

SOMEWHERE INBETWEEN

"Magic"

by
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TEASER

FADE IN:

1

INT. MUSEUM - NIGHT

1

The museum here is shut down for the night. An overweight SECURITY GUARD walks past, his torch beam PIERCING the dimly-lit area. Satisfied, he continues on his patrol.

FOCUS ON an impressive, ancient monolith on display in the centre of the room, seven feet high and four feet wide. A discrete network of taut wires secures it to the marble floor.

The monolith depicts a ferocious, chaotic battle. A four armed, vicious GOD, clad in an intricately patterned suit of armour and a plumed helmet, wields four swords. A radius of death and destruction surrounds him. An army of similarly armoured warriors, his FOLLOWERS, flank him.

SNAP! We PULL BACK to see six black clad TRINITY WARRIORS hacking away at the wires securing the monolith on display.

CLICK!

Two overweight, blue uniformed men in their late thirties. Security guards. Both train their guns on the intruders.

SECURITY GUARD #1

Stop what you're doing and put your
hands in the air, now!

The warriors glance up for a second at the interruption, before returning to prying loose the monolith.

SECURITY GUARD #2

We warned -

BZZZT! The two security guards are BLASTED off their feet. Crackling, red electricity SNAKES over their sprawled, convulsing bodies for a beat before they finally go still.

NEW ANGLE reveals CHARLOTTE, who smirks to herself, her hands still CRACKLING with red energy. NAOMI, ISABELLE and CIEGUE step into frame alongside her.

CHARLOTTE

Now that's taken care of, mind
telling me why we're here?

NAOMI

(sarcastic)

Oh, you know, I just thought I'd
spruce up our place with some
unique pieces of art.

(beat;

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

NAOMI (cont'd)
 nods to the monolith)
 It's important to our plans. Why
 else do you think we're here?

Charlotte glowers at Naomi as she walks towards the monolith.
 At Isabelle's warning look, Charlotte holds her tongue.

The warriors struggle a little as they load the monolith onto
 a flat bed trolley. Ciegue runs his hand curiously over the
 carved monolith, his missing hand now tastefully covered at
 the wrist.

ISABELLE
 What exactly is it?

NAOMI
 Something that's integral to the
 endgame.
 (off the others' looks)
 The basic gist? An ancient spirit
 within that hunk of stone needs to
 be awakened.
 (pointedly; to Charlotte)
 Though that's dependent on whether
 she's even capable of the advanced
 magicks required.

CHARLOTTE
 (bristles)
 I'm capable of things you can't
 even comprehend, you gothic
 wanna-be.

NAOMI
 Why don't you prove it, then? Right
 now. Make a liar out of me.

ISABELLE
 Now?
 (off Naomi; hesitant)
 But she needs time to prepare.
 Wouldn't it be -

CHARLOTTE
 Izzy, stay out of this! I can
 handle my own battles.

NAOMI
 Really? Sounds like you're not up
 to it to me.

CHARLOTTE
 Whatever. You're on, bitch.

ISABELLE
 (concerned)
 Charlie, are you sure -

Isabelle stops at the annoyed look that Charlotte throws her that's equal parts, "what did I just tell you?" and "I can handle this bitch."

NAOMI

(mocking)

Yeah, Charlie, are you sure you don't need someone to hold your hand?

Charlotte glares at her venomously as she mutters an incantation under her breath. As she raises her palms, white energy starts to CRACKLE between them.

The Warriors, Isabelle and Ciegue wisely move out the now pissed off Charlotte's way. Naomi watches her with a pleased, self satisfied smirk at Charlotte, rising to her bait.

CHARLOTTE

*Increpito antiquus spiritus incedo
iubeo tu pareo!*

Charlotte stands in front of the ancient stone, her face now a mask of concentration. The air seems to SHIFT in the room as the white, GLOWING energy between her palms GROWS into a crackling cloud.

CHARLOTTE (cont'd)

*Phasma exaudio meus accerso tu
consurgo...*

The warriors watch in awe as the white glowing cloud GROWS even larger, engulfing Charlotte and obscuring her form.

CHARLOTTE (cont'd)

*Increpito antiquus spirtus incedo
inbeo tu pareo... phasma exaudio
meus accerso tu consurgo... **evigilo
spiritus!***

There's a blinding FLASH of pure white brilliance that WHITES OUT the scene.

The painful, white light DISSIPATES after a beat to reveal a drained Charlotte.

The stone monolith remains unchanged. Despite the cool, glowing effects of Charlotte's spell, nothing has happened.

NAOMI

Wow. That didn't work. Colour me surprised.

Charlotte glares murderously at Naomi, still out of breath from the effort of casting the spell.

ISABELLE

Lay off! You can't just expect her
to be able to -

NAOMI

Did I ask for your opinion?

Isabelle's about to angrily retort when Ciegue CLEARS his
throat loudly to get their collective attention.

CIEGUE

Ladies, as satisfying as it is to
my baser male instincts to hear you
at each other's throats...

He inclines his head and there's the faintest sound of POLICE
SIRENS in the distance.

CIEGUE (cont'd)

We should leave before the law
enforcement arrives.

NAOMI

(to warriors)

What are you waiting for? Let's go.

Two Warriors push the heavy laden trolley whilst two flank
either side. Naomi, Ciegue, Charlotte and Isabelle follow the
warriors as they march INTO CAMERA, forcing a:

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

2

INT. MOTEL ROOM - MORNING

2

PAN ACROSS a standard, budget suite with tacky paintings and worn carpet. CHRIS, DANYAEL, TWIST and SYREN are in the midst of a heated argument.

CHRIS

We gave him many opportunities to tell us of his past and his connection to the Trinity -

TWIST

(over him)

He kept it a secret because he knew you'd react this way!

(off Chris and Danyael)

What the hell was he going to say anyway, huh? 'Hey, guys, just so you know, I used to work for the Trinity and Ciegue's my brother.' Give him a fricken break!

DANYAEL

He almost got you and Syren killed. If he's got nothing to hide, why didn't he just admit how he knew about the Trinity? How do we even know if he's telling us the whole story now?

SYREN

Everyone has secrets, Danyael. It's not fair for any of us to judge him, based on the person he once was. That's not the Diego we know.

CHRIS

It still doesn't change the fact he lied to us from the very beginning. How are we supposed to trust him?

DANYAEL

Look what happened the last time we let our guard down.

TWIST

(stern)

Don't compare him to her. Ever.

(beat; calmer)

Unlike Miss Goth bitch of the year Diego's always had our back. He deserves the benefit of the doubt, at least.

(CONTINUED)

SYREN

Twist's right. He deserves a chance
to explain himself.

Chris and Danyael don't look entirely convinced, but the insistent, determined looks both women are now throwing them slowly wear down their defences.

CHRIS

(sighs)
Fine.

DANYAEL

Whatever. But don't say me and
Chris didn't warn you.

TWIST

(curt)
Funny, I recall saying the same to
you 'bout Naomi.
(beat; to Chris and Syren)
I'm going to speak to him, see if I
can find out where he wants to go
from here.

With that, Twist leaves the room. The tension in the room is still thick. Chris and Syren awkwardly stand, unsure what to say or do as Danyael sullenly FLOPS onto the bed and CLICKS on the TV with a remote.

3 INT. MOTEL - HALL - NEXT

3

Twist KNOCKS on Diego's motel room door.

DIEGO (O.S.)

(muffled)
I wish to be alone.

TWIST

It's just me. People don't mind
being alone with me.

There's the sound of a lock sliding open and the door CREAKS open to reveal a dishevelled DIEGO, his hair tussled and his eyes now bloodshot. Twist follows him into:

4 INT. MOTEL ROOM #2 - NEXT

4

She notices an empty bottle of tequila on the floor and another half-empty on the bedside table.

TWIST

Since when did you start drinking?

Diego grabs the half empty bottle as he sits back on the bed.

(CONTINUED)

DIEGO

I couldn't just sit here and listen to you all argue about what to do with me.

(off Twist)

Thin walls.

He swigs from the bottle, mournfully staring into space.

DIEGO (cont'd)

(not looking at Twist)

I understand if you don't want me around any more, after what -

Twist sits down beside him.

TWIST

Whoa, nelly! What gave you that idea?

DIEGO

The look on your face when you found out my shameful secret, the truth of what I -

TWIST

I was a little freaked...

(off Diego)

Alright, I was freaked out aplenty, but can you blame me? That doesn't mean I'm breaking up with you.

DIEGO

Oh.

(beat; confused)

So why are you here?

TWIST

Why didn't you just tell us, tell me, what the real deal was with you and the Trinity?

DIEGO

I thought that if we didn't cross paths with them, I could keep my family connections and shame hidden. Try to forget all my sins.

Twist holds and squeezes his hand.

TWIST

Look, we've all pulled crap in our past we're not proud of. The important thing is you're not that same person.

4 CONTINUED: (2)

4

They sit together in companionable silence for a beat before we CUT TO:

5 INT. MOTEL ROOM - NEXT

5

Chris sits with Syren in a sofa chair, his arm round her as she's nestled against him. She's fallen asleep with her head resting on Chris' shoulder. He smiles fondly as he watches her peacefully sleeping, until:

DANYAEL (O.S.)

Ahh, Chris? You might want to see this.

Chris looks up as Danyael points the remote at the TV, turning the volume up as we ANGLE ON the tv. A professional looking NEWS READER is delivering the latest broadcast.

NEWS READER

Two security guards were killed last night in a violent robbery at Gerthardt museum.

Footage showing police officers at the museum flashes up.

NEWS READER (cont'd)

A priceless, ancient Mesopotamian monolith from the museum's new civilizations exhibit was the only item stolen. Investigators believe the guards may have disrupted the thieves mid-burglary.

Danyael looks to Chris, eyebrow raised.

CHRIS

I think it's time we paid a visit to our local museum.

Danyael nods, flicking the TV off as we return to:

6 INT. MOTEL ROOM #2 - NEXT

6

Twist and Diego still sit on the bed, holding hands.

TWIST

So... have you thought about what you want to do?

Diego's face flickers, uncomfortable for a moment as if gathering his courage to say something.

DIEGO

Actually, I wanted to talk to you about -

(CONTINUED)

KNOCK, KNOCK at the door.

CHRIS (O.S.)
 (muffled; through door)
 Twist, Diego, we're heading out to investigate a robbery at Gerthardt museum that looks Trinity-related. I'll see you at the van in five minutes.

Twist turns to Diego with a victorious grin.

TWIST
 Well, how about that. Looks like you're still on the team after all.

Diego manages a half smile as we DISSOLVE TO:

INT. WAREHOUSE - FIRST FLOOR - DAY

A bustling warehouse full of Trinity Warriors busily going about their duties.

A warrior WAVES IN a large truck as it slowly reverses, coming to a stop near five others parked here.

FOCUS ON ten Warriors who doggedly CHIP away at the ancient monolith. The progress is slow going, and the stone seems almost impossible to chisel.

One Warrior shouts as the blade of his chisel SNAPS off and ricochets off the stone with a SPARK. It catches another Warrior in the face who GRUNTS in surprise and pain.

The Warrior's hands instinctively go to his face. BLOOD drips from where the chisel blade is now buried, deep in his eye.

The other Warriors stop, but the injured Warrior just wraps his hands around the protruding blade and TUGS it free with a grimace. He then casually rips a strip from his shirt and ties it over his mangled eye.

Just a few steps back, Charlotte sits cross legged and deep in concentration. She BLOWS a palm full of red powder into the air.

CHARLOTTE
*Nasci lamina aspirare vivere...
 nasci unde preter!*

The red powder SWIRLS and encircles the stone, snaking around the monolith languidly and GLOWING red for a beat, before it suddenly FLUTTERS to the ground. The stone monolith again seems unaffected.

NAOMI (O.S.)
 (frustrated)
 You're all useless!

NEW ANGLE reveals Naomi and Isabelle who oversee the proceedings. Charlotte fixes Naomi with a withering look.

CHARLOTTE
 The boys are trying to chisel the spirit free from its prison the best they can, and I'd have a hell of a better chance awakening this thing if you'd actually tell me what it is!

NAOMI
 What part of "it's an ancient spirit that needs to be awakened" don't you understand? Keep trying until something works.

Charlotte huffs whilst Isabelle frowns, suspicious at Naomi's evasive response.

CHARLOTTE
 I'd work a whole lot faster without your overly made up face looking over my shoulder every ten seconds.

NAOMI
 (smirks)
 What's the matter, suffering performance anxiety?
 (off Charlotte; sighs)
 Alright. I'll give you some space.

Naomi steps back out of frame, and Charlotte sighs as she returns to work. She's obviously tired but continues on determinedly nonetheless.

CHARLOTTE
 (to herself)
 Right. *Levare exaudio incedo...*

She prepares another handful of powder as we CUT TO:

An establishing shot of a prestigious, glass domed building. It seems to be a cloudy, gloomy day with the thick cloud cover strangling most of the sunlight.

FOCUS ON a rusty old VAN that comes to a stop with a SPLUTTER. Chris, Twist and Syren climb out as Diego and Danyael appear from the other side of the van.

CHRIS
 (to Danyael)
 Is the place quiet enough?

DANYAEL
 Still closed down, thanks to the
 raid. Nobody here to stop us.

CHRIS
 We're all set, then.

And as the group walks toward the stone steps of the museum
 we CUT TO:

9 INT. GERTHARDT MUSEUM - NEXT

9

The group as they approach the area roped off with yellow
 police crime scene tape. As Danyael said, the place is empty,
 most of the main house lights down.

CHRIS
 (to business)
 Right. Syren and I will handle the
 crime scene.
 (to Danyael, Diego, Twist)
 You three scour the area for any
 clues or evidence the Trinity might
 have left behind.

The three walk off, and we CUT TO:

10 INT. GERTHARDT MUSEUM - EXHIBITS AREA - NEXT

10

Danyael, Twist and Diego scrutinise the floor and walls for
 anything out of the ordinary. Danyael sidles over to Twist.

DANYAEL
 About before...

TWIST
 You don't need to apologise to me.
 Diego's the one -

DANYAEL
 (awkward)
 No, I, ahh, I mean, it's about...
 (sighs)
 I just wanted to apologise for -
 you tried to warn me about Naomi,
 back at the monastery, and I said
 some things I'm not proud of. I
 keep replaying our conversation in
 my head, over and over. Maybe if
 I'd listened, Julie -

TWIST

(shakes head)

We both said a lot of stupid things
that day, Spook. We all shoulda
seen it coming with her.

The air now relatively cleared, Twist indicates an ancient human skeleton on display a few feet away.

TWIST (cont'd)

I bet you a six pack, of a beer of
your choosing, you can't get
this...

She holds up a scrunched, bubble gum wrapper.

TWIST (cont'd)

... into its eye socket.

Danyael laughs, a genuine, actual smile finally gracing his features.

DANYAEL

You're on.

FOCUS ON Diego as he watches the interplay between Twist and Danyael, his expression part wistfulness and part jealousy before we CUT TO:

Chris and Syren slip under the yellow crime scene tape. Chris eyes the empty plinth as Syren takes a few steps forward, reaching out with her senses.

CHRIS

Can you sense anything?

Syren tilts her head to the side as she approaches the platform at which the monolith once sat. She touches it and closes her eyes.

There's a sudden BLAST of the combined, overlapping sounds of an ancient BATTLE, with SCREAMS ringing out amidst the fighting and cries of combat.

Syren shrinks back from the platform, involuntarily shuddering, and Chris steps forward.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Are you alright?

SYREN

No. I can sense the evil pouring
off it. It's like...

(MORE)

11 CONTINUED:

11

SYREN (cont'd)
 (shudders again)
 Bad. Very bad.

She turns to Chris, distress in her features as we CUT TO:

12 EXT. GERTHARDT MUSEUM - PARKING LOT - NEXT

12

The team are gathered back round the van, Syren sitting inside with a hand pressed to her head.

CHRIS

From the museum records, I've managed to identify what was stolen. It's the rumoured prison of a vengeful and powerful spirit.

DANYAEL

What do you think they want it for?

TWIST

("duh")

World domination, of course. What else would an evil cult of psycho ninjas want it for?

(beat; off Chris)

Fine. I'll let you tell the story.

CHRIS

If the Trinity do have their hands on this statue, it's only a matter of time before they crack it open and unleash the evil within. Which would be assuredly bad. However. Luckily for us...

He turns toward Syren, who shuffles a little closer.

SYREN

Luckily for us, I can sense the energy pouring off that thing.

DIEGO

Meaning we can pinpoint the location of it, and thus the Trinity's current hide out.

CHRIS

Exactly.

TWIST

(to Syren)

I knew we kept you around for something besides your singing.

They all pile into the van, and as its engine REVS we CUT TO:

13 INT. WAREHOUSE - GROUND FLOOR - DAY

13

Isabelle STOMPS into the room, still in a foul mood. Many Trinity Warriors work away on something in the corner, but the view's obscured as Ciegue comes into shot.

CIEGUE
(off Isabelle; smiles)
Another lover's quarrel?

ISABELLE
(not amused)
Cute. You think that up all by yourself?
(beat; to the Warriors)
How's it coming along?

Ciegue inclines his head to the corner.

CIEGUE
See for yourself.

Isabelle looks over and we finally see what the warriors are working on.

A half-finished star shaped object almost touches the room's ceiling, spanning an entire wall in diameter.

ISABELLE
(smiles)
At least we're making good progress here.

CUT TO:

14 INT. VAN - NEXT

14

Chris stops the van and everyone looks to Syren expectantly. She has her eyes closed in concentration, nodding towards the warehouse visible ahead.

15 INT. WAREHOUSE - GROUND FLOOR - DAY

15

The warehouse entrance is situated here, guarded by two Warriors.

SHINK! One of the Warriors is SKEWERED by a katana blade, and he SLUMPS as the katana is wrenched out to reveal Chris.

CRACK! Before the other Warrior can react his head SNAPS back as a bat SLAMS into frame and connects solidly with his head. The warrior DROPS to show Twist with Duggan in hand.

TWIST
Don't worry, we weren't gonna leave you out.

(CONTINUED)

The closest group of Warriors, numbering thirty at least, look up from their duties at the commotion. Spotting Chris and the others, they draw their swords and immediately rush over.

CHRIS

(off the warriors)

Not bad odds, considering.

DIEGO

(nods)

Si, but they are not expecting us
this time.

The camera tracks them right up to the point where the Trinity Warriors CLASH against the team in a brutal collision of metal and sparks as their weapons connect, and on this we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

16

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

16

CHINK! Chris fends off two Warriors at once with his katana, deflecting the attacks of one and weaving from the other.

Diego CLASHES against a well built Warrior, their blades clanging as they parry.

Twist BASHES two guys out of frame with a powerful SWIPE of her bat, whilst Danyael just manages to fend off the frenzied attacks of a Warrior.

Two Warriors rush at Syren, She allows them to get close before she lets go with an ear splitting SHRIEK that bowls them off their feet.

CHRIS

Diego, I want you to protect Syren
while she finds the monolith.

Diego nods as he YANKS his sword out of his opponent's chest. The man SLUMPS as Diego's sword pulls free, smeared crimson.

SYREN

What do I do when I find it?

CHRIS

We've got to destroy it before they
have a chance to use it. As long as
we do that before they release the
spirit inside, it can't escape.

(beat; off Syren)

Can you do that?

Syren lets out a quiet note that causes an approaching Warrior to clutch his head as he DROPS.

SYREN

I think I can.

Diego makes his way over to Syren, almost effortlessly cutting through the ranks of Warriors here.

DIEGO

Lead the way, *senorita*, and I'll
clear a path the best I can.

Syren TILTS her head to the right and from her POV we hear the overlapping sounds of low, insidious whispers, the sounds of an epic battle, swords clanging, people screaming in pain and chanting followed by malevolent, twisted laughing.

(CONTINUED)

SYREN
 (points left)
 It gets stronger this way.

Twist brutally CRACKS three Warriors across the face in tandem. All three CRUMBLE in a heap.

TWIST
 Ooh, check me out Spook,
 synchronised ass kicking!

JUMP TO Danyael, who quickly brings his sword down to skewer a Warrior through the chest. He wrenches it out as the man falls to his knees, slumping lifelessly.

DANYAEL
 Yeah, you've got "skills" alright.

Danyael frowns, his eyes narrowing as he spots someone off screen. Danyael's POV shows it's Naomi in the distance, ordering around a group of Trinity Warriors.

JUMP TO Diego as he BASHES a Warrior out of the way using the hilt of his sword. Syren follows him closely, at his side when she shivers uncontrollably for a beat.

SYREN
 (points)
 Here.

TILT UP reveals a flight of stairs. Diego and Syren hurry up the stairs with a metallic clang.

Twist STAGGERS from a brutal punch to the face from a Warrior. She manages to dodge his next punch and KNEE him painfully hard in the groin, at which he collapses.

TWIST
 And that's why we don't hit people
 this pretty.

She wipes the blood away with her sleeve. Twist spins around looking for Danyael but he's disappeared.

TWIST (cont'd)
 (confused; unsure)
 Spook?

JUMP TO the Trinity Warriors as they all draw their swords and surround Naomi, obscuring Danyael's view of her.

NAOMI
 (to Warriors)
 I can handle him.
 (nods over to Chris and
 Twist)
 (MORE)

16 CONTINUED: (2)

16

NAOMI (cont'd)
 Why don't you take care of those
 two instead?

The warriors disperse. One hands Naomi his sword with a reverent bow before following the others.

NAOMI (cont'd)
 Thanks.

She spreads her hands theatrically, almost curtsying as he approaches. Danyael walks up, his hand clenched around his sword's hilt.

NAOMI (cont'd)
 Okay, honey... here I am.

A conflicted gamut of emotions - betrayal, grief, anger and determination - plays across his features as we CUT TO:

17 INT. WAREHOUSE - GROUND FLOOR - ELSEWHERE

17

The sounds of the commotion of the battle raging further afield in the warehouse drifts here.

Ciegue draws his sword with a smile as he heads out. Isabelle glances to the warriors and the essence collector.

ISABELLE
 Load it into the truck. I want
 everything here packed up and ready
 to go.

The warriors give her a collective nod and she quickly follows after Ciegue.

18 INT. WAREHOUSE - UPPER LEVEL - NEXT

18

Diego and Syren burst onto the scene as they reach the upper level.

Charlotte and the Warriors, still chipping away at the monolith, look up at their intrusion.

DIEGO
 (lowered)
 I'll hold their attention. You do
 what you do best, *chica*.

The warriors draw their swords and charge at them as we JUMP TO:

19 INT. WAREHOUSE - GROUND FLOOR - NEXT

19

Danyael and Naomi circle each other warily, their swords relaxedly held at their sides.

(CONTINUED)

DANYAEL

I've known you longer than my own parents.

He waves his hand in a circle to indicate the warehouse and fighting, surrounding them.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

This isn't what you're all about.

NAOMI

Isn't it? The others have you convinced that the Trinity are the bad guys in all of this. Their mission has always been to change the world for the better, and they've got the power needed to do it.

(beat; softer)

Don't you want that, too?

DANYAEL

Of course I do, but not this way. Whatever they've said to convince you, once they've got what they want they won't follow through with any of their promises.

A flicker of doubt crosses Naomi's face at that, and Danyael seems hopeful - perhaps he can get through to her.

20 INT. WAREHOUSE - GROUND FLOOR - DAY

20

Chris and Twist battle wave after wave of Warriors. Chris DECAPITATES one, thrusts his blade deep into the chest of another and slices open another, blood SPRAYING as he falls.

THWACK! Chris stumbles from a vicious right hook. The other Warriors quickly join in, all laying into Chris with brutal punches and kicks.

TWIST

Chris!

She's distracted, taking several powerful blows from the pack of Warriors before her, but only until:

Twist WHACKS them all back with one mighty SWING of her bat. She's on a mission to quickly get through the ranks to help Chris.

21 INT. WAREHOUSE - UPPER LEVEL - NEXT

21

Diego grapples against the Warriors. He viciously ELBOWS one in the face, KICKS out at another catching him in the chin and blocks a sword strike to the back.

(CONTINUED)

CRACK! Diego stumbles as a warrior kicks out at Diego's back. Charlotte gets to her feet, blocking Syren's path to the monolith.

SYREN

I don't want to fight you,
Charlotte. Please stand aside.

CHARLOTTE

(sarcastic)
Well gee, I guess I'll let you pass
since you asked so gosh darn
nicely.

Charlotte smirks as she throws a sudden vicious right hook to Syren's face, which she deftly DUCKS and spins away from to Charlotte's surprise.

Syren releases a SCREAM that hits Charlotte full on, the force of her sonic sound wave knocking her completely off her feet and sending her skittling across the hard floor.

SYREN

That doesn't mean I won't.

She advances as we CUT TO:

22 INT. WAREHOUSE - GROUND FLOOR - NEXT

22

Naomi and Danyaël still square off, circling the other.

NAOMI

(insistent)
But I'm the Crown! They have to
follow everything I order them to
do. That's how this works.

DANYAEL

Yeah, until one day someone decides
to kill you and take your place.
How long do you really think you
can hold out?

NAOMI

It won't be like that.
(beat; soft)
I have to do this, Danny.

DANYAEL

No, you don't. You still have a
chance to help us make things
right.

NAOMI

(shakes her head)
It's too late for that.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

NAOMI (cont'd)
 (beat; sighs)
 Just walk away. I don't want to hurt you.

DANYAEL
 I can't do that.

CHINK! Naomi's sword swings upward at Danyael but he manages to block it.

23 INT. WAREHOUSE - UPPER LEVEL - NEXT

23

Diego HAULS a Warrior up by his shirt and roughly hurls him into the three remaining Warriors. He SMACKS right into the others, bowling them over like skittles.

There's a sliver of silver that GLINTS behind Diego. He SPINS his sword, meeting Ciegue's blade.

DIEGO
You...

Ciegue grins, the two stepping back, swords raised.

CIEGUE
 What do you really hope to achieve with all this? There's not even a remote chance of succeeding.

DIEGO
 And yet here we are.

CIEGUE
 (smiles)
 Indeed, *hermano*.

CHINK! Diego powerfully swings his sword at Ciegue's chest but he stops the blade easily.

With that, Ciegue pushes off Diego's sword and kicks out. Diego stumbles back from the force as Ciegue BACK FLIPS onto the railing.

Diego follows Ciegue, jumping up onto the railing. Ciegue's blade gracefully whirls and arcs as he comes at Diego in a flurry of furious sword strikes.

CIEGUE (cont'd)
 You've lost what little trust and respect you've earned from your team mates. Why do you bother?

The two brothers seem locked in a deadly dance, both evenly matched. As Ciegue attacks, Diego parries and vice versa.

DIEGO
 Because it's the right thing to do.

(CONTINUED)

CIEGUE

Every time they look at you the suspicion will be running just at the back of their mind - 'when will he turn on us, too'?

Diego reacts to this, rushing at Ciegue who smirks - he's hit a sore spot. He launches himself full force, his sword coming fast and furious driving Ciegue back for a few steps along the railing.

Ciegue BACK FLIPS, somersaulting in the air and nimbly swinging himself up onto a metal ceiling beam.

CIEGUE (cont'd)

(chuckles)

Do you really think all this will atone for all the blood on your hands? You can't change who or what you'll always be.

Diego LEAPS, grabs the ceiling beam and hauls himself bodily up, his sword gripped and ready to strike.

Twist BASHES another group of goons out of the way with a solid swing of her trusty bat. SHINK! She tenses up, her face registering surprise. Her hand goes to her chest and as she looks at it we see it slicked with BLOOD.

TILT down to reveal a sword that's now protruding straight through Twist's chest!

SNAP! Chris catches one of the warrior's arms mid-punch with a sudden brutal twist, and it bends awkwardly with a CRACK. The warrior groans as he crumples.

Chris hits out with a vicious open palm to another's face, blood streaming from a badly broken nose.

He elbows the next one in the face and jumps to his feet as he finally bursts free from the rabble to see a Warrior WRENCH his sword free from Twist with a vicious grin.

CHRIS

(concerned)

Twist!

She sinks to the floor, blacking out from the blood loss.

Danyael and Naomi both glance up from their own sword fight.

25 CONTINUED:

25

Danyaël's POV shows Twist on the floor, a Warrior looming over her as Chris desperately cuts through the Warriors that block his way.

Naomi returns her attention back to the fight at hand but Danyaël's already gone.

26 INT. WAREHOUSE - UPPER LEVEL - NEXT

26

Charlotte shakes her head as she picks herself up. She spots Syren almost to the monolith.

CHARLOTTE

(impressed)

And here I was thinking you were just Chris' pet damsel in distress.

She HURLS a red ball, of glowing energy at Syren. Syren instinctively dives to the floor, the red energy BLASTING against the monolith harmlessly.

As Syren gets to her feet, she sways giddily, her hands going to her temples.

From Syren's POV we can hear the sounds of war and pain again, but this time the sounds are far more intense and overwhelming. The malevolence of the spirit almost palpable as it CACKLES loudly.

Charlotte smirks as she approaches the distracted, pale Syren. Syren grits her teeth in pain.

CHARLOTTE (cont'd)

(smirks)

You don't look so good sweetheart. What's the matter, the bad vibrations getting to you?

Syren wildly swings out at Charlotte, who easily avoids it.

CHARLOTTE (cont'd)

A swing and a miss.

CRACK! Charlotte sucker punches Syren who slumps to the floor, out cold. Charlotte grins before hurrying away.

27 INT. WAREHOUSE - GROUND FLOOR

27

The warrior smiles as he brings his sword down to decapitate the prone Twist...

He grunts suddenly in shock and pain as a sword BURSTS through his chest. The goon FALLS away to reveal a steely eyed Danyaël, sword in hand.

(CONTINUED)

He crouches beside Twist and shakes her gently, trying not to freak out at all the blood that soaks her shirt.

DANYAEL

Twist! Twist?

Twist GROANS as she stirs, her eyelids fluttering.

TWIST

(winces)

Fricken ow...

DANYAEL

(concerned)

Are you alright?

TWIST

(snappy)

I just got skewered through the chest! What do you think?

He sheepishly hands her Duggan as he slings his arm around her, helping Twist to her feet.

THWACK! Danyael REELS from a vicious blow to the head. His grip on Twist loosens, who stumbles back to the floor.

NEW ANGLE reveals Isabelle, who catches the dazed Danyael in her arms and quickly hauls him away.

28 INT. WAREHOUSE - UPPER LEVEL - NEXT 28

The prone Syren, her long hair fans and covers most of her face. CU on her face shows her eyes fluttering. They SNAP open and she jerks awake. She gets to her feet, looking disorientated.

29 INT. WAREHOUSE - UPPER LEVEL - NEXT 29

Ciegue LASHES out at Diego with a lightning quick strike that catches Diego in the chest, slashing his shirt and drawing blood. He teeters dangerously off balance on the beam.

CIEGUE

Give up. I always win.

Diego rights his footing and throws himself into the fight again.

DIEGO

The hand you left behind after we last met might argue that.

Ciegue's grin drops. Now it's Diego's turn to be smug.

29 CONTINUED:

29

Diego's sword swings powerfully at Ciegue's chest. Ciegue's blade goes to parry but Diego feints at the last possible second, SLICING deep into Ciegue's sword arm. Diego KICKS OUT at Ciegue, who teeters and falls from the beam.

SMACK! Ciegue lands in a dazed heap on a lighting panel below, that swings erratically at the sudden impact.

30 INT. WAREHOUSE - GROUND FLOOR - NEXT

30

Twist unsteadily gets to her feet, using her bat as a support. She SPINS around looking for Danyael.

Twist's jaw drops, from her POV Isabelle hands the dazed Danyael over to two Warriors, who carry him off into one of the trucks. The truck's trailer door shuts after them.

A hand comes into shot touching Twist's shoulder at which she instinctively whirls around to crack them - it's Chris!

CHRIS

Are you -

TWIST

(quickly)

Isabitch got the drop on us and nabbed Danyael. I saw her stow him in one of those trucks. Come on, we've got to stop them leaving!

She races off, Chris hot on her heels as we CUT TO:

31 INT. WAREHOUSE - UPPER LEVEL - NEXT

31

Diego jumps down onto the light panel, the taut wires holding it to the ceiling straining from the load. Ciegue shakes his head and gets to his feet.

DIEGO

You were saying?

CIEGUE

(smirks)

The fight's far from over.

He glances down with a malevolent smile as we see Syren wander below unaware, still trying to get her bearings.

CIEGUE (cont'd)

Speaking of which, you have to decide quickly.

(beat; deadly)

Save the girl, or catch me.

With that Ciegue, SLICES at the taut wire beside him and LEAPS up to the ceiling beam, cat-like in his agility.

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

BACK ON Diego as the lighting panel almost instantaneously caves inwards with a CRASH.

He drops to the ground and tackles Syren just as the lighting panel CRASHES down with a mighty shower of sparks and glass.

32 INT. WAREHOUSE - LOADING AREA - NEXT

32

Isabelle taps her sword impatiently against her right boot as she scans the area waiting for someone. She sighs.

And then she suddenly DUCKS as Twist's bat SLAMS into the truck, missing Isabelle by a mere instant!

REVERSE ANGLE as Isabelle spins to face Twist, who seems surprised that Isabelle dodged that one in time.

ISABELLE

(smirks)

Too slow.

She SNAPS into action, grabbing Twist's batting arm and elbowing her hard in the chest. Twist winces in pain and Isabelle smirks vindictively. As she goes to slam her palm against Twist's wound again -

CRACK! Isabelle's head SNAPS to the right as Chris lays a punch on her, leveling his sword at her.

CHRIS

You're going to tell us where
Danyael is.

ISABELLE

Oh, really?

Chris coolly presses his katana to her throat.

CHRIS

Really.

Isabelle tenses, knowing she's cornered as we CUT TO:

33 INT. WAREHOUSE - LOADING AREA

33

Ciegue passes Charlotte as he jumps up and into the passenger seat of a truck cabin.

CHARLOTTE

About time. What took you so long?

CIEGUE

Family business.
(beat; off hand)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED:

33

CIEGUE (cont'd)
 Oh and you might want to help your
 fellow Trinity sister right about
 now.

Charlotte hesitates, then pulls a face as she jumps back out
 of the cabin and races off.

34 INT. WAREHOUSE - LOADING AREA - NEXT

34

A tense scene as Twist holds Isabelle whilst Chris presses
 his katana to Isabelle's throat.

ISABELLE
 You don't intimidate me.

Twist shares a look with Chris and he presses down harder.
 Isabelle winces as he draws blood.

CHRIS
 I just have to press down a little
 harder, and you'll -

FWOOSH! Chris is HURLED away backwards by an invisible force,
 landing with a heap.

At this, Isabelle instantly BACKHANDS Twist, sending her
 sprawling.

She looks up and grins as Charlotte lowers her smoking hand,
 jerking her head back towards the trucks.

35 INT. WAREHOUSE - LOADING AREA - NEXT

35

The truck convoy rolls out as Charlotte eyes the place,
 concentrating intensely, her right hand gestures crushing
 inwards. At this the warehouse immediately starts to QUAKE.

Satisfied she HOPS up into the cabin of a truck that pulls
 away, followed quickly by the last eighteen wheeler.

36 INT. WAREHOUSE - GROUND FLOOR - NEXT

36

Diego clasps Syren's hand as they cross the now deserted
 warehouse, the base COLLAPSING around them. The walls seize
 violently, the beams creaking as they shift and deform.

SNAP! Syren tugs Diego toward her just as a loose railing
 CRASHES down where Diego was a second ago.

DIEGO
 Thank you.

SYREN
 (smiles)
 Now we're even.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED:

36

They race off as more chunks of the warehouse CRASH down around them.

37 INT. WAREHOUSE - LOADING AREA - NEXT

37

Chris coughs as he stirs, painfully getting to his feet as he retrieves his dropped katana. Twist groans as she comes round a second later.

She eyes the deserted, collapsing base around them. The trucks are nowhere in sight.

TWIST

Aww, crap.

DIEGO (O.S.)

Where's Danyael?

NEW ANGLE reveals Diego and Syren, and we CUT TO:

38 EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

38

The gang pile into their van as the warehouse collapses in the background. Diego SLIDES the door shut as we cut to:

39 INT. VAN - NEXT

39

Chris is at the wheel, Twist rides shotgun and Diego and Syren are at the back. Chris REVS the engine loudly.

TWIST

GTA it!

CHRIS

(beat)

I'm not going to even pretend to know what that means.

And with a SCREECH of tyres the van SPEEDS off.

40 EXT. ROAD - DAY

40

The five truck convoy travels along the road until a SCREECH of tyres alerts us to the van that comes BARRELLING down the road. It drives alongside the trucks on the wrong side of the road.

41 INT. VAN - NEXT

41

Chris drives, eyeing up the trucks as he glances toward Twist.

CHRIS

Do you remember which truck you saw Danyael shoved in to?

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

TWIST

Uh, one of the trucks in the middle?

(off Chris)

Hey! I only saw it from a distance, and I was sorta distracted by the gaping hole in my chest!

Syren closes her eyes, trying to concentrate on something.

SYREN

Third truck, in the center!

Chris YANKS the wheel to the side.

42 EXT. ROAD - DAY

42

BAM! The van SLAMS into the side of the truck's trailer. The trailer FISHTAILS from the sudden impact but there's the HISS of hydraulics as the truck speeds up.

The van REVS again to catch up and SMASHES straight into the trailer again at an angle. The end of the trailer fishtails even more wandering off the side of the road.

Another quick CRUNCH of the van full force against the trailer sends the edge of the trailer teetering off the road and onto a sloped embankment.

With a SCREECH of tyres, the van REVERSES and hits the side of the cabin. The cumbersome truck TEETERS unsteadily for a second, one side of the truck up in the air before gravity takes its toll and the truck ROLLS onto its side with a CRUNCH.

43 EXT. TRUCK - DAY

43

Chris, Twist, Diego and Syren rush over to the truck. Twist YANKS up the trailer's door as Diego and Chris hold their swords ready.

SKREESH! The door opens to reveal a truck full of dazed Trinity Warriors. Danyael and the monolith are nowhere to be seen. It's a decoy!

And as the warriors quickly get to their senses we PAN across the team's grim expressions, to rest on an incredulous Twist as she takes in the numbers.

TWIST

Aww, sh-

BLACK OUT:**END OF ACT TWO**

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

44

INT. TRINITY BASE - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

44

Danyael's head SNAPS backward from a brutal punch. He spits blood as tries to shake it, his head lolling, dazed.

He's tied to a chair in a dimly lit room. From his bruised and battered appearance he's already taken quite a beating. He tries to focus on his attacker from his blurry POV as Ciegue LOOMS over him.

CIEGUE

It's really quite simple. Answer the question or I'll continue to beat you senseless.

DANYAEL

(hoarse)

I have. It's not my fault you don't like -

THWACK! Ciegue BACKHANDS him viciously. Blood drips from Danyael's nose.

CIEGUE

How much does Chris know of our plans?

Danyael COUGHS as he recovers from the unexpected blow. He looks Ciegue in the face for a long beat as if contemplating his response very carefully before:

DANYAEL

Bite. Me.

Ciegue smiles malevolently, there's a flicker of begrudging respect behind it for a very brief moment. He gets right in Danyael's face.

CIEGUE

(menacing)

This is where the interrogation becomes more thorough. After I'm done, you're little girlfriend will not even rec-

NAOMI (O.S.)

Leave him alone.

REVERSE ANGLE shows Naomi as she enters the room. Ciegue holds Naomi's look with a challenging smirk.

NAOMI (cont'd)

I'll handle Danyael.

(CONTINUED)

Ciegue theatrically bows a "he's all yours" gesture as Naomi approaches the beaten and tied Danyael.

NAOMI (cont'd)
(off Ciegue)
You can go.

CIEGUE
I think I'll stay. I like to watch.

NAOMI
That wasn't a request.

CIEGUE
(beat; shrugs)
As you wish. I'll leave you to
"handle" him.

Ciegue saunters off, and as Danyael glares up at Naomi we CUT TO:

Chris, running on pure adrenaline by now, THRUSTS his sword deep into a Warrior's chest, CRACKS another one on the side of the head and DECAPITATES another.

Diego SMACKS a warrior to his knees with a powerful backhand and kicks him in the face, STUNNING him.

SHRIEK! A warrior clutches at his head as he drops to the ground from Syren's sonic blast.

CRACK! Twist's bat SWATS another to the ground.

CHRIS
(grimly)
That's all of them.

The four are noticeably weary. PULL BACK and WIDEN to reveal the surrounding area is littered with the bodies of the many warriors. Some hang out of the overturned truck, others beside it and more scatter the area in an ever expanding arc.

TWIST
I can't believe they pulled the
old 'Marion in the basket'
switcheroo on us.

DIEGO
The what?

Twist shakes her head - 'never mind' - and desperately glances around but the stretch of road is deserted. The convoy could be anywhere by now and she knows it.

46 INT. TRINITY BASE - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

46

Naomi crouches beside Danyael, absently pushing a stray strand of hair from his face. She grimaces regretfully at the blood and bruises now covering his face.

DANYAEL
(harsh; off Naomi)
Come to take your turn now?

NAOMI
Danny, I want to show you what I've been working towards. That way you can judge for yourself how much better everyone will be. This way we can be to-

Danyael chuckles bitterly, but there's no humour behind it.

DANYAEL
I get it now. Ciegue was the opener, to soften me up so I'd swallow your crap.
(beat; hard)
I'm not falling for it.

ANGLE ON Naomi's hands as she unties the ropes binding Danyael tightly to the chair.

NAOMI
(off Danyael; soft)
No tricks. I promise.

She steps back, and Danyael slowly brings his hands round, rubbing his sore wrists. Off Danyael's confused expression we
CUT TO:

47 EXT. ROAD - DAY

47

The sounds of a struggling engine repeatedly starting and sputtering can be heard as we slowly PAN across from the overturned truck to rest on the battered van.

The van looks like it's barely drivable with its crushed nose and bumper and crumpled driver's side.

48 INT. VAN - NEXT

48

Chris GUNS the engine determinedly trying to get it to start. Diego casts concerned glances at Chris' failed attempts and at Twist.

TWIST
(anxious)
Come on, already!
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

TWIST (cont'd)
Stick it into second and drop the clutch or something! We're losing ground!

Chris sighs in frustration and weariness. This isn't the first time Twist's said this.

CHRIS
And like I told you a minute prior and every other time before that, I've almost got it running.

Diego places his arm round Twist to gently comfort her but she roughly pulls out of it, looking out the van's window. His expression flickers hurt for a second.

TWIST
Screw this! There's a car slowing down.

She reaches for her bat and notices Diego staring at her.

TWIST (cont'd)
("duh")
They're not going to just give up their wheels without a fight.

SYREN
(scandalized)
Twist, you can't!

TWIST
(frantic)
They could be anywhere by now, doing who knows what to Danyael - we've run out of 'good guy' options, people!

Diego glances out the window and from his POV we see a red station wagon driven by an old woman in her early sixties. He throws Twist a concerned look at her erratic behaviour.

DIEGO
She's an old woman.

TWIST
Then I should only have to scare her.

Twist inches forward to slide the door open, but Diego grabs her. She struggles in his firm grip.

TWIST (cont'd)
(desperate)
Get off me! Leave me alone!

DIEGO

Danyaël would not want you doing
this to find him.

She stops struggling in his arms, and her eyes blink back unshed tears. She's on the verge of crumbling but desperately trying to hold herself together.

TWIST

(soft; to herself)
I can't lose him.

Diego catches this, trying not to let a pang twist round his gut. An oblivious Twist sags into his comforting embrace, exhausted.

The engine REVS loudly, breaking the moment.

CHRIS

Success! Danyaël, here we come.

With a SCREECH of tyres, the black van BARRELS down the road.

Trinity Warriors busily work away on finishing construction of the essence collector here.

TILT UP to see Naomi and Danyaël on a walkway just above, Naomi the enthusiastic tour guide as Danyaël hangs back a little, bemused at the situation. Naomi gestures to the floor below them.

NAOMI

The area below us is solely
dedicated to research, development
and construction of inventions of
the occult nature.

Danyaël eyes the almost finished large scale version of the essence collector.

DANYAEL

Is that what I think it is?

NAOMI

(nods)

It's necessary to ensure we've got
the energy needed as we enter the
last stages.

DANYAEL

Wait a sec. I'm not following the
logic here. What exactly do you
need so much energy for again?

NAOMI

Heh. I'm doing that thing where I skip ahead without realizing it, aren't I?

DANYAEL

(beat)
Uh huh.

NAOMI

I've just been planning this for such a long time I forget that not everyone knows what I do.

DANYAEL

(wary)
Exactly how long have you been planning this?

Naomi swallows, uncomfortable at Danyael's now hostile gaze.

NAOMI

Well... remember back when we first got our asses kicked by the Trinity?

SMASH CUT TO:

Naomi and Charlotte both LUNGE for the wayward Quaero but a well placed ELBOW makes sure Naomi gets there first.

NAOMI (V.O.)

When I grabbed the Quaero...

BOOM! A shock wave blows over the site knocking almost everyone it hits to the ground. The blaze of white light that goes with it fades to show Naomi, her eyes glowing with the same light as her hands clamp around the Quaero.

NAOMI (V.O.) (cont'd)

... and that flash of energy struck it, it somehow... I can't explain how, but it sensed I was the next leader the Trinity were using it to search for...

Naomi GASPS as she's assailed by quick snatches of images of ancient bloody battles, black robed initiates, arcane symbols and letters, an enormous brute of a warrior with four arms wielding four swords in a chaotic battle, chanting and finally the TRINITY SYMBOL looming huge.

50 CONTINUED:

50

NAOMI (V.O.) (cont'd)
 In those few seconds, it downloaded
 its entire history into my head. It
 showed me everything I could
 achieve if I chose to become the
 new leader.

Naomi convulses, energy pouring through her and out of
 control.

NAOMI (V.O.) (cont'd)
 And in that moment... I accepted.

A passing Warrior roundhouse kicks her and she falls,
 dropping the sphere as we SMASH CUT to:

51 INT. TRINITY BASE - GROUND LEVEL - NIGHT

51

Danyael listens intently to Naomi.

NAOMI
 Jacqueline only wanted to use it to
 find the next potential, so she
 could kill her and secure her own
 place a little longer.
 (pauses)
 After that, it was just a matter of
 setting things in motion so that
 they'd be in place by the time...

SMASH CUT TO:

52 INT. DEMON DAYS CLUB - FLASHBACK

52

Naomi tries to haul Diego back to his feet and fails to spot
 Charlotte slowly advancing on her.

NAOMI (V.O.)
 ... I made my defection.

She stops. Turns. Sees Charlotte. Charlotte smirks and raises
 her hands, FIZZING with energy.

NAOMI (cont'd)
 (quickly)
 Wait! Wait. I want to enlist in
 your cause, join the Trinity.

CHARLOTTE
 (scoffs; incredulous)
 Right. That stalling tactic won't
 work. I'm still going to kick -

(CONTINUED)

NAOMI

You do that now, you'll never know
what information the Quaero gave me
when I held it.

Charlotte stops, intrigued. Then she rolls her eyes.

CHARLOTTE

Alright. You've got my attention
for the next ten seconds.

SMASH CUT TO:

53 INT. TRINITY BASE - GROUND LEVEL - NIGHT

53

Danyaël looks at Naomi, part of him still in disbelief at
what she's just said. Mostly he's trying to hide his obvious
disgust as he realizes something.

DANYAEL

(bitter)
So killing Julie... that was just
part of the 'plan'?

Naomi flinches at Danyaël's tone, and her face flickers with
genuine regret. She swallows uncomfortably before she tries
to continue where she left off.

NAOMI

I've still got one more place to
show you.

She heads off, and a sour Danyaël follows as we CUT TO:

54 INT. VAN - NIGHT

54

Chris agitatedly drives, his attention darting between the
road and the argument currently going on in the van.

SYREN

(defensive)
All I said was -

TWIST

Well, your optimism's getting on my
damn nerves! It might be hard for
you to believe, Princess but not
everyone gets a happy ending, so
don't tell me to relax! I'll -

DIEGO

Stop attacking Syren, she's only
trying to -

(CONTINUED)

TWIST

You hardly know Danyael, so don't even attempt to pretend to know what I'm feeling!

(beat; to Diego)

Must be easier -

CHRIS

That's enough! We'll stop at the nearest truck stop before anyone says something they'll regret.

Off Twist, who looks about to argue with him.

CHRIS (cont'd)

We've been stuck together for over five hours straight. Wherever the Trinity have Danyael stashed, they're not going anywhere at the moment.

(beat; off Twist)

I just know. Naomi won't let any major harm come to him.

Twist settles back in her seat with a huff, arms folded.

The van's parked up by a quiet truck stop and cafe, the sun now almost set in the sky.

Chris stands beside the van deep in concentration. He mutters an incantation under his breath. A small, glowing ball of GREEN ENERGY appears in his palm.

It HOVERS for a second as if sensing something before it WISPS away into nothing. Chris frowns, his expression both frustrated and disappointed.

Twist and Diego stand outside the diner. Twist rubs her arms self consciously against the cold.

TWIST

Look I know I've been a bitch but that's -

DIEGO

I've made up my mind. After we defeat the Trinity, I'm leaving.

A beat. Twist's jaw drops.

DIEGO (cont'd)

I can't stay here, not after I betrayed everyone's trust. I need somewhere I can make a fresh start, find a new purpose.

(beat; softer)

And there is nothing that holds me here.

TWIST

Hey, what about me? I like to think I'm a pretty good reason.

DIEGO

(smiles warmly)

It is Danyael you really want. I've always known where your heart truly lies, but it was nice to believe I could take his place, even if only for a little while.

Twist is noticeably thrown. She's at a loss for words, unable to string together a denial.

DIEGO (cont'd)

You don't need to say anything to spare my feelings. I just don't want to stand in the way any more.

He turns and starts to walk back to the diner. She bites her lip - he's right even though she won't or can't admit to it right now. Twist calls out:

TWIST

Hey! Wait!

She catches up and pulls him in for a quick KISS.

DIEGO

(confused)

What was that for?

TWIST

Just for being you.

(beat; thoughtful)

And now that I think about it, I could take a crack at their all day breakfast menu...

She GRINS, and Diego eventually manages to grin back at her.

Chris slides into the booth beside Syren.

CHRIS

Where's Twist and Diego?

SYREN

They needed to talk in private.

CHRIS

Oh.

(beat; realizes)

Oh.

SYREN

So did your spell work?

CHRIS

(sighs)

Charlotte must be using an advanced cloaking spell. I couldn't even pinpoint the general direction.

Syren places her hand on top of Chris and squeezes.

Naomi shows Danyael around a floor almost completely containing glass panelled windows, that provide an impressive three hundred and sixty degree view of the surrounding city.

DANYAEL

Nice.

(beat; wary)

What's this for?

NAOMI

It's an observation -

CHARLOTTE (O.S.)

Good. You're both here.

Naomi turns to face her, annoyed at her interruption.

NAOMI

What is it?

CHARLOTTE

I just came to tell you we're almost ready. The collector's finished, it should be here any -

As if on cue, there's a mechanical BUZZ as the floor in the center of the room slides open like a hatch, to reveal the fully-built ESSENCE COLLECTOR as it rises through the opening on a platform.

Charlotte approaches the enormous device and runs her hand over admiringly over it.

CHARLOTTE (cont'd)

Let's get this started then, hmmm?

She closes her eyes and breathes deeply as she mutters an incantation, crimson red energy coalescing between her palms.

Danyael watches, tense, as the device starts to come to life, GLOWING all over with the same red energy.

He looks across to Naomi - and she's SMILING. He sees the victory in her features and knows this is the start of her end game.

Helpless, he turns back to the collector as it starts to HUM, powering up rapidly and PULSING with the energy flowing through it, and we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

59 INT. TRINITY BASE - TOP FLOOR - NIGHT 59

Naomi and Danyael watch as Charlotte continues to summon magic to her. The charged atmosphere CRACKLES with static and electricity.

The crimson red energy is forming a huge, ever expanding bubble of energy that tinges the entire scene red. Naomi, Danyael and Charlotte's hair whips wildly in the ferocious winds stirred up.

DANYAEL
(yells over the wind)
What is she doing?!?

NAOMI
(yells)
Just watch!

Charlotte gestures her outstretched palms, now blazing with pulsating red energy. She gestures at the essence collector.

The device HUMS as it sucks up wisps of the red energy hungrily. The energy snaking and arcing over to it.

The hum of the EC reaches a painful fever pitch at which Naomi and Danyael cover their ears.

The red energy now completely leached by the device the red tinge dissipating. The energy CRACKLES and pulses over the star shaped device. The humming stops.

There's an ominous silence for a beat. Danyael throws Naomi a concerned look but she calmly watches Charlotte work.

SKREESH! Crimson red light ERUPTS from the EC, a maelstrom of swirling red energy that PUNCHES a hole through here and showers them in particles of plaster, brick and glass that glints and flutters in the red light.

STAY ON Danyael's expression of pure horror before we SMASH CUT TO:

60 EXT. TRINITY BASE - NIGHT 60

Tendrils of red energy escape the maelstrom of swirling, red energy that RIPPLES outwards. The energy sinuously streaks across the darkening night sky.

61 EXT. CITY - STREET - NIGHT 61

A busy scene of rush hour chaos. Cars honk as frustrated drivers inch along in the grid locked street.

(CONTINUED)

61 CONTINUED:

61

There's the murmur of conversation and footsteps as people bustle past on the sidewalk. Some chatting, others attempting to brave the street crossing.

FOCUS ON the night sky as a tendril of red energy SLITHERS above the scene.

People on the side walk CLUTCH at their chest, stumbling and collapsing. They CONVULSE as the red energy WASHES over them.

SCREECH! CRUNCH! There's the high pitched screech of brakes, the blare of horns and the scrunch of metal as BAM! Cars CRASH into the one in front of them or careen off the road.

62 EXT. CITY - CEMETERY - NIGHT

62

We follow another tendril of crimson energy as it languidly sweeps through a peaceful cemetery.

As it does so we SLOWLY PAN across the myriad of tombstones to rest on one particular grave, engraved, "HORATIO CAINE (1955-2007)".

From the gleam of the brass plaque on the stone and the soft soil this person's only been buried very recently. WHAM! Sand SPATTERS as a pale hand BURSTS out from the fresh soil.

63 EXT. CITY - SUBWAY STATION - NIGHT

63

The area here is eerily devoid of commuters until WHOOSH! A subway train rushes into the station. The doors SLIDE open and a jostling, panicked crowd RUNS for their lives.

There's a blood curdling SCREAM as a malevolent shadowy, red eyed spirit SWOOPS over the fleeing crowd.

A bespectacled man in an old fashioned, three piece suit stands near the turn stiles. He doesn't seem perturbed by the people rushing over to him. He calmly withdraws an old pistol from within his coat and places it to his head. BANG! The man's head SPLATTERS.

His form SHIMMERS and distorts like a bad TV set before the man, completely reformed, calmly stands there and goes for his gun within his coat again.

The crowd rushes past some running through the bespectacled spectre. A slight man in his thirties, an office worker from his shirt and tie, loses his footing and stumbles. He screams as he's quickly trampled underfoot in the chaos.

As the crowd disperses we see his twisted body, neck and limbs at odd angles to each other. He's dead.

STAY ON the unfortunate office worker who TWITCHES. His eyes SNAP open with a vacant expression.

64 INT. TRUCK STOP DINER - NIGHT

64

Diego and Twist approach the booth where Chris and Syren sit.

TWIST

So we ready to move out?

CHRIS

Actually, I was -

He trails off, distracted, his expression indicating he can sense something and it's not good.

Syren winces painfully, picking up on whatever's causing Chris' distress as well.

DIEGO

What is it?

SYREN

(shivers)

Something is wrong. Very wrong.

TWIST

(to Chris and Syren)

A great disturbance in the Force?

CHRIS

Something like that. It has to be the Trinity.

(beat)

This does mean we can home in on their location by following the strength of the disturbance.

TWIST

What the frack are waiting for then?

She's already halfway to the door before we CUT TO:

65 EXT. SKYLINE - NIGHT

65

Red energy tendrils swirl and fan out in waves. FOCUS ON the malevolent shadowy, red eyed spirit as it darts through the inky, night sky.

POV of the spirit as it SOARS it shows an aerial view of the city. A myriad of ZOMBIES groan as they shuffle and drag themselves alongside misplaced ghosts and spirits all drawn toward:

The Trinity base that LOOMS up ahead. PULL BACK and WIDEN to reveal waves of red energy ZAPPING an enormous cloud of mist.

66

EXT. TRINITY BASE - NIGHT

66

A multi-level, round building encircled about by a whirlwind of crimson, flailing energy tendrils. The atmosphere crackles with raw energy.

Legions of spirits surround the pulsating nexus. Some dart and soar amongst the crimson energy whilst the majority crush against the other, pushing towards the building, inexplicably drawn against their will.

Transparent men, women and children of varying ages, races and time periods BLINK in and out of existence. A cop with a blood streaked uniform, a young woman with a parasol and hoop skirt, a little boy in a sailor suit with haunting eyes.

Just audible above the din and roar of the whirlwind and crackle of raw energy is a disturbing, low GROANING.

Amidst the chaos, pale men, women and a few children SHUFFLE and drag their feet. Their vacant glassy eyes staring ahead. From their shrunken, gaunt visages and relatively intact clothing indicate they haven't been dead all that long. Blood SMEARS the mouths of some.

Behind all this, Ciegue, Isabelle and a horde of Trinity Warriors stand eyeing the spectacular effects of the E.C's handiwork.

TWIST (O.S.)

So I think the question must be...
who you gonna call?

REVERSE ANGLE shows the team all here - Chris, Twist, Diego and Syren. Syren shivers every few seconds but grips a metal pole, determined nonetheless.

There's a beat as all three just look at her quizzically. She rolls her eyes.

TWIST (cont'd)

My quippage is wasted on you
people.

CHRIS

No matter what, we stay within
sight of each other.

(to Twist and Diego)

There isn't any time for vendettas
or grudge matches. We stop the
device, grab Danyael and hightail
it out of here before everything
goes straight to hell.

DIEGO

Si. I'll do my best.

(CONTINUED)

TWIST
 (mock salutes)
 Roger, roger. Let's go bust some
 heads.

And as the four bravely charge into the chaos of the
 maelstrom enshrouding the base we:

67 INT. TRINITY BASE - TOP FLOOR - NEXT

67

Charlotte's hair whips crazily around in the epicenter of the
 maelstrom. Her face is a picture of calm and concentration.

FOCUS ON Danyael's still horrified expression as he watches
 the effects of it from his vantage point. He SNAPS out of it
 and grabs Naomi by her shoulders.

DANYAEL
 (urgent)
 Make her stop!

NAOMI
 I can't! If she stops I won't have
 the power needed to initiate my
 plan -

DANYAEL
 How the hell is this supposed to
 make the world a better place?

NAOMI
 You have to trust me! Believe me,
 if I could achieve it without
 all...
 (gestures around them)
 ... this, then I would. Their
 sacrifices are for the greater
 good, Danny.

Danyael's hands gently cup Naomi's face.

DANYAEL
 I can't go along with this. I'm
 sorry.

Before she can react Danyael brutally HEAD BUTTS her. She
 slumps in Danyael's arms out cold. He places her on the
 ground.

He dashes for the exit, past the occupied Charlotte who
 doesn't even seem to notice.

68 EXT. TRINITY BASE - NEXT

68

A red haired man, his dead eyes staring ahead LURCHES suddenly with a groan, his outstretched pale hands grabbing for Syren as she rushes past.

She WHACKS him away with a well placed, SWIPE of her pole, his head SNAPPING back.

TWIST

Syren!

A horde of zombies SURGE towards Syren, almost upon her. Their hands hungrily GRASP for her, their leering visages drawn to the scent of fresh meat.

A dead hand reaches for Syren's neck but CRACK! A bat hits the hand with a sickening CRUNCH. Twist tugs Syren along.

SYREN

(almost breathless)

Thanks.

TWIST

Let's book. The zombies seem to only want to take a bite out of you or Diego.

(beat; shrugs)

Guess being dead does have its perks sometimes.

Further up Diego CHOPS and slices through wave after wave of zombies.

Blood SPRAYS as Chris DECAPITATES a zombie. SCREECH! His eyes widen at something off screen and DIVES just as malevolent, shadowy spirit SWOOPS.

An orb of golden light quickly COALESCES in Chris' palm and he HURLS it at the creature. It SHRIEKS as the orb connects, dispersing it.

69 INT. TRINITY BASE - GROUND LEVEL - NEXT

69

Danyael cautiously sneaks through the base, sticking to the shadows. He can see the entrance, his way to freedom just within walking distance. But it's blocked by a horde of Trinity Warriors.

He scans the nearby area for other possible routes when he spies a Warrior clad in black robes from head to toe. And about Danyael's size. Danyael smiles.

70

EXT. TRINITY BASE - NEXT

70

Twist as she SLAMS into frame, the wind completely knocked out of her. Her bat CLATTERS from her grasp.

The glowing spectre of a cackling, old woman with an evil grin LOOMS over her. The old woman eyes the bat and it HOVERS in mid air, just above the recovering Twist.

It SWINGS up and out about to connect...

SHRIEK! The spectral old woman FLICKERS as she's hit with a powerful sonic blast.

The bat drops to the ground.

Syren offers her hand and Twist grabs it as she pulls herself to her feet. She shakes her to clear it as she does.

TWIST

Thanks. You know, this looks so much easier in the movies.

And on Syren's bemused expression we JUMP TO:

DIEGO:

Diego determinedly fights off zombie after zombie as they swarm him. He JERKS suddenly and we TILT down to see a pale, slight blonde girl no more than seven, her mouth firmly CLAMPED on Diego's leg!

At the sight of the girl, he hesitates, distracted long enough for other zombies to seize the opportunity as well, leaping upon Diego hungrily.

SYREN:

Syren CRACKS a Warrior across the head with her pole. He CRUMPLES to reveal two lumbering, groaning zombies who eye her as she fights off another incoming Warrior to her right.

TWIST:

Twist CHARGES straight at a Warrior. POW! She cartwheels him onto the floor with the force of the blow, but takes a kick to her back.

She staggers and gets hit several more times as assassins swarm her with sheer numbers easily.

SYREN:

Syren KNEES her warrior hard in the groin, he WINCES from this and she SMACKS him back with a hefty SWING of her pole.

(CONTINUED)

Two pairs of pale, dead hands GRAB her from behind. One grabs her roughly around the neck whilst the other grabs her around the waist.

DIEGO:

Diego STUMBLES to the ground as he struggles desperately trying to fend off the frenzied zombies whilst simultaneously trying to dislodge the little girl from his leg.

Diego shouts in pain as a pale, brown haired man in his forties takes a BITE out of his shoulder. Another one leans, coming in to nibble on his neck.

BAM! A wave of green energy BOWLS them over and off Diego. SMACK! He BACKHANDS the little girl with no hesitation. She reels backwards, her mouth smeared with blood.

Chris glances at Diego's wounds warily, bloody bite marks mostly. He extends a hand to Diego.

CHRIS

You alright?

Diego shrugs off the offer, getting to his feet stubbornly. He limps slightly on his left leg. He raises his sword ready to throw himself back into the fight.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Not feeling a sudden urge to feast
on the flesh of the living?

Diego shakes his head and hobbles back into the fray, Chris watching him carefully as we JUMP TO:

TWIST & SYREN:

With a yell, Twist BURSTS out from under the assassins. She RAMS her bat in the face of one, CRACKS it off the head of another, ELBOWS one in the face and FRONT FLIPS over another.

She ducks the powerful swipe of the fifth's sword and SWEEPS the sixth's legs out from under him. Twist then quickly rushes off to help Syren.

Syren struggles violently against her two zombie attackers as they DRAG her away. The one grasping her neck, a straggly haired woman, LEANS in to take a chunk out of her neck...

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

71

EXT. TRINITY BASE - NIGHT

71

SHINK! There's the sliver of metal behind Syren and her zombie attackers. Blood SPATTERS as the straggly haired woman's head falls away to reveal a black clad trinity warrior.

SQUELCH! The warrior SKEWERS the other zombie in the chest. Its hold on Syren relaxes and she stumbles to the ground at the sudden movement.

The warrior wrenches his sword free, SMASHES the hilt of his sword into the zombie's face before slicing its head off as well.

The mystery warrior approaches the dazed Syren but THWACK! He REELS back from a blow to the head.

REVERSE ANGLE shows Twist, baseball bat in hand.

TWIST

Leave her alone, you baumgartner!

She goes to SWING again but the warrior quickly raises his hands in an emphatic, "wait a minute!" gesture. He rips off his black mask to reveal Danyael!

DANYAEL

(shakes his head)

That hurt. A lot.

Twist blinks, thrown for a beat. Syren gets to her feet and turns in the direction of his voice.

SYREN

Danyael?! Are you alright?

DANYAEL

I'm -

BAM! Twist and Syren crush him in a group bear hug.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

(chuckles)

Nice to know I'm appreciated. Even though I don't need to breathe, you mind letting go? I'm a little tender all over.

Twist and Syren release him but not before POW! Twist punches him hard in the shoulder.

(CONTINUED)

DANYAEL (cont'd)
 (rubbing his shoulder)
 What the hell was that for?

TWIST
 For scaring the hell of m- us.

He quirks an eyebrow as we JUMP TO:

CHRIS & DIEGO:

Ciegue and Diego LOCK swords again, in their own little world, nothing else matters as they fight.

CLANG! Chris grits his teeth as he presses his katana blade against Isabelle's sword.

ISABELLE
 You can't stop this. No matter how hard you try.

Their blades break as she SWINGS out at Chris, he ducks and kicks out at Isabelle. He catches her in the shin and sweeps her legs out from under her.

CHRIS
 I don't know about that. From here it looks like you're getting your arse kicked.

TWIST, DANYAEL & SYREN:

Danyael, Twist and Syren weave and dodge most attacks from the misplaced spirits, ravenous zombies or deadly assassins.

DANYAEL
 Charlotte's using the energy from all this to power up some spell, that I'm guessing will be extremely bad if it works.

Twist eyes the seemingly endless spirits and zombies that are on their tail and the Trinity Warriors that block their path to the base.

TWIST
 And summoning the Army of goddamn Darkness isn't 'working'?

DANYAEL
 I think this is just the start!

SYREN
 We're not going to stop anything if we're stuck out here.

TWIST

Syren, think you can work some of that mojo of yours to do the trick?

SYREN

I think I can do that. But you'll need to close your ears and eyes.

She takes a deep breath...

TWIST

(shouts)

Chris, Diego! Turning it up to eleven!

CHRIS & DIEGO:

Diego and Ciegue still locked in combat. Diego drops and dutifully covers his ears.

As does Chris, not pressing his momentary advantage against Isabelle.

SYREN:

Starting with a low deep note Syren starts to SING, building one continuous note in volume, the Warriors slowing as they start to feel the force pushing at them.

Syren keeps building the note, her arms rising with the sound as the volume goes higher and higher.

Ciegue and Isabelle STAGGER painfully as they press their hands to their ears.

A red haze starts to surround her, wisps of essence trailing up from the ground and snaking around her.

Syren's scream hits fever pitch, veins popping in her neck and she CLAPS her hands together.

There's a SONIC BOOM as the energy is released SLAMMING into the warriors and zombies that encircle them, head on.

Zombies and Warriors are HURLED bodily into the air from the concussive force. Blood, flesh and bone SHOWER the area where those unfortunate enough are ripped apart on the spot. Others roll on the ground in agony, still alive, suffering from nasty, SPURTING bloody wounds.

The scream dies in an instant and a drained Syren WILTS. Twist jumps up and hurries to her, swinging Syren's arm over her as she half carries, half drags her.

Due to Ciegue's and Isabelle's positions they've luckily been spared the same fate as the majority of their warriors.

(CONTINUED)

71 CONTINUED: (3)

71

Before the two can shake off the dazing effects of Syren's sonic boom, Diego and Chris CRACK them across the face in tandem, KO'ing them.

CHRIS
(stern; to Twist)
That was an incredibly -

DANYAEL
Come on, we need to move.

Chris saves his reprimand for later as they hurry into:

72 INT. TRINITY BASE - GROUND LEVEL - NEXT

72

Danyael leads the way as the group makes their way down the corridors. He looks up and the crimson, red energy pulsating above, SPLASHES red light onto the surrounding walls.

DANYAEL
Just up the stairs. That's where
they've got the sucker.

They CLUNK up the metal staircase.

73 INT. TRINITY BASE - TOP FLOOR - NEXT

73

Charlotte is deep in concentration, sweat beads her forehead. It looks as if she's struggling to stay in charge of the essences.

Naomi finally, groggily comes to. The beginnings of a large, purplish bruise on her forehead can be seen. She quickly, instinctively crawls and hides behind a desk at the sounds of rushed footsteps.

Chris, Diego, Danyael and Twist helping the wiped Syren appear on the scene.

TWIST
(eyes the device)
Whoa.

DIEGO
How do we stop it?

CHRIS
You don't.

Twist turns to him as we CUT TO:

74 EXT. TRINITY BASE - NEXT

74

Ciegue and Isabelle JERK awake. Isabelle glances around as she gets to her feet, slightly unsteady.

(CONTINUED)

She frowns as she spots her dead warriors. Those that were merely stunned are already shaking it off and rushing over to their leader.

WARRIOR #1
Your orders?

ISABELLE
(venomously)
Destroy them.

A tendril of crimson energy snakes past and the dead Trinity Warriors TWITCH and jerk.

ISABELLE (cont'd)
What the...

Some Warriors start jerkily getting to their feet with bloody, gaping holes through their chests. Isabelle gapes, before Ciegue urgently GRABS her arm.

CIEGUE
Let's leave before our remaining troops are killed by their undead compatriots.

Ciegue drags her away as we CUT TO:

Twist gently helps the semi-conscious Syren to the floor, leaning her against the desk. Naomi hides a few feet away.

TWIST
Don't do anything stupid.
(beat)
For you, anyway.

CHRIS
There's no time for a better plan.
I have to stop this anyway I can.

DIEGO
Do what you need to do. We have your back.

Danyael listens intently. Vaguely we hear the pounding of footsteps, screams and loud groaning.

DANYAEL
Uh, guys?
(off their attention)
Zombies.

Diego draws his sword with a flourish whilst Twist holds her bat up, ready. Danyael swallows hard, as he grips his sword at the approaching sound.

A determined Chris strides over to Charlotte.

CHRIS
Mind if I cut in?

He mutters an incantation and wisps of red energy currently swirling around the EC snake over to Chris.

ON DANYAEL:

Danyael DUCKS a powerful swipe as warriors bear down on him.

Isabelle and Twist face off, Twist deflecting Isabelle's sword with a grimace.

Diego holds his sword ready as Ciegue rushes over.

DIEGO
Let's finish this.

CIEGUE
What do you propose?

DIEGO
(hard)
Lucha ala muerte.

Ciegue nods a "you're on" as he gives a deadly, dangerous smile. He LASHES out at Diego.

CHRIS & CHARLOTTE:

Charlotte frowns as she tries to keep hold of the essences.

CHARLOTTE
(grits)
What are you doing?

Chris narrows his eyes.

CHRIS
Stopping you.

The destructive cloud of essences swirling around the room starts to swirl around Chris. The roof SHOWERS plaster and brick down as the energy whirlwind is tugged toward Chris.

Misplaced spirits now dart in through the mangled roof, caught in the whirlwind of the raw energy.

ON TWIST:

The lumbering, groaning horde of dead, Trinity Warriors PRESS into the room. Twist and Isabelle look up at the distraction.

TWIST
 (gapes)
 What the frack?

At this, Isabelle catches Twist with a hard open palm to the face.

Danyael ducks and shakes off the connecting blows from Trinity warriors as he darts through the chaos on a mission. From his POV we see zombie Trinity Warriors lumbering towards the recovering Syren and the occupied Chris.

CHRIS & CHARLOTTE:

Charlotte manages a grim smile.

CHARLOTTE
 You caught me off guard, but that
 won't happen again.

The destructive cloud of essences that are swirling around Chris are violently SHUNTED back to the EC in an impressive show of red sparks.

DANYAEL:

Danyael brutally SMACKS a shuffling Trinity Zombie upside the head. It slumps, and he quickly crouches beside the weary Syren and shakes her gently.

DANYAEL
 Syren, Syren!

She jerks awake, blinking blearily.

SYREN
 What? What...

DANYAEL
 I need you to stay awake, you think
 you can do that?

SYREN
 (nods)
 I'll try.

CHRIS:

A Trinity Zombie LURCHES over, almost upon Chris.

THWACK! Its head SNAPS to an odd angle and whirls on its attacker. Danyael.

DANYAEL
 Come on, you Romero reject!

Chris GRITS his teeth as he concentrates, his palms crackling with tendrils of red energy.

Charlotte narrows her eyes and her palms go taut, as if she's struggling in a magical tug of war.

CHARLOTTE
(out of breath)
There's... something... you
should... know..

The howl of the wind intensifies, dangerously whipping everything up around them. Everyone gets battered from the high gale force winds but determinedly fights on.

Chris' forehead beads with sweat, barely managing to keep a hold on the essences. His palms SMOKE from the heat given off by the crackling red tendrils.

CHARLOTTE (cont'd)
I'm... the master...

She narrows her eyes at Chris and he's violently HURLED backwards, bowling over Danyael and several Warriors in his wake.

Charlotte quickly reigns in the stray red essences under her control with a triumphant shout.

CHARLOTTE (cont'd)
That's it! That's it!

A green, distorting wave of energy COALESCES and SHIMMERS outwards, enveloping everything and sending everyone skittling to their feet from the force.

76 EXT. CITY SKYLINE - NIGHT

76

A thick layer of clouds rolls over the sky instantly. There's a deafening rumble of thunder and a FLASH of lightning as a dense thunder storm quickly covers the skies.

77 INT. TRINITY BASE - TOP FLOOR - NEXT

77

A winded Chris tries to get to his feet, Danyael quickly at his side.

DANYAEL
Chris! Chris, are you alright, man?

Chris doesn't answer him, his attention focused on the cracked window showing the thunder storm in progress. PUSH IN on his face as he remembers something, and we:

SMASH CUT TO:

78 EXT. CITY SKIES - FUTURE - FLASH BACK 78

Chris stumbles in the rubble strewn city. As he looks up at the green tinged skies. Thunder RUMBLES ominously above exactly as it is now in the present.

SMASH CUT TO:

79 INT. TRINITY BASE - TOP FLOOR - NIGHT 79

Chris gravely glances at the essence collector, that CRACKLES, charred, burned out and slightly melted around the edges. His eyes widen as the crackling of the energy intensifies. It fires off a burst of energy that catches and sets a wall alight.

DANYAEL

Whoa! That's definitely not good.

CHRIS

Danyael. I need you to get Syren over here to help me dispel the magics. Quickly!

Danyael rushes off.

CHARLOTTE:

Charlotte reaches Isabelle and Ciegue as they get to their feet, the duo watching the now-green energy with awe.

CHARLOTTE

I'm done here. Where's our fearless leader?

ISABELLE

I thought she was with you?

DANYAEL:

Danyael squints trying to find anyone amongst the bodies, dust and smoke that suffocate the area.

DANYAEL

Syren? Where are you?

Naomi peeks out from her hiding spot at his voice.

CHRIS:

Chris stands near the essence collector struggling to contain the crackling energy, his face covered in a sheen of perspiration.

(CONTINUED)

Syren appears, HUMMING softly, at which wisps of red mist start to languidly escape the essence collector. Chris seems to relax, a huge burden lifted somewhat.

CHRIS

Thanks. I didn't think I could hold back the tide any longer. Where's Danyael?

SYREN

I'm not sure. I just followed the vibrations here.

Chris and Syren concentrate on dispelling the energy in languid streaks and wisps as the place violently SHUDDERS around them.

DANYAEL:

Danyael spots Twist and Diego across the room grappling with some Trinity Zombies.

He goes to say something but GROAN! A zombie tackles him from behind. THWACK! There's a sickening crack as its head SNAPS back at an odd angle.

Danyael manages to throw it off him, but as he turns to face his rescuer he REELS back from a hard JAB to the face, that's followed with a THWACK as the hilt of a sword SLAMS him into unconsciousness.

He CRUMPLES into Naomi's outstretched arms.

NAOMI

I'm sorry too, Danny.

She grabs one of his arms and swings it over her shoulder, half carrying, half dragging him.

TWIST:

Twist SPOTS Naomi carting the out cold form of Danyael, through the shifting dust and black smoke.

TWIST

Hey! Stop!

She's about to leap to his aid when -

DIEGO

Twist! Where are you? I can't hold them back by myself!

Twist glances in the direction of Diego's voice. He's bravely fighting off eight zombies whilst several sneak past his defence and straight for the occupied Chris and Syren.

(CONTINUED)

Twist's visibly torn, wanting to leap to Danyael's rescue but knowing she's needed. She sighs.

TWIST
 (calls after Naomi)
 Run all you want! I'm still going
 to find you and kick your ass!

Satisfied somewhat, she rushes to Diego's aid as we cut to:

CHRIS & SYREN:

Their arms now raised, the dangerously overloading energies around them a hair's breadth from going nuclear.

CHRIS
 Now!

Syren sings a wordless melody that builds in intensity and pitch until they both drop their arms, and with that:

BOOM! An impressive BURST of red energy ERUPTS from the EC shooting up through the destroyed roof into the night sky.

80 EXT. TRINITY BASE - NEXT 80

The burst of red energy SCATTERS in the night sky, falling back down to earth providing an impressive display as it SHOWERS the area with crackling SHARDS of electricity.

81 INT. TRINITY BASE - TOP FLOOR - NEXT 81

Twist and Diego, back to back SMACK and SLICE at the zombies that press forward.

Crackling shards of electricity FIZZLE as they hit the ground. The zombies TWITCH and spasm before they slump, lifeless to the ground.

SYREN
 (almost breathless)
 We did it!

Twist and Diego wearily approach them.

TWIST
 Hate to rain on your parade, but
 Naomi nabbed Danyael again in the
 chaos. She's probably half way to
 their next secret base by now.
 Wherever the hell that is.

Twist's grim look is shared by the others, unable to savour this small victory as we:

FADE TO:

Another day, another dirt cheap motel complete with tacky paintings and faded wall paper. There's the sound of one hell of a storm raging outside.

Chris, Twist, Diego and even Syren all look completely exhausted. A large fold out road map is spread out on the bed here. Several red circles and crosses already mark parts of the map.

Syren rubs her eyes tiredly as Twist yawns. Diego cracks his neck to the side, uncomfortable.

CHRIS

(off them)

Go get some rest, all of you. We won't be able to fight the Trinity if we're dead on our feet before we can even locate them. We can hit the road again in eight hours.

Twist opens her mouth to protest but Chris' stern look stops her in her tracks.

DIEGO

(nods)

I'll be in my room.

And with that Diego leaves.

SYREN

I'm going to catch up some sleep.

(to Twist)

You need to as well, Twist. You've been awake -

TWIST

(sighs; tired)

I can't sleep. Every time I try I...I'm just going to veg out in front of the tube.

Twist CLICKS on the TV in the room here as she FLOPS onto the bed. Syren shoots Chris a look.

SYREN

I'll see you later, then.

TWIST

Sweet dreams, princess.

CHRIS

I, ahh... I'll be up a little later.

Syren gives him a small smile as she goes, but nods towards Twist - he needs to talk to her.

Twist aims the remote at the TV set and we ANGLE ON it as the volume increases - it's the news.

NEWS READER

And back to our top story once again - an unexplained outbreak of a strange new sleeping sickness is sweeping across the region. The CDC has warned all residents to stay in their homes, but as of yet there's been no official statement from the authorities to say what this latest outbreak is, or what can be done about it.

Twist sits up, looking towards Chris. PUSH IN on his grave expression as he realises this is just the beginning.

NEWS READER (cont'd)

What we can confirm is that already hundreds of people have fallen victim to his virus, or infection, falling into an almost coma-like state within moments of first contact. The source and causes of the spread of this virus have yet to be identified, and there's already a rising sense of panic out in the larger cities.

(beat)

This is Ted Brockman, NBC News.

He looks out the motel window here as the storm RUMBLES ominously on, and off this, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF SHOW