

SOMEWHERE INBETWEEN

"Here Lies The Champion"

by
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TEASER

FADE IN:

1 BLACK. 1

Hold it for a beat, until:

CRACK! Rock and dirt SMASHES into our view, bright daylight piercing through as someone smashes away a wall.

The gap in the rock widens and finally the smashing stops, a FEMALE FIGURE appearing, daylight shimmering around her.

WOMAN

Bingo!

Late-thirties, all-American, dressed in a tank top and combats with her long hair tied back, glasses draping off her nose. A mix of bookworm and adventurer.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

Marley? D'you find it?

CUT TO:

2 EXT. WHEAT FIELD - DAY 2

The female figure turns away from the smashed rock, turning to the voice. Her name is MARLEY CROWTHER.

MARLEY

(nods)

I found it. Don't you just love me?

She smiles as we see three figures making their way across a stretch of low-cut wheat fields surrounding the smashed rock:

ALEX BUTLER, thirties, tall, handsome and dashing - think Mal Reynolds. GIZMO, early thirties, black, cradling a hi-tech piece of GPS equipment. TEENA, late twenties, blonde, geekette researcher - think Sara Kennedy, but American.

BUTLER

The world famous Crowther intuition again, or d'you find something we didn't?

MARLEY

As ever, more fun to keep you guessing.

She playfully flicks his nose and Butler grins - these are more than just friends.

While Gizmo focuses his equipment on the smashed rock, Teena approaches the hole with fascination.

(CONTINUED)

TEENA

Wow. This is awesome.
 (looks back)
 What we could find down there...

MARLEY

(nods)
 I know. Which is why we should get
 to it.
 (beat)
 Gizmo?

GIZMO

Equipment's hot. All set to track
 any energy readings.
 (looks at Marley)
 Good to go, Doc.

Marley nods, regards the team around her after picking up a SACHEL she hoists on her back.

MARLEY

Then let's make history.

On that, Marley turns toward the smashed rock and as the others begin following her, we PAN UP...

... to a birds eye view of a glorious set of dune-like, wheat-fields... and a large, almost mountainous outcropping of very old rock into which our team have uncovered a cavern entrance.

TITLE OVER: THE PALOUSE, NORTH-CENTRAL IDAHO

Torchlights shine out into the gloom of the tunnel leading down from the smashed, newly-formed cavern entrance, as our team head down.

Marley leads the way, shining her light at the ancient rocky walls - Gizmo close behind her, studying infra-red GPS equipment in hand.

Teena trails him, staring around with wonder as she shines her torch - Butler taking up the rear, walking with a steady pace.

BUTLER

So what are we gonna find down here, exactly? Fortune, glory... cookies? What?

MARLEY

Alex, I've told you about the legend dozens of times since we graduated.

BUTLER

And the majority of those were in a bar or in bed where, forgive me, there are quite a few distractions.

Marley chuckles at his frankness.

TEENA

I'll tell it!

MARLEY

(nods)
Teena...

Teena clears her throat before speaking, still shining her light around the walls.

TEENA

The legend goes that in ancient times, millennia past, when great civilisations lost to history existed and monsters walked the Earth, there lived champions. Men more like Gods, true warriors who were revered by the people they protected.

(nods)

One of these warriors was named -

She's cut off as she suddenly DISAPPEARS - falling like a stone into a pit in the walkway!

Teena SCREAMS as she plunges, losing her torch! Marley and Gizmo turn sharply in front at the sound!

MARLEY

Teena!

GIZMO

Where'd that hole come from?!?

Butler, on the opposite side of the pit that seemed to just materialise, leaps into action and dives!

He just catches the hand of the screaming Teena as she plunges out of reach, grabbing her.

TEENA

HELP MEEEE!!

Teena dangles precariously as Butler holds one of her arms with his hands - she looking down below:

To see what looks for the world like a BOTTOMLESS PIT, eerie swirling mist around it!

MARLEY

Alex, drag her up!

BUTLER

(struggling)

I'm... tryin'...

But it's clear Butler is losing the battle - Teena starting to slip out of his grasp!

BUTLER (cont'd)

Teena, reach up with your other hand, I can't...

(grunts)

I can't hold you...

She slips a little further out of his grasp - SCREAMING again!

Teena, terrified, tries to lift her dangling hand up to grab Butler.

BUTLER (cont'd)

Teena!

But he loses his purchase... and with an ear-piercing SCREAM Teena falls into the pit...

... her scream ECHOING through the cavern as she plunges out of sight into the darkness!

Marley looks horrified, Gizmo disturbed, while Butler SMASHES the ground with his fist!

BUTLER (cont'd)

Damn it!

(jumps up)

I knew this trip was too dangerous. We don't know enough about this place! We should leave, now!

It's clear Marley is conflicted after what just happened.

GIZMO

I ain't goin' anywhere. We spent too long plannin' this trip and this gear I got don't come cheap.

(nods)

If yo comin', follow my lead.

And on that, Gizmo strides off into the cavern, torch in one hand, device in the other.

MARLEY

Gizmo? Gizmo! Come back!

(to Butler)

We can't leave her down there! She could be hurt, or -

BUTLER

Or she could be dead.

MARLEY

Alex! We are not leaving her!

Marley and Butler hold each other's gaze - until Butler sighs and takes a few steps back...

... before running and LEAPING the distance over the pit, landing near where Marley stands.

BUTLER

C'mon. The only way is forward for now. If we see some way to head lower and look for her, then we'll take it.

With a dark frown, he strides off into the cavern, leaving Marley to look back at the pit with sadness.

As she follows, PAN BACK to the gloomy pit... and find it's no longer there, normal rocky ground having replaced it!

With Butler as he stops in his tracks, holding Marley back, as they hear:

AAAARGH!!

MARLEY

What the Hell was that?!

BUTLER

(darkly)

Gizmo.

He races off, Marley following, both heading for a corner turn in the dark tunnel.

Both turn simultaneously and FLASH their torches up ahead, greeted by a gruesome sight...

... Gizmo, impaled on a large METALLIC SPIKE that pierced him from the wall!

MARLEY

(gasps)
Oh, my God!

Nearby, Butler sees the discarded infra-red GPS (still working) dropped on the floor.

He reaches down, picks it up, hands it to the horrified Marley.

BUTLER

(serious)
We go. Now.

MARLEY

Alex, we -

BUTLER

Marley, listen to me! Someone or something does not want us down here. Two of our people are already dead!

(shakes his head)
I'm not gonna lose you too.

A tender beat between them - Butler taking Marley's hand, at which point she nods.

MARLEY

Okay.

CRAAACK... The noise jolts them, both shining their torches at the surrounding walls.

MARLEY (cont'd)

That sounds like...

She and Butler exchange a concerned look as they shine torches at the rocky wall near them at the end of the tunnel... which is spraying DUST...

BUTLER

(nods)
Run!!

They sprint off past the impaled Gizmo down the corridor, deeper into the cavern, just as:

CRASH! The far rocky wall EXPLODES outward from pressure, a CASCADE OF WATER spraying out, churning down the tunnel after them!

Marley and Butler both sprint as fast as their legs can carry them as they see the wall of water rapidly approaching!

(CONTINUED)

MARLEY
 (points in front)
 There! Quickly!

The torches illuminate an ANCIENT STONE DOOR which is slowly closing a few dozen metres up ahead!

Water lapping at them now, Marley and Butler race toward the door before it can close!

She literally SLIDES under, YELPING in pain at the motion and losing the GPS as she moves!

Butler, though, sees the door almost closed and before he slides... he stops.

From under the door, Marley looks in.

MARLEY (cont'd)
 Alex! No!

BUTLER
 (resigned)
 I love you, Marley.

Before she can respond, the stone door SEALS with a RUMBLE.

Butler turns as the gushing sound of water gets louder and raises his flashlight... to see the wall of water upon him!

And as it impacts him like a sledgehammer, we CUT TO:

Behind the stone door, the sound of water crashing up against it is heard by a tearful Marley.

MARLEY
 (sighs)
 Alex...

Marley raises her flashlight torch to see what lies up ahead, but before she can make anything out...

... the torch BLINKS OFF, battery dead.

BLACK OUT:

MARLEY (cont'd)
 (sighs)
 Aw, shi -

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

6 EXT. MOTEL PARK - NIGHT 6

A typical American motel park, chalet rooms stretching out near a number of cars - including a familiar stolen VAN.

FEMALE VOICE (PRE-LAP)
 (bad singing)
*Hey little sister, what have you
 done? Hey little sister, who's the
 only one?*

CUT TO:

7 INT. BATHROOM - MOTEL ROOM - NEXT 7

PAN ACROSS a quite plain bathroom in one of the rooms, grungy rock CLOTHES removed and scattered untidily all around the place.

The SHOWER is running, but almost deafened by the continual terrible singing by a familiar voice.

FEMALE VOICE (O.C.)
*Hey little sister, who's your
 superman? Hey little sister, who's
 the one you want? Hey little
 sister... SHOT GUN!*

At which point, PAN UP to the source of the singing:

TWIST

Merrily making eardrums bleed as she lathers behind a shower curtain, just covering the areas obviously out of bounds.

TWIST
*It's a nice day to start again!
 It's a nice day for a... white
 wedding! It's a nice day to...
 STAAAARRRT AGGGAAAAAIIINNNN!!!*

As she wails, Twist turns off the shower and YANKS back the shower curtain!

She wipes the water from her eyes as she climbs out, stark naked, still wailing at the verse.

A wail that turns into a loud YELP as she looks in front of her.

TWIST (cont'd)
 (shocked)
 What the Justin?!?

(CONTINUED)

WHIP ROUND to see a figure standing calmly up against the wall by the shower:

MARCUS

His hands are clasped at his front and he's staring forward, only looking toward Twist when she speaks.

TWIST (cont'd)

Marcus?! What what what... what...
the Hell are you doin' here?!

MARCUS

(beat)
Something wrong?

TWIST

Uh... yeah!
(motions around)
This is my bathroom. Not exactly
clothed here.

It's clear from Marcus' expression he really doesn't understand the hullabaloo. Twist sighs.

TWIST (cont'd)

Okay, let's try this in two words
that might help you understand.
(tiny beat)
Get out!

MARCUS

(calmly)
I made a vow when we were bound by
blood, Twist, never to leave your
side. To protect you as a blood
brother would. I will honour that
vow as long as I live.

TWIST

What the frick do I need protecting
from in the bathroom? Killer
towels? Poison soap?

MARCUS

(smiles)
You shouldn't be so prudish. To my
kind, nudity is a natural state of
being.

TWIST

(scowls)
And to my kind, nudity is something
that your kind don't ever get to
see!

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

Twist looks ever so slightly creeped out by this... especially as Marcus ever so lightly with his eyes looks her naked body up and down.

On impulse, demurely, Twist covers her bits and pieces with her hands!

MARCUS

(beat)

Would you care for a towel?

Off Twist giving him one Hell of a sarcastic glare, we CUT TO:

8 INT. MOTEL DINER - LATER

8

A quiet motel diner near the car park, a WAITRESS wiping mainly empty tables in the background.

Twist sits across from LYRA at a table - the latter sipping a strawberry shake, barely removing her lips from the straw.

TWIST

Seriously, the guy is everywhere!
He sleeps in a chair opposite my
bed and he's still there when I
wake up in the morning...

(shakes her head)

And now we have ShowerGate. A
factor ten on the fricken creepy
scale!

LYRA

I think it's sweet.

TWIST

(raises her eyebrows)

You would.

LYRA

You're blood brothers -

TWIST

Sister! Blood sister. Don't go
giving me a complex.

LYRA

He's just trying to look out for
you, that's all.

TWIST

(nods unenthused)

Yeah, he says it's all for my
protection in case Conall raises
his evil, hairy head again, yada
yada yada, but...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

TWIST (cont'd)
 (shakes her head)
 C'mon, he's a man. Well... wolf
 man.

Twist nods knowingly at Lyra - who keep sucking up her milkshake, oblivious.

TWIST (cont'd)
 And I'm, ya know... a woman... a
 pretty damn hot one, too...
 (nods)
 You see where I'm heading here?

Lyra shakes her head. Twist HUFFS.

TWIST (cont'd)
 Of course you don't. Because your
 experience with men is so in-depth.
 I mean, you're banging Chris, after
 all.
 (sighs)
 Why do I bother?

LYRA
 (beat)
 What does 'banging' mean?

Twist stumbles - and is saved as the door of the diner nearby then opens - CHRIS and DANYAEL enter, approaching the table.

DANYAEL
 Hey, guys. Girly guys.

Danyael perches at the table next to Lyra. She holds her shake in his direction, and he grabs it.

LYRA
 (looks at Chris)
 How did it go?

CHRIS
 We checked in with all the rebel
 cells in the area. Doesn't seem to
 be any significant Parker activity
 in these parts.
 (beat)
 Which makes a change.

DANYAEL
 (to Lyra/Twist)
 So what were you guys talking
 about?

A quick glance between Lyra and Twist - the latter looking a touch embarrassed.

LYRA

Twist was telling me about how
Marcus -

TWIST

(quickly)

Keeps doing that freaky wolf
changing thing at really strange
moments. Like in the middle of
Bionic Woman. Just wrong.

Twist gives Lyra a quick glare - she going back to her shake.

CHRIS

(looks around)

So where is Marcus?

LYRA

He said he was going for a stroll
in the woods. Makes him feel at
home.

CHRIS

(nods)

And Vivian?

CUT TO:

The sight of VIVIAN - as her head yanks up from the bathroom
sink, having splashed her face with water.

She gasps a little, looking into the mirror as she lets the
water run down her face... and clearly doesn't like what she
sees.

She looks deathly pale, not in the least bit well. In fact,
she looks bloody awful.

Vivian pulls up her sleeve... to reveal the circular BITE
MARK, red and purple with yellow fluid dribbling from it.
It's noticeably bigger and a lot nastier.

Vivian looks at it with a frown in the mirror, touching it
with her fingers... which causes her to WINCE with pain.

PING!

The noise from within the motel room distracts her and she
pulls down her sleeve carefully.

With one last look in the mirror, Vivian heads out into:

10 INT. MOTEL ROOM - NEXT 10

The average motel room - bed, closet, TV - toward a LAPTOP which lies open on a nearby table.

Vivian reaches it, seeing a notification: she has e-mail.

Opening her new mail, Vivian begins to read and her eyebrows soon raise.

VIVIAN
(surprised)
Marley?

CUT TO:

11 EXT. VAN - MOTEL CAR PARK - NEXT 11

The rear of our team's stolen van, docked in the motel car park, where the team all stand. They're listening to Vivian - facing them all.

VIVIAN
I just got a delayed e-mail from Marley Crowther, an old friend of mine from my college days. She went on to work for an archaeological foundation sponsoring expeditions.
(beat)
Imagine Lara Croft if she'd been raised in Wyoming.

Twist nods and Danyaël smiles - but it's lost on the others.

CHRIS
You did archaeology at college?

VIVIAN
No, but it always interested me. I guess that's one of the reasons Marley and I got on so well.

MARCUS
So what did the e-mail say?

VIVIAN
It was an invitation. Marley said she'd found something in Idaho. In the Palouse.
(looks at Chris)
The Tomb of Saaraguus.

A beat - a look of shared recognition passes between Vivian and Chris, who looks very intrigued.

(CONTINUED)

TWIST

Sara—who now?

CHRIS

(nods)

Saaraguus. He was a champion, a great warrior from ancient legend. It was said he was buried within a secret tomb along with a cache of supposedly magical weaponry he used throughout his life to fight all kinds of evil.

(beat)

Monsters, demons, the undead.

TWIST

Ooh, like the Scorpion King!

VIVIAN

(beat)

Marley sent me the precise location in the Palouse where she claimed to have found the tomb, and invited me out to come share the spoils.

(beat)

We always said back in college if one of us found fortune and glory we'd take it together. I guess Marley never forgot.

MARCUS

It's a nice offer, but one I'm not sure we should take up.

(to Chris)

At best, it's a distraction from dealing with Parker. At worst, it could be one of his traps.

DANYAEL

Man could have a point there. We all know Parker's a sneaky one.

(shrugs)

Who says that e-mail was even from Viv's friend?

CHRIS

(nods)

I understand the concerns, but if the offer is genuine, the kind of weaponry Saaraguus reputedly held, if recovered, could be a massive boost to us.

DANYAEL

Let's just hope this isn't a repeat of Karakov's Gauntlets.

(MORE)

11 CONTINUED: (2)

11

DANYAEL (cont'd)
 We all remember how that turned
 out.
 (off Vivian/Marcus)
 Well... most of us.

CHRIS
 (to Vivian)
 E-mail Marley back. Tell her we'll
 meet her at the tomb in twelve
 hours, that should give us enough
 time to get there if we set off
 now.

VIVIAN
 (nods)
 Got it.

She moves off, as do the others, but Chris follows Vivian
 until they're a little away from the rest.

CHRIS
 Vivian?

Vivian turns back and faces Chris - who places his hand on
 her pale, slightly leathery forehead.

CHRIS (cont'd)
 You're running a fever.

VIVIAN
 I'm fine.

CHRIS
 You don't look 'fine.' In fact, you
 look like death warmed -

VIVIAN
 (quickly)
 Chris. I said I'm fine.

Vivian smiles very weakly before turning and heading back to
 her motel room.

She leaves Chris knowing something is wrong, and off his
 concerned expression, we DISSOLVE TO:

12 EXT. PALOUSE ROAD - NIGHT

12

The sight of the van crossing the expansive, dune-like wheat
 fields of the Palouse - kicking up dust from the gravel road
 like a trail.

13 INT. VAN - NEXT

13

Chris drives, while Danyaël operates a SAT-NAV system he's
 tinkering with.

(CONTINUED)

In the back, Lyra sits dozing next to Marcus - her head almost leaning on his shoulder.

Twist perches opposite, thumbing through a magazine while Vivian hovers quietly in the corner... still not looking well.

CHRIS

(to Danyael, re: sat nav)
Anything yet?

DANYAEL

I know we're in the right area, but for some reason it won't pinpoint the exact co-ordinates.

CHRIS

(shakes his head)
Technology.

Twist leans forward between the seats.

TWIST

Something tells me navigation just ain't your thing, Spook.

DANYAEL

Hey, if you wanna spend the next few hours messing with this thing, you be my guest!

TWIST

I would, but you're obviously having too much fun.

Chuckling a little, Twist sits back down as Danyael rolls his eyes.

A beat as Twist goes back to her magazine... but then slowly lifts her gaze up directly across from her.

Where Marcus is sitting, staring right at her.

She looks away, a little creeped, before going back to her magazine. A beat... then she looks up again.

Marcus is still looking straight at her, hint of a smile on his face.

TWIST (cont'd)

What?

Before he can respond, all hear the blaring sound of booming RAP echoing outside, closing in.

And suddenly - the van SHAKES from side to side, jolted as a large black SUV goes racing past them, the source of the rap tunes, kicking up a mass of dust behind it.

The shake alerts everyone - jolts Lyra from her slumber, she looking around with a mumble.

DANYAEL

What the crap...?

CHRIS

It would appear we're not the only ones on this hunt. Word must have gotten out.

(off Danyael's concerned look)

Look on the bright side... we just got ourselves a new sat-nav.

Chris nods toward the SUV racing off in the distance, and as Danyael understands, Chris guns the pedal.

14 EXT. PALOUSE ROAD - NEXT 14

Our guys' van pick up speed, following the SUV's rap and dirt trail, before we CUT TO:

15 EXT. WHEAT FIELD - NIGHT 15

The large cavernous outcropping around the wheat field is a lot busier than last time - three VEHICLES are now parked around the entrance.

Our team's van pulls up a little behind the rest of the vehicles, the team peering out at them.

MARCUS

Guess we're a little late to this dance.

MONTAGE as they scan the 'competition':

1) The black SUV, around which are now a half dozen black guys, most dressed like GANGSTA RAPPERS with bling dripping off them.

2) Two black MERCEDES, around which are a shadowy group of ARYAN MEN with some serious weaponry and hardware - at first glance you'd think them government.

3) An old VOLKSWAGEN CAMPER, around which are a nerdy bunch of guys - they look almost like students.

The van parks up near the camper and our team begin to pile out into the night air.

One of the NERDS nearby sees them.

NERD

(waves)

Hey! How you doin'? Welcome to the
fun and games!

Chris leads the team over toward where the Nerd stands -
separate from the other three in his team.

NERD (cont'd)

I'm Lonnie. Guys back there are
Alvin, Simon, and -

TWIST

Oh, please say Theodore.

LONNIE pauses for a beat.

LONNIE

No, uh... Bob.

Twist looks incredibly disappointed, SUCKS HER TEETH and
looks away.

LONNIE (cont'd)

Or you can just call us by our
collective name.

(grins)

The Scooby Gang!

A long beat - he just gets stony, unamused looks from all of
our team.

LONNIE (cont'd)

Or not, it's up... to...

(quickly)

So, you guys here for the treasure?

CHRIS

Actually we're looking for someone.
A woman named Marley Crowther. Have
you seen her?

LONNIE

(shakes his head)

Nada. No women out here, sadly.

(he sniggers)

Nope, just us and those guys.

He beckons toward the other teams setting up across the way.

LYRA

Who are they?

LONNIE

The black guys, that's Roman's crew.

The gangsta types mill around, loading SUB-MACHINE GUNS.

LONNIE (cont'd)

Led by self-styled LA hero Roman. Fancies himself as the next Daywalker, hence the knock off sword.

ON ROMAN - the only gangsta wearing black leather, shades, wielding a SWORD far too big for him.

LONNIE (cont'd)

(see Chris' katana)
Yours rocks, however.

CHRIS

(frowns)
And the other team?

Lonnie looks over - the Aryan Men are all frowning, looking highly serious, setting up their top spec equipment.

LONNIE

(nods)
Germans. And that's about as much as we know about them.
(beat)
Except they came a long way for whatever might be in that cavern.

VIVIAN

I don't get it. How you all knew Saaraguus' tomb had been found if you don't know Marley.

LONNIE

Well, once the bodies started being found, it hit the underground airwaves pretty quick.

A grave look passes between our team.

MARCUS

Bodies?

Lonnie nods - points to the cavern entrance.

LONNIE

They're bringing another one out now, look.

The team look over, and see two of the Aryan Men carrying out a DEAD BODY from within the gloomy cavern entrance.

LONNIE (cont'd)

I'm guessing whoever found the tomb
first may have taken the brunt of
Saaraguus' pesky booby traps.

Chris looks at Vivian - who strides over to where the two Germans are laying the body on the ground. He follows her, the others staying with a watching Lonnie.

Vivian reaches the body and the Germans give her a cold look, before silently moving off to rejoin their comrades.

She kneels and SIGHS at the sight before her, which Chris sees as he approaches.

CHRIS

You knew him, didn't you?

ON THE BODY - it's a drowned, cut and battered Butler.

VIVIAN

(nods)

Alex Butler. He was Marley's
college sweetheart, they met in
archaeology class. Where one went,
the other followed.

Vivian nods, staring at Butler with sadness in her eyes.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

So this can only mean one thing...
(looks up at Chris)
Marley didn't make it.

Knowing her words are probably true, Chris looks away and it's off Vivian's grave expression, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

16

EXT. VAN - WHEAT FIELD - NIGHT

16

The team are hovering around the back of the van. Vivian looks noticeably upset as well as ill.

DANYAEL

What this guy Lonnie told us puts a whole new spin on the 'going into the creepy cavern plan', guys.

(beat)

Even if this isn't a Parker trap -

MARCUS

(quickly)

Something we can't yet entirely rule out.

DANYAEL

(nods)

Either way... the woman who invited us out here is dead. Which means this is pretty damn dangerous.

TWIST

We're dangerous. And pretty.

(nods)

I say we tomb raid.

DANYAEL

(cautious)

Twist...

TWIST

Ah c'mon, Spook, we've faced a lot worse than a few Temple of Doom-style booby traps.

LYRA

Vivian, what do you think? Marley was your friend.

VIVIAN

(nods)

She was. And I know she'd rather Saaraguus' treasure go to good use rather than lining the pockets of geeks, gangstas, Germans or God knows who else.

(nods)

I'd say going down there is worth the risk.

Danyaël and Marcus both share a look of concern.

(CONTINUED)

TWIST

Woot! Go Viv!

CHRIS

(slight beat)

Okay... I suggest we split into three teams of two, each tracking one of our rival teams specifically. They all look set to head on in soon, and it's a wiser move letting them bear the brunt of whatever obstacles the tomb has in store down there.

TWIST

That's cold. I like it.

CHRIS

(thinks)

Vivian and I will track the Germans, Danyael and Lyra - you take Roman and his crew. Which leaves...

MARCUS

Twist and I to keep an eye on the so-called 'Scooby Gang'.

(nods; looks at Twist)

Perfect.

Marcus smiles a little at her - which only serves to make Twist even more awkward at the prospect.

CHRIS

Any questions?

Twist fidgets, dying to say something - but she knows she can't. She hangs her head and sighs.

TWIST

(to Marcus; glum)

Let's go, Chewie.

Twist strides away and as Marcus follows, the team get to it and we CUT TO:

Through the entrance caved in at the beginning, each of the teams begin making their way into the darkness - powering FLASHLIGHT BEAMS pulsing through.

First are the 'Germans' - all in black with LASER-SIGHT RIFLES, military-grade hardware strapped to them.

Next follows Roman - clutching his imitation Blade sword, decked out all in leather, while his crew of gangstas follow behind with SNUB-NOSED UZI's.

Finally, Lonnie and his 'Scoobies' moving down - bearing nerdish RF DETECTORS, SPREAD-SPECTRUM SENSORS and TANKS strapped like satchels to their backs.

They look every inch like Ghostbusters. Which, one suspects, was the point.

As the rival teams move further in, our guys are following them down the tunnel discreetly.

They stop upon seeing the cavern diversify into multiple TUNNEL PATHS - each rival team moving down a separate tunnel from each other.

Looking unhappy, Twist strides off after the Scoobies with Marcus. Danyael takes Lyra's hand as he watches them go.

DANYAEL

C'mon, Lyra, straight ahead.

They move off after Roman's crew - which leaves Chris to spy the Germans heading off to the left.

CHRIS

(to Vivian; over his shoulder)

Looks like they went this way.

He moves off with purpose and Vivian watches from behind - stopping and looking back.

She sees the tunnel entrance to the outside, to safety.

And upon wiping her feverish brow and suppressing her sickness, Vivian strides on after Chris and we DISSOLVE TO:

The sight of Lonnie, highly focused, moving slowly with the Scoobies through the gloomy catacombs within the tomb - scanning everywhere with equipment.

They stride on as we linger... to find Twist keeping pace behind. Marcus strides behind her.

She treads into a PUDDLE OF MUDDY WATER with a splash.

TWIST

(grimaces; shuts eyes)

If I don't look down, they'll be okay... if I don't look down, they'll be okay...

She peeks open one eye and looks down - her boots are now spattered with MUD.

TWIST (cont'd)
 (seethes)
 Why can't dark, gloomy catacombs
 ever not be without big, fricken
 patches of water? We're under the
 damn ground!

She whirls round, snapping at Marcus:

TWIST (cont'd)
 Hey! Are you listening to me?

MARCUS
 It's pretty hard not to.

TWIST
 In that case, why am I the only one
 doing the talking? Do werewolves go
 mute below ground or something?

MARCUS
 Perhaps I've got nothing
 interesting to say.

TWIST
 Don't you have an opinion?

MARCUS
 On boots, puddles or catacombs?
 (shakes his head)
 Not really.

Twist stops, looks at him a little infuriated - especially at Marcus' light sarcasm.

TWIST
 (beat)
 Why am I the one going first?

MARCUS
 I can't very well have your back
 down here if I can't see you.

TWIST
 Maybe I don't need you having my
 back... or anything else!

A little smile from Marcus as Twist narrows her eyes.

TWIST (cont'd)
 I know what you're doing back
 there.

(MORE)

TWIST (cont'd)
 (nods)
 You're checking out my ass.

MARCUS
 Trust me. I'm not.

On that, Marcus strides off in front, keeping track of the Scoobies. A beat - remaining with Twist.

TWIST
 (pouts)
 Why not?
 (beat)
 Hey!

She hurries after him as we CUT TO:

Chris, moving through an almost identical catacomb tunnel silently and carefully, tracking the Germans.

They're up ahead - moving tactically through the passage, squaring weapons poised and ready for trouble, scanning everywhere.

Behind, Vivian keeps pace - but she's visibly struggling now with her fever, looking a touch unsteady on her feet.

She stops as Chris turns and SIGHS.

VIVIAN
 What's wrong?

CHRIS
 I've been trying to summon a locator spell in an attempt to pinpoint the exact location down here of Saaraguus' cache, maybe get us a jump on our rivals - but it's not working.

VIVIAN
 The anti-serum?

CHRIS
 (nods)
 My magic's been a bit... wonky, for want of a better word, since I got dosed up.

Vivian nods - COUGHING a little outwardly, wiping some sweat from her brow. Chris doesn't fully pay attention, though.

CHRIS (cont'd)
 (thinks)
 Perhaps Lyra could do it.
 (MORE)

19 CONTINUED:

19

CHRIS (cont'd)
Her powers work differently to mine
- and I'm starting to think they're
much stronger in some ways.

He pulls out a SHORT-WAVE RADIO, clicks it into action.

CHRIS (cont'd)
Lyra, it's Chris. Come in.

A beat as the radio CRACKLES, Vivian watching as she coughs
again and we CUT TO:

20 INT. MIDDLE CATACOMB TUNNEL - NEXT

20

The radio CRACKLES as Lyra takes it from Danyael. Danyael
keeps an eye on Roman and his crew - rapidly disappearing
from sight up ahead in the equally identical catacomb tunnel.

LYRA
(into radio)
Chris, I'm here. I read you.

DANYAEL
Say 'over.'

LYRA
Over.

CHRIS
(filtered; through radio)
Good. I need you to try and locate
the cache now we're down here. My
own spells are on the fritz.

LYRA
I'll see what I can do.

Lyra hands the radio back to Danyael, who keeps the channel
open as Lyra steps forward.

She closes her eyes, emitting a strange HUM which though
quiet seems to build in power... and Danyael stands back as a
RIPPLE almost in reality forms around her like a bubble.

Lyra holds the bubble, eyes closed, power focused.

LYRA (cont'd)
I'm picking up magic traces in the
weapons... we need to move
deeper... deeper underground...
Saaraguus hid his secrets well...
(beat)
We need to...

AAAAAAARRRGGHHH!!!!

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

20

The scream echoes down the tunnel, instantly breaking Lyra in shock from her channelling - she GASPS!

21 INT. LEFT CATACOMB TUNNEL - NEXT

21

Through the radio, the scream is followed by MACHINE-GUN BULLETS - the sound of which echo through Chris and Vivian's tunnel too.

CHRIS

What was that? Lyra?

DANYAEL

(through radio)

Chris, it's Danny. We're fine. It came from up ahead.

CHRIS

We're on our way.

On that, Chris cuts the radio link and races up into the tunnel with speed.

Seeing him move, Vivian runs herself but it's clearly a lot of effort. Off this, we CUT TO:

22 INT. CATACOMB CHAMBER - NEXT

22

A large spherical chamber up ahead within the catacombs - where Roman and his crew are under attack...

... from a swarm of vicious killer RATS!

A huge POOL OF WATER fills the midsection of the chamber, in which the rats are chowing down on the crew, visible by FIRE BEACONS lining the wall.

The gangstas are FIRING their Uzis at the water, rather aimlessly, having little effect as the rats consume them!

Roman HACKS at the water all around him with his sword!

Each of the three tunnels lead into this chamber and through the middle races Danyael, holding Lyra's hand.

DANYAEL

Whoa!

They stand at the edge of the water pool, looking at the bloody carnage before them.

From the left cavern, Chris races in and sees Danyael and Lyra near the pool in the middle.

His eyes go wide as he sees the rats attacking and as he DRAWS his katana, Danyael grabs a sword.

(CONTINUED)

They look at one another and nod - before both leap off their precipuses and land in the water with a SPLASH!

Vivian races in, very out of breath, and sees Chris beginning to hack at the rats as he wades toward the crew - Danyael hacking blindly into the water next to him!

She begins leaning against the wall, sweating, out of breath, looking like death.

In the pool, the rats are almost finished with the entire crew - several leaping up and biting Roman, who SCREAMS!

Chris slashes at several rats, hacking them to pieces - but there's too many of them - and they begin turning their attention on our heroes.

CHRIS

(shouts)

Lyra! We could use a little help!

His voice echoes over to where Lyra stands alone... and she doesn't need telling twice.

She focuses her energy and begins to emit a SCREAM, the pitch of which gradually builds... and builds... and builds...

CHRIS (cont'd)

Danyael! Cover your ears!

As the rats begin swarming toward them, Chris and Danyael drop their weapons and cover their ears.

The screaming reaches an intense fever pitch, Lyra bellowing out a magical note at the top of her voice!

It begins to send the rats into a frenzy, emitting fearful squeaks themselves...

... and as the scream reaches critical, just as the rats would overcome Chris and Danyael... they begin to flee, spiralling away into the water!

And in a FLASH - they're gone. Vanished.

Lyra finishes her scream and steps back a little, a touch drained.

The chamber goes quiet - Chris and Danyael picking up their weapons in the floating water - only to spot a massacre before them.

Roman and his entire crew are dead - bloody corpses killed and chewed at by the ravenous rats, floating and sinking in the shallow pool.

(CONTINUED)

DANYAEL

At least somebody got a good meal
in today.

A beat - both observe the sombre surroundings.

TWIST (O.C.)

Incoming, bitches!

The voice echoes in before the cackling figure of Twist,
raising Duggan at the ready, racing in from the right
catacomb tunnel...

... only of course to find everything pretty calm.

TWIST (cont'd)

(beat)

Oh.

Marcus jogs in behind her - Twist making a point to step
behind him a little.

CHRIS

What happened to Lonnie's crew?
Weren't you tracking them?

MARCUS

They found a different route. The
tunnel diverges a few hundred
metres back.

TWIST

Then we heard screams and bullets
and... aaaaarrghhhs! So we raced
to help out.

(thinks)

Anyway, weren't you supposed to be
on the Germans' tail? Where'd they
go?

DANYAEL

(looks off screen)

I don't think they went far.

All eyes turn to where Danyael is looking - at the precipice
behind where Vivian rests...

... where the Germans have been the whole time, calmly
watching the carnage.

Vivian turns a little to see them emerge from the shadows as
Chris wades in the water toward them a little.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

(angry)

You watched these men die and you
did nothing. Why didn't you help?

A beat - before one of the Germans steps forward a little.

GERMAN

(to Chris)

*Und sie lassen gelangen an das grab
zuerst? Du bist ein dummkopf.*

With a snort, the German goes back to his fellows as Chris
watches with a frown.

DANYAEL

Does anyone here speak German?

TWIST

Nien. But I doubt he was
complimenting Chris on his cologne.

A beat - before Twist walks forward, approaching a nearby
dead crew member slumped in the water.

TWIST (cont'd)

(pulls him up)

Let's have a looksee if Mr Bling
may have had some kind of map we
can -

PSSSS...

A strange noise follows the dead crew member being lifted by
Twist... who sees under him a SQUARE BLOCK begin to rise out
of the ground.

It's a lever... which triggers the water starting to suck
away into the chamber floor like a plughole!

Chris and Danyael watch and grab the side as the water
rapidly disappears... and within less than a minute the
chamber is bone dry, silent once again.

All turn to where Twist still holds the dead man, surprised.

TWIST (cont'd)

(beat; casual)

I knew that was there.

All eyes then turn to the far right corner... as they hear
and see a ROCK DOOR in the cavern begin to retract upwards,
revealing a passage beyond it.

(CONTINUED)

Trouble is... the Germans are right next to it... and they smugly look at our team before raising weapons and striding on through.

Chris watches them disappear with a frown of disapproval before turning to everyone.

CHRIS

Right. In the wake of what happened here, we can scratch my original plan. From now on, we stick together. Even if means the others reach the tomb before us. Agreed?

A chorus of approval comes from the others.

There no response from Vivian - Chris looks over, seeing she's holding the wall, struggling with the fever.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Vivian?

As the others head across the chamber toward the stone door, Chris approaches Vivian.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Okay. It's time to go.

VIVIAN

(waves it away)

Just give me... another sec... and I'll be with you.

CHRIS

No, I mean it's time for you to go. Back to the van.

VIVIAN

What?

CHRIS

Vivian, you're not well. Something's wrong.

VIVIAN

I was the one who brought you guys down here!

CHRIS

And we can finish it perfectly well between ourselves.

VIVIAN

(stern)

No, Chris!

Chris sees the anger in Vivian at this, she forcing herself to stand up straight.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

If Marley really is dead, then I owe it to her memory to not let these jackals get their hands on what she died for. I have to be part of this.

(resolute)

I go where you go.

It's obvious from her expression to Chris that she's not going to let this go.

CHRIS

(nods)

Alright. But you stay close to me at all times. Understood?

Vivian nods understanding and as Chris walks off to rejoin the rest, she follows...

... only to COLLAPSE pretty quickly behind Chris as she walks, landing right on a second square LEVER parallel to the first!

CHRIS (cont'd)

Vivian!

PSSSS...

The same noise again - which everyone hears - before suddenly the rock door into the passage the Germans went into retracts, closing up.

And then similar rock doors RETRACT across all three catacomb tunnels our guys came through, sealing them into the chamber!

Once the doors seal with an echo, the chamber goes deathly quiet. Too quiet.

An ominous beat and as Chris approaches Vivian, sees she's barely conscious on the floor, the others exchange glances.

MARCUS

Why did those doors just close?

TWIST

(looks around)

And why hasn't anything else bad happened yet?

And on cue, they hear a rapidly approaching... WHOOSH!!

(CONTINUED)

TWIST (cont'd)

Oh... I hate being right all the time.

A huge CASCADE of water begins churning down into the chamber, from above this time - as if a well had broken, a massive torrent hits the team!

A torrent that rapidly begins filling the entire sealed chamber up as the team realise they're, literally, in deep water.

As the team cough and splutter, fighting to get clear as gallons of water pour down onto them, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

23

INT. CATABOMB CHAMBER - NIGHT

23

Water gushes in from the ceiling of the sealed chamber, cascading over our team as they react.

TWIST

Where's the water coming from?
Didn't it just go down the
plughole?

CHRIS

It must have some kind of
reclamation system around this
chamber.

TWIST

Oh, great! So we get the only
catacomb on the planet with
plumbing?

Chris lifts the barely conscious Vivian off the ground, off the second lever switch she fell on.

Twist rushes across, bracing the water, to see the lever retract and seemingly reverse what's happening... but it remains rigid in the ground.

TWIST (cont'd)

Damn it!

She moves off another way as Marcus heads toward one of the sealed rock doors.

MARCUS

(calls)

Danyael! Search for exit points. Or
ideally any way to open these
doors.

DANYAEL

You got it.

Danyael doesn't need telling twice, he moves off to do as Marcus is.

Twist passes the stationery Lyra, sensing what's happening, as she reaches the first lever once more.

LYRA

Twist, what are you doing?

TWIST

Trying door number one, Monty.

(CONTINUED)

She desperately pushes the lever... which makes a sound as it retracts inward... but nothing happens.

TWIST (cont'd)
 (frustrated)
 Ah, come on!
 (sighs)
 If this was a movie, there would so
 be an escape lever round here...

Nearby, Marcus approaches - as does Danyael.

MARCUS
 Find anything?

DANYAEL
 Nope. They're sealed. No one's
 getting in or out.

Everyone looks over at Chris, perched on a ledge nearby holding Vivian, just avoiding the torrent of water soaking everyone else.

It's now up to their knees and rapidly rising.

TWIST
 (to Chris)
 So what do we do, boss?

His worrying lack of response means Chris really doesn't have an answer - plus he's distracted by Vivian's sickness, overcoming her.

LYRA
 I think I can get us out of this,
 but... I may have to use up a lot
 of power.

TWIST
 Hell, do it!

LYRA
 (to Twist)
 Power we may need when we reach the
 tomb, if there are more traps.

A long beat, Twist considering her words.

CHRIS
 (finally)
 Like Twist said, do it. Otherwise
 this place will become our tomb.

Lyra nods and wades away through the water - now reaching waist level as it gushes in.

The others watch as she reaches the far wall near the newly revealed DOOR the Germans escaped through.

While she begins focusing her mind and energy on it, the others get as high a vantage position, on ledges and precipices, out the water as possible.

Chris still cradles Vivian - now shaking with fever, still barely conscious.

All eyes on Lyra as she focuses her power on that wall, closing her eyes... before emitting a HUM similar to the one earlier, but somewhat more unsettling...

A long build up as the hum grows... and then the wall begins to SHIMMER, some kind of magical effect taking place across the rock.

Lyra controls the effect as the water continues to cascade, three quarters of the chamber now full - it's at chest height now, heading for the neck.

TWIST
(to herself)
C'mon, toots, c'mon...

The shimmer continues, grows and grows, Lyra pouring more of her energy into it...

... and then finally the shimmer begins to BEND the wall, bending into a corridor, a magical passageway, into the cavern beyond!

Chris, Twist, Danyael and Marcus all look both impressed and amazed.

DANYAEL
Okay, I'll say it - when did she
learn how to do that?

It's clearly taking it's toll on Lyra, as she maintains the passageway.

LYRA
(strained)
Everyone... go through, quickly...

TWIST
You heard the lady!
(starts to move)
Women and stalker werewolves first!

Twist wades over to the wall, Marcus hot on her heels... and both move out of the water and disappear through the passageway.

CHRIS

Danyael. Take Vivian.

Danyael nods and takes Vivian off Chris, cradling her as he moves through the magical corridor.

The water now at neck level, ready to consume them, Chris reaches the passageway and looks at Lyra - straining hard to keep it open.

LYRA

(strained)

Go... I can't... hold it...

Chris looks at the corridor, then back at Lyra.

LYRA (cont'd)

Chris... please... go...

She shuts her eyes tight, focusing the last of her power on keeping the passage open...

And on that, Chris GRABS Lyra by the hand through the water and pulls her with all his might!

Both just make it through the passageway before it magically seals up in a FLASH... the water now reaching the ceiling, totally covering the chamber.

A deeper tunnel heading further underground in the catacombs, beyond the chamber, where our team now re-group, getting their breath and shaking off the water.

TWIST

That's what I'd call a lucky escape.

CHRIS

Nothing lucky about it. It's all thanks to Lyra.

Chris looks at her with affection - sees Lyra gasping a little, coming out of her magical trance, holding onto his jacket.

LYRA

(between breaths)

I'll be... I'll be fine, just need to...

A beat - Lyra losing her words, as we see Twist move off, looking around the cavern.

MARCUS

This tomb really better be worth
all the effort.

CHRIS

It will be.

Leaving Lyra by the wall, Chris approaches Vivian - lain down
on the floor by Danyael, who kneels next to her.

DANYAEL

She's in bad shape. High fever,
coming in and out of consciousness.

CHRIS

What happened to her? What caused
this? Why didn't we see it?

DANYAEL

I don't know, but it looks pretty
bad.

(shakes his head)

She really shouldn't be here.

MARCUS

Doesn't look like she has much
choice. That chamber was the only
access to the outside.

(beat)

And I can't see any way of us
getting back in -

TWIST (O.C.)

Oh, Hell!

The cry echoes through the tunnel, jolting everyone - not
more so than the nearby rock door leading into the flooded
chamber starting to open!

Instinctively, they all shield from the expected torrent of
water... which never comes.

A beat - as Twist calmly ambles from across the cavern near
the door, through which the team all see the previously
flooded chamber now, once again, dry as a bone.

DANYAEL

Twist? Did you -

TWIST

I just knew the doofus architect of
this place would put the Chamber of
Death off switch on the outside.

(shrugs)

Turns out I was right.

(MORE)

TWIST (cont'd)

That's a twofer on Twist-hunches in
the last ten minutes!

She points over to a spiderweb covered hole in the rock -
containing, indeed, a LEVER Twist just pulled.

LYRA

Then we can get out, after all.

CHRIS

(stands)

And that's exactly what we're going
to do. Saving Vivian's life is more
important than treasure.

TWIST

Hold up there, tiger, didn't Vivian
just tell you she didn't want to
let her friend down?

(shakes her head)

If we just take off now, we might
as well just give up on Vivian too.

CHRIS

(beat)

That... was quite profound.

TWIST

I have my moments.

A hint of a smile from Chris.

CHRIS

Okay. I'll take Vivian back to the
van, see if I can't treat her. The
rest of you press on into the tomb.

He goes to pick up Vivian but Twist again is on him.

TWIST

Hate to keep insubordinating,
chief, but that ain't gonna work
either. You're leader of the pack,
we need you with or without magic.

(beat)

Besides, we both know Lyra won't
race into danger without you... and
nor will I.

MARCUS

(steps forward; re: Twist)

And where she goes, I go.

TWIST

Yes, because that's so helpful.

All eyes fall on Danyael, still kneeling besides Vivian.

DANYAEL

Guess I get the short straw, huh?

On that, Danyael lifts up Vivian into his arms and looks through the door into the cavern.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Good luck down there.

CHRIS

(nods)

Same to you.

A little smile from Danyael as he carries the shivering Vivian through into the chamber, and we DISSOLVE TO:

Our team trekking further into the cavern, moving deeper underground - resist the urge to put on Jamiroquai.

Chris presses on in front, focused, while Lyra hovers close by - clearly still regaining her strength from the magic use.

Just tailing slightly are Twist and Marcus, now walking side by side, the former scanning her flashlight onto the rocky walls.

TWIST

(scans the wall)

Hey, chief! Check these out.

They all stop and Chris doubles back slightly, sees the flashlight shining on the wall...

... illuminating a set of arcane SYMBOLS etched into the rock, which as the light scans seems to appear at random intervals on both sides of the wall.

MARCUS

They look like markers of some kind.

CHRIS

(nods)

Which must mean we're on the right track. The tomb can't be far.

Chris scans his own flashlight deeper into the gloomy cavern, sees the tunnel forking right.

CHRIS (cont'd)

In fact, I'd say if we just turn that corner up ahead...

25 CONTINUED:

25

He moves off, intending to test the theory as he trails off.
The others follow into:

26 INT. RIGHT CATACOMB TUNNEL - NEXT

26

An adjoining dark tunnel, illuminated by TURRETS OF FIRE
which spurt out from left, right, top and bottom stretching a
good few metres!

Chris stops upon seeing this - Lyra, Twist and Marcus halting
too.

TWIST

(finishes Chris' sentence)
... then you lead us right into the
Gateway to Hell. Nice one, boss.

MARCUS

(sees something)
Look!

Marcus points to the left, a plume of fire illuminating a
charred corpse, almost blackened... rifles and military
hardware discarded nearby.

CHRIS

The Germans.

Looking down the corridor, between the fire, they see all of
the Germans lying dead - all charred from failing to make it
through the plumes.

It's a pretty horrific sight, all told.

TWIST

Yuck. Flame grilled kraut.
(beat)
And how the frick are we supposed
to get through a cavern of fire
without any magic?

LYRA

I may be able to summon up another -

CHRIS

(stern)
No! Getting us out of the chamber
almost killed you.
(sighs)
This expedition may have already
cost us Vivian, I'll be damned if
I'm losing someone else.

He steps forward a little, looks into the corridor of flame.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS (cont'd)
 (nods)
 We'll do this the old-fashioned
 way.

TWIST
 Run screaming with our eyes closed?

Chris shoots her a look as we CUT TO:

27 INT. TUNNEL OF FIRE - MOMENTS LATER 27

A set of quick scenes, showing Chris, Lyra, Twist and Marcus, making their way through the tunnel.

All dodge, duck, weave and roll as they quickly pass through, almost in formation - just avoiding the plumes which billow out explosively at them!

Finally, they make it through - a final plume passing close to Twist, leading her to YELP as she gets clear of it!

The others turn and look back at the corridor, while Twist looks around - soon seeing another hole with a LEVER she angrily thrusts her hand toward and pulls!

TWIST
 (frustrated)
 I'm getting really pissed at these
 goddamn switches!

The lever triggers an effect... the plumes of fire DISSIPATING, leaving the corridor clear.

TWIST (cont'd)
 So, what's next? Poison darts? Big
 rolling boulders? Maybe a dragon?

CHRIS
 If we're lucky, what we came for.

And Chris moves off around into another adjoining corridor, Lyra trailing.

Twist audibly sighs, patting out the non-existent flames on her outfit, before following Marcus.

28 INT. TOMB CORRIDOR - NEXT 28

A large, high-vaulted rock entrance to a bigger chamber, unprotected by doors - which our team approach via a shorter corridor.

CHRIS
 At last. The Tomb of Saaraguus.

TWIST
 (points off screen)
 And what the Hell is that?

They all look, see she's motioning toward a second CORRIDOR which diverges off, heading upwards.

MARCUS
 That would probably be the short cut free of booby traps no-one told us about.
 (beat)
 We should really have followed Lonnie.

TWIST
 Yeah, cos the Ghostbusters really seemed to know where they were -

She stops as Marcus points into the tomb...

... where they find Lonnie and his 'Scoobies' furiously moving around, using their scanners.

Our team all exchange a look of surprise before Chris runs in, the others following into:

A towering excavation built into the cavern, akin to an age old crumbling MAUSOLEUM - full of tall PILLARS and long decayed masonry. In it's day, it would have been majestic.

Lonnie turns and sees Chris, Lyra, Twist and Marcus enter - approaching him. Lonnie and his team seem pretty on edge about something.

LONNIE
 Thank God you guys made it! I was beginning to think we'd have to take him on alone.

CHRIS
 (blinks)
 Take on who?

And as if to answer, something ROARS from within the mausoleum! The team step back, startled.

Lonnie points upward toward the main tomb itself, the mausoleum area...

... where we team see a gigantic, spectral manifestation of a really menacing CREATURE - half man, almost half beast. It's the size of a DINOSAUR!

TWIST

What...

CHRIS

At a guess? Saaraguus.

And off the sight of SAARAGUUS, as he roars primally, looking very pissed off, we CUT TO:

30 INT. CAVERN TUNNEL - NEXT

30

Danyael, looking pretty damn exhausted as he carries Vivian through the myriad catacombs.

He stops as he looks up ahead - relieved to see the smashed exit to the outside, the darkness of night still barely lingering.

A murmuring is heard and Danyael looks down, sees Vivian stirring in his arms.

DANYAEL

Viv?

Vivian's eyes are closed but she MUMBLES, as if in the midst of a nightmare, twisting a little in his grip.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Whoa, Viv? What's...?

He quickly lays her down against the nearest wall, where Vivian continues to lightly spasm.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Viv? Vivian, can you hear me? Are you...?

(sighs)

Ah, jeez. I knew I shoulda paid more attention to Julie...

On impulse, Danyael leans over and places his hand on her forehead, checking her temperature...

... at which point Vivian suddenly GRABS his wrist tightly, eyes FLASHING OPEN blood red!

She GROWLS ferally and Danyael is disturbed to see INCISORS now visible in her mouth!

We've seen this before - Vivian is now fully 'vombified'.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

(shocked)

Vivian, no!

(CONTINUED)

Vivian TWISTS his arm painfully - before her other hand powerfully delivers an uppercut which sends Danyael flying!

He SMACKS against the wall across, landing in a leap below!

Leaping to her feet, Vivian looks at Danyael... but instead of going in for the kill, with a growl, she RACES OFF back down into the catacombs!

From his downed position, Danyael - shaking off a little of hitting the wall - sees her running off.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

No! Viv, wait! Vivian!

With a little effort, Danyael gets to his feet - and heads off, best he can, in pursuit, as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

31 INT. TOMB OF SAARAGUUS - NIGHT

31

As before. The towering, spirit visage of Saaraguus looms over our team and Lonnie with his 'Scoobies.'

LONNIE

(to Chris)

In case you were wondering, we didn't come down here for the treasure like you and the others. We came to find him.

He motions up to where Saaraguus ROARS again, still scoping them out.

CHRIS

And do what?

LONNIE

Vanquish him, of course.

(nods)

Destroy the great champion even death itself cannot kill.

TWIST

(sceptical)

With what? You guys look like you'd get your asses kicked by a clown!

Lonnie looks away - a touch embarrassed by the admonishment.

Another ROAR from Saaraguus - followed by a deep-voice BELLOW, speaking in some kind of ancient language.

LYRA

What is he saying?

MARCUS

I don't speak the language, but I'd guess a rough translation could be along the lines of 'get the Hell out.'

TWIST

Well, it's his own fault for looking like a friggin' dinosaur, ain't it!

CHRIS

I doubt this was his original appearance. He's an ancient warrior who's likely been a spirit for thousands of years.

(CONTINUED)

Bravely, Chris steps forward - shaking off Lyra as she instinctively moves to stop him.

TWIST

(hisses)

Chris? Chris! Get back here!

Chris approaches where Saaraguus hovers, looking up at the giant.

CHRIS

Saaraguus. My name is Christopher Berkeley. I have the deepest respect for your resting place and I wish to explain why -

THWACK!!

He's cut off as Saaraguus launches a suddenly very corporeal FIST and BACKHANDS Chris!

It sends him flying several dozen metres through the air across the tomb - SMASHING hard up against a wall, knocking him out for the count!

LYRA

Chris!

Saaraguus roars once more - and a primal rage overcomes him, his fists beginning to SMASH up the tomb around him!

He impacts pillars, huge blocks of masonry starting to crash explosively all around!

Twist RUSHES over toward where Chris lies slumped - not seeing a loose pillar SWINGING DOWN toward her!

MARCUS

(sees it)

Twist!

Twist turns - eyes wide as the pillar swings in, too shocked to get out the way...

... until she's suddenly SHOVED CLEAR by Marcus, who dives in the way, taking the full brunt of the pillar which impacts and collapses on him!

TWIST

Alright, what was the big...

From the ground where she landed, Twist looks back and sees Marcus knocked out under the rubble.

TWIST (cont'd)

(beat)

Oh.

She looks between Chris and Marcus - not knowing who to help first.

Saaraguus continues his rage, his fists smacking aside the 'Scoobies' as they try using their equipment against him!

Lonnie, bravely though terrified, aims his equipment at Saaraguus as he swoops in for him...

... only for Lyra to step in front, close her eyes and quickly summon every last magic reserve she has!

She pushes forward her palms and OUT SHOOTS A BOLT OF BLUE ENERGY, right at Saaraguus!

However, it just deflects off his form - and as Lyra opens her eyes, the blue bolt reverberates!

It hits her in the chest - Lyra sent sprawling back, SKIDDING across the floor, stunned!

Lonnie races over to help her as Saaraguus towers over them, bellowing again in his ancient tongue!

At which point Twist strides over, frowning hard, standing right before Saaraguus.

TWIST (cont'd)

Okay! Listen up, you primitive screwhead!

Saaraguus raises his fist, preparing to backhand her too!

TWIST (cont'd)

Oh, no you don't! That's about enough of that, *friesacher*... you're gonna listen to me!

And oddly enough, Saaraguus poises his fist but doesn't strike as Twist stands resolute.

Twist goes to speak - but then everyone hears a GROWLING echoing toward the tomb...

... at which point the feral, vombied Vivian bursts into view through the entrance!

A beat as they all regard her, and she them. A recovering Lyra stares with Lonnie, Twist looks at her confused. Even Saaraguus looks.

(CONTINUED)

Coming out of his daze, shaking off the rubble as he stands, Chris stares at her concerned.

CHRIS

Vivian?

Vivian looks at him, GROWLS, before looking back at Twist...

... and quickly pulsing over toward her, leaping and pushing Twist to the ground, pinning her with the inhuman strength she now exhibits!

TWIST

Ack! Get offa me, you crazy bitch!

Keeping her secured, Vivian's mouth opens - her incisors GROW as she prepares to bite Twist!

TWIST (cont'd)

(eyes bulge)

Woah! Get... but...

As she moves her head down towards her neck quickly, we hear:

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

No! Vivian, don't!

And a dirtied HAND grabs Vivian's shoulder, pulling her back - Vivian JUMPING UP and turning...

... only to face Marley Crowther! She's cut, bruised, dirtied and beaten... but alive!

MARLEY

Viv, it's me! It's Marley!

The rest of the team - including a stirring Marcus - exchange glances of surprise at her appearance.

Vivian stares at Marley... and even in her feral state, seems to recognise her.

Marley nods as Vivian stops, almost calming at the sight of her friend... despite the virus still within her...

A calm that gives Chris enough time to quickly rush over with Marcus and pull Vivian to the ground, restraining her!

She becomes feral once more, growling and kicking to get free!

CHRIS

Marcus, hold her steady!

MARCUS

Chris, no! I can't hold her alone!

(CONTINUED)

Chris realises this is true and keeps pinning her with Marcus.

Twist gets to her feet and stands to face Marley, looking concerned about her friend.

TWIST

Um... hi. Can you just give me just one little second here, please?

Saaraguus ROARS once more, smashing a piece of masonry nearby.

TWIST (cont'd)

(sighs, turning)

In a minute!

Twist tilts Marley's face back towards her, away from staring at the convulsing, howling Vivian.

TWIST (cont'd)

Okay, pay attention. We're all friends of Vivian. She's sick, but we can't help her till we deal with old McSpooky back there, so...

Twist turns back to the hulking, spectral visage as Saaraguus raises his fist!

TWIST (cont'd)

Alright, enough with the fist already!

(blinks)

Okay, that came out wrong.

(back on track)

Look, I know what you're thinking. You're some kind of super, ancient WWF-style champ, and we're a bunch of grave robbers looking to make a fast buck but, ya know what... you'd be wrong.

(nods)

We're all warriors here. Well...

(motions to Lonnie)

Maybe not Captain Awesome and his groovy gang, but the rest of us definitely. We're always fighting battles, taking on monsters and evil to protect those guys out there, just like you did. And most of the time, yeah, we're hugely outnumbered. But we fight on. Like you, we never give up.

(serious)

We got a big battle coming. Maybe the biggest one we've ever faced.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

TWIST (cont'd)
 And to win it, we need weapons.
 Hell, I'll just say it Sara...
 whatever... we need your help,
 dude.

A long beat - the chamber has fallen silent, everyone listening. Even Saaraguus... who ponders.

SAARAGUUS
 (finally; bellowing)
 Very well...

Saaraguus RAISES HIS HANDS and to the amazement and awe of everyone, a reaction takes place...

... and as we PAN AROUND, the cache of MAGICAL WEAPONRY appear in corporeal form all around the tomb chamber, aligning the walls!

TWIST
 (beams)
 Sweet.

Everyone reacts at the sight - Marley looking vindicated at seeing what she came here for.

Twist looks back up to Saaragus - who starts to GLOW, his colossal form starting to SHRINK.

Twist shields her eyes as the glowing mass continues to grow smaller, until it finally fades away...

... and leaves an OLD MAN standing before her. He's dressed like a medieval knight, his armour tatty and worn.

SAARAGUUS
 (to Twist)
 You have proven yourself worthy.
 (beat)
 You may choose one item, and one item alone, and I will let you leave. Knowing there exist champions in this age... I can finally rest in peace.

TWIST
 (nods)
 Deal.

SAARAGUUS
 But choose wisely... be true in what you seek...

Twist takes his words and looks at Chris - who nods for her to do it.

Everyone watches quietly - except Vivian, who still thrashes pinned down, and Marley seems to have disappeared again.

Twist moves over to the array of weapons and looks at them, seeing a variety of different objects that look remarkably advanced and powerful - a real treasure trove.

TWIST

(shakes her head)

Everything here could help us one day, this stuff is... incredible.

(beat)

I can't choose...

She stops, looks back at Vivian - sees the fever inside her, even Lyra helping Chris & Marcus pin her now.

Twist seems to realise what she needs to do and looks back at the cache, scanning it until she finds a trinket different to a weapon...

... a small METALLIC CONTAINER, shaped like a NEEDLE, which she picks up and holds to show Saaraguus.

TWIST (cont'd)

(re: Vivian)

Will this cure her?

SAARAGUUS

(beat)

Yes... for now...

Twist nods, looks at the container... and clutches it.

TWIST

Then I've made my choice.

SAARAGUUS

(nods)

You have chosen wisely...

(beat)

Champions... I wish you well in your battle to come. This time is yours... as the old one, was mine.

On that, Saaraguus again raises his hands... and the cache of weapons 'cloaks' once more, disappearing from view.

Following which, a severe WIND begins to cascade across the tomb as Saaraguus begins to dissipate... swirling around like a mini-tornado!

Everyone braces themselves and watches spectrally as Saaraguus vanishes... disappearing back into the mausoleum, all then going quiet...

31 CONTINUED: (7)

31

Twist stands clutching the container and stares at it in silence as everyone hears approaching running footsteps...

... and Danyael, out of breath, races into the tomb.

DANYAEL

Guys! It's Vivian, she...

He looks around. Sees Marley, the restrained Vivian.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

(beat)

Never mind.

CUT TO:

32 EXT. WHEAT FIELD - LATER

32

It's the last vestiges of night outside the tomb cavern at the entrance, which we PAN ACROSS and track with Lyra.

She waves at Lonnie and his 'Scoobies' - who wave back as they drive off in their Volkswagen van.

Lyra reaches the van but PAN PAST her, up to another nearby parked van - where Marley is packing up to leave, Chris and Twist both standing near.

CHRIS

We're sorry about your team, Dr. Crowther.

MARLEY

Marley, please.

(sad smile)

Don't be sorry. I'm to blame. I put Alex and the others in harms way. We were out of our depth. What happened to them... it was my fault. I'll just have to live with it.

(looks at the team's van)

I'm just glad to have helped Vivian in some small way. Seeing her down there was a bigger shock than me surviving with not even a flashlight for company.

TWIST

Which is no mean feat in itself. There should be awards for that.

Marley grins - extends her hand to Chris, which he shakes.

(CONTINUED)

MARLEY

Promise me you'll look after
Vivian? For all her faults... she's
a good person.

CHRIS

(nods)
I always look after my team, you
can count on it.
(beat)
Take care, Marley.

MARLEY

Thank you.

On that, Chris heads away back towards the van, leaving Twist
with Marley. She nods a goodbye and turns:

MARLEY (cont'd)

(as Twist goes to head
off)
Twist?
(Twist turns back)
There's something I didn't tell you
guys...

Twist walks back toward her, curious.

MARLEY (cont'd)

(hushed)
When Saaraguus unveiled his stash
and you were distracting him... I
managed to swipe one of his pieces
without him noticing.
(off Twist's surprise)
You, uh... you wanna see?

TWIST

Depends. Is it pretty?

Marley grins - pulls over a TITANIUM BRIEFCASE stored in the
boot of her van, which she opens up.

We don't see the contents but Twist does - her mouth opening
in awe, whatever she sees GLOWING a series of ROTATING
COLOURS which reflect off her.

TWIST (cont'd)

Oh, now that is so cool...

Off Marley's smile at Twist's reaction, we CUT TO:

33

EXT. VAN - WHEAT FIELD - MORNING

33

The door is open to the back, revealing Vivian splayed out - she's pale as death but no longer feral, going through a sense of cold turkey it seems.

Marcus, Danyael and Lyra hover around her as Chris joins them.

CHRIS

How's she doing?

DANYAEL

Better. Looks like that container held what was basically a retrovirus remedy, a kind of 'cure all' potion applicable to any disease.

CHRIS

Which could come in handy.

DANYAEL

(sheepish)

We, uh... used all of it up on Viv.

CHRIS

I see.

DANYAEL

We found out what was wrong, though.

He motions toward Vivian's arm wound - exposed, but noticeably less nasty looking than before, though still visible.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Remember when she sprung us from Parker's labs? She must've gotten bit by one of those vombies.

Chris crouches over her, staring sadly down.

CHRIS

Why didn't she tell us?

LYRA

None of us trusted her. Maybe she thought if she told us, we'd kick her out of the team.

CHRIS

We'd never do that.

He looks up and around. The looks on everyone's face says it.

(CONTINUED)

DANYAEL

But, you know, silver lining -
she's all back to normal now.

LYRA

It seems to have reserved the
process of the, uh... what does
Twist call it?

DANYAEL

Vombification. Or something.

MARCUS

Only temporarily, however. It's a
stop gap. Vivian's still infected,
she could relapse again at any
time.

CHRIS

How can you tell?

MARCUS

(taps nose)

Picked up something off about her,
couldn't figure out what it was.
It's still there, although not at
strong right now.

LYRA

Then we need to find a proper cure,
something permanent.

(beat)

Because next time this happens she
could die... and take people with
her.

CHRIS

(nods)

You're right. We need to help
Vivian, get that cure.

(sighs)

Now for the bad news. There's only
one man out there likely to have
it.

A beat - build it up, off the reactions of Danyael, Lyra and
Marcus as they know who he's about to say.

CHRIS (cont'd)

(darkly)

Parker.

BLACK OUT:

END OF SHOW