

Somewhere InBetween

"This Charming Inhuman"

by
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TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. FACILITY - NIGHT 1

Establishing shot of a medium sized science facility.

2 INT. FACILITY - LABORATORY - CORRIDOR 2

TRACK through the corridors - PAN to the left and right to see into the small GLASS CELLS where TEST SUBJECTS are being kept prisoner.

LAB TECHNICIANS in white coats pass by regularly with clipboards in hand, observing the creatures within the cells.

PAN to one cell, where a HUGE DEMON with a three HORNS growing out of its head, peers back out...

Before it SLAMS against the strengthened glass, ROARING out in anger. What makes it more disturbing is the extra pair of ARMS that have been surgically attached to its upper torso!

Keep tracking, past another cell - a WEREWOLF paces around and scratches at thin air, as it stands on its hind legs. It pauses to look out, baring its teeth, before tilting its head back and HOWLING low and mournfully.

Another cell. A MONSTER that looks more at home in a *Lovecraft* novel. The thing can only be described as humanoid in shape, with an OCTOPUS for a head. It raises its tentacles and slides them across the glass, an inhuman gibbering coming from it.

Another cell. What looks like a HUMAN MALE, but is way too pale for that. He doesn't appear to be injured in any way. He looks up and stares mournfully at the camera...

Before his eyes turn blood red and he LEAPS up towards the glass, bearing his FANGS! A VAMPIRE!

Yet another cell. A WOMAN sitting on her bed facing away from us, her bare back exposed to us. Until a PAIR of EYES open up on her shoulder blades and stare balefully at us.

She extends her arms - or what can be considered arms, when they resemble more like GIANT CRAB CLAWS! She turns her head, only to reveal a sightless face, with a huge MAW filled with razor sharp TEETH!

Continue pushing down the corridor, seeing more of these test subjects ranging from "natural" looking, to the more mutated varieties of various inhuman species mixed together.

PUSH ALONG as the test subjects SCREAM and MOAN according to their predicament, passing more LAB TECHNICIANS.

(CONTINUED)

Keep tracking until we arrive at a huge IRON DOOR, set up differently to the other cells nearby.

The door SHAKES from time to time, and a loud SNIFFING can be heard from the other side.

REVERSE ANGLE to see two LAB TECHNICIANS approach the door with a TROLLEY of various chunks of MEAT from some unrecognisable animal. They look at each other, their nervousness belying their desire to go near.

LAB TECHNICIAN #1

Man, I hate feeding this thing. You just never know if today's gonna be the day it grabs hold of you and whoosh! That's the last you see of your arm.

LAB TECHNICIAN #2

Tell me about it. I mean, I tried physically begging to not do this, but it's either this or my job, and I can't afford to be laid off again.

LAB TECHNICIAN #1

Don't tell me Clara's pregnant again! Dude, you seriously need to consider changing your religion.

The two technicians pull the trolley up to the door. All is silent on the other side, as the SNIFFING continues.

The technicians approach a flip up hatch at the bottom of the door, small enough to slide the tray of meat on.

Technician #1 opens the hatch, and all is silent from within. Even the sounds of the groans and cries from the other cells drop into silence.

He looks at Technician #2, who shrugs his shoulders. They both lift the heavy tray, so they can lower it to the floor and slide it through the hatch.

Something ROARS!

The two technicians both jump, their eyes wide open with terror - as they DROP the tray, the chunks of meat scattering near the hatch opening.

The two scared technicians turn and run as if their lives depended on it.

RANDOM SHOTS of the various cells we've passed to see the test subjects all banging against the glass HOOTING and SCREAMING as the two technicians run past.

(CONTINUED)

ANGLE on the door as it SHUDDERS with each jarring jolt. It stops as the sniffing resumes.

PAN down to reveal the still open hatch, and a MASSIVE HAND reaches out and grabs the meat, periodically until all of it can be yanked into the cell.

CLOSE UP of the blood smears on the ground, as we slowly go down to ground level, looking right into the open hatch.

In the gloomy darkness, something MASSIVE is sitting there, MUNCHING on the chunks of meat, the sounds of SLOBBERING and satisfying GRUNTS as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

3 EXT. BLACK VAN - NIGHT 3

On the black van as it pulls up just on a ridge. PAN DOWN to reveal the science facility from the teaser.

4 INT. BLACK VAN - NEXT 4

In the back of the van is VIVIAN, her black dreadlocked hair, lying half across her face. She's out cold, heavily sedated.

PAN to the front of the van where LYRA sits in the passenger seat, eyes closed. Though a few cuts are still visible on her face, she seems to have healed up nicely.

She opens her eyes and cocks her head to her left. PAN ROUND to see CHRIS stopping the van and letting out a sigh.

Lyra turns her head once more, and closes her eyes again. She shakes her head slightly. He glances at Lyra for a beat.

CHRIS

Please stop... not 'looking' at me like that, but, just...

LYRA

You know why I'm doing it.

CHRIS

Lyra, it's okay. I'm fine now. I didn't have a choice back there, but I won't do any of that dark magic again. I promise you.

LYRA

You promise me now, but when the next moment comes, and the next, and the next... will you still be so strong?

Chris takes her hand in his. She flinches a little, but softens at his touch.

CHRIS

I give you my word.

Lyra manages a small smile, but underneath a hint of nervousness is detected. Chris notices this, and frowns.

LYRA

That type of magic, it... it eats your soul away. It's dangerous.

She turns to him, wearing a pleading expression.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

I agree. Believe me, I know better than anyone the kind of damage it can do. But...

(off her imploring look)

Alright. I won't do any more black magic. Ever.

Chris gives her hand a squeeze. PAN BACK towards the rear of the van, where we find:

TWIST sitting with MARCUS, the two of them chuckling over some shared joke.

PAN OVER to see DANYAEL watching them both with narrow eyes. He reaches into his pocket for a cigarette, but the pack is empty. He sighs and crushes the packet, tossing it to the side.

It lands on Vivian, who doesn't even flinch, still out cold.

TWIST

Oh, get real! You're quite clearly stuck in some kind of time warp if you think jokes like that are funny these days. I may as well roll out my 'Angry Chinese Guy' routine.

MARCUS

Alright, Mistress of Comedy, why don't you tell one?

TWIST

Listen and learn, noob.

(beat)

A man takes his Rottweiler to the vet. "My dog is cross-eyed, is there anything you can do for him?" "Well," said the vet, "let's have a look at him". So he picks the dog up and examines his eyes, then he checks his teeth. Finally, he says, "I'm going to have to put him down." "What? Because he's cross-eyed?" "No, because he's really heavy."

Twist pat her knees in a drum like effect. Marcus just rolls his eyes and shakes his head.

MARCUS

How can I ever top that?

(sighs)

Alright, here goes: Two blondes walk into a building.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARCUS (cont'd)
 You'd think at least one of them
 would have seen it.

He looks at her, waiting for a reaction. Twist just raises an eyebrow. Danyael notices this, grinning slightly.

MARCUS (cont'd)
 No good...?

TWIST
 If you're trying to impress me,
 blood brother, then...

She gathers up a bunch of her hair, pointing to the dark roots.

TWIST (cont'd)
 See this? Still counts as blonde.

MARCUS
 That hair's darker than I am.

TWIST
 Doesn't matter!

MARCUS
 I could tell another.

TWIST
 Oh, I really think you shouldn't.

MARCUS
 Blondes don't have more fun, they
 just don't realise when they're
 having a bad time.

Marcus grins, but Twist affixes a pout to her lips and turns her back on him.

He glances at Danyael, who shrugs - hey, this is your mess. Marcus looks back to Twist, growing a little uneasy...

Before twist's pout starts to crack into a smile. Marcus SIGHS, and she chuckles as she punches his arm.

MARCUS (cont'd)
 Har har. Very funny.

TWIST
 Just wanted to see how far I could
 push that.
 (beat)
 Everyone knows that the best blonde
 jokes were invented by blondes.

Danyael rolls his eyes at the comment, causing Twist to notice.

(CONTINUED)

TWIST (cont'd)

Alright, Spook. What gives? Why the long face?

(beat)

You're not exactly a horse.

She nudges Marcus again, as the worst jokes keep coming. Danyael mumbles something.

TWIST (cont'd)

What? Speak up!

DANYAEL

(louder)

I said I'm just worried about Vivian.

He looks down at her - she's restrained, tied at the wrists and ankles to the floor of the van.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

And I'm hoping Romeo and Juliet up there have a plan.

He sit back and turns to look at Chris and Lyra, who seem to be in a heated conversation of their own.

Twist blinks at Danyael's outburst, before smiling slightly.

TWIST

Oh, Danny... are you jealous or something?

Danyael stares at her without expression. He glances at Marcus, who shakes his head.

MARCUS

Danyael, please. I'm just watching her back.

DANYAEL

(under breath)

That's what I'm afraid of...

TWIST

Alright, cool it, you two. After all we've been through, a little light relief should be good. You know, let off steam.

(beat)

And I have no problems whatsoever about anyone watching my back. I like to think it's quite pleasing on the eye.

Danyael and Marcus swap a weary glance.

TWIST (cont'd)

What? Suddenly neither of you two are interested?

MARCUS

This is going back to that shower thing, isn't it? You do know I only did that to screw with you, right?

Twist folds her arms, looking away imperiously.

TWIST

It's always nice to know I still have an effect on men.

MARCUS

The only effect you have on me is that I have to cover my ears.

Danyael laughs out loud as Twist hits them both. She stops when Chris climbs into the back.

TWIST

Hey. Finished your little domestic?

CHRIS

(blinks)

We weren't having a 'domestic.'

TWIST

Really? Could've fooled me...

Chris sighs as he grabs his laptop and powers it up. He looks towards Vivian and nods his head.

CHRIS

She hasn't woken up yet?

TWIST

Nope. What ever that sedative was, sure did the trick.

DANYAEL

We should try it on you sometime.

Chris rolls his eyes and proceeds to bring up the a screen full of blueprints and other documents.

CHRIS

I've gone over the copy of the data that Vivian made at the last facility.

(beat)

The facility down the hill is the location where the current batch of mutant vampires...

TWIST

Vombies, Chris. We already established what they are.

CHRIS

(sighs)

Where the 'vombies' are currently being created. So if there's going to be a cure for whichever strain of the virus she has, logically it'll be down there.

DANYAEL

Given that our alternative is using up all our sedatives.

TWIST

Yeah, and I saw '28 Weeks Later.' Sooner or later, you always run out of the good stuff.

MARCUS

We do have another alternative.

CHRIS

(firm)

Absolutely not. We're not giving up on her. She's already proven to a valuable member of the team, and we could really use her expertise, considering her knowledge of Parker lets us know what he might plan on doing next.

DANYAEL

Aside from the obvious? He's wiping out all the vamp nests he can find, and every wolf pack to boot.

MARCUS

Are we going to actually find anything useful down there? What about security?

CHRIS

That shouldn't be a problem. There's a minimal military presence here. We should be able to get in, grab the cure and get the hell out.

TWIST

Sounds like a plan. But... I hate to be the devil's advocate, but I have to say that may not be as easy as it looks.

CHRIS

Then we have to be prepared for anything. Anything else?

At that moment, Vivian STIRS a little, before settling down again.

Everyone holds their breath as Vivian resumes her breathing once more, still not moving.

TWIST

Yes, let's get a move on, 'cause she's a whole lot better when she's out cold than when she's not.

CHRIS

Don't worry. We'll fix this.

(beat)

She should be safe here for a few hours. She's full of enough sedative to put down a herd of rhinos.

DANYAEL

Will she be sedated long enough for us to get what we need?

CHRIS

She should be out cold until the morning. After that, we may need to sedate her again.

TWIST

Then let's boogie, get the cure and get back here ASAP! I'd like to sleep in a real bed for a change tonight.

They all file out of the van with gear in hand. Stay on the sleeping Vivian for a beat as we cut to:

The team quietly move through the corridors, noticing the difference in layout to the previous bases they've been to.

They come to an intersection that leads out to a steel catwalk above the sprawling laboratory below.

PAN down to see the open plan base consist of large viewing areas and more glass cages.

LAB TECHNICIANS walk around checking the contents of the cages and nod to each other in passing. There appears to be no guards or any military personnel in the area.

DANYAEL

What is this place? And why is it
so low key?

Chris looks up at the ceiling and sees very little in the way
of sensors and cameras.

CHRIS

It must be some kind of breeding
facility...

The others glance at each other as Chris becomes lost in
thought. Twist taps him on the shoulder.

TWIST

The sooner we grab what we need,
the sooner we can leave here and
not get caught. Remember?

CHRIS

(checks plans)
The items we need are in this
section here. Let's try not to
attract too much attention.

TWIST

Please. You make it sound like I
attract trouble.

Chris looks at her with a meaningful look, while Marcus and
Danyael exchange a grin.

They silently move away from the catwalk as they move down
another corridor. Stay for a beat.

They enter a small laboratory that houses medical supplies.

CHRIS

This is the place! I'll get
started. The rest of you, keep a
weather eye out.

He rummages through several cupboards as he gathers various
items.

TWIST

Is that different to just keeping a
look out?

Twist and Marcus stand guard outside the door, watching for
any of the technicians.

Lyra stands by the door with Twist and Marcus, while Danyael
helps Chris look for the items on the list.

Lyra looks to one side, frowning. She drops her head as though listening to some distant sound.

LYRA

Something... there's something very angry in here. We should get out.

CHRIS

We will, as soon as we get what we came for.

ON TWIST and Marcus, as she mimes Lyra and Chris speaking - a little unkindly. Marcus NUDGES her.

Chris looks over the items that Danyaël has grabbed so far and looks at one particular bottle.

DANYAEL

Aconitum?

(beat)

You better not show that to Marcus.

CHRIS

It's not for him anyway, so he should have nothing to fear.

TWIST

What's *aconitum*?

MARCUS

It's more commonly known as Wolfsbane.

TWIST

Oh. So, bad stuff for you, right?

MARCUS

Maybe, if it was in the wrong hands.

TWIST

Yeah, but it's in our hands.

MARCUS

Good point.

TWIST

Meh, I prefer good old fashioned beating in of brains. Works for me.

ON DANYAEL as he watches the two again, before Chris rejoins him. A bag full of supplies is slung over his shoulder.

6 CONTINUED: (2)

6

CHRIS

That's almost everything. We need to get to the tech stations to get the rest of the data, and then we're ready to leave.

They leave the small lab and move back out into the corridor.

7 INT. LABORATORY - CORRIDOR - NEXT

7

Marcus stops for a beat, as he sniffs the air. He growls softly getting the others attention.

MARCUS

This isn't just an observation facility. They're...
(sniffs again)
Blood. Death. Fear.

TWIST

Different to what we usually find in these places how?

MARCUS

Fresh. Fresher.

Chris looks to Lyra, who is silently nodding her head.

CHRIS

That seems to be a shared feeling.
(beat)
Let's keep moving.

The continue to walk down the corridor occasionally ducking into empty rooms to avoid detection from the lab technicians.

8 INT. LABORATORY - VIEWING AREA - NEXT

8

The team walk down a corridor until they come to another viewing area, that reveals the glass cages more closely.

Chris holds the railing, a little stunned, as he sees what the facility is being really used for.

PAN DOWN to see the occupants of the cages are either asleep or sedated. Sorry-looking INHUMANS of various shapes and sizes shuffle around like zombies.

A number of SCIENTISTS are prodding one particular INHUMAN who is chained up on a platform. The inhuman WAILS as it is prodded and poked with CATTLE PRODS.

The scientists each nod as they write down their observations.

ON THE TEAM, each with a stunned look on their faces.

(CONTINUED)

TWIST

What the frick is this? The House
of Frankenstein? Lovecraft?
Frankencraft? Lovestein?

She looks at the others, but doesn't get any response. Chris is still gripping the railing as he stares down, his look darkening.

LYRA

So much pain here... all of the
creatures here, this is all they've
known... or all they can remember.

Marcus looks down with growing disgust. He GROWLS softly as his hands clench into fists.

MARCUS

We can't let them do this.

CHRIS

(wary)

Marcus, I understand what you must
be feeling...

Marcus eyes turn a feral YELLOW as he slowly morphs into GAROU form - FUR bristles along his hands, FANGS descending and CLAWS lengthening!

MARCUS

(snaps)

No, you don't understand! You can't
feel what these creatures have been
put through. The air's thick with
it. Their suffering. Their loss.
Their... hopelessness.

(beat)

It's our duty to free them.

Lyra holds her head, grimacing. Danyaël gently herds her away from the railing.

Chris watches her - Danyaël nods that she's okay - then back to Marcus, still bristling with anger.

CHRIS

(hisses)

It's too dangerous! This is
exactly the sort of thing I didn't
want us getting involved in! Quick
in, quick out, no time for any
bloody crusades!

Twist glances down towards the viewing area and taps Marcus on the shoulder. He whirls to face her - and she points to:

A different part of the viewing area. A young female WEREWOLF being is abused by a set of LAB TECHNICIANS. She HOWLS at them as they poke her with various CATTLE PRODS.

TWIST

Thought you should see that.

Marcus GROWLS loudly, and completes the morphing into GAROU form. He pushes off the railing and LEAPS down to the viewing area below!

CHRIS

What the hell did you do that for?

TWIST

Because he's right! We have to do something here!

(holds up Duggan)

So we let them know that messing with science is a very bad thing to do. Right?

Chris fumes - and hears the CRASH as Marcus lands below, followed by SHOUTS of alarm from the panicked technicians.

CHRIS

(beat)

Twist, go down and help him out.
Danyael, Lyra, follow me. We'll join in from the side.

TWIST

Check.

Chris rushes past Danyael and the recovered Lyra, the trio hurrying down a nearby staircase.

Twist goes to vault over the railing after Marcus - then sees the drop below, thinks better of it and races over to the stairs instead.

The cacophony of screams from the lab technicians and the hoots from the inhumans drift up towards us, and as they meld together into a symphony of the damned, as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

9

INT. LABORATORY - CELL COMPLEX - NIGHT

9

Marcus is SLASHING out at the frightened LAB TECHNICIANS and SCIENTISTS, who never expected to be on the business end of some very sharp claws.

He HOWLS in anger as he rakes his claws across the throat of a hapless scientist. He charges over towards the female werewolf and SWIPES viciously at a technician near her. She looks up with relief in her eyes.

PAN AROUND to see the others running into frame. Twist comes in full speed ahead, CRACKING the head of a nearby TECHNICIAN with Duggan.

TWIST

There's your Big Bang Theory,
baumgartner!

Chris is beyond angry at the actions of the scientists that he swings at with his katana, slicing into them.

Several go down, but Chris isn't aiming to kill - just incapacitate. He leaves a trail of bloody but still moving bodies in his wake.

He SLAMS random scientists and technicians into lab equipment and up against the glass enclosures.

The caged inhumans all scream and hoot at the fight, hammering at their glass cells with renewed vigour. Some of the stronger ones manage to cause hairline cracks in the glass.

Chris SLAMS into another SCIENTIST and PUNCHES him viciously, before stabbing him with his katana.

Another TECHNICIAN moves into attack him with a CATTLE PROD, but Chris spins around and yanks him forward, sending him flying across the room.

He goes flying into a nearby cell, causing the occupant, a huge BEAR-LIKE creature to roar and stand up on its hind legs as it BASHES the glass.

ON DANYAEL and Lyra, as they stand to one side. He watches the fight quickly unfold. Lyra holds both hands to her head and rocks back and forth.

LYRA

Danyael, it's too much! All of
them, screaming, crying out...
there's too much in here!

(CONTINUED)

Danyaël holds her back, conflicted from helping the others and watching her.

DANYAEL

Come on, Lyra, focus! See if you can do something to help them!

Lyra nods slowly, before closing her eyes. Her breathing slows down, until she begins to sing a melody, softly at first, but gradually growing in sound.

PAN to each cell enclosure as the sound is heard by each of the inhumans, who all turn to listen.

BACK TO CHRIS who is tangling with a group of SCIENTISTS, who are doing their best to defend themselves. One of the scientists tries to reason with Chris.

SCIENTIST

Who are you people? What do you want?

CHRIS

We're shutting down this operation.

SCIENTIST

But... we're trying to save lives! The work we're doing here, it's, it's going to help -

Chris PUNCHES the scientist in the face, sending him flying.

CHRIS

You have no right to play God! You don't have any idea what you're fooling around with in here, do you?

The scientist tries to get up, but Chris stomps his foot on his chest.

SCIENTIST

(dazed)

Please... you'll set our work back years...

Chris yanks him until they are looking eye to eye. The scientist looks at him in horror as Chris' eyes go BLOOD-RED.

CHRIS

(snarls)

The only thing I'm doing is shutting this facility down. You can give Parker my regards.

He picks the scientist up effortlessly and HURLS him across the room.

The scientist SCREAMS as he lands heavily into a circuit breaker board on the wall.

BOOM!

The scientist smashes the board, destroying the circuit breakers. He falls to the floor unconscious, causing a massive power surge throughout the lab!

The rest of the team stop as the lights begin to go out one by one - until the lab is bathed in a red glow of back up lights.

One TECHNICIAN looks at Chris in horror.

TECHNICIAN
What have you done?

CUT TO:

INT. LABORATORY - LOWER SECTION - SAME TIME

The area from the Teaser. The frightened LAB TECHNICIANS look at each other as the power begins to go in their area.

PAN to each cell as the creatures within begin battering on their glass cells, screaming in fury.

The technicians drop their clipboards and quickly race towards the stairs.

PAN ALONG as they race past, the creatures of each cell slowly cracking the glass with their efforts.

Outside the Iron Door, the creature within is BATTERING against it with all of its might.

It ROARS, rattling the door in its frame - then stops for a beat, SNIFFING the air, before it is silent.

A long beat.

BOOM!

The door of the final cell glows BRIGHT BLUE for a beat before flying off its hinges!

ON a struggling TECHNICIAN who is caught in the blast - and the huge Iron Door lands heavily on him, pinning him to the floor!

He CRIES OUT in pain, trying to push the heavy, buckled hunk of metal off him.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

The massive shockwave the creature emitted causes a shock blast that SHATTERS the glass of each cell along the corridor, killing various scientists, technicians and other creatures in the process!

11 INT. LABORATORY - CELL COMPLEX - NEXT

11

Back with the melee upstairs, the shockwave RUMBLES through this level too, bowling everyone to the floor.

TWIST

What the Backstreet Boys was that?

Lyra is clutching her head in obvious pain - but Marcus is quick to take advantage.

He takes out two scientists as they lie sprawled on the floor, keeping up his offensive.

Chris looks up - and sees that several of the glass cages are nearly SHATTERED thanks to the shockwave!

CHRIS

Stay away from the cages! They're about to -

SMASH! Several of them disintegrate as the creatures inside break free!

Some launch themselves at the scientists, taking revenge for their treatment, while others just race for anything that looks like an exit.

The team pull themselves back to the feet, the situation escalating around them as we CUT TO:

12 INT. LABORATORY - LOWER SECTION - NEXT

12

Various INHUMANS run out of their cells and make for the stairs, cutting down any technicians standing in their way.

The injured technician lies on the floor as we RACK FOCUS on the empty cell. We can make out the shape of a MASSIVE CREATURE in the semi-darkness of the cell.

A beat.

The creature launches out corridor and ROARS out loud! In this half light, it's just a misshapen BLUR of motion.

It looks GIGANTIC, with a mass of hair covering its face. Its massive arms and legs stand tall as it beats its chest in anger.

It lopes forward, placing one foot on the broken door, cutting off a terrified SCREAM from the technician below.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

As the creature moves off the door, PAN DOWN to see a pool of dark BLOOD seep out from beneath the door.

REVERSE ANGLE to see the back of the creature lope towards the stairs, following the stampeding creatures and scientists alike.

Stay a beat to take in the devastation of the broken cells and dead bodies littering the floor, before we:

13 INT. LABORATORY - CELL COMPLEX - NEXT

13

Lyra emits a loud sound that causes everyone in the room to stop in their tracks - technicians, creatures and the team.

Chris shakes his head to get his bearings, when he sees Marcus beating a SCIENTIST senseless, his mouth foaming with spittle.

Chris grabs Marcus and yanks him off the Scientist, who drops to the floor unconscious.

CHRIS

Marcus! Control yourself! Whatever these people have done, we can't justify killing them! They're just doing what they've been told!

Marcus spins round, raising his claws in fury. Chris braces himself for a fight - until Twist comes charging through with her bat raised.

She GRAPPLES Marcus, who SNARLS but knows better than to attack her. She SHOVES him back a step.

TWIST

You heard him, Teen Wolf, get a friggin' grip already!

Marcus starts to revert back to a more human form - and bows his head from Twist's stern glare.

MARCUS

I'm sorry, I just... I couldn't let them keep hurting that wolf.

TWIST

Yeah, and notice how she stuck around to say thanks?

Twist glances round for effect.

TWIST (cont'd)

Oh wait, that's right - she didn't.

(CONTINUED)

MARCUS

That's not the issue.

TWIST

No, you being a reckless jackass is the issue! I was all for steaming in and throwing down, but there's a line you have to draw, and you crossed it about eight kills ago!

CHRIS

It's too late for apologies. We need to get the rest of what Vivian needs, or all of this will be for nothing.

(beat)

I'm not blaming you, Marcus. What you tried to do was noble - but Twist's right. We've gone far enough now.

Twist looks around - they're the only people left standing now. Everyone else is either on the floor or running for freedom.

TWIST

Alright, let's consider plan 'A' a success. What next?

He hands her a schematic of the lab complex.

CHRIS

Here. Take Danyael, go to these tech stations and download the rest of the data.

MARCUS

I'll go with Twist.

He takes a step forward - but Chris PUSHES him back.

CHRIS

You'll stay right bloody there and like it. Twist?

After glancing at Marcus, Twist grabs the schematic and gives a mock salute.

TWIST

No problemo.

(calls out)

C'mon, Spook! We've gotta do some of the other kind of hacking.

Danyael chases after Twist, both of them disappearing through a pair of doors.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: (2)

13

Chris holds out his hand as Lyra joins him, the two of them surveying the destruction they've wreaked - bodies and a whole lot of empty cages, as we CUT TO:

14 INT. LABORATORY - TECH STATIONS - NEXT

14

Twist and Danyael run into view.

DANYAEL

(points)

There!

Twist races to a station and quickly boots up the computer.

TWIST

Right. We're in.

(beat)

What the hell am I looking for?

DANYAEL

Give that here!

He scans the schematic as he looks at Chris' notes.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Here! Go to these directories and download these files.

(beat)

I thought you knew your way around computers?

TWIST

("duh")

Of course I do. I was just seeing if you did.

(beat)

I mean, I'm more at home on an Xbox than your average PC, but still -

DANYAEL

Can you please take this seriously? Just for a minute?

TWIST

Alright! Jeez. Humour bypass, much?

DANYAEL

Come on, Twist. This isn't a video game that you can reset if you die.

Twist continues tapping away at the keyboard, her eyes never leaving the screen.

TWIST

Since when did you start getting so melodramatic?

(CONTINUED)

DANYAEL

I'm not being melodramatic!

TWIST

Uh huh. You've been all premenstrual ever since Marcus and I got all blood brother-y...

(beat; thinks)

Is that even a word?

DANYAEL

(hotly)

It's got nothing to do with that!

It's...

He shuts up, looking back to the schematics. Twist turns to him, frowning.

TWIST

To do with what? What?

(beat)

Why do you keep tiptoeing around me all the time? You never come right out and say it.

DANYAEL

Yes, I do! But every time I do, you act like I'm the one with the problem, and I have to just shut up and back off!

TWIST

(confused)

What the hell are you talking about? Is this even the same argument?

DANYAEL

Ha! That's rich, coming from you! Who was it that never wanted to talk about acting on our feelings for one another?

Twist chews her lip - then turns away from him.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

That's right. Ignore the problem. It's what you do best.

Twist clicks on a series of files. She retrieves a BLANK CD-R and inserts it into the drive and copies the files across.

TWIST

I thought we already discussed... that.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

TWIST (cont'd)
I'd just been to Hell. I think I
was owed a little fun.

DANYAEL
'Fun'? That's all it was?

TWIST
Danyael...

DANYAEL
No, no, you listen to me now!

He's seething, but Twist keeps glancing at the screen.

DANYAEL (cont'd)
I'm not just gonna stand around and
say nothing while you and Marcus -

TWIST
Oh, my God! You think... you think
there's a 'me and Marcus' now?

DANYAEL
Isn't there?

TWIST
You cannot be serious! Marcus? I...
(beat)
There's no way I'd go for his...
kind.

DANYAEL
Pleas tell me you're not a racist
too now.

TWIST
What? Shut up! No, dumbass, I mean
a werewolf!

DANYAEL
(beat)
Oh.

TWIST
(huffs)
How many years have we run together
now, and you still don't get me?

Danyael starts to reply - but stops when they hear a loud
CRASH and ROAR from off-screen.

TWIST (cont'd)
What the frick was that?

DANYAEL
Stay here, I'll go check it out.

TWIST

Oh, right. You may as well add
'I'll be right back' onto that.

Ignoring her, Danyael creeps over towards a semi-closed door, his sword in the air as he goes to open the door.

A beat - before he hears a familiar SNIFFING, the air becoming tense with crackling ENERGY.

DANYAEL

(frowns)
What the...

And the door FLIES open with a blue energy blast as the creature on the other side charges through, ROARING out loud!

Danyael sails through the air and lands in a heap just shy of Twist's feet. She looks down at Danyael - and then slowly up at the huge creature looking down at her.

TWIST

(gulps)
Spook? Is it my turn to get whomped
by the brain-eating monster, or
yours? I lost track a few whomps
back...

The creature takes one look at her and BELLOWS into her face as we CUT TO:

Chris taps his foot impatiently as he stares at the open doors.

CHRIS

What's keeping those two?

MARCUS

You should have let me go with
Twist. I'm not saying Danyael can't
look after himself, but I have a
duty -

CHRIS

(dismissively)
Yes, I quite understand the rules
required for your oath, but the
fact remains you lost it back
there. I'm not letting you out of
my sight until I know you won't
start World War Three the minute my
back's turned.

MARCUS

Couldn't help but notice you didn't really stop me.

CHRIS

We're all guilty of being less than covert. That doesn't give us *carte blanche* to start channelling a Viking beserker whenever we feel like it.

(beat)

Take Lyra back to the van, I'll go see what those two are up to.

Marcus nods as he takes Lyra's hand.

LYRA

Is it over? Can we go now?

MARCUS

Go, yes. Over?
(looks at Chris)
Probably not.

They both leave as Chris watches them go, before he heads off towards the tech stations.

Chris heads towards the stations - and freezes as a bloodied and panicked Twist comes charging into view!

TWIST

Don't just stare at me, run!

She manages a few more steps - and then the big fricken monster SURGES round the corner, one huge hand SWATTING her aside!

She CRACKS painfully into the wall, sliding to the floor as Chris quickly draws his katana.

The creature BELLOWS again as it thunders towards him, and Chris gets ready to attack - but it's too fast!

A massive paw SWATS him out of its path, sending Chris hurtling through the air as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

17

INT. BLACK VAN - LATER

17

ON CHRIS, lying on his back as Lyra cradles him, gently HUMMING. He opens his eyes as she strokes his hair.

CHRIS
(groggy)
What happened?

TWIST (O.S.)
That thing we ran into gave us the smack down.

Chris cranes his neck round - there's Twist and Danyael, both sporting wounds of their own.

DANYAEL
'Smack down' sounds about right.

CHRIS
How did we get back here?

MARCUS
I thought Chris was going to run into some trouble. When I heard Twist screaming, I came running.
(beat)
We only just missed that monster as it barrelled out of there.

DANYAEL
'Monster' is right - the thing hit me with some kind of energy blast when I found it. Damn near fried me.

TWIST
Woah, woah - 'energy blast'? What is this thing, Blanka?
(no response)
Whatever it was, the base is in ruins now. Plenty of those things got out, too.

CHRIS
At least tell me you got the data we needed.

Twist nods, holding up the CD-R in its case.

TWIST
Think this'll be enough?

(CONTINUED)

Twist hands Chris the disc as he sits up, pausing as a brief dizzy spell washes over him.

He grabs the laptop, pops open the CD drive and slots in the disc. He's soon scanning through the files.

Twist looks at the sleeping Vivian, who is still oblivious to the world around her.

CHRIS

This looks like the right recipe.

TWIST

You're sure we can't keep her under a little longer? She's a lot easier to deal with when she's like this.

MARCUS

(grins)

Pretty sure she'd say the same about you.

Twist sticks her tongue out at him and he just chuckles.

CHRIS

Danyaël, did you say more of those creatures we saw escaped?

DANYAEL

Ask Lyra.

LYRA

Some of them got lost, they're still down there. Some of them made it outside, but they won't last very long.

CHRIS

How do you know?

LYRA

They're broken. I don't think Parker's scientists had finished whatever they were doing to them - something about their energy told me they'll just... die. Soon.

Chris exhales heavily.

CHRIS

What about the big one we ran into?

LYRA

That's still out there. But I don't think it's dangerous.

Twist clears her throat, pointing to the team's varying injuries.

TWIST

Got a whole bunch of bruises that'd disagree with you there, Whitney.

DANYAEL

We've established that this place wasn't so much a breeding facility, but more like Dr. Frankenstein's lair. Only more high tech like. Which means...

CHRIS

Which means we've got a creature on the loose, and we can't afford to let it run free, in case it starts killing innocent humans who get in its way.

Chris sets the laptop down, gingerly testing his sore right arm. Marcus shuffles forward.

MARCUS

I'll lead the hunt.

(off looks)

It's my fault this thing got out.

If I hadn't...

(beat)

In any case, I've got its scent.

Hard to miss something that smelled that... wrong.

CHRIS

Good. But we'll all go together.

We'd better deal with this escapee first and sort Vivian out

afterwards. She'll keep for a few

more hours yet.

LYRA

Guys, seriously - whatever that thing is, it's not evil. It doesn't feel evil.

DANYAEL

Felt pretty damn evil when it tried to deep fry me.

TWIST

(claps hands)

Right! Let's go find us a beastie, children. Mommy wants some payback.

The team start to prepare as we CUT TO:

18

EXT. SMALL VILLAGE - LATER

18

With Marcus out front, the team are making their way through a wooded area - when Marcus stops. Edging forward, they emerge from the treeline to see:

A small village. Several houses are on FIRE, the trail of destruction through the village suggesting some sort of natural disaster.

TWIST

Tornado Frankencraft strikes again.

DANYAEL

What's with the Frankencraft thing?
You've already named it?

TWIST

Sure. Frankenstein crossed with
Lovecraft. Frankencraft.

DANYAEL

You do realise that Frankenstein
was the name of the doctor who
created it, right? The monster
technically didn't have a name.

TWIST

(beat)
I'm naming it Frankencraft.

CHRIS

Twist! Be quiet! We need to assess
the damage the creature caused
here.

TWIST

Ah, yeah... Take a good look,
chief. Seems pretty clear of the
damage assessment so far.

The team push on, walking down the bumpy road that leads into the village itself.

As they walk through, they see several VILLAGERS all nursing severe injuries, whilst tending to their dead and ruined property.

CHRIS

We need to catch up with the beast
before the townsfolk decide to send
out a lynching party.

MARCUS

Or until it decides to find
somewhere larger to attack.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MARCUS (cont'd)

(off Chris' look)

If it were me, I'd attack anyone who got in my way, is all I'm saying. This thing's been locked up for God knows how long and subjected to God knows what. Stands to reason it'd want to let off a little steam.

Chris moves towards the crowd and asks one of the VILLAGERS what has happened. She's a soot-streaked young woman.

CHRIS

Excuse me, what happened here tonight?

VILLAGER

Some gigantic... monster came tearing out of the forest! It just started... ripping buildings apart, killing anyone in its way... we... we couldn't stop it!

LYRA

Are you sure it did all that on purpose? Was it provoked? Maybe it felt it was threatened.

VILLAGER

(disbelief)

Threatened? The only thing it threatened around here was our lives!

(waves her hands)

Look at what this thing has done!

LYRA

But you can't automatically assume it's a threat...

Just then, another of the villagers comes tearing around the corner with a gathering of angry townsfolk close behind.

ANGRY VILLAGER

(yells)

It's headed up to the hill! We're gonna grab anything we can and hunt it down before it kills anybody else!

More of the angry townsfolk begin to congregate and shout and yell in approval.

CHRIS

(yells over them)

You don't know what this creature is capable of!

(CONTINUED)

ANGRY VILLAGER

And who the hell are you?

CHRIS

My group have been hunting the creature and we're trying to capture it again, before it can do any more damage.

ANGRY VILLAGER

Ah! So you're responsible for all of this!

This isn't going well. The crowd start to surround the team.

CHRIS

No! No. We saw it escape from some building and we tried to capture it before it could get away -

ANGRY VILLAGER

You're a little late for that!
(to the other villagers)
Come on! Let's kill this thing!

The group swells in number, as more villagers gather their pitchforks, guns and other weapons before marching up towards the hills.

Forgotten, Chris can only watch them leave as he turns to the others.

CHRIS

We need to beat the villagers to the creature, and fast. Marcus, can you get us there before them?

MARCUS

(nods)
I think so.

TWIST

No sweat, chief. We can do this. If we can tackle a Skorpione, then this should be a piece of cake, right?

Nobody shares her optimism as we CUT TO:

The team are running through the forest as Marcus leads the charge, pausing to SNIFF the air at regular intervals.

MARCUS

It's up ahead. It knows we're after it, and... and it's scared.

LYRA

See? I told you.

CHRIS

It's scared because it knows people are coming for it. Which makes it more dangerous. If it thinks we're just here to take it back to that facility, it'll fight twice as hard to stop us.

LYRA

We shouldn't be fighting it at all!

DANYAEL

We may not have a choice.

Lyra takes Chris' hand, shaking her head.

LYRA

It's afraid.

Chris looks at her for a beat before Marcus WHISTLES sharply.

He points to a CAVE within the hills itself. The entrance cold and dark.

MARCUS

This way.

He leads the team towards the entrance, as we CUT TO:

The team all stand outside the cave, looking into the darkness beyond.

CHRIS

We've got to be careful. There's no telling what the creature may do.

TWIST

You mean swat us to death like Andre the Giant, or fry us with an electrical shockwave?

(beat)

Yeah, absolutely no idea.

They all enter the cave cautiously as we CUT TO:

21 INT. CAVE - NEXT

21

The gloominess of the cave is barely lit up by a glowing PHOSPHORESCENT LICHEN growing on the cave walls.

There is a small enclosure that widens out. The team creep forwards - but Marcus raises his hand to signal them to stop.

THE CREATURE is just up ahead, huddled near another tunnel. It looks at the team, SNIFFS the air curiously, before GROWLING softly. Marcus begins to growl softly as well, unsure of the creature's motives.

CHRIS

(quiet)

Spread out. Move slow. No sudden motions.

TWIST

Would 'running away' count?

MARCUS

Let me handle this.

Chris begins to move forward with his sword raised. Twist raises her bat and moves behind Chris, with Danyael hanging back with Lyra.

Marcus paces towards the beast. It stays crouched down in the shadows, hunched up like the frightened animal it is.

MARCUS (cont'd)

Easy there, big fella. We mean you no harm...

Marcus' hand starts to SHIFT, slipping easily into his *garou* claws.

MARCUS (cont'd)

... we're here to help...

Lyra suddenly pushes past the others to GRAB his arm. The creature SNORTS at the sudden movement, alarmed.

LYRA

No! Don't!

CHRIS

(hisses)

Lyra! Get out of the way!

LYRA

(firm)

No. It's only going to attack if we do. We have to show it we're not going to hurt it.

(CONTINUED)

Lyra then steps past Marcus, approaching the creature. Chris hisses for her to come back - but she ignores him.

The creature stops being edgy and squats down on its haunches. It SNIFFS the air near where Lyra is standing.

LYRA (cont'd)
You know that I'm here to help...
don't you?

CREATURE
(gruff voice)
Mmmm... pretty woman is right.

Chris narrows his eyes for a beat. Twist raises her bat even higher.

TWIST
Okay... one, when did it learn how
to talk, and two... did it just
make a pass at her?

Lyra smiles, stopping a few feet away from the creature.

CHRIS
(to the Creature)
You can talk? Why didn't you say
anything before?

CREATURE
Only... small words. No big ones. I
understand... little, 'cept pain
from the white coats.
(beat)
And meat... food to eat.

LYRA
What are you? Why do you have these
powers?

CREATURE
(shrugs)
To protect me? Only when angry, or
afraid, I let loose power...

LYRA
Come closer. Please.

The Creature nods gently, shuffling forward a few steps. Lyra extends her hand, waiting for the beast to move beneath it.

She strokes her hand over its rough hair and coarse skin, but stays cool and relaxed. The creature senses this and eases up a little, allowing the others to approach.

Chris looks at the creature and marvels at its huge size. Looking roughly humanoid, the creature appears to be made up of various creatures put together - very much like Frankenstein's monster.

Danyael fishes out a FLASHLIGHT from his jacket, shining it over the creature. It FLINCHES at the light.

Chris stands beside it - crouched down, it's still as big as he is. He holds a hand over its skin and shuts his eyes.

CHRIS

You're... you're almost like a battery of some kind. Your cells, they... they're recharging even as we speak. Building up power again.

TWIST

So he's like a living bomb?

MARCUS

Makes sense Parker'd do something like this just to create a weapon.

CHRIS

You weren't meant to hold this amount of energy all the time.

(beat; opens eyes)

Let me guess. The scientists... the "white coats" kept attacking you with those... those energy sticks until you released the energy, to see what kind of power you had. Am I right?

The creature nods its head furiously.

CREATURE

Yes. Yes! The white coats are bad men. They not care for me.

CHRIS

(shaking his head)

They very rarely do...

TWIST (O.S.)

Heads up, we're going to have company.

Chris looks round - and from outside the cave, the noises of the approaching lynch mob echo down to them.

CHRIS

(urgent)

We have to move. Those people out there won't listen to reason.

CREATURE

I tell them sorry. Did not mean to hurt them.

LYRA

(sadly)

It wouldn't change anything.

CREATURE

But... but I sorry! I sorry!

Twist hurries back into frame, taking Lyra's arm.

TWIST

'Sorry' won't stop 'em burning you up like a wicker man. Let's go.

The team get ready to move - but the villagers aren't far away now.

DANYAEL

Which way? Is there another tunnel that leads out?

CHRIS

We'll have to risk it. If we get lost in these tunnels we may end up running into them anyway.

The team gather up and start to follow, Lyra taking one of the beast's huge, bear paw-like hands.

LYRA

Will you come with us? We will protect you. I give you my word.

The creature SNIFFS at Lyra and nods its head.

CREATURE

I believe. You protect me.

Lyra smiles in the semi-darkness, and as she starts to lead the creature along, we CUT TO:

The lights of the villagers FLASHLIGHTS are close by, cutting through the darkness.

The team start making their way up the hillside, but the increasingly steep incline makes it hard going.

They've made it a little way up the hill - when more FLASHLIGHT BEAMS fall on them from further up!

VILLAGER #1 (O.S.)
There they are!

VILLAGER #2 (O.S.)
There's that thing! Get it!

Twist and Marcus quickly step forward - and the silhouettes of a half dozen VILLAGERS appear around the lights.

VILLAGER #2 (cont'd)
You protecting that thing? That it?

VILLAGER #1
You people probably sent it after us!

Twist steps forward, raising her bat protectively. Beside her, Marcus' hackles start to rise.

TWIST
Step on up, baumgartner. You'll see who's protecting who.

Danyael raise his sword, while Chris holds up his katana menacingly.

CHRIS
Leave us while you still can. We have the creature under control. It doesn't pose any more risk to anyone, so just let us -

BANG! Chris reels back - a BULLET has grazed his shoulder!

LYRA
Chris!

Lyra starts getting distressed, the creature growling softly behind her.

LYRA (cont'd)
Leave us alone! We don't want to hurt anyone! We just...

She trails off, turning towards the creature - whose body is starting to CRACKLE with blue energy!

LYRA (cont'd)
Oh, no... No! Please, don't!

The creature PUSHES her to the floor - she stumbles and slides back down the slippery hillside.

MARCUS
Lyra!

She slides out of view - and the creature's charge is fully built up now as it lets out a ROAR of anger!

DANYAEL
(to Villagers)
Get back! Everybody get the hell
back!

Danyael waves his arms frantically - but as they aim their weapons at the creature, Twist TACKLES him out of the way!

The creature ROARS again - and sends out a colossal SHOCKWAVE of energy, thundering towards them!

The creature is thrown back by the force of its attack, disappearing back down the hillside:

And the villagers are sent HURTLING backwards, SMASHING into trees and boulders all around!

But it doesn't end there - a loud RUMBLING quickly grows in volume, as more rocks and boulders start to cascade down the hillside!

MARCUS
Avalanche!

He shields Chris, Twist covering Danyael as more dirt and rocks bounce by, the avalanche rapidly building in intensity before we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

23

EXT. HILLSIDE - NIGHT

23

Marcus looks up - the avalanche has subsided. He rises, shrugging off a layer of thick soil.

MARCUS

You alright?

Chris rises, wincing and checking his bullet wound.

CHRIS

I'll be fine. Twist? Danyael?

DANYAEL (O.S.)

We're good.

Chris looks over - and the two vampires are brushing the dirt off, Danyael nursing a bump from a stray rock.

TWIST

Lucky they only had those little rocks on this hill, huh?

CHRIS

Where's Lyra? Lyra? Lyra!

VILLAGER #1 (O.S.)

You think we killed it?

Chris whips round - there's one of the surviving villagers, worse for wear after surviving the mini-avalanche.

Chris is furious as he barges past Marcus, GRABBING the man by his short!

CHRIS

Do you have any bloody idea what you've done? What could have happened if you'd carried on attacking? We told you to stay away!

More of the townsfolk arrive on scene. A brave villager steps forward.

VILLAGER

So what was that... whatever it did? Ain't no bear can do anything like that!

CHRIS

It was scared. It was defending itself.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS (cont'd)
 Would you treat any other animal
 the same way? A bear? A wolf?

Grumblings can be heard amongst the hunters and villagers.

RANDOM VILLAGER
 Hell yeah, we would kill a bear the
 same way! We have to protect
 ourselves too, you know!

Chris SNARLS, advancing - but Marcus grabs his arm.

MARCUS
 Chris. You need to see this.

Chris tears himself away from the growing crowd of villagers
 as Marcus leads him back down towards the cave entrance.

It's BLOCKED, sealed off by a small mountain of rocks and
 dirt. Twist and Danyael stand nearby.

TWIST
 Lyra must be in there. She ain't
 out here.

DANYAEL
 Yeah, and that thing's in there
 with her.

Chris presses himself against the rocks, calling out:

CHRIS
 Lyra? Can you hear me? Lyra!

He steps back, yelling up to the villagers:

CHRIS (cont'd)
 One of my friends is trapped in
 here! I need your help!

VILLAGER #1
Help you? It's your fault we're in
 this mess! Hell, we oughta get
 started on you next...

He takes a step forward - but Twist appears before him. FANGS
 on clear display.

TWIST
 Oh, please take another step.

Wide-eyed, the man quickly backs away, the spooked villagers
 starting to scatter.

Chris rejoins the others down by the cave entrance. Marcus
 and Danyael are already trying to heave rocks away.

DANYAEL
 (straining)
 Little help?

He starts to pull another away - but the whole pile suddenly SHIFTS!

Marcus yanks him back - and the rocks settle back down.

MARCUS
 We'll have to take our time. We
 could make this worse if we don't
 pay attention.

TWIST
 Maybe we can get a few of them
 yokels to help us? I could try
 threatening them again?

CHRIS
 Somehow, I don't think that'll make
 a blind bit of difference.

Chris stares at the sealed entrance, exhaling - before we
 start to PUSH THROUGH the rocks, into:

Lyra sits up into view, BLOOD running from a cut on her
 temple.

LYRA
 Chris? Danyael?

She looks around, hands reaching out before her. She tries to
 stand - then falls back with a YELP.

She tests her ankle, wincing in pain.

CREATURE
 Pretty girl... hurt?

She turns - and the CREATURE shifts into view beside her!

LYRA
 What happened? Are we stuck?

The creature glances towards the entrance.

CREATURE
 Dark. Way in... gone.

LYRA
 (sighs)
 Oh. That's bad.

The creature emits a low WHINE, rocking back and forth. Lyra's hands find it at last, and she pats it soothingly.

LYRA (cont'd)
Hey, hey. It'll be alright. My friends out there won't give up on us. Either of us.

Lyra frowns, her hands moving down the creature's side - to a gaping WOUND, oozing blue BLOOD that FIZZES with energy.

LYRA (cont'd)
You're hurt! Are you... is it bad? How do you feel?

CREATURE
Very bad. They tried... to hurt us, I... defend myself.

LYRA
(smiling)
That's okay. I understand. I'd have done the same thing.

She pats the creature gently.

CREATURE
Is pretty girl okay?

LYRA
I'm okay. Thank you for trying to save me. It should have been me that saved you!

CREATURE
(nods)
I sense... power in you. You... like me.

LYRA
(smiles)
I suppose I am.

The creature COUGHS as his breathing becomes more laboured. Lyra frowns, sitting up on her knees.

LYRA (cont'd)
(softly)
You're wounded. I think... your blood might be dangerous. For both of us.

CREATURE
I not... I not hurt you. Not hurt pretty girl.

LYRA

Not on purpose, no, but if we don't
get out of here soon...

She looks back round towards the sealed entrance.

LYRA (cont'd)

... then you may not have a choice.

The creature COUGHS again, its blood now starting to CRACKLE
as its contained energy spills out, and we CUT TO:

Twist, Marcus and Danyael are removing the rocks, but it's
slow going as they test each one before moving it.

TWIST

I feel like I'm playing fricken
Jenga...

The trio freeze as the rocks SHIFT again.

MARCUS

I get the feeling you were never
much good at it.

DANYAEL

(calls out)
Lyra? Can you hear us?

He continues digging, while Twit looks over towards:

CHRIS, who is talking to a small group of the villagers. The
rest have left.

VILLAGER

Suppose you are telling the truth,
and the creature inside isn't a
threat. What guarantee do we have
that it won't just attack us if we
help you?

CHRIS

You have to trust us. The creature
only attacks when it feels
threatened.

(beat)

Something we all do, given the
circumstances.

The spokesperson nods his head and talks again with the
others. After some heated conferring, he turns back to Chris.

VILLAGER

Okay, we'll help you free your friends.

CHRIS

Thank you.

VILLAGER

But if that thing in there so much as looks at one of us funny...

CHRIS

It won't. You have my word.

Chris heads back towards the entrance, the wary villagers following as we CUT TO:

Lyra has her hands over the creature's wound. It GROANS as she tries to push the skin closed.

LYRA

Sorry, sorry...

CREATURE

Tired... just want... sleep...

LYRA

Just stay awake a little longer, alright? Chris will get us out of here soon.

The creature WHEEZES, its strength ebbing away. Sensing this, Lyra closes her eyes - and starts to SING.

It's a gentle lullaby, but as she sings, she keeps her hands over the creature's wound - and the skin slowly starts to knit back together!

Or it does for a few moments - then the creature COUGHS violently, the skin tearing open again and spraying Lyra with blood!

She lurches back, helpless as the creature writhes wildly in a fit of pain.

LYRA (cont'd)

No... please! Come on, please... don't die! Don't die!

The creature's fit subsides, but it's in a worse state now. Lyra has TEARS running down her cheeks now.

CREATURE

All... black...

26 CONTINUED:

26

LYRA

Just a little longer! Hold on for
just a little bit more, please!

Lyra hears a SIZZLING sound and moves her head around, trying to locate the sound.

Where the creature's blood is sinking into the soil, it's BUBBLING and FOAMING, burning its way through:

27 EXT. HILLSIDE - NEXT

27

And outside, patches of green grass are turning BLACK as the leaking, corrosive energy spreads out!

28 INT. CAVE - NEXT

28

Lyra lays her hands on the weak creature's chest.

LYRA

I know you're dying. I wish there
was more I could do to help you,
but... but I can't.

CREATURE

Dying...?

She nods, wiping fresh TEARS from her eyes.

LYRA

Yes. I... I'm sorry. I'm so, so
sorry.. I tried, but I couldn't -

CREATURE

No... no cry...

It reaches up with a clumsy hand, and she grabs hold of it.

CREATURE (cont'd)

Not meant... to live...

LYRA

(sighs)

No... no, you weren't.

CREATURE

Who... who say I live? Who make
me... alive?

LYRA

A very bad man. One who doesn't
care for anyone or anything but
himself.

CREATURE

Will you... kill this man?

(CONTINUED)

Lyra struggles to hold back the tears.

LYRA

We'll stop him. He'll never hurt anyone else, ever again. Not after this. Not after you.

(solemn)

I promise.

CREATURE

Will you... stop me?

She keeps a tight grip on the beast's hand, head turning back towards the entrance.

CREATURE (cont'd)

Pretty girl?

LYRA

I... I don't know if I can, I mean, I've never... I've never had to...

CREATURE

Try...

Lyra stokes the creature's thick, unruly hair.

CREATURE (cont'd)

Want you... to stop me... hurting people... like you.

Lyra starts crying again, shaking her head furiously.

LYRA

Please don't ask me to do that...

CREATURE

Please!

(beat; deep breath)

Dying. Can't live. Not meant... to live. You must... do it. You can...

Lyra bows her head, SOBBING desperately. The creature COUGHS again - the energy sparking from its spilled blood intensifying with every moment!

CREATURE (cont'd)

(wheezes)

Please...

Lyra looks up at last, rising on her haunches. She places her hands over the creature's head - and starts to SING.

The creature's HEART BEAT can be heard - aloud, heavy but slow THUMP-THUMP.

Lyra's melody matches the heartbeat - and then starts to slow down. It's melancholy, sombre, and deepens as she slows the tempo further.

The heart beat slows in synch with her tune, the creature letting out a final GASP of air...

... and then falling still, as Lyra's song ends and the heart beat finally stops.

Lyra SOBS again, burying her face in her hands.

Around her, the glowing energy begins to fade away, the light dying down until the cave returns to near darkness.

All that can be heard is the lonely sound of Lyra, crying in the dark.

Until SCRAMBLING sounds filter over from the entrance - and slivers of MOONLIGHT pierce the gloom.

CHRIS (O.S.)

Lyra? Are you alright? Can you hear me?

She looks up, eyes wet with tears:

LYRA

I'm here.

TWIST (O.S.)

Cool! We'll have you out soon.
How's Frankencraft?

Lyra's ands return to the beast's chest - now still.

LYRA

The creature is dead.

As more rocks are dragged away from the entrance, Lyra is bathed in more light as we DISSOLVE TO:

Lyra kneels beside a freshly dug GRAVE, large enough for the creature. Twist and the others stand nearby.

TWIST

Penny for your thoughts?

LYRA

(distracted)
Sorry?

TWIST

What's on your mind?

LYRA

(beat)

I'm wondering why God allows man to do the things he does. How he lets us get away with such atrocities.

TWIST

If you ask me, I'd say God is one sick son of a bitch.

(beat)

But he did give man free will, so if they choose to screw up constantly... why blame God? Besides which, Chris and I met the other guy, and he didn't seem to be all that enlightened either.

(thinks)

And he smelled weird, too.

Lyra smiles, but there's no happiness behind it.

LYRA

That's what I thought. The creature wasn't meant to be, but it still deserved to be treated with respect.

TWIST

Trust the blind girl to make friends with the big hulking behemoth.

(beat)

You do realise it was butt ugly, right?

LYRA

I don't think that mattered.

Chris steps into frame, muttering an incantation as he sprinkles a fine POWDER across the grave. The dust GLOWS as it sinks into the soil.

CHRIS

That should keep it sealed. The zhaan dust I used will gradually dissolve the creature's body.

DANYAEL

You know, in case any dogs come sniffing round looking for bones.

Twist glances at Marcus, who shoots her a filthy look.

Lyra rises, leaning on Chris for support.

LYRA

I'd like to say a few words.

CHRIS

Of course.

LYRA

(beat)

I didn't know your name. You were never given one...

TWIST

(whispers to Marcus)

I already gave it a name...

LYRA

Although you were fierce, you were bred to be. Made to be. You had no choice. You were created to be a weapon, and the only way you could unleash that power was if you were threatened. Scared. Confused.

(beat)

They should never have put you through that. You didn't deserve to live life like that. And I promise you, the person who is responsible will pay for what he did to you. To all of the creatures like you.

(beat)

Rest in peace.

She closes her eyes and lowers her head. The others do the same out of respect, as we DISSOLVE TO:

Vivian is still laid out in the back of the van - but now Chris sits beside her, filling a syringe from a bowl of clear blue liquid.

He taps out the air bubbles, then takes her arm. He injects the needle and pushes the fluid into her.

To follow up, h sprinkles a little yellow powder over her arm - which GLOWS brightly for a moment.

He waits, laying her arm back across her body.

And waits.

And Vivian finally COUGHS, trying to move but finding herself still restrained as she comes round.

Her eyes focus on Chris, who smiles warmly down at her.

CHRIS

Welcome back.

VIVIAN

'back'? What... what did I -

She looks down and sees the restraints.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

(groans)

Oh, hell. Tell me I didn't...

CHRIS

Sorry. I'm afraid you did.

VIVIAN

Son of a bitch!

(realises)

The antidote! Did you -

CHRIS

We found the facility and synthesised a cure for you, yes. You should be back to normal.

VIVIAN

'Should'?

CHRIS

I'll get Marcus to do a scratch and sniff test later.

She shoots him a look, and he bows his head with a grin.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Sorry again. But you have to allow me the odd moment of humour.

VIVIAN

Humour I could allow. That was just lame.

She looks round as Chris starts to undo her restraints.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

Where's everyone else?

CHRIS

Keeping their distance. In case all this didn't work.

VIVIAN

Sounds reasonable.

He finishes untying her, and Vivian sits up. Stretches out, Rotates her shoulders.

VIVIAN (cont'd)
How long was I down this time?

CHRIS
Four days.

VIVIAN
Damn.
(beat)
Did I miss much?

CHRIS
Oh, you know... stuff.

She stretches her legs out, rubbing her calves.

CHRIS (cont'd)
Just make sure you don't hide
something like that from us next
time. You can trust us, Vivian. You
can trust all of us.

She looks up at him, and he reaches over to squeeze her
shoulder. She lays a hand on his and smiles.

CHRIS (cont'd)
Now. I believe we have a bastard of
the Scottish variety to put out of
business?

And that gets a big grin from her as we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF SHOW