.

SOFIA (cont'd)

Judging by their speed of approach,
I say we've got three, maybe four
minutes before they're on us.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA (cont'd)

We've got to hit as many of them as
we can by then.

WINSTONE

Agreed.

(to soldiers)

Ammo count?

The men check their magazines - but a lot of shaken heads.

WINSTONE (cont'd)

(beat; nods)

We'll do what we can.

The Hellmouth CREAKS again, the opening inching a little more
closed - but it's still as good as wide open.

SOFIA

Frankie?

Frankie balances her laptop on her knees as she rapidly scans
through her data.

FRANKIE

I 'ave spells that can speed the
process up, but I need more than
three or four minutes for any of
them to work.

DADE

How long will they take to work
when you've got 'em?

She looks up, and her expression says it all - too long.

SOFIA

(exhales)

Okay, new plan - we get one of
those bloody tanks outside in here,
and then we -

GREG (O.S.)

Help!

They turn - Greg stumbles in through one of the shattered bay
windows, the still-glowing Delaney in his arms!

SOFIA

Oh, no...

Sofia hurries over as Greg gently lays Delaney down - she
WRITHES, moaning and convulsing. The tattoos are a thick, jet
black, her body PULSING with light from within.

GREG

I - I don't know what's causing it,
she just - I couldn't -

(CONTINUED)

DADE

The prophecy...

Greg looks up as Dade kneels by Delaney, lifting her arm to see the tattoos closer - which TWIST and CURL across her body with a life of their own!

DADE (cont'd)

This is it! Mela's dead, Hamish is dead, Celeste is dead... Kira's gone. She's the only one left.

GREG

When she... when Mela died, Delaney lit up like -

TORI

Like I did when Hamish took the Slayer Power out of me.

Delaney CRIES OUT, her skin BLISTERING in places, intense waves of heat radiating from her.

GREG

What are you saying... she's got both lots of power in her?

Delaney's flailing hands find Greg, clutching at his torn and bloody shirt. He takes her hands, looking down:

DELANEY

(shivering)

Too... too much, can't - gotta let it... away, away...

GREG

We have to help her!

SOFIA

We will. But first -

Something big ROARS from within the Hellmouth. Winstone's men back up a few steps, exchanging worried glances.

WINSTONE

What was -

FWOOSH! A torrent of FLAME bursts up from the depths, spilling out into the auditorium and up into the air!

Several of Winstone's men are caught in the blast, some SHRIEKING as they're consumed by the flames, others stumbling back waving flaming limbs!

Sofia, recovering, looks on in horror as some of the commandoes try to beat out the flames on their comrades, as two stumbling infernos blunder blindly over the edge:

(CONTINUED)

Sofia's group hurry back over, looking down through the opening - now halfway to closed:

The innumerable creatures below are still a minute or so from the surface, but as the unfortunate flaming soldiers drop into the depths, they illuminate something else:

A massive, streamlined body, long neck ending in a pointed head, scaly wings pinned close to its sides as it clambers up the rocky outcroppings:

A DRAGON.

The beast ROARS in defiance, its colossal frame pressed tight against the cavern walls!

ON THE GIRLS as they stare in horror at the titanic beast rising steadily towards them:

PATTY

(beat)

I knew I saw one of those.

SOFIA

(eyes bulge)

Look out!

She grabs Patty and DIVES away from the edge - as another gout of FLAME blasts up from the depths!

SLOW MOTION as Sofia looks up - seeing what's left of the auditorium now IN FLAMES all around her.

Some of Winstone's men start to OPEN FIRE down into the Hellmouth, but it's too little, too late.

She looks to Delaney - still writhing as her body burns up from the inside out, Greg desperately calling her name, trying to keep her in one piece.

Frankie SHOUTS obscenities at her laptop, looking up to meet Sofia's gaze:

They're out of time.

Sofia looks to the Scythe in her hand, gripping it tight and rising to her feet.

She steps towards the edge - still burning from the dragon's opening salvo, and looks down:

Even with the GUNFIRE felling demon after demon, for each that fall two or more take its place.

And clawing its way up through the centre of it all, barging through walkways in its path and not caring of the creatures it knocks to their doom, the dragon draws near...

(CONTINUED)

Sofia takes a few steps back, looking around. Taking in the faces of those around her.

She catches Reiko's eye - and SMILES. She nods once - a goodbye. Reiko's eyes widen as she realises what Sofia's about to do.

Sofia starts to RUN towards the edge, closing on it even as Reiko wordlessly SHOUTS, hand raised to stop her:

But RESUME SPEED as Tori TACKLES her, sending them both crashing to the auditorium floor!

Stunned, Sofia can only gape as Tori quickly gets back up, turns to Sofia - and WINKS.

For a split second, it's SKYE grinning back at her.

And then Tori SURGES towards the edge herself, reaching out to SNATCH Patty's bag of explosives from her shoulder!

Sofia calls Tori's name, but it's too late - as we hear HOPE's voice once more:

HOPE (V.O.)
And when you get the chance...
jump.

Tori JUMPS OUT and sails down into the Hellmouth!

Tori plummets past the inbound horde of demons, her focus on one thing rushing towards her:

The dragon.

It rears its head back, sucking in air, ready for another blast of flame, tiny goutts of fire licking from its nostrils:

But as the dread creature opens its mouth, a FIREBALL gathering at the back of its throat:

SLOW MOTION again as Tori HURLS the bag of explosives down into its jaws!

ON THE BAG to see every one of Patty's bombs BEEPING, their detonators primed and ready.

Tori twists as she falls, past the dragon, deeper into the infinite darkness...

So she can see the dragon's head EXPLODE in a shower of blood and offal, the resulting FIREBALL incinerating demons on all sides!

Tori GRINS, her job done... and she vanishes into the depths.

(CONTINUED)

RESUME SPEED as the headless dragon THRASHES wildly from side to side, trying to spread its wings and succeeding only in demolishing more of the paths around it!

Countless demons are sent plummeting into the dark, paths crumbling, debris punching holes in the spiral staircases, the momentum of many of the demons carrying them over.

ON SOFIA as she and Reiko hurry up to the edge, staring in shock as Tori's handiwork clears the Hellmouth in seconds.

SOFIA

(soft)

Tori...

The dragon finally falls, SMASHING through rock as it turns over and over, spiralling back into the depths, hundreds of SCREAMING demons falling with it.

Falling RUBBLE and ROCK cascades down, torn from the cavern walls, SMASHING through walkways and leaving high piles of boulders blocking many of the runways.

REIKO

She did it...

Sofia gets to her feet - and sees Frankie hurrying over to her, laptop screen facing her:

A complicated-looking SPELL, with diagrams resembling the Hellmouth around it.

FRANKIE

This. This will do it.

SOFIA

How long do you need?

FRANKIE

Longer than it will take those things to burrow back up to us.

SOFIA

Get to work. Don't waste the chance she gave us.

Sofia nods, letting Frankie get to work as she hurries back over to the still-suffering Delaney.

GREG

I don't know how much longer she can hold on, Sofia...

SOFIA

She'll hold on.

DADE

Yeah, cause if she doesn't...

(off looks)

All I'm saying is, that much power
in her getting out?

He nods over his shoulder to Frankie, hard at work - as the Hellmouth opening CLUNKS another few feet closer together.

DADE (cont'd)

It'll blow that thing wide open all
over again and punch another hole
in the world. One we won't be able
to close, 'cause we'll all be dead.

SOFIA

Well, I suppose it's not like
anything else can go wrong, is it?

Dade opens his mouth to reply - and a huge, cataclysmic EARTHQUAKE rocks the whole campus!

The floor all around the Hellmouth starts to BREAK UP, jagged sections rising and falling as the ground itself crumbles beneath their feet!

Greg is sent tumbling back as the floor LURCHES up and back, and Delaney SLIPS over the edge and into the depths!

SOFIA (cont'd)

No!

She SLIDES forward, arm outstretched - and CATCHES Delaney, her limp form left dangling over a rapidly-opening CREVASSE!

Sofia CRIES OUT - Delaney's red hot to the touch, Sofia's hand SMOKING lightly as she clings grimly to Delaney.

SOFIA (cont'd)

I... I can't...

Delaney starts to SLIP from her grasp...

But Reiko and Dade reach into frame, grabbing Delaney and helping Sofia haul her back to safety!

The trio are deposited back on solid ground, but as the entire hall starts to CAVE IN, walls folding in, Sofia finally yells out:

SOFIA (cont'd)

Go! Everybody out of here!

Winstone's group head for the opposite exit, back into the canteen and away. One soldier shoves the now-conscious captive Coven witches on with the others.

(CONTINUED)

53 CONTINUED: (2)

53

Dade hurries over to Frankie, hauling her protesting form away as the group bound into the quadrangle:

54 EXT. CAMPUS - QUADRANGLE - NEXT

54

Where they can only watch in horror as the whole house of cards COLLAPSES, the classroom corridors either side of the auditorium pitching over and disintegrating!

Shielding themselves from the DUST and DEBRIS, the group huddle together for safety as the entire campus is DEMOLISHED all around them.

SOFIA
(over noise)
Frankie! Did you manage to start
that spell?

FRANKIE
Oui! But I do not know if it will
complete before:

ROAR! Something else makes its presence known from within the Hellmouth, and the girls turn to look:

Just as two colossal CLAWS reach up over the ever-decreasing hole in the seal, CLAMPING down on the ground...

But a last cascade of MASONRY and BRICKS as the auditorium finally crumples for good SLAMS into the Hellmouth!

Whatever was about to come out is lost beneath a tidal wave of debris, SMOKE and DUST rising in huge clouds.

Gradually, the tremors subside. The dust settles. Smoke clears.

And in the middle of it all, Sofia's group cautiously separate, COUGHING and wiping the grime from their faces.

All around them, there's nothing but RUBBLE. The entire campus is gone.

For a long beat, nobody speaks. Until:

PATTY
Does this mean we get today off?

Delaney suddenly SCREAMS again, forgotten amidst the mayhem, and the others crowd around her again.

GREG
She's getting worse...

DADE
We've gotta do something!

(CONTINUED)

FRANKIE
Mais oui, idiote!

DADE
 (sharp)
 Something in English!

Delaney's body is GLOWING now, alternate pulses of brilliant WHITE and fiery ORANGE.

REIKO
 We can't let this happen, not
 after...
 (looks round)
 Not after all this!
 (to others)
 We can't let it end like this!

SOFIA
 We won't.

She suddenly pushes past them all, gripping Delaney's jacket and pulling her upright, grimacing against the intense heat.

SOFIA (cont'd)
 Delaney. I know you can hear me.

Delaney's eyes flutter, and she manages to meet Sofia's gaze. She nods, slowly.

SOFIA (cont'd)
 (calm; clear)
 Keep looking at me. Keep listening
 to my voice. You and I are all
 there is. Okay?

Delaney SHUDDERS as another spasm of power ripples through her - and Sofia quickly pushes the SCYTHE into her hands.

She folds Delaney's fingers around it, Sofia keeping a firm grip from her side.

SOFIA (cont'd)
 Half of that power inside you right
 now came from this.
 (beat)
 Use the Scythe to send it back.

DELANEY
 I... I don't...

SOFIA
 You can. You're the most powerful
 thing on the entire planet right
 now, Delaney, and I need you to
 take that power and use it.

(CONTINUED)

Delaney looks at the Scythe, then to Sofia - around them, the others exchange curious glances. What is she doing?

SOFIA (cont'd)
Concentrate. Open yourself up. Let
that light flow right out of you
and into the Scythe.

Delaney lowers her head - and trails of WHITE LIGHT start to snake down her arms, into her hands, the Scythe GLOWING as they spread into it.

GREG
Sofia...

SOFIA
(ignores him; to Delaney)
A long time ago, a Slayer made a
choice. One she made for all of us.
At the time, it was the right thing
to do, but now... things have
changed. We've all changed.

Sofia turns, looking to the others as she continues. Before her, Delaney keeps pushing energy into the Scythe.

SOFIA (cont'd)
We need to make our own choices.
Now and from this day forward.
(beat; grins)
Screw destiny.

Greg blinks - but starts to nod, getting it.

SOFIA (cont'd)
Greg, this is the part where you
tell me you've still got the Sphere
of Enchantia on you, and I breathe
a sigh of relief because if you
haven't -

It's already in his hand. He kneels beside her, and Sofia EXHALES as promised.

She takes the palm-sized sphere, pries one of Delaney's hands from the Scythe and slips the sphere into it.

She leans back to Delaney, WHISPERING something into her ear. Delaney nods, her hands SHAKING on the Scythe:

Which suddenly BLAZES with blinding light, forcing everyone to rear back as we SMASH CUT TO:

Where Winstone looks back towards the shattered, smoking remains of the campus:

As a corona of LIGHT blazes out from within, right over where the girls are gathered!

WINSTONE

What the Hell...

As he stares, we CUT TO:

Back at the wreckage of the Slayer's retreat and the newly-erected ARMY CAMP all around it:

Tents, mobile units, vehicles, field personnel, soldiers, and a group of familiar faces:

BELLE, her leg tightly bandaged and walking on crutches, alongside KAREN with her arm in a sling. TIA and NADINE are alongside them.

As one, the girls suddenly GLOW, each one taking in a sharp breath as POWER floods back through them.

CLOSE on each girl's face in turn as we hear Sofia:

SOFIA (V.O.)

It's time to change the rules again. If you want the power, the responsibility, the duty...

The glow FADES from the girls, who look to one another, confused, as figures emerge from the tents behind them:

MANU, with DANNY, DOUGLAS and CATHERINE. They glance between the girls, sensing something is different.

SOFIA (V.O.) (cont'd)

... it's yours.

And as the four girls, all now SLAYERS once more, embrace each other, LAUGHING with relief, pride and happiness all bundled together, we CUT TO:

MONTAGE:

A) A pale-skinned BLONDE with pigtails, sketching something in a notebook as she sits alone outside her school - and she starts to GLOW;

SOFIA (V.O.) (cont'd)

If you want to stand up, stand up.

B) LUYU and MIYA, the runaway Slayers, within some kind of secure Council facility, both starting to GLOW;

C) A slim black DANCER, practising her moves in the studio, interrupted mid-routine as she too GLOWS;

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA (V.O.) (cont'd)
If you don't... don't.

D) A voluptuous brunette being PHOTOGRAPHED for a fashion shoot, starting to GLOW in between camera FLASHES;

SOFIA (V.O.) (cont'd)
That's the choice none of us got to
make last time. So I'm giving it to
you now. Every one of you.

E) And FRANKIE, stepping back from the others and looking down at her hands as they GLOW:

SOFIA (V.O.) (cont'd)
Make your choice.
(beat)
Do you want to be strong?

END MONTAGE:

EXT. CAMPUS - QUADRANGLE - DAY

Frankie shuts her eyes, inhaling - and the glow FADES from her. She opens her eyes again, letting out a breath.

She looks up to see Reiko and Patty staring back at her, the trio sharing a moment of revelation.

DADE
What... just happened?

Greg looks to Sofia and Delaney, a proud grin in place as the haze of light around Delaney fades away.

GREG
The right decision. For once.

Delaney looks up to Sofia, her breathing ragged, as Sofia gently takes the Sphere from her.

SOFIA
This part's up to you, I'm afraid.

Sofia moves to take the Scythe, but Delaney keeps a grip:

DELANEY
(woozy)
I just need to borrow this... a
little longer.

Delaney inhales deeply, bringing her hands close, then pushes them out as she exhales, a practised meditative move.

As she does, the BLOOD TATTOOS staining her skin start to SHIFT, writhing around across her skin.

(CONTINUED)

In her hand, the Scythe GLOWS brightly, Delaney using it to focus her power.

As the others watch, the tattoos begin to FADE, Delaney keeping her head down until they're gone completely.

She EXHALES loudly, Sofia carefully extracting the Scythe from her fingers and waiting for Delaney to recover.

SOFIA

That was...

DELANEY

That was me putting everything into a box. It'll do.

(beat)

For now.

She looks to Sofia - who lets out a LAUGH and leaps forward to hug her, the girls holding each other tight as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

FADE IN:

58

EXT. CAMPUS - MAIN ENTRANCE - DAY

58

Several hours later. The clean up crews are hard at work - FIRE ENGINES combat the last of the blazes on the wrecked campus.

HELICOPTERS swoop by overhead as large TRUCKS rumble past, the piles of DEMON BODIES on their backs covered with tarpaulin and sheets.

The Army and Initiative are packing up, counting their losses - but also toasting their victory.

Away from the hubbub are Sofia, Greg, Delaney and the others - now joined by the other campus refugees last seen at the Tor.

Sofia is addressing just the Slayers, the Faculty members hanging back to let her deliver her speech:

SOFIA

I'm not going to ask any of you what you chose. Not now, anyway. What matters for right now is that you understand we are the power now. All of us.

REIKO

What do you mean?

Sofia reaches out and takes Reiko's hands, turning them over. She traces a finger along Reiko's palm.

SOFIA

I mean that being a Slayer is in our blood now. Literally. It's not some magical essence that can be stolen, or poisoned or taken away. Not by anyone, not ever again.

She looks to Delaney - who seems to have recovered alarmingly quickly - and shares a grin with her.

SOFIA (cont'd)

I've made sure of that.

BELLE

I feel - I mean, I think we all feel different. Back to how we were before.

PATTY

Guess we know what choice you made.

(CONTINUED)

A ripple of laughter. Belle blushes, but Patty doesn't get what's so funny.

BELLE

What I mean is, yeah, okay, I'm a Slayer again. Obviously. But it's not just that I can feel the strength, the... the buzz of the power like I did before. Now, it's almost like -

KAREN

Like it's always been there.

Belle looks to Karen, raising her eyebrows - Karen just nods and smiles, Belle smiling right back.

SOFIA

And it won't just stay with us, either. This is a power we can pass on, generation to generation, when we want to.

Puzzled looks, so with a roll of her eyes Delaney steps forward to interject with:

DELANEY

Babies, you idiots. She means our kids'll inherit this from us.

REIKO

How did you even do that? When Willow activated us all, she was, like, goddess-level strong.

DELANEY

I had two amps turned up to eleven inside of me when I pulled this off. Don't expect a repeat performance.

(off Sofia)

Besides, it was her crazy idea.

Belle looks behind her, to the broken campus.

BELLE

What happens to us now?

SOFIA

Frankie?

Frankie joins them, having been stood over by the faculty.

FRANKIE

As of right now, I am dissolving the Watchers Council.

(CONTINUED)

Surprised looks, a few GASPS, but Frankie continues:

FRANKIE (cont'd)

It is no longer needed. From now on, we are mobile. Individual.

Greg steps into frame beside her.

GREG

Officially, the Slayer Academy no longer exists.

PATTY

(off wreckage)

Duh.

SOFIA

What he means is, as far as the outside world knows... we're gone. We were never even there.

BELLE

Hang on... what?

GREG

Sofia put this to Madison while we were at the Tor, and she's spent the last twenty-four hours making it happen. Discrediting the Slayer as nothing but a hoax. An elaborate scam. Ghosts. Nothing more.

(wry grin)

It's easy to disappear if everyone thinks you're dead, and thanks to Madison that's exactly what the world at large will think has happened.

TIA

But... the film! The interviews! The autograph hunters! Everybody knew about us!

SOFIA

And everybody'll forget us. In time.

(glances at Greg; grins)

You'd be surprised what people will believe these days, as long as they're told through the appropriate channels. And we have access to plenty of those.

NADINE

So... that's it? We just walk away like this never happened?

(CONTINUED)

FRANKIE

Not at all. If you wish to leave, return to your old lives or even find a new one, you are free to do as you wish. The Council no longer 'as any power over you.

GREG

But if you want to stay, to help... we'll go back to operating in the shadows. The way we work best. Urban legends.

SOFIA

Reiko, do you remember what Alita said to us, just before she went back to... wherever?

REIKO

Yeah, she said 'remember the choice. Remember destiny. It will guide your decision.'

(smiles)

Now I finally know what she meant.

SOFIA

And Belle, you put it best when you said to me: 'I just wish there was some way we could undo it all. Go underground again.'

BELLE

Heh, and here I was thinking nobody ever listened to me!

SOFIA

(beat)

So who's in?

The Slayers exchange many looks between themselves - then slowly, one by one, they all raise their hands.

Sofia grins, looking to Frankie - who just gives her a wry grin back. Sofia turns back to the others.

SOFIA (cont'd)

That's what I like to see. Of course, it's not just us now.

TIA

More new Slayers? Because of the spell?

SOFIA

Probably. Maybe some old ones we never found, or who never came under the Council's wing.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA (cont'd)

If they survived the virus and everything else that's tried to wipe us out these last few years...

DELANEY

Then they'll be worth finding.

BELLE

Sounds good to me. When do we start?

LAUGHTER greets that remark, Sofia letting the girls share a moment before we DISSOLVE TO:

The sun is setting now, and out by the flattened, battered front gates and crumbled walls, Winstone waves off another Initiative APC.

He turns to find Delaney waiting for him, leaning casually against a shattered archway.

DELANEY

Hey, I was lookin' for my boyfriend, you seen him around here anywhere?

Winstone GRINS as he approaches her, playing along.

WINSTONE

I don't know, miss, there are a lot of handsome, strapping, heroic guys strutting around here at the moment. What does he look like?

DELANEY

Oh, you know - short, kinda fat, greasy hair, buck teeth...

They're up against each other, Delaney not meeting his eyes as he stares at her.

WINSTONE

Does this lucky, fabulously attractive gentleman happen to know that he is, in fact, your boyfriend?

She looks up, and his grin doubles.

DELANEY

He does now.

And she KISSES him, taking her time with it, Winstone folding his arms around her.

They lean back, Delaney resting her head against his shoulder. He holds her for a few quiet moments, until:

WINSTONE

I know you're scared.

She leans back, frowning at him.

WINSTONE (cont'd)

Sofia and Greg filled me in. About the prophecy, about how you're the only one left now, so that -

She lays a finger on his lips, shaking her head.

DELANEY

Just let me - I don't want to think about that. Not yet.

(beat)

I don't feel like a time bomb... but that doesn't mean I'm not one.

WINSTONE

I'll keep an eye on you.

DELANEY

(chuckles)

I'll keep an eye on you, more like. One of us is a Slayer and a witch, after all.

WINSTONE

Point taken. Ma'am.

Delaney grins as she pulls him close again.

DELANEY

I think I'm gonna enjoy getting used to this...

And as they KISS again, we CUT TO:

Sofia stands in what used to be the memorial gardens - plenty of rubble and detritus is spread across the area.

She's digging something out from beneath a stubborn pile of rocks, not having much luck until:

GREG (O.S.)

Allow me.

Greg joins her, the duo soon unearthing what was buried under the rocks:

The statue of RUPERT GILES.

They heave it upright again, stepping back to take in Giles' benign expression for a moment.

SOFIA

I don't think he'd be too happy
with us for trashing his life's
work.

Greg puts an arm round her shoulders.

GREG

You're his life's work. Every one
of you.

He KISSES the top of her head, Sofia hugging him back.

SOFIA

Just one more thing to take care of
before we finally ship out of here.

She turns, Greg following - and sees the Scythe propped up against a bench as we CUT TO:

Where a final Army truck is waiting, the area around the campus ruins now clear of debris and bodies.

Reiko, Belle and the other girls are waiting by the truck, Winstone leaning out of the driver's cabin, as Sofia and Greg round a corner and approach.

REIKO

There you are!

BELLE

We were starting to worry you'd
decided not to leave after all.

SOFIA

Sorry, sorry. Here now.

Tia, Karen and the others start to climb up into the truck.

SOFIA (cont'd)

Reiko, Belle... could you hang on a
minute?

They wait, swapping a puzzled glance as Sofia comes to stand before them.

SOFIA (cont'd)

I've spent a long time thinking
about this, because the decision's
been a lot harder for me than it
must have been back when... well,
it's just been harder.

She slips the bag over her shoulder round and unzips it - taking the Scythe out. Reiko and Belle's eyes widen.

SOFIA (cont'd)

I thought it'd be easy to know who deserves this now, that something in my heart would just say 'pick her' and I'd be done with it...

She holds the Scythe out, between both Reiko and Belle.

SOFIA (cont'd)

If I could let you both share it, I would, but I don't think it works like that.

(beat)

Reiko. You're already a leader. You saved the campus today by using the Sphere to power down those demons.

REIKO

(shrugs)

I was just doing what I was told. It's what Alita said to me. In her own uniquely cryptic sorta way.

SOFIA

Point is, you followed your instincts and it saved our lives. You trusted your judgement. That's what leaders do.

(beat)

And I know you don't believe in 'destiny' any more than I do now. A bloody big demon we killed in Japan taught us both that.

Reiko chuckles at that. Sofia turns her attention to Belle, who shrinks a little.

SOFIA (cont'd)

When we first met, you were a scared young girl overwhelmed by everything around her.

BELLE

Who says I'm still not?

SOFIA

Out of all of us, you're the one who just needs to believe in herself. See yourself the same way everyone else does.

BELLE

(scoffs)

Come on, everyone thinks I'm a -

(CONTINUED)

Sofia quickly takes her hand and lays it on the Scythe - which GLOWS warmly to her touch!

Belle boggles at the sight, Reiko letting out a small laugh of surprise - but smiling proudly.

SOFIA

I think someone believes in you.

Sofia gently releases the Scythe, leaving Belle holding it. She raises it, still stunned. Reiko pats her shoulder.

REIKO

Congratulations, Belle. That thing's a girl who knows what she wants.

BELLE

(reeling)

But - but - I'm not - I don't -

SOFIA

Which is pretty much what I said when Buffy gave it to me.

She takes Belle's other hand, getting her attention.

SOFIA (cont'd)

Just be yourself. That's why you're holding the Scythe right now.

Belle GULPS, hesitating... then nods. Sofia smiles, HUGS her, then nods up into the truck.

SOFIA (cont'd)

Go on, then. Be with you in a minute.

Reiko helps Belle up into the back of the truck, leaving Sofia to turn and look out over the campus.

As she gazes over the ruins, the campus as it once stood SHIMMERS into existence - proud, indomitable and tall.

A hazy crowd of PEOPLE starts to form in front of the campus, faces becoming clearer as they step forward:

EMMA. ALITA. KEEYA. HEIDI. DANA. DEBBIE. ANNA. RACHEL. DUNSTALL. CLAIRE. TYSON. ELLEN. AIDEN. MALLORY. FITZGERALD. KIRA. More than anybody would want to admit were gone.

New arrivals stand side by side with original students - FRAN, CLARISSA, LADY HUANG, and SKYE with ERIKA and MARIA.

But they're at peace now. They smile back at Sofia, some waving, united at last as the darkness surrounding the campus lifts for good.

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA (cont'd)
Goodbye... and thank you.

Sofia takes in the place she called home one last time - before a TOOT of the truck's horn brings her back.

She turns - Delaney leans out of the passenger side window, a USMC cap squashed down over her head.

DELANEY
C'mon, Sofes! Pizza Hut closes in
an hour, and we've got a lot of
mouths to feed!

Sofia waves her away with a grin, climbing up into the truck with the others.

Plenty of shared laughs and jokes, the camaraderie as strong as ever between the survivors.

The truck starts to pull away, crunching along the gravel as it winds back up the driveway.

PULL BACK to watch the truck from above as it rolls away from the campus, bringing the remains into view below.

HOLD as the truck recedes into the distance, leaving the Slayer Academy behind, before we hear:

SOFIA (V.O.)
A very dear friend of mine once
said something to me I'd like to
quote now.

CUT TO:

Where a trio of young girls - SLAYERS - bound expertly across the neon-drenched rooftops of downtown Tokyo.

A snarling, dark furred WEREWOLF is managing to stay ahead of them, but the girls are closing fast - KAREN amongst them.

SOFIA (V.O.)
She said 'You know what? We save
the world. A lot.'

The leader of the group bounces into frame - it's REIKO, grinning and loving every second of this as we CUT TO:

A world away, as a DOCTOR and NURSE flap out a bedspread ready to lay it down on the waiting bed, their faces covered by the billowing sheet.

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA (V.O.)
'And we've been doing it just fine
for thousands of years despite all
of our faults.'

The bedspread wafts back down - revealing MANU and TIA, who share a grin, enjoying the simple moment as we CUT TO:

Where another squad of SLAYERS are cleaning house, taking down a group of VAMPIRES with practised, dazzling efficiency.

SOFIA (V.O.)
'So here's what we do and here's
how we do it. You don't like it,
fine.'

One vampire POUNCES on one of the girls - NADINE - rearing back for a bite - until a BLADE chops through its neck, slicing its head clean off!

The vampire DUSTS, and it's BELLE who steps into frame, lowering the SCYTHE. She offers a hand to the downed Nadine, pulling her back to her feet with a grin as we CUT TO:

Where FRANKIE marches through an old, rustic building but one filled with typical occult paraphrenalia - books, scrolls, magical artefacts - talking into an EARPIECE as she passes DOUGLAS, walking with a slight limp.

SOFIA (V.O.)
'We're going to keep doing it
because it works.'

She BUMPS into somebody - it's DADE, who gives her a typically cheeky smirk. She pauses, then pops out the earpiece and grabs his shirt:

Before pulling him in for a KISS. It's quick, but it does the trick. Ever efficient, Frankie replaces her earpiece and moves on, leaving Dade to enjoy that as we CUT TO:

Where GREG stands before a whiteboard, where a map of the world has been outlined. CATHERINE works at a laptop on a nearby desk.

Dozens of PHOTOS line the board, pins and red lines connecting them to various locations worldwide.

SOFIA (V.O.)
'It worked before you even knew
about it.'

66

CONTINUED:

66

He glances to his side as somebody joins him - it's BARBARA. The two exchange a smile before turning back to the board - lots of work still to do as we CUT TO:

67

INT. LABORATORY - NIGHT

67

ALARMS sound as SCIENTISTS run frantically around a large, expensive-looking facility.

DEMONS writhe in vats, hammering at the glass which CRACKS under the pressure, until:

WHAM! The doors FLY OPEN and a SLAYER SQUAD moves in. Some tackle the scientists while one marches up to the vats:

PATTY, a primed EXPLOSIVE in her hand.

SOFIA (V.O.)

She didn't know how right she was.

She reaches the nearest vat and KNOCKS on the glass to get the nearly-born demon within's attention.

It stops thrashing, looks down at her - and she smirks as she fixes the bomb to the glass.

The demon starts convulsing, trying to escape more wildly than ever as Patty scurries away, and we CUT TO:

68

EXT. GRAVEYARD - DAY

68

Looking down across rows of tombstones in a small, private cemetery, the sun shining down brightly.

SOFIA (V.O.)

We never forget the sacrifices of those who got us this far.

A young woman makes her way along the rows of stones, stopping before one to crouch down.

DELANEY, bearing a bouquet of flowers, which she places reverently on top of the stone before her.

It reads 'Kira Brogan, 1960-2011. A Better Mother Than She Ever Knew.'

Delaney smiles, gazing at the stone for a long beat - until she senses someone behind her and turns:

It's DANNY, offering her a nod in greeting.

CUT TO the duo stood before another grave - this time with a tombstone reading 'Skye Underwood, 1987-2011. Still One Step Ahead Of Us All.'

Delaney leans against Danny, the duo sharing the moment.

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA (V.O.) (cont'd)
We live on so that they live on, in
our hearts and in our memories.

PULL BACK to reveal more stones, each one marking a fallen student, teacher or ally of the Academy, as we CUT TO:

The Slayer Academy as it was, tall and proud against the sunny sky above.

SOFIA (V.O.)
Some of us killed... some of us
healed... some of us taught... and
some of us learnt... but the
greatest thing we did is something
we'd never had a chance to do.

And as we start to FADE TO BLACK:

SOFIA (V.O.) (cont'd)
We lived.

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT SIX

EPILOGUE

FADE IN:

70

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

70

Another city, another street, somewhere in the dead of night. Overhead lights cast an orange pallor on the scene.

A YOUNG GIRL runs into frame - no more than sixteen, freckles, red hair, racing as if for her life:

And from the SHADOWY FIGURE pursuing her!

71

EXT. ALLEY - NEXT

71

The girl turns a corner, rushing past us and out of sight into a narrow alleyway between buildings.

Her pursuer gets to the alley entrance, pauses - and SNIFFS the air. With a grin, he heads into the alley, features cloaked by the night.

MAN

I saw you come down here. I know
you're scared. Tired. Alone.

As he passes under a pool of light from above, his features are revealed - ridged brow, yellow eyes, fangs. He's a VAMPIRE!

With a SNARL, he KICKS a nearby dumpster, the loud CLANG reverberating down the alley.

VAMPIRE

Come on, little girl! You're the
one acting all brave here, walking
through the city by yourself at
night, looking for trouble...

(beat; grins)

Don't you have anything to say to
the Big, Bad Wolf now he's here?

Licking his lips and his FANGS, he takes a few more steps forward:

And the girl steps out into the light from her hiding place. Staring him down.

After a beat, the vampire starts to look a little unnerved by her defiance, his smile fading.

VAMPIRE (cont'd)

What are you waiting for? Run, or
something!

No reaction. The vampire tenses, snarling:

(CONTINUED)

VAMPIRE (cont'd)

I'll tear your damn throat out if
you don't start moving! Come on,
girl, give me a -

The vampire GULPS suddenly, and looks down...

Cool as ice, the girl has closed the distance in a heartbeat
and planted a wooden STAKE firmly into the vampire's chest!

He starts to shudder as it looks back up at her - and now,
she's SMILING.

GIRL

Give you a reason? There you go.
(waves)
Cheerio.

With a HOWL, the vampire DUSTS and crumbles away, and the
girl smooths her outfit back down with a satisfied grin.

A TORCH BEAM suddenly shines on her, and she turns, shielding
her eyes as someone else makes their way towards her. The
figure with the torch stops a few feet away.

VOICE (O.S.)

Not too bad. Marks for luring it
out of sight so you could take it
down quietly, although you spent
far too long savouring the moment.

The girl pouts as the torchbearer steps into view - it's
SOFIA. Smartly dressed, her now platinum blonde hair pulled
into a ponytail over one shoulder, she offers a mild shrug.

SOFIA

I'd give that a six.

GIRL

A six? Come on! That was definitely
a seven. Maybe an eight.

SOFIA

When you get an eight, we can go
back to the hostel to join the
others. Not before.

GIRL

(pleading)
So-fi-a...

SOFIA

That's 'Miss Romero' to you,
Hannah.

HANNAH still looks grumpy as Sofia starts back down the
alley, nodding for her to follow.

(CONTINUED)

Hannah falls into step beside her, idly twirling the stake in her hands until Sofia SNATCHES it away.

SOFIA (cont'd)

Not a toy.

HANNAH

(huffs)

You don't get on anyone else's back like you do mine.

SOFIA

It's because I know potential when I see it. You remind me of me at your age, and God knows I could've done with a me my age to sort me out back then.

HANNAH

(shrugs)

Hayley said you weren't even a proper Slayer any more anyway, not like everyone else. She says that when you gave everyone the choice, you said 'no.'

SOFIA

(raises eyebrow)

Is that right?

Hannah rounds on her, bringing them to a stop.

HANNAH

So? Is she right? Are you still a Slayer or what?

Sofia stares back at her for a long beat as we push UP CLOSE...

... and then she just starts to SMILE. She hands the stake back to Hannah and carries on walking.

Hannah EXHALES theatrically - but her grin returns as she slips the stake proudly into her belt.

She jogs to catch back up with Sofia, as the two girls - master and student - walk away from us.

HANNAH (cont'd)

So how was my line?

SOFIA

Your 'line'?

HANNAH

Yeah, you know... 'cheerio'. Was that any good?

(CONTINUED)

SOFIA
(thinks; shrugs)
It was alright. Bit dated, to be honest.

HANNAH
See, I was talking to Miss Kimusume, and she said that if you don't end each kill with a good line, then you -

SOFIA
And I've told you before about paying too much attention to her. You'll be dying your hair seven colours and speaking entirely in emoticons before long.

Hannah HUFFS loudly, and with a smirk Sofia extracts a packet of sweets from her pocket.

SOFIA (cont'd)
Jolly Rancher?

She checks the offered packet, grimaces, and shakes her head.

HANNAH
Nah. Don't like that flavour.

SOFIA
Suit yourself.

She pops one into her mouth, the duo heading off into the night. Their voices FADE as they walk away:

HANNAH
Okay then, what about... 'this is the point of my conversation!'

SOFIA
Puns? Really?

HANNAH
Alright... 'you may be undead, but you're about to be all dead!'

SOFIA
(sighs)
I can see I've still got a lot of work to do...

And as they leaves us at last, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF SHOW

CREATED BY

LEE A. CHRIMES

WITH

CHRIS KELLY & PAUL ROBINSON

PRODUCER

DANIEL LOACH

PRODUCER

TOM EAST

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BASED ON CONCEPTS AND CHARACTERS CREATED BY JOSS WHEDON
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THE SLAYERS WILL RETURN...

