SOMEWHERE INBETWEEN

"Boom Boom"

by
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EXT. NEW YORK - CITY STREETS. NIGHT.

Down in the centre of the Big Apple, things are in a state of chaos - emergency services do what they can to hold back huge crowds of people, all staring and pointing up towards the roof of the huge tower building we’re outside.

We pull back, taking in the fact that a heavy storm is lashing the area with wind and rain, and we pick up a local TV news crew, the rain-soaked reporter, MELISSA, having to yell towards the camera to be heard over the noise.

MELISSA
You’re live on TCIN with Melissa Rooney in downtown New York, where some kind of massive electrical disturbance is wreaking havoc with the city!

She turns to an equally drenched police officer, CHIEF AUSTIN, standing next to her, who turns away from looking up at the building.

MELISSA (cont’d)
With me is police Chief Austin - Chief, what exactly is it we’re seeing here?

CHIEF AUSTIN
(also shouting)
We can’t say right now, we think it may be some kind of build up on the power lines, maybe even a severe case of ball lightning, but what we do know is that we need to find some way to divert it before it shuts down the whole city!

MELISSA
Thank you, Chief.
(to camera)
Emergency crews are cordoning off two entire blocks all round the affected building, but as the disturbance continues to rage out of control, one question remains - who’s going to fix this problem? Live for TCIN, this is Melissa Rooney.

We cut from Melissa over to:
Back in the cosy, insulated news studio with the female anchorwoman BELINDA.

BELINDA
Well, that certainly looks like a pretty tense situation down there, let’s hope the fire crews can sort that out, otherwise this could be an awfully short broadcast this evening! So, our main story again.

Belinda continues to speak as we’re shown footage of the disturbance itself - a huge, violently CRACKLING ball of dark purple energy, looking like a million bolts of lightning all bundled together.

The energy is hovering above the roof of a tall tower building in the heart of the city, the storm crashing all around it.

BELINDA (V.O.) (cont’d)
Central New York is in chaos tonight, as an unexplained meteorological disturbance continues to intensify. The large electrical field is affecting power lines and communication for several square miles, and citizens are being advised to stay in their homes and await further instructions.

The report is suddenly CUT OFF, the picture flicking to black as though someone has just switched their TV off.

And as we find ourselves inside a spacious, luxurious limousine, pulling back from a new blank TV screen, we realise that’s exactly what has happened.

The sound of heavy rainfall outside washes over the car, but none of this affects the occupant of the limo - MALKUTH.

Smoking his customary fat cigar, the half demon lounges on the black leather seats, having changed into what look like ceremonial black and grey hooded robes from when we saw him last.

He glances up as the partition to the driver rolls down.

CHAUFFEUR
We’ll be at our destination in a few minutes, sir.
CONTINUED:

MALKUTH
Excellent. Any news on whether
Chris and his goons are on to us?

CHAUFFEUR
None yet, sir.

MALKUTH
Well, he’s bound to be. Much as I
admire the man’s determination, I
just know he’s going to try and
spoil things for us this evening.

CHAUFFEUR
But we’re not about to let that
happen, are we, sir?

MALKUTH
(grins)
No, we’re most certainly not. What
about the other aspect of our plan?

CHAUFFEUR
Everything is in place, and we’re
running precisely to schedule.

MALKUTH
Perfect. If there’s one thing I
know people appreciate in a grand
scheme such as this, it’s a sense
of punctuality!

CHAUFFEUR
Absolutely, sir.

MALKUTH
Alright, that’s all. Get back to
work, driver.

The partition rolls back up again, and with a satisfied
smile, Malkuth nudges open the minibar by his feet,
retrieving a small bottle of whiskey and opening it.

He raises the glass as if proposing a toast.

MALKUTH (cont’d)
To Chris. May he always keep me on
my toes.

As Malkuth knocks the drink back, we cut to:
INT. OFFICE BLOCK - BASEMENT. NIGHT.

We’re inside a plain, nondescript basement, employee car parking visible off to the left as we walk forward, passing grey foundation pillars as we head towards a large, clunky machine controlling the air conditioning of the building.

We walk right up to the machine as it whirs away merrily to itself, looking down and round to the back of it.

Tucked away, out of sight, is a small metal box, and as we push in closer on the box, we can make out a red LED display on its surface – it’s a timer!

And the timer is ticking down – there’s less than one hour remaining!

As we take a beat to register this, we then:

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER
CONTINUED:

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. BLACK VAN. NIGHT.

We’re speeding through the night, the wipers on against the heavy rain outside as the bright lights of central New York speed towards us through the windshield.

Driving the van, his face a mask of concentration, is CHRIS, and beside him in the passenger seat sits TWIST, nervously twirling a finger round her long, curly hair.

In the back of the van, surrounded by bulky-looking equipment boxes, are DANYAEL and the chief members of demon-hunting research agency Osbourne, Inc. - grey-haired OSBOURNE, tall, black CHESTERTON, the cool redhead KAY, cheerful blonde DECADWAY and finally JULIE, a shared look of tension on all their faces as they sit in silence.

Twist turns round in the front seat to address them all.

TWIST
Come on, guys, somebody say something! We can’t sit here in silence all the way to New York!

DANYAEL
What are we supposed to say? ‘Hey, is anyone else looking forward to meeting certain doom?’

TWIST
(rolls eyes)
Yeah, because that helps.

KAY
We’re just focusing on the job at hand, Twist. All the reports that we’ve been getting are telling us that something major is about to go down, and we need to be prepared for anything.

TWIST
What are we expecting? The Stay Puft Marshmallow Man?

CHESTERTON
The energy readings our contacts here have been pulling off that disturbance are astronomical. Whatever it is, it’s incredibly dangerous, and we have to make sure we’re ready to defuse the situation if we have to.
CONTINUED:

TWIST
Yeah, see, I'm gonna leave the whole 'defuse' part to you guys, so me, Chris and Danyael can concentrate on the bit where we kick some people's asses and save the day.

CHRIS
(flatly)
Twist. Keep it down.

Twist glares at Chris and opens her mouth to reply - but thinks better of it, sitting sulkily back in her seat and pouting. She stares out through the window for a beat.

TWIST
Are we there yet?

CHRIS
(sighs)
I was wondering when you were going to say that...

TWIST
Well? Are we?

CHRIS
Almost. Whatever Malkuth is planning here, he won't be working alone. We'll need to split up when we get there and get to the bottom of things.

OSBOURNE
Do you have any ideas so far?

Chris glances at Osbourne - Chris doesn't look happy with the fact that he seems to have become the leader of this mission, but he knows they all have work to do now.

CHRIS
I imagine I'll think of something later.

Chris goes back to his driving, and Twist watches him - she knows this is something serious by now.

She goes back to looking out through the window, thinking about what could be in store, before we cut to:

6

EXT. CITY STREET. NIGHT.

A few streets away from the crowd outside the tower building at the centre of the storm, Malkuth's limo rolls to a stop.
The driver exits and walks round to the back, holding the door open and handing Malkuth an umbrella as he steps out into the rain.

CHAUFFEUR
(motions)
This way, sir.

The driver heads towards a large, bland building next to them, and with a glance up towards the top of the affected tower building, Malkuth grins and steps inside.

INT. EMPTY BUILDING. CONTINUOUS.

Shaking off some stray water from his robes, Malkuth walks into a large, empty room that looks like it used to be an office of some kind.

In the middle of the room is a large crowd of vampires and a few demons, all standing by various pieces of bizarre-looking equipment.

In the centre of the room are the four members of KARMA, the four half-demon sisters shivering as they’re kept under guard by the oppressive forms of CLINTON MARX and SHENOCH, Malkuth’s two lead genetically-modified ‘super’ vampires.

Malkuth strides towards Marx, who straightens out, standing smartly to attention.

MALKUTH
Status report, Clinton?

MARX
Everything’s in place, sir. The energy field is building according to our predictions, the hostages are ready to be moved into position, and we’ve still had no word that Chris or any of his team are in the area.

MALKUTH
Good, good.

Malkuth looks over to Karma – made up of LUCIA, TAMZIN, GRACE and VIOLET – and grins his wicked smile at them.

MALKUTH (cont’d)
Good evening, ladies. Ready for your final performance?

TAMZIN
Screw you! We’re not doing anything for you, you monster! You’ll have to kill us!

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

MALKUTH
Well, technically speaking, I do need you to be alive for what I’m planning, but if you wanted to make an early exit, I’m sure your remaining sisters wouldn’t mind a little extra effort...

The girls exchange fearful glances, before Tamzin bites her lip and forces herself to stay quiet.

MALKUTH (cont’d)
That’s better.

Malkuth steps back to address his motley crew.

MALKUTH (cont’d)
Alright, everyone! We’re about to enter the final phase of the plan. This is what we’ve spent the past few months working towards, so I want a hundred per cent effort from all of you tonight. As I’m sure you know, there’s a good chance Christopher Berkeley and his flunkies will make an appearance, so I’m going to offer ten thousand dollars to any one of you who brings me the head of one of his friends!

There is a MURMUR of approval from the assembled bad guys.

MALKUTH (cont’d)
No-one is to touch Chris, however. He’s all mine.

Malkuth turns to Marx again.

MALKUTH (cont’d)
If you’d be so kind, Clinton?

MARX
All right, everybody, move out!

Malkuth watches happily as the various pieces of equipment are carried or wheeled away.

Marx and Shenoch herd the Karma girls off screen, and from their complaints and struggles, we cut to:

EXT. CITY STREET. NIGHT.

Chris slides the van door closed with a SLAM, and turns to face the team before him. Everyone except Twist and Danyael carries a equipment case.
CONTINUED:

CHRIS
Right then, seeing as you all seem to have unanimously put me in charge, I suppose I’d better give out some orders.

OSBOURNE
(grins)
I know I trust you, Chris!

CHRIS
(nods)
Thanks. Danyael, Twist, you two go and round up every rebel vampire you can and start sending them over to the tower that’s at the heart of all this. Something tells me we’re going to need an awful lot of manpower.

DANYAEL
No problem.

TWIST
Aye, aye, cap’n.

CHRIS
David, like you told me, you and your team each have things you need to be doing, but I’d like Julie and Terence to go and start warning the emergency services they need to evacuate more people.

JULIE
How do you suggest we do that?

CHRIS
Best to pose as the Environmental Agency, see if you can convince whoever’s in charge that the energy field is a health risk. I don’t think it’ll be too much of a stretch for them to believe you.

CHESTERTON
Sounds like a plan to me.

JULIE
What about you?

Chris looks over to the right - the light given off by the energy field can be seen a few blocks away.
CHRIS
I’m going to find Malkuth.
(turns to others)
Is everyone clear?

The team all nod, and as Chris starts to walk off in the direction of the tower, the others split up and head in several different directions.

Twist pauses, watching the departing Chris.

DANYAEL
Twist? Come on, we need to get moving.

TWIST
Yeah, just a minute.

She jogs up to Chris, placing a hand on his arm.

TWIST (cont’d)
Chris, wait.

He turns round, their eyes locking for a long beat.

TWIST (cont’d)
I just-

CHRIS
You should get going, you and Danyael have a lot to do.

TWIST
I know, I just... I wanted to make sure I wished you good luck.

CHRIS
(grins)
Save it for someone who believes in the stuff.

Chris reaches up and removes his fedora, placing it on top of Twist’s head.

CHRIS (cont’d)
Get that back to me in one piece when all this is over. Deal?

TWIST
(smiles)
Deal.

Chris nods, then turns and walks away again. Twist watches him for another beat before hurrying back over to Danyael.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (3)

DANYAEL
(smirks)
Nice hat.

TWIST
(smirks back)
Thanks.

As the duo dash off screen, we cut to:

EXT. OUTSIDE TOWER. NIGHT.

Back with the crowds outside the windswept tower building, the ball of energy overhead still spitting out small arcs of lightning as it hovers.

Chief Austin is talking to two more officers, trying to clear a crowd out of the way as a fire crew makes their way over, when a shadow falls across him.

Austin turns round to see Marx, the dreadlocked vampire grinning down at him.

CHIEF AUSTIN

Who the hell are you? This isn’t a civilian area, get back behind the lines! You can’t-

CRUNCH! Marx PUNCHES Austin in the gut, lifting him off his feet and sending him slamming to the ground.

There is a collective SCREAM of fear from the crowd as Shenoch and a pack of vampires race into frame, tackling the police officers stationed around.

It’s a vicious, one-sided fight as Shenoch chomps down on several unfortunate cops, her chin soon red with blood.

The crowds scatter, running frantically away from the vampires as Malkuth strides calmly into frame, looking with pride around at the fallen cops and panicking citizens.

MALKUTH

(proudly)
Aah, makes you feel good to be a bad guy, doesn’t it? Come on, everyone! We’ve got work to do.

With no-one left to oppose him, Malkuth heads towards the entrance to the tower, the rest of the vamps falling into step behind him.

Malkuth shouts over his shoulder to Marx.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

MALKUTH (cont’d)
Did you take care of the other possible interruptions?

MARX
There’s one last rebel base near here to take care of, then they’re all out of business.

MALKUTH
Good! Get to it!

Marx nods, and as he and Shenoch turn and jog off screen, away from the building, we cut to:

10 EXT. ALLEYWAY. NIGHT.
Danyael and Twist head down a cluttered side street, a series of doorways set into one wall as Twist reads off the addresses.

DANYAEL
How can you remember all these addresses, anyway?

TWIST
Photographic memory.
(stops)
This is it.

They’re outside a plain door, that’s simply marked ‘Deliveries.’

Twist reaches out to knock on the door, but as she touches it, it swings gently open. She and Danyael exchange a worried look – this can’t be good.

She cautiously steps inside, into:

11 INT. REBEL VAMP BASE - ENTRANCE. NIGHT.
The door opens into a short corridor with a thick, iron door at one end – the door is hanging from its hinges, looking like it was literally torn open.

Twist reaches for her baseball bat, slung across her back, while Danyael just GULPS nervously and follows her.

TWIST
(calls out)
Is there anyone here?

The duo advance towards the broken door, and on into:
INT. REBEL VAMP BASE. NIGHT.

They step into what used to be a well-furnished, cosy room that looked like the living room of a large house, but what now resembles a literal bomb site.

Twist sags as she sees the bodies of at least eight vampires strewn around the room, some staked and others simply torn to pieces.

The room has been turned upside down - if there was anybody here who could have helped, they’re long gone.

Danyael starts to sift through the wreckage.

TWIST
What are you doing?

DANYAEL
Looking for clues.

TWIST
Clues to what? I think it’s pretty clear what happened here, Sherlock - Malkuth’s vamps got here before us. We need to pack up quick, and-

CRANE (O.S.)
Get out of here, in case they come back.

Twist spins round, bat raised, but relaxes as she recognises the person standing in the doorway - this is CRANE, an attractive rebel vampire girl with tresses of long, black hair. We last met Crane back in Burnsborough, in the events of ‘Harvest.’

She looks like she’s been in the wars, cuts and bruises marking her skin as she steps into the room.

TWIST
Crane, right? One of the rebels from Burnsborough?

CRANE
(nods)
Yeah, that’s me. After my cell got trashed, I moved out here to hook up with some old friends.

TWIST
(indicates bodies)
And I’m guessing this is what’s left of said ‘old friends,’ right?

(CONTINUED)
Crane nods, suddenly starting to tear up - but Danyael is already there, wrapping a comforting arm around the young vampire as she starts to sob.

Twist manages to look sympathetic, scanning the remains of the room for anything that could be useful.

TWIST (cont’d)
Well, we’re not gonna find any help here. There’s one last place we can try, then we’re gonna have to go find Chris and the others.

Danyael nods, leading the still crying Crane towards the door. Twist casts one last, sorrowful look over the room before she closes the door, and we cut to:

13 EXT. OUTSIDE TOWER. NIGHT.

We’re looking down on the now deserted scene outside the tower block. The rain is its heaviest here, pelting the police cars and barricades as Chris steps into frame.

He looks around, picking out the bodies of the fallen police officers, and also the now deceased Melissa and her cameraman, slumped on the floor by their news van.

Chris looks up, towards the roof of the building.

The energy ball is still hovering there, and as he watches it seems to grow a tiny bit larger.

Chris looks back towards the entrance to the building, katana in hand, and as we pull back to take in all of the scene, he strides slowly forward, his footsteps and the rainfall the only sounds in the scene.

As he reaches the door, we cut to:

14 EXT. CITY STREET. NIGHT.

Danyael, Twist and the recovered Crane rush on, making tracks for the next rebel base.

CRANE
I was out when they got hit, seeing if I could spy on what was happening over at that tower. As far as I can tell, there were only two vamps who showed up.

TWIST
That’ll be Marx and Shenoch, then.

CRANE
Who?
CONTINUED:

TWIST
Super vampires. Malkuth’s been cross breeding vampires with demon DNA to create his own genetically modified brand of bloodsucker. They’re mean bastards, too — Spook and I ran into ‘em in Chicago.

CRANE
What happened?

TWIST
Well, there used to be three. Chris got one of ‘em, so they’re not indestructible.

DANYAEL
They’re just very, very tough.

Twist shoots Danyael an angry glare — that wasn’t a helpful comment!

Crane points towards a shop front across the street, what looks like an electronics store, its shutters down for the night.

CRANE
That’s the other base. It’s upstairs, above the shop they own.

Twist rattles the shutters, but they’re locked down tight.

TWIST
Any ideas?

MARX (O.S.)
Maybe you’re not knocking loud enough?

The trio spin round — and there are Marx and Shenoch, Marx grinning as he cracks his knuckles, while Shenoch, crouched down low, HISSES at them.

TWIST
Oh, kaiju...

MARX
The boss said you losers might show up. Guess we’d better do him a favour and take care of you, right, Shenoch?

SHENOCH
(points to Twist)
I want the blonde one.
CONTINUED: (2)

TWIST
(grits teeth)
Oh, you’ve got me, baumgartner!

Twist steps forward, beckoning Shenoch to come get her.

TWIST (cont’d)
I’m gonna get Ides of March on your ass, you freak!

Shenoch CACKLES, and as Danyael and Crane try to look fierce against the slowly advancing Marx, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE
ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. CITY STREET. NIGHT.

Julie and Chesterton are standing by another police roadblock, this one marking the edge of the evacuation area around the tower.

Julie is in a heated discussion with the police SERGEANT in charge, as Chesterton surreptitiously takes some readings off a small handheld device that BEEPS urgently at him.

JULIE
And I’m telling you, two blocks is not going to be enough! Do you have any idea what the fallout from that disturbance could be?

SERGEANT
Look, Miss-

JULIE

SERGEANT
Yeah, yeah, I get where you’re from. Listen, I’m just a sergeant, I don’t have the authority to start evacuating entire city blocks! You need to speak to Chief Austin, he’s back over at that tower block.

JULIE
I’m not speaking to Chief Austin, though, am I? I’m speaking to you. And I’m telling you, sergeant...

(serious)
People are going to die if you don’t start moving them out of here.

Julie stares into the officer’s eyes for a long beat. He’s clearly torn between his duty and following Julie’s advice — and then finally, he sighs and nods.

SERGEANT
(resigned)
Alright, alright, I’ll do what I can.

JULIE
(beams)
Thank you. You’ve done the right thing, sergeant...

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

SERGEANT
Wyche. Sergeant Wyche.

JULIE
(nods)
Thanks, sergeant.

As Sergeant Wyche heads over to start barking instructions out to his men, Julie rejoins Chesterton, who looks alarmed as he studies the readings on his device.

JULIE (cont’d)
I think they bought it. I flashed my ID badge from the lab at him real quick, lucky for me he was too stressed to pay any attention. (sees his worried look) What’s wrong?

CHESTERTON
(looking at device)
I’m picking up lots of strange electronic signals, all around this area.

He looks up, scanning the city streets all around.

CHESTERTON (cont’d)
It’s almost as if...

JULIE
(beat)
‘Almost as if’ what? Terry, don’t do that trailing off mid-sentence thing you do, that always means something bad!

He glances back down at her, then starts to walk off. She blinks, then catches up to him.

JULIE (cont’d)
Hey!

CHESTERTON
(concerned)
We have to check this out. I hope I’m just getting interference from the energy disturbance, but if not...

He studies the device again, and Julie grabs his arm, spinning him round to face her.

JULIE
Stop being a robot for two seconds, Terry. What are you picking up?
CHESTERTON
If what I’m reading is right, then spread in various locations all round us, out to a square mile radius, are enough high explosives to smash this city into the ground.

JULIE
(horrified)
What?!?

Chesterton holds up the device, almost like an oversized calculator with a small colour screen.

CHESTERTON
Bombs, Julie. Lots of them.

JULIE
(confused)
But- who would-
(closes eyes; sighs)
Malkuth.

CHESTERTON
We need to find them, and now!

He starts to jog away from her, and Julie catches up.

JULIE
Shouldn’t we call David and the others?

CHESTERTON
There’s no time! Those things could be set to go off at any second!

As Julie does her best to keep up with the long strides of Chesterton as he runs towards a nearby office block, checking his scanner device for directions, we cut to:

EXT. OUTSIDE SECOND REBEL BASE. NIGHT.

Twist is facing off against Shenoch, the wiry, feral vampire eyeing her hungrily as she circles her opponent. Twist has her bat raised, ready to swing.

Marx, meanwhile, has the much less fearsome looking Danyael and Crane to get started on, Danyael positioning himself bravely in front of Crane.

MARX
Is this it? These are the vamps who the boss kept warning us about? Or are you two just sidekicks, or something?

(CONTINUED)
Danyael may be pretty scared of the huge vamp facing him, but he tries to put on a defiant face.

DANYAEL

Doesn’t mean we can’t kick your ass just as well.

MARX

(chuckles)

Oh, this ought to be good... Okay, rookie, you get a free hit, ‘cause I’m in such a good mood. Come on! One hit, absolutely free.

Danyael glances uncertainly at Crane, who nods for him to take the opportunity.

Danyael steps forward as Marx loosens up, pointing to his chin and grinning.

MARX (cont’d)

Right there. Hit me as hard you can.

Danyael hesitates, then balls up his fist and PUNCHES Marx across the jaw.

Marx staggers backwards a few steps, and Danyael has a brief moment of triumph...

Before with an almighty SLAM! Marx knocks him to the floor with one huge right hook.

Danyael lands on his ass, blood streaming from his nose, as Crane sets her jaw and gets her fists up, knowing there's no escaping this fight.

MARX (cont’d)

Not bad. If you can land another on me, though... then I’ll be impressed.

As Marx leaps forward to attack, we shift back to Twist.

TWIST

Come on, Pandora Peroxide, are you gonna try and hit me or just stare at me all night? I got more important people to kill than you, ya know.

With another HISS, Shenoch LEAPS forward, but Twist’s reflexes are quick enough for her to SMACK the bat hard into the vampire’s side, sending her rolling across the floor.

Twist punches the air in victory.

(CONTINUED)
TWIST (cont’d)
All right! Revolution, one, system, nil!

Shenoch FLIPS back onto her feet and charges at Twist again, this time swatting the bat out of her hands and knocking her to the ground.

As Twist struggles, trying to shove the snarling Shenoch off her, we cut away to:

INT. TOWER - STAIRWELL. NIGHT.

Chris is making his way up the long, winding staircase of the tower block, glancing above him every few steps to make sure there’s no one around.

He freezes when he hears VOICES echoing down the stairwell, and he quickly pulls open a door leading onto one of the buildings floors, ducking behind it.

Two VAMPIRES stroll casually into frame, heading back down the staircase, chatting to each other.

VAMP #1
Yeah, so then I hear Carl complaining about having to drag whatever the hell that thing was up the last few flights of stairs when the lift broke.

VAMP #2
(chuckles)
Damn, he just gets it all bad, all the time, doesn’t he?

VAMP #1
You got any idea what it does?

The two vamps pass the door hiding Chris, but they don’t sense that he’s there.

VAMP #2
Nope, all I know is it’s got something to do with whatever the hell that big glowing ball of lightning is up above the roof.

VAMP #1
You really think the boss knows what he’s doing?

VAMP #2
For the amount he’s paying us? You bet your ass I do!
The two Vampires LAUGH, passing out of view as they continue down the stairs.

Chris steps carefully out from behind the door, looking thoughtful.

After a beat, he glances above him again to check the coast is clear, before he starts back up the staircase again.

We follow up him up a few more steps, before we cut to:

INT. OFFICE BLOCK - BASEMENT. NIGHT.

Chesterton strides across the basement level of the building we found ourselves in earlier, sweeping his scanner device left and right, studying its readings.

Julie catches up to him, out of breath, looking all around the deserted floor.

JULIE
All right, I’ll admit, that was a neat trick you pulled to jimmy the lock open to get us down here, but what are we looking for? A big parcel with a ticking clock strapped to it?

CHESTERTON
I’m afraid I don’t know, but given the levels of the chemical readings I’m picking up, it’ll be something small, about the size of a paperback novel.

Julie looks round again - the basement is pretty big.

JULIE
Can you narrow it down at all? We could be here hours and never find it!

CHESTERTON
Just a minute... There!

He points towards the creaky old air conditioning unit and jogs towards it.

He and Julie look all round the machinery, searching for the bomb, when Julie spots the small box tucked away round the back of it.

JULIE
Terry! Down here.
He cranes his head over, his expression darkening. He waves the scanner device across the box and nods.

CHESTERTON
That’s it. There’s enough C-4 explosive in that package to bring this whole building down, and blow a hole in the street the size of a football field.

JULIE
(puzzled)
This doesn’t make any sense – if Malkuth put these here, what’s he trying to blow up? And why?

CHESTERTON
We can worry about that later. Right now, we have to get this thing deactivated.

He looks down at the timer – there is less than thirty minutes remaining as it counts down.

JULIE
You said there were more of them, how are we going to get to them all in time?

CHESTERTON
We’re not.

Chesterton hands Julie his cell phone.

CHESTERTON (cont’d)
Call David, tell him what we’ve found. I’ll be able to give you rough locations, they can do the rest. Once I work out how to defuse this one, it stands to reason that the others can be shut down the same way.

Julie starts to dial in Osbourne’s number.

JULIE
That’s a little bit of wishful thinking, isn’t it?

CHESTERTON
I’m afraid it’s the only kind of thinking we can have right now!
As Chesterton settles down next to the bomb, reaching into his jacket pocket for something he can use to start taking it apart, and Julie waits for Osbourne to pick up, we cut away to:

19

EXT. CITY STREET. NIGHT.

We’re back in the fight between the two groups of vampires.

Crane and Danyael have been pushed back towards the shop front of the electronics store, Marx effortlessly raining blows down on both of them as they try to fight back.

Twist still has her hands full with Shenoch, her face scratched and bloody as Shenoch tries to rake her nails across it again.

Twist
Damn it! Quit with the scratching, beyatch! You fight like a fricken girl!

As if to prove her point, Twist HEADBUTTS Shenoch, planting a boot in her stomach and kicking the vampire away from her as she reels backwards.

Twist glances over to Danyael and Crane – but she hasn’t got time to go and help them, as with a SHRIEK Shenoch launches herself at Twist again, sinking her fangs into Twist’s shoulder.

As Twist HOWLS in pain, we move back across to the other fight – Danyael’s attention wavers as he hears Twist cry out, and Marx lands a solid uppercut to Danyael’s jaw.

Danyael is sent flying backwards, CRASHING through the glass window of the electronics shop and rolling back into the store itself, knocking over two displays which collapse onto him, showering him with various electrical goods.

Marx leers at Crane as he steps towards her, but as he reaches out a hand to grab her by the neck, she quickly scoops up a stray shard of glass, SLICING it across Marx’s neck.

Clinton staggers backwards, pressing a hand to his throat as blood seeps out from behind his fingers, and Crane takes the advantage to land a series of KICKS to the hulking vampire, finally managing to knock him off his feet.

As Marx recovers, Crane leaps into the shop after Danyael.

20

INT. ELECTRONICS STORE. NIGHT.

Heaving the display racks off the stunned Danyael, Crane drags him to his feet.
CONTINUED:

DANYAEL
(woozy)
What...

CRANE
No time! Come on!

She shoves him back towards the broken glass window, and they both stumble out into the street.

21
EXT. CITY STREET. NIGHT.

Crane starts to pull Danyael away from the fight, but as he sees Twist trying to shake off Shenoch, whose fangs are still sunk deep into her shoulder, he yanks his arm away from Crane.

DANYAEL
We’re not leaving Twist!

CRANE
She can handle herself! Come on!

But Danyael is already marching over.

Desperately, Crane glances over to Marx - and with a look of horror, sees that he’s getting back to his feet, the slash across his throat already healing up. He smirks at Crane before starting to pace towards her.

Danyael reaches into frame and grabs Shenoch, trying to wrench her away from Twist, but she’s dug in too deep.

TWIST
Get her off me!

DANYAEL
I’m trying!

He PUNCHES Shenoch in the back, and she pulls her fangs out of Twist’s shoulder to YELL in pain.

That’s all the space Twist needs, and she spins round, grabbing her bat from the floor and CRACKING it across Shenoch’s skull.

Twist scrambles to her feet, wincing as she presses a hand to her shoulder, but as Shenoch gets back to her feet, she tries to block out the pain, ready for round two.

Marx stands by Shenoch as she recovers, the vampire pressing her hands to her head, seeming to be in pain.

(CONTINUED)
SHENOCH
(rambling)
Her blood... so many things...
Power! Power... she has power...

MARX
Get a grip, Shenoch! We’ve still
got three marks to kill here!

TWIST
Oh yeah? You want me to give your
girlfriend there another lesson in
the noble art of Goth Fu?

MARX
(scoffs)
She ain’t my girlfriend, she’s too
damn crazy!
(points at Twist)
Now you, I could have some real fun
with.

TWIST
Don’t flatter yourself. Oh, and Bob
Marley called, says he wants his
hair back.

Marx grins and takes a step forward - then pauses as we hear
the sound of a BEEPER going off.

TWIST (cont’d)
(raises eyebrow)
Aww, is it past your bedtime?

Marx glares at her, then turns to Shenoch.

MARX
Let’s go.

To Twist’s surprise, the two vampires turn tail and run,
racing back towards the main city centre.

DANYAEL
(confused)
What the hell just happened?

TWIST
(frowns)
I have no idea...
(recovers)
Come on, after them!

DANYAEL
(incredulous)
‘After them’?
(MORE)
CONTINUED: (2)          DANYAEL (cont'd)

They just wiped the floor with us, and you want to go after them again?

Twist is already running, shouting back over her shoulder to Danyael and Crane.

TWIST
They’ve got to be leaving for a reason, Spook! Let’s go find out what it is!

With a resigned look, Danyael starts running too, with Crane close behind, and as the three vampires begin their pursuit, we cut to:

INT. TOWER - STAIRWELL. NIGHT.

Chris is still busy bounding up the stairs, nearing the highest floors of the tower by now. He comes to the top of the staircase, which leads to a landing with a large pair of double doors.

Chris walks up to the doors and throws them open, stepping out into:

INT. TOWER - TOP FLOOR. NIGHT.

The highest floor below the roof is a wide, open space, reserved for executive parking, with a ramp leading back down off to the right of the screen.

That’s not what catches Chris’ attention however - the large posse of demons and vampires that are gathered all around the floor do instead.

As Chris takes a beat to survey the floor, the various bad guys all start to notice him, nudging each other and pointing as they start to advance en masse towards him.

VAMPIRE
Hey, hero! You looking for a fight, or what?

Chris weighs up his odds. Just him versus almost a hundred opponents.

He closes his eyes, takes a deep, meditative breath, then opens his eyes again, his steely gaze falling on the closest pack of vamps as they saunter cockily towards him.

CHRIS
I was looking for a fight or two, yes...
   (grins)
... but in the circumstances, you lot will have to do.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

The pack of vampires scowl, then as one CHARGE towards him, and as Chris raises his katana to meet their attack, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO
CONTINUED: (2)

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

24 INT. OFFICE BLOCK - BASEMENT. NIGHT.

We’re back with Julie and Chesterton, Julie pacing up and down, talking into the cell phone, as Chesterton continues to work on the bomb, several pieces of its casing on the floor around him, a small set of screwdrivers from a tiny wallet next to him as well.

JULIE

No, Susan, I don’t know exactly where it’ll be! Terry said it’s most likely going to be hidden somewhere in the sub levels, so start there. We found ours behind an air conditioning unit, so look for anything that could hide it.

(beat; listens)

Hang on, I’ll check.

(to Chesterton)

How are we doing?

CHESTERTON

(concentrating)

We’re a little behind schedule...

Julie waits for more, but Chesterton is too focused on what he’s doing. With a heavy-hearted look that means she knows she’s in trouble, she speaks back into the phone.

JULIE

Susan? You’d better hurry.

She hangs up, the concern all over her face as we cut to:

25 EXT. TOWER - ROOFTOP. NIGHT.

We’re looking out across the cluttered roof of the tower building at the heart of all the trouble, the blazing ball of energy now about twenty metres across, illuminating the whole roof with flashes of light, its dark surface swirling ominously.

Watching it proudly is Malkuth, hands behind his back, and as we push towards him, we see a large, bulky contraption set up in front of him, at the very edge of the roof.

It looks like it’s been stitched together from about ten different machines, its ill-fitting components held together with generous amounts of duct tape and welding.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

A long, lightning rod-esque pole stretches up from the far end of the device, aiming up at the ball of energy, and a thin trail of white light seems to be connecting one to the other.

Malkuth starts talking to someone just off screen.

MALKUTH
I know it isn’t much to look at, but it certainly does the job. I always find that you get the best results by mixing and matching, anyway! Adds a little character.

We pan to the right – and see the four terrified sisters of Karma huddled together, chained at the wrists and ankles with coils of long, black cables, all of which seem to be feeding back into the machine.

Malkuth crouches near Grace, lifting her chin up with one finger to gaze into her eyes as she shakes with fear.

MALKUTH (cont’d)
Now, I can’t promise that this isn’t going to hurt, but you have my word that your deaths afterward will be quick and as painless as I can manage.

(beat)
That is, of course, if you ladies all promise to play nicely and do exactly as I say.

GRACE
(terrified)
W-we’ll- we’ll n-never-

MALKUTH
Oh, I’m afraid you will.

Malkuth stands, grinning his sinister smile down at the girls for a beat, before we hear the SLAM of a door opening off screen.

Malkuth turns round, his expression almost dropping into surprise, but catching itself halfway and reverting to his trademark smirk.

To the accompaniment of ‘Sand’s Theme’ by Tonto’s Giant Nuts, Chris steps out through a second pair of double doors, behind which is a ramp leading down into the top floor car park of the tower.

Chris looks in bad shape, his clothing torn in several places and cuts all over his body, but his blood-soaked katana tells us he gave as good as he got.
As he walks out slowly into the rain, we can just make out the scattered bodies of lots and lots of dead demons and vampires, littering the floor behind him.

MALKUTH (cont’d)
Well, well. You made it at last! I was beginning to wonder if you’d ever show up, you know.

CHRIS
Wouldn’t miss it for the world.

Chris continues to pace forward, a glimmer of hope crossing the face of the Karma girls as they see him.

CHRIS (cont’d)
I still haven’t figured out what this is yet, Malkuth, but that doesn’t matter.

Chris points his katana straight at his nemesis.

CHRIS (cont’d)
Tonight, I put a stop to you. Permanently.

Malkuth LAUGHS, a brazen, chesty guffaw that echoes across the windswept rooftop.

MALKUTH
You still haven’t got a clue what’s going on, have you?

CHRIS
Why don’t you enlighten me? It’s a little late for vague hints and stalling now.

MALKUTH
(beat)
Alright. I hope you’re sitting comfortably.

Chris narrows his eyes, and as Malkuth takes a few steps towards him, ready to begin the exposition at last, we cut away to:

26 EXT. OUTSIDE TOWER. NIGHT.

Marx and Shenoch sprint into frame, sidestepping the dead cops as they bound up the steps towards the tower’s entrance, disappearing inside.

Moments later, Twist, Danyael and Crane run into the scene, Twist the only one of them with any energy left by now.
TWIST
Come on! Keep up, guys, we can’t let those critters get away now!

DANYAEL
(wheezing)
Wait... Just a minute!

TWIST
We can wait when they’re dead!

CRANE
(panting)
Danyael’s... right...

TWIST
(rolls eyes)
Am I the only one with even a vague sense of urgency here?
(points to tower)
Bad guys!

DANYAEL
Just give me a second, Twist... I need to get my breath back!

TWIST
(exasperated)
What ‘breath’? You’re a vampire, you helmet! You don’t breathe!

Danyael pauses – he’s never considered this before.

DANYAEL
Then why-

CRANE
It’s a reflex action. Your body still acts like its breathing, even though it doesn’t need to. All of us vampires do it.

TWIST
Thank you. That’s the first practical line of thinking to come out of your word hole since we met tonight!

Crane glares at Twist, but Twist is already heading back towards the tower.

TWIST (cont’d)
Screw you guys. I’m going up there, with or without you.
(quietly)
Chris needs me.

(CONTINUED)
As Twist reaches the door, Danyael finally gets moving, Crane following again, and as the three vampires disappear into the building, we cut to:

EXT. TOWER - ROOFTOP. NIGHT.

Malkuth paces in a wide circle around Chris, whose katana is down by his side. Chris’ eyes are locked on Malkuth.

MALKUTH
Old man Bannister had the right idea, you know, with that club of his in Hollywood. You remember? The one where he used the building to channel the energy of the people dancing there every night?

CHRIS
I remember.

MALKUTH
I can’t believe I didn’t think of it myself sooner – pure energy! That’s the key to all this.

CHRIS
‘Pure’ energy?

MALKUTH
That’s right. It’s so much more powerful than dark energy, the kind you can suck out of your average vampire or demon body. It’s almost like it’s been filtered, like getting a hundred per cent pure instead of finding it cut with Parmesan cheese or sweetener, to use a crude cocaine metaphor...

Chris glances at the Karma girls, who throw him pleading looks to get them the heck out of this!

CHRIS
Is that why you need the girls?

MALKUTH
They’re part of this, yes, but I only need them to channel the energy I’m going to release.

CHRIS
(off ball of energy)
From that?

MALKUTH
No, my dear boy. From that.

(CONTINUED)
Malkuth swings an arm round to indicate the whole of the city around them, and Chris frowns.

MALKUTH (cont’d)
By now, the rest of your squad have probably stumbled across some of the two hundred or so explosive devices I’ve had placed strategically around the city. In about...

(checks watch)
... twenty minutes or so, they’ll all go off. The chain reaction will level this city for miles in every direction.

CHRIS
(frowns)
Why?

MALKUTH
(grins)
Aren’t you keeping up? You know that when a person dies, their soul, their spiritual essence and energy, all gets released back into the ether, don’t you?

CHRIS
It’s a theory I’ve heard, yes.

MALKUTH
(smirks)
Oh, it’s no theory. It’s the absolute truth. The power typically just gets absorbed back into the earth, but with this machine, I can catch that power, save it, and use it.

CHRIS
(sceptical)
You’re going to destroy half of New York just to try to steal the energies released from the dead? For what? How do you even know it’s going to work?

Malkuth grins, and with a wave of his hand, we are treated to a vision of exactly what will happen when the bombs go off - there is a brilliant FLASH of yellow light, and in moments, the tall buildings all around are reduced to rubble, thick clouds of smoke filling the air.

Malkuth continues to circle Chris as the graphic demonstration carries on around us.
MALKUTH

Trust me. I know it will work. I know that does mean killing an insane amount of people, but...

(shrugs)

They’re only humans.

As the smoke clears from the chain of explosions, a new spectacle begins - tens of thousands of globes of brightly coloured light start to drift up into the air, shimmering as they cluster together.

MALKUTH (cont’d)

You can’t even begin to imagine how much energy that will release, Chris. I’m willing to accept it won’t all be as pure as I’d like, but killing all those humans will give me so much power, that won’t matter!

The variously sized and coloured spheres of energy start drifting towards the huge, crackling energy field above the tower, getting sucked into it and swelling the size of the field with each mouthful.

MALKUTH (cont’d)

Within a few minutes, I’ll have enough power in that thing to blow the Moon in half if I wanted to! And people will pay a lot of money to keep a man with that kind of power happy.

CHRIS

So that’s what this is still all about? Money? What happened to selling your new strain of vampires to the highest bidder?

MALKUTH

Oh, I’ll be doing that as well. I just wanted to make sure that nobody ever got it into their heads to challenge my authority, by making sure I had a weapon that could carve a hole the size of Texas in the other side of the world if I wanted it to!

The artificial scenes of devastation all around the tower dissolve away, returning to the actual view - the myriad of bright, glittering lights of Central New York.

Chris regards Malkuth as coolly as ever.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (3)

CHRIS
I’ll admit, this is easily your most ambitious plan yet.

MALKUTH
(mock bow)
Thank you. Years in the making.

CHRIS
You did, however, overlook one tiny detail.

MALKUTH
Did I? And what was that?

We push in close on Chris as he grins.

CHRIS
Me.

And as Chris SLICES out with his katana, missing the dodging Malkuth by a fraction of an inch, we SMASH CUT to:

28 INT. TOWER - STAIRWELL. NIGHT.

Marx and Shenoch are bounding up the stairs, heading for the roof.

MARX
Come on, come on! Move it!

Several flights below them are Twist, Danyael and Crane, Twist throwing glances upwards every few seconds.

TWIST
We’re losing them!

DANYAEL
Twist, they’re going the same place we are!

TWIST
That’s not the damn point and you know it! Run faster!

As Twist doubles her efforts, we cut back to:

29 EXT. TOWER - ROOFTOP. NIGHT.

Back into action as Malkuth smoothly draws a long, jagged sword from his robes, blocking Chris’ next attack.

Chris hops back, his sword ready as he and Malkuth circle each other once again.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

MALKUTH
(grins)
This should be interesting.

CHRIS
And why’s that?

MALKUTH
(sly)
Because I know you something you don’t know.

Chris ignores that comment and jumps to the attack again, Malkuth his match at swordplay as the two opponents engage in a blisteringly fast fight, sparks flying from their blades as they connect.

The girls of Karma watch on as the fight intensifies, Chris and Malkuth’s faces only inches apart as their swords blur around them, every attack blocked, every counterattack dodged.

They’re so absorbed in their fight that they don’t notice Marx and Shenoch burst out onto the roof, Marx looking around at the hundred or so dead bodies on the floor behind him in surprise.

MARX
What the-

SHENOCH
(points)
Look!

Marx’s eyes bulge as he watches Chris and Malkuth continue to battle, spinning around each other as they fight.

Twist, Danyael and Crane race out onto the roof, Twist quickly assessing the situation and pointing to the captive Karma girls.

TWIST
Crane! Get those girls away from that thing!

CRANE
(nods)
Right!

Crane circles round towards Karma as Twist barrels towards Shenoch, the vampire’s back still turned to her.

Shenoch and Marx look round, just as Twist tackles Shenoch to the ground. The two vampires bounce away, struggling and fighting, as Marx turns his attention to Danyael.
Danyael looks around for a weapon, scooping an axe up from a fallen vampire near his feet, and Marx chuckles as he stomps towards him.

Twist manages to pin Shenoch’s arms down, her knees pressing onto the vampire’s forearms.

As Shenoch twists and scrabbles beneath her, Twist grabs her bat, looking at it with sad eyes.

Twist
(softly)
I’m sorry to have to do this, baby, but...

And with that, she places one hand at each end of the bat, and with a GRUNT of effort SNAPS it into two jagged pieces.

Shenoch’s eyes go wide, and Twist allows herself a grin.

Twist (cont’d)
Call it a viking funeral.

Twist SLAMS one jagged, stake-like half of the bat down into Shenoch’s chest, and the wild vampiress HOWLS in pain, convulsing for a second before finally falling still.

Twist leans back a little, wiping her brow.

Twist (cont’d)
Whoo! Now for-

Shenoch
(screams)
Noo!!

Shenoch’s hands suddenly shoot up into frame, wrapping around Twist’s throat and throwing her backwards.

In an instant, the tables are turned - Twist is pinned to the floor by Shenoch, blood dripping from the crazed vampire’s mouth as she HISSES at Twist again.

Twist
(seethes)
Damn it! What part of being killed do you not understand?

As Shenoch bares her fangs and LUNGES for Twist’s neck, Twist manages to kick out, planting both boots into Shenoch’s gut and sending her flying back through the air - and straight over the edge of the roof.

(CONTINUED)
Shenoch’s scream’s fade as she drops out of sight, and a
groggy Twist gets back to her feet.

TWIST (cont’d)

Damn, she was loud...

She looks over to see Danyael and Marx sparring, Danyael
managing to hold the huge vampire off, and then she sees
Crane make it over to the captive Karma girls.

Chris and Malkuth are still wrapped up in their fight, almost
dancing around one another as they continue to battle,
neither gaining an advantage for long.

Violet looks up thankfully as Crane dashes into frame.

VIOLET
Are you here to help?

CRANE
I’m gonna get you all out of here,
hang on!

Crane starts looking for a way to free the girls, pulling at
the coils tying them to the machine without success.

Malkuth glances across at Crane’s efforts, and with a
flourish of his hand sends a bolt of BLUE ENERGY racing
towards Crane’s back.

As Malkuth resumes his fight with Chris, Twist yells out to
the unsuspecting Crane.

TWIST
Look out!!

Crane turns - but she has no time to react as the bolt of
energy hits her. She SCREAMS for an instant - and then in a
FLASH of light, she’s gone.

Twist’s jaw drops, before she shakes her head, coming to her
senses and starting to race back over to help Danyael.

Malkuth sneers at Chris as Chris glances towards the sobbing
Karma girls.

MALKUTH
Every angle’s covered, Chris, every
eventuality planned for, every
possible slip anticipated! There’s
no way at all you can stop me now!

CHRIS
(fierce)
I’ll always find a way to stop you,
no matter what!
CONTINUED: (4)

MALKUTH
Will you? I wouldn’t be so sure...

Malkuth suddenly draws a pistol, and Chris steps back, trying to work out Malkuth’s next move.

MALKUTH (cont’d)
Do you want to see what I realised the other day?

Malkuth aims the gun at Chris – and then turns it on himself, SHOOTING himself in the leg!

Malkuth SHOUTS in pain and staggers back – and so does Chris!

Dumbfounded, Chris drops his sword and stumbles to the floor, clutching his leg, staring in shock at Malkuth, pressing a hand to the same place on his leg.

CHRIS
(stunned)
But- what-

MALKUTH
Don’t you see? We’re connected!
While I have a piece of your soul trapped inside me, we always will be! You can’t kill me, Chris, not without killing yourself!
(evil smile)
And if you can’t kill me... how are you going to stop me?

We push in on Chris’ face as he reels, trying to take this new development in, and from that we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE
ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. TOWER - ROOFTOP. NIGHT.

Straight back onto the rain swept tower rooftop, as Twist races over to help Danyael fight off Marx.

Marx lays Danyael down with a heavy punch, and Danyael drops the axe as he stumbles to the floor.

MARX
Alright, I’m through going easy on you, you little punk! If you’ve got any last prayers to say, get ‘em out now, because you’ve got about five seconds before I stuff your left arm down your throat!

Danyael looks up as Marx towers over him – then spots Twist racing into frame.

TWIST
Spook! The axe!

Danyael blinks, then quickly SLIDES the axe along the roof, back towards Twist.

Without missing a beat, she scoops it up, still running, and as Marx turns round he just has time to register her as she swings it.

FWIP! Marx’s head is sent sailing from his shoulders as Twist slams into his still-standing body, both going crashing to the floor as Marx’s head bounces away.

Gasping for breath, Twist pushes herself to her feet and reaches out a hand for Danyael.

TWIST (cont’d)
Two down, one to go.

Danyael smiles gratefully as Twist pulls him up. They turn round to Chris, but Twist double takes when she sees the state the two combatants are in.

Malkuth hobbles towards Chris, who appears to be in worse pain, weakly trying to push himself off the floor.

CHRIS
How did... How did this happen?

MALKUTH
Don’t ask me, I’m still getting used to this myself.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: MALKUTH (cont'd)

After my failed attempt to poison you last time, I always knew we shared some kind of connection, but I only recently realised how far it stretched! Whatever happens to me, happens to you, only worse, it seems!

TWIST (O.S.)

Chris?

Malkuth looks up as Twist and Danyael walk cautiously over, Twist still ready for a fight.

TWIST (cont'd)

Chris, what the frick is going on? Why aren't you tearing that butt nugget a new one yet?

CHRIS

(woozy)

Twist... Go! Get out of here!

TWIST

I’m not going anywhere till somebody tells me what’s going on here!

MALKUTH

Ah, Twist. The second sidekick.

TWIST

(frowns)

‘Second’? You said that when we first met - what do you mean?

MALKUTH

I’m sure he’ll tell you soon enough.

Twist scowls, not in the mood for any more games.

TWIST

Okay, start running, baumgartner, ‘cause in about five seconds I’m gonna ram a stick up your ass and turn you into a damn flag!

MALKUTH

(wicked grin)

How’s Sophia these days, Twist?

TWIST

How’s...

(hesitates)

What?
MALKUTH
She must be, what, three years old by now?

DANYAEL
Twist, who’s he talking about?

Twist stiffens, glaring back at Malkuth as he grins.

TWIST
(softly)
What have you done to my sister?

MALKUTH
She’s insurance. Just in case I found myself in a situation like this. When I found more out about you, I found this charming weak link in your past – the baby sister you thought was dead!

Chris has managed to get up now, wincing with pain as he picks up his katana again. He stands by Twist and Danyael, the three heroes facing off against Malkuth.

TWIST
She is dead, Boyce and his gang killed her after I tried to stop them from killing my mom!

MALKUTH
(shakes head)
No, they didn’t. They didn’t know what to do with her, so they left her on the neighbour’s doorstep after they took you away to execute you. It took me a while to track her down, but...

Twist takes a step towards Malkuth, fury blazing in her eyes, but Chris holds out an arm to keep her back.

TWIST
(yells)
Where is she??

MALKUTH
She’s safe. For now. There’s an old hideaway, built into the foundations beneath the Empire State Building, of all places.

TWIST
What?

(Continued)
CONTINUED: (3)

MALKUTH
In the old days, it was used to help refugees hide out as they tried to find a way past immigration, these days I like to use it as somewhere to keep people until I have a use for them. Like you said to me, Chris - if you don’t have a backup, then you don’t have a plan!

Twist stares at Malkuth, her mind racing as she tries to think of a plan, before Chris speaks quietly to her.

CHRIS
Go. It’s not far, you can be there in a few minutes.

She looks at him, and he looks back, nodding once. With a final glance at Malkuth, Twist turns and runs out of frame, Danyael following after her with a nod from Chris.

As the two vampires race back towards the stairs, Chris turns back to face Malkuth.

CHRIS (cont’d)
Now, where were we?

Malkuth chuckles as Chris raises his sword again, and the song ‘Swamp’ by Tweaker starts to play across the following scenes.

MALKUTH
(tuts)
Really, Chris, I expected better from you! What can you do against me? You’re not going to kill yourself just to get rid of me and we both know it. You won’t give up on your precious cure so easily! Not while there’s still a chance you could save the humanity of your beloved sidekick, anyway.

CHRIS
(long beat; smiles)
I’m sure I’ll think of something.

As Chris launches into a new attack, Malkuth blocking his katana with a CLANG of steel on steel, we cut to:
INT. OFFICE BLOCK - BASEMENT. NIGHT.

Julie and Chesterton are still trying to defuse their bomb, which is now in many pieces all around them, but the sweat dripping from Chesterton’s brow tells us he’s far from the desired result.

His cell phone RINGS, and Julie answers it.

JULIE
Hello? No, no, we still haven’t found a way yet.

CHESTERTON
(quietly)
My God...

JULIE
Hold on.
(to Chesterton)
What?

CHESTERTON
They’re all connected! There’s a remote link from one bomb to the next, if the chain is broken at any point, every one of them will arm and detonate!

Julie sags— the situation is getting more desperate by the second! She lays a hand on his shoulder and squeezes.

JULIE
Is there any way around it?

He turns to look at her, and she knows the answer is ‘no.’ She stands, her hand over her mouth as she tries to think of what to do next, as we cut to:

EXT. OUTSIDE TOWER. NIGHT.

Twist dashes into frame, running over to one of the now abandoned police cruisers and diving into the driver’s seat as Danyael gets in too.

Thankfully finding the keys still in the ignition, she frantically tries to start the car, but the engine won’t fire up.

Losing control, she pounds her fists against the steering wheel.

TWIST
Come on! Damn it, come on!!

(CONTINUED)
As if to answer, the engine ROARS into life, and twist slams her foot on the accelerator, the cruiser screeching out of frame in a cloud of tire smoke, as we cut to:

EXT. TOWER - ROOF TOP. NIGHT.

Chris and Malkuth are busy sparring again, but this time Chris appears to be driving Malkuth back, over towards the machine at the roof’s edge.

Chris spots an opening, feints to the left and then dives past Malkuth, swinging his katana round and into the machine, part of which EXPLODES in a shower of sparks.

MALKUTH
No!!

Chris swings again, slicing power cables as Malkuth dashes over, the two of them grappling as the machine starts to self destruct around them, smoke belching out from it.

The Karma sisters try to pull themselves away from it, but they’re still stuck fast - until Chris manages to slice through the cables holding them in place.

CHRIS
(yells)
Run!!

They don’t need to be told twice - scampering away, the girls race out of frame as Chris PUNCHES Malkuth, wincing as he feels the blow himself.

Malkuth looks up at the ball of energy in horror as it starts to shift, sliding lazily from side to side.

MALKUTH
What have you done? It’ll go out of control!

CHRIS
(smirks)
I thought that’s what you wanted?

MALKUTH
You idiot! We’ll both be killed!

CHRIS
Like I said – I’ll think of something.

Chris swings with his sword again, and a frantic Malkuth is sent on the defensive as we cut away from the fight to:
EXT. OFFICE BLOCK - BASEMENT. NIGHT.

Julie and Chesterton, still furiously trying to shut down the bomb, are joined by Osbourne, Kay and Decadway.

OSBOURNE
Well? Did you defuse it?

JULIE
We can’t!

KAY
What?

CHESTERTON
All the bombs are linked together, we tamper with one and they’ll all go off!

OSBOURNE
Well, how many are there?

CHESTERTON
I don’t know. Lots.

DECADWAY
(shocked)
Oh, my God...

JULIE
We have to get out of here! We have to hope that we got everyone far enough away before they go off, or...

She doesn’t need to finish the sentence. The group exchange looks that highlight their desperation, as we cut over to:

EXT. EMPIRE STATE - BASEMENT CAR PARK. NIGHT.

Twist’s stolen police cruiser SMASHES through the security gate and screams across the deserted parking area, eventually skidding into a long sideways drift and SLAMMING into another parked car.

Wasting no time, Twist clambers out of the stricken car and races out into the middle of the floor, as Danyael struggles out and runs after her.

She looks all around, frantically looking for anything that would tell her where the entrance to the underground level is, and as Danyael joins her, she looks close to tears.

We cut from her desperate look back to:
Chris and Malkuth fight on, but as Malkuth’s prized machine continues to explode behind them, the huge sphere of energy overhead starts swaying severely from side to side, the slender trail of white light connecting it to the machine looking like it’ll break at any moment.

Chris KICKS the distracted Malkuth backwards and stands over him, katana blade against his throat. Malkuth shouts back at him over the deafening noise of the unstable energy overhead.

MALKUTH
You really shot the dog this time, Chris! Whether you stop me or not now, there’s no way to get rid of that energy! It’s going to keep growing until it consumes the whole city, and it won’t stop from there! It’ll eat a hole straight through this planet!

CHRIS
Forgive me if I’m wrong, but isn’t it basic physics that energy can’t be destroyed, only converted from one form to another?

MALKUTH
What? What the hell does that have to do with anything?

Chris grins, then quickly reaches down and GRABS Malkuth, hauling him to his feet.

CHRIS
Don’t worry — I’m just going to test out a new theory about energy conversion.

Malkuth opens his mouth to reply — but Chris SPINS him round, lifting him into the air and using his momentum to THROW him straight up towards the ball of energy!

Malkuth SHOUTS OUT in fear as he sails straight towards the sphere — and then with a BURST of lightning, he disappears into it.

Chris holds his breath for a beat — but nothing happens. Relieved, he exhales.

CHRIS (cont’d)
(grins)
Well, how about that...

(CONTINUED)
Turning his attention to the sphere, he raises his hand and aims it at the energy.

A look of intense concentration comes across his face, and as he starts to mutter an incantation under his breath, a small ball of BLUE ENERGY starts to form around his hand.

The sphere overhead is now starting to pulse, almost like a human heart, the storm HOWLING around it as if it’s hungry to start tearing into the city below.

Chris continues his spell as the energy round his hand starts to trail out, long fingers of light snaking towards the increasingly violent energy overhead.

As they connect with it, they form a small pool of clear, soft blue light at its base, and as Chris continues his spell, starting to look unsteady as it takes its toll on his system, the blue light starts to spread across the surface of the sphere.

When half of the sphere is covered, Chris suddenly drops to his knees, exhausted, and the energy round his hand disappears.

He manages to lift his head, watching as the blue energy does its work, swallowing the entirety of the sphere.

Chris falls to his side, too weak to stand - but he’s done what needed to be done.

We pull back to get a wider view of the scene as the sphere starts to break up, its form shifting until its starts to flatten out, stretching out in the air like some kind of huge cloud.

As we watch, the light starts to fall, still spreading out, and as it passes over and through the buildings around it, their lights flicker and die - the field is sucking up all the electricity around it!

37 EXT. CITY STREET. NIGHT.

Down on street level, we look up as the field falls down, passing harmlessly through everything around it but blacking out the entire city centre.

It hits the street and sinks through it, sending us to:

38 INT. OFFICE BLOCK - BASEMENT. NIGHT.

Down in the basement with Julie and the others, they brace themselves as Chesterton still works at the bomb, the timer showing less than three minutes remaining...
... but as the basement is suddenly bathed in blue light, the team look up, staring in amazement as the blanket of energy sails gently down towards them.

As it passes through them, they shudder, but as it passes the bomb, Chesterton blinks in surprise – every light around them has gone out, including all those on the bomb!

There’s a long beat as they try to register what just happened.

Then, as Chesterton starts to laugh, breaking into deep guffaws of sheer relief, the others start to join in, Julie hugging Susan as it sinks in – whatever just happened, it saved them!

We cut from their scenes of celebration to:

39

INT. EMPIRE STATE - BASEMENT CAR PARK. NIGHT.

Twist is running up and down the floor, KICKING open access doors, grabbing and wrenching up any grates or maintenance panels in the floor.

    TWIST
    Where the hell is it?!?

    DANYAEL
    Twist, what if he was lying?

    TWIST
    No! No, he was telling the truth, that’s the kind of thing he’d do just to screw with me!

Twist suddenly pauses, and as she looks up slowly, the sounds of the world around her seem to fade away.

She turns, her movements sluggish, as if the world was moving at half speed – and her gaze falls on a section of the concrete floor of the car park, over by an innocent-looking maintenance panel.

As she stares, the panel GLOWS a soft orange, just for a moment, then as everything returns to its normal speed, the sound fades back up to bring us Danyael’s voice.

    DANYAEL
    Twist? I said, what are you staring at?

Twist gets up, marching over to the panel without a word, and with a HEAVE of vampire-assisted strength, she starts to drag the heavy panel out of the way.

(CONTINUED)
Danyael watches her as though she’s gone crazy, but after a few moments, she drops the discarded panel with a CLANG.

Danyael joins her as she stares down into the hole she’s exposed in the floor. Instead of a network of heating pipes, the things you’d normally find under one of these panels, there is just a long, dark black hole.

DANAYEL
How did you know-

TWIST
(confident)
This is it.

As she stares into the darkness for a beat, we cut to:

40 INT. TOWER - STAIRWELL. NIGHT.
Exhausted, using the bannisters for support, Chris slowly makes his way back down to the ground floor, a wry smile on his face.

He turns a corner and starts on the next flight of steps, as we cut back to:

41 INT. OFFICE BLOCK - BASEMENT. NIGHT.
Back with Osbourne’s team as Kay and Osbourne break out flashlights, sweeping the garage and locating the exit.

DECADWAY
What the hell was that, anyway?

JULIE
It was Chris.

OSBOURNE
How do you-

JULIE
(smiles)
I just know. I can feel it.

CHESTER
Well, whoever it was, remind me to thank them! I don’t think I had a hope in Hell of getting that thing shut off in time.

Julie hits him lightly on the arm.

JULIE
Why didn’t you say so?

(CONTINUED)
CHESTERTOM
Uh... pride? I thought I owed it to everyone to at least try.

OSBOURNE
(chuckles)
Well, pride or no pride, let’s get out of here and call in some proper bomb disposal people, before-

BEEP. Everyone freezes. There is another BEEP, and everyone slowly turns to look at the supposedly deactivated bomb.

BEEP. The red LEDs are back on, counting down from thirty.

CHESTERTON
(quietly)
A failsafe...

JULIE
Oh, no!

DECADWAY
(panicked)
What do we do? Terry, shut it off! Shut it off!

CHESTERTON
I... I can’t.

As they look on in horror, too stunned to react, we cut to:

INT. TUNNELS. NIGHT.

Twist and Danyael drop down into the dark tunnels, carved out of the rock itself, and Twist spots an opening up ahead and dashes into it.

The same BEEPS we just heard sound rhythmically over the soundtrack, continuing the timer’s countdown.

TWIST
Sophia? Sophia!

DANYAEL
Twist, wait!

Grimy, flickering lamps are embedded into the walls, offering a little light but not much, as Twist races into the large, plain chamber she saw.

Doors lead off from all sides, presumably to other, smaller rooms, but her gaze falls on the chair in the centre of the chamber, with a short figure seated with her back to them, long, blonde hair trailing over the back of the chair.
CONTINUED:

TWIST
Sophia!

She runs over, but as she rounds the chair and sees who’s sitting in it, her jaw drops.

DANYAEL
Twist? What’s-

Danyael joins her, and we see what’s in the chair at last.

It’s a plain, featureless shop dummy, with a carefully-fixed wig and a single, handwritten note taped to its chest. Twist pulls the note away and reads it aloud.

TWIST
’Sorry, Twist. I lied.’

As she looks to Danyael, both realising they’ve been duped, there is a sudden GRINDING sound, and as they look up, they see a thick, heavy metal door starting to close over the entrance to the chamber.

TWIST (cont’d)
He got us...

DANYAEL
Oh, crap! No! Twist, come on!

Twist slumps, defeated, to the floor, as Danyael races over, trying to get to the door in time.

We watch from outside in the tunnel - Danyael almost makes it over, but he’s too late, and with a decisive THUD, the door closes, plunging us into darkness. We cut to:

EXT. OUTSIDE TOWER. NIGHT.

Chris stumbles out into the open air, the storm abating and the rain thinning out as he looks up to the sky, gratefully opening his mouth to catch a little rainwater.

The BEEPS are still playing.

Chris doesn’t spot the person approaching him, pacing casually across the abandoned barricade.

His eyes closed, Chris is startled by a sudden voice:

VOICE (O.S.)
Despite everything I loathe about him, there’s the one thing I always admire about Malkuth.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Chris looks across - and facing him is CIEGUE, the blind assassin who Chris only just managed to defeat last time they met. He smiles at Chris, his dark sunglasses reflecting the emerging moonlight overhead.

CIEGUE
He always has another backup plan.

Ciegue draws his sword with a rapid SWISH, and he takes a step towards Chris, who stands his ground.

The BEEPS continue to play over the soundtrack, falling in time with the advancing Ciegue’s footsteps.

CIEGUE (cont’d)
So I guess there’s only one question we need to answer now, Chris.

Chris closes his eyes, knowing he’s about to enter another fight he may not walk away from.

CIEGUE (cont’d)
Do you really think you can beat me a second time?

Chris opens his eyes, gripping his katana blade tightly, and Ciegue smiles broadly.

CIEGUE (cont’d)
Let’s find out.

As Ciegue SNAPS into a fighting stance, we cut to a shot of the LED timer of the bomb in the basement, counting down.

Three... Two... One... Zero.

BLACK OUT:

TITLE OVER - To Be Continued...

END OF SHOW