

**SOMEWHERE INBETWEEN**

"Sick of You"

by  
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TEASER

FADE IN:

1 INT. BLACK VAN - DAY

1

Trucking along on their merry way as always, the team are in their typical positions - JULIE dozes in the passenger seat, TWIST and DANYAEL are curled up asleep in the back, and CHRIS bravely drives on, making the most of this all-too-rare bout of silence.

Julie shifts round in her seat, wrapping her blanket tighter round herself, and Chris catches himself looking warmly down at her.

With a glance in the rear view mirror to make sure the two sleeping vampires in the back missed that, he composes himself and drives on.

TWIST  
(murmurs)  
Mhnm... disco king...

Chris raises an eyebrow and looks round over his shoulder at her. She's still sporting a few bandages from her recent adventures.

CHRIS  
Twist?

Silence. Chris shrugs and gets back to driving, opening the glove compartment to pull out a road map, accidentally bumping Julie and waking her up.

CHRIS (cont'd)  
Sorry.

JULIE  
(bleary)  
Are we there yet?

CHRIS  
We haven't decided where 'there' is  
just yet, remember?

Julie sits up, rubbing her eyes as she comes round.

JULIE  
(yawns)  
Right. That would involve us being  
organised. Silly me.

Chris settles back into his seat, unfurling the map with some difficulty.

(CONTINUED)

JULIE (cont'd)

You know, we have these wonderful devices called GPS systems now.

CHRIS

Call me old-fashioned...

JULIE

You're old-fashioned.

CHRIS

(eyes her)

... but I'm not really one to trust electrical devices.

JULIE

What about your laptop?

CHRIS

Necessary evil. And every time I find another of Twist's dreadful home made mp3 mixes, the word 'evil' becomes more and more appropriate.

Julie chuckles and looks back round on the duo in the back.

JULIE

(off Twist)

How's she doing?

CHRIS

Healing well, as far as I can see. Whatever she was exposed to, it doesn't seem to have had any lasting-

TWIST

(shouts)

Afroburger!

Chris and Julie swap a look, then Chris pulls the van to a stop at the roadside.

Twist is writhing around in her sleeping bag, disturbing Danyael and waking him up.

DANYAEL

(blinks)

Huh?

Chris climbs into the back of the van, shaking Twist gently to try and wake her up.

CHRIS

Twist? Are you alright?

TWIST

Mmm... sailing... sun...

JULIE

What's the matter with her?

CHRIS

I don't know, I think she's having a nightmare of some sort.

DANYAEL

Wake her up carefully, man, I hear you can really freak people out by-

CHRIS

(shouts)

Twist!

Everyone jumps - and Twist wakes up. She stares wide-eyed up at Chris for a few beats as she comes round - then with a scowl she PUNCHES him in the arm.

TWIST

What did you do that for?

CHRIS

(rubs arm)

You were having a nightmare!

TWIST

No, I wasn't!

DANYAEL

Uh, sounded like you were. You were saying... stuff.

TWIST

(beat)

Oh. Anything important?

JULIE

You were just rambling, nothing that sounded coherent.

Twist sits up, pressing a hand to her forehead.

CHRIS

Are you feeling alright?

TWIST

Actually, no. Can we, like, stop somewhere so I can get some air, and food?

CHRIS

I'll find us a truck stop.

1 CONTINUED: (3)

1

Chris gets back into the driver's seat and starts the engine, as a concerned Danyaël keeps his eyes on Twist.

2 EXT. TRUCK STOP - DAY

2

Chris slides open the side door of the parked van, making sure the morning sun is shining on the van's far side.

Twist leans out of the van, gulping in the fresh air deeply as Julie looks towards the gas station opposite. A line of large trucks are parked nearby, and a grey, empty-looking building stands to the rear of the station's kiosk.

DANYAEL

What's with the breathing?

TWIST

It calms me down. I know I don't need the oxygen, but still...

JULIE

Stay here, we'll go get you something to eat.

TWIST

I'm thinking savoury, followed by sweet. With a side order of cold and fizzy.

JULIE

Coming right up.

Chris and Julie head over to the station as Twist continues her deep breathing, and we cut inside to:

3 INT. TRUCK STOP - GAS STATION - NEXT

3

Julie scoops several snacks and drinks off the shelves as Chris leans against a magazine rack, looking pensive.

JULIE

She'll be alright.

CHRIS

(distracted)  
Hmm?

JULIE

Twist. She'll be fine.

CHRIS

I wish I could share your optimism, but until she's back to her usual self I'm keeping all my fingers and toes crossed.

(CONTINUED)

JULIE

Come on, you know Twist! She's been through a lot worse than a chemical fire and we know it.

They glance up as a customer walks past, looking warily at them after overhearing Julie.

JULIE (cont'd)

Metaphorically speaking.

The customer wanders off, and Julie turns to Chris again.

JULIE (cont'd)

Besides, Dr. Parker said we can just go back if Twist shows any unusual symptoms. So far, that hasn't happened.

CHRIS

All the same, I'd like to-

CRASH! The glass overlooking the station forecourt EXPLODES back into the shop - and Danyael comes sailing through, bouncing off a display stand and crashing to the floor.

A stunned Chris looks up - and Twist leaps through the window and onto the station counter!

She's smoking - she's obviously run straight through direct sunlight - and her face is twisted with rage and confusion, her hands scrunched into claws.

She looks down at Chris - and SCREAMS!

Chris steps back, trying to process what the heck is going on - and Twist DIVES towards him!

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF TEASER**

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

4 INT. TRUCK STOP - GAS STATION - DAY

4

Twist TACKLES Chris to the ground, and before he can react she's spun him round and THROWN him against one wall of the shop, dislodging several racks of papers and magazines and sending his concealed katana skidding across the floor.

As he clatters to the ground, Twist grabs the nearest panicking customer as they try to make a break for it, PUNCHING them twice and SLAMMING them to the ground.

Across the shop, the terrified CLERK is heading for an emergency exit, closely followed by several screaming clients.

Twist leaps to her feet, scoops Chris' wayward katana from the floor and HURLS it towards the exit.

It SLAMS into the door, inches away from the clerk's hand, and he stumbles backwards in terror, bowling over the three people around him.

Julie races after Twist as she bounds towards the fallen customers, managing to get a hand on her shoulder.

JULIE

Twist! What the hell are you-

SMACK! Without turning round, Twist BACKHANDS Julie and knocks her sprawling to the floor.

Twist steps over to the heaving mass of bodies by the door, frantically trying to disentangle themselves from each other and descending into fresh chaos as they see Twist approach.

CLERK

Please! Take whatever you want!  
Just don't hurt us!

Twist GRABS him by the front of his uniform shirt, hauling him to his feet and looking straight into his eyes.

He SHIVERS in her grip, Twist paying no attention to the customers crawling slowly away from her along the floor.

Twist seems disorientated, her eyes moving rapidly as she holds the whimpering clerk before her.

CHRIS (O.S.)

Get down!

Twist turns - and Chris is CHARGING towards her, full steam ahead!

(CONTINUED)

She THROWS the clerk to the ground and turns to Chris, meeting his charge head on, and the two SLAM into one another, knocking them both to the floor.

Twist flips neatly back to her feet, leaping onto Chris' chest and pinning him down.

He tries to shove her off, but she PUNCHES him three times in the face before Julie grabs Twist by the neck, dragging her back.

JULIE

Chris! Do something!

Woozy, Chris staggers to his feet as Twist ELBOWS Julie in the stomach, twisting her arm back round and SHOVING her to the floor again.

As Chris advances on her, Twist snatches up a revolving candy dispenser stand and CRACKS it across Chris's face, sending him staggering backwards.

Twist looks around at the carnage arrayed before her - Chris, Danyael and Julie all knocked on their asses, large sections of the shop demolished and a few last straggler customers either huddled up and praying or scampering towards the exit.

She looks down at her hands - they're cut and bleeding, covered with chunks of glass from her dramatic entrance, and also spattered with other people's blood.

Chris manages to push himself half upright, a long cut open across his cheek from the dispenser stand.

CHRIS

(groggy)

Twist...

He watches as Twist slowly lifts her hand to her mouth - and LICKS the blood slowly from her hands.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Twist!!

Her head snaps round, and she locks gazes with Chris. She holds the stare for a beat - then breaks away, sprinting towards the emergency exit and KICKING it open.

Julie staggers into frame, blood dripping from her nose as she heads for Chris and helps pull him to his feet.

JULIE

Okay, I'm lost... what just happened?

Chris' serious expression says it all as he pulls Danyael to his feet, the young vampire swaying dizzily.

CHRIS

I think we can safely say something's happened to Twist.

JULIE

Danyael, what did she do? One minute, she's getting some air, the next she goes postal on us!

DANYAEL

I don't know! I took my eyes off her for a second, heard her mumble something and when I looked back she just punched me!

Chris marches over to the station clerk, who is busy hyperventilating in the corner.

CHRIS

Where does that exit go?

CLERK

(breathless)  
Out... out back...

CHRIS

Where can she get to? Is there somewhere out of the sun she'd head for?

CLERK

(confused)  
W-what?

Julie drags Chris away, pointing towards the door.

JULIE

Forget him, he's too fried to speak. Come on! We need to catch her!

Julie pushes the emergency exit open, beckoning for Chris and Danyael to follow. Danyael is first through, and after pausing to WRENCH his katana out of the door, Chris follows:

The side entrance to the abandoned building is only a few feet away, shaded from the sun by the side of the building itself.

A door hangs open, exposing the darkness inside the building, and Chris takes point as the trio head over, Julie dabbing at her bloody nose.

Chris pauses in the doorway, glancing quickly around inside before turning to the others.

CHRIS

Split up. Don't stay more than ten feet apart and watch your backs.

JULIE

This is crazy! What if she just-

CHRIS

Remember when something like this happened to me?

Julie's hand unconsciously goes to her neck, and she lowers her head, seeing Chris' point.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Be careful.

He darts into the building.

DANYAEL

'Ladies first' doesn't seem like an appropriate thing to say right now...

Julie steps past him and into the building, and with a deep breath, Danyael follows suit, into:

The building is made up of long, empty rooms with high ceilings - it looks like it used to be some kind of storage centre, but now it's empty and filled only with dust.

Chris paces into frame, katana at the ready. Stray beams of light filter in through cracks and holes in the walls, offering a little light but not enough to see clearly.

He hears a SCRATCHING from somewhere overhead and spins round, raising his sword - but it's nothing.

His senses sharp, he continues to pace forward, his eyes scanning the darkness.

Julie is unarmed, and as she passes a pile of rusty old pipes and tubes she pauses to scoop one up, wiping the cobwebs away before continuing.

Danyael, meanwhile, looks scared half to death, as though his worst fear is coming true.

He walks into one of the large rooms, pausing to look around - and doesn't see Twist perched high up in the rafters above.

She tilts her head to one side as he passes by, dropping to all fours and crawling along a heating pipe hanging from the ceiling to stay with him.

There is a CLANG somewhere off screen, and both Twist and Danyael's heads snap round to the source of the noise.

He hurries off but she stays put, pressing herself against the pipe and closing her eyes.

Julie steps into frame in another part of the building - she'd bumped into a row of empty gas cannisters, causing the clang a few moments ago.

As she takes a breath and starts to walk on, she is unaware of Twist creeping into view above her, poised and ready.

Julie pauses - did she just hear something? She squints as she listens again, her rusty pipe in her hand.

JULIE

Twist? Are you there?

(beat)

It's me, Julie.

(beat)

Look, something bad's obviously happened to you, but you have to understand we want to help you.

(beat)

Can you hear me?

She waits - but there's no more sound. Julie sighs and straightens up - and Twist DROPS into frame behind her!

Julie spins round - but she's too slow to stop Twist from SMACKING the pipe out of her hands with one blow, and PUNCHING her to the ground with the next.

Twist stands over the stunned Julie as she hears footsteps approaching, and quickly darts out of frame.

Moments later, Chris and Danyael run in from opposite sides of the room, both heading for the prone Julie. Chris gets there first, helping to sit her up and patting her cheek.

CHRIS

Julie? Julie!

Julie GROANS, and Chris looks up to Danyael.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Keep looking.

DANYAEL

But what about-

CHRIS

(urgent)

I'll take care of her. Go. Find  
Twist before she hurts anyone else.

Danyael nods and starts to head off as Chris stands, scooping Julie up in his arms.

DANYAEL

Wait - what do I do when I find  
her?

CHRIS

(beat)

Hope that I'm back by then.

Danyael GULPS as Chris hurries out of frame, and after looking at his two available exits, he picks the left hand one and moves on.

Danyael steps out into a long, narrow corridor, making his way along with constant glances over one shoulder.

He passes an open doorway and pauses as he hears someone SOBBING from inside.

Looking in, he sees Twist sitting in the middle of the room, her whole body hunched over and heaving as she SOBS.

Danyael hesitates, looking back round - but Chris is long gone. After another beat, he steps into the room:

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Danyael creeps carefully towards Twist, who continues to weep, not showing any signs that she knows he's there.

DANYAEL

Twist?

Twist stops crying, and slowly lifts her head to look at him - and she looks back to normal. Tears stain her cheeks, smudging her mascara, and she just looks like a frightened little girl.

TWIST

(quiet)

Danyael?

DANYAEL

Is it you? I mean... if I come any  
closer, you're not gonna hand me my  
own ass, are you?

Twist SNIFFS, wiping her eyes.

TWIST

I don't... I don't know what's  
going on... where am I?

Danyael edges closer, still wary of any attack.

DANYAEL

Don't you remember?

TWIST

Last thing I remember is sitting in  
the van with you, then all of a  
sudden I'm in here, and...

She looks down at her hands and sees the blood splashed  
across them, and recoils in horror.

TWIST (cont'd)

Oh, crap... Spook, what have I  
done?

DANYAEL

So far, nothing that a few drinks  
and some icepacks won't fix.

He reaches out a hand towards her.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Come on, let's go find Chris and  
Julie, and then we can try to  
figure out what-

Her hand SNAPS around his wrist, and as Twist looks up at  
Danyael with a blank, distant look in her eyes again, he  
knows he's in big trouble.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Uh-

She LUNGES forward, and we SMASH CUT to:

Chris is sitting Julie down against the back wall of the  
station kiosk - when a SMASH overhead makes him look up.

Chris boggles, then throws himself across Julie as a shower  
of BROKEN GLASS rains down on him, followed moments later by  
Danyael as he THUDS into the ground!

Chris hurries over to him as Danyael GROANS and rolls onto  
his back, the wind well and truly knocked out of him.

CHRIS

I take it you found her?

DANYAEL

Chris... something's wrong with her...

CHRIS

That much we've gathered, Danyael.

Chris helps Danyael to his feet and walks him over to the wall next to Julie, who is starting to come round.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Did she say anything before she attacked you?

DANYAEL

(wincing)

She doesn't know what's going on. Seems like she's blacking out every time she gets all, you know... like that.

Chris lays a comforting hand on Danyael's shoulder as he stretches, testing his wounds - and then they hear a commotion coming from round by the truck stop forecourt.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

What's going on?

Chris' expression darkens, and without another word he dashes off, rounding a corner and heading onto:

Truckers and commuters alike scatter as Chris races across the wide forecourt - and up ahead, shaded by the roof of the gas station pumps, Twist is busy crashing her way through anything and everything in her path.

She KICKS a screaming woman to the floor and THROWS her unfortunate husband through the air to bounce off the side of a gas pump.

CHRIS

Twist!!

That gets her attention - she turns to see Chris running towards her and breaks into a sprint herself.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Get out of her way! Everybody move!

Twist SHOVES a beefy biker out of her path as she races towards the rows of parked trucks, cabs and trailers.

Breaking left and out into the sunlight, smoke starts to pour off her body as she LEAPS through the air and straight into the cabin of one of the huge eighteen-wheelers.

Chris is still running over as Twist HURLS the driver out onto the gravel, and before he can reach her she's started the truck's engine, REVVING it and sending it thundering towards him!

As the truck picks up speed, Chris is forced to DIVE out of the way, the truck CRASHING past several smaller vehicles and sending them spinning away.

He picks himself up - and sees with horror that Twist is heading straight for a second bay of gas pumps!

Chris leaps to his feet, sprinting after the truck as fast as he can, passing the scattered cabbies and motorists spread across the forecourt.

Twist slams the truck into higher gear, putting her foot down as she accelerates towards the pumps. Her eyes are glazed and her expression is blank - she's a million miles away.

Still racing as hard as he can, Chris is drawing level with the back of the trailer when it finally starts to pull away from him, and with a YELL he LEAPS after it, his katana flashing round and embedding itself in the back of the trailer with a solid THUNK.

Danyael and Julie round the corner of the kiosk and watch in amazement as Chris pulls himself up onto a ladder leading onto the roof of the box trailer.

JULIE

Is that-

DANYAEL

Yeah.

JULIE

And she's-

DANYAEL

Looks like it.

JULIE

And Chris is-

DANYAEL

(nods)

Uh-huh.

They exchange a slow look - and then both race out into the open, heading for the runaway truck! Danyael veers around any patches of sunlight as best he can.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: (2)

9

Chris makes it onto the roof of the trailer, struggling to keep his balance as the truck bounces across the asphalt.

He races towards the cabin and jumps down onto its roof, a sudden BUMP from the truck nearly throwing him off onto the ground below.

10 INT. TRUCK - CABIN - CONTINUOUS

10

Twist is still staring straight ahead at the rapidly closing gas pumps as Chris swings through the passenger side window with a SMASH.

CHRIS

Twist! Snap out of it!

He lunges for the wheel, but she ELBOWS him in the face, and as he reels back she KICKS him squarely in the chest.

Chris whacks into the passenger door - which flies open! He hangs on for dear life as he swings out into empty air, his legs flailing.

Chris manages to grab the passenger seat and drag himself back inside, the pumps now only seconds away as he clambers back inside.

Having tried the diplomatic approach, he goes for force - and PUNCHES Twist across the jaw. She rears back to return the blow, but Chris SLAMS his shoulder into her, opening the driver's side door and SHOVING her out of the cabin in one swift move.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Sorry...

He grabs the wheel - there's no time to think. He WRENCHES the wheel to the left as far as it'll go, standing on the brakes as he does.

11 EXT. TRUCK STOP/GAS PUMPS - NEXT

11

The truck SQUEALS as its air brakes kick in, smoke rising from the tires as they lock up.

The entire cabin and trailer veers sharply to the left, but it's going too fast to be stable - and with an almighty CRASH, it falls on its side, still skidding towards the pumps.

12 INT. TRUCK - CABIN - NEXT

12

Chris is thrown away from the wheel, and can only watch as the truck slides closer and closer to the pumps...

13 EXT. TRUCK STOP/GAS PUMPS - NEXT

13

Its trailer SCREECHING across the gravel, the truck gradually slows down - and with a final HISS comes to a stop - just bumping into the nearest pump.

There's a brief moment of silence - then the pumps falls on its side with a CRASH, the sound echoing around the forecourt.

Julie comes running into frame, followed by several gas station staff and truckers, as a bruised and battered Chris pulls himself out of the cabin.

JULIE

Jesus, Chris! Are you okay?

Coughing, Chris nods, looking round for Twist - and sees that Danyael has her safely out of the sun over by the kiosk. She's out cold, and Danyael gives him the thumbs up.

As a crowd starts to gather around the stricken truck, and Chris clambers back down to the ground, we DISSOLVE TO:

14 EXT. ROADSIDE - LATER

14

It's a few hours later on, and looking into the back of the black van shows Twist securely tied up inside her sleeping bag, still unconscious.

Chris is staring in on her, sporting plenty of injuries from the day's excitement as Julie joins him.

JULIE

Danyael's on the phone, sorting things out with the gas station staff. They've said they won't tell the police anything as a way of saying 'thanks' for stopping that truck from ploughing into the gas pumps.

CHRIS

(darkly)  
How considerate.

JULIE

Still leaves us with a big problem, though.

CHRIS

I know.

JULIE

We need to get her some help, Chris.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

I wasn't planning on leaving her  
like this!

JULIE

I know that, I just mean if this is  
something like the hex on you last  
year, then we've got to do  
everything we can to fix it before  
it gets too far.

Chris is still staring at Twist as Julie lays a hand on his  
arm, getting his attention at last.

JULIE (cont'd)

We need to go back to Parker.

Chris stares at her, then turns back to Twist - and nods.

Julie heads off screen, leaving Chris to his vigil. After a  
beat, he reaches out and slides the van door shut, and as it  
closes, we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT ONE**

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

15 INT. PARKER'S LAB - GARAGE - NIGHT

15

Chris' van bounces down the access ramp and speeds across the underground parking lot of Parker's Lab, passing rows of smart, clean executive cars on its way to a doorway set into a pillar in the middle of the floor.

PARKER is waiting there, hands behind his back, two of his white-coated lab techs by his side and a stretcher between them.

The van pulls to a stop in front of them, and Parker nods a greeting as Chris and Julie step out, heading over.

PARKER

Chris. It's unfortunate that we have to meet again so soon, especially under these circumstances.

CHRIS

I'm far from overjoyed about things myself.

PARKER

May I see her?

Chris heads back to the van, sliding the side door open. Twist is still out, tied up and wrapped in her sleeping bag, a nervous-looking Danyael sitting dutifully by her side.

Parker waves his two assistants over, taking a small penlight from his pocket and lowering Twist's eyelids, peering inside.

PARKER (cont'd)

When did the symptoms start?

CHRIS

Earlier today.

PARKER

Were there any warning signs?

DANYAEL

(shakes head)

One minute, she's fine, just feeling a little light-headed, the next...

PARKER

The next she's throwing people through windows and trying to drive cargo trucks into gas stations.

(CONTINUED)

A beat. Parker leans back, stroking his beard thoughtfully.

PARKER (cont'd)  
There isn't much I can say out  
here, we'll have to get her inside.

CHRIS  
Do whatever you have to.

Parker nods to the two assistants, who reach into the van and carefully lift Twist up and onto the stretcher.

They carry her out of the van as Danyael follows, shutting the door behind him, and the group follow the two assistants back towards the doorway.

CHRIS (cont'd)  
I think we both know what caused  
this.

PARKER  
(nods)  
Exposure to the bornium, aye. I was  
hoping Twist would be spared some  
of the side effects, but-

Julie steps in front of Parker, angrily shoving him to a stop.

JULIE  
Wait a minute - you knew this could  
happen?

Chris also turns on Parker, and as Danyael cuts him off the doctor realises he'd better come up with an explanation, and fast!

PARKER  
Now, everybody calm down! I didn't  
exactly get chance to reel off a  
list of 'do's' and 'don'ts' to your  
young colleague before she went  
racing into that chamber, did I?

CHRIS  
(serious)  
If anything happens to her, I'll-

PARKER  
You'll need my help to stop  
anything from happening to her.

JULIE  
What 'side effects'? What are we  
talking about here?

PARKER

A high level of bornium exposure, especially to somebody not wearing a full body hazmat suit, would introduce all manner of toxins into the system. As the body tried to fight them off, it'd lead to paranoid delusions, panic attacks, schizophrenia...

Danyaël looks ashen, and Chris glances at the sleeping Twist before turning angrily back to Parker.

CHRIS

Why didn't you tell us any of this when we left?

PARKER

Would you have wanted to hear it? I didn't want you to become paranoid yourselves that anything could happen to her, when for all I knew she was going to be fine! The effects of bornium poisoning typically present within minutes, and after several hours Twist had shown no signs of any ill effects.

Parker marches over to the doorway and holds it open, exposing the corridor beyond.

PARKER (cont'd)

Now are we going to stand out here arguing about this, or are you going to let me and my team get to work on finding a solution to this problem?

Julie and Danyaël look to Chris, and after a moment of glaring at Parker he slowly nods his head.

Parker gestures for the assistants to go on ahead, and they file through the doors. As the others follow, we cut to:

A clean, sterile hospital ward, with a long row of mostly empty beds and several arrays of bulky, complex-looking monitoring equipment.

Twist is in the last bed on the row, dressed in hospital scrubs and wrapped up tightly in the bedclothes.

She stirs, her eyelids fluttering as she comes to, and she starts to sit up - but finds her wrists have been cuffed to the bed.

TWIST  
 (confused)  
 O-kay...

She looks up as a pair of swing doors open and in walks Chris, Danyael and Parker.

TWIST (cont'd)  
 Any of you lovely boys feel like telling me what the Backstreet Boys is going on around here?

CHRIS  
 Twist! You're awake!

TWIST  
 Yeah, and I'm also tied to a fricken bed, so can we skip the introductions and get straight to the 'how,' please?

Danyael pulls up a chair next to her.

TWIST (cont'd)  
 Couldn't wait to get me on my own, huh, Spook? I always knew there was something freaky about you, but...  
 (off manacles)  
 Guess it's always the quiet ones.

Danyael COUGHS and looks away, embarrassed, as Chris and Parker step to the bedside.

TWIST (cont'd)  
 (to Chris)  
 What happened to your face?

Chris is still sporting a gash along one cheek and several other bruises.

CHRIS  
 You did.

TWIST  
 Huh?

DANYAEL  
 There was... an incident.

TWIST  
 Anything like that incident last year when Chris went all 'Species' on us?

CHRIS  
 I'm afraid so.

TWIST

Crap. Well, for what's it's worth, I'm sorry for whatever it was I did to that pretty face of yours.

PARKER

While my staff and I thank you whole-heartedly for your efforts in stopping the potential chemical explosion the other day, lass...

TWIST

... I've managed to poison myself, haven't I?

PARKER

(nods)  
Essentially, yes.

CHRIS

What's the last thing you remember?

TWIST

I remember... sitting in the van with Danyael... then I was in some kind of warehouse... it's all kind of blurry.

Twist frowns, running her tongue round the inside of her mouth.

TWIST (cont'd)

Why does my mouth taste like gravel?

DANYAEL

Chris had to throw you out of the cabin of a truck you'd stolen. It wasn't a neat landing.

TWIST

He did what?!?

CHRIS

You're sure you can't remember anything?

TWIST

I think I'd remember something like that! What the hell else did I do?

Danyael rolls up one sleeve of his top - exposing several cuts along his arm. Twist winces.

TWIST (cont'd)

Point taken.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

It appears your exposure to the chemicals in the lab accident have triggered some... unusual psychological symptoms. Until we can work out a remedy, this is the safest place for you.

Twist slumps back in the bed, defeated.

TWIST

Great.

(beat)

Do I at least get a TV?

DANYAEL

I'm staying with you, don't worry.

TWIST

Well, gee, Danyael, that's sweet and all, but no offence - you don't provide fifty channels of daytime entertainment.

PARKER

I'll see what I can arrange for you.

TWIST

Thanks. And don't worry - I won't consider this a reward for my bad behaviour or anything.

She smirks at Parker, as Chris pats her on the arm and then leads Parker away, out of earshot.

CHRIS

She certainly seems back to normal...

PARKER

... but that's no guarantee that she's over this. It's almost impossible to predict the effects of toxins and poisons on a vampire, Chris, so what we're seeing may well be the first case of its kind.

CHRIS

Let's make sure it's the last.

The two men head off screen, and into:

17 INT. LAB - PARKER'S OFFICE - NEXT

17

Julie is sitting at Parker's desk, her glasses on as she taps away at his desktop computer. She looks up as Chris and Parker head inside.

JULIE

I've made a little progress, but not much - your Lab's databases aren't exactly stuffed with old examples of this kind of thing.

PARKER

Believe me, I'm aware of the problem.

CHRIS

Isn't there anything else we can try?

PARKER

Well, I was thinking about this earlier and I do have a suggestion...

CHRIS

Go on.

PARKER

You encountered the healer Charles Bannister on your travels, I believe?

CHRIS

(narrows eyes)

How do you know about that?

PARKER

I have excellent researchers. So is that correct?

CHRIS

It is. I imagine you also know he's dead.

PARKER

And a tragic loss he was. He was a brilliant man, both for his abilities, and for his-

CHRIS

(impatient)

Look, is this leading somewhere?

(CONTINUED)

PARKER

(beat)

I was going to say 'and also for his extensive collection of occult literature on the art of healing magics and potions.'

Julie and Chris swap glances as Parker continues.

PARKER (cont'd)

Bannister had one of the most comprehensive collections of works on the subject of healing in the globe. If there's an answer to be found, that's the first place I'd look.

CHRIS

I'm afraid that isn't something we can get easy access to. His library is in other hands now, and I have no idea where it is or even if it's still available to us.

PARKER

Didn't you take anything away from your visit? Some notes, perhaps some copies or any of the actual texts themselves?

Chris hesitates, as though reluctant to share his secrets.

CHRIS

I can get access to a few texts... but I'm not sure they'll be of any help.

PARKER

It's the best lead we have at the moment. Can I task you with fetching what you have?

CHRIS

Alright.

JULIE

I'll stay here, see what I can come up with.

PARKER

Actually, Julie, I have a task for you as well, if you feel up to it.

Surprised, Julie sits up and removes her glasses.

PARKER (cont'd)

There are several potions that one of my girls think will help hold off the onset of any more episodes for young Twist. I'm sending out a team to do some shopping, and I'd appreciate you joining them.

JULIE

Me?

PARKER

You're considered something of an expert in your field, Julie, much as you try to hide it! I'm sure the team could benefit from a woman of your experience.

Julie looks flattered, standing with a smile.

JULIE

Okay, just tell me what to do.

Chris doesn't look too happy about this, and as Parker starts explaining his plans to them both, we cut to:

An assistant is placing an old portable TV down on Twist's bedside table, and as they leave Danyael gets to work on plugging it in.

Twist watches him as he fusses round the back of it, trying to find a plug socket.

TWIST

Danyael?

DANYAEL

Mm-hmm?

TWIST

Can I... can I ask you something?

DANYAEL

'Course.

TWIST

What would you do if anything happened to me?

Danyael straightens up, looking oddly at her.

DANYAEL

What kind of a question is that?

TWIST

Don't change the subject.

DANYAEL

I'm not, it's just-

TWIST

What would you do if anything happened to me?

Danyael pauses, then sits down, choosing his words carefully.

DANYAEL

I'd be sad.

TWIST

'Sad'?

DANYAEL

Alright, I'd be... I'd be devastated.

TWIST

You would?

DANYAEL

Of course I would! You're like...

TWIST

Like what?

Danyael SIGHS - this is proving to be a hard thing for him to articulate.

DANYAEL

You mean a lot to me. You know you do. I don't think I'd be able to stand the thought of you not being around any more.

Twist is watching him carefully, and Danyael shifts.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Why the sudden interest?

TWIST

(beat)

I just wanted to know.

She falls quiet, and Danyael takes the hint that the conversation is over. He gets back to setting up the TV, a little unsettled by her question, and we cut to:

19 INT. EMPTY STORE ROOM - NIGHT

19

A darkened store room, lined with tall shelves and filled to the brim with boxes and packages of all shapes and sizes. Streetlamp light filters in through the dirty windows.

A side door opens and two of Parker's security team step in, torches strapped to their gun barrels sweeping across the deserted store room.

They're followed by Julie and three lab assistants, each member of the team sporting an earpiece radio mic. One assistant is a nerdy male, the other a sharply-featured blonde girl.

JULIE

So are there a lot of places like this?

ASSISTANT #1

All over. This area's full of magic users, and most of them pay to keep their supplies in bulk, in warehouses and storage facilities like this one.

JULIE

Which we're now breaking into.

ASSISTANT #1

(beat)

Yes.

SECURITY #1

Hurry it up, people. We've got four minutes before the next night patrol swings by.

Julie and the assistants descend on the shelves, using their flashlights to read off labels and helping themselves to the supplies on offer. They pack their takings into knapsacks, ticking items off on a checklist.

The second security guard listens at the door, gesturing urgently to get the room's attention.

SECURITY #2

Someone's coming.

SECURITY #1

Alright, everybody stand back and wait for the all clear.

The two guards get to the door, wait a beat then push it open, slipping silently out into the corridor beyond, their guns at the ready.

(CONTINUED)

Julie waits in the silence that follows, the two assistants suddenly looking quite tense.

JULIE

Hey, don't worry. I'm sure it's  
nothing to-

GUNFIRE! Several bursts of gunshots ring out, making Julie and the two assistants flinch - and then there are two SCREAMS.

ASSISTANT #2

(panicking)

Oh, God...

Julie quickly draws her large handgun from her bag, to a shocked look from the nerdy assistant, and she heads for the door, listening at it.

ASSISTANT #1

What's-

JULIE

Ssh!

She listens again - and hears approaching FOOTSTEPS. She hurries away from the door, loading her gun.

JULIE (cont'd)

Alright, both of you get back and  
be ready to run. We don't know  
what's out there, but it could be-

BANG! The store room's doors are kicked open - and two beefy VAMPIRES step through into the room, grinning eagerly. Both are spattered with blood - and it's not their own.

VAMP #1

Ah... there you are!

VAMP #2

Smelt you guys a mile off.

VAMP #1

You know, someone should explain to  
you people that hiding is a highly  
overrated activity.

Julie trains her gun on the vampires as they advance on her group, cracking their knuckles and licking their lips, and as the two assistants shiver behind her, terrified, we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT TWO**

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

20

INT. EMPTY STORE ROOM - NIGHT

20

Julie backs up, keeping herself and her gun between the two petrified assistants and the vampires.

They continue to advance, fanning out and forcing her to flick her gun between them both.

JULIE

Stay behind me!

The first vampire grins as he PUSHES one of the nearest racks of shelves over, spilling boxes of ingredients across the floor.

VAMP #1

Yeah, stay behind her! That way you can watch while we kill her first!

VAMP #2

And remember, it's all about the anticipation.

Julie quickly glances to her side - there's a fire exit door within reach. Vamp #2 catches her looking and moves to intercept.

VAMP #2 (cont'd)

Ah, ah. We can't have you guys skipping out on us now!

VAMP #1

The night's still young, after all!

Julie hesitates, quickly forming a plan...

JULIE

Go!!

She SHOVES the two assistants towards the fire door, then OPENS FIRE on Vamp #2.

He dives back out of the way as a hail of Julie's explosive-tipped bullets rake across the shelves.

Vamp #1 leaps across with lightning speed, tackling the nerdy assistant to the ground.

ASSISTANT #1

(desperate)

N-no!! Help me!

(CONTINUED)

Vamp #1 grins - and sinks his fangs into the assistant's neck. His colleague watches on in horror - before Julie barges into her.

JULIE

Run!!

Julie KICKS open the fire door and pushes the female assistant outside, turning just as Vamp #2 DIVES towards her.

She gets off a few shots, one of them scything through his shoulder, and with a YELL of pain he drops to the floor.

21 INT. STORAGE FACILITY - CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS 21

Julie SLAMS the door shut after her, before she and the assistant race down a long, dark corridor as fast as they can.

Vamp #1, his lips red with the unfortunate male assistant's blood, BARGES the door open, and the vampire duo give chase to the girls as they run on.

Julie looks over her shoulder and sees the vampires gaining on them, and as she looks frantically for an exit, we cut to:

22 EXT. DOORWAY - NIGHT 22

Chris waits by a small wooden door set into a brick wall - seemingly by itself. He RAPS his knuckles against the door, waiting as someone shuffles around on the other side.

VOICE (O.S.)

(through door)

Just a second!

The owner of the voice trips on something and there is a muffled CRASH, followed by a string of curses.

These continue as the door opens to reveal VASSER, a short, scruffy man with thick glasses, scrappy grey hair and several day's worth of stubble. He blinks blearily up at Chris.

VASSER

Yeah?

CHRIS

Are you Vasser?

VASSER

No, I'm King Charles the Fifth. Who are you?

CHRIS

Chris Berkeley. Your network's holding a few packages for me.

(CONTINUED)

Vasser looks Chris up and down, then shuts the door again. Chris waits a few beats, then Vasser opens the door, this time with a clipboard in his hand, reading off it.

VASSER

Berkeley... Berkeley... aha! Here we are. Yeah, come on in.

Vasser steps back and opens the door fully, allowing Chris to step past him and into:

Chris looks around - the low-ceilinged room is stuffed from floor to ceiling with boxes, parcels, letters and packages of all shapes, sizes and colours.

Groaning shelves struggle to support the accumulated weight of the goods, and Chris raises an eyebrow at the sheer chaos around him as Vasser shuffles over to a desk, similarly coated with paperwork, files and folders.

CHRIS

I see Vance's network applies the same standards of organisation wherever one finds it...

VASSER

Hey, don't shoot the messenger.  
(off look)  
Company motto. So, you got a receipt?

Chris fishes in his jacket pocket and produces three small ticket stubs, which he passes to Vasser. He checks them off against a file on the desk, then shuffles over to one of the shelves.

VASSER (cont'd)

So what's the occasion?

CHRIS

Excuse me?

VASSER

Just something I like to ask. You know, whenever anyone picks up a package from me. It's your business, of course, but if you felt like sharing...

Vasser trails off, starting to dig through the stacks of parcels on the shelf, placing them in piles on the floor.

CHRIS

I'm helping a friend.

VASSER  
Oh, good one. A lady friend?

CHRIS  
(beat)  
Yes.

VASSER  
(grins)  
Even better.

Vasser chuckles to himself as Chris watches impatiently.

CHRIS  
Is this going to take much longer?

VASSER  
Hey, I'm sure you can appreciate the backlog I have to work through around here! It's not easy doing what we do, you know. Storing people's stuff safely, then zapping it right over to 'em whenever they demand it... a 'thank you' now and then wouldn't kill anyone.

CHRIS  
I'll reserve my thanks for when I have my possessions.

VASSER  
Alright, alright...

Vasser mutters to himself as he drags a heavy box down off the shelf - revealing a pitch black HOLE.

He lifts up the first ticket stub, squints at it, then tosses it into the hole!

VASSER (cont'd)  
Won't be a second.

He taps his fingers against the shelf.

VASSER (cont'd)  
Gift or personal item?

CHRIS  
I'm sorry, are you always this noseey?

VASSER  
(grins)  
Prerequisite for the job.

Chris looks to the hole - but nothing is happening.

CHRIS

Shouldn't it be here by now?

VASSER

Yeah... must be a blockage or something. Hold on.

Vasser starts to rummage through the debris covering the floor, lifting up a PLUNGER.

Chris rolls his eyes as Vasser stretches out and pokes the plunger into the hole, wriggling it around a few times and then removing it.

He settles back, waiting expectantly - and there is a distant sound like something sliding down a steel chute.

VASSER (cont'd)

Here we go.

He waits but a small NOTE floats out of the hole and lands in his outstretched hands. Vasser frowns, squinting at the piece of paper.

VASSER (cont'd)

Huh. That's funny.

Chris marches over, not looking pleased.

CHRIS

Alright, I've been more than patient - what the bloody hell are you playing at? Where are my books?

VASSER

Uh, thing is...

He holds up the note, and Chris snatches it out of his hands.

VASSER (cont'd)

I'm afraid somebody else already got to your property first.

Chris slowly lowers the note, not quite believing what he's hearing, and we cut over to:

Julie and the assistant creep along another plain, dark corridor, Julie leading the way.

They come to a corner, and Julie holds the girl back, swinging round with her gun raised to check the coast is clear. Satisfied, she moves on.

ASSISTANT #2  
(shaking)  
A-are we going to get out of here?

JULIE  
That's the plan.

ASSISTANT #2  
But t-those vampires, they... they  
killed...

JULIE  
Hey!

Julie grabs the girl's arm, trying to snap her into reality.

JULIE (cont'd)  
Look, I'm sorry about your friend,  
I really am, but we have to focus  
on getting out of here! You can cry  
for him later.

The girl tries to compose herself, nodding as a tear rolls  
down her cheek.

Julie checks her pack - they've lost one with the other  
assistant, but Julie and the girl still have their takings.

JULIE (cont'd)  
Come on, maybe we can find a back  
door or something.

Julie leads the way, into:

She opens a door and finds herself on one floor of a  
staircase, leading up and down. Julie peers over the railings  
to the bottom floor.

JULIE  
Okay, it's only a few flights down  
to the bottom. Come on.

Julie leads the way, the two girls' footsteps clanking along  
the metal stairs as they hurry along.

ASSISTANT #2  
Do... do you think he felt  
anything?

JULIE  
Who?

ASSISTANT #2

Paul. When they killed him. Do you think-

VAMP #2 (O.S.)

Maybe you ought to ask him yourself?

The assistant spins round - and there is Vampire #2! He's hanging down from the next set of stairs up, and as he GRABS her she SCREAMS in terror...

... but Julie is quick on the draw, her gun BLASTING several holes in the Vamp, who slips away from the stairs and plummets to the bottom.

Julie grabs the hyperventilating girl and starts to hurry her down the rest of the stairs, into:

INT. STORAGE FACILITY - GROUND FLOOR - NEXT

The girls dash out from the stairwell onto a wide, empty floor, with rolls of unused carpet and stacks of dusty office furniture against the walls.

Stepping over the smoking carcass of Vamp #2, the female assistant shudders and hurries over to Julie.

ASSISTANT #2

Now what?

JULIE

Now we look for an exit. Which way did we come in?

ASSISTANT #2

(points)

Uh, over there, I think. I wasn't looking.

JULIE

Yeah, me neither.

Julie creeps forward, her gun ready - and hears a floorboard CREAK to her left.

She whirls round, gun ready - but there's nothing there. Her nerves on edge, she breathes out, lowering the gun and turning back to the assistant.

JULIE (cont'd)

I think we're-

Julie GASPS in shock - Vamp #1 has his arms wrapped around the girl and his fangs buried in her neck!

She whimpers with fear, her wide eyes staring back at Julie as the vampire literally sucks the life right out of her.

Julie fumbles with her gun as the vamp releases the girl, letting her limp body fall to the floor.

The vamp SWATS the gun out of her hand and reaches for Julie - grabbing the strap of her knapsack!

Julie deftly ducks away and leaves the vamp holding the bag and not her - then she turns and runs for her life!

VAMP #1

(laughs)

You think you can run away from me again? You haven't got the-

He pauses as Julie spins round - and sees something in her hand.

VAMP #1 (cont'd)

What the...

Julie HURLS the object towards him - it's a GRENADE!

VAMP #1 (cont'd)

(beat)

Damn.

FOOM! The vampire is obliterated in a fireball, and Julie is thrown from her feet, landing awkwardly on the floor.

She rolls over and looks up - and her heart sinks as she sees both knapsacks have been caught up in the flames, their contents SNAPPING as they roast in the fire.

As Julie sits up, catching her breath and closing her eyes, we cut back to:

Danyael is still at Twist's side as he flips through the TV channels. They look up as Parker walks over - Danyael looks concerned about something.

TWIST

(weakly)

What's up, doc?

PARKER

You've been waiting all night to say that, haven't you?

Twist smiles, but she looks very pale and weak. The worried expression Danyael is wearing suggests all is not well.

PARKER (cont'd)  
How are you feeling?

TWIST  
Tired. My arms are heavy. I  
couldn't lift the remote, had to  
get my boy here to do it for me.

Parker glances at Danyael, then looks back to Twist.

PARKER  
Your arms feel heavy, you say?

TWIST  
(nods)  
And everything's... kind of blurry.

Parker frowns, stepping to the foot of the bed. He folds the covers back to expose Twist's feet, taking out a pen and prodding her toes with it.

PARKER  
Can you feel that?

TWIST  
No.

PARKER  
(tries again)  
And now?

TWIST  
(shakes head)  
Still nothing.

Danyael stands, dropping the remote control.

DANYAEL  
What's going on? Is she-

PARKER  
She's getting worse.

TWIST  
Hey! Lying right here, you guys, no  
need to... to...

Twist's eyelids flutter, and her head lolls to one side. An alarmed Danyael shakes her by the shoulders.

DANYAEL  
Twist? Twist! Wake up!

Parker moves him out of the way, looking into Twist's eyes with his penlight again.

DANYAEL (cont'd)  
 What's happening? Why won't she  
 wake up?

PARKER  
 I don't know, lad. I'm doing  
 everything I can to-

They both JUMP back as Twist starts to CONVULSE, her whole  
 body thrashing from side to side and rattling the entire bed  
 around her!

Danyael tries to hold her down but her struggles intensify,  
 and it's all he can do to hang on.

PARKER (cont'd)  
 Hold her!

DANYAEL  
 I'm trying! She-

Twist starts to SHAKE, her mouth gasping and her eyes  
 rolling.

DANYAEL (cont'd)  
 Oh, God...  
 (frantic)  
 Help her!!

Parker yanks open a nearby drawer and quickly retrieves a  
 small phial of powder from inside.

PARKER  
 Stand back!

Danyael steps back as Parker opens the jar, pours out a  
 handful of powder into his hand and throws it across Twist.

The powder GLOWS as it touches her exposed skin - and  
 Twist's struggles gradually die down.

Her whole body is twisted, contorted with pain, and a  
 distraught Danyael covers his mouth with his hands, at a  
 total loss what to do.

DANYAEL  
 I don't understand...

PARKER  
 (off powder)  
 Puur burro powder, it's like an  
 anaesthetic for vampires like-

DANYAEL  
 No, I mean I don't know what to do  
 to help her!

PARKER

(sighs)

I just hope Chris and Julie had  
some better luck than...

He trails off - the ward doors open to reveal Julie, who  
trudges slowly towards them, head down.

JULIE

How is she?

DANYAEL

She's getting worse...

PARKER

Where are your supplies? And what  
happened to my team? Are they-

JULIE

We were attacked. Vampires, two of  
them. They're... they're all dead.

PARKER

Bloody hell... what about the  
supplies? Did you get...

He trails off as Julie shakes her head. Parker's dark  
expressions shows that they're running out of plans - but  
another door opens and Chris walks in.

JULIE

Oh, thank God!

Chris heads for the team, but Julie's smile fades when she  
sees his downcast expression.

JULIE (cont'd)

No...

CHRIS

Somebody's stolen all of  
Bannister's books.

(shakes head)

There's nothing left.

Everyone lowers their head for a beat, before:

TWIST

(weakly)

Danyael?

Danyael turns to see Twist opening her eyes, shivering,  
trying to reach for him, He grabs her hand, squeezing it.

DANYAEL

I'm here.

Twist looks up at him, then closes her eyes - she's crying. She fights off a sob before speaking again.

TWIST

Danyael... what's happening to me?

Danyael looks up at Parker, then to Chris - they're all out of options.

Twist doesn't need to be told that things are desperate - and as she bursts into tears, Danyael leans across her, wrapping his arms round her.

Parker walks solemnly over to Chris, who is staring at the sobbing Twist, his heart breaking.

PARKER

Chris, I...

(beat)

I'm sorry. But I don't know what else we can do.

Chris keeps his gaze on Twist as she BAWLS with grief, burying her face in Danyael's shoulder.

Chris closes his eyes - and a single tear rolls down his cheek.

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT THREE**

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

28

INT. LAB - WARD - LATER

28

Twist lies in her bed, sleeping peacefully. Most of the lights in the ward are out now, only a small bedside lamp casts any light on Twist herself. She almost looks like she's fading away.

A door opens off screen with a CREAK, and after a few moments Danyael pads into frame. He looks exhausted, settling carefully back into his chair at the bedside.

TWIST  
(eyes still closed)  
That was the longest you've left me  
all day.

Twist opens her eyes and manages a smile - she's still obviously very weak. Danyael tries to smile back but finds it pretty tough.

DANYAEL  
Sorry. Nature calls.

TWIST  
Don't apologise. You do too much of  
that.

DANYAEL  
Right. Sorry.

He catches himself and finally grins. He runs a hand through his hair and SIGHS.

DANYAEL (cont'd)  
How do you feel?

TWIST  
I can't really feel anything.

DANYAEL  
Oh...

TWIST  
It's like... it's like my whole  
body's wrapped in a thick blanket,  
and no matter how much I try, I  
just can't move it.

Danyael looks around the empty ward, tears in his eyes.

TWIST (cont'd)  
Hey...

(CONTINUED)

He looks round to her, and she manages to slightly shake her head.

TWIST (cont'd)

Don't.

DANYAEL

What am I supposed to do? Sit here and watch?

TWIST

I need the company.

Danyael leans back in his chair, rubbing his face with his hands.

DANYAEL

I'm sorry, I'm just... I just don't know what I'm supposed to be doing to help!

TWIST

Maybe there isn't anything you can do.

DANYAEL

Don't say that.

TWIST

Look, what will be, will be. I learned that a while back.

DANYAEL

But... you can't! You can't just-

TWIST

Die?

DANAYEL

(beat)  
Yeah.

TWIST

I'm already dead.

DANYAEL

You know what I mean.

TWIST

Yeah. I do.

Danyael leans forward, his head in his hands. Twist watches him for a few moments.

TWIST (cont'd)

Danyael?

DANYAEL  
(looks up)  
Yeah?

TWIST  
I need to ask you something.  
Something important.

DANYAEL  
Anything.

He leans forward, resting his elbows on the bed as he takes her hand.

TWIST  
Do you... love me?

A long beat. Danyael looks away, then lowers his head - and slowly nods.

DANYAEL  
Yeah... yeah, I do.

TWIST  
Why?

DANYAEL  
'Why'?

TWIST  
Valid question.

DANYAEL  
I... I mean, I...  
(bitter laugh)  
You know, I never really thought  
about it before.

TWIST  
That time you told me, back when I  
was under that spell... You meant  
it then, didn't you?

Danyael nods, and Twist smiles.

TWIST (cont'd)  
How long?

DANYAEL  
(shrugs)  
Can't say.

TWIST  
How did you know?

DANYAEL

I don't know... I guess I just  
looked at you one day, and it just  
hit me... like, 'pow.' I love you.

They fall silent. Twist keeps her gaze on him, but Danyael keeps looking away from her - almost as though he's embarrassed by his confession.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

So what now?

TWIST

Huh?

DANYAEL

Come on, Twist, you managed to get  
the truth out of me at last. I  
figure I'm owed a little in return.

He smiles down at her, but Twist's sad smile soon makes his own start to fade.

TWIST

Danyael...

DANYAEL

(closes eyes)

No.

TWIST

I'm sorry...

DANYAEL

(lowers head)

Please, don't. Please.

TWIST

Danyael, look at me.

After a beat, he lifts his head, meeting her gaze, fresh tears in his eyes.

TWIST (cont'd)

I'm... God, it means so much to me  
just to hear somebody say that!

DANYAEL

But...

TWIST

(beat)

But I can't love you.

He looks down at her hand, keeping it held tightly in his own.

(CONTINUED)

DANYAEL

Can I ask why?

TWIST

Look at where we are right now. I'm on my deathbed, poisoned by a fricken chemical explosion, and you're going to pieces watching me.

DANYAEL

I don't want to be anywhere but here, and-

TWIST

And that's just it. Think of all the things that could happen to us out there, Spook. How many times we almost get chopped up, stabbed, staked, shot, burned alive or generally made deader than we already are. Then think of what we'd be like if we let ourselves be together, and then something happened to one of us.

Danyael doesn't look like he wants to hear this - but he knows she's right at the same time.

TWIST (cont'd)

I couldn't do that to you. I couldn't let myself fall in love with you and then leave you. I... I just couldn't stand it...

She closes her eyes, tears streaming, and Danyael reaches a tender hand over to wipe them away. He leans in close to her, lowering his voice to a whisper.

DANYAEL

So don't leave me.

TWIST

Oh, now he says that...

DANYAEL

I mean it. You're not going to die here, Twist. I won't let you.

TWIST

Danyael, you don't get it... we can't control that. It's not up to us.

DANYAEL

Then I'll make it up to us!

TWIST  
 (sincere)  
 You can't...

Danyaël looks away, unable to stop himself from sobbing at last.

DANYAEL  
 What if... what if you get through this? Maybe Chris and Julie can find something to help, and you-

TWIST  
 It won't matter. After this, there'll be something else, and then next thing, and then the thing after that. Maybe one day... one day it'll be over. And if we're both still here, then... then we...

She starts to drift off, and Danyaël snaps back to attention, shaking her with increasing urgency.

DANYAEL  
 No... no... Twist! Twist!!

She's out. Danyaël turns and YELLS out across the empty ward:

DANYAEL (cont'd)  
 Somebody help me!!

He's halfway between panic and floods of desperate tears as he continues to try and wake her up.

DANYAEL (cont'd)  
 Twist! Don't leave me! Don't leave me!! Please...

He collapses forward onto her bed, his body wracked with gut-wrenching SOBS.

DANYAEL (cont'd)  
 Don't leave me...

Pull back away from him, and slowly DISSOLVE TO:

Danyaël is asleep, lying across a sofa in a small, green waiting room. Chris' jacket is draped across him.

Julie watches over him, sipping from a coffee and looking like it's going to be a long, sleepless night.

She looks up as Chris steps in, his features equally sombre. He glances at Danyaël as he steps over to Julie.

JULIE

Any change?

CHRIS

(shakes head)

She's not responding to anything now. Parker's sent out for more supplies, trying to find something stronger, but by the time it gets here...

He suddenly turns and PUNCHES the wall, his fist bashing a chunk out of the plaster.

He leans his head against the wall, utterly lost. Julie lays a gentle hand on his shoulder.

JULIE

We'll keep trying.

CHRIS

(off Danyael)

He's not the only one who can't live without her, you know.

JULIE

I know.

CHRIS

If she... if anything...

JULIE

(sincere)

We'll find a way.

Chris turns at last, pressing his back to the wall, and Julie steps closer to him. He wraps his arms around her, and she squeezes back, the two hanging on to each other with all they've got.

An assistant moves away from Twist's bed, out of frame as we look down from directly overhead. She looks like she's just sleeping.

Push in slowly on Twist, who starts to twitch just a little, frowning.

She twitches again, more urgent this time.

Her head rolls to the other side, her brow furrowing. Her whole body starts to SHIVER.

There's a brief FLASH of something red and black - and Twist rolls to her left hand side again.

Another FLASH - this time there's a brief image of a young girl's face - and back to Twist, whose whole body is rippling with shudders now, her mouth hanging open.

FLASH - Twist is walking down a city street, a bag slung over her shoulder.

FLASH - She pushes open the door to a convenience store.

FLASH - There's a crowd of men standing round the cashier who turn to look at her.

FLASH - One of the grins - it's BOYCE! The vampire who Turned her grins broadly...

Twist starts to writhe in the bed, her arms and legs twisting around, still restrained by the buckles on her wrists and ankles.

FLASH - Twist is standing over a cowering woman in an alley.

Twist is starting to whimper with pain now, her body contorting itself as it struggles beneath the restraints.

FLASH - Twist kneels down and lays her arms round the woman...

Twist's back arches up, every nerve in her body stretched tight.

FLASH - the woman SCREAMS - and Twist sinks her fangs into her neck!

Twist SCREAMS! Her eyes flick open, and with a CRASH her hands wrench themselves free of the restraints.

Bile's 'No One I Call Friend' begins to play, its beat pounding over the scene as Twist clutches her head in her hands.

TWIST

No...

FLASH - Twist and Boyce laugh as they each hold a struggling victim.

TWIST (cont'd)

No!

FLASH - Twist is spattered with blood from somewhere off screen, her eyes closed as she blissfully licks the blood from her lips...

TWIST (cont'd)

Make it stop! Make it stop!!

Twist starts SCREAMING - and doesn't stop! Her legs thrash around as her whole body convulses violently.

The door to the ward opens and two assistants rush in, closely followed by Chris, Danyael and Julie. Their jaws drop as they see the screaming Twist, fighting off the two assistants.

TWIST (cont'd)

No... no! Get away! Get away from me!

DANYAEL

Twist!

Danyael breaks and runs over to her, just as Twist sends both assistants flying with a heavy SMACK!

They crash into Danyael and all three go crashing to the ground.

Twist struggles with the restraints by her ankles, and is free before Chris and Julie can reach her.

She scampers over to the door, her body dry heaving with exertion as Chris comes to a wary stop a few feet away.

CHRIS

(reassuring)

Twist... Twist, it's me. It's Chris.

Twist's eyes flick left and right like a cornered animal, her body hunched over like a cat ready to pounce.

CHRIS (cont'd)

I don't know what's happening to you... but you have to trust me.

He takes a step closer. Twist looks ready to bolt, but keeps her eyes locked on him.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Take my hand.

He reaches out his hand to her. Behind him, Julie helps Danyael to his feet.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Just reach out, slowly, and take my hand. It's going to be alright.

She looks at his hand, then back into his eyes - and slowly, very slowly starts to reach for it...

PARKER (O.S.)  
What in the name of-

Parker crashes into the ward, and Chris looks away for a split second - and Twist bolts.

She barges open the emergency exit and disappears before Chris can grab her.

He throws a furious glare back at Parker before he races off after her, through the swinging door.

PARKER (cont'd)  
What the hell is going on here?

Danyaël and Julie swap a look - then run off after Chris, leaving Parker with his two downed assistants.

31 EXT. LAB - SURFACE - NIGHT

31

Chris bursts through an open doorway and out onto the street, looking all around - but Twist is gone.

CHRIS  
(yells)  
Twist! Twist!!

Julie and Danyaël run through after him.

JULIE  
Where is she? Where did she go?

CHRIS  
I don't know...  
(yells again)  
Twist!!

DANYAEL  
Twist! Where are you?

The trio spread out, calling Twist's name and searching the street around them for her, and we cut to:

32 EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

32

Twist is hunched over on her knees, the distant shouting voices echoing round to her.

She still has her hands pressed to her head, squeezing her eyes tightly shut but to no avail...

FLASH - Twist is in the middle of a barfight, cackling wickedly as she grabs a man's arm and literally TEARS it away from the socket!

(CONTINUED)

Twist VOMITS into the alley, retching in between the sobs, her body still shaking.

FOOTSTEPS echo slowly down the alley towards her, but Twist is still fighting the terrifying visions she's seeing - and the cries of her name are growing distant.

A pair of black boots waltz into frame, stopping as their owner observes the stricken Twist.

PARKER

(filtered; through phone)

I said create a diversion! Scare Julie away from getting those ingredients! Not kill two of my bloody team, you daft bitch!

The boots belong to a tall, lithe woman all in black with long, stylishly dreadlocked black hair - VIVIAN! She chuckles into her cell phone.

VIVIAN

Collateral damage, babe.

PARKER

(snaps)

Don't you 'babe' me, we had an agreement! You said-

VIVIAN

And we still do. My side of the bargain just came through, so you'll get yours soon enough.

PARKER

I warn you, Miss Taylor, if you try to play me for a fool, you'll regret it. I've exposed myself to a lot of unnecessary risk to get you what you want.

VIVIAN

Don't think I don't appreciate it. Anyway, gotta run. I've got a brain to wash.

She snaps the phone shut, watches the sobbing Twist for a beat and then strolls casually over to her.

Twist looks up as Vivian's shadow falls over her, trying to focus her bleary eyes on the tall vampire.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

I know it hurts. I know you're scared, confused, you don't know what's real and what isn't...

Vivian crouches by her, smiling warmly at Twist.

VIVIAN (cont'd)  
... but I can help you. I can help  
make everything clear, and you'll  
never be lost again.

TWIST  
(dazed)  
Who... who are you?

Vivian smiles broadly, exposing her fangs, and reaches a hand  
out to Twist.

VIVIAN  
I'm your new best friend.

Twist looks at Vivian's hand, still on all fours and still  
unsteady - and then slowly reaches out and takes it.

VIVIAN (cont'd)  
Good girl. Now come with me. We  
have a lot of catching up to do.

Twist looks up into Vivian's grinning face, and we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF SHOW**