

SOMEWHERE INBETWEEN

"The Modern Jane Eyre"

by

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TEASER

FADE IN:

1 INT. PASSENGER PLANE - EVENING. 1

A moderately-sized, half-full jet liner, the usual cross section of businessmen, tourists and families spread across the seats.

Staring glumly out through one of the windows is DANYAEL, his headphones on as he listens to something at a noticeably loud volume. Trying unsuccessfully to doze in the seat next to him is JULIE.

She shifts back and forth a few times, then finally gives up, opens her eyes and nudges Danyael to get his attention. He pauses his CD player and slides the 'phones down.

DANYAEL

What?

JULIE

How can you hear anything at all with it on that loud?

DANYAEL

Was it on loud?

JULIE

Er, yeah, just a little. The pilot made an announcement, says air traffic control have made a complaint about the noise up here.

Danyael chuckles, switching the CD player off.

DANYAEL

Sorry, it's just-

JULIE

Your hearing, yeah, I know. I've never met a vampire with a hearing problem before.

DANYAEL

One of a kind.

Danyael starts looking up and down the plane's aisles, and Julie watches him with a smirk.

JULIE

She's towards the front.

Danyael looks - and sees TWIST, her head bobbing as she mimes along to whatever songs she's listening to via the in-flight stereo.

(CONTINUED)

DANYAEL

I was just-

JULIE

You just wanted to keep an eye on here, I know. Is she still giving you the frosty treatment?

DANYAEL

'Frosty' ain't the word I'd use. More like 'new Ice Age' kind of cold.

JULIE

Well, you will go around kissing strippers...

DANYAEL

(protests)

It was just the one!

He looks up - the passenger in the next seat along is eyeing him curiously.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Well, it was!

JULIE

Look, if you're worried about it, just go talk to her. You know Twist, the best strategy is to apologise first and worry about who's actually to blame later.

Danyael slumps a little and turns to stare back out through the window as CHRIS steps into frame.

CHRIS

Are you two alright up here?

JULIE

Oh, yeah, we're good. You might want to check on Twist, though, she looks about two bars away from bursting into song.

CHRIS

(sarcastic)

And what a remarkable change that would be for her. Is Danyael alright?

JULIE

(covering)

He's fine. Just a little jetlagged, you know.

CHRIS

Right. I'd better get back to my seat, we'll be landing soon. Oh, and remind me never to ask Twist to book our seats again - that way, we may actually get to sit together next time.

JULIE

And you didn't stop to think that she sat far away from us because she's till mad at you about Vivian?

Chris pauses, then heads back down the plane, just as Danyael turns from the window, unbuckling his seat belt with a determined look.

JULIE (cont'd)

Need to go?

DANYAEL

I'm gonna go talk to her.

JULIE

Good. Do you remember what to say at least?

DANYAEL

(beat)

No. But like Chris keeps saying, I'm sure I'll think of something.

JULIE

Just remember, apologise first.

Danyael nods as he steps past Julie and out into the aisle, heading towards Twist up at the front of their section.

He's surprised to find her engrossed in conversation with a handsome stranger, well groomed and smartly dressed. There are several empty wine glasses before them both.

TWIST

And so then, we're trying to get out of this cave but the water keeps flooding in, right, and-

DANYAEL

Uh, Twist?

She turns slowly to look at him, her bubbly expression hardening in seconds.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

I, uh, just, you know, wanted to, uh, come over and say, er...

(CONTINUED)

TWIST

Can this wait? Chad and I are kinda busy.

DANYAEL

(beat)

Chad?

The stranger, CHAD, reaches forward and offers Danyael his hand.

CHAD

Hey there. Pleased to meet you.

TWIST

(proud)

Chad's in pharmaceuticals, his company just went up on the stock exchange.

CHAD

Oh, Twist, stop. I'm not one for boasting!

Danyael looks down at Chad's hand and finally shakes it, grimacing a little at Chad's extra firm grip.

DANYAEL

(to Twist)

So, uh, about that-

TWIST

Dan, we're gonna spend the next few days in Detroit stuck together, whatever you've got to say to me, it can wait. Alright?

Danyael stares at her for a beat, and then finally takes the hint, heading back to his seat.

Julie looks expectantly at him as he sits back down and retrieves his CD player from within his jacket.

DANYAEL

(beat)

I suck.

He puts the 'phones back on and stares back out through the window, and as Julie sighs, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

2 EXT. DETROIT METRO AIRPORT - NIGHT. 2

The team, with baggage slung over their shoulders, step out of the airport terminal and into the brisk Michigan air. Chris scans the sidewalk for a taxi as Danyael hangs back to talk to Twist, who is busy fiddling with her new cell phone.

DANYAEL

So, uh, Twist? You got a minute?

TWIST

(without looking up)

Hang on.

She finishes clicking the buttons, then tucks the phone away and looks up.

TWIST (cont'd)

Alright, you have my fairly undivided attention. What's up?

DANYAEL

Oh, uh, you know, nothing serious, I just wanted to-

CHRIS (O.S.)

Danyael? Twist? Are you two coming?

Danyael looks round - Chris and Julie are waiting by a cab. Danyael turns back to speak to Twist but she's already on the move, and with a SIGH he follows.

3 INT. TAXICAB - NIGHT. 3

Twist rides shotgun as the other three fill the back seat, Chris unfurling a map.

CHRIS

(to driver)

Can you get us to Maple and 17th?

DRIVER

Not a problem, sir.

The cab pulls away as Julie takes her laptop out of her flight bag, powering it up.

CHRIS

Alright, you two, pay attention. This is what we're here for, and the reason we had to fly instead of taking the more leisurely option of driving out in the van.

(CONTINUED)

Julie turns the laptop round to show Twist and Danyael the screen - it's a news article with a photo of some old scrolls kept securely inside a glass case.

TWIST

Some people go to a lot of effort to keep their diary safe, don't they?

CHRIS

These are the Scrolls of Dirjan, a fifth century Arabian mystic who, as far as I can make out, was closely involved with the original construction of the healing device.

JULIE

The scrolls are currently right here in Detroit, as a professor from Wayne State University discovered them on a recent dig.

CHRIS

Now, as far as the general public is concerned, these are just a rare archaeological find that's being kept here for study temporarily before going on to the American Natural History Museum in New York.

TWIST

Let me guess. Our bold plan is to intercept the scrolls and steal them before they're shipped somewhere with much tighter security, right?

CHRIS

(beat)
Yes.

TWIST

(snaps fingers)
Hai! Criminal genius, at your service.

Chris glances at the cab driver, but he isn't paying the group any attention as he speeds through the traffic.

JULIE

The scrolls contain lots of information about the device - assembly details, the locations of several components, possibly even some of the failsafes and how to avoid them.

DANYAEL

'Failsafes'? Why am I not liking that word?

CHRIS

The device was built with several defence mechanisms to make sure the only people who ever used it were those who had been fully instructed in its use.

TWIST

Which currently doesn't include us.

CHRIS

Quite. With these scrolls, we'll have a huge headstart on actually putting the thing together and getting it up and running.

DANYAEL

Sweet.

TWIST

Yeah, I'm seeing a flaw in our plan so far, though.

JULIE

Like what?

TWIST

Well, breaking and entering has never been a strong point of mine. I tend to get stuck at the 'breaking and' part. Ask Chris.

CHRIS

Don't worry, I've accounted for that. Danyael and I will be retrieving the scrolls from the university, with Julie helping to get us past the security systems.

JULIE

You're just going to be backup.

TWIST

(raises eyebrow)

'Backup'? *Moi*?

DANYAEL

She means you get to stand guard and hit anything that moves that isn't us.

TWIST

Oh.

(grins)

Now that I can do.

CHRIS

So we're all clear? I'll fill you in on the specifics once we get there, unless there are any...

Chris trails off as he sees Twist raise her hand.

CHRIS (cont'd)

At the risk of great personal affront... yes, Twist?

TWIST

How long are we going to be out tonight doing this?

JULIE

If what I've worked out from the schematics I hacked is right, then we should be in and out inside ten minutes.

TWIST

Okay. Good.

CHRIS

(suspicious)

Why?

TWIST

No reason! Jeez, I gotta have an excuse for everything?

CHRIS

Yes.

JULIE

Yes.

Danyael chuckles as we cut to:

The foursome step into screen and look towards the frontage of Wayne State University, a tall, Gothic-architected building set just off a main road.

The campus floodlights are on but the main car park is empty as the team stroll towards the campus entrance.

JULIE

Okay, I'm going to go find somewhere I can patch into the security systems, make sure we can get in and out quietly.

CHRIS

Twist, go with her, then once the alarms are down, cover our exit.

TWIST

(salutes)

Roger roger.

DANYAEL

Uh, what about us?

Chris grins as he unzips his bag, revealing a bewildering array of lockpicks, crowbars and other tools of burglary.

CHRIS

As Twist would say, we're doing a MacGyver on this one.

TWIST

I have never said that.

CHRIS

(beat)

Really?

TWIST

Really. If you're going to just make up stuff and put my name to it, at least make sure it's something cool, alright?

CHRIS

(weary)

Julie?

JULIE

(smirks)

I'm on my way. C'mon, Twist.

TWIST

(as she walks away)

I mean, come on! 'MacGyver'? How old does he think I am?

Danyael fishes out a cigarette as he and Chris stand before the university, Chris scanning the car park for CCTV cameras.

DANYAEL

So, uh, Chris, mind if I ask you something?

CHRIS

As long as it doesn't take too long. We're on a tight time window here.

DANYAEL

Is Twist still mad at me?

CHRIS

I know she's not happy with me after learning about Vivian, but I wasn't aware she was angry with you too. Why, is there something I should know about?

DANYAEL

Well, y'see, it's just that after we saved those girls the other week, and the one, you know, showed her gratitude...

Danyael trails off as Chris grins.

CHRIS

One thing I've learned about Twist is that she's hopelessly protective of her boys, Danyael. I'm sure she'll get over it.

DANYAEL

(not convinced)

Hmm.

Chris glances up as a breeze rustles through the tall trees lining the car park, and fixes his glare on one of the CCTV cameras - as its red light flicks off.

CHRIS

We're up. Come on, Danyael, stay close and keep your ears...

(beat)

Just stay close.

The duo scurry towards the nearest entrance as we cut to:

Julie has wired her laptop into a circuit bay inside a small, dimly lit caretaker's station, and she busily types away as she brings up a window on her screen to cycle through the various CCTV feeds.

Twist is leaning in the doorway, looking back out across the campus grounds as she fiddles with her phone again.

JULIE

Alright, Twist, I need you to keep an eye on these monitors for me while I disconnect the alarms around the exhibit, alright?

TWIST
 (without looking round)
 Uh-huh.

JULIE
 If you see any security guards on
 patrol, make sure you let me know
 straight away.

TWIST
 Got it.

Julie steps away from her computer, studying the circuit board and using a small crowbar to pry open another wall panel, crouching and getting to work on another exposed circuit board.

Twist sighs, obviously bored, and decides to dial a number into her phone.

TWIST (cont'd)
 (into phone)
 Oh, hi, is that Chad?
 (beams)
 Hey! Yeah, it's Twist, you know,
 blonde chick from the plane.
 (giggles)
 Yeah, I know, but I'm not staying
 here long so I couldn't do that
 whole 'two day rule' thing, ya
 know?
 (listens)
 Nah, nothing important. So... what
 are you up to later?

Twist is quickly engrossed in her phone call and doesn't spot the two security guards walking into frame on one of the CCTV feeds, as we cut to:

Creeping through the darkened hallways and not having to use flashlights to see where they're going, Danyael follows Chris as the duo head for an office door.

Chris waits as Danyael starts to fiddle with the lock, quickly popping it open with a CLICK.

CHRIS
 Wait here. I'll fetch the scrolls
 and be right back out.

Danyael nods as Chris disappears into the office. Danyael looks round the corridor for a moment, admiring the wall displays and relics mounted in cabinets, when approaching FOOTSTEPS get his attention.

6 CONTINUED:

6

DANYAEL
 (hisses)
 Chris!

No answer. The footsteps get closer, and Danyael tenses up as he sees torch beams approaching from down the corridor.

DANYAEL (cont'd)
 Chris! We've got guests! Chris!

Danyael looks back towards the approaching security guards, ducking out of sight behind a cabinet as their torch beams reach the office.

Danyael waits, staying perfectly still - but Chris steps out of the office, scrolls under his arm, and straight into view of the guards.

GUARD
 Hey, you! Hold it right there!

Chris glances at Danyael, then at the two guards as they jog over, fumbling for their guns.

CHRIS
 Oh, sh-

7 EXT. WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY - NIGHT. 7

ALARMS start to blare across the whole campus.

8 INT. CAMPUS - MAINTENANCE HUT - NIGHT. 8

Julie leaps to her feet as she hears the alarms going off.

JULIE
 What the-

She darts over to her laptop, and sees Chris and Danyael racing away from the two guards.

JULIE (cont'd)
 Damn it, Twist! You were supposed to...

She turns - and Twist is gone.

JULIE (cont'd)
 Twist?

Worried, Julie steps outside the hut:

9 EXT. CAMPUS - NIGHT. 9

Twist is caught red-handed, her phone in her hand. She bites her lip as Julie glares at her.

(CONTINUED)

TWIST

Um... I may have gotten just a tiny bit distracted.

CHRIS (O.S.)

Girls! Run!

They look round to see Chris and Danyael tearing towards them, with the guards in hot pursuit. Julie curses as she starts to hear police sirens on their way in.

JULIE

(to Twist)

You are in trouble.

Twist looks suitably guilty as the girls start running.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT.

Chris tosses the scrolls down onto the bed and rounds on Twist, who stands sheepishly behind him.

CHRIS

What the bloody hell were you playing at? You were supposed to watch the exit!

TWIST

I'm sorry! I got caught up!

CHRIS

Doing what?

TWIST

Girl stuff!

CHRIS

'Girl stuff'?

JULIE

(stepping in)

Alright, everybody calm down. Look, it could have been worse, okay? We got away with the scrolls.

CHRIS

Just.

TWIST

But I-

JULIE

(interrupts)

And we didn't get caught. So, worst case scenario thankfully avoided.

(MORE)

CONTINUED:

JULIE (cont'd)
Now, Twist, what the hell were you
doing that got you so distracted?

TWIST
(quietly)
I was talking to Chad.

CHRIS
Who?

DANYAEL
Chad the guy from the plane, Chad?

TWIST
(nods)
We're, uh, gonna go hook up after
we're done here.

Chris stares at her in utter disbelief as Danyael slinks back
into the corner of the room.

CHRIS
(incredulous)
You almost got us all bloody
arrested because you were setting
up a date?!?

TWIST
Hey! Don't get all moral on me just
'cause you haven't gotten any
lately.

CHRIS
(beat)
That's not the point! Twist, we
were seconds away from having to
fight our way past the police to
get away with these things!

TWIST
(shrugs)
Which would have been fun.

CHRIS
'Fun'?

TWIST
Yes, fun! That thing we're supposed
to be able to do once in a while to
stop us all getting so... so...

JULIE
Reckless?

TWIST
British!

(CONTINUED)

JULIE

Huh?

TWIST

When was the last time any of us went to a club when it wasn't on business? Or spent a few hours in a bar without having to meet some guy to talk about trading him some thing?

DANYAEL

Uh...

TWIST

Exactly! Now, Julie's right. Yeah, I messed up, but we got away with the goods, so, case closed.

Twist marches over to the door, scooping up her jacket.

TWIST (cont'd)

Now, I'm going out for a drink with Chad, and when I come back I hope you guys have all learned how to cool down a little.

She steps past Danyael and SLAMS the door on her way out. He blinks, scratching the back of his head.

DANYAEL

Anyone else think that was kind of...

CHRIS

Out of character?

DANYAEL

Yeah.

JULIE

It's not like her to jeopardise a mission like that.

(beat)

Not on purpose, anyway.

CHRIS

Danyael, think you can keep tabs on her tonight without being seen?

DANYAEL

I'll give it a shot.

CHRIS

Good. Follow her, see what this Chad character's all about. Call us if you see anything suspicious.

DANYAEL

No problem.

He opens the door and steps outside. Julie flops back onto the bed with a weary SIGH.

JULIE

Okay, that was weird.

CHRIS

I'd have to agree. Since we took care of Malkuth, Twist has been remarkably focused on every mission we've taken part in, which makes tonight all the more unusual.

JULIE

And you sending Danny off like that means you think this guy on the plane has something to do with it?

CHRIS

He's a pretty obvious candidate for outside interference, wouldn't you say?

JULIE

(beat)
What if she's right?

CHRIS

About what?

JULIE

What if she really did just want to have some fun? Tonight could have just been, I don't know, a mistake? We all make those, you know. Even you.

Julie gets up and heads over to the bathroom, leaving Chris to his thoughts.

He look down at the scrolls, and as Julie turns on the shower, he sits down on the edge of the bed and gathers them up, ready to start work on them, and we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

11 EXT. OUTSIDE RESTAURANT - NIGHT. 11

A luxurious Italian bistro, packed with customers and looking like the place to be in this part of town.

A taxi cab pulls into frame and out hops Twist. After paying the driver, she looks the restaurant up and down, grins to herself then ducks inside.

12 INT. ITALIAN RESTAURANT - NEXT. 12

Twist scans the floor, which is heaving with diners and waiters, and spots Chad in a small booth up against one wall. He waves her over, and with a giddy smile she scampers over to him.

She slides into the booth opposite him, and he's ready with a glass of red wine.

CHAD

I almost thought you weren't going to show up.

TWIST

And miss a place where they serve pizza? Like that was gonna happen.

CHAD

(grins)

So I guessed right when I decided to go Italian for tonight?

TWIST

Oh, anything with calories is normally a good guess as far as I'm concerned, but yeah, pizza is good.

Twist beams at him, as we cut to:

13 EXT. OUTSIDE RESTAURANT - NEXT. 13

Danyael steps into frame, discretely peering into the restaurant and spotting Twist and Chad. He frowns, glancing up to check what kind of restaurant this is.

DANYAEL

(confused)

But she doesn't even like Italian food...

He checks left and right, then heads round to the side of the building as we cut back inside to:

14 INT. ITALIAN RESTAURANT - NEXT.

14

Two empty dinner plates and several empty wine glasses later, and Twist is obviously merry which gets a bemused smile from Chad.

TWIST

Whassamatter? You never had a woman enjoy her wine so much before?

CHAD

Never seen a girl who can drink so much and stay standing, at any rate.

TWIST

Ah. Yes. Well. Good story. I've got an iron constitution. Same as any vam-

She catches herself - but can't help giggling at her slip.

CHAD

Same as any what?

TWIST

Never mind. Nickname my, uh, friends gave me. You know. So what about you? You've hardly touched, like, a drop.

CHAD

I'm not one for drinking. One of us has to stay sensible, after all.

TWIST

Oh, honey, me and 'sensible' are like... like two really big magnet things. You know?

Twist tries to mime pushing two magnets against each other, but manages to knock over her wine glasses instead. She erupts into snorts of laughter as Chad nods to the waiter.

CHAD

Alright, Twist, time to get you in a taxi back home.

TWIST

(disappointed)

Aw! But I was having fun... do you have any idea how long it's been since I had any actual fun?

CHAD

A long time, I'm guessing.

(CONTINUED)

TWIST

Damn straight! I mean, there was that night when we beat up those guys in the nightclub, and I got to be a DJ and do some dancing, but...

She trails off as the waiter steps over, and Chad raises a bemused eyebrow as he signs for the check.

CHAD

You have a lot of... interesting stories, you know that?

TWIST

Meh. 'S all old news to me by now.

CHAD

I just get the impression there's a lot more to you than what I'm seeing.

TWIST

Well, you would say that, wouldn't you? You haven't seen me naked yet.

She grins impishly, and Chad chuckles as we cut to:

15 EXT. OUTSIDE RESTAURANT - NIGHT.

15

Twist is swaying a little, half leaning against Chad.

CHAD

Here you go, princess. Your ride home.

TWIST

I don't wanna go home. Can't I come back to your place?

She blinks, realising what she just said - then starts to grin. Chad smiles back.

CHAD

I'd love to say yes...

TWIST

(sighs)
But...

CHAD

It's complicated. My ex-wife still kind of lives with me.

TWIST

(shocked)
Your ex-what?!?

(CONTINUED)

CHAD

Hey, we're separated, it's just a business arrangement.

Twist pouts, poking him in the chest.

TWIST

Meanie.

CHAD

But there are plenty of places we can go where she isn't.

TWIST

(smirks)

Now you're talking...

CHAD

Just not when you're as wasted as you are.

TWIST

(scowls)

Hmph.

He opens the cab door for her, and steps back as she staggers over to the cab.

CHAD

So I'll call you tom-

She grabs him and KISSES him - and he kisses back, wrapping his arms round her and pulling her close.

Neither of them see Danyael, watching them from round the corner of the building, his face going from shock to anger to a dejected slump in a matter of seconds.

Twist breaks the kiss off and leans back with a satisfied, cat-like sigh, grinning broadly.

TWIST

That's how we say 'goodnight' where I come from.

CHAD

Remind me to visit there sometime.

Twist finally steps into the cab, which pulls away, and Chad waits to see it off.

Danyael stomps away from the restaurant, his face like thunder. His cell phone RINGS and he digs it out.

DANYAEL

What?

CHRIS

(filtered; through phone)
Danyael? You don't sound too happy,
is everything alright?

DANYAEL

(bitterly)
Oh, yeah, just great. Twist had a
fantastic night out.

CHRIS

I see. Well, you may be interested
in the offer I have, in that case.
Some of the local rebel vampires
got in touch, they heard about our
raid on the university last night
and thought we could use a hand
getting cleanly out of the state,
providing we helped them with
something first.

DANYAEL

What did they have in mind?

CHRIS

How do you feel about a chance to
blow off a little steam?

DANYAEL

I'd say why aren't we there yet?

Danyael listens in as Chris continues, and we cut to:

Glasses on and hair tied back, Julie is busy working on the
scrolls with her laptop for company when the door bangs open
and Twist stumbles inside.

JULIE

So you decided to come back.

TWIST

Why's everybody always picking on
me for going out?

JULIE

Twist, this is the first time
you've gone 'out' in all the time
I've known you!

TWIST

Yeah, you see my point yet?

Twist staggers towards the bathroom and closes the door behind her. We hear the shower switch on as Julie gets back to work with a shake of her head.

TWIST (O.S.) (cont'd)
(through door)
So what'cha doing?

JULIE
Scrolls written by fifth century
Arabian mystics have this habit of
being written in fifth century
Arabic, so translation's on the
slow side.

TWIST (O.S.)
So why not get Chris to help? He's
probably got, like, a dozen books
on that kind of thing.

JULIE
I would do, but Chris and Danyael
are out.

Twist throws the bathroom door open - she's soaking wet, having clearly just stepped fully clothed into the shower and turned it on.

TWIST
(incredulous)
'Out'? Where?

Julie takes off her glasses with a smirk, and we cut to:

18 INT. VAMPIRE NEST - NIGHT.

18

Straight into the thick of things as Chris, Danyael and three rebel vampires tear up a typically scruffy vampire nest, with five burly VAMPIRES as the opposition.

Danyael fights with surprising aggression, YELLING as he dives across a threadbare sofa and TACKLES one vamp to the ground.

Chris spins to avoid a clumsy axe swipe and neatly decapitates his attacker, turning to see Danyael laying into his opponent.

Danyael's face is filled with rage as he mercilessly POUNDS the vamp beneath him, and as another punch connects we cut back over to:

19 INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT.

19

Twist is lying spread-eagled across the second bed in the room as Julie continues her work.

(CONTINUED)

JULIE

So how did your date go?

TWIST

It wasn't a date... well, yeah, actually, I guess it was. What with the kissing and all.

JULIE

(surprised)
You kissed him?

TWIST

(smiles)
Surely did.

JULIE

Twist, you hardly know this guy! I thought you were the kind of girl who took her time getting to know someone first?

TWIST

Me too! I'm as surprised by this as anyone, but...

(sighs)

There's something special about this guy, Jules. He just makes me go all fizzy, you know?

Twist flips onto her belly and looks over to Julie.

TWIST (cont'd)

Same way Chris makes you feel.

JULIE

(blushes)
Don't change the subject.

TWIST

And don't avoid the question.

JULIE

You didn't ask me anything.

TWIST

It was implied.

JULIE

Twist!

TWIST

Alright, alright! Dropping it... but, man, you oughtta see this guy, Julie. He's amazing.

19 CONTINUED: (2)

19

Julie looks increasingly puzzled by Twist's obvious infatuation as we cut back to:

20 INT. VAMPIRE NEST - NIGHT.

20

One of the rebel vamps is pinned against a wall by a snarling vamp, but Danyael leaps into frame and STAKES the offending vampire, who slumps to the floor.

REBEL VAMP

Hey, thanks, man.

DANYAEL

No swe-

CRACK! Danyael gets a pool cue smashed across his face and goes down.

CHRIS

Danyael!

Chris charges over to help out - but Danyael is already on his feet, piledriving into the vamp that attacked him with another SHOUT.

The two clatter to the floor, and the vamp HOWLS in pain - Danyael leaps back to see he managed to shove the vampire back onto a handily-placed chunk of table, piercing the vamp's heart.

He looks down at his chest - and he has a wound inches away from his own heart. He hesitates as he realises what a near miss that was.

DANYAEL

Woah, almost-

WHAM! Danyael is floored as the last of the vampires living in the nest barges into him.

The vamp is heading for the exit, dodging neatly past Chris and the other rebels.

CHRIS

Don't let him get away!

Danyael looks to his side, snatches up a stray, stake-shaped chunk of table and THROWS it - and as it SLAMS into the vamp's back, we cut back to:

21 INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT.

21

Twist is flipping rapidly through the channels on the TV set, much to Julie's annoyance.

(CONTINUED)

JULIE

Can't you go read a book or something, Twist? I'm trying to concentrate here.

TWIST

Can't. Brain still racing. Need short, controlled bursts of entertainment.

Julie reaches over and snatches the remote out of her hand.

TWIST (cont'd)

Hey!

JULIE

If you keep it down for the next ten minutes, you can have this back.

Twist pouts and stomps off to sit on the other bed. After a beat, she takes out her phone and starts tapping into it.

JULIE (cont'd)

Now what?

TWIST

I'm texting Chad to thank him for a great night.

JULIE

Are you always like this with guys you like?

TWIST

(thinks)

Actually, no. Guess he must just have that Chemical X I've been looking for or something.

Twist gets back to her texting - but Julie is now watching her suspiciously.

She gets up and heads over to her bag, rooting around inside it and taking out a small sachet of powder. She turns innocently back to Twist.

JULIE

(off sachet)

Hey, you want a drink? I've got this great new coffee stuff, it's enriched with-

TWIST

(not paying attention)

Yeah, sure, whatever.

21 CONTINUED: (2)

21

Julie nods and steps over to the small kettle and cups over by the TV. She glances over her shoulder at Twist before discretely emptying the sachet into one of the cups, and as she flips the kettle on we cut back to:

22 EXT. STREET/OUTSIDE MOTEL - NIGHT.

22

A battle weary Chris and Danyael walk back towards the Motel, weapons tucked into bags over their shoulders.

CHRIS

That was some good work back there, Danyael. Your fighting skills have been improving in leaps and bounds just lately, I'm very proud of you.

DANYAEL

Yeah, well, had some anger management to take care of.

CHRIS

(eyes him)

Yes, I noticed... look, are you going to tell me what's going on here, or am I going to have to resort to mind-reading spells?

DANYAEL

(gulps)

Can you do that?

CHRIS

(half-joking)

Only if it's necessary.

Danyael hesitates as the duo start up the steps to their first-floor motel room.

DANYAEL

Well, I went out to keep an eye on Twist, like you said, and she seemed to be getting on really well with that guy, and then...

Danyael realises Chris isn't listening - his eyes are fixed on the motel room door, which is slightly ajar.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

What is it?

Chris silently draws his katana, and Danyael gets the hint to grab the sword he's been using.

Chris takes one careful step forward and uses his sword blade to nudge open the door to their room.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

With a glance over to check Danyael is right behind him, Chris nods his head to count to three, then charges through the door and into:

23 INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT.

23

Chris and Danyael spring into attack poses - but the room is empty. Julie's laptop and the scrolls lie on the bed and the TV is still on.

Danyael crouches and picks up a coffee mug lying on the floor, a strange yellow substance pooled next to it.

DANYAEL

Okay, I'm open to suggestions here.

CHRIS

(calls out)

Twist? Julie?

They hear a GROAN, and Chris darts over to the second bed - and there's Julie, sprawled on the floor with a nasty bump on her head.

Chris helps her up onto the bed, Julie grimacing and pressing a hand to her bruise.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Are you alright? What happened? Who did this to you?

JULIE

(winces)

Twist happened.

Danyael nudges the door closed and experimentally SNIFFS the yellow goop in the coffee mug - and recoils.

DANYAEL

The hell is this stuff?

CHRIS

(prompting)

Julie...

JULIE

I got the feeling something was wrong with Twist.

DANYAEL

Which I have been saying for how long?

JULIE

I cooked up a mug of coffee and slipped in a little bacchi powder.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

(nods)

To see if she was under any kind of enchantment. And?

JULIE

And she freaked out, knocked me out cold and ran soon as she tasted it.

DANYAEL

So, what? Does this mean Twist is under some kind of spell?

CHRIS

I'm afraid so. We need to catch up to her quickly, there's no telling what she's capable of.

JULIE

(points to bruise)

Way ahead of you there.

CHRIS

Do you have any idea where she could have gone?

JULIE

My guess? Wherever that new boyfriend of hers lives. We need to find him, and fast.

CHRIS

It'll be quicker to find her. I'll sort out a tracking spell, we'll be on her trail in no time.

Danyael picks up his sword again, with a determined glint in his eyes.

DANYAEL

And then we go have a few words with Chad about messing with my girl.

Chris looks over to Danyael, surprised by this display of passion, and we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

24 EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT.

24

To the opening bars of Marilyn Manson's 'I Put A Spell On You,' Twist struts through the crowded streets, a smirk on her face as she weaves among the citizens around her.

She strolls brazenly into the road, ignoring the HONKS of angry motorists as cars zip either side of her.

She breaks into a wider grin as several cars CRASH into each other as they try to avoid her, a chorus of shouts and car horns adding to the soundtrack.

Some way further back down the street, Chris, Julie and Danyael are racing along, Chris in the lead as the trio come to a stop at a busy road crossing.

JULIE

Which way?

CHRIS

(looking both ways)

Just a second...

He closes his eyes and leans his head back, concentrating... and then snaps forward, opening his eyes as they FLARE with a brief flash of purple light.

CHRIS (cont'd)

(points)

This way.

He jogs across the road, dodging between the traffic with Julie and Danyael close behind, before we cut to:

25 EXT. SUBURB - NIGHT.

25

A quiet suburb, with roomy, cleanly-decorated homes and streets lined with thick trees.

Our focus is on one house in particular, a two-storey house with a large Land Rover parked on the driveway and several lights on downstairs.

Looking in on this house from the cover of one of the large trees is Twist, idly smoking a cigarette as she stares into the front room.

Inside is Chad, cleaning up after dinner as he moves from a dining table into a kitchenette.

She finishes her cigarette, and after flicking the stub away strides purposefully towards the front door.

26 INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NEXT.

26

Ding dong. Chad steps into frame and opens the door, blinking in surprise as he sees Twist on his front step.

CHAD
Uh, hello...

TWIST
(brightly)
Hi there! Hope you don't mind me swinging by.

CHAD
(beat)
Not at all. Come on in.

Chad steps to one side and lets Twist in, checking the street outside as he closes the door after her.

27 INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - FRONT ROOM - NEXT.

27

Twist wanders into the lavishly furnished front room, checking out the decor as Chad walks in after her. Her goth punk chic looks suitably out of place among the expensive sofas and landscape paintings.

CHAD
What brings you to me neighbourhood at...
(checks watch)
... this pretty late hour?

TWIST
The fact that it's your neighbourhood.

CHAD
(grins)
You just couldn't keep away, huh?

TWIST
(shakes head)
Nope.

CHAD
So... what did you really come here for?

Chad steps closer, looking deep into her eyes. Twist's smile starts to fade, but she's obviously in complete awe of this guy as she stares back.

TWIST
(quietly)
What... whatever you want me for.

(CONTINUED)

CHAD

(nods)

That's right.

He steps away, and after a beat Twist starts, blinking and rubbing her eyes as if snapping out of a trance.

TWIST

Uh... what did I just say?

She looks up as Chad steps over, a glass of whiskey in each hand.

CHAD

You were just telling me why you'd come over. I'm guessing your friends were still just as dull as when you left them?

TWIST

(rolls eyes)

Boy, were they ever. I think Chris can induce a special kind of boredom saved for fantasy conventions and daytime TV!

Chad sits down on the sofa and pats the seat next to him for Twist to join him.

CHAD

And what about that other guy you mentioned - Danyael, was it?

TWIST

Oh, Spook? Mostly harmless. Handy to have around. Kinda like a good penknife.

CHAD

(chuckles)

I'm not sure your friends would like to hear you cast them off so easily.

TWIST

Believe me, they're used to it.

She knocks back her shot in one with a happy SIGH.

TWIST (cont'd)

So enough about me already. What about you?

CHAD

Well, I'm Chad Berman, as you know,
ah, thirty-one, separated, no
children, and-

Twist LUNGES across the sofa to kiss him again, and Chad lets her do her worst.

She pulls back suddenly as there is a loud THUMP from upstairs, and a spooked Twist jumps to her feet.

TWIST

What the Britney Spears was that?

Chad looks a little guilty for a moment, then carefully puts his glass down on the floor.

CHAD

That's... my little problem.

TWIST

What kind of problem? Rats? 'Cause if we're talking rodents, whatever made that noise sounded like it could kick King Ghidorah's ass!

CHAD

Maybe you'd better come see for yourself.

Chad stands - and steps close to Twist again, staring into her eyes. All sign of resistance drops from her body.

TWIST

Uh... okay...

CHAD

Follow me.

Chad takes her by the hand, glances at the ceiling then opens the door into the hallway, heading out and leading Twist.

Chris and Danyael jog into frame, Chris scanning the respectable houses around them as Danyael fetches his sword from his bag. Chris shakes his head at him.

CHRIS

Not yet. Wait until we know where to look, we don't want a pack of alarmed citizens on our hands.

Footsteps clatter towards them from behind, and the duo turn to see an exhausted Julie jog up to meet them.

She leans over, gasping for breath, standing at last and laying a hand on Chris' shoulder for support.

JULIE

Look, I know you guys are used to your vampire endurance or whatever, but I'm just me! I'm not exactly a track star, you know? You have to let me keep up!

CHRIS

Sorry. I didn't mean to-

DANYAEL

We were just worried about Twist.

JULIE

Yeah, me too, only now I'm worried about her and my heart rate.

CHRIS

Danyael, why don't you go do some recon while I stay here with Julie?

He nods and hurries off out of frame, as Chris finds a nearby garden wall for Julie to rest on. She presses a hand to her side and winces.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Are you alright?

She PUNCHES him lightly on the arm with a scowl.

JULIE

Why didn't you tell me what you guys did involved so much running around?

CHRIS

Er... it never crossed my mind, I'm just-

JULIE

Just used to having everyone be non-human, yeah, I get that.

Chris doesn't know what to say as Julie takes a last few deep breaths, almost recovered by now.

JULIE (cont'd)

Alright. Let's find our girl. Can you get a fix on her with that tracking spell of yours?

CHRIS

It's starting to wear off and I won't be able to try again for a little while, so I'm not sure where to go from here. She's definitely somewhere in this estate, though. We should probably spread out and look for clues.

She nods and the duo jog off in different directions, before we cut over to:

29 EXT. CHAD'S HOUSE - NEXT. 29

Danyaël steps into frame outside Chad's house. He spots something on the ground by one of the trees and kneels down to investigate.

It's Twist's cigarette stub, with a brand logo printed on the filter. Danyaël reaches into his pocket and takes out a packet of smokes - and it's the same brand.

Danyaël grins and looks round the suburb - but Chris and Julie are nowhere in sight.

He looks towards Chad's comfortably middle class home. The downstairs lights are off, and only one room upstairs shows any signs of life.

30 INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NEXT. 30

There's a series of RATTLING noises before a loud CLICK signals the front door's lock opening, and it swings open to reveal Danyaël with a pair of lock picks in his hands.

He tucks them away, checks over his shoulder and then ducks into the house, closing the door behind him.

31 INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - FRONT ROOM - NEXT. 31

Danyaël leads the way, his eyes scanning the darkened living room. He roots around in his jacket and brings out a small torch, clicking it on and sweeping it round the room.

DANYAEL

(whispers)

Twist? Twist!

(beat; yells)

Twist!

TWIST (O.S.)

Spook?

Danyaël looks round, then follows the voice, dashing out of the room.

32

INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - FIRST FLOOR LANDING - NEXT.

32

Danyael races up the staircase and finds Twist waiting.

DANYAEL

Twist! Man, am I glad to see you.
Found you by the smoke you left
outside, I know you use the same
brand as me 'cause you're always
stealing them off me, and...

She has her hands on her hips and looks pretty puzzled as to why he's here.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Are you okay? We came to-

TWIST

Smash down Chad's front door and
break into his home? Yeah, real
smooth there, Danny boy.

DANYAEL

(beat)

Twist, you're not yourself. This
guy's done something to you, he-

CHAD (O.S.)

Done what, exactly?

Danyael turns as Chad steps out of a nearby room, pausing to lock it behind him. Twist steps back to be closer to him as he walks calmly over.

CHAD (cont'd)

(to Twist)

is this one of your friends?

TWIST

In the loosest sense of the word,
yeah.

CHAD

I see.

(to Danyael)

Pale skin, bad hair... you must be
Danyael. I've heard a lot about
you... and it looks like it was all
true.

Danyael narrows his eyes and clenches his fists, stepping forward.

TWIST

Uh oh! Looks like you made him
mad...

(CONTINUED)

DANYAEL

I think you'd better reverse whatever you've done to Twist, before I show you exactly what happens to people who mess with my girl.

TWIST

(incredulous)

Your girl? Did I miss something?

DANYAEL

(beat)

You're part of a team, Twist. People who care about you.

TWIST

Shouldn't people working in a 'team' together make sure their comrades keep them up to date on any potential dangers, like, oh, say, a psychotic ex-partner with a blood vendetta against them?

Danyael is silent as Twist marches up to him.

TWIST (cont'd)

I can't believe he kept that from me! Didn't that strike you as kind of important at all?

DANYAEL

Hey, it was news to me too, but i figure Chris must have had his reasons to-

TWIST

Nu-uh! Don't want to hear it!

She takes a few steps back, holding out her hand for Chad.

TWIST (cont'd)

Chad's the only guy who's ever been completely straight with me from day one.

DANYAEL

(darkly)

'Day one' would have been yesterday on the plane over here. Last time I checked, two days didn't count as a relationship.

TWIST

Doesn't matter. He's told me everything.

(MORE)

CONTINUED: (2)

TWIST (cont'd)
 (turns to Chad)
 Even the bad stuff.
 (to Danyael)
 He needs my help.

DANYAEL
 (glares)
 Your help?

TWIST
 Yeah, well, that's always been our problem, hasn't it, Danyael? Ever since we started following Chris' lead, we got stuck with a guy who can never see past his own goals, telling people only what they need to know and always making sure he gets what he wants at the end of it. Well, I'm sick of it! I'm sick of taking orders, and I'm sick of risking my neck for his screwed up crusade!

Danyael stares at her, lowers his fists - and GRINS.

DANYAEL
 (to Chad)
 Alright, I'm impressed. To get her saying things like that must have taken some pretty powerful spells.

CHAD
 You don't know the half of it.
 (to Twist)
 Honey? Show our guest to the door.

Twist grins as Chad reaches off frame - and passes Twist her baseball bat. Slapping it into her palm, she advances on Danyael as he begins backing away.

DANYAEL
 Don't do this, Twist.

TWIST
 You know, I kinda wish you smirked more often so I could take the chance to wipe it off your face!

DANYAEL
 Twist, listen to me, I'm your friend!

TWIST
 No, you've just been holding me back! All of you have! Chad's the one who's giving me what I want.

(CONTINUED)

She rears back with her bat, ready to swing as Danyael takes a defensive stance.

DANYAEL

Twist, don't! I... I love you!

Silence. Twist hesitates.

TWIST

What?

DANYAEL

(beat; softer)

I love you.

Twist cocks her head sideways, staring at Danyael. He lowers his hands and grins, stepping forward.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

I guess life or death situations
bring out the romantic in me.

Twist lowers her bat as Danyael steps closer to her. Danyael's eyes dart to Chad, who starts backing away, seeing his advantage slipping.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

I know it must seem sudden, but
it's how I've been feeling for a
long time now, and I just
thought... I just thought you
should know.

Danyael is very close now. He reaches out a hand to her.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

So what do you say?

He puts on his most genuine smile. Twist stares at him in silence for another beat. Then:

CRACK! She clocks him with her bat, and Danyael spins round and crashes to the floor.

TWIST

Oh, please! Like I'd fall for that!

Danyael slumps to the floor, out cold. Twist drops her bat, looking down at his unconscious body.

CHAD

See? I told you this would happen.
Your friends wouldn't understand
the way you feel.

TWIST
(distant)
Yeah...

CHAD
Twist?

She looks up, and Chad frowns.

CHAD (cont'd)
Everything alright?

Twist looks back down at Danyael, sprawled by her feet - and when she looks back to Chad, she's beaming broadly.

TWIST
Everything's cool.

Chad grins as she leans forward to KISS him again, and on that, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

33 INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - BACK ROOM - NIGHT.

33

Danyael, the side of his head caked in dried blood, raises his head and opens his eyes, grimacing in pain.

He's sitting on the floor inside a darkened room, which appears to be empty - bare floorboards, no furniture and boarded up windows.

He tries to stand, wincing again at the pain, but there's a RATTLE of chains - and he lifts his hand to see he's been manacled by his wrists to the wall!

DANYAEL

(mutter)

Oh, great...

He hears a second set of chains RATTLE somewhere off screen and snaps round, instantly alert.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Who's there?

He narrows his eyes, scanning the gloom - and his gaze comes to rest on a huddled figure in one corner.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Who are you?

There's no answer, but the figure tries to shuffle away from him - and Danyael sees it's at the limit of its own set of manacles, unable to move any further away.

Danyael raises a hand and sits slowly back down, trying to look as non-threatening as possible.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

It's alright, I'm not going to hurt you. Don't be scared.

He looks round the room, but there's only one way in or out - the thick door with no handles and a lock on the other side.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

How did you get here?

They hear FOOTSTEPS outside, and the figure tenses up, shivering as her gaze locks on the door.

The door is suddenly flung open, flooding the room with light, and both captives recoil, Danyael raising his hands to shield his eyes.

(CONTINUED)

Chad stands silhouetted in the doorway, a silver dinner tray in his hands.

CHAD

Ah, good. You're awake.

DANYAEL

Where's Twist?

CHAD

She's fine. She's somewhere more comfortable than you two, but then I have more use for her right now.

DANYAEL

You'd better hope I don't get out of these chains soon, man, 'cause when I do-

CHAD

What you'll do is exactly what I tell you, just like your girlfriend.

(smirks)

Or should I say ex-girlfriend.

Danyael glares murderously at Chad as he walks over to the woman in the corner. She's dressed in filthy, tattered clothes and hides her face behind a wall of long, curly black hair, but she seems terrified of Chad.

CHAD (cont'd)

So I see you've met my wife.

DANYAEL

Your wife?!?

On Danyael's shocked look, we cut to:

Chris and Julie walk in from opposite sides of the frame, neither one having had any luck in their search.

JULIE

Anything?

CHRIS

Nothing.

(looks round)

Did you see where Danyael got to?

JULIE

No, I thought he was with you.

CHRIS
Well, he wasn't.

JULIE
(frustrated)
Yeah, I can see that! Can you try
that locator spell again?

CHRIS
I'll see, hang on.

Chris closes his eyes and starts murmuring an incantation under his breath.

Purple light glows from beneath his closed eyelids, which Julie watches curiously, before Chris raises a hand and points straight at Chad's house.

He opens his eyes, sees where he's pointing and turns to Julie, who nods.

CHRIS (cont'd)
Time for a little door to door.

They march towards the house, and we cut to:

Danyael watches as Chad puts the dinner tray down - and there's a single hypodermic syringe on it. He lifts it and turns to the shackled woman, who starts to WHIMPER fearfully as he reaches out to her.

DANYAEL
Get away from her!

Danyael leaps to his feet, straining against the manacles, but Chad just LAUGHS at him.

CHAD
Woah! Stay down, Lassie!

Chad chuckles and holds out one of the woman's forearms, the syringe ready to sink into her vein.

Danyael watches, wide-eyed, as Chad extracts a syringe full of blood from the woman - but the blood appears to be GLOWING softly in the gloom. He stands, holding the syringe up to the light for Danyael to see.

CHAD (cont'd)
I'm calling it 'bermonyol.' After myself, of course. You'd be amazed at the market I've got for this stuff. Some very rich people pay me a heck of a lot of money for it!

DANYAEL

What did you take out of her?

CHAD

(off woman)

Why don't you ask her?

Chad stands and prepares to go as the woman starts rubbing her arm, MOANING softly to herself.

DANYAEL

So what's your master plan, exactly? Why keep us here like this instead of just killing us when you had the chance?

CHAD

(off syringe)

Well, for starters, I'm afraid my principal source of this stuff is starting to run a little dry.

(to woman)

Aren't you, sweetheart?

She WHIMPERS again, curling up into a tight little ball on the floor.

CHAD (cont'd)

So I need to find myself a new source, and your partner's the ideal person to help me do that. Those vampire senses of hers can sniff me out a new one in no time.

DANYAEL

So... you know about her. About us.

CHAD

You think it's a coincidence I got talking to Twist on the plane? Only vampires can find people like my wife down there, so I made sure I found myself one.

(raises syringe)

And thanks to a shot or two of this, your former sidekick's going to continue to do exactly what I tell her, when I tell her, and what's more, she's going to love every second of it.

(grins)

So when we burn this house down and pin the blame on you and your accomplices, she'll be the perfect alibi for me. Happily ever after.

With a last smug chuckle, he leaves, and after closing the door and plunging it back into darkness, he LOCKS it.

Danyael closes his eyes and SIGHS, then shuffles closer to the shackled woman, who tries to back away from him.

DANYAEL

Hey, hey, it's cool. Look, if that didn't prove we're in the same mess you are, I don't know what will!

From beneath her thick hair, two petrified eyes stare back at Danyael. He puts on a reassuring smile for her.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

I'm Danyael. Do you have a name?

WOMAN

(quietly)

P... Par... Paricia.

DANYAEL

There you go. Hey there, Paricia.

(beat)

We're pretty screwed, aren't we?

PARICIA

He'll c-come b-back soon. Always c-comes back...

DANYAEL

Why did he take some of your blood?
What's so special about it?

Paricia lowers her head - then reaches up a hand to pull back her hair.

Danyael react with surprise - Paricia isn't completely human! She has pale turquoise skin which is covered with darker patches, and when she blinks she doesn't have any actual eyelids, just a membrane that flicks over her eyes.

PARICIA

Because... because of w-what I am.
I'm part ya-yalenka...

DANYAEL

(frowns)

Part what now?

PARICIA

My f-family bred with humans a long time ago... we wanted to find a way to k-keep our species alive as humans began to move into our lands...

DANYAEL

Which brings me to ask how you ended up here, chained to the wall in some dude's attic!

Paricia chokes back a tear before continuing.

PARICIA

Chad b-brought me here, found me... I was dying, I'd been attacked by hunters... he took me in, gave me a home, made me his w... w...

DANYAEL

His wife?

PARICIA

(nods)

But it was a lie. A game. He only wanted me for w-what I could give him.

CHRIS

(catching on)

Your blood, right? Okay, let's assume we didn't all take Demonology 101 here - what does it do? Why is it so special?

PARICIA

M-makes people d-do things... makes t-them easy to control... to obey...

DANYAEL

Oh, man...

(curses)

The wine on the plane! He slipped it to Twist in her drink... that bastard! I'm gonna kill him!

(beat; closes eyes)

Calm down, Danyael. Can't do anything right now, bide your time and wait for an opening.

Danyael opens his eyes and scans the room, looking for anything he could use as an opening - and a deep, bassy HUM starts to fill the room.

Paricia YELPS in alarm as all three sets of manacles start to RATTLE, and the door starts to SHAKE violently in its frame.

BANG! The door FLIES off its hinges in a shower of fragments, and Chris steps into the room as it floods with light. Julie races in, heading straight for Danyael.

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED: (4)

35

CHRIS
Are you alright?

DANYAEL
Yeah. Just waiting for an opening.

He grins, and we cut to:

36 INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - STUDY - NEXT.

36

Chad is sat behind his desk, counting out wads of money into a silver briefcase when he hears the muffled EXPLOSION from upstairs. He turns to Twist by his side.

CHAD
I think your boss just found a way out.

TWIST
Relax, babe. I've got it.

She scoops up her bat, gives Chad a quick peck on the cheek and jogs out of the room, leaving a grinning Chad to finish counting out his money.

37 INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - BACK ROOM - NIGHT.

37

Chris places his hands on Danyael's manacles, and with a POP of light and a puff of smoke, they snap open and drop to the floor.

JULIE
(off Paricia)
Who's this?

DANYAEL
She's the reason we're here. Can you get her out of here?
(to Chris)
We need to get our girl back.

Chris nods, and after taking care of Paricia's manacles he and Danyael jog through the doorway, into:

38 INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - ROOM - NEXT.

38

With Danyael behind him, Chris throws open a door, but there's nothing in the room except furniture covered with dust sheets.

DANYAEL
Nothing. Again.

Chris frowns and takes a step back - then DUCKS on reflex as Twist's bat THUDS into the door frame, missing his head by a fraction.

(CONTINUED)

TWIST

Hey, Chris! Come to put a downer on my day again?

CHRIS

Don't make me have to fight you.

Twist pokes her tongue out at him and grins.

TWIST

Yeah, 'cause you did such a good job last time. How about-

POW! Chris PUNCHES her and she staggers backwards. He wrenches the bat out of her hands and tosses it away, then with a roundhouse KICK knocks Twist to the floor.

CHRIS

You're careless when your mind's somewhere else, Twist. That's always been your one real weakness in a fi-

Chris is knocked off his feet as Twist SWEEPS his legs from under him, and she leaps onto his chest, pinning him to the floor before he can recover.

TWIST

And the fact that you think you're so damn good is yours!

Danyael grabs her starts to push her off but she PUNCHES him twice in the face, stunning him.

TWIST (cont'd)

We've got it all figured out, me and Chad. He's made enough money drawing that stuff out of his 'wife' for us to both retire and go and live somewhere together. Somewhere there isn't too much sun. You know how I tan kind of easily.

CHRIS

What makes you think I'm about to let any of that happen?

Twist smiles - and her vampire fangs are on display!

TWIST

Because I know one of the best ways to kill a vampire. You taught me that, remember? So don't worry, Chris... this won't hurt a bit!

Her eyes turn blood red, and with a gleeful HISS she lunges down and BITES Chris's neck.

He SHOUTS out in pain - and suddenly so does she! She reels backwards, Chris' blood running down her chin as she SCREAMS!

There's a brief FLASH of an image - Chris, standing on a rooftop and looking ready to jump - before we SMASH back to the scene.

Twist staggers backwards and into Danyael's arms, clutching her head in her hands as Chris tries to recover.

CHRIS

Twist, what did...

TWIST

No... no! Make it stop! Make them stop!

Another FLASH - and Twist sees herself standing on a hilltop as the sun comes up - and she BURSTS INTO FLAMES!

She SCREAMS in the real world, and Danyael tries to restrain her as she begins thrashing around wildly.

DANYAEL

It's alright... it's alright!
You're here, you're here with me!

Twist SOBS, gradually calming down as Danyael holds her tightly.

TWIST

Danyael...

DANYAEL

(soothing)
Ssh. It's alright.

He leans back and looks into her tearful eyes.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Is it you again in there?

She nods, and with a grateful grin Danyael helps her back to her feet. Chris steps over, pressing a hand to his wounded neck.

CHRIS

What on earth made you bite me?

TWIST

(sniffs)
I don't know! Seemed like a good idea at the time...

(MORE)

TWIST (cont'd)
 you told me once it was a good way
 for a vamp to kill another vamp. Or
 something. Did I get it wrong?

CHRIS
 Did you... see something again?

Twist hesitates, not sure how much Chris knows about what
 Twist can 'see.'

CHRIS (cont'd)
 My memories. That's what happened
 last time you bit me, remember?

TWIST
 (covering)
 Oh. Right. That. Uh, I think I saw
 you when you had that rooftop
 moment, not long after you got
 Turned, and then...
 (shakes head)
 Never mind. Point is, I'm back.
 (darkly)
 And that son of a bitch must pay.

Danyael grins again - that's his girl! We cut to:

A silver suitcase in hand, Chad hurries out of his study,
 turning to close the door behind him.

TWIST (O.S.)
 (sweetly)
 Oh, Chad, honey?

Chad turns round - and his face drops as he sees Twist
 standing before Chris and Danyael.

TWIST (cont'd)
 We need to talk.

Twist GRABS him and throws open the door to his study,
 dragging him inside. She turns to Chris in the doorway.

TWIST (cont'd)
 Best give us a minute. You know,
 couples stuff.

Chris smirks as Twist nudges the door shut - and moments
 later, the sounds of Twist administering an almighty smack
 down start to filter through the door.

DANYAEL
 Is it bad that I actually kinda
 want her to kill him?

CHRIS

You'd best go back upstairs and help Julie see to Paricia. I'm going to wait here and make sure she doesn't do anything too drastic to him.

Danyaël heads off screen, and as Chris waits by the door, crashing furniture and shouts of pain sound from within the study, we cut to:

EXT. SUBURB - NIGHT.

Julie is walking with Paricia, who is wrapped in a thick blanket, as Chris sneaks over to a stationwagon parked on one driveway.

He glances over each shoulder - then uses his elbow to SMASH the driver's side window, reaching in and quickly disabling the alarm with a FLASH of green light.

Twist and Danyaël watch as he climbs into the car, and in moments he's got the engine started, rolling the car back down into the road.

TWIST

MacGyver would be so proud.

DANYAEL

Yeah, but MacGyver didn't have spells to knock out car alarms and hot-wire cars, did he? He'd make do with some gum and a few paperclips.

They chuckle - but as they turn to each other, they suddenly become very awkward, and after a beat turn away again.

JULIE

Come on, guys, we need to get Paricia somewhere safe so I can do something to help her. She's malnourished enough as it is.

DANYAEL

What about Chad?

TWIST

(glances at house)
He ain't goin' anywhere. Not after the big ol' can of pain I opened up on him.

DANYAEL

I mean, what are we going to do about him? We can't just leave him here, he could just-

JULIE

I made some calls. Osbourne had a division near here, they're sending a team out to take Chad into custody and confiscate anything he was using to distribute that drug.

TWIST

See? Case closed. We rock.

The stationwagon pulls into frame, and Julie opens one of the passenger doors to help Paricia inside.

TWIST (cont'd)

Shotgun.

DANYAEL

Shotgun.

A beat. They exchange cautious glances.

DANYAEL

Do you want to-

TWIST

No, no, it's okay, you...

DANYAEL

Uh, okay. Thanks.

Danyael climbs into the front seat. Twist watches him for a moment, then tears her gaze away and heads round to get in the back.

As the stationwagon starts up and begins to pull out of frame, it passes the house it was stolen from - just as an angrily shouting man races out of the house, yelling at the departing car.

Chris puts his foot down, and the man watches helplessly as his car speeds away, before we dissolve to:

Julie and Chris sit together, chatting, as Twist and Danyael sit opposite each other in a booth further along the carriage. There's an uncomfortable silence between them.

DANYAEL

So...

TWIST

Yep.

DANYAEL

(beat)

Uh, about what I said...

TWIST

Yeah?

DANYAEL

You know... the whole 'l' word thing.

TWIST

(awkward)

Oh. Er, right. Yeah. The 'l' word.

DANYAEL

It was just... I mean, I was trying...

(starts again)

I only said it because I thought it'd snap you out of whatever spell that guy put on you. You know?

TWIST

So... you didn't mean it?

DANYAEL

Uh... no. I mean, we're cool and all, but...

TWIST

Oh. Well, that's good.

DANYAEL

Yeah.

TWIST

Because, you know, relationship in the workplace and all that...

(nervous laugh)

Can't be good.

DANYAEL

(quickly)

Damn straight.

(beat)

So, uh... I'm just gonna go and, uh...

TWIST

Yeah. Okay. I'll, you know, be here.

He shuffles out of the booth, walking quickly out of frame. Twist is left to her thoughts, and as she slumps down in her seat and puts her head in her hands, it's clear she has absolutely no idea what to make of Danyael's 'confession.'

Did he mean it or not?

41 CONTINUED: (2)

41

She turns to watch the landscape speed past outside, the gentle clanks of the train's wheels the only sound in the scene as we finally:

BLACK OUT:

END OF SHOW