

SOMEWHERE INBETWEEN

"City Of Lost Angels"

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TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT 1

TITLE OVER - Shadow Haven, 2:14 a.m.

A run down warehouse in a run down part of town. Moonlight shows up the surrounding area, for what it's worth - burned out, abandoned buildings and flickering street lighting.

Lights are on in the top floor of the warehouse, and there are figures moving around inside as we cut to:

2 INT. WAREHOUSE - TOP FLOOR - NEXT 2

The top floor has been converted into a kind of office - a desk sits next to a row of mismatched (and probably stolen) filing cabinets.

There are two figures pacing up and down the floor, while a third sits casually at the desk, lazily smoking a cigarette through a long holder.

The two pacing figures, CUSANO and BENNETT are men in their thirties, scruffily dressed and unshaven, looking pretty agitated. They're a contrast to the third person, PARSONS, a strikingly beautiful blonde woman with pale skin and long, smooth legs, currently propped up on the edge of the desk.

And by their blood red eyes and fangs, it's also clear that all three of them are VAMPIRES.

CUSANO

They should have been here by now!

PARSONS

Will you stop whining? All you've managed to do since we got here is wear a rut into that floor!

BENNETT

(snarls)

I don't see you doing anything to help find them!

PARSONS

Challis and Pearce can take care of themselves. And if they can't, well...

(grins)

That just means more for us.

Bennett scowls at the woman, but she smiles sweetly at him, swinging her legs off the table and standing, heading over to a fragmented window overlooking the city beyond.

(CONTINUED)

PARSONS (cont'd)

But you're right, they should have been here by now. I just hope they didn't run into those damn vigilantes again.

CUSANO

They've cost us thousands this last year, busting up our business and-

PARSONS

There's no need to give me a history lesson, Cusano. I'm well aware of the situation.

She sucks thoughtfully on the cigarette as we cut to:

3 INT. WAREHOUSE - GROUND FLOOR - NEXT

3

Unseen by the trio high above, a group of figures are scurrying through the darkness, using the shadows for cover as they make their way to the staircase leading to the top.

Gesturing silently to each other, they're clearly a well-oiled team, advancing with military precision.

PARSONS (O.S.)

Only that crazy reverend and his crew'd be stupid enough to try and stop us now.

BENNETT (O.S.)

That won't stop 'em trying.

PARSONS (O.S.)

(snaps)

And again, didn't need telling that! What is the matter with you two tonight? One drop goes bad and you both turn into walking cliches of obvious statements!

BENNETT (O.S.)

Yeah, well, when they've got your head on a spire back at their church, then we'll see who was right to worry about them!

The first two members of the team below reach the foot of the stairs - a bearded man in his forties and a young, spiky-haired twenty-five year old. This is KANE and TRACY. They're both armed - Kane has a shotgun and Tracy wields a bulky silver revolver.

Kane motions back to the other two figures before he and Tracy slowly and carefully head up the stairs.

4

INT. WAREHOUSE - TOP FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

4

None of the vamps have noticed Kane and Tracy reaching the top floor, their weapons ready, as Parsons clucks her tongue irritatedly and gets out her cell phone.

PARSONS

Alright, I'm going to call those useless goons and find out what they're-

TRACY

Sorry, but you might have a problem with that.

She spins round - and Tracy FIRES, his bullet DETONATING the phone in Parson's face. She SHRIEKS, staggering backwards.

TRACY (cont'd)

I hear reception can be a bitch round here.

CUSANO

It's them! Get the-

BOOM! Kane's shotgun fires - and a huge STAKE punches clean through Cusano's heart!

The vampire has enough time to register a look of surprise, before dropping to his knees and out of the fight.

Bennett LEAPS through the air with a ROAR of anger, tackling Tracy as Kane races over to the downed Parsons.

KANE

I'd advise you not to try anything.

He keeps his shotgun squared at her as she recovers, clutching her blistered face.

Behind them, Tracy and Bennett's fight sends them both CLATTERING back down the stairs, Tracy catching his ankle on the way down and shouting in pain. Bennett looms over him with a sneer, ready to finish the job.

BENNETT

I've been looking forward to taking out one of you punks!

PAYTON (O.S.)

Glad to let you down.

Bennett turns - and with a terrifically loud BOOM he's blasted off his feet, sailing out across the warehouse floor and landing with a CRASH far below.

(CONTINUED)

PAYTON steps into frame to help Tracy up - he's a clean cut, suave businessman type who looks a little out of place carrying an assault rifle with a shotgun slung beneath the barrel!

PAYTON (cont'd)
Are you alright?

TRACY
I think I twisted my ankle pretty good, but yeah... where's Daria?

PAYTON
Taking care of business.

Tracy turns to look out across the warehouse floor, at:

Bennett is yelling and frantically scrabbling at his chest, tearing his shirt to reveal a chunk of SILVER embedded in his chest.

Steam rises from it as he claws at the fragment, trying to pull it out, but as a shadow looms over him, he looks slowly up at...

DARIA. She's young, only about nineteen, and pretty with it, boasting auburn hair and curves, but the STAKE in her hand is anything but inviting!

DARIA
This is for my sister.

WHAM! She rams the stake into Bennett's chest, and with an agonised SCREAM, he convulses and falls still, dead at last.

PAYTON
(shouts from stairs)
Wasn't the last one for your sister too?

Daria turns to him and shrugs, grinning.

DARIA
They don't need to know she's not dead. And besides, until I think of something cooler to say, it'll do for me!

Payton grins, and as he helps the injured Tracy down the stairs, we cut to:

Watching from some way across the street, Kane steps out of the warehouse and heads towards a beaten up old grey van, dragging the securely bound Parsons after him.

Payton and Tracy are next, Tracy limping towards the van and getting inside, and last out is Daria, her eyes sweeping the neighbourhood before she hops in.

As the van starts and pulls away, we pull back to find ourselves looking out through a car windshield, and two familiar faces watching the scene - TWIST and VIVIAN.

Vivian's expression is cold as she watches the van turn round and drive away, and Twist registers the fierceness of it.

TWIST

So... who are these people?

VIVIAN

Oh, we go way back. I've got some business I need to settle with them.

(turns to Twist)

They also have something I want, and I figured having you around was the best chance I'm going to get to finally take back what's mine.

TWIST

Okay, whatever. Just promise me there'll be plenty of chances to get my smackdown on, I'm having severe pain withdrawal symptoms here.

VIVIAN

There'll be plenty of that.

Vivian lights up a cigarette, takes a drag and passes it to Twist.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

You ready to be a bad girl at last?

TWIST

(nods; smiles)

I'm ready.

Vivian grins back, and we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

7 INT. BLACK VAN - MORNING

7

DANYAEL sits in the passenger seat, going over a map covered with lines, arrows and circles, as the driver's door opens and CHRIS clambers inside.

DANYAEL

Well?

CHRIS

Still nothing.

DANYAEL

So now what do we do?

CHRIS

We move on. Keep looking.

DANYAEL

'Move on'? Chris, we've been one step behind them ever since we left Indiana! How is doing the same thing over and over again going to make things any different?

CHRIS

You have to have a little faith, Danyael.

DANYAEL

'Faith'? Screw that! We need results here, man!

CHRIS

(tetchy)

I don't know what else to tell you! I'm trying every kind of locator spell I can, you're calling up every contact you ever met at some bar while you were both off your trolleys on cheap tequila, but none of it's doing anything! If you have a better plan than a steady, methodical search then I'd love to hear it!

DANYAEL

What about that Diego guy? We seem to have inherited him after he almost bled to death on our watch, doesn't he have anybody we can ask for help?

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

Diego's lucky to be alive. He's in no fit state to do anything.

Danyael shuts up at this - and at the memory of seeing Twist almost kill the flamboyant bounty hunter in front of him.

CHRIS (cont'd)

We should get back to Julie and check on him. It's been five hours, his condition may have improved.

DANYAEL

And in the meantime, Twist gets further away from us.

CHRIS

Don't you think I know that?

DANYAEL

Don't you want to find her?

CHRIS

What the hell kind of a question is that? Of course I do! What makes you think I don't?

DANYAEL

I'm just noticing your plan seems to be moving from 'capture and cure' to 'neutralise.'

CHRIS

(beat)

I don't know what you're talking about.

Danyael points into the back of the van, revealing a large stockpile of magical artefacts, spell books and ingredients.

DANYAEL

I'm not stupid, Chris. I know what some of this stuff you've been picking up is for. I've been with you long enough to spot the ingredients for fire spells when I see them, and those three little vials of holy water? Are they for making a toast when we catch her?

Danyael leans across, getting in Chris' face.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

You don't think we can save her, do you? You think we're gonna have to kill her!

Chris turns very slowly to face Danyael, clearly trying to keep his temper in check.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Why have you given up on her?

CHRIS

I haven't.

DANYAEL

Oh, so I'm supposed to think that all of this stuff is for Vivian?

CHRIS

It's...

(lowers head)

Danyael, drop it.

DANYAEL

No! You're talking about killing Twist, man! Our Twist! You think she'd give up on us this easy? You think she'd-

CHRIS

Did you see the look in her eyes when she speared Diego to the ground?

That stops Danyael. He's quiet as Chris continues.

CHRIS (cont'd)

She enjoyed it. I don't think she wanted to kill him so much as cause him pain. That's not the Twist you and I know.

(starts the van)

If Vivian's succeeding in turning her against us, then we have to prepare for the possibility that she can't be saved...

(beat)

... and that we'll have to eliminate her.

Danyael sags back in his seat, the grim reality starting to sink in as Chris backs the van onto a nearby road and starts to drive away.

JULIE walks into frame, looking tired and pale, her hair in a loose ponytail. She has a set of fresh medical supplies in her arms - bandages and painkillers - and as she approaches the bed of the plain, low rent apartment, she looks down on the figure lying across it.

DIEGO, his shirt off and his belly heavily strapped with bandages, sleeps peacefully, his coat and weapons piled on a chair next to the bed.

Julie sits by the bed, wiping her brow - it doesn't look like she had much chance to sleep while Diego still needed medical attention - and she unwraps the edge of his bandages to check his wounds.

Chris enters the room as she studies the sword wound in his belly - it's stitched shut but still looks pretty nasty.

CHRIS

How is he?

Julie looks round, graciously accepting a cup of hot coffee from Chris.

JULIE

Stable. He's pumped full of morphine so he'll be under for a few hours yet.

CHRIS

Will he be mobile once he's patched up?

JULIE

Slow, but mobile. Anyway, we can just strap him into the van until we work out what to do with him, right?

Chris nods, heading to the window and looking out.

JULIE (cont'd)

Any luck this morning?

Chris shakes his head, and Julie glumly sips her coffee.

JULIE (cont'd)

The trail's still cold, isn't it?

CHRIS

I haven't even sensed her in days. She could quite literally be anywhere right now.

JULIE

Have you told Danyael?

CHRIS

I can't. He's not handling things particularly well as it is, if I tell him we've lost Twist's trail I think he'll crack up.

JULIE

You can't keep that from him, he
deserves to know what's going on!

CHRIS

I'm afraid truth is something that
should only be told when a person
is ready to accept it. And right
now...

He turns away from the window, heading for the door.

CHRIS (cont'd)

... he isn't.

Julie throws him a dark look as Chris exits, into:

Danyaël is sitting in the middle of the sparsely-furnished
lounge, an array of maps spread out in front of him. He's
listening to his personal CD player, tracing lines across the
maps and marking out locations.

Chris watches him for a few beats before crouching next to
him, tapping his shoulder for attention. Danyaël takes his
headphones off and turns to Chris.

CHRIS

I take it you believe this'll work?

DANYAEL

One thing I know about Twist, she
likes to be where the action is. If
helping people isn't what she wants
to do, she'll be going to danger
hot spots. Places where the wrong
kinds of vampires like to hang out.

Danyaël taps his pen on a series of cities and towns marked
with red circles.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Knowing where a lot of those places
are means we can start trying to
second guess her. If the last place
we knew she stopped was here...

He points to one location marked with a star.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

... then my guess is that she'll
try one of these three places next.

Chris studies the map, frowning as he focuses on one city.

CHRIS

That's Shadow Haven.

DANYAEL

Uh, yeah. Why? Is that someplace I should know about?

CHRIS

You could say that. The locals call it the 'City of Lost Angels,' a place where good men go to die when their souls have run dry. And, naturally, there's a vampire order operating out of there, calling themselves 'The Omega.' I've had a few run-ins with them in the past, and they're a pretty mean bunch.

DANYAEL

As opposed to...

CHRIS

They're very well organised, in particular. Lots of money and resources. If more groups of traders started following their example, we'd all be in a lot of trouble.

DANYAEL

Okay, point taken - but what does this have to do with looking for Twist?

CHRIS

This is more about finding Vivian. She and I spent some time there a few years ago, but after we parted ways I know she went back there, looking to settle a score.

DANYAEL

(catching up)

And I'm guessing the score remains unsettled?

CHRIS

It most certainly does. That's where we need to be.

DANYAEL

Woah, back up, Confidence Guy. So Vivian has a beef with somebody in this Shadow Haven place - how do we know that's where she'll be heading? I mean, she could just as easily go to, say, Columbus.

(MORE)

9

CONTINUED: (2)

9

DANYAEL (cont'd)

I know for a fact that there's this group of trads there who-

CHRIS

Danyael, I don't mean this to sound condescending, but I know Twist and Vivian a lot better than you do, and I'm positive that Shadow Haven is where they'll be headed.

Chris turns and sweeps back into the bedroom.

DANYAEL

(moodily)

You're the boss...

Danyael turns back to the map, and as we focus on the location of Shadow Haven, we DISSOLVE to:

10

EXT. SHADOW HAVEN - STREET - NIGHT

10

The van drives down a rainswept main road, past a large sign reading 'Welcome To Shadow Haven.'

The city is a bustling metropolis, with high rise office towers and apartment blocks competing for space on the skyline.

11

INT. BLACK VAN - NEXT

11

Danyael rides shotgun, as Julie sits with the still sleeping Diego in the back, Diego strapped tightly into a hammock hanging from the van's ceiling.

CHRIS

I'm not sure if he's still active, but back when I encountered Reverend Kane Grayson, he was a man of extraordinary strength and willpower. He'd been waging a single-handed war against the forces of the Omega for several years, and they'd never even come close to taking him down.

DANYAEL

So how come you think Vivian wants to kill him?

Chris looks at Danyael, his expression hinting that this is a long story he'd rather not go into just yet.

JULIE

As long as he can get us somewhere with plenty of fresh medical supplies, I don't care if he's the guy who invented the A-bomb.

(CONTINUED)

DANYAEL

How's our Hispanic hitman doing?

JULIE

Well... that's the thing. He's actually healing up pretty fast - a lot faster than, say... a human.

Chris and Julie swap glances at this.

JULIE (cont'd)

I'm open to suggestions.

CHRIS

He's certainly not a vampire, that much I can tell you.

JULIE

Whatever he is, he's as tough as a vampire and heals up like one, and I for one would rather we have him somewhere more secure when he finally wakes up, just in case he decides we're 'in his way' again.

CHRIS

Don't worry. I'm sure Kane has somewhere we can keep him.

Danyael raises an eyebrow, and we cut to:

12 EXT. SHADOW HAVEN NON DENOMINATIONAL CHURCH - NIGHT 12

A dark, angular church surrounded by equally unwelcoming-looking building, the heavy rain and flashes of lightning only furthering its Gothic image.

Chris's van pulls to a stop outside, and Chris and Danyael hop out and jog up to the front doors.

13 INT. CHURCH - NEXT 13

Chris' KNOCKING echoes around the church hall as Kane walks down the aisle towards the doors. He opens the door, reacting with surprise at the thoroughly sodden Chris standing before him. Chris manages a smile.

CHRIS

Hello again, reverend.

Kane blinks - then embraces Chris warmly, shaking his hand.

KANE

Hello, Christopher. It's good to see you again.

CHRIS

I'm afraid I'm not the bearer of good news - and I have wounded with me who need somewhere to rest.

KANE

Bring them in. My doors are always open to fellow crusaders.

Chris nods to Danyael, and as he dashes back over to the van, we cut to:

14 INT. CHURCH - KANE'S OFFICE - NEXT

14

Chris is hanging up his coat and shaking the rain out of his hair as Kane steps in, a mug of coffee in his hand.

KANE

I'm afraid the weather hasn't changed since you were last here.

CHRIS

I'm not one for sunny places.

KANE

But more so than your pale friend out there.

CHRIS

Danyael? Yes, he's a vampire. Don't worry, he's one of the better ones.

KANE

(smirks)
Like yourself?

CHRIS

That depends on who you ask.

KANE

And the woman?

CHRIS

That's Dr. Julie Kingston. She's an old friend of mine. The chap with the stomach wound is someone we're less familiar with, however.

KANE

I'm sure you can fill me in later.

Kane turns away from Chris and heads for his desk.

KANE (cont'd)

So what does bring you back to Shadow Haven?

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS
 (beat)
 Vivian Taylor.

Kane freezes, slowly turning back to Chris.

CHRIS (cont'd)
 I think she may be on her way here.
 I hope I'm wrong... but I also hope
 I'm right.

KANE
 I don't understand.

CHRIS
 Vivian's got hold of my partner,
 Twist, and... Twist's under some
 kind of enchantment. She doesn't
 know who she is, and I fear
 Vivian's busy brainwashing her into
 playing for the wrong team.

Kane sits, his expression grave as he clasps his hands
 together, deep in thought.

KANE
 Are you looking to save her or kill
 her?

CHRIS
 Who?

KANE
 Your partner, Twist - but the
 question also applies to Vivian.

CHRIS
 Vivian made her decision a long
 time ago. She's way past saving.
 Twist... I hope there's still time.

KANE
 (nods)
 I'll call in the others.

CHRIS
 (raises eyebrow)
 You have 'others' now?

KANE
 (grins)
 Not everything's the same as when
 you left, old friend.

Chris grins, as we cut to:

15 EXT. CHURCH - NIGHT 15

Across the street from the church, a silver Mercedes rolls into view, its headlights flicking off.

16 INT. MERCEDES - NEXT 16

Vivian and Twist look towards the church, taking in the presence of Chris' black van.

VIVIAN

Well, well, well... looks like dear old Chris isn't as dumb as I tend to think he is!

(to Twist)

I think we can combine two tasks in one here - if you're still up for finally severing all ties with your old crew, of course.

TWIST

They tried to kill me. Where I come from, that's fightin' talk.

VIVIAN

Where you come from, everything is fighting talk.

TWIST

That's why I get in a lot of fights. Sooner I can show those former friends of mine what it means to cross me...

VIVIAN

... the sooner you can finally get back to being the old you again.

Vivian grins, rolling the Merc forward and away from the church, as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

17

INT. KANE'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - NIGHT

17

Diego is lying on a plain bed, stirring as he comes to. Blinking his eyes, he starts to sit up and raise his arms - but with a CLINK he finds that he's been handcuffed!

DIEGO

Pelotas...

He looks up as Chris stands over him, arms folded.

CHRIS

Good evening, Diego.

DIEGO

Where am I? What's with cuffing me like this? You can't-

CHRIS

I can actually do whatever I damn well like, and unless you want to find yourself thrown out of a moving vehicle at high speed, I advise you to keep quiet.

Diego glares at Chris, but gets the message and shuts up, rattling his handcuffs impetuously.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Now, you're at something of a disadvantage here, Diego. Not only did your pig-headed attempt at a surprise attack ruin a perfectly good ambush and lose me the best chance I had of recapturing an errant friend of mine, you also managed to get yourself run through and would have died, unless my team hadn't been there to save you.

(beat)

So, in a nutshell - you owe us.

DIEGO

For saving my life, I am in your debt. As for your ambush, well... it did not seem to be 'perfectly good' from where I was standing.

CHRIS

We can argue about this later, hopefully when you're well enough to let me kick you around. For now, we need your help.

(CONTINUED)

DIEGO

For what?

Chris looks up as Kane walks into frame, the priest joining him in looking down on Diego.

CHRIS

According to my good friend the Reverend Grayson, there's an artefact here in Shadow Haven that may hold the key to restoring Twist to her usual self. I need your help to get it.

DIEGO

You mean steal it.

CHRIS

Yes.

DIEGO

Then my answer is no.

Diego turns his head away, and Chris and Kane swap glances.

KANE

I don't think you understand the gravity of this situation, my son.

DIEGO

Maybe not... but I know that I swore a long time ago never to perform evil acts in the name of 'good.' That is how the souls of good men become tainted with darkness.

CHRIS

That's all very poetic, but it's not getting us where we want.

Chris leans forward - and presses his fingers down against Diego's wounded side!

Diego grimaces in pain and grits his teeth, and a shocked Kane tries to pull Chris back.

KANE

(shocked)
What are you doing?

CHRIS

Being persuasive.

KANE

Chris, stop it!

Chris removes his hand, and Diego pants for breath, dizzy with the pain Chris just inflicted.

CHRIS

Your moral high ground is very admirable, Diego, but in my present mood I'm afraid it's wholly inappropriate.

DIEGO

I see you have no qualms about using evil means to achieve your goals.

CHRIS

Not really, no.

(beat)

Let me spell this out for you - help us, and when Twist is safely back in our care and free from any evil influence, we'll forget all about your stunt back in Indiana.

Diego looks up at Chris, then after a beat nods his head.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Good.

Chris unlocks Diego's handcuffs, trying not to notice Kane's dark stare towards him, and as Kane's uneasy look follows him on his way back upstairs, we cut to:

Upstairs in Kane's house, the cosy, study-like front room holds Julie and Danyael, warming themselves by an open fire as Chris and Kane head over.

JULIE

So? What did he say?

CHRIS

He agreed to help us.

DANAYEL

Well, we didn't hear any screams, so I guess you didn't have to resort to getting rough with an injured guy at least!

CHRIS

(beat)

Reverend, tell us everything you can about this 'col'ter' artefact you mentioned.

Kane heads over to one of the many well-stocked bookcases lining the room, locating a thick old book and bringing it back over to the team.

He searches through it, finds the right page and passes it to Chris, taking a seat by the fire.

KANE

The col'ter is an ancient magical device, passed down through the generations and used as a last resort in the event of healing somebody with diseases of the soul.

DANYAEL

Such as?

KANE

Well, the definition of a 'disease of the soul' has changed considerably down the years, son, but at its heart it means the col'ter can remove all dark influences from a person, whether they're enchantments, mental afflictions or any kind of poison.

JULIE

And you think this'll help bring Twist back?

KANE

Not for certain, no, but it's the best thing I know of that could be used to help.

DANYAEL

How come you didn't tell us about this yourself, Chris?

CHRIS

Because contrary to popular belief, I don't actually know everything.

KANE

Now, as to finding one, well, that's the easy part - there's one right here in Shadow Haven.

DANYAEL

(starts to stand)
Then why are we still here?

KANE

Because getting to it won't be so easy.

Danyael hesitates, then sits back down.

KANE (cont'd)

Last time I knew about it, the col'ter was in the possession of a warlock named Thiersen, a Scandinavian nomad who settled in Shadow Haven after making several deals with the Omega.

DANYAEL

Those are the vamps who run this place, right?

Kane nods.

JULIE

So we just need to find this Thiersen guy and get the device, then. Do you know where he is?

KANE

I can lead you to him, but I need to warn you of how dangerous he is. He's kept himself alive for hundreds of years through his knowledge of the black arts, and I want you to understand the risks of-

CHRIS

(interrupts)

We're prepared to take them.

Chris gives Danyael a meaningful look.

CHRIS (cont'd)

She's worth the effort.

Danyael grins, and there is a KNOCK at the door.

KANE

Ah, that'll be the rest of my team.

He heads over to the front door and opens it to Tracy, Payton and Daria.

TRACY

Hey, we came as soon as we could.

PAYTON

We can't stay too long, though - that vampire we picked up last night told us an Omega-sponsored deal is going down at the docks in less than an hour, so I'd like us to be there to stop it.

KANE

And we will. There are a few people
I'd like you to meet first.

Kane leads his team over to Chris and the others.

KANE (cont'd)

Chris, this is Detective Tracy
Keegan, local entrepreneur Payton
Wilder and our newest recruit Daria
Best.

Daria steps forward quickly to shake Chris' hand, blushing.

DARIA

Wow, you're... you're the Chris
Berkeley, right?

CHRIS

Uh... yes.

DARIA

(gushes)

Kane's told us all about you, how
you two used to clean up the
streets round here before you moved
on, looking for your cure... I just
never thought I'd actually get to
meet you!

Payton steps past her with a grin.

PAYTON

Ignore her - her sister Hilary's a
local reporter, and I think
enthusiasm runs in the family. I'm
Payton.

JULIE

What did he mean by 'entrepreneur'?

PAYTON

I run a large local business, and I
like to keep my options open.
Besides, with the stranglehold the
Omega has on this town, it pays to
keep a finger in as many pies as
possible to keep an eye on them.

DANYAEL

What about you?

TRACY

Cop turned vampire killer. You
know, same old story.

He grins and shakes Danyael's hand.

PAYTON

Are you guys coming along to help us take down these vamps?

CHRIS

I'm afraid we have our own errand to run.

DIEGO (O.S.)

Hey, don't leave without me, *guerreros*.

They turn to see a fully-dressed Diego heading up from the basement, sword in hand.

DIEGO (cont'd)

Like you said, once I help you, we are even, and I do not like being beholden to anyone.

Daria nudges Tracy and whispers to him as Diego heads over.

DARIA

Are all of Kane's friends this cute?

KANE

Chris, you'd better come with us. Thiersen's regular haunt is on the way to the docks, so you can head off on your own once we get there and leave us to take care of the vampires.

The team head for the door, pausing to pick up coats and bags on their way out, and we cut to:

WHAM! Chris KICKS the door open and the team step inside, taking in the scene - a disorganised but well-stocked bookstore, with overflowing shelves and displays not looking like they've seen any custom in years.

Chris and Diego head for opposite sides of the shop floor, their eyes sharp for any movement.

DANYAEL

See, I never get why they sneak around after kicking the door down. It's a little...

JULIE

Pointless?

Julie grins, loading her gun with a loud CLICK.

JULIE (cont'd)

I don't think subtlety's an issue
with us, Danny.

Chris and Diego meet up, having made a circuit of the shop floor and come up with nothing - no hidden doors or other ways in or out.

DIEGO

What does this 'col'ter' look like,
anyway?

CHRIS

Like a shot glass with a
screwdriver driven through it.

DIEGO

(blinks)
That does not sound very...
magical.

CHRIS

(shrugs)
You asked, and that's what it looks
like. Check these shelves, see if
we missed some kind of pressure pad
or trigger. There's got to be a
hidden panel in here somewhere.

Diego nods and heads for the nearest bookshelf, running his hands along it, and as the others start to do the same, we cut to:

A sleek black Jeep pulls into frame at the edge of the floodlit docks, and Kane's team disembark, now all armed to the teeth with various guns and weapons.

KANE

Daria, Tracy, you two head around
to the pier and see what you can
find out. Payton, come with me.

The team split into two and scurry off, Daria and Tracy heading for a walkway that leads round to several moored cargo ships in the bay.

Payton and Kane head for a small packing house, hearing VOICES from inside and staying behind cover.

Kane peeks round and looks into the house-sized shack, seeing four VAMPIRES standing round a roaring brazier. A line of four silver suitcases stands next to them.

PAYTON

Looks like our new informer was on the money!

KANE

(nods)

Let's move quickly, there may be more of them. We need to clean up these few before whatever they're making a deal with gets here.

Payton grins and loads his shotgun with a CLICK.

PAYTON

Consider them cleaned, old man.

Payton ducks into the shack, keeping to the shadows, and as Kane glances around, we cut to:

EXT. DOCKS - PIER - NEXT

Daria and Tracy run into view, taking cover behind a parked car on the walkway and looking out across the bay.

They can see the four vampires waiting in the packing house, but their position also lets them see that there are six more vampires waiting at various points around the docks.

TRACY

We need to do something about those other vamps.

DARIA

Split up. I'll take the first two.

TRACY

No, we should-

She pats him on the shoulder and dashes off out of sight before he can call out to her. Tracy is caught - should he go after her or get rid of the extra vampires?

With a muttered curse, he heads for the nearest vampire as we cut back to:

INT. OLD BOOKSTORE - NIGHT

Danyael is checking a bookcase when his sleeve catches on something. He tries to pull it free, but as he does there is a loud CLICK, followed by a long, RUMBLING sound.

Danyael grins, turning to the others as their attention is grabbed by the sound - the bookshelf is sliding away in front of him to reveal a dark passageway beyond!

DANYAEL

Hey, guys! I found it!

CHRIS

Be careful, Danyael. There could be-

Danyael stands as the bookshelf finishes sliding back - and there is a sudden FLASH of purple light.

Danyael is THROWN back across the shop, slamming heavily into another shelf and collapsing to the floor, dislodging a pile of heavy books as he lands.

JULIE

Danyael!

She rushes over to him as Chris and Diego take their positions before the passageway - but two BOLTS of energy sail out of the passageway, hitting them square in the chest.

As the duo are felled, blown off their feet and landing with a pair of THUDS on the floor, Julie looks up as a figure emerges from the passageway.

A tall, blonde man with chiselled features and a dark hooded cloak stands in the passageway's entrance, his hands CRACKLING with purple electricity. This is THIERSEN.

He looks around at the floored team, then stares at Danyael, pointing at the shattered bookshelf he landed against.

THIERSEN

I hope you know, you're going to have to pay for that.

Chris and Diego jump to their feet, and after a glance at each other CHARGE to the attack, as we cut back to:

One of the four vampires leans forward to light a cigarette from the brazier as another fidgets impatiently.

VAMP #1

Man, can't this guy put his foot down and get here faster?

VAMP #2

Boats don't have gas pedals, dumbass.

VAMP #1

I know that! I'm just saying can't he use the engine, or props, or whatever, and dock already!

(MORE)

VAMP #1 (cont'd)
I wanna get out of here and go get
something to eat!

SMOKING VAMP
Relax, there'll be time to-

BANG! The Smoking Vamp arches his back as a STAKE spears through his chest, and the three remaining vamps scatter as Payton charges into frame, reloading his gun.

KANE
Payton, damn it! Don't let them
split us up any further!

Kane hurries to catch him as the vamps take off, and a grinning Payton gives chase.

PAYTON
Come on, Kane, this is the part we
live for!

Like a hunter in sight of his quarry, Payton takes off after the fleeing vamps, leaving an obviously rattled Kane.

One of the guard vamps reacts as he hears the shotgun BLAST and sees the other vamps escaping, but before he can react Tracy lunges into frame, grabbing him and driving a stake into his chest.

The vampire sags and Tracy shoves him into the water, grabbing his revolver from his waistband and hurrying towards the mayhem over by the packing house.

Chris and Diego's swords streak through the air towards Thiersen - but with a wave of his hand, he swipes a blue barrier of energy before him and deflects their blows.

Thiersen SLAMS his palm against Chris' chest, knocking him off his feet, but Diego is quick enough to dodge the warlock's next strike and plunge his sword into Thiersen's chest!

Diego allows himself a grin - which soon fades as the unharmed Thiersen grins back.

THIERSEN
You don't get to live for eleven
hundred years by letting mortal
weapons kill you, my friend!

Thiersen grabs Diego's sword blade and SNAPS it in two, BACKHANDING the hitman with a FLASH of light and throwing him back across the room.

Thiersen reels back as Julie OPENS FIRE, hitting him six times square in the chest - but with a chuckle, Thiersen turns his attention to her, swatting his hand towards her and sending her gun flying out of her hands!

She tries to run for cover, but he pushes his hand towards her - and Julie is lifted into the air, flying back and SLAMMING into the shop wall!

THIERSEN (cont'd)

I don't know what you people want her, but what I do know is that when four armed people break into my shop at two in the morning, they're not looking to sell something!

Diego is back on his feet, but as he jumps towards Thiersen with a YELL, Thiersen effortlessly spins and catches him in mid air by the throat.

THIERSEN (cont'd)

No matter. It has been too long since I had chance to stretch my muscles!

Thiersen grins, and snakes of sparking electricity ripples along his arm, connecting with Diego - who SCREAMS in pain!

Tracy runs in through the open back wall, almost straight into Kane. Payton's SHOTGUN rings out somewhere off screen.

TRACY

What the hell's going on?

KANE

Payton's enthusiasm once again proved to be our undoing.

TRACY

In other words, Captain Businessman got trigger happy as soon as he got within firing range.

KANE

I'm afraid so.
(looks round)
Where's Daria?

TRACY

Oh, she just took off to help-

VIVIAN (O.S.)

Oh, is that her name?

Tracy and Kane spin round - and are confronted by Vivian and Twist. Vivian grins, looking to Twist - who is busy FEEDING on Daria!

VIVIAN (cont'd)
Helps to know these things.
Otherwise, it's just rude to kill
somebody without knowing them.

DARIA
K-Ka... Ka... Kane... help...

TRACY
(stunned)
No...

Twist lifts her head - her mouth is dripping with Daria's blood, the unfortunate girl's wide eyes staring back at Tracy and Kane.

KANE
(fierce)
Vivian, you monster! I swore I'd
make you pay for what you did...

VIVIAN
So what are you waiting for, old
timer?
(to Twist)
You can stop that now, honey. I
think she's dead.

Twist looks down at Daria, whose eyes have rolled back into her head, her body hanging limply in Twist's arms.

Twist drops her to the ground with a wet THUMP, looking down at the blood over her hands - and GIGGLING like a child.

TWIST
She tasted good...

Twist looks back up at Tracy and Kane, Kane's whole body shaking with fury.

She grins wickedly, slowly lifting a finger to her mouth and sucking the fresh blood from it.

TWIST (cont'd)
... but I bet they taste better.

Kane ROARS with anger and FIRES - and we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

27

INT. DOCKS - PACKING HOUSE - NIGHT

27

Kane's shotgun ROARS as it blasts towards the two vampires - but they're already out of the way, racing towards Kane and Tracy with lightning speed.

Twist disarms Tracy, CRACKING her forearm against his wrist and breaking it with a loud SNAP. He yells in pain and staggers back, and she ROUNDHOUSE KICKS him to the floor.

Vivian goes for Kane, ducking a second shotgun blast and wrapping her hands round it before he can fire again.

She shoves the barrel down to point straight at Kane's foot, and despite his struggle she takes a moment to grin wickedly at him - and then she pulls the trigger.

BLAM! Kane's left foot disappears in a cloud of smoke, and he collapses backwards with a HOWL of pain.

Twist TACKLES Tracy as he tries to get back up, pinning him to the ground and HISSING into his face.

TRACY

Get off me, you freak!

Tracy bravely HEADBUTTS Twist, but it only slows her down for a second - she grabs his head and SLAMS it back into the floor of the shack, bashing it down three more times before Tracy finally passes out.

Twist grins, baring her fangs, and starts to lunge down for his neck - when Vivian's hands grab her and pull her back.

TWIST

What the frick are you doing? Hey!

VIVIAN

This isn't the plan, remember?

TWIST

Ah, blow the plan! I'm hungry!

Vivian SLAPS Twist - but instead of making her angry, it manages to bring Twist to her senses.

TWIST (cont'd)

Oh, man... what happened?

VIVIAN

Bloodrush. Classic case. You got like it after that woman in the diner, too.

(CONTINUED)

Twist puts a hand to her lips, seeming almost surprised to find blood there.

TWIST

Oh...

Vivian reaches down and picks up the dazed Kane, slinging him over her shoulder.

VIVIAN

It's alright. You've just gone so long without feeding, every drop's going to make you feel like a recovering alcoholic at a kegger.

TWIST

What about the other one?

VIVIAN

He isn't the prize here.
(pats Kane)
He is. Let's go.

With a shared grin, the two vampires race out of the shack - and moments later, Payton runs back in through the opposite entrance.

PAYTON

They're on the run, Kane! I nailed three of them but the others got...

He trails off as he sees Tracy, flat on his back, and the blood-spattered body of Daria sprawled on the floor. Payton lowers his gun, his face a mask of shock, as we cut to:

Thiersen still has Diego in his iron grip, Diego's body writhing violently as electricity courses across it.

Chris runs into frame, his katana slicing down towards Thiersen's arm, but as it connects with the power currently frying Diego it ZAPS Chris off his feet again.

Julie and Danyaël watch helplessly, looking around for anything they can use to help.

DANYAEL

Ah, man! We're in it deep here,
Jules! What are we gonna do?

Julie spots something off screen and races towards it, leaving a bewildered Danyaël behind.

Thiersen grins as Diego's struggles start to die down, his strength fading...

And then with a powerful WHACK, Thiersen drops Diego, stumbling forwards - revealing Julie, holding one of the dislodged bookshelves.

Thiersen turns to her, snarling, but she's already got her gun up, pressing its barrel against Thiersen's forehead.

JULIE

Don't move.

THIERSEN

(scoffs)

As I've already told you, no mortal weapon can kill-

BLAM! She fires, point blank. Thiersen is flung backwards by the force of the shot, slamming violently into a heap of stray books.

JULIE

Can't beat progress, huh?

She heads over Diego, who GROANS as he tries to pick himself up. His skin is charred, but he's not out yet. Julie tries to help him up, but YELPS as she finds his whole body is too hot to touch!

DIEGO

(dazed)

Doesn't matter... I'll be alright...

JULIE

Yeah, sure, course you will. Come on, let's find that doohickey now that we've taken care of Raiden over...

She trails off - a low CHUCKLING is coming from Thiersen.

JULIE (cont'd)

... there.

She watches in horror as Thiersen pulls himself to his feet, his back to the team - and a wide HOLE in the middle of his head is sealing itself shut.

He turns round, features back in place, and grins broadly back at Julie.

THIERSEN

I think you missed a spot.

JULIE

(to the others)

Let's go!!

28 CONTINUED: (2)

28

Julie heads for the door, and Thiersen soaks up their retreat, LAUGHING as the battered Chris and Diego stagger for the door, Danyaël close behind.

29 INT. BLACK VAN - NEXT

29

Julie jumps into the driver's seat, Danyaël alongside her as Chris and Diego flop into the back of the van. She hits the gas and roars away from the book shop.

CHRIS

No... we have to... go back...

JULIE

Forget it! That guy just handed us all of our asses, Chris, we're not going back there without a better plan or some bigger guns!

Danyaël's cell phone RINGS, and he answers it.

30 INT. PAYTON'S JEEP - NEXT

30

Payton is on the other end, driving frantically through the traffic with the wounded Tracy slumped in the next seat.

PAYTON

Danyaël, right? It's Payton. You gave me your number to let you know how things went - well, the answer is 'not good.'

DANYAEL

(filtered; through phone)
Ah, crap. What happened?

PAYTON

Daria's dead. Those two vampires you're after killed them.

(beat)

And that's not all - they've kidnapped Kane and left Tracy with a broken wrist after pounding him into unconsciousness. I'm heading back to my offices to get Tracy to the infirmary, and then I'm going to my weapons supplier and getting hold of the biggest god damn guns he can get. Head for the Wilder Building, it should be sign-posted from where you guys are.

Payton snaps his phone shut, keeping one eye on the road as he leans across to examine the wounded Tracy. Tracy COUGHS weakly, blood trailing from his lips, and Payton puts his foot down as we cut to:

31 INT. WILDER BUILDING - INFIRMARY - NIGHT

31

Payton is waiting outside the main ward of the small, private clinic-styled infirmary as Julie helps a limping Chris over to him, with Danyael supporting Diego a few steps behind.

PAYTON

Looks like you guys had about as much luck as we did...

JULIE

You could say that.

Julie helps Chris into a chair, and Danyael does the same for Diego, who is muttering dark curses in Spanish.

DANYAEL

I don't know what he's saying, and the look in his eyes is making me not want to ask.

JULIE

How's your friend?

PAYTON

Not so good. They beat him up pretty bad, the doctor here thinks he'll need to go into surgery.

Julie sags, clearly exhausted, as Danyael looks round the expensive-looking clinic.

DANYAEL

So, what, do you, like, own this whole building?

PAYTON

My parents did. I inherited the business when they... well, they were killed.

JULIE

I'm sorry.

PAYTON

That's why I do what I do, and that's why I fell in with Kane's crowd. It gives me a way to focus.

CHRIS

(woozy)

We need to get back out there... we can't leave her...

PAYTON

Is he going to be alright?

(CONTINUED)

JULIE

He'll live. It's Diego I'm worried about.

PAYTON

Yeah, we'd better get him looked at, he's looking pretty...

JULIE

Crispy?

PAYTON

I was aiming more for 'battered,' but yes, 'crispy' works too.

JULIE

I'd better stay here with him. His body's a little... unusual. I'd better make sure your doctors know the full story.

PAYTON

Agreed. And thanks.

DANYAEL

I think before we even think about making a new plan, we need to go see that weapons guy of yours. This warlock took us apart without even blinking!

PAYTON

Don't worry, I'm positive he'll have something to do the trick.

JULIE

Even against an eleven-hundred year old warlock?

PAYTON

(beat)
Almost positive.

Julie sighs, wishing there was some way she could make things go a lot better, as we cut to:

Kane is tied securely to a chair, his head slumped forward. His wounded foot has been wrapped in bandage, but plenty of blood is soaking through.

The apartment he's in looks pretty expensive, with framed art on the walls, a large leather sofa and a high tech entertainment system, which Twist is falling in love with as she channel hops for all she's worth.

Vivian walks in from the kitchen, a glass of water in her hand, rolling her eyes as she sees Twist wrapped up in the TV - the apartment's dead owners sprawled across the couch next to her, their own blood splashed across their necks.

VIVIAN

I've never known anybody be as crazy about TV as you are, human or otherwise.

TWIST

When you're on the road as much as I am, you miss a lot of cool stuff, so any opportunity you get to catch up can only be A Good Thing.

VIVIAN

Whatever you say. You hungry?

TWIST

(shakes head)
Not yet. These two filled me up.

VIVIAN

Sure? 'Cause, you know, I'm sure the good reverend over there can live without a few gulps of the red stuff...

Twist slowly turns to look at the captive Kane, her expression changing to one of raw hunger as her eyes fall on the bloodied bandages round his foot.

Twist starts to clamber over the sofa, but Vivian clamps a hand on her shoulder and pushes her back.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

Actually... I think you and me should go hunt later. I have a feeling you'll drain the guy dry before I get a chance to get what I need out of him!

She pats Twist on the head, and Twist pokes her tongue out at her. Vivian heads over to Kane, standing over him for a beat before THROWING the water over him.

He splutters as he comes round, blinking to clear his focus - and his features darken as he sees Vivian.

KANE

So you finally decided to come back to Shadow Haven?

VIVIAN

I surely did.

KANE

I suppose killing that girl made you feel good inside, didn't it?

VIVIAN

You'll have to ask Twist.

(shouts over)

Twist? How did killing that girl, whatshername, make you feel?

TWIST

(without turning round)

Meh.

VIVIAN

(to Kane)

No comment. Killing you, on the other hand... well, that's going to be like Christmas and Chanukah all rolled into one. But I'm not going to spoil it for myself just yet.

She leans in close to him, grinning.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

You know why I'm here.

KANE

I do. And no, I'm not telling you where to find it.

VIVIAN

Now, see...

Her hand flashes forward - and Kane ROARS in pain as Vivian sinks a huge KITCHEN KNIFE into his thigh!

VIVIAN (cont'd)

... that's not the answer I was looking for.

KANE

(gritted teeth)

I'll die... before...

VIVIAN

Oh, trust me, you won't. I can keep you alive for a very long time, Kane. And every moment is going to feel a lot worse than this...

She LEANS against the knife handle, pushing the blade deeper, and Kane GRUNTS as he tries to choke down a scream.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

... until you start talking.

She grabs his head in his hands, raising it to meet her gaze.

VIVIAN (cont'd)
Where is it?

Kane gasps for breath for a beat - then smiles and starts to laugh.

VIVIAN (cont'd)
You think this is funny?

KANE
I know... that all I have to do is
wait for you to kill me... and then
I know... you'll never get what you-

CRACK! She PUNCHES him hard across the jaw, and Kane slumps again, out cold. Vivian throws her hands up.

VIVIAN
Men! You hit 'em once and they just
fold right up!

She seethes for a second, then calms down, calling out to Twist again:

VIVIAN (cont'd)
Hey, Twist? Wanna learn some new
ways to torture a guy?

Twist hesitates, looking from the TV to Vivian.

TWIST
Okay!

She hops over the back of the sofa, and we cut to:

Payton pulls back a steel shutter door to reveal a room swathed in darkness - until he flicks a light on, revealing row after row of assault weapons, shotguns, rifles, handguns.

Chris and Danyael are gobsmacked as they step into the armoury, Danyael WHISTLING appreciatively.

DANAYEL
Looks like you're all out of bubble
gum...

PAYTON
I'm sorry?

DANYAEL
Never mind. Obscure movie
reference.

CHRIS

This isn't what we need.

PAYTON

I happen to think it's exactly what we need. More to the point, it's been working against the Omega's forces ever since I got into the game, so I don't see any reason to doubt it.

CHRIS

I mean guns aren't the answer. It's no good having a weapon if you can't get close enough to use it.

Chris scans over the racks of weapons dismissively, before his eyes are caught by something off screen.

PAYTON

The sooner we re-arm, the sooner we can return to the subject of getting Kane back.

DANYAEL

Any ideas where they could be?

As if to answer, Danyael's phone RINGS. He looks at the display and hesitates.

PAYTON

Who is it?

DANYAEL

It's... it's Twist!

Danyael pauses again, then answers at last.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Hello?

TWIST

(filtered; through phone)
Well, hey there, Spook! Long time no speak. Not since you and the others tried to kill me, anyway.

DANYAEL

Twist, that's not what we were-

TWIST

Ssh! The grown ups are talking. You're probably with that businessman guy, what's his name... Payton, is it?

DANYAEL
 (looks to Payton)
 Yeah, he's here.

TWIST
 Tell him he can have his friend
 Kane back if he comes and meets us
 at the church in one hour - but
 tell him to bring 'the package.'
 Apparently, he'll know what that
 means. Ciao!

She hangs up.

PAYTON
 Well? What did she say?

Danyael looks up to Payton, but then notices something:

DANYAEL
 Hey - where's Chris?

Payton looks round - and Chris is gone, as we cut to:

The concealed entrance behind the bookshelf comes into view as the shelf rolls back, and as before two BOLTS of energy come sailing out into the store.

Seconds later, Thiersen jumps out, energy crackling round his hands as he scans the shop floor. There's a CLICK from behind him, and he slowly turns...

... to see Chris aiming a GRENADE LAUNCHER straight at him! Chris squints down the target scope, lining Thiersen up.

THIERSEN
 What in the-

CHRIS
 Happy bloody Christmas, you smug
 bastard!

Chris FIRES the missile straight at the warlock...

A beat - and the entire bookstore EXPLODES outwards in a storm of flames, glass and fragments!

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

36

INT. KANE'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - NIGHT

36

Payton is searching through numerous filing boxes, cabinets and files in the basement, scattering things around him as he moves from place to place. Danyaël is trying to help, but his search isn't as vigorous as Payton's.

DANYAEL

What exactly are we looking for?

PAYTON

You'll know it when you see it.

DANYAEL

That's not much help!

PAYTON

Look, I can't explain what-

SLAM! The door leading from upstairs is thrown open, and the team tense up, reaching for any nearby weapons...

... but it's Chris who walks slowly down into the basement, covered from head to foot in soot. He drags the spent grenade launcher in one hand behind him.

DANYAEL

Chris, man! Where did you-

He tosses something to him, and he catches it - it resembles a shot glass with a screwdriver speared through it.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

(blinks)

Is this that col'ter thing?

Chris nods, dropping the launcher with a CLANG and flopping down onto the mattress Diego used earlier.

PAYTON

Is that my grenade launcher?

CHRIS

I needed more bang for my buck.

DANYAEL

What about Thiersen? Is he...

CHRIS

He's not nearly as invincible as he'd like to think.

(beat)

Luckily.

(CONTINUED)

DANYAEL

Dude, Julie's gonna be pissed at you, going off by yourself like that. You know she hates it.

CHRIS

I got the job done, Danyael. I suggest you get over it.

DANYAEL

That's not the point and you know it! What if he'd-

CHRIS

(snaps)

We have what we need now. We have to go to Vivian, this is our best chance at getting Twist back.

DANYAEL

Yeah, but... how does this col'ter work? You do know how to use it on her... don't you?

Chris pauses, then glances at him. Yes, he does.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

And besides, we can't go yet, we don't have that 'package' that Twist asked us for.

PAYTON

Actually...

He stands, taking a small box out of a suitcase stashed beneath one bookshelf.

PAYTON (cont'd)

... we do now.

Chris stares at the box, and we DISSOLVE TO:

Kane sits before the altar, his face cut and bloodied, his hands and wrists tied. Twist stands guard over him as Vivian paces up and down before them, checking her watch.

VIVIAN

They're late.

TWIST

They'll be here.

VIVIAN

Then why are they late?

TWIST

Chris'll be trying to come up with some kind of magic last minute plan to save the day, Julie'll be busy batting her eyelids at him, and Danyael'll be sitting in a corner, smoking and going 'huh' whenever anyone asks him anything.

Twist notices Vivian is giving her a puzzled look.

TWIST (cont'd)

(shrugs)

Creatures of habit.

Vivian paces for another few moments, then reaches into her belt and takes out the kitchen knife she took.

VIVIAN

Screw it. Let's start taking off his fingers and then get him to make the first follow up call.

Kane is too weak to struggle as Twist grabs one of his hands, stretching his fingers out as Vivian approaches with the knife...

... and the church doors are thrown open with a CRASH. The vampires look up to see Payton standing alone in the doorway, a shotgun strapped across his back.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

Well, look at this! The Richard Branson of the underworld takes his first steps into the big league.

Payton strides boldly towards her, reaching slowly into his jacket and taking out the small box. Vivian's face lights up as she sees it.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

For me? You shouldn't have!

PAYTON

First, let Kane go. Once I know he's safe, you can have this.

VIVIAN

You're a sharp negotiator!

PAYTON

I don't deal with vampires.

VIVIAN

(beat; shrugs)

Whatever.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

VIVIAN (cont'd)
 (shouts back)
 Twist? Go on and let the reverend
 attend to his flock.

Twist drags the woozy Kane to his feet and starts to shove him towards Payton.

Meanwhile, up in the rafters, Chris and Danyael are treading carefully across the many support beams criss-crossing the ceiling, their eyes on the two girls below.

DANYAEL
 So... plan?

CHRIS
 Surprise them.

DANYAEL
 Yeah, cause that worked so well
 last time.

CHRIS
 Twist knows we won't kill her
 unless we have no other choice, so
 she'll use that against us.

DANYAEL
 Yeah, but we're not gonna kill
 her... right?

Chris doesn't answer, concentrating on the exchange below.

Twist and Vivian stand together, the woozy Kane between them as Vivian holds out her hand.

VIVIAN
 The old man for the box. On three.
 Ready? One... two...

The girls look up as Danyael suddenly FALLS from the ceiling above them with a SHOUT, landing heavily on the floor a few feet before them!

VIVIAN (cont'd)
 What the...

TWIST
 Danyael?!?

Up in the rafters, Chris closes his eyes and curses at Danyael's natural talent for clumsiness.

CHRIS
 You daft git...

Chris draws his katana and LEAPS down into the fray, and as Vivian and Twist back up, Chris lands smartly before them.

Twist **SHOVES** Kane forward into Chris and Payton, knocking them both to the floor and sending the box flying out of Payton's hand - which Vivian neatly snatches up.

VIVIAN

Yoink! And score one for Team Evil!

Vivian grins as she draws the kitchen knife, advancing on Danyael as he drags himself to his feet - Twist, meanwhile, slaps her baseball bat into her palm as she faces off against Chris.

TWIST

Come to take me home and give me a spanking for being such a bad girl?

CHRIS

I've come to help you, Twist.

TWIST

Help me with what?

CHRIS

This isn't you! If you weren't under this spell or whatever it is influencing you, you'd see that!

TWIST

Maybe I like being back to my old self! You ever think of that?

Chris hesitates, realising Vivian and Danyael are watching their exchange, almost forgetting to fight themselves.

TWIST (cont'd)

Well? Have you?

CHRIS

(beat)

Yes...

TWIST

Aha! I knew it! So, isn't it possible that part of me never wanted to get into that whole 'crusader of light' crap, and wanted to stay as one of the bad guys?

She **JUMPS** forward, catching Chris off guard and knocking his katana out of his hands. They exchange a few **PUNCHES**, and Vivian **LUNGES** at Danyael with the knife, forcing him onto the defensive.

She catches him with a **SLICE** across his chest, and follows it with a flurry of **PUNCHES** that knock him back.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

I don't believe that! I think you wanted a second chance! Why else would you have given your own life to save your sister?

TWIST

Don't you use her against me!

CHRIS

That's what all this is about, isn't it?

Twist catches him with a PUNCH across his jaw, sending him backwards.

TWIST

Shut up!

CHRIS

You didn't want to have to die for her...

TWIST

(furious)

Shut up!!

She TACKLES him, cracking Chris' head back against the altar, raining punches down on him until he manages to block her, throwing her off him.

Vivian starts towards them to help Twist out, but Danyael manages to knock her to the floor, and the two resume their scuffle.

CHRIS

So this is your second chance to live your life the way you wanted? Another crack at the whip at being a bad girl?

She runs towards him, but he dodges past her, GRABBING her by the waist and SLAMMING her back onto the floor. She struggles to get up, but he pins her down.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Say it!

TWIST

No! That's not...

CHRIS

Say it!!

TWIST

Get off me!

(CONTINUED)

Chris reaches into his jacket - and raises a STAKE up in the air above her!

CHRIS
Last chance!

Her eyes bulge - would he really do it?

TWIST
I...

CHRIS
Three!

TWIST
(suddenly tearful)
Don't make me...

CHRIS
Two!

TWIST
Please! Don't!

CHRIS
One!

He rears back...

TWIST
(screams)
I didn't want to die!!

Chris pauses - and then leans back. Twist bursts into TEARS, howling for all she's worth.

TWIST (cont'd)
(sobbing)
I didn't want to die...

Chris's hand twitches - and the stake is replaced with the col'ter. He STABS it down into her chest, piercing skin and bone with its sharp point, and Twist SCREAMS, a blaze of white light radiating from her and sending Chris reeling.

Chris shields his eyes, looking down at her - but as Danyael CRASHES into a row of pews near to him with a shout, he realises there's still work to be done.

CHRIS
Danyael! Watch her until I get back!

A dazed Danyael clammers over the pews towards Twist, the white glow fading away as he races after Vivian, scooping up his stray katana.

She's heading for the exit, but Chris gets his hand up, mutters an incantation - and a FIREBALL blasts from his hand! It EXPLODES in front of the doors, and Vivian YELPS, stumbling to her feet.

She dives out of the way as Chris reaches her, KICKING the recovering Payton in the face and grabbing his sword. Vivian grins as they start to circle each other, twirling the sword in her hands.

VIVIAN

Look at us, together again!

CHRIS

Just like old times.

VIVIAN

Remember the last good sword fight we had?

CHRIS

The one that ended with you stabbing me in the back?

VIVIAN

That's the one. Good times.

CHRIS

(off box)

I can't let you leave with that, Vivian.

VIVIAN

You don't even know what it is!

CHRIS

I know Kane didn't want you to have it, which is enough for me.

VIVIAN

You want to know what was so important?

Chris pauses, and Vivian pops the top off the box, showing him the contents. It's a small, golden DIAL - a piece of the healing device. Chris' eyes go wide.

CHRIS

Good Lord...

VIVIAN

And here was your so-called 'friend,' sitting on it all this time, when he knew what you were looking for! Sucks to be you, huh? Even your allies don't trust you!

Chris narrows his eyes and SLICES forward with his katana, but Vivian is ready for him, and their sword blades CLASH as they whirl around each other, blades dancing in the light from the fireball by the doors.

CHRIS

I must admit, this changes everything.

VIVIAN

Any particular reason?

CHRIS

Now I know why I can't let you leave with that.

He sweeps his blade down to her legs, but she hops over it - KICKING him in the face. He staggers back, and with a ROAR she DROP KICKS him to the ground, STAMPING on his sword hand.

VIVIAN

I think you're still missing my point, lover...

Before he can move, she SLAMS her sword down into his chest, pinning him to the floor!

Vivian LAUGHS, stepping on his chest as she walks over him, heading over to Twist.

Danyael stands, sword raised, as Vivian approaches, but one look down at the desperately sobbing Twist at his feet is enough to make her smile fade.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

Oh, crap...

DANYAEL

Don't try it, Vivian. I'll-

VIVIAN

(scoffs)

Forget it. I got what I want. You can have her.

(looks at Twist)

She's no good to me any more.

Danyael blinks, surprised, and Vivian takes the chance to run through a back door and disappear.

Chris grits his teeth and reaches for the sword handle, ROARING with pain as he pulls it slowly back out of his chest, throwing it to one side and rolling onto his chest.

He sees Danyael staring at the door Vivian disappeared through, and yells over to him:

37 CONTINUED: (8)

37

CHRIS
Danyael! Get her!

Danyael snaps back to reality, and with a last glance at Twist races for the doorway. Chris crashes back to the ground, his strength leaving him.

38 EXT. CHURCH - ROOFTOP - NEXT

38

Vivian bursts through a doorway and finds herself on the roof of the church, but escape is not an option - she's trapped!

She looks round for a way down, but there's nowhere she can go! She's cut off on all sides by either spires, gargoyles or a general long way down to the street below.

VIVIAN
Damn it!

A fierce wind and rain is kicking up, howling across the roof as she looks for a way down - and she doesn't hear Danyael step out onto the roof behind her until:

DANYAEL
Going somewhere?

Vivian spins to face him - then LAUGHS.

VIVIAN
Oh, it's you! I thought it was someone I had to be worried about.

DANYAEL
Give it time.

He approaches her, clenching his fists, but this just makes her laugh harder.

VIVIAN
So is this how it goes down? You're going to be the one to take care of me? You're nothing! You're not even the first choice for sidekick, you little-

POW! Danyael lands a punch on her mid-putdown. A surprised Vivian reels for a second - and then BACKHANDS Danyael.

He stumbles back, and she SHOUTS as she puts him down with a kick to the chest.

VIVIAN (cont'd)
No! It's not gonna be you!

She grabs him by the shirt, PUNCHING his twice and then BASHING his face into the tiled roof.

(CONTINUED)

VIVIAN (cont'd)
 When I go out, it's not gonna be
 you that does it, you hear me?

She drags him to his feet, then THROWS him towards one of the nearest gargoyles, and Danyaël CRASHES into it, burying him under a pile of stone.

VIVIAN (cont'd)
 It's not gonna be you!!

She steps back, looking round, then finally sees her way out - a BUS is driving down the road leading past the church.

VIVIAN (cont'd)
 All aboard...

She takes a few steps back, judging the distance...

... and then runs out to the edge of the roof, SAILING through the air!

With a WHAM, she lands on the roof, almost skidding off but just managing to keep a hold of it.

Catching her breath, she checks her jacket - and with a broad grin, takes out the box she took from Payton.

Vivian lies on her back as the rain washes over her, CACKLING with unreserved glee, and as the bus drives her away into the night, we cut to:

Chris drags himself over to the still weeping Twist, leaving a trail of blood along the church floor behind him.

CHRIS
 (weakly)
 Twist...

TWIST
 (fearful)
 No... don't come near me...

CHRIS
 Twist, it's alright, you're safe
 now... it's over...

TWIST
 Get away from me!!

She backs up, pressing herself against the altar and hugging her knees like a frightened child.

CHRIS

Twist, I... I don't know what happened, but it's gone... whatever it was, you broke through it...

TWIST

I... I never realised... I never knew that's how I felt!

CHRIS

It doesn't matter now.

Chris is closer to her - but then his eyes fall on the stake he was going to use on her earlier, lying on the ground between them.

Twist's eyes catch it, and there's a beat as Chris and Twist lock gazes.

Twist LUNGES for the stake, and Chris falls as he tries to dive for it, arm outstretched - but he's too far away.

Twist snatches it up and steps back, away from Chris who doesn't have the energy to pick himself back up.

She wipes the tears from her eyes, SNIFFING and trying to fight her tears back down.

TWIST

You know what I've got to do.

CHRIS

No...

TWIST

Chris, do you have any idea what I've done lately?

CHRIS

Twist, we can work it out, you don't have to-

TWIST

No!! Shut up! This isn't about you forgiving me! Don't you get it? It never is! I wasn't trying to do good and be a better person because I wanted your respect! I wanted to make up for the things I did, and now I've undone it all! All of it! All because of what she... that bitch made me remember who I am!

CHRIS

You can't blame yourself! You were under some kind of spell, you-

TWIST

No... it was who I really was.
Before I went to Hell.

She lifts the stake, aiming the point towards her heart.

TWIST (cont'd)

I've killed people the last few
days, Chris. I can't ever go back
to the way I was.

She stares at the stake in her hand, dreamily, as though
she's only a passenger in what she's about to do.

CHRIS

Twist... please...

TWIST

Goodbye, chief. Sorry I wasn't what
you wanted me to be.

She closes her eyes as Chris desperately crawls towards her.
Twist takes a deep breath and rears back with the stake...

CHRIS

No!!

Twist PLUNGES the stake towards her - but Danyael TACKLES her
to the ground, knocking it from her hands and sending them
both crashing to the ground!

She explodes in fury, battering him with her fists and
SCREAMING bloody murder.

TWIST

(frantic)
What did you do? What did you do? I
have to do this! I'm evil! I'll
always be evil! I can't ever change
that! Never!

Danyael holds her down, trying to keep calm.

DANYAEL

(quietly)
Yes, you can.

She stops her struggles, staring up into his eyes. There's a
tear in his big green eyes as he looks down at her.

TWIST

(shakes head)
I can't...

DANYAEL

You can.

TWIST

I can't go back from what I've done
Danyael, not ever... it doesn't
matter what I do, how many people I
save, I can't make up for it, and
now I've just cancelled out
everything I've done since...

(sobs)

Oh, God, Danyael... I've ruined it
all! I've ruined everything!

DANYAEL

(calmly)

Then do more.

She pauses, as if he's just said the most obvious thing in
the world to her.

TWIST

But... but what if it isn't enough?
What if no matter how much we do,
any of us... what if it's never
enough.

DANYAEL

That's the chance we have to take.

He leans in closer to her, their faces inches apart.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

But I'm taking it with you.

A beat - and then he KISSES her. It's slow, tender - he's not
looking for anything past this moment. He just wants to give
her something to hold herself together.

He breaks the kiss and leans back. Twist stares up at him
with wide, tearful eyes.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Now we've gotta get out of here.

She nods, and he stands, holding out a hand to help her up.
After a long beat, she slowly reaches out for it, and he
pulls her to his feet.

Danyael looks round - a battered Payton has Chris' arm over
his shoulder, with Kane leaning against a pew for support a
little further back.

Twist shivers, and he shrugs off his jacket, wrapping it and
a comforting arm round her.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Are we all here?

(CONTINUED)

PAYTON

(nods)

Long night, but we're here.

DANYAEL

Let's go.

(looks at Twist)

I think we could all use some rest.

Chris reaches out to stop Danyael as he walks past.

CHRIS

Vivian?

DANYAEL

She got away, man. I'm sorry.

Chris nods, and Danyael leads Twist away, heading towards the main doors. The fire has gone out, leaving just a pillar of smoke, and as the others make their way to the exit, we DISSOLVE to:

Slouched low in the back seat of an otherwise empty Greyhound bus, all the sun blinds around her pulled down, Vivian talks into her cell phone.

VIVIAN

Yeah, it wore off.

(listens)

I don't know why, I don't even know what you did to her, Parker! All I know is she was a clean slate for a few days, and then they broke her back into her usual self.

(listens)

Whatever - look, as far as I'm concerned, we're even for now. Besides...

She holds up the box containing the device component and grins.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

... I did get something I wanted out of the experience. Anyway, I've gotta go - I have an appointment to keep. My actual boss is waiting.

She snaps her phone shut and settles back, and we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF SHOW