

SOMEWHERE INBETWEEN

"Lady of The Night"

by
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TEASER

FADE IN:

1

EXT. ROCK VENUE - NIGHT

1

TITLE OVER: Chicago, Illinois

Outside the back entrance of a decent-sized rock club, the sounds of muffled MUSIC coming from within as the back fire doors are pushed open.

A BOUNCER motions for some people within the club to step outside, and as a VAN backs into frame we get three young ROCKERS making their way outside.

One (male) carries a guitar case, one (female) carries a violin case, and the third (also female) hefts a flight case out after them. The guitarist is tall, dark and handsome, the violinist short, dark-haired and pretty and the other pale, long-haired and gorgeous. A good-looking band, basically.

BOUNCER

Are you lot alright from here?

GUITARIST

Yeah, we're good. Thanks.

The Bouncer nods and re-enters the club, shutting the door after him.

The van stops reversing, parks, and with a SLAM of a door a fourth rocker walks into frame, opening the back door and taking the flight case from its owner.

The guitarist lights a cigarette, and the violinist shakes her head.

VIOLINIST

Vincent, how many times? If she catches you smoking again, she'll-

VINCENT

If she catches me, I already have plenty of equally valid excuses for it. I'm sure you can come up with a few all by yourself, Kitty.

KITTY shakes her head and grins as VINCENT takes a deep drag from his cigarette.

VINCENT (cont'd)

Hey, Janine, what's your take on smoking?

JANINE, the keyboard player, turns to face Vincent, tilting her head to the side as she thinks.

(CONTINUED)

JANINE

It smells.

Kitty chuckles and nudges Vincent, who rolls his eyes and passes his guitar to the fourth member.

VINCENT

Take care of this one, Robbie. I managed not to do the viking funeral act to close the set, if only out of respect for this place's strict fire regulations.

ROBBIE, the band's roadie, grins as he takes the guitar - and then SLINGS it into the back of the van with a CRASH!

A beat - and the two boys burst out LAUGHING.

ROBBIE

If you people are going to start taking better care of your equipment, then I'm gonna have to start mistreating it more often. We've got our appearances to think of, you know?

KITTY

(sighs)

Boys.

(looks around)

Where's our illustrious leader, anyway?

JANINE

Inside, saying hi to the fans.

VINCENT

Sounds about right. Nobody ever cares about the guy in the box, after all.

JANINE

What?

VINCENT

Old magicians' saying.

Vincent finishes his cigarette as the girls climb into the van, and Robbie heads round the front to start the engine.

He drops the fag end to the floor and grinds it under his boot - but then pauses, slowly raising his head.

ROBBIE (O.S.)

Come on, Vinnie. It's warmer in here!

Vincent hasn't moved - and as Robbie poked his head out of the van, he sees why:

Four MEN are stepping out of the shadows around Vincent, all looking ready for a rumble. They're dressed in dark, tattered clothes, with pale skin - and BLOOD RED eyes.

VAMPIRES.

VAMP #1

Going somewhere, superstar?

VAMP #2

Probably off to inflict their excuse for music on another part of our turf.

Robbie has climbed out of the van in the background, urging the nervous girls to stay inside as he heads over.

Vincent, to his credit, sticks his chin out defiantly - he's not about to let these guys intimidate him.

VINCENT

Beats the crap that's usually on around here. What was the saying we came up with, Robbie?

ROBBIE

Replacing talent with noise.

VINCENT

That's the one.

It's two on four now. The lead vampire steps forward, getting in Vincent's face.

VAMP #1

You've got three seconds to get your rebel faces out of my town before I rip them off, punk.

VINCENT

Technically, we're 'darkwave.'

VAMP #1

(beat; frowns)
What?

VINCENT

We're not 'punk.' Punk has more guitars.

CRUNCH! Vincent surprises the vamp by RAMMING his knee up into his groin!

VINCENT (cont'd)
But just as much balls.

The vamp folds and crumples to the ground as his comrades fly in to the attack!

Vincent and Robbie blink - and when they open their eyes, they've turned the same BLOOD RED as their attackers!

Vincent is on the ball, throwing a flurry of PUNCHES at the next vamp to charge in, but a third LEAPS through the air and knocks him to the ground.

Robbie is also no slouch as a fighter, KICKING one vamp and then driving his KNEE up into his face with a CRUNCH.

His nose broken, the vamp drops and Robbie is straight onto the next, dragging him back off the pinned Vincent.

Robbie holds as Vincent PUNCHES, but he's only got a few shots in before he's NAILED by the recovering Vamp #1.

Robbie is HEADBUTTED and stumbles back, and the two boys find the tables turning as they struggle against two opponents each.

Over by the van, the girls exchange a look, before Kitty jumps out of the van, racing over to help as Janine bursts from the back doors.

She tosses something to Kitty - a STAKE - and without breaking stride Kitty races up to the first vamp with a YELL, spinning him round and RAMMING the stake into his chest!

That vamp drops and Vincent STUNS the next, with Janine spotting a pile of empty beer crates standing by the back door.

She grabs one, lifts it up and SMASHES it against the wall, creating a batch of handy stakes, and grabs one.

Robbie is on the ground, taking plenty of KICKS to the gut as the others steam in - Kitty TRIPS the first vamp, rolls him onto his back and STAKES him, as Vincent TACKLES #3.

Janine finds herself face to face with the leader, who SWATS the stake out of her hand and GRABS her by the throat.

She's lifted up into the air as the third vamp is STAKED behind him, and as Janine kicks her legs, the lead vamp doesn't notice the others sneaking up on him...

CRASH! Another empty crate smashes into the back of the vamp's head, and he hits the deck.

(CONTINUED)

Stunned, he rolls onto his back and finds Kitty's BOOT pressed against his throat, pinning him down. However, to the group's surprise, he starts to LAUGH.

Kitty and Vincent exchange a puzzled look as Janine helps the winded Robbie to his feet.

VINCENT (cont'd)
Something funny?

VAMP #1
You have no idea... what's coming... do you?

KITTY
(pushes foot down)
Somehow, I don't think we're interested.

VAMP #1
You will be... when your little festival... burns to the ground!

He starts to LAUGH again, and after a moment Vincent snatches the last stake from Kitty and STABS the vamp with it.

His laughter dies away and his body falls still at last. Kitty removes her boot, the foursome looking pretty spooked.

KITTY
How could they know about that? Do you think-

VINCENT
I think he meant what he said.
(dark look)
And we're all in a lot of trouble.

Off the group's worried expressions, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

2

INT. BLACK VAN - NIGHT

2

The team are all riding in the van - JULIE drives with DANYAEL shotgun, while DIEGO sits in the back with TWIST and SYREN.

Twist is attempting to show Syren how to work her mp3 player, while Diego leafs through a local paper. Danyael scrolls through various radio channels, muttering to himself.

JULIE

For God's sake, Danyael, just pick one and stick with it!

DANYAEL

I'm trying! They're all playing trashy chart stuff or some kind of god awful r'n'b. What am I supposed to do?

He fiddles for another moment until Julie finally reaches forward and flips the radio OFF.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

(beat)

Or, we could do that...

JULIE

What's gotten into you? You've been bouncing off the walls ever since we got here. Anything we should know about?

DIEGO

(off paper)

Nothing that I have seen.

Danyael grins, reaching into his jacket pocket and taking out a crumpled flyer.

DANYAEL

It won't be in the paper.

He passes the flyer to Diego, who scans it over and then passes it to Julie.

It's advertising a music festival to be held this weekend, with a list of band names she's obviously never heard of.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

That's this weekend, right here in Chicago.

(CONTINUED)

Julie shrugs and passes the flyer back to him.

JULIE

And?

DANAYEL

'And'? Have you seen some of the people who are gonna be there? They've got Emilie Autumn, L'Ame Immortelle, Lady Joo Hee - they've even got Play Dead back out of retirement!

DIEGO

We can see your enthusiasm, Danyael, but none of these bands really mean anything to us.

DANYAEL

Ah, that's where you're wrong.
(sly)
They're all vampire bands.

JULIE

What, bands made up of vampires?

DANYAEL

Yup. The vampire underground scene's pretty strong all over the country, and Chicago's one of the places it all started. Goes back to the industrial stuff from the Nineties.

JULIE

Okay, thanks for the history lesson, still failing to see how this applies to any of us.

DANYAEL

Two words, Jules - day off.

She raises an eyebrow, and as if by magic Twist appears between their seats.

TWIST

Did someone say 'day off'?

Danyael hands her the flyer, and she coos in excitement as she reads down the band names.

TWIST (cont'd)

Sweet! This where we're heading?

JULIE

Well, no, we're here to Waltham and pick up some spell components, then we've got that errand to run for...

She trails off - both Twist AND Danyaël are giving her the puppy dog eyes. She sighs.

DANYAEL

Trust me on this one, Jules. I'll know plenty of people there, I can get us in for nothing. Free food and beer, and a place to lay our heads that isn't a cheap ass motel room or the inside of the van.

TWIST

Hey, I was sold at 'free food.'

Julie mulls this over - she obviously doesn't want to do this herself, but she can't deny the others. Finally, she nods.

JULIE

Just for one night. Not the whole weekend.

DANYAEL

(beams)
It's a deal.

TWIST

(squees)
We're going to see Play Dead!

DANYAEL

I know!

The two grin happily at each other - and then Twist HUGS him tightly. She releases him, and suddenly looks awkward, retreating back into the van without another word.

Rejoining Syren in the back, she finds the young lady HUMMING to herself, the mp3 player's headphones in her ears.

TWIST

Find anything good?

No response. The player's turned up to standard twist volume, shutting out the outside world. Twist rolls her eyes and settles back down, as we cut to:

The van is parked outside a drive-in bar and grill, which looks pretty busy given the rest of the cars around.

4

INT. ROADSIDE BAR - NEXT

4

The team, minus Danyael, have taken a booth against one wall, scanning the rest of the packed bar around them. It's a lively place, with rock music blasting out of the sound system that only Twist seems to appreciate.

She nudges Diego, noticing his grim expression against the onslaught of the music.

TWIST

C'mon, Diego, lighten up! It's not like they're playing jazz, is it?

DIEGO

I like jazz.

TWIST

(rolls eyes)
You would.

SYREN

Where is Danyael?

TWIST

Over there, hopefully getting us some free stuff like he said.

She looks towards the far side of the bar, where Danyael stands with Robbie, the two chatting amicably.

Joining Danyael, both men have a beer in hand as they chew the fat, Danyael indicating back to the others.

DANYAEL

So, yeah, you know, just me and my posse.

ROBBIE

(teasing)
'Posse'? What is this, the Eighties?

DANYAEL

Hey, I was Turned in the Eighties. Victim of circumstance.

ROBBIE

(grins)
Yeah, no problem. Any friends of the great Danyael Norton are friends of ours.

DANYAEL

'The Great'? People really call me that?

(CONTINUED)

ROBBIE

(beat)

No.

He laughs, and Danyael joins in, Robbie leading him back towards another table round the corner.

Seated there are Vincent, Kitty and Janine, enjoying a quiet drink - the music is much less deafening round here.

ROBBIE (cont'd)

Ladies and gent, this is none other than Danyael Norton. DJ out of Atlanta, personally recommended by the late, great Spice.

The trio at the table lift their glasses in a toast.

VINCENT, KITTY & JANINE

(together)

To Spice.

Danyael blinks at the gesture, then takes a seat.

VINCENT

So! What brings you to Chicago, Mr. Norton?

Danyael takes the flyer back out of his jacket, to a nod of approval from Kitty.

KITTY

Excellent choice. And I'm not just saying that because our band are up near the top of the bill.

DANYAEL

Yeah, my poss-

(glances at Robbie)

My friends and I are just in town for a few days, so I wanted to show them what real music sounds like.

VINCENT

(to Robbie)

Is he sharking for freebies?

Robbie nods, and Danyael chuckles, shrugging.

DANYAEL

Guilty as charged. I'm sure we can arrange a way for us to earn our keep, if you need a hand with anything.

JANINE

Well, we have got kind of a problem
with-

She's cut off by a sharp look from Kitty. Janine lowers her head, but Danyaël spotted the exchange. He wisely moves on.

DANYAEL

So... you three are 'My Pet
Skeleton,' right?

VINCENT

Technically, four. We're waiting
for the lady, she isn't here yet.

DANYAEL

'The lady'?

KITTY

Our reclusive lead singer. She's
always late, except for gigs. Kind
of a trademark.

Danyaël nods, fishing a packet of cigarettes from his pocket.

ROBBIE

Sorry, Dan, you'll need to smoke
outside.

VINCENT

Vampire bar. Not too hot on the
whole 'naked flames' thing.

DANYAEL

Gotcha. I'll be back in a minute.

He stands and heads for the nearest exit, leaving the group
at the table to talk about him as we cut to:

Danyaël steps outside and lights up a smoke, his head nodding
to the music he can still here.

His gaze falls on a gang of scrawny youths hanging around the
team's van - they couldn't be looking more suspicious if they
tried.

Danyaël frowns and takes a few steps closer - then sees one
is trying to lever open the van's door!

DANYAEL

Hey!

The kids' heads snap round, and as Danyaël picks up speed
they scatter, disappearing into the night.

5 CONTINUED:

5

Danyael makes a few more steps...

... and the bar behind him EXPLODES!

He's THROWN through the air, landing with a BANG as the back half of the bar detonates into flames behind him. The parking lot is showered with hunks of burning woodwork and plaster, and Danyael's hands go to his head for cover.

Scrambling to his feet, his jaw drops as he turns and sees the bar has been blown almost in two by the force of the blast!

Hearing SCREAMS and CRIES of alarm coming from inside, he quickly races back inside, skirting around stray debris and small fires, heading back into:

6 INT. ROADSIDE BAR - NEXT

6

The bar is in FLAMES all around, with crowds of panicking people herding towards the various exits.

Danyael's eyes water as he makes his way forward, seeing several BODIES at his feet - some impaled on pieces of the bar itself, others BURNED.

DANYAEL

Twist! Julie!

JULIE (O.S.)

Danyael! Over here!

Fighting his way through the terrified mass of bodies and thick black smoke, he gets as far as the booth - but Twist isn't with the others.

Syren clings to Diego as he carries her, and Julie COUGHS through the smoke, pressing a napkin over her mouth.

DANYAEL

Twist? Where's Twist?

JULIE

I don't know! She said... she said she was going to look for you, and then... then the bar just...

She's woozy from smoke inhalation, and Danyael hurriedly pushes her towards Diego as he hurries back into the inferno.

DANYAEL

Twist! Where are you? Twist!

Pushing past fleeing people, Danyael sees that one section of the roof has collapsed, and more CRIES for help can be heard over by the rubble.

(CONTINUED)

Danyaël hurries forward, finding a young female VAMP with her leg SKEWERED to the ground by a fallen light fitting, SOBBING as she tries to pull herself loose.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Hang on!

He skids into frame, gripping the fitting and pulling - but it's down tight. The girl HOWLS in pain as he tries again - and as the fire reaches the bottles behind the bar, there's another small EXPLOSION!

Danyaël ducks, shielding the girl as a gout of FLAME shoots their way, and when it's clear he looks round for something he can use.

Scooping up a chunk of stray brick, he starts to SMASH through the floorboards around the girl's leg, creating a hole so she can move her leg free.

Grabbing the light fitting in both hands, he tenses and PULLS - and the skewer slides cleanly out of her leg!

She's still SOBBING as Danyaël helps her up - and then his eyes fall on something else.

Twist, flat on her back and out cold, a huge SUPPORT BEAM from the roof pinning her down, and FIRE all around her!

Danyaël looks around helplessly - everyone else has cleared out! He's got no-one to help him get the girl to safety...

... until Diego surges back through the smoke, sweeping the wounded vamp up into his arms.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Twist! She's still-

DIEGO

Go! Save her. I will get this woman to safety and return.

He streaks away, slipping back through the smoke, and Danyaël races over to the pinned down Twist.

Grunting with exertion, he tries and fails to shift the beam on his own.

He heads for the bar and RIPS OUT a piece of the railing, trying to use it as a lever, but all that does is SNAP the flimsy metal in half.

Frustrated, he puts his shoulder against the beam and PUSHES again, but with the fire closing in he's running out of time.

(CONTINUED)

DANYAEL

C'mon, Twist, wake up! Help me save
your ass!

He NUDGES Twist with his foot - and she stirs with a GROAN.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Twist! Twist, hey! Wake up! You
have to help me!

TWIST

(groggy)
Diego...

Danyael hesitates - and then Twist comes round fully when she
realises there's fire all around!

TWIST (cont'd)

Holy crap!

She tries to stand but finds she's stuck, putting her hands
against the beam and PUSHING.

TWIST (cont'd)

Come on, Danyael, put your damn
back into it!

DANYAEL

The hell does it look like I'm
doing?!?

They keep trying, the beam starting to move slowly but surely
- but as more bottles POP and send FIRE arcing round the
walls, Twist lets out a SHRIEK and covers her face.

She's too freaked out by the fire to help, and Danyael knows
it - and with no sign of any help, he's up against the wall
this time...

... and then WHAM! Diego's back, SHOVING his full weight
against the beam like the hero that he is.

Danyael joins in, and the duo finally push the beam just
enough for Twist to free her legs.

She's almost SOBBING with fear as Diego reaches for her,
scooping her up and clambering back into the main area.

Danyael follows, the duo hitting a burst of speed as the rest
of the roof COLLAPSES behind them, filling the bar with
burning wreckage as we track out to:

Bursting out of the smoke and into the car park, the soot-
blackened trio collapse onto the ground, exhausted.

(CONTINUED)

Julie and Syren hurry over, Danyael looking up to see the cluster of shaken bar clients scattered around the car park.

As Twist clings to Diego, her eyes squeezed tightly shut, Danyael stands, still panting with exertion on reflex.

Vincent and Kitty approach him, looking down at Twist as the others fuss around her.

KITTY

Is she alright?

DANYAEL

She's not hurt. She just doesn't do fire. She'll be okay.

VINCENT

Girlfriend?

DANYAEL

What?

VINCENT

Is she your girlfriend? I saw how you went back in for her.

DANYAEL

Oh, no, no, she's...
(beat)

No.

Kitty exhales, wiping a smear of soot from Vincent's face.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Who would have done something like this?

VINCENT

Remember when you offered your help in case we needed it?

DANYAEL

Yeah?

KITTY

(wary)
Vinnie...

VINCENT

It's alright, Kitty. I think he's proven he's got the stones.

DANYAEL

Stones for what?

VINCENT

We've got a few trad gangs in our area. Ten bucks says they're behind all this - they've been attacking our people and properties for months now.

KITTY

One of them told us they're going to hit the festival tomorrow.

DANYAEL

So you need some extra security?

VINCENT

Pretty much. One of the things we heard about you is how you do this kind of thing now. You know, travel around, helping people out. You, that blonde chick and some guy named Chris?

DANYAEL

Yeah, Chris, he's... he's not here. But that's still what we do.

Julie joins them, still COUGHING.

JULIE

Twist's fine. Shaken, but okay.

DANYAEL

(relieved)

Good. Julie, this is Vincent and Kitty, they're part of the festival.

Julie shakes their hands, COUGHING some more.

VINCENT

Human?

She nods.

VINCENT (cont'd)

We'll get you to the local hospital. None of us have to worry about getting smoke in our lungs, after all.

JULIE

It's okay. I'm fine.
(off their looks)
Really.

Danyaël puts a comforting arm around her as a TAXI pulls up at the edge of the car park. Vincent nudges Kitty as he notices.

VINCENT

Well, well. Look who it is, turning up after all the action!

Danyaël and Julie turn round:

Stepping out of the taxi, and looking suitably shocked at the mayhem around her, is a pale, dark-haired and utterly gorgeous YOUNG WOMAN.

She hurries forward, scanning the faces in the crowd until she spots Vincent and Kitty, who are joined by Janine as she rushes over to meet them.

She throws her arms round them all, the group sharing an embrace as Julie looks up at Danyaël - and sees the startled expression he's wearing.

JULIE

Danyaël?

The new arrival pauses, slowly turning round, and her jaw drops when she sees Danyaël.

YOUNG WOMAN

Dan... Danyaël?

DANYAEL

(gulps)

Hey, Naomi.

(beat; to Julie)

Jules, I'd, uh, like you to meet

Naomi... my ex.

Julie raises an eyebrow as she looks to NAOMI, who breaks out into a broad grin as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

8 INT. REHEARSAL STUDIO - NIGHT

8

Settling in at the rehearsal room that apparently doubles as a home base for Naomi's band, Vincent and the others unpack their stuff from the evening's concert.

Over in one corner is more of a recreational space - sofas, a TV and Playstation, and a drinks cooler. Naomi opens the cooler to reveal rows of BLOOD BAGS, taking two out and opening up the microwave that sits in a nearby kitchenette.

She's mid-conversation with Danyaël, chatting away while he just keeps looking her up and down, hardly able to believe it's her.

NAOMI

(continuing)

... and then after we moved out of Seattle, we tried to head over to LA for a while but it didn't really suit us. One thing led to another, and then we were back home in Chicago, and that's how it's stayed for a few years now.

DANYAEL

Hmm.

She pours each blood bag into a mug and pops them both into the microwave, setting it for a minute.

NAOMI

You know, what with the music scene round here still as good as it ever was, it's a great place to settle. Plenty of friendly faces.

DANYAEL

Hmm.

NAOMI

And before I knew it, we've got enough of a network round here to set up this festival, and with all the trouble going on these days, I figured 'why not'?

DANYAEL

Hmm.

The microwave 'dings,' and Naomi takes out two warmed-up mugs of blood, passing one to Danyaël. He blinks and stares at it, as it not knowing what to do.

(CONTINUED)

NAOMI

Don't worry. It's animal.

He finally takes the mug and has a sip.

NAOMI (cont'd)

Oh, you're not Jewish now, are you?

He peers at her over the mug - and she cracks a smile. He manages one back at last.

NAOMI (cont'd)

Sorry. Always play that one on guests.

She leans against the counter with him, watching as Diego sits with Twist over by the sofas, Twist still looking shaken from her earlier endeavours.

NAOMI (cont'd)

So... are you actually going to talk to me, or just keep staring awkwardly at me all night?

DANYAEL

Uh...

NAOMI

(rolls eyes)

Yep, you haven't changed.

DANYAEL

(grins)

Sorry.

NAOMI

Well, okay, maybe the 'heroic rescue from burning building' part is new.

DANYAEL

I've picked a few things up.

NAOMI

(off group)

So I can see. The other vampire, is she your gi-

DANYAEL

No, and why does everyone keep asking me that?

NAOMI

Just the way you keep looking at her. You used to look at me like that.

She smiles - there's no animosity between these two, whatever happened in the past. She nudges him.

NAOMI (cont'd)

Come on, introduce me properly.

She starts to head for the others, and Danyael follows, still looking a little unsure of himself.

Julie looks up as Naomi takes a seat, and she offers the group a little wave.

NAOMI (cont'd)

Hey, all. Is your friend feeling any better?

TWIST

(dry)

Almost got burned alive and squished flat, and now Syren won't give me my freakin' iPod back. I'm peachy.

NAOMI

(blinks)

Oh, uh, really? 'Cause I could, you know, get you some-

JULIE

She's just being... Twist. It'll pass.

Twist pouts as Julie offers Naomi her hand.

JULIE (cont'd)

Thanks for putting us up here.

NAOMI

Oh, no problem. We basically live here anyway, so we've got plenty of space for guests.

TWIST

I'll bet.

Twist catches Danyael throwing her a sharp look, and with a roll of her eyes she looks away. Twist's remark goes unheard by Naomi.

DIEGO

So tell us, *senora*, how long have you and your friends been under attack from other groups of *vampiros*?

NAOMI

Since not long after we moved back down here.

Vincent and Janine head over as Naomi continues:

NAOMI (cont'd)

I think they just took a dislike to us, 'cause apparently it'd been pretty quiet before then.

VINCENT

Yeah, just out luck to show up as a gang war kicks off, huh?

JANINE

Naomi, we're gonna head out and make sure everyone's alright after the fire.

NAOMI

Okay, I'll stay here.

JANINE

Are you sure? You don't want to come out and-

NAOMI

I'm fine. Thanks.

Janine nods, and as she leaves with Vincent and Kitty in tow, Naomi turns back to the team.

JULIE

You can go with them if you want.

NAOMI

No, it's okay, I'm...

DANYAEL

Naomi doesn't go out all that much. Never did.

NAOMI

It's just a 'me' thing. I'm kind of private.

TWIST

Well, I'm sure that's a relief for everyone.

Danyael scowls at her again, this time heading over to Twist and taking her by the arm.

DANYAEL

Could you all excuse us? Twist and I need a quick word outside.

He drags the protesting Twist out into another room, and as Naomi offers Julie a warm smile, we cut to:

9 INT. REHEARSAL STUDIO - CORRIDOR - NEXT

9

Danyael pulls the door back into the main room closed and rounds on Twist, who stands with her arms crossed.

He glances to his side - Syren is sitting with her back against the wall, still listening to music and humming to herself.

After checking that she can't hear them, Danyael turns back to Twist, not looking happy.

DANYAEL

Alright, what the hell is the matter with you?

TWIST

Nothing's the 'matter' with me. I'm fine. Like I said.

DANYAEL

Then what's with the Queen Bitch act in there?

TWIST

No clue what you're talking about.

DANYAEL

C'mon, Twist. I know you well enough to get when you don't like someone. What don't you agree with about Naomi?

TWIST

Nothing. I'm sure she's a wonderful person.

Danyael pulls his 'I call bullsh*t' face on her, and she SIGHS theatrically.

TWIST (cont'd)

You're just being pretty quick to trust her, is all.

DANYAEL

Meaning?

TWIST

Meaning, she shows up just after the explosion and subsequent burning down of the proverbial house, without an explanation for where she's been, and you don't find that just the tiniest bit suspicious?

DANYAEL

No, actually, I don't.

TWIST

Oh, right. I forgot. You two have 'history.'

DANYAEL

(narrows eyes)

Is that what this is about?

TWIST

(scoffs)

As if! I'm just saying, don't jump to trust this girl just 'cause you know what her natural hair colour is.

Danyael scowls at her, turning and heading back inside without another word. Twist sighs again, knowing she could have handled that better as we return to:

10

INT. REHEARSAL STUDIO - NEXT

10

The group look up as a sour-faced Danyael enters.

NAOMI

Everything okay?

DANYAEL

Fine.

JULIE

Naomi's been telling us about the festival.

DIEGO

And her concerns for its security.

Danyael takes a seat as Naomi continues:

NAOMI

The way I see it, this isn't a good time to be a rebel vampire. There are less of us every day, and the movement round here needs something big to keep it all together.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

NAOMI (cont'd)

A chance to blow off some steam, a show of solidarity to pull everyone on board again. Like it used to be.

DANYAEL

You really think a few bands on a stage will manage all that?

NAOMI

(nods)

It's as much a symbol of us against them as anything else. The trades have made it known that they want to stop the festival, so if it still goes ahead then that's a big old 'f-you' to all of them.

DANYAEL

And if it doesn't?

NAOMI

Not an option. They want to make an example out of us, and I can't let that happen.

Naomi's phone RINGS after that, and she excuses herself to take the call. Danyael sips his mug of blood as Julie leans forward, lowering her voice.

JULIE

I don't like this, Danyael.

DANYAEL

What's not to like?

JULIE

This is somebody else's fight we're getting mixed up in.

DIEGO

They are all someone else's fight, Julie.

JULIE

That's not what I mean. Look, I'm just saying...

DANYAEL

You don't think we should get involved.

JULIE

Frankly, no. We don't have the time or energy to get bogged down helping somebody else fight their war. We've got our own things to be doing.

DANYAEL

And what about helping people who need it? Or is that gonna be too 'inconvenient'?

JULIE

(rubs head)
I'm just saying-

DIEGO

I agree with Danyael. We should stay.

Danyael blinks, surprised by this show of support.

DIEGO (cont'd)

Not only is this as worthy a cause as any, in my opinion, but Danyael and this Naomi clearly once had strong feelings for each other.

DANYAEL

Uh... well, we...

DIEGO

And yet, to still offer his help even after they went their separate ways shows a great sense of honour.

(to Danyael)

That is something I will always respect.

Danyael lets this sink in, turning back to the defeated Julie just as Naomi returns.

NAOMI

Sorry. Festival stuff, you know. Logistical nightmare.

JULIE

We were just saying-

DIEGO

We were just deciding how best to offer our services to help you protect your festival.

NAOMI

(brightens)
Really?

DANYAEL

(smiles)
Really.

NAOMI

That's great! Uh, just let me make
a few calls, and I'll...

She trails off - the sound of SINGING is drifting into the
room.

NAOMI (cont'd)

Who's that?

JULIE

Oh, that's Syren. She's one of
ours.

NAOMI

That's one of my songs...

Following the sound of Syren's voice, Naomi steps out of the
room, and after a beat Danyael follows, into:

11 INT. REHEARSAL STUDIO - CORRIDOR - NEXT

11

Naomi is standing and watching the singing Syren as Danyael
joins her. Syren, eyes closed, is lost in the song as she
croons along.

NAOMI

She's incredible...

DANYAEL

Yeah, that's our Syren.

NAOMI

Is that her real name?

DANYAEL

We think so.
(off her look)
Long story.

She heads over to Syren and crouches down. Syren opens her
eyes, and Naomi reacts when she realises Syren is blind.
Syren takes the headphones out and looks round.

SYREN

Who's there?

NAOMI

Oh, hey, it's me, Naomi. Danyael's
friend.

SYREN

Hello. I'm Syren.

NAOMI

That's... that's an amazing voice you've got there, Syren. You're singing my song better than I can!

SYREN

Oh, that was one of your songs? I liked it.

NAOMI

You seem to know it pretty well, too. You been listening to us for long?

SYREN

No, it just came on. I listened to it once, then played it back so I could sing along.

NAOMI

(beat)
One listen and you can sing it that well?

She turns to Danyael, grinning.

NAOMI (cont'd)

I just found another way you guys can help me out.

Danyael chuckles as we cut to:

Another bar in another part of town, but nobody's drunk here for many years. The place sports boarded up windows, cobwebs and a thick layer of dust and grime all around.

With a RATTLE of padlock, the front door opens and the scrawny youths last seen trying to break into the van enter.

VOICE (O.S.)

You're late. And empty-handed.

The youths freeze, exchanging nervous glances as FOOTSTEPS ring out - someone is approaching from out of the gloom.

A figure steps under one of the lights, reaching up to pull the chain and switch it on - revealing a grizzled VAMPIRE, an ugly SCAR on his left cheek and another running down from his right eye.

YOUTH #1

S-sorry, Chains, w-we ran into some-

BLAM! The youth FLIES backwards with a SCREAM, a smoking BULLET HOLE in his chest!

As he hits the wall, he starts to convulse, his body GLOWING with a brilliant BLUE LIGHT - until with a final SHRIEK he bursts into FLAMES!

The other youths shield their faces as the flames consume the youth in an instant - and an instant later, there's nothing left but ASH.

They slowly turn back to CHAINS as he lowers his gun - a model remarkably similar to Julie's!

CHAINS

First one of you to even start to say 'trouble' gets to find out what other kinds of bullets I can shoot with this thing.

The youths back up - this guy clearly commands a lot of respect round here.

CHAINS (cont'd)

So, basically, you brought me nothing, is that it?

(tuts; shakes head)

I'm very disappointed. Enough to maybe show one more of you what happens when you come back without the goods.

He raises the gun again, and one terrified youth shouts out:

YOUTH #2

W-wait! Wait!

CHAINS

(beat)

I'm listening.

YOUTH #2

There's... there's new people in town. Vampires, some of 'em. They... they helped get people out after we set the place to blow up, just like you told us.

Chains frowns, lowering his gun.

CHAINS

These 'new people' got names?

The youths look to each other again, drawing a blank.

CHAINS (cont'd)

Never mind. Get back out there and find out who they are and what they want, and if they're gonna get in the way of us burning that freakshow to the ground tomorrow night, kill 'em all.

(beat)

Either way, you get a chance to take out that bitch Naomi, you take it. She's the one. Get her, the whole house of cards falls down.

(beat)

So go on already! Scram!

The youths don't need to be told twice, breaking and dashing back out of the door in a heartbeat.

Chains tucks his gun back into his belt and starts to laugh - a deep, raspy chuckle - and from that, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

13

EXT. MAIN STAGE - DAY

13

Construction of the stage for the evening's festival is in full swing, with teams of workers clambering over scaffolds and the various rigs and stands that will make up the covered stage when it's all put together.

The stage has been set up inside a small cul-de-sac of old buildings, with one main route in from the street and plenty of space for the crowd to get close to the action.

Standing back from the hive of activity are Naomi and Danyael, Danyael glancing up at the sun overhead as the two enjoy the shade of the building behind them.

DANYAEL

So all of these guys work for you?

NAOMI

Vampires don't generally work day shifts, Danny.

DANYAEL

You know what I mean.

NAOMI

Yeah, but they're cool with it. I mean, the foremen know that they're working for vampires, but that's it. We pay well and on time, so they've never had reason to fall out with us. It's a good arrangement.

Danyael shakes his head.

NAOMI (cont'd)

What?

DANYAEL

I just... I never would have thought you would put something like this together, is all.

NAOMI

What's so surprising?

DANYAEL

When we were going out, you could barely take two steps out of your apartment without having a panic attack about something. It's a wonder we even met!

(CONTINUED)

NAOMI

When we were going out, I had a lot of issues to deal with.

(beat)

Besides, we're going back eight years when we start talking about 'us.' A lot's changed since then.

DANYAEL

Not all that much.

He turns to look at her, and she smiles, turning away from him. Why, are they flirting?

TWIST

Hem-hem.

They turn to see Twist leaning out of a window nearby.

TWIST (cont'd)

C'mon, Spook, you're wanted.

DANYAEL

(to Naomi)

Excuse me.

NAOMI

'Spook'?

DANYAEL

It's... it's a thing.

He walks away, Naomi still grinning as she watches him leave, and we cut into:

Danyael walks into a large room filled with people - Vincent and the others stand with Julie and the team around a long table, on which a large map has been unfurled.

JULIE

Oh, Danyael, good. Over here.

Glancing at the busy people all around - and working out that they're part of the organisation here - Danyael steps up.

DANYAEL

What've we got?

KITTY

This is a map of the area. We've marked all the trad nests that we know about.

She points to several crosses marked on the map.

KITTY (cont'd)

This red dot in the middle is us,
so as you can see...

DIEGO

They surround us.

He's not wrong - the festival is taking place slap bang in
the middle of a near circle of nests.

DANYAEL

Alright, so what are our options?

DIEGO

Naomi tells me there are ten
vampires currently assigned for
security, and with the rest of us
that comes to fourteen.

DANYAEL

(counts)

You mean fifteen.

JULIE

Syren's not joining us.

TWIST

Yeah, Songbird managed to get
herself a gig singing at the
festival, if you can believe that.

DANYAEL

Well... yeah, I can.

Diego starts pointing to areas of the map as he speaks.

DIEGO

We should spread out in teams of
two, each one covering a possible
approach for the trads, if they
show up.

VINCENT

Oh, they will. Word is none other
than Chains himself is coming out
for this one.

The name gets a response from the room.

TWIST

'Chains'? What kind of lame ass bad
guy name is that?

KITTY

He's the main trad pack leader
round these parts.

14 CONTINUED: (2)

14

VINCENT

He's been taking out our people for months now, and we don't have anybody tough enough to bring him down.

DIEGO

You do now.

Diego has every confidence in his words, and the others can sense that, feeding off it, and as Diego continues to outline his battle plan for the evening, we DISSOLVE TO:

15 EXT. MAIN STAGE - EARLY EVENING 15

With the sun descending in the background, the stage is fully assembled. The engineers run through sound and lighting checks, the stage now filled with amplifiers, drum kits and other instruments and equipment.

16 INT. REHEARSAL STUDIO - EARLY EVENING 16

Naomi, Vincent, Kitty and Janine have their gear set up and ready to play, with Naomi chatting to Syren.

NAOMI

Now, all you'll really need to do is back up what I'm doing, like we've been practising. Are you okay with that?

SYREN

Oh, yes, of course. I wouldn't want to, er... what is it you say? 'Steal the spotlight'?

NAOMI

Yeah, that's it. And thank you.

Robbie leans his head round the door:

ROBBIE

Okay, sun's down, we're expecting the crowd to start arriving soon, so you guys are probably on in about an hour.

KITTY

Thanks, Robbie.

He ducks back out as the musicians switch on their amplifiers.

VINCENT

Better run through the set a few times, huh?

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

Naomi nods, glancing at Syren, who looks perfectly at home with them as we cut to:

17 EXT. STREETS - NIGHT

17

Diego stands, impassive, eyes scanning the streets all around. The city is starting to light up for the evening all around him, but his keen eyes are alert for any trouble.

Twist, meanwhile, is busy SNAPPING her way through a pack of gum, shoving one piece into her mouth, chewing, then adding another... and another.

Diego winces as she lets out another loud SNAP, finally turning to her:

DIEGO

Do you have to do that?

TWIST

Mmf?

Her cheeks bulge from all the gum she's got in there, and she just offers a purposefully goofy grin to him.

TWIST (cont'd)

(chewing)

Aw, come on. Indulge me. I've had to put up with Danyael and Little Miss 'I Had Such a Difficult Time Of Things' making googly eyes at each other all day, so yeah, I'm cutting loose and eating a whole pack of gum at once. Sue me.

She chews a little longer, with some difficulty.

DIEGO

Why are you so bothered if Danyael spends time with Naomi?

TWIST

(quickly)

'Bothered'? Who's 'bothered'? I'm not bothered. He can do what he likes.

DIEGO

You keep saying that, but I do not think you really mean it.

TWIST

(wearily)

Not this again... look, Diego, Danyael and I, we...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

TWIST (cont'd)
 you do remember how I'm with you
 now, right?

DIEGO
 That's not what I'm asking.

TWIST
 What do you want me to say? That I
 still-

DIEGO
 Ssh!

He raises a hand, and Twist pauses mid-sentence. Diego narrows his eyes, picking something up - and draws his sword.

TWIST
 And that is the universal signal
 for 'something's up.'

Diego starts to advance, leaving Twist to follow as she takes out her phone and dials in a number.

TWIST (cont'd)
 (into phone)
 Jules? It's Twist. Diego's spotted
 something, we're gonna go check it
 out. How's things back with you?

18 EXT. MAIN STAGE - NIGHT

18

Julie presses one finger into her ear against the noise from the stage - the first band are playing, and making a hell of a racket as the baying crowd jump around to the beat.

JULIE
 Loud! Really, really loud, but no
 sign of anything yet!

TWIST
 (filtered; through phone)
 I'll check in when we know what's
 what, alright? Bye.

She hangs up, and Julie turns to Danyael, who is nodding his head along with the music.

JULIE
 What the hell is this?

DANYAEL
 'Industrial rock.'

Julie shakes her head, looking around. More people are arriving all the time - some are vampires, some are not - and with a handful more of the burly SECURITY VAMPS on guard, things are running smoothly so far.

(CONTINUED)

And then she sees something.

A large gang of people are approaching the stage from the street, and several small FIRES burn amongst their ranks - molotov cocktails!

JULIE

Danyael!

She turns him to see, and as Julie glances to the closest few security vamps, they're already moving to intercept.

Danyael throws a last look to the stage as he starts to follow - Naomi can be seen waiting in the wings, proudly watching the bands play.

Danyael, Julie and a half-dozen of the security team head out into the street, standing between the incoming vamps and the entrance to the festival area.

JULIE

There's gotta be about twenty-five of them...

DANYAEL

That doesn't matter. We just have to stop them getting those firebombs in there. If they get the stage burning, it's not just the people here who'll be in danger - it's everyone living in the next few blocks!

JULIE

So, do you have a plan?

Danyael reaches over his shoulder - and draws a SWORD.

DANYAEL

Attack. Repeat.

Julie grins, loading her gun with a loud CLICK.

The first wave of trad vamps step up, arching back to toss their homemade firebombs into the crowd, but Julie is quick on the trigger:

BLAM! BLAM! Two go down, their bottles SMASHING and engulfing them in flames.

Several members of the crowd hear the noise and turn to watch, but the sound coming from the stage is drowning out most of the action.

More vamps rush in, brandishing a variety of weapons as Danyael leads the security team to meet them head on.

The two sides CRASH together, Danyael's sword FLASHING left and right and connecting with several vamp bodies - an ARM flies free from its owner as he turns to KICK a vamp down.

Julie takes aim at the next wave of firebombers, but they've already HURLED their molotovs through the air!

She takes careful aim and OPENS FIRE - hitting all but one bottle in mid-air!

One SMASHES against the side of the alleyway entrance to the festival, and the burst of FLAMES gets more of the crowd's attention.

Danyael is throwing himself into the fight, SLICING left and right, when he's suddenly BARGED to the ground.

He drops his sword, scrabbling to grab it but finding a boot STEPPING on it - and he looks up into the face of a leering VAMPIRE.

VAMPIRE

Drop something, pretty boy?

Danyael makes another GRAB for the sword, but the vamp KICKS him across the jaw, GRABBING Danyael as he rolls back and hauling him to his feet, PUNCHING him in the gut!

Danyael gets CLOCKED again and hits the deck, and the vamp scoops up his sword, standing over him.

VAMPIRE (cont'd)

We told you wastes of space to get the hell out of our town...

The vamp prepares to SLICE down - but another SWORD bursts through his chest!

He GULPS, dropping Danyael's sword and crumpling - revealing Diego, as Twist launches herself into the fight behind him!

DIEGO

Are you alright?

DANYAEL

Pride's more bruised than my face.

Diego grins as he helps Danyael up, tossing him his sword as he turns and gets back into the fray.

By now, a large crowd has gathered to watch the fight, cheering the rebel team on as they attack the vampires - the arrival of Twist and Diego has swung the tide.

(CONTINUED)

The trads are down to three men when they break and run, to a CHEER from the crowd.

TWIST

Come on! What are you waiting for?

DANYAEL

Twist, we won! They're leaving!

TWIST

Yeah, and what if they come back
with more of 'em?

(beat)

Diego?

He doesn't look sure either, but with an almost apologetic glance to Danyael, he follows her.

DANYAEL

Twist, no! Wait!

TWIST

(to security team)

You guys, you're with us!

The security vamps exchange puzzled glances, then start to follow Twist and Diego as they race after the fleeing trads.

Julie joins Danyael, out of breath as she reloads her gun.

JULIE

Round one to us, huh?

DANYAEL

Yeah...

Danyael doesn't look happy as he turns back and heads towards the festival area, and we cut to:

To a huge CHEER from the crowd, Naomi walks up to the mic, Syren joining the rest of the band behind her.

NAOMI

Hey, everyone.

Another CHEER. She smiles and bows her head coyly.

NAOMI (cont'd)

Well, I guess you all just saw the
fine efforts of our security team
keeping the trouble away, so let's
hear it for them!

She leads the crowd in a round of APPLAUSE.

Julie catches up to Danyael as he heads back into the main area, getting pats on the shoulder from passing vamps.

JULIE

Danyael? Danyael! What is it?

DANYAEL

I don't think that's all of them.

JULIE

I'll admit, it wasn't much of a fight, but Twist and the others have gone out to find the rest. We've done our part.

DANYAEL

Did you see anybody in that crowd who fit the profile of that Chains guy?

JULIE

Not really.

DANYAEL

Exactly. He's been telling everyone he's going to break this up personally. So where is he?

JULIE

Maybe he let other people do his dirty work? That's a fairly standard tactic for the bad guys, you know.

Danyael turns and stomps away, trying to work out what to do next, as Naomi returns to her intro:

NAOMI

So, anyway, we've got a special guest joining us tonight, all the way from Lake Erie... Syren!

There's a CHEER, and Syren lights up at the sound, grinning.

NAOMI (cont'd)

Alright, let's get going. We've got a great set for you tonight, and this is our first track, and it's called-

CHAINS (O.S.)

(filtered; through megaphone)

Hey, superstar! Up here!

Naomi looks up, as does everyone else - Danyael included.

Standing on the roof of one of the buildings surrounding the stage is Chains, megaphone in hand.

CHAINS (cont'd)
I was waiting for my invitation,
but when it didn't show I figured I
should just turn up anyway!

Naomi glares coldly at him, waiting for his next move as Danyael starts to push urgently through the crowd, heading for the fire escape leading to the roof.

NAOMI
What do you want, Chains? We
already saw off your little gang!

The crowd start to JEER at him, but Chains just laughs.

CHAINS
You saw off some of my 'gang,'
yeah. Thing is, I hate to come to
these kinds of gigs alone, so I
thought I'd bring a few more
friends.

He sticks his fingers in his mouth and WHISTLES - and is joined by several more vamps. And then more, and then more...

In moments, the horrified crowd see more and more trads stepping up onto the rooftops all around - they've completely surrounded the whole area!

Naomi looks suitably shocked, and the increasingly uneasy crowd start to spread out, nobody sure what to do next.

CHAINS (cont'd)
So whaddya say, kid? Fancy
finishing what we started?

He reaches one hand out - and a vamp passes him another MOLOTOV, lighting it!

CHAINS (cont'd)
Just like Jim Morrison said...

There's a chorus of GASPS and SCREAMS from the crowd as dozens of the vamps lining the roof produce and light more molotovs!

CHAINS (cont'd)
... come on baby...

He holds his in the air, the vamps doing the same, and the crowd below descends into chaos as everyone tries to escape, herding towards the exit in a stampede of terror.

CHAINS (cont'd)
... light my fire!

He THROWS his molotov down, and on that signal the other vamps do the same!

Danyael is halfway up the fire escape, watching helplessly as dozens of flaming bottles sail past him, SMASHING down below and turning the entire area into an INFERNO in seconds!

Naomi and her band run for cover as the stage is hit by a volley of molotovs, the lighting rig SPARKING and EXPLODING as it's hit!

Danyael hesitates, appalled by the carnage he's witnessing - lots of vamps have been hit and are SCREAMING as they burn, others are trapped by growing pools of FIRE.

He grits his teeth, grips his sword and rattles on up the ladder, as we cut to:

21 EXT. STREET - NEXT

21

Twist, Diego and the others come to a halt, with Twist scowling in frustration.

TWIST
Friesacher! We lost 'em!

Diego looks round - and then sees a column of SMOKE rising from the direction of the festival!

DIEGO
Twist...

She turns, sees it - and realises she's been had.

TWIST
Oh, crap...

She looks to Diego, who doesn't need another word as they break and race back towards the fire, and we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

22

EXT. MAIN STAGE - NIGHT

22

SCREAMS and PANIC all around as Julie rushes through the crowd, at an utter loss as to what the hell she can do.

More MOLOTOVS rain down on the crowd every few seconds, and each new SMASH adds more FIRE to the flames already sweeping across the whole area.

JULIE

This way! Come on! Quickly!

She tries to usher a cluster of vamps to safety, but as they head for cover more MOLOTOVS rain down, cutting them off!

Julie desperately looks round for Danyael - and sees him still scaling the fire escape, just as Chains' vampires start to CLIMB DOWN from the rooftops!

JULIE (cont'd)

Oh, God...

Naomi watches from the wings, grabbing the nearest fire extinguisher and aiming for a FIRE raging around a stack of amplifiers, but her small extinguisher is no use against the roaring flames.

She turns to see Syren standing behind her, distressed by the feelings of terror swarming around her.

NAOMI

Syren, come on! We have to go!

Naomi tries to push her clear, but Syren fights back:

SYREN

No... wait!

NAOMI

There's no time! We have to find a way for everyone to get out of here, or we're all dead!

Naomi looks out towards the crowd - and sees a horde of trad vampires descending from the rooftops!

NAOMI (cont'd)

No...

Syren finally PUSHES away from her, standing before the fire burning through the amplifiers.

(CONTINUED)

NAOMI (cont'd)

Syren, no! Get back! Those amps are gonna blow any second!

Syren closes her eyes as Naomi runs over, raising her hands - and a shimmering haze of ENERGY starts to form before her!

Naomi watches, wide-eyed, as Syren motions to push the wave forward - and as it passes over the fire, the flames splutter and die down.

NAOMI (cont'd)

What the...

Out of danger for now, Syren turns and heads back over to the stunned Naomi, grabbing her hand and pulling her along.

Back out in the main area, the first wave of vamps land on the ground, and with a series of HISSES and SNARLS set about any rebel vamp in reach - and any human unlucky enough to have come along!

Julie pushes back through the crowd, taking aim and FIRING - and we follow her bullet as it speeds towards its target, hitting one vamp right in the EYE!

His head DETONATES, the smoking corpse falling back as the victim in its arms falls to the floor.

Danyaël finally makes it up to the roof - and Chains stands alone, his back to Danyaël, watching the chaos below.

Danyaël draws his sword, advancing a few steps, sneaking silently up on the unsuspecting Chains...

... who suddenly SPINS round and SWEEP KICKS Danyaël to the floor!

Danyaël CRASHES down, and Chains is on him in a flash, KNOCKING his sword away and PINNING him by the throat.

CHAINS

What's all this? Come up for a better look?

DANYAEL

(struggling)

I came... to kill you... you sonofa-

WHAP! Chains PUNCHES Danyaël and hoists him up, DRAGGING him over to the edge.

CHAINS

Sorry, kid, but this is one party
you're not gonna stop. Here, take a
look!

He forces Danyael's head round, forcing him to look down
below - and the trads are taking the crowd apart, one section
at a time!

He can see the GUNFIRE from Julie's weapon, and several packs
of rebels are fighting back bravely, but they're outnumbered
and outmatched by the trads swarming around them.

24 EXT. MAIN STAGE - NEXT

24

Naomi and Syren barrel down a staircase and out into the main
area, ducking past FIRES all around.

A trad SWOOPS in, GRABBING Naomi and pinning her to the wall,
and as she YELPS in alarm, Syren reaches for something heavy.

The vamp HISSES and prepares to BITE Naomi, but with a SMASH
something breaks across the back of his head!

He falls - and Syren is revealed, holding half of a broken
guitar!

NAOMI

Vinnie's not gonna like that...
come on!

She takes Syren's hand and runs on, dodging round more fires
and fights, before her eyes go up to the roof - and she sees
Danyael fighting with Chains!

NAOMI (cont'd)

Danyael!

JULIE (O.S.)

Syren! Over here!

Syren turns as Julie races into frame, taking her hand.

NAOMI

Julie, I've gotta go help Danyael!

JULIE

Go! I'll cover you best I can!

Naomi nods, racing off screen as Julie turns and FIRES at
another incoming vamp, as we cut to:

25 EXT. MAIN STAGE - ROOFTOPS - NEXT

25

CRUNCH! Danyael is rammed face first into the rooftop, his
face coming up bloody.

(CONTINUED)

CHAINS

Great how all this works out, ain't it, kid?

He KICKS Danyael onto his back and STAMPS on his chest.

CHAINS (cont'd)

All this 'holier-than-thou' rebel vampire crap, and where does it get any of you?

He KICKS Danyael in the jaw again.

CHAINS (cont'd)

Burned to ash.

Chains rears back to STAMP again - but Danyael GRABS his foot and TWISTS, sending him spinning round!

Danyael DIVES onto Chains, PUNCHING him as he grapples him into a headlock, fighting with everything he's got!

DANYAEL

Speak for yourself...

Danyael stands, CHARGING towards the edge and taking Chains with him!

DANYAEL (cont'd)

... so let's find out how well you cope with fire!

Chains lets out a CRY of alarm as the duo SAIL straight off the edge of the roof!

26 EXT. MAIN STAGE - CONTINUOUS

26

They separate as they flail through the air, Naomi watching in horror as Danyael manages to GRAB onto a ledge as he falls, while Chains sails straight down...

CRACK! He hits the deck and lays still, face down. Danyael, meanwhile, is about thirty feet up with nowhere to go!

DANYAEL

(groans)
Oh... shit.

As he looks for a way down, we cut to:

27 EXT. STREETS - NEXT

27

Twist, Diego and company are just approaching the main area, with Twist paling in horror at the chaos up ahead.

(CONTINUED)

TWIST

No...

DIEGO

Spread out! Help everyone get out safely, Twist and I will cover you!

TWIST

We will?

But he's off, and Twist has no choice but to follow him into:

28 EXT. MAIN STAGE - NEXT

28

Like a bolt of righteous fury, Diego SURGES into the fray, cutting down vamps left and right.

Twist, with Duggan now in hand, SMASHES past a few stray vamps, but finds that the sheer amount of fire all around is slowing her right down.

TWIST

Diego! Diego, wait for me!

He's lost in the fight now, KICKING and PUNCHING anything too close to get with his sword, and a helpless Twist looks for any way she can help - finally spotting Danyael!

TWIST (cont'd)

Spook?

Danyael is still clinging on for dear life as Naomi arrives below, shouting up to him:

NAOMI

Danny, come on! Jump! I'll catch you!

DANYAEL

You'll what? I've gotta be thirty pounds heavier than you!

NAOMI

So? I'm a freakin' vampire! I can catch you!

Danyael hesitates - then closes his eyes, mutters a silent prayer to any god who might be listening, and lets go...

Twist SHOUTS OUT as she watches him fall, but as she races over, she sees Naomi waiting...

... and Danyael FALLS into Naomi's arms! The two stumble to the floor, but she's good to her word - she caught him.

Twist hesitates - and gets TACKLED by an incoming vamp!

(CONTINUED)

Danyaël's a little dazed, but manages a grin as he rolls off Naomi.

DANYAEL
 Alright, I stand-

WHACK! He spins round and CRASHES to the floor, and Naomi turns to see Chains, bloody but unbowed, a hunk of BRICK in his hand!

CHAINS
 You threw me off a roof, you little prick! You think I'm just gonna let you do that?

Naomi jumps to her feet, but Chains SHATTERS the brick against her head without breaking his stride.

CHAINS (cont'd)
 Sit down, bitch.

She goes down, and Chains pulls Danyaël back to his feet, SHAKING the woozy vampire.

CHAINS (cont'd)
 You don't have a clue what you're in the middle of here, do you?

He turns to the stunned Naomi, pointing down at her.

CHAINS (cont'd)
 Do you know what your little girlfriend down there did?

DANYAEL
 She's not my-

SLAP!

CHAINS
 Do I look like I'm done talking yet?

Chains SLAMS Danyaël back down to the floor. He points to the scar on his cheek.

CHAINS (cont'd)
 This look familiar to you?

Danyaël can't exactly focus, so Chains marches over to Naomi, grabbing her left hand and YANKING a ring off her finger.

He crouches before Danyaël, pulling him up to knee height and holding the ring before him.

Danyaël squints, still groggy - the design on the ring is the same as on Chains' cheek!

DANYAEL
(thrown)
But... what...

Chains points to the scar below his eye.

CHAINS
She gave me this, too. Same day she and her buddies moved into my turf. Said she wanted to 'clean the place up' before she settled.

He lets Danyaël slump back to the ground, stalking back over to Naomi, who GROANS as she stirs.

CHAINS (cont'd)
She started this. She was the one coming into my home and attacking my crew, so all of this...
(indicates fires)
... is exactly what she's due.

Danyaël looks suitably shocked to hear this - but then realises Chains has taken his attention off him.

He looks round - and sees a stake-sized shard of wood within his reach!

He slowly turns back to Chains, who has Naomi by the throat and is preparing to finish her...

TWIST (O.S.)
Danyaël!

Chains snaps round, and Danyaël SURGES forward, surprising Chains and DRIVING the stake into his chest!

Chains ROARS, SWATTING Danyaël away, but as a battered Twist finally arrives, Chains is already fading, sinking to his knees.

CHAINS
She... started...

And he's gone. He SLUMPS forward, face first, and at the sight of this several nearby trads break and run.

Within moments, the shock of losing their leader has many more trads on the run, and the rebels can't believe their eyes as the trads bug out.

Diego is surrounded by a pile of trad bodies when his remaining opponents turn and run, much to his surprise.

Julie tries to shoot another vamp but her gun CLICKS on empty, and as she looks up into the eyes of the vamp, she braces herself for the hit...

... and with a SHRIEK, something SLAMS into the vamp and knocks him off his feet!

Julie turns - and there's Syren, the source of the sonic attack. The shriek trails away, and a wide-eyed Syren reaches for Julie, gripping her hand when she finds it.

With the sound of FIRE TRUCK SIRENS finally coming through over the noise the rebels start to CHEER once more - they've survived!

Twist looks across as Danyael goes to Naomi's side, helping her to her feet and pressing a hand to the bloody gash on her head.

Twist lowers her head and looks away, over to Diego as he checks that all the trads are dead or fleeing, and she manages a smile.

The team reconvene, smoke and flames all around but the remaining rebels now able to make their rapid exit.

They turn as there's a loud CRASH from behind them - the festival stage is burning down, collapsing into rubble.

TWIST

Well... at least we got a few
decent bands on before it all hit
the fan.

DANYAEL

Amen.

And as the team watch the stage burn, we DISSOLVE TO:

Danyael attends to Naomi, patching up her head wound as the others stand with Vincent, Kitty and Janine.

VINCENT

We lost almost... I don't know the
full number, but it's a lot.

KITTY

But not as many as it could have
been.

VINCENT

Yeah, we're... we're thankful for
that.

DIEGO

We were just doing our duty.

JANINE

And thank you.

TWIST

Yeah, plus, that Chains dude went down in the fight, so that's gonna help you guys keep this city under control, right?

VINCENT

I hope so. I mean, Chains had plenty of lieutenants, but with him gone, life's gonna be a lot easier around here.

They look over to Danyael, who is just finishing up bandaging Naomi's head. Twist narrows her eyes, not appreciating this moment of tenderness between them.

NAOMI

I'm telling you, I'm fine.

DANYAEL

And I'm telling you, you almost got your head split open by that guy.

NAOMI

I'm tougher than I look.

DANYAEL

No, you're not.

NAOMI

(beat; sighs)

No, I'm not.

She sighs again, clearly downhearted.

NAOMI (cont'd)

They won.

DANYAEL

What? No, they didn't.

NAOMI

They wanted to stop the festival, and they did. They wanted to make an example by burning it down, and they did. They left a lot of people dead, and I...

She looks away - TEARS glisten in her eyes.

NAOMI (cont'd)
 (softly)
 I couldn't stop them.

Danyaël takes her hand and squeezes, but there's no consoling her right now.

DANYAEL
 Listen, Naomi...

She looks up, and Danyaël can't meet her gaze.

DANYAEL (cont'd)
 Chains, he... just before I got
 him, he told me something.
 (looks up)
 Something that happened between you
 two a while back.

Naomi's expression changes, but Danyaël can't read it - and as he's about to continue, they're interrupted by:

ROBBIE
 Hey, Naomi?

She looks up - Robbie has the studio door open, and the sound of a crowd CHANTING can just be heard.

ROBBIE (cont'd)
 I think you'd better come hear
 this.

Naomi looks to Danyaël, then stands and heads outside, the curious others following:

30 INT. MAIN STAGE - CORRIDOR - NEXT 30

Heading for the stage, the chanting is much clearer now - there's a crowd, calling Naomi's name over and over!

31 EXT. MAIN STAGE - NEXT 31

Naomi leads the group back out onto the stage - now burned to a husk and dripping wet from the efforts of the fire services.

A huge CROWD is still waiting, and as Naomi appears they let out a huge CHEER, clapping and whistling.

It's too much for Naomi, who finally lets her tears flow, smiling and waving as she half laughs with relief.

Back with the others, Vincent and the band cheer and clap with the rest of them, but Danyaël has a pensive look on his face as he stares at Naomi.

31 CONTINUED:

31

Twist catches his expression, but can't work out what it's all about as we cut to:

32 EXT. STREET - NEXT

32

The team are loading up the van. Twist watches closely as Danyael talks to Naomi.

NAOMI

So, you know... thank you. For everything.

DANYAEL

Just doing what I do.

NAOMI

You never used to be a superhero!

DANYAEL

(grins)

I had a good teacher.

A beat. He seems a little awkward, and Naomi takes his hand.

NAOMI

You started to tell me something earlier, before we went out to meet the fans, as Vinnie would say.

He looks up - but can't bring himself to ask her about it. He clearly thinks way too much of her.

DANYAEL

Never mind. Maybe next time.

He nods to her and turns to go, and she calls out:

NAOMI

Any idea when that'll be?

He stops, turning back - and she suddenly KISSES him!

Danyael's surprised - but returns the kiss, slipping back into it like an old habit.

Twist scowls at the two of them from within the van, getting out of the front seat and climbing into the back.

Naomi finally breaks the kiss, lowering her head and stepping back demurely.

DANYAEL

What was... what was that for?

NAOMI

Giving you a reason to come back.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

He chuckles, nodding.

DANYAEL

See you soon.

NAOMI

Make it sooner than eight years
this time, okay?

DANYAEL

Hey, this is me. No promises.

She rolls her eyes, and with a last grin he turns and walks away.

33 INT. VAN - NEXT

33

He climbs into the passenger seat, Julie behind the wheel.

JULIE

All set?

A beat - Danyael stares out the window, distracted.

JULIE (cont'd)

Danyael?

DANYAEL

Yeah. Let's go.

Julie starts the van and pulls away.

They pass Naomi again as they drive away, and as she and Danyael wave at each other one last time, we hold on Danyael, his smile fading as his mind returns to what Chains told him - and it's on his heavy expression that we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF SHOW